

Descendents of George (1831-1905) and Eliza Jane (1838-1920) Fisk

IV. Mason Benjamin Fisk

B: April 30, 1862

in Hammond, WI

D: Dec. 28, 1939

Buried: Wolf Creek, WI

Lucy Vesper ?

B: Aug. 7, 1854

D: Jan. 25, 1890

M: March 30, 1889

Child of Lucy and Mason Fisk (1):

A. Henry Fisk

B: Jan. 15, 1890

Mason Fisk

Nellie Iverson

B: 1877

D: 1946

M: April 20, 1893

Children of Nellie and Mason Fisk (3):

B. Sadie Hannah Fisk

B: July 20, 1900

D: Oct. 10, 1907
of diphtheria

C. George Fisk

In Arizona

One daughter

D. Lillian Fisk

Lives in Turtle Lake

Richard Laursen

Children of Lillian and Richard Laursen (5):

1. Eunice Laursen

2. Ruth Laursen

3. Mary Jane Laursen

4. Carl Laursen

5. Patty Laursen

E. Frank Fisk

Lives in California

V. Clinton Freeman Fisk

B: May 18, 1864

D: July 31, 1886

Buried: Wolf Creek Cemetery

22 yrs., 2 mos., 13 days - Tombstone

Never married

Descendents of George (1831-1905) and Eliza Jane (1838-1920) Fisk

VI. Bert Fisk

B: June 26, 1868
in Lawler, IA
D: March 2, 1951
Buried: Duluth, MN

Emeline Roseltha Ayres
B: in Wolf Creek, WI
D:
Buried: Duluth, MN

M: March 2, 1886

Children of Emeline and Bert Fisk (13):

A. Ray Fisk

Never married
Died in Vets. Hosp., St. Cloud, MN

B. Bertha Fisk

Lives in Big Valley
Alberta, Canada

Fred Needham

Children of Bertha and Fred Needham (11):

1. Edward Needham
2. Pearl Needham
3. James Needham
4. Lloyd Needham
5. Margaret Needham
6. Ray Needham
7. Frances Needham
8. Irene Needham
9. Ralph Needham
10. Eleanor Needham
11. Mae Needham

C. Ida Fisk

Buried: Duluth, MN

Martin Pederson

Ida was married to Martin Amborn and Martin Pederson

Children:

1. Pauline Pederson
2. Robert Amborn
3. Clarence Amborn
4. Marcia Amborn

Descendents of George (1831-1905) and Eliza Jane (1838-1920) Fisk

- D. Eugene Fisk
Not married
Buried: Duluth, MN
-
- E. Viola Fisk
Lives in Saginaw, MN
- Elmer Kemp
- Children of Viola and Elmer Kemp (3):
1. Luella Mae Kemp
 2. Kenneth Kemp
 3. Floyd Kemp
- F. Eleanor Fisk
D: May 30, 1975
Lived in Cloquet, MN
- Douglas Hobbs
- Children of Eleanor and Douglas Hobbs (2):
1. Guy Hobbs

Child:

 - a. Dorothy Hobbs
 2. Alton Hobbs

Children (2):

 - a. Robert Hobbs
 - b. Thomas Hobbs
- G. John Fisk
Buried: Duluth, MN
- No children
- H. Marie Fisk
Deceased
- Henry Young
Deceased
- Children of Marie and Henry Young (3):
1. Phyllis Young
 2. Grace Young
 3. Harriet Young
Deceased
- I. Myron Fisk
Lives in Rest Home
Tower, MN
Not married

Descendents of George (1831-1905) and Eliza Jane (1838-1920) Fisk

J. Albert Fisk
Lives in Rest Home - Tower, MN

Not married

K. Charles Fisk
Died at 13 years of age

L. Daniel Fisk
Lives in Rest Home - Tower, MN

Not married

M. Arthur Fisk
Lives in Duluth, MN

No children

VII. Dora (Doris Amela?) Fisk

B: Sept. 1, 1870
in Lawler, IA
D: Sept. 16, 1872
2 yrs., 15 days

VIII. Francis Bell Fisk Jones

B: Sept. 16, 1872
in Lawler, IA
D: Dec. 23, 1889
17 yrs., 3 mos., 7 days

Henry A. Jones

M: Nov. 27, 1889

IX. Oscar Fisk, Sr.

B: Aug. 6, 1874
in Lawler, IA
D: Aug. 29, 1945
Buried: Wolf Creek Cemetery

Caroline Josephine Iverson

B: 1874
in Brewster, MN
D: 1965
Buried: Wolf Creek Cemetery

M: Sept. 4, 1893

Children of Caroline and Oscar Fisk, Sr. (11):

A. Lawrence W. Fisk

B: July 31, 1894
in St. Croix
D: April 6, 1969
Buried: Wolf Creek Cemetery

Zatha McLain Fisk Holbrook

F.C. Holbrook
D: Feb. 1974

Children of Zatha and Lawrence Fisk (4):

1. Lucille Fisk Brask

Harland Brask
Rt. 1
Isanti, MN



The Oscar Fisk Family

Back Row:

