

Honoring F. Scott in St. Paul: **35 Years of Fitz and Starts** David Page and Lisa Heinrich —Page 16

Spring 2017

Volume 52, Number 1

A Legacy of Civic Engagement: The Junior League of Saint Paul, 1917–2017

Yvonne Hundshamer and Abby Sugahara Moeller, page 3



These photos show the many ways in which the Junior League of Saint Paul has been actively engaged in the community then, left, and now. Photos courtesy of the Junior League of Saint Paul.

RAMSEY COUNTY HISTORY

President Chad Roberts Founding Editor (1964–2006) Virginia Brainard Kunz Editor John M. Lindley

RAMSEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

James Miller Chair Jo Anne Driscoll First Vice Chair Carl Kuhrmeyer Second Vice Chair Susan McNeely Secretary Kenneth H. Johnson Treasurer William B. Frels Immediate Past Chair

Anne Cowie, Mari Oyanagi Eggum, Thomas Fabel, Martin Fallon, John Guthmann, Susan Handley, Richard B. Heydinger, Jr., Janine Joseph, Sandy Kiernat, Judy Kishel, David Kristal, Robert W. Mairs, Jeffry Martin, Father Kevin M. McDonough, Nancy W. McKillips, Lisa Dickinson Michaux, Jonathan H. Morgan, Robert Muschewske, Chad Roberts, Roxanne Sands, George T. Stephenson, James A. Stolpestad, Susan Vento, Jerry Woelfel.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Anne Cowie, *chair*, James B. Bell, Thomas H. Boyd, John Diers, Martin Fallon, John Guthmann, Lisa L. Heinrich, John M. Lindley, Jeffry Martin, James Miller, John Milton, Laurie M. Murphy, Robert Muschewske, Paul D. Nelson, Richard H. Nicholson, Jay Pfaender, David Riehle, Chad Roberts, Steve Trimble, Mary Lethert Wingerd.

HONORARY ADVISORY BOARD

William Fallon, William Finney, George Latimer, Joseph S. Micallef, Marvin J. Pertzik, James Reagan.

RAMSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt, chair Commissioner Toni Carter Commissioner Blake Huffman Commissioner Jim McDonough Commissioner Mary Jo McGuire Commissioner Rafael Ortega Commissioner Janice Rettman

Julie Kleinschmidt, manager, Ramsey County

Ramsey County History is published quarterly by the Ramsey County Historical Society, 323 Landmark Center, 75 W. Fifth Street, St. Paul, MN 55102 (651-222-0701). Printed in U.S.A. Copyright © 2017, Ramsey County Historical Society. ISSN Number 0485-9758. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reprinted or otherwise reproduced without written permission from the publisher. The Society assumes no responsibility for statements made by contributors. E-mail address: info@rchs.com; web site address: www.rchs.com



Volume 52, Number 1

Spring 2017

THE MISSION STATEMENT OF THE RAMSEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON JANUARY 25, 2016:

Preserving our past, informing our present, inspiring our future

C O N T E N T S

- 3 A Legacy of Civic Engagement: The Junior League of Saint Paul, 1917–2017 *Yvonne Hundshamer and Abby Sugahar Moeller*
- 16 Honoring F. Scott in St. Paul: 35 Years of Fitz and Starts David Page and Lisa Heinrich
- 23 Two Graves in White Bear Lake: The Story of Claude and Daisy White James Lindner

Publication of Ramsey County History is supported in part by a gift from Clara M. Claussen and Frieda H. Claussen in memory of Henry H. Cowie Jr. and by a contribution from the late Reuel D. Harmon

A Message from the Editorial Board

In 1917–18, the new St. Paul Junior League was just beginning its long tradition of service with volunteer women leaders in the community helping local charities. Scott Fitzgerald was living intermittently in St. Paul, starting his career as a writer. And in less well-known circles, Claude and Daisy White, a young couple, survived the famous Cloquet fire before moving to White Bear Lake and sadly, succumbing to the "Spanish" influenza pandemic. All of these events, described in our magazine in this issue, formed a mosaic depicting life in Ramsey County just one hundred years ago. We are fortunate that the St. Paul Junior League and the F. Scott Fitzgerald Society chose us to help tell their stories. We are proud of the Junior League's tradition of involvement and that the Fitzgerald Society has chosen St. Paul as the site for their biennial conference this summer. History is important, and as readers, you can participate by honoring these organizations and learning more about how the past has informed our present. Here's to the next hundred years!

