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Nordberg, John (1870 -)

Dean Nelson

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John Nordberg was born in Dodaro, Sweden, September 29, 1870, son of E. M. and Matilda (Bloom) Nordberg. John received his education in the public schools of Sweden, graduating from the eighth grade and attending trade or high school for two years.

John's father owned and operated a tannery in Sweden and after completing his education, John was employed as an apprentice in the tannery. He worked there until the age of eighteen years and then decided to open his own tannery but was unable to find a suitable location. Undecided as to what course to follow and overhearing tales of America, with the many opportunities in this new land and the improvement in living conditions, John left Sweden in 1888 and sailed for America. The ocean voyage was comparatively long and tedious but to a young lad the dreams of prosperity were even greater.

John Nordberg landed in New York City and came westward by train as far as St. Paul, Minnesota. From this point he rode with a farmer on a grain wagon to Cokato, Minnesota and then to Dassel, Minnesota. At Dassel John opened a tannery shop and conducted the business for two years. At the termination of this period he moved to Annandale, Minnesota where he again entered the tanning business. He remained at this location for fifteen years but due to the lack of business in the tanning trade was forced to seek another trade at this time.

In 1895 John opened a hardware store in Cokato, Minnesota and was in business there for several years. He then moved to St. Cloud, Minnesota where he has resided ever since that time.

John Nordberg married Mary Newman at Annandale, Minnesota, Jan. 15, 1895. Mary (Newmann) Nordberg was born in Vermland, Sweden, May

30, 1868, daughter of Frank and Anna Newman.

Mary (Newman) Nordberg received her education in Sweden and came to America in 1883.

To John and Mary (Newman) Nordberg were born five children, one deceased. The living are:

Elmer E. Nordberg, who has two children.

Irene (Nordberg) Swenson, who has three children.

Ruth (Nordberg) Perry who has two children.

Elvira (Nordberg) Kitowski, who has one child.

Interviewed: John Nordberg

March 17, 1938

Interviewed: Dean Nelson

Publication Granted

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TAKEN FROM THE LEGAL RECORDS OF THE STEARNS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
FOR THE JOHN NORDBERG BIOGRAPHY

MARRIAGE RECORD, BOOK 2, Page 16346

Elmer E. Nordberg and Kate Maeder
Married at St. Cloud, June 10, 1922
By: Rev. A. C. Klammer
Witnesses: F. Maeder and Jennie Nordberg

MARRIAGE RECORD, BOOK 10, Page 21045

Frank T. Swenson and Irene H. Nordberg
Married at Glenwood, June 18, 1932
By: Rev. Luther M. Tesh
Witnesses: Bernice E. Flaten and Carl S. Fischer