Left to Right:

Harry, Howard, Oscar, Jr., Lawrence, John

Front Row

Left to Right:

Hazel, Florence, Mother and Father, Grace, Mae

Caroline and Oscar Fisk

Descendents of George (1831-1905) and Eliza Jane (1838-1920) Fisk

Children of Lucille and Harland Brask (6):

a. Carlene Brask Jensen Earl Jensen

* LaVone Jensen

* Benji Jensen

b. Judy Brask

* John Brask

c. JoAnn Brask Dean Brian Dean

* Matthew Dean

d. Rollin Brask Sheila

* Eric Brask

e. Randy Brask

f. Robbie Brask

2. Mabel Fisk McLain Jesse McLain

Children of Mabel and Jesse McLain (3):

a. Eugene McLain Glenda
 Pullman, WA

* Annett McLain

b. Diane McLain Larsen Don Larsen
 Pierce, ID

* Garnet Larsen

c. Dennis McLain Cindy

3. Lawrence LeRoy Fisk Ellen Christian
 Rt. 1, Frederic, WI

Children of Lawrence and Ellen Christian (4):

a. Roger Fisk JoAnn Langenbau

* Roger John Fisk

* Douglas Fisk

* Christopher Fisk

b. Larry Fisk

c. Duane Fisk

d. Karen Fisk Carlson Daniel Carlson

* Jeremy Carlson

Descendents of George (1831-1905) and Eliza Jane (1838-1920) Fisk

4. Irene Fisk Markwardth Elmer Markwardth

Children of Irene and Elmer Markwardth (2):

a. Michael Markwardth

b. Patty Markwardth

Irene Fisk Markwardth Peterson Carroll Peterson
Rt. 1, Frederic, WI

Children of Irene and Carroll Peterson (3):

c. Wendy Peterson

d. Wanda Peterson

e. Tammy Peterson

- B. Fred Fisk
B: Feb. 21, 1896
D: June, 1902

- C. Eddie Fisk Ruth McFaggen
B: Jan. 5, 1898 B: Feb. 17, 1902
D: Sept. 26, 1937 in Amery, WI

Child of Ruth and Eddie Fisk (1):

1. Donna
B: Dec., 1922

- D. Ella Mae Fisk Breckenridge (called Mae) Henry William Breckenridge
B: Aug. 21, 1899
D:
Buried: in New Richmond

Children of Ella Mae and Henry Breckenridge (3):

1. Henry W. Breckenridge (Amery)

2. Marietta Missimi (Amery)

3. Betty Redd (Texas)

- E. Oscar Fisk, Jr. Myrtle Woolson
B: Aug. 28, 1901 B: April 22, 1903
No Children at Rockwell City, IA

- F. John Fisk Hulda Mae Day
B: Feb. 11, 1903

Child of Hulda and John Fisk (1):

1. Marcia Fisk

Descendents of George (1831-1905) and Eliza Jane (1838-1920) Fisk

3. Alexandria Jane Fisk
B: Aug. 24, 1946

Child:

- a. William Charles
B: Sept. 17, 1974

- J. Rose Fisk
B: Sept. 10, 1910
D: May 31, 1932
Buried: St. Croix Falls Cemetery

- K. Harry Lorain Fisk, Sr. Golden Ruth McPherson
B: April 29, 1912 B: July 5, 1914

Children of Golden Ruth and Harry Fisk (4):

1. Harry Lorain Fisk, Jr. Lois Minnie Wiesender
B: Mar. 16, 1936 B: Mar. 13, 1938

Children of Lois and Harry Fisk, Jr. (4):

- a. Terry Dean Fisk
B: April 5, 1955
- b. Lacinda Kay Fisk Arlan H. Jones
B: Oct. 3, 1956 B: May 17, 1957

Child of Lacinda and Arlan Jones

- * Jeremy Joseph Jones
B: Nov. 2, 1974

- c. Richard Scott Fisk
B: Oct. 5, 1958
- d. Randal Todd Fisk
B: Mar. 23, 1960

2. Jon Henry Fisk Karen Wolgast
B: Apr. 14, 1939 B: Sept. 25,
3. Eddie Myron Fisk Sandra Kay Johnson
B: Nov. 14, 1940 B: June 14, 1941

Children of Sandra and Eddie Fisk (2):

- a. Jacqueline Kay Fisk
B: Jan. 26, 1965
- b. Michelle Lynn Fisk
B: Sept. 3, 1971

4. Richard Jay Fisk
 B: Nov. 3, 1941

- X. Lynn (called Linnie) Fisk Iverson Eugene Iverson
 B: May 15, 1877 B: Oct. 4, 1869
 in Lawler, IA D: April 14, 1941
 D: Feb 14, 1951 Buried: Wolf Creek Cemetery
 73 yrs., 8 mos., 9 days Wolf Creek, WI
 Buried: Southeast corner
 of Wolf Creek Cemetery
 Wolf Creek, WI