> Anne Cowie Chair, Editorial Board

Two Graves in White Bear Lake: The Story of Claude and Daisy White

James Lindner

While visiting Union Cemetery in White Bear Lake, two dates on one headstone caught my attention. A young married couple, Claude and Daisy White, had died, one on November 1, 1918; the other on November 3, 1918 and were buried here. My birthday is November 2, right between the dates the couple died. Curiosity began to take hold. I noticed they were both in their twenties. How could two young people die so close to one another? I thought perhaps they had been in an auto accident, or perhaps a house fire. I decided that I needed to see how much information I could find on this couple. I first thought about the local White Bear Lake newspaper, the White Bear Press, and wondered if there was an obituary for them. There was, and as I read I quickly realized Claude and Daisy had a story that needed to be told.

But there were more discoveries awaiting my attention. I entered their names in an online search and my query returned several photos. To my surprise and excitement their descendants have done family-tree research on a popular genealogy website. Out of curiosity, I emailed these people and began a correspondence with them, and they were happy to provide additional information supported by the documents found on the website.

What follows is an account of a family tragedy that played out against the backdrop of the most devastating natural disaster in Minnesota history, as well as an event that had a global impact. The couple's final resting place is in Ramsey County, but how they came to be in White Bear Lake is what makes this account so fascinating. Their journey began in northern Minnesota, amid the pine forests and lumber towns. and ended in White Bear and covered a span of barely three weeks. So if the readers of Ramsey County History will forgive me, my article covers not only historical events in Ramsev County, but also those in Carlton, Hennepin, and a dash of Washington Counties as well. As the story of Claude and Daisy White demonstrates, these large-scale events rarely conform to neat geographical limitations.



Claude and Daisy White's gravestone in Union Cemetery in White Bear Lake. Photo courtesy of James Lindner.

Prologue: Autumn 1918

Autumn's arrival in 1918 ushered in what Minnesotans have been appreciating for generations-an end to the sweltering heat of summer, and the changing of leaves from green to vibrant hues of red, yellow, and orange. Flocks of migrating ducks and geese beckoned hunters to enter the numerous wetlands. This season represents a brief respite before the deep northern winter settles down upon the state. There were reasons for optimism as well. The Great War in Europe was winding down as the armies of Germany and Austria-Hungary were finally reaching the limits of their warring capacity. Though plans were in place for a possible 1919 campaign, signs were indicating that four years of death and destruction might soon be ending. Far removed from Europe's battlefields, northern Minnesota was reaping the harvest and preparing for an upcoming year of logging the prized old growth forests that were the backbone of Minnesota's timber economy.

Lumbering has a long history in Minnesota. Beginning with the Civil War's demand for high-grade timber then continuing throughout the balance of the nineteenth century and into the twentieth, lumbering traditionally was one of the three legs (along with agriculture and iron mining) that defined the early Minnesota economy. By the first decade of the twentieth century, lumber stood second only to flour milling as Minnesota's leading export as historians William Watts Folwell and William E. Lass have articulated.¹ Dozens of lumber towns dotted the northern Minnesota landscape and supported an industry that extended south to the Twin Cities and river towns like Stillwater.

By the first decade of the twentieth century, Minnesota's forests were producing hundreds of millions of board feet of lumber annually, and shipping it to either Twin Cities or various Great Lakes markets. The town of Cloquet, southwest of Duluth in Carlton County, was one such lumber town and produced 75 million feet of lumber in 1904 and had seen its population more than double in the decade 1900-1910.² By 1910 many of Cloquet's 7,000 residents were working in lumber mills or lumber-related industries, and at least one of the mills was owned by lumber industry giant Frederick Weyerhaeuser, who offered steady employment in an often turbulent industry. Weyerhaeuser's mills were well equipped and efficiently managed making his the company of choice for local lumbermen.³

