

Knepper, N.W. d. 11-29-1916

Collins
Gazette
12-07-1916

Obituary of Dr. N. W. Knepper.

Dr. Norman W. Knepper was a native of Berlin, Pennsylvania, born July 17, 1853, and died Nov. 29 at his home in Collins. He was a son of Frederick and Elizabeth Knepper, both of whom were natives of Berlin. The father was a graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Philadelphia, and practiced at Berlin, gaining acknowledged prominence in his profession. He passed away in 1874 in the prime of his life, being only 44 years of age. The mother is still living at Berlin and has now reached her 84th year. Besides the mother there are four sisters and one brother, Misses Margaret and Nellie Knepper and H. W. Knepper, all of Berlin; Mrs. Oliver Critchfield, of Rockwood, Pa., and Mrs. David Weigle, of Shanksville, Pa.

Norman W. Knepper received his preliminary education in the public schools and at sixteen years of age took up the study of dentistry, attending the Philadelphia College of Dental Surgery. He practiced at Berlin until 1877 when he came to Clyde, Iowa, and began reading medicine under Dr. Ritchey. In the fall of 1878 he entered the medical department of the Iowa State University and in 1880 became connected with the Long Island College Hospital at New York City, continuing in his studies there for two years, during the last eight months of which time he was on the staff of hospital surgeons. He graduated with the title of M. D. in 1882, and immediately afterwards came to Collins; although there was at that time only 4 or 5 houses in town. The zeal he has devoted to his profession and the interest he has taken in his patients have led to a marked degree of success and he ranked as one of the most prominent physicians in this part of the state.

On the 4th of July, 1879, Dr. Knepper was united in marriage to Miss Effie Hunt of Nevada. Two children were born to Dr. and Mrs. Knepper: Fred, deceased; and Sayre. The mother of these children died in April, 1894.

Dr. Knepper was confirmed in the English Lutheran Church of Berlin, Pa., at the age of 14 years. He was an active Sunday School worker at Clyde, Iowa, and organized the first Sunday School in Collins, of which he was superintendent for several years.

The funeral services were held in the M. E. Church Saturday afternoon. The church was crowded, many having come from the surrounding towns and country. The beautiful floral tributes included one from the business men of Collins, and one from his sisters. The choir's selections were the familiar spiritual numbers that were favorites of deceased.

Rev. Fred W. Ingvaldstad presided and preached an eloquent sermon on Immortality. His text was from Job 14:14, "If a man die, shall he live again?" The interment was at the Evergreen Cemetery. The pall bearers were Wm. Cook, Charles George, J. M. Jones, W. H. Thompson, L. D. Shearer and J. M. Hall.

Among the relatives at the funeral were two of his aunts, Mrs. Eliza Hay and Mrs. Connor. Mrs. Hay is a twin sister of his mother; also his son Sayre; two sisters, Mrs. Critchfield of Rockwood, Pa., Mrs. Weigle of Shanksville, Pa., Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Kopf of Farrar, Iowa; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Rupp and Willis Rupp of Maxwell; Rev. and Mrs. Alfred Knoll and son John of Villisca.

The sincere sympathy of our people are given to the sorrowing relatives.

NORMAN W. KNEPPER, M. D.

There is no doubt that the talents of the parents are often inherited by their children. This fact has been illustrated in numberless instances and the success of Dr. Norman W. Knepper, of Collins, is additional evidence in its favor. The father of Dr. Knepper was a highly successful physician and the son has demonstrated during an experience of more than twenty years at Collins that he possesses rare ability in the practice of the healing art. He is a native of Berlin, Pennsylvania, born July 17, 1853, a son of Frederick and Elizabeth (Lint) Knepper, both of whom were natives of Berlin. The father was a graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of Philadelphia, and practiced at Berlin, gaining acknowledged prominence in his profession. He passed away in 1874 in the prime of his life, being only forty-four years of age. The mother is still living at Berlin and has now reached her seventy-ninth year.

Norman W. Knepper received his preliminary education in the public schools and at sixteen years of age took up the study of dentistry, attending the Philadelphia College of Dental Surgery. He practiced at Berlin until 1877, when he came to Clyde, Iowa, and began reading medicine under Dr. Ritchey. In the fall of 1878 he entered the medical department of the Iowa State University and in 1880 became connected with the Long Island College Hospital at New York city, continuing in his studies there for two years, during the last eight months of which time he was on the staff of hospital surgeons. He was graduated with the title of M. D. in 1882, and immediately afterward came to Collins, although there was at that time only four or five houses in the town. The zeal he has devoted to his profession and the interest he has taken in his patients have led to a marked degree of success and he ranks today as one of the most prominent physicians in this part of the state.

On the 4th of July, 1879, Dr. Knepper was united in marriage to Miss Effie Hunt, of Nevada, a daughter of Moses and Catherine (McLain) Hunt.

The parents came from Rhode Island to Story county in 1874 and took up their residence at Nevada. Two children were born to Dr. and Mrs. Knepper: Fred, deceased; and Sayre. The mother of these children departed this life in April, 1894, and the Doctor was married March 17, 1909, to Miss Maud Pence, a daughter of William J. Pence, a carpenter, now living at Cedar Rapids but formerly a resident of Collins township.

Professionally Dr. Knepper is a valued member of the Iowa State Medical Society and the Story County Medical Society and fraternally he is identified with Fervent Lodge No. 513, A. F. & A. M.; Amity Lodge No. 361, I. O. O. F.; and Crescent Camp No. 2358, M. W. A. He gives his earnest support to the republican party but has never sought political honors, as his time and attention are almost wholly given to the duties of his profession. He was the pioneer physician of Collins and has witnessed the great transformation from a struggling hamlet to a beautiful modern town supplied with all the comforts and conveniences of an up-to-date city. During this time he has made a host of friends by his kindly ministrations and public spirit and he ranks today as one of the most honored citizens of a section noted for the intelligence and progressiveness of its people.