M: Dec. 26, 1894

Children of Linnie and Eugene Iverson (11):

- A. John Iverson
 Died in infancy
- B. Ella Josephine Eriksen Helge Eriksen
 B: Nov. 11, 1869
 in Wolf Creek
 D:
 in Chicago

Children of Ella and Helge Eriksen (3):

1. Doris Eriksen
 2. Jeanette Eriksen
 3. LeRoy Eriksen
- C. Louis Milton Iverson Edna Smith
 B: March 15, 1899
 in Sterling, WI

Children of Edna and Louis Iverson (2):

1. Donald Iverson
 2. Clayton (Bud) Iverson
- D. Russell Marine Iverson Leone Snow
 B: Oct. 30, 1901
 in Wolf Creek, WI
 D: Sept. 18, 1960
 in Taylor Falls, MN
 No Children
- E. Clara Annette Eckels (called Nettie) Hubert Eckels
 B: Dec. 26, 1903
 in Wolf Creek, WI

Descendents of George (1831-1905) and Eliza Jane (1838-1920) Fisk

Children of Nettie and Hubert Eckels(4):

1. Audrey Eckels
2. Norman Eckels

Stepchildren

3. Bob
4. Dick

- F. Leo Lervine Iverson Alice Lindley
 B: April 1, 1908
 in Wolf Creek, WI

Children of Alice and Leo Iverson (3):

1. Lynn Alice Iverson
2. Gilbert Iverson
3. Keith Iverson

- G. Irene Fay Erickson Arne Erikson
 B: March 26, 1911
 in Superior, WI

Child of Irene and Arne Iverson (1):

1. Gwendolyn Fay Cross Iver Cross
 B: March 18, 1936 B: Nov. 2, 1936
 in St. Croix Falls, WI

Children of Gwendolyn and Iver Cross (3):

- a. Terry Cross
 B: Oct. 30, 1957
 in St. Croix Falls, WI
- b. David Cross
 B: Dec. 12, 1960
 in St. Croix Falls, WI
- c. Susan Cross
 B: July 1, 1963
 in St. Croix Falls, WI

- H. Ione Mae Lindley Earl Lindley
 B: March 26, 1911
 in Superior, WI

Child of Ione and Earl Lindley (1):

1. Ronald Earl Lindley

Descendents of George (1831-1905) and Eliza Jane (1838-1920) Fisk

I. Robert James Iverson Violit Biolo
 B: Nov. 28, 1913
 in St. Croix Falls, WI

Children of Violit and Robert Iverson (2):

1. Robert Iverson, Jr.
2. Dennis Iverson

J. Eula Janette Campo Joseph Campo
 B: April 24, 1917
 in St. Croix Falls, WI

Children of Eula and Joseph Campo (2):

1. Joanne Campo
2. Janice Campo

K. Eugene Charles Iverson Eldora Frank
 B: June 11, 1920
 in St. Croix Falls, WI

Children of Eldora and Eugene Iverson (3):

1. Bonnie Iverson
2. Norma Iverson
3. Jim Iverson

<p>XI. Chester Lawrence Fisk B: May 12, 1880 in Wolf Creek, WI D: Jan. 3, 1975 Buried: Wolf Creek Cemetery Wolf Creek, WI</p>	<p>Margaret Helen LaFont B: Dec. 26, 1885 in Shell Lake, WI D: Jan. 12, 1946 Buried: Wolf Creek Cemetery Wolf Creek, WI</p>
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M: Jan. 1, 1903

By Chester's father, George C. Fisk, who was Justice of the Peace

Children of Margaret and Chester Fisk (6):

<p>A. Rupert Myron Fisk B: March 10, 1904 at Wolf Creek, WI</p>	<p>Violet Marjory Beebe B: Oct. 6, 1900 at Eagle Bend, MN</p>
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M: June 20, 1923
 at Taylor Falls, MN

Children of Violet and Rupert Fisk (3):

<p>1. Dwight Rodney Fisk B: Nov. 5, 1925 in Taylor Falls, MN</p>	<p>Jeanette Ann Luthold B: March 27, 1923 at Antigo, WI D: Aug. 28, 1973 in Appleton, WI</p>
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Descendents of George (1831-1905) and Eliza Jane (1838-1920) Fisk

M: June 11, 1955
in Madison, WI

Children of Jeanette and Dwight Fisk (3):

- a. Dwight Rodney Fisk, Jr.
B: April 8, 1956
in Madison, WI
- b. Kay Lee Fisk
B: Sept. 10, 1960
in Appleton, WI
- c. Thomas Wesby Fisk
B: Aug. 18, 1964
in Appleton, WI

Dwight Rodney Fisk Mary Augusta Coon
B: April 26, 1932
in Plainfield, WI

M: Nov. 9, 1974
in Appleton, WI

- 2. Max Lowell Fisk Ruth Lydia Johnson
B: March 9, 1927 B: Jan. 19, 1925
in Taylor Falls, MN in Minneapolis, MN

M: Aug. 21, 1948
in Minneapolis, MN

Children of Ruth and Max Fisk (5):

