# -Ransom County News from long ago

#### PART 2 OF 2: FOUR-COURSE LUNCHEON SERVED TO 70 LADIES AT R.S. ADAMS' HOME IN LISBON

Janet Hansen info@rcgazette.com

(The last "Ransom County News from Long Ago" article reviewed an article from the Oct. 28, 1915 Sheldon Progress newspaper, which stated that a four-course luncheon had been held at the R.S. Adams' home (now the home of Sean and Cheryl Kelly) in Lisbon, at which 70 ladies were reported to have been present. The article went on to explain who the hostesses are believed to have been. This article goes on to review what was found about who the three out-of-town guests" listed in the report may have been).

The first of the "out-of-town guests" listed in the newspaper report of the luncheon held at the Adams' home in October of 1915 was Mrs. Ed Pierce. I believe that this referred to Margaret "Maggie" Pierce, the wife of Edmund W. "Ed" Pierce. Ed Pierce was born on July 6, 1863 in Ontario, Canada to Irish immigrants, Patrick P. and Mary (Cronan) Pierce, who later moved to Dakota Territory. Ed Pierce came to the Ransom County area in the early 1880s. He married the former Margaret Cecelia Doran in Cass County, ND on Jan. 25, 1903. The couple had no children. Ed Pierce operated a real estate and banking business in Sheldon. From 1905 to 1912 he served in the North Dakota Senate. He died of a heart attack on Nov. 23, 1927, at age 64, in Chicago, while he and his wife were enroute to their winter home in Florida.

Margaret (Doran) Pierce was born in Wilmington, Delaware on Feb. 15, 1861, to Irish immigrant parents, William and Bridget (Guthrie) Doran. She died on Oct. 10, 1948 in Winter Haven, Florida, at age 87. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Pierce are buried in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Minneapolis, MN.

The second "out-of-town" guest listed as having attended the luncheon was a Mrs. Froemke, who was also of Sheldon. Since there were many Froemkes in the Sheldon area, it was difficult to try to figure out which one this might have been. How-

ever, if I had to guess, I would say that it was most likely Effie Froemke, the wife of Frederick Wilhelm Froemke, better known as William or Bill Froemke. The reason I make that assumption is that Bill and Effie Froemke would have been similar in age to Ed and Maggie Pierce, so may have been friends. Also, from what I could find about them, Bill Froemke and Ed Pierce also had business connections. Here is a little history I found about Bill Froemke.

He was born in Wisconsin on Oct. 26, 1867 to German immigrants Johann Carl Gottlieb (generally known as "C.G." or 'Gottlieb") and Maria Sophia Elizabeth, commonly known as "Mary," (Kaiser) Froemke. Gottlieb and Mary Froemke had emigrated from Germany to Wisconsin in about 1863 (four vears before Bill was born). They moved to the Ransom County area of Dakota Territory in the 1870s and farmed near the Sheyenne River in Shenford Township on the northwest quarter of Section 29 and remained in the Sheldon area for the rest of their

Bill Froemke owned and operated a store in Anselm for several years and also served as Postmaster there in the late 1890s. After operating the store for around seven years, he moved his family to Sheldon, where he worked with Ed Pierce in the Ransom County Immigration Society, which was active in bringing immigrants to the Ransom County area, as well as developing land in the Sheldon area. According to information provided by North Dakota State University's Institute for Regional Studies: Ransom County Trust Company, the Immigration Society was established in 1888 and was incorporated in 1898, with the following serving as officers: F.W. (Bill) Froemke, president; Paul W. Froemke (Bill Froemke's cousin), Vice-President; Thomas Pierce (Ed Pierce's brother), Vice-President; Ed Pierce, Secretary; Frank E. Shaw, Assistant Secretary; A.H. Lindemann, Treasurer; and A.L. Opsal, Assistant Treasurer. At the time, the Ransom County Immigration

Society was one of the largest real estate firms in North Dakota. On July 1, 1916 (less than a year after the women gathered at the Adams home in Lisbon for the luncheon), the Immigration Society's name was changed to the Ransom County Trust Company. The business continued into the 1940s. I was unable to find the exact date on which the Trust Company closed.

According to the Sheldon history book, Bill and Effie Froemke had five sons - Fayette, born about 1894, Gerald, born about 1896, Maynard, born about 1899, Russell, born about 1902, and Harlan, born about 1904.