Athen's
History of
Story Co.
pages 122-123

OBITUARY
Dr. Norman W. Knepper



Dr. Knepper

**Born 1853, died November 30, 1916
came to Collins in August of 1882**

**From: "Collins Iowa 1882-1982 A Century of Living"
and "Remember When - - - Collins & Collins Twp. 1848 - 1976 by Verlie Huggins"
Pg 47**

Collins Gazette: December 7, 1916: (from obituary of Dr. N.W. Knepper

Norman W. Knepper received his preliminary education in the public schools and at sixteen years of age took of the of dentistry, attending the Philadelphia College of Dentistry. He practiced in Berlin (Pa) until 1877, when he came to Clyde, Iowa, and began reading medicine under Dr. Ritchey. In the fall of 1878 he entered the medical department of the Iowa State University and in 1880 became connected with the Long Island College Hospital in New York City, continuing in his studies therefore two years, during the last eight months of which time he was on the staff of hospital surgeons. he graduated with the title of M.D. in 1882 and immediately afterward came to Collins, although there was at that time only 4 or 5 houses in town.

UPDATE: Mr. Knepper came to Collins in August 1882. Dr. Knepper died in his sleep after having been in a precarious condition for some weeks. He died November 29, 1916 at age 63.

Liberator: October 1, 1896

I want to settle my books. Will take corn, oats, note and cash.
N.W. Knepper, M.D.

Liberator: November 11, 1897

Dr. Knepper on Monday received an elegant new compressed air outfit, which he will use in the treatment of affections of the nose, ear and throat.

Liberator: May 26, 1898

Dr. Knepper having been appointed health officer by the City Council intends to see that streets, alleys, backyards and vaults are put in a condition conducive to good health. Bully for him!

Liberator: October 13, 1898

The new operating chair which Dr. Knepper has just added to his office fixtures is a mechanical wonder as well as the latest thing out. With it a patient can be placed in six different positions without disturbing him in the least.

Liberator: October 20, 1898

Dr. Knepper has had all the old sheds removed from the rear of his residence lots and intends to have things more comfortable and sightly. He is now building a buggy shed on a part of M.V. Norris' lot, next to his, which he has leased, and will have a driveway through the block east and west. Next he will build a house for the storage of fuel. It will be 24 x 14 and have four apartments.

Liberator: April 25, 1901

Dr. Knepper last week received a new case of surgical instruments of the very latest improvement. When it is opened before a well man it makes him feel rather "creepy", but it contains all sorts of instruments to facilitate rapid and careful surgery.

Liberator: February 5, 1903

Dr. Kepper always desirous of having the best there is going in the way of appliances has installed a new air apparatus in his office to take the place of the old one that was so hard to work. The new one is a beauty and works like a charm.

Gazette: March 23, 1911

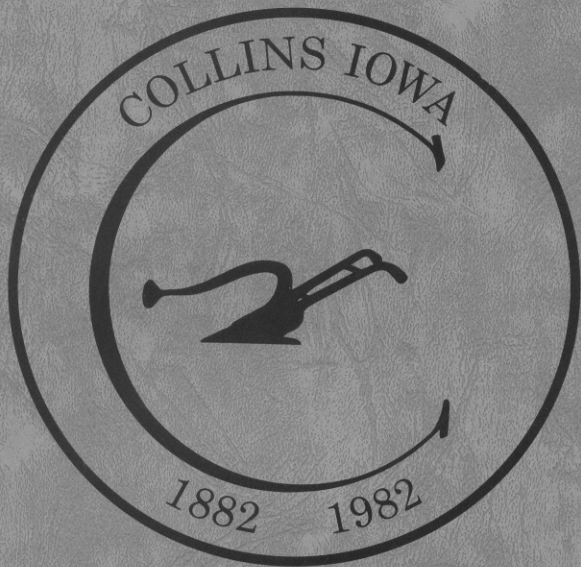
Prior to October 1909, I advertised for a physician with the intention of forming a partnership should the applicant prove suitable and after two months trial, I formed partnership with Dr. L.F. Richardson on January 1, 1910. Without notice he did on the 14th day of March, withdraw the partnership.

Dr. N.W. Knepper
Update: Mr. Knepper came to Collins in August 1882. He died November 29, 1916 at age 63.

Gazette: December 7, 1916

(from obituary of Dr. N.W. Knepper)

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A CENTURY OF LIVING

This material has been compiled to explain the early history of Collins and the area as depicted by the community ladies who made the centennial quilt. Many more things could have been included. Some of the quilt blocks made, had no published information to be found. If you are interested in family histories and pictures of early Collins, see the book written by Verlie Huggins, Remember When Collins & Collins Twp. 1848-1976.

The committee gives special thanks to Donna Ose for her initial research and organization taken from the early Collins newspapers; the Liberator, the Clipper and the Collins Gazette. The updates of the various chapters were written by the committee.

We tried to copy the exact spelling, capitalization and punctuation as the early editors wrote the articles and items.

Direct copies of material are from the Liberators, the Clippers and the Collins Gazettes. Also material was taken from History of Story County, Iowa by Allen, copyright 1887, History of Story County, Iowa, Vol. 1 by Payne, copyright, 1911, Geographical and Historical Memoirs of Iowa, copyright 1890, and History of Story County of Iowa, Vol. 2, copyright 1911.

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