- a. Duane Allyn Fisk Betty Lorraine Lehman
B: Jan. 9, 1952 B: Oct. 20, 1952
in Minneapolis, MN in Grantsburg, WI

M: Dec. 26, 1971
in St. Croix Falls, WI

Children of Betty and Duane Fisk (3):

- * Matthew Allyn Fisk
B: June 24, 1972
St. Croix Falls, WI
- * Mitchell Jonathon Fisk
B: Dec. 14, 1973
St. Croix Falls, WI
- * Mark Benjamin Fisk
B: July 3, 1975
St. Croix Falls, WI

2. Max Lowell Fisk
B: March 9, 1927
in Taylors Falls, MN

Ruth Lydla Johnson
B: January 19, 1925
in Minneapolis, MN

M: August 21, 1948
in Minneapolis, MN

Children of Ruth and Max Fisk (6):

a. Donovan Christian Fisk

B: November 10, 1950
in Minneapolis, MN
D: November 14, 1950
Buried: Hillside Beautiful
in Minneapolis, MN

b. Duane Allyn Fisk
B: January 9, 1952
in Minneapolis, MN

Betty Larayne Lehman
B: October 20, 1952
in Grantsburg, WI

M: December 26, 1971
in St. Croix Falls, WI

Children of Betty and Duane Fisk (3):

Matthew Allyn Fisk
B: June 24, 1972
in St. Croix Falls, WI

Mitchell Jonathon Fisk
B: December 14, 1973
in St. Croix Falls, WI

Mark Benjamin Fisk
B: July 3, 1975
in St. Croix Falls, WI

c. Michael Dean Fisk
B: July 7, 1954
in Princeton, MN

Myrna Joy Van Westen
B: January 7, 1955
in Rock Rapids, Iowa

M: September 15, 1973
in Sibley, Iowa

Children of Myrna and Michel Fisk (2):

Scott Michael Fisk
B: November 12, 1975
in Sibley, Iowa

Megan Joy Fisk
B: February 8, 1977
in Omaha, NE

d. Richard Lowell Fisk
B: October 4, 1956
in Cambridge, MN

Rebecca Lynn Carlson
B: May 17, 1955
in Minneapolis, MN

M: December 18, 1976
in St. Croix Falls, WI

Children of Rebecca and Richard Fisk (4):

Renee Lura Fisk
B: August 25, 1980
in Chisago City, MN

Rachel Lynn Fisk
B: February 2, 1982
in St. Paul, MN

Ryan Lowell Fisk
B: November 20, 1983
in St. Paul, MN

Robyn Laura Fisk
B: April 3, 1987
in Chisago City, MN

e. Joel Nathan Fisk
B: February 19, 1959
in Hallock, MN
D: August 15, 1981
Buried: St. Croix Cemetery
in St. Croix Falls, WI

Sheryl Ann Olsen
B: January 7, 1957
in St. Paul, MN
D: August 15, 1981
Buried: St. Croix Cemetery
in St. Croix Falls, WI

M: February 14, 1981
in St. Croix Falls, WI

f. Timothy Paul Fisk
B: August 18, 1960
in St. Croix Falls, WI

Cheryl Aleta Schaefer
B: March 1, 1960
in Stanford, NY

M: August 29, 1981
in St. Croix Falls, WI

Children of Cheryl and Timothy Fisk (2):

Theresa Ruth Fisk
B: June 15, 1985
in Coon Rapids, MN

Nathan Michael Fisk
B: July 29, 1987
in Coon Rapids, MN

Descendents of George (1831-1905) and Eliza Jane (1838-1920) Fisk

- b. Michael Dean Fisk Myrna Van Westen
 B: July 7, 1954 B:
 in Cambridge, MN

M: Sept. 15, 1973
 at Sibley, IA

Child of Myrna and Michael Fisk (1):

- * Scott Michael Fisk
 B: Nov. 12, 1975
 @ Sibley, IA

- c. Richard Lowell Fisk
 B: Oct. 4, 1956
 in Cambridge, MN
- d. Joel Nathan Fisk
 B: Feb. 19, 1959
 in Hallock, MN

- e. Timothy Paul Fisk
 B: Aug. ~~14~~, 1960 8-18-1960
 in St. Croix Falls, WI

3. Marjory Beth Fisk Rousselow Harold Ernest Rousselow
 B: Sept. 15, 1930 B: Sept. 17, 1929
 at Taylor Falls, MN at Waterloo, IA

M: April 30, 1949
 in Minneapolis, MN

Children of Marjory and Harold Rousselow (3):

- a. Barbara Jean Rousselow Lunsman Gregory Allen Lunsman
 B: Dec. 11, 1949 B: Oct. 14, 1947
 at Osceola, WI at Amery, WI

M: Aug. 25, 1967
 at Taylor Falls, MN

Children of Barbara and Gregory Lunsman (2):

- * Laurel Lee Lunsman
 B: Dec. 27, 1969
 St. Croix Falls, WI
- * Jennifer Jo Lunsman
 B: July 12, 1971
 St. Croix Falls, WI