One particular young couple and their growing family were caught up in this

season. Cloquet residents Claude and Daisy White, along with their sons Lloyd Arthur (later changed to Rawson Kent) and Donald Bernard (later changed to Keith Chapin) White, were living lives similar to other families living in town.⁴ Claude worked in the local lumber mill. The couple had diverse backgrounds. Claude had been born in Montana, but he was raised by his mother in rural Minnesota and Wisconsin. Around 1910 or 1911, Claude and his mother were living in Tennessee. Daisy McCartney was born in Illinois and had lived also in South Dakota, before her family also relocated to Tennessee. The couple met in Tennessee and subsequently headed north to the small Burnett County town of Pansy in northwestern Wisconsin, along the St. Croix River, to be married on December 5, 1912.5 Claude was onequarter American Indian, though he is said to have had "fair hair and blue eyes" while Daisy was of Anglo-Scandinavian heritage.⁶

Available records don't tell us whether Claude and Daisy felt the same sense of optimism that was emerging in that early autumn of 1918, but certainly things were going in a positive direction. With each passing week, the young couple could expect there was less likelihood that Claude would be drafted into the American army fighting in Europe. His employment in the lumber mill and his training as a mechanic provided the family with dependable income. Regardless of how long the family chose to remain in a town like Cloquet, Claude was likely to have few difficulties finding a job. But life has a way of disrupting all plans, and what the couple could not know was that in a span of just twenty-three days, their home and their town would be totally destroyed, and their two sons would lose both parents to an epidemic that the world had not witnessed since the Black Death had swept across Europe roughly five centuries earlier.

Forests Ablaze

Lumbering in the early twentieth century came with its challenges. One fundamental issue was what to do with the slash, those parts of the trees unwanted by the lumber companies. Early lumbering practices simply left the slash where the tree was originally felled; thus it either decomposed

or burned. Fires were not uncommon in timber lands, and stories of fires were well known. The great Peshtigo fire of October 1871 in northeast Wisconsin burned millions of acres and killed well over 1,000 people. Closer to home, Hinckley, Minnesota, experienced its own conflagration in September 1894. That fire burned approximately 200,000 acres and killed over 400 people. Chisholm in 1908 and Baudette in 1910 were other Minnesota communities devastated by forest fires. Lightning and hot cinders from trains were often the cause of such fires, and to the people in and around the timberlands, fire was no stranger. And while large forest fires were relatively rare (when compared to the amount of lumbering Minnesota saw during this period), slash was an issue that had to be dealt with. In response to the history of lumbering fires, the state legislature had passed a law mandating that commercial loggers had to pile their slash and burn it prior to May 1 each year, but enforcing this law would prove difficult and often companies simply ignored it.⁷

The summer of 1918 had been dry in Cloquet, a trend that had begun two years earlier. By October 1918, local rainfall on average was about three inches below normal. Temperatures were warmer than normal and dew points lower, resulting in relative humidities that barely reached 20%.8 The Duluth Weather Bureau meteorologist, H.W. Richardson, wrote a thorough analysis of the fires and concluded the drought was the worst in nearly 50 years.9 Despite legislation, slash from recent timber harvests lay scattered throughout the forests surrounding Cloquet. Random fires were already burning, some of which could be seen from town.¹⁰ With the fires came the winds.

By October 12, five major fires were burning west of Cloquet. These fires were first noticed by workers along the Northern Pacific Railroad's tracks near Brookston, Minnesota, on October 10 and had not abated due to the dry conditions. Fearing the possibility of disaster, people began to pack clothes and bury their valuables, just in case evacuation became necessary.¹¹ Claude and Daisy likely kept a wary eye to the west of town and followed the example of others and prepared to respond to the threat these unchecked fires presented. Claude, though, was hampered "by a bad cold" and thus had both the fire and his health on his mind.¹² By 7:00 p.m. on October 12, the fires had entered Cloquet.

While fires raged about them, the citizens of Cloquet did not panic. The railroads made trains available to evacuate the town and orderly lines of people waiting to board the trains were reported. In all, four trains were on hand to evacuate residents. They consisted of the daily passenger train to Duluth, two trains of empty iron ore cars, and a train of mixed freight cars, including box cars and gondolas. Women and children were placed in passenger cars, but because not all trains would go in the same direction or to the same destination, families who wished to remain together climbed into various freight cars.¹³ Claude and Daisy opted to remain together and found room in an open-air gondola car. Despite the warm daytime temperatures, the evening brought cooler air, and to keep his sons warm, Claude covered them with his coat.¹⁴