Bill Froemke, like Ed Pierce, had land holdings in Florida. He enjoyed spending his winters there and was interested in the fruit industry of the state. In fact, he served as vice-president of the Florida Fruitlands Company, and had developed a considerable amount of land in the Lake Alfred area of the state. On Dec. 29, 1917 (a little over two years after the luncheon at the Adams' home had taken place), Bill passed away from a heart attack at his home in the Lake Alfred, Florida area, at just 50 years of age. His widow, Effie May (Learned) Froemke, remained in the Lake Alfred, Florida area for the remainder of her life. She passed away in November of 1951 in Winter Haven, Florida (the same area in which Maggie Pierce had died) at 80 years of age, following a long illness.

It is also possible that the Mrs. Froemke listed as having been an "out-of-town" guest" from Sheldon who attended the luncheon at the Adams' home, could have been Sophie, the wife of Paul W. Froemke, the son of Gottlieb Froemke's brother, Wilhelm. Information about Maggie Pierce's funeral lists the organist for the service as Mrs. P.W. Froemke, whom I assume to be Mrs. Paul Froemke. Paul, as noted earlier, was also involved in the same business as his cousin, Bill Froemke, and Ed Pierce.

Paul Froemke was born in Germany on April 5, 1860 and immigrated to the United States with his parents when he was five years old, settling in Milwau kee, WI. In 1885 he moved to Winona, MN, where he worked as an agent for the Green Bay and Western Railroad, as well as being involved in real estate sales. On May 3, 1888 he married Sophia "Sophie" Rohweder. In or around 1905, (some records say 1910, he moved his family to Sheldon, ND, where, as mentioned earlier, he became more involved in the work of the Ransom County Immigration Society, a position he held until 1929, when he retired and moved back to Winona. Paul W. Froemke died in Winona on July 11, 1935, at age 75, after suffering a paralytic stroke five days earlier. His widow, Sophia "Sophie," died on April 6, 1954 in Winona at age

Since Paul Froemke was about three years younger than Ed

Pierce and about seven years older than his cousin, Bill Froemke, it is possible that the men had much more in common than just being business partners, so it is not hard to imagine that their wives could all have attended similar social events. Sophie Froemke was born in December of 1865 in Winona, MN. Paul and Sophie Froemke had two children, Herman R. Froemke, who was born on Sept. 29, 1889 in Winona, MN and died of pneumonia on Dec. 19, 1943, at age 54, in Winona, and Esther Emiline, who was born on Feb. 17, 1894, married Harry V. Teegarden on July 8, 1918 in Clarke, WA, and died on Feb. 2, 1987 at age 92, in Winona, MN.

The third and final "out-oftown" guest listed in the article about the luncheon was reported to have been "Mrs. D. H. Buttz, of Buttzville." At first I thought this had to have referred to the wife of David H. Buttz, the brother of Major Charles Wilson Buttz, who, along with his relatives David and John Buttz, had established the town of Buttzville, ND. However, my research revealed that David H. Buttz's wife, the former Mary L. Kishpaugh, whom he had married in 1870, had passed away in 1891, at 44 years of age, and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Lisbon. That, of course, makes it impossible for her to have been the "Mrs. D.H. Buttz" who reportedly attended the luncheon in 1915. I was unable to find any information about David Buttz having married again following his first wife's death. D.H. Buttz died in Lisbon on July 1, 1920 (a little over five years after the luncheon was held) and was buried next to his late wife, Mary, in Oakwood Cemetery. I was unable to find anyone else named D.H. Buttz who had lived in the Buttzville area, so was unable to determine exactly who the final "out-oftown" luncheon guest might have been. I would think it would have made sense for that "out-of-town guest" to have been the wife of D.H. Buttz's only son, Adrian E. Buttz, who also lived in the Buttzville area. Adrian Buttz, who was born on 11/13/1878, was an attorney who served as Ransom County State's Attorney as a young man. He married Elsie S. Milstad in 1908 and I believe they were still living in Lisbon when the luncheon was held. The couple later moved to Rugby, ND, where Adrian continued to practice law. Adrian died in Rugby on 12/10/1955 at age 77. His widow remained there following his death and died there in 1965 at around 80 years of age. That is just a guess on my part, however, and, if the newspaper reported the lady's name correctly, as Mrs. "D.H. Buttz," that guess, of course, would be incorrect and that woman's identity will, at least for now, remain a mystery.