- b. Rodney Lowell Rousselow Joy June Johnson
 B: April 18, 1951 B: May 20, 1953
 at Osceola, WI at Princeton, MN

M: April 16, 1971
 at Princeton, MN

Children of Joy and Rodney Rousselow (3):

* Julie Ann Rousselow
B: Feb. 15, 1973
at Milaca, MN

* Shawn Lowell Rousselow
B: June 24, 1974
in Milaca, MN

* Jamie Clayton Rousselow
B: Nov. 5, 1975
at Princeton, MN

c. Steve Alan Rousselow Vicky Lorraine Ricci
B: June 2, 1952 B: Dec. 14, 1951
at Osceola, WI at Cumberland, WI

M: Feb. 6, 1971
at Taylor Falls, MN

Children of Vicky and Steve Rousselow (2):

* Nichole Lorraine Rousselow
B: Sept. 13, 1972
at St. Croix Falls, WI

* Jeffrey Alan Rousselow
B: July 9, 1975
St. Croix Falls, WI

B. Herold Chester Fisk
B: Sept. 7, 1905
in St. Croix Falls, WI
D: June 28, 1962.
Buried: Wolf Creek Cemetery
Never married

C. Leslie Laverne Fisk Helen Simpson
B: Oct. 4, 1907 B: Feb. 5, 1913
in Wolf Creek, WI in Cushing, WI
D: April 2, 1970
Buried: Wolf Creek Cemetery
Wolf Creek, WI

M: July 9, 1932
in Cushing, WI

Children of Helen and Leslie Fisk (2):

1. Donna Jean Fisk Blair Howard Blair
B: April 24, 1937 B: Feb. 22, 1932
in Osceola, WI in Wolf Creek, WI

M: Jan. 17, 1958
No children

Descendents of George (1831-1905) and Eliza Jane (1838-1920) Fisk

M: 1971

Child of Julie and Bruce Bjork (1):

* Kristin Rae Bjork
 B: May 11, 1975
 St. Croix Falls, WI

c. Mary Ellen Chinander Franklin Michael Franklin
 B: Oct. 26, 1953 B: Nov. 12, 1952
 in St. Croix Falls, WI in St. Paul, MN

M: June 8, 1974

d. Ross Chinander
 B: June 18, 1959
 in St. Croix Falls, WI

e. Nancy Jean Chinander
 B: March 27, 1962
 in St. Croix Falls, WI

2. Henry Eibs Ruby Anderson
 B: March 4, 1933 B: July 19
 in Cushing, WI St. Croix Falls, WI

M: May 9, 1953

Children of Ruby and Henry Eibs (5):

a. Randy Eibs Judy Zukaits
 B: Oct. 20, 1953 B: Milwaukee, WI
 in Georgia

M: May 4, 1974

Child of Judy and Randy Eibs (1):

* Christopher Michael Eibs
 B: May 20, 1975
 in Port Washington, WI

b. Dawn Eibs
 B: July 19, 1956
 St. Croix Falls, WI

c. Donna Eibs
 B: July 19, 1956
 St. Croix Falls, WI

d. Rick Eibs
 B: March 6, 1958
 in Milwaukee, WI

e. Jeff Eibs
 B: March 6, 1959
 in Milwaukee, WI

M: May 28, 1966
in St. Paul, MN

Children of Joyce and Joseph Fisk (3):

- a. Lisa Marie Flemino
B: November 13, 1967
in St. Paul, MN
 - b. Amy Jo Flemino
B: July 18, 1971
in St. Paul, MN
 - c. Seth Adam Flemino
B: Nov. 5, 1975
- F. Eva Ellen Fisk Christopherson Stanley Curtis Christopherson
B: Feb. 22, 1916 B: Nov. 12, 1920
at St. Croix Falls, WI In Trade Lake Township
- M: May 2, 1946
at Superior, WI

Child of Eva and Stanley Christopherson (1):

- 1. Shirley Ann Gerald Harvey Wicklund
B: July 15, 1949 B: Jan. 20, 1940
at Grantsburg, WI in Trade Lake Township
- M: Oct. 3, 1972
in Aberdeen, SD

- XII. Loren Samuel Fisk
B: Feb. 13, 1886
in Wolf Creek, WI
D: Jan. 17, 1888
Buried: Wolf Creek Cemetery
1 year, 11 months, 4 days

CHESTER LAWRENCE FISK

George Clinton Fisk and his wife, Eliza Jane (McConnel), and their ten children migrated to Wisconsin from Lawler, Iowa, (Chichasaw County), by horse-drawn wagon in the year of 1879.

The family first settled in the town of Eureka, but shortly after moved to the Sterling Township near Wolf Creek, Wisconsin.

Chester Lawrence Fisk was born on May 12, 1880 to Eliza and George Fisk. Chester was born at the homeplace located about one mile North of Wolf Creek in Polk County, Wisconsin. (His birth is not registered at the Courthouse in Balsam Lake.)

