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Wiechmann, August, Sr. (1870 -)

Walter B. Haupt

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August Wiechman Senior was born January 6, 1870 in Oldenburg, Germany, the son of Henry and Dina (Austing) Wiechman.

Henry and Dina (Austing) Wiechman were born in Germany and were married there. Seven children were born to them while in Germany, they are: Bernard, Agnes, Anna, August, John, Henry, Fred and Mary.

As a means of earning their livelihood, the Wiechman's operated a farm in Germany. Due to the economic conditions existing in Germany at the time, it was impossible for a farmer to make any headway financially nor to improve his station in life, and for that reason Henry Wiechman decided to migrate to America, the country which at that time was known as the home of peach and plenty.

In April of the year 1881, he fulfilled his plans, and the family left their native Germany for the promised land.

After landing at Baltimore, Maryland, the family at once came west to Freeport, Stearns County, Minnesota, where a brother-in-law, Joseph, who migrated there from Germany several years before, resided on a farm.

Soon after their arrival at Freeport, Henry Wiechman purchased as eighty acre tract of timber land, one mile north of the Village of Freeport. A crude log cabin, which stood on the land served as a temporary home for the family, until a new frame home was erected. This completed the work of improving the land. Several years later another 160 acres were added to the original eighty and through unceasing hard work, considerable land was soon ready for cultivation. Wheat was the chief crop. The price of wheat, Joseph Wiechman Senior, relates varied from forty-two to ninety cents a bushel.

After improving on the farm, Henry Wiechman and his wife retired to the Village of Freeport in the late nineties where they spent their de-

clining years.

Henry Wiechman died September 7, 1911 and his wife died November 26, 1925. Both are buried in the Catholic cemetery at Freeport.

Bernard, the eldest son of Henry and Dina (Austing) Wiechman died December 16, 1881, a few months after the family came to Freeport.

Agnes, now deceased, was Mrs. Melchiar Wensman of Cottonwood, Idaho.

Anna, is Sister Eulalia, O. S. F. and at present is stationed at Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

John was killed in an accident while employed at a threshing machine.

Henry is Reverend Marchs, O. S. B. and at present is stationed at Shelton, Washington.

Fred also joined the Catholic priesthood and is pastor of the parish at Luxenburg, Minnesota.

Mary is Mrs. Joseph Notch and they reside on a farm north of Melrose.

August, who heads this biography was the fourth eldest of the family. He received a common school education in Germany and for some time attended the district school at Freeport.

As a young man he assisted his father in converting the wilderness farm into a tillable state. After the retirement of his parents he took over the home farm and a few years later purchased the place. During his management he gradually turned from wheat raising to dairying and also made extensive improvements on the farm so that in later years it was considered one of the finest dairy farms of the community.

Aside of his immediate interests in farming, he also took an active part in the affairs of the community. For twenty-three years he

served as treasurer of the town of Millwood. From 1908 to 1914 he was clerk of the Freeport Public School. For eight years he was President of the Freeport State Bank and for many years he was a director of the Freeport Cooperative Creamery Association.

Eight children were born to August Senior and Anna (Mueller) Wiechman. They are as follows:

Rose, born August 13, 1897 is Mrs. Walter Peiewahki of Browns Valley, Minnesota.

Henry, born November 19, 1899 married Margaret King, and they reside at Des Moines, Iowa.

Fred, born April 18, 1902 resides at Minneapolis where he follows the profession of a medical doctor.

Lawrence, born August 17, 1904 is employed at Arnold, Nebraska.

Mary, born June 17, 1907 is Mrs. John Muellner of Spring Hill, Minnesota.

Joseph, born December 22, 1909 is a graduate of West Point Military Academy, where he attained the rank of Lieutenant and at present is stationed at Porto Rico.

Bernard, born February 2, 1913 at home.

On November 8, 1918 his wife died and the following year he retired from farming and made his home at Freeport.

He was married a second time on August 22, 1922 to Anna Schulz. Since their marriage the couple have made their home at Freeport.

Interviewed: August Wiechman
By: walter B. Haupt
Date: March 23, 1938

Publication granted

LEGAL RECORDS TAKEN FROM THE STEARNS COUNTY COURTHOUSE FOR
THE AUGUST WIECHMAN, SENIOR, BIOGRAPHY

MARRIAGE RECORD, BOOK O, Page 7131

August Wiechmann and Anna Mueller
Married at Freeport, October 27, 1896
By: Reverend P. Pancratius, O. S. B.
Witnesses: Friederich Wiechmann and Agnes Moeller

MARRIAGE RECORD, BOOK 2, Page 15921

Walter Piechowski and Rosa Wiechmann
Married at Freeport, June 28, 1921
By: Reverend F. Wiechmann
Witnesses: Henry Wiechmann and Christine Piechowski

MARRIAGE RECORD, SECOND MARRIAGE, BOOK 3, Page 16460

August Wiechmann and Anna Schmeing
Married at Freeport, August 28, 1922
By: Reverend Mark Wiechmann, O. S. B.
Witnesses: Ben Stoerman and Mary Notsch

DEATH RECORD, BOOK R, Page 12, Line 352

Bernadina Weichmann born in Germany,
October 2, 1840, daughter of Henry
Austing and Elizabeth Waebkenberg
Died November 26, 1925
Age 85 years, 1 month, 24 days.

DEATH RECORD, BOOK D, Page 16, Line 4

Bernard Henry Weichmann born in Germany,
October 10, 1835, son of Fredereck Weich-
mann, died September 7, 1911
Age 75 years, 10 months, 27 days

DEATH RECORD, BOOK A, Page 87, Line 14

Barney Weichmann, died December 16, 1881
 Son of Henry Weichmann
 Age 18, years, 9 months, 10 days

DEATH RECORD, BOOK K, Page 10, Line 316

Anna Wiechmann, born in Germany, Jan. 11, 1875
 Daughter of Micheal and Katherine Mullor
 Died November 7, 1918
 Age 43 years, 10 months

BIRTH RECORDS OF WEICHMANN CHILDREN:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PLACE OF BIRTH</u>	<u>DATE OF BIRTH</u>	<u>FATHER'S NAME & AGE</u>
Mary Rose	Millwood	August 13, 1897	August
Henry	Millwood	Nov. 19, 1899	August 30
H. Frederick	Millwood	April 18, 1902	August 32
Joseph Lawrence	Millwood	August 17, 1904	August 34
Mary	Millwood	June 17, 1907	August 38
Joseph	Millwood	Dec. 23, 1909	August 37
J. Bernard	Millwood	Feb. 2, 1913	August 45
Anna F.	Millwood	Dec. 20, 1915	August 46

***.

<u>MOTHER'S NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>BOOK</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>LINE</u>
Anna Mueller		1897-B7	212	4
Anna Mueller	25	1899-B9	245	8
Anna Mueller	27	1902-B12	211	3
Anna Mueller	30	1904-B14	175	7
Anna Mueller	33	C	342	1
Anna Mueller	35	C	596	8
Anna Mueller	43	G	18	307
Anna Mueller	41	I	32	704

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No Census Records