This act of paternal sacrifice may have played a role in Claude's death. Three of the trains left Cloquet promptly, but the mixed freight train hung around until 10:30 p.m. so no one would be left behind. Two thousand people, including the Whites, were aboard that train, and as the depot and unattached rail cars caught fire. the last train pulled out of town.¹⁵ But the trains did not speed toward safety. Since the fires might possibly be burning along the route, and the trestles over rivers and lowlands were wooden, each of these trestles had to be inspected for damage prior to crossing over. Inspections were conducted by lantern light as darkness had long since fallen.¹⁶

No structure in Cloquet today predates 1918. By the morning of October 13, all of the town was destroyed by the fire. Charred papers identified as having originated in Cloquet were found in Black River Falls, Wisconsin, 190 miles to the southeast.¹⁷ Cloquet was not the only community impacted by the fire. Much of western Carlton County, including the towns of Moose Lake and Kettle River, also burned. In all, some 250,000 acres were scorched and 453 people lost their lives. Some tried to take shelter in root cellars but were overcome by carbon monoxide. Others sought refuge in buildings while others simply attempted to outrun the fire. Many perished. Historian Charles E. Twining wrote how lumber baron Frederick Weyerhaeuser surveyed the damage and reflected that "for those who had witnessed the 'ruthless destruction of the [German army], this particular loss would only be a drop in the bucket.' In truth," Twining concluded, "few European towns had suffered damage comparable to that in Cloquet."18 The disaster still ranks as the worst in Minnesota history, impacting 52,000 people and costing \$73 million (\$1.38 billion in 2017 dollars). Thirty-eight separate communities were destroyed. Even though the world war was still raging, the U.S. government provided \$13 million (\$247 million in 2017 dollars) in aid to the stricken area.¹⁹

Claude and Daisy White and their sons lost everything and were now homeless, but at least their family was intact. They soon made their way to Claude's mother's home in the small Pine County town of Markville, some sixty miles south of the Duluth area, possibly in the small Indian village just north of town.²⁰ Then, as now, there was little such a small community could offer, and the family next moved to White Bear, where Daisy's father and sister lived.²¹

Undeterred from the effects of losing everything but the clothes on their backs and relocating to another home, Claude soon found work at the Twin City Forge and Foundry, a munitions plant in Stillwater, situated ten miles east of White Bear along the St. Croix River. Here he joined his brother-in-law, Charles Howard, in an attempt to restart his family's life. Prior to the Whites' misfortunes, the White Bear Press had run a feature article in September 1918 calling for people to provide both furnished and unfurnished homes for potential workers at the munitions plant.²² Local officials in both Stillwater and White Bear sought to improve both housing and transportation between the two towns as a way of making it easier for workers to either reside or commute to the munitions plant. The plant had been established in 1916 and primarily made shell casings during the war.²³ Hopeful for a fresh start, Claude was one



A residential neighborhood in Cloquet after the fire. Photo by Olson's Studio. Photo courtesy of the Minnesota Historical Society.

of several hundred new hires at the plant as it had just been awarded a new government contract and had expanded its payroll.

As he headed off to work, Claude may not have fully recovered from his earlier illness. A note on his death stated he had earlier developed pneumonia, probably from his illness and the slow night journey away from the fire.

Another health menace, widely unexpected in Minnesota, had been gaining strength over the past several months far from the forests surrounding Cloquet. Modern medical research has traced the outbreak of Spanish Influenza to an army camp and hospital in Etaples, France.²⁴ From there it soon spread to even the most remote locations in the world, from the Arctic to obscure Pacific Islands. No place was immune to the influenza's reach, and before it ran its course, it would claim the lives of some 50-100 million people worldwide, including Claude and Daisy White. And, unlike other forms of influenza that kill the elderly, weak, or very young, this strain mainly affected seemingly healthy young adults.

The Spanish Influenza Pandemic

"Spanish influenza does not exist in Minneapolis and never has, but it will probably reach here during the fall," declared Minneapolis city Health Commissioner Dr. H.M. Guildford, on September 19, 1918.²⁵ Though he appeared to be speaking with a sense of pride that the disease had truly not been present to that point, he was realistic enough to understand there was little that could be done to prevent its ultimate arrival and subsequent spreading amongst the general population. Just ten days later, influenza was confirmed in