Doug and I had many interesting conversations with Chester Fisk regarding his parents, his family, and his life. Chester was 85 years old the first time I met him, and his superb memory along with being a lively conversationalist always intrigued me. He told us where his father and mother were born, his brothers and sisters, his wife, his wife's family, his uncles and aunts, the animals, the hard times, the happy times, and anything else that Doug and I would wish to discuss. I always took notes on our conversations, and in preparing this story about Chester Fisk I have drawn heavily upon these notes. For the past 14 years I have tried to verify the things Chester told us, and I have found him amazingly accurate.

Therefore, in preparing this biography, I have often written "Chester recalls", "according to Chester", and "Chester says" because first hand experience of life long ago needs to be preserved and passed on from one generation to another.

When asked about his aunts and uncles, Chester said that most of them stayed in 'Yorkstate'. (One of his uncles, Benjamin, lived in Hammond, Wisconsin with his family.) He recalled the

names of his aunts and uncles as Chester, James, Benjamin, Roxy and two more girls. He also remembered that his father and mother helped raise a Mason Benedict Dibble whom they named one of their children after. Chester couldn't recall how this Mason Dibble fit in the picture, but he knew it was relation.

When I checked the New York State Census (June, 1850) and later the Probate records of Weaver G. Fisk, it was just as Chester had said. The two sisters were Lucy (Dennis) and a Mary Dibble whose son, Mason Benedict Dibble, stayed with Chester's folks.

Chester only saw one of his uncles and that was an Uncle Chester (our Chester was named after him). Uncle Chester played for the Pffifer Drum Corp and traveled throughout the United States playing for various gatherings.

An Aunt Roxy also visited coming all the way from 'Yorkstate'. She was a heavy woman (at least 350 pounds) so it was difficult getting her around with a "team 'n horses".

When asked about the animals, Chester mentioned prairie chickens as being plentiful but seeing deer eating in the fields was a very rare sight. Sometimes they would only see one or two deer in a year; however, deer became more prevalent around 1920. (In my readings, I have learned that the deer and other wildlife had been driven much further north due to the logging business and settlers.)

Chester recalls there only being a few fox so they felt lucky if they killed seven fox in an entire year. He also recalled hearing wolves howling at night.

I would like to quote from Ray Stannard Baker's account of the wildlife as written in his book Native American.

"My father's business took him for long drives into the 'up-country', the wild northern townships of our own county

of Polk and the still wilder stretches of Burnett County, which was then largely uninhabited. The roads were mere tracks through the forest, often impassable because of swamps or fallen trees. We always carried an axe with us to chop out a by-pass if necessary. Miles on miles without a sign of human habitation: a country full of deer and bear, with hundreds of little lakes swarming with fish, which had never yet made acquaintance with a fisherman's hook. Often in the winter during those early years, before there was any such things as a game law, I have seen hunters coming out of the north with a hay rack piled high with frozen deer they had slaughtered, the legs sticking out stiffly in all directions. Venison in those days was cheaper than any other kind of meat--- even the buffalo steaks which were occasionally shipped in, frozen, from the west."

Chester recalled timber being everywhere when he was young. He used to hollar loudly early in the morning, and the echo came back many times through the tree trails. Most of the forests were full of beautiful virgin pine before the logging era.

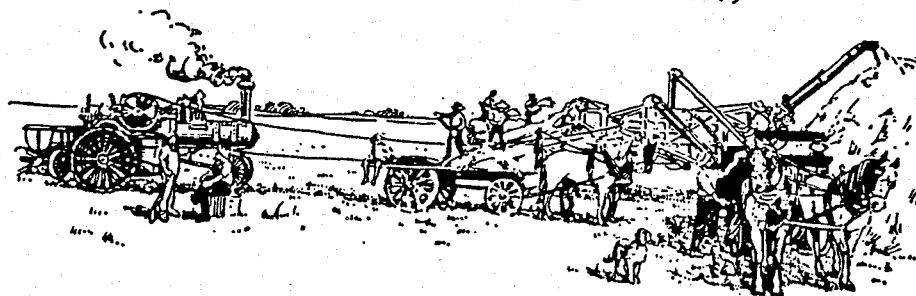
As a youngster Chester worked on his father's farm. "We didn't have new-fangled contraptions like now days. It was all hand work with horses being our power," commented Chester.

Possibly the most difficult job for the farmer was the threshing of wheat as most of the work was done by hand. The wheat was cut with a cradle sythe which the farmer swung back and forth. (The sythe did the cutting and the cradle part held the wheat so as to form bunches.) Then the farmers hand-racked the wheat off the field and stacked it in large piles so it could be protected from the weather. The time between cutting and the actual threshing of the wheat could be several months due to the scarcity of help and machines. The farmer then usually joined other farmers to form a "threshing crew" that went from one farmer to another threshing the wheat (separating the wheat kernals from the stalks.)

One had to only mention "steam engine" and Chester's eyes would begin to sparkle and his whole body and spirit became alive with happiness. The appearance of the steam engine and the threshing

machine were heralded as "miracle machines."

Chester learned the art of firing the steam engine well, and it became the first paying job outside the family farm as he traveled with the threshing crew. It was the responsibility of the man in charge of firing the steam engine to maintain a good wood fire and keep a sufficient amount of water in the boiler so as to have a good "head" of steam at all times. If the steam was not maintained, the mechanical efficiency was greatly reduced causing less threshing to get done. (The steam turned to mechanical energy which ran a drive belt that operated the threshing machine.)



Since there were few threshing rigs in the area, the men worked long hard hours to get as much work done as possible. Chester often got up at 3:00 A.M. to start the fire in the steam engine. He said that it was not uncommon to have the men eating their supper at midnight. The threshers often did there moving from one farm to another at night so they would be ready to start threshing again as soon as the first rays of sunlight appeared in the morning.

Upon being asked about when they slept, Chester said, "There was always time to sleep on Sunday and rainy days."

While Chester spoke of threshing, my mind wandered to the poor woman preparing food for this hungry crew. It must have been difficult laboring over a hot wood stove with no refrigerator or freezer to keep things cool. (The dark, dreary corners of the basement kept the milk and butter from spoiling.)

Since the grocery stores were few and far between, the menu

was very much farm and consisted of potatoes, navy beans, rutabagas, pork, carrots, etc. However, the quantity needed to feed hard, working men is difficult to fathom.

Chester recalled that a cookstove cost the outrageous price of \$75 in the early 1900's. He did say that the Cast iron cookstove was a far cry from using the fireplace for cooking. (When preparing food at a hearth, pots were placed on an iron trivet in the center of the fire. Only one pot at a time could be used and care had to be taken lest it turn over.) The cast iron stove had four cook holes with removeable lids set into rims which also could be removed if greater heat was required under the pots and kettles. Food would cook much faster on this stove since it preserved the heat. The stove also had a water reservoir to heat water.

Chester started work on Nevers Dam in 1898 when he was 18 years old. Off and on for the next thirty years, Chester worked on Nevers Dam or the logging industry. When he wasn't working with lumber he made his living by farming.

Nevers Dam was built in 1889 about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles South of the village of Wolf Creek where the St. Croix River was wide and able to accomodate the logs being backed up 15 miles. The purpose of the dam was to hold back the logs thus preventing big log jams further downstream where the channel was narrow and rock-lined.

Chester was six years old when the biggest and most spectacular log jam of all occured in St. Croix Falls. The jam which lasted six weeks required a steam-driven winch, teams of horses and two hundred men to break.

Chester's first job at Nevers Dam was working in the sawmill which was adjacent to Nevers Dam. This sawmill provided the lumber needed to make repairs on the dam itself. He earned \$1.25 a day

mill wages.

During the winter of 1910 or the year of Halley's Comet, Chester worked at Jim McGrath's logging camp at White Pine, Minnesota. Life was very rugged in the outpost camps for the lumberjacks. Chester talked of rising at 5:00 A.M. and having breakfast before walking the six miles into the woods to begin the days work. The cook and his helper delivered the meal to the lumberjacks in the woods and it was not uncommon to find the meal frozen so it had to be thawed over the open fire before it could be eaten. The lumberjacks worked until dark before walking to the cook's shanty for supper. The men worked six days a week, regardless of the weather.

In the spring after the logs were cut and ready to go down the river, Chester worked as a driver, riverman or "river pig" helping float the logs downstream. The river was so full of logs that the water couldn't be seen for miles and miles. Chester got \$4.00 a day working all the daylight hours.

As Chester grew older he never seemed to grow tired of talking about sluicing logs, Jim McGrath, the Lang Gate, pike-poles, wannigans, and all the other jargon associated with Nevers Dam and the great logging era. Because the logging industry was such an important part of Chester's life I have decided to write a separate section just about the Nevers Dam and the logging industry.

Chester motioned with his hands and smiled widely as he told about his wife, Margaret Helen LaFont. Chester had known Margaret (Maggie as she was called) from the time she was seven.

Margaret Helen LaFont was born on Dec. 26, 1885 in Shell Lake, Wisconsin. (There is no record of the birth at the Courthouse in Shell Lake.) Her parents, G. David and Sarah (Booth) LaFont, had moved to the Wolf Creek area around the year 1892. Her father who served in the Civil War settled in the Shell Lake, Wisconsin, area

working as a night watchman at a sawmill for almost 30 years. When all the timber was sawed, the LaFont family moved to the Wolf Creek area.

Even though Chester knew Maggie, no romantic interest was shown until one night when a group of young people were returning from a dance with a team and sleigh. Since it was winter, Maggie's hands became very cold, and Chester offered to warm them. It was the beginning of a long relationship.

Chester and Maggie were married on Jan. 1, 1903, by Chester's father, George Clinton Fisk, who was a Justice of the Peace. After Chester's death, his son, Rupert, found a small piece of paper that had been torn out of a notebook where George Fisk wrote about performing the ceremony. (The marriage is recorded at the Courthouse in Balsam Lake.)

Six children were born to Chester and Maggie Fisk. There children were:

1. Rupert Fisk
Born: March 10, 1904
2. Harold Fisk
Born: Sept. 7, 1905
3. Leslie Fisk
Born: Oct. 4, 1907
4. Gertrude Fisk Eibs
Born: Sept. 30, 1909
5. David Fisk
Born: June 4, 1914
6. Eva Fisk Christopherson
Born: Feb. 22, 1916

Chester moved and worked at various places. One of these places was the dam in St. Croix Falls which was built in 1903. The dam was originally built by the General Electric Company in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and is now owned and operated by Northern



Chester and Margaret (LaFont) Fisk

January 1, 1903
Wedding Picture

States Power Company. It generates approximately 25,000 kilowatts per hour according to the newspaper, The Dalles Visitor - 1970. The article goes on to say: "The 55 foot high hydro-electric dam at the bend of the St. Croix River now hides the "Falls" of this scenic river. The falls were actually a series of rapids in which the river fell 40 feet in six miles." (The first few times I visited St. Croix Falls I wondered where the falls were.)

Chester said that he worked on the dam "from start to finish", but somehow he never talked about the St. Croix Dam as much as he talked about Nevers Dam.

While living in the Wolf Creek area, Chester and his family were engaged in farming. His sons found arrowheads on the farm presumed to have been left by the Chippewa Indians. Rupert Fisk wrote that he knew of only two full blooded Indians when he was a kid, and they were John LaGoo and John Rice. John Rice used to go down into the "bottoms" that Leslie later pastured and cut a bush called Kinnykinnick to smoke.

Chester was quite a woodsman and liked to hunt. His sons have told me that he was an expert shot with a rifle. He never aimed or sighted the prey but simply pointed the gun and pulled the trigger. He could hit partridge on the fly or rabbits running. Chester could usually bring home more game with his rifle than his companions could with their shotguns.

In his younger years, Chester trapped mostly muskrat, mink, beaver, coon, fox, raccoon, and wolves. He also hunted partridge, rabbits, deer, squirrels, and ducks.

The story was told that Chester was hunting ducks with his friends, and he fired two shots from his rifle (not a shotgun). Chester thought he killed two ducks. Upon further investigation

his friends found that he had killed a grand total of five ducks with two shots. Chester was very proud of this story.

Another often repeated story was how his friends and he shot six of the seven deer they had tracked over a period of days. They would have gotten the seventh deer, but a snowstorm prevented any further tracking.

Chester was an avid deer hunter and continued to hunt most of his life. He shot his last deer when he was 90 years old.

In his later years, Chester looked forward to the hunting trips up on the Barrens. He was always dressed long before sunrise waiting, sometimes very impatiently, for his sons, Dave and Rupert to pick him up. Dave's son-in-law, Benny Secor, and Doug completed the hunting party.

When Chester was 88 years old, Rupert, Dave, Benny and Doug put Chester on a deer stand hoping to chase a deer in his direction. They had gone in the woods a short distance, and they heard three shots. Quickly returning to Chester's side, they found Chester enraged that he had missed a deer. Upon further investigation they learned he had put two bullet holes in a three inch pine tree. Needless-to-say if it hadn't been for the pine tree Chester would have had his deer.

Regardless of his age, Chester was always anxious to go for a ride to Wolf Creek and the Barrens looking for animals or just to admire the scenery.

When asked about clothes, Chester promptly reminded us "we had very few 'cept for the ones on our back, but the women took care 'a that."

Uncle Rupert remembers the day his mother got her first Singer sewing machine. "It was quite a day for her. She made a lot of

the clothing for the smaller children, but later we bought overalls and shirts for less than a dollar each," says Uncle Rupert.

South of Wolf Creek on the St. Croix River at what is now known as Spangler's Bay lived a John J. Spangler that operated a tailor shop in Taylors Falls, Minnesota. In later years he called on his customers carrying yard goods and a small sewing machine on his back. He stopped at the farm houses asking if any clothes were needed, and if they were needed, he stayed with the family until all the shirts and dresses were completed.

Chester kept swarms of bees most of his life. One time when Chester was working with his bees he had the misfortune of getting bees up his sleeve which resulted in severe bee stings. However, it didn't discourage him from keeping bees. In his later years, he gave the bees to his daughter, Gertrude, who often gave us some of the delicious honey.

When Chester's family was young, Chester planted a few acres of sorgum and purchased a sorgum mill press so he could produce sorgum syrup. (The sorgum crop is similiar to Indian corn in appearance.) The Fisks used the sorgum juice for making molasses-type syrup, and stalks were used as forage for the cattle. The thick, black syrup was used on pancakes, baked beans, and in other baked goods.

The sorgum press was powered by a horse hitched up to a pole which caused the horse to walk in circles thus driving a device called a tumbling rod which in turn produced mechanical energy necessary to run the sorgum press. The press squeezed the juice from the stalks. The juice was then delivered to evaporating pans and processed in much the same way as maple syrup is presently processed in Marathon County.