#### **Advertisement for Bids**

Ransom County Soil Conservation District is accepting bids for an MS400 Meyers manure spreader SN-2MS40022. This unit is 3 years old and sustained damage to the rear gear box in the Fall of 2024. The high bidder will take possession of the spreader in this condition "As is". For more information or viewing please contact Bob at 701-320-0194. Deliver sealed bids to 701 Main St. Lisbon or mail to RCSCD, P.O. Box 431, Lisbon, ND 58054 by 4:30pm February 71h, 2025, please include "spreader bid" on outside of envelope. The RCSCD reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

Publish: Jan 27 and Feb 3, 2025

### North Dakota Game & Fish

The North Dakota Game & Fish Depart-

ment announces the following summary of regulations and changes for the 2025 spring wild turkey hunting proclamation.

The season will run from Apr. 12 through May 18. There are 8,547 licenses available in 21 open units. Bag limit is one bearded or male wild turkey. Unit of the through rand Advances and Advances are the season will research the season will research the season will run the season will research the seas wild turkey. Unit 21 (Hettinger and Adams counties), which has been closed for several vears, has been extended into units 44 and

years, has been extended into units 44 and ob to allow for more opportunities. Deadline to apply is Feb. 12. Only residents are eligible. Apply online at www.gf.nd.gov. Licenses issued by weighted lottery. A complete 2025 fall wild turkey proclama-

tion is available from the NDGF Department, 100 North Bismarck Expressway Bismarck, ND 58501-5095, Ph: (701) 328-6300, or online at www.gf.nd.gov.

Publish: Feb 3, 2025

#### **Notice to Creditors**

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF RANSOM COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA In the Matter of the Estate of Donald Albert Pattis, Deceased.

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the under-

signed has been appointed personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the deceased are required to present their claims within three months after the date of the first publication or mailing of this notice or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to Susan Schwope, personal representative of the estate, at 1980 77th ST. E, Lino Lakes, MN 55038 or filed with the court. Dated this 22 day of January, 2025

> personal representative of the estate 1980 77th ST, E Lino Lakes, NN 55038

Publish: Feb 3, 10 and 17 2025

# North Dakota Game & Fish

The North Dakota Game & Fish Department announces the following summary of regulations from amendment number one of the 2024-2025 small game, waterfowl, and furbearer proclamation.

The 2025 spring light goose conservation order will be in effect Feb.15 - May 11, 2025. Only light geese may be taken. Light geese include snow geese, blue geese, and Ross's geese. There will be no daily or possession limit on light geese during the conservation order.

Apply online at gf.nd.gov. A complete proclamation along with amendment one that contains regulations for the 2025 spring light goose conservation order is available from the NDGF Department, 100 North Bismarck Expressway Bismarck, ND 58501-5095, Ph: (701) 328-6300, or online at gf.nd.gov.

Publish: Feb 3, 2025

# **Notice to Creditors**

Probate No.: 37-2025-PR-00003

Hannah L. Scheidecker (ND #09522) Scheidecker Law PLLC P.O. Box 55 Moorhead, MN 56561 (701) 261-7245 hannah@scheideckerlaw.com Attorney for Personal Representative

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF RANSOM COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA In the Matter of the Estate of Donald Joseph Stransky a/k/a Donald J. Stransky, Deceased

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Charolette Feist has been appointed Personal Representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within three (3) months after the date of the first publication or mailing of this Notice, or said claims tion or mailing of this Notice, or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to Charlotte Feist, 336 13th Avenue East, West Fargo, North Dakota 58078 or to the attorney for the Personal Representative, Hannah L. Scheidecker, Scheidecker Law PLLC, 1630 1st Avenue North, Suite B, PMB 14, Fargo, North Dakota 58102. Dated: January 28, 2025

/s/ Hannah L. Scheidecker Hannah L. Scheidecker (ND# 09522) Scheidecker Law PLLC P.O. Box 55 Moorhead, MN 56561 701-261-7245 hannah@scheideckerlaw.com Attorney for Personal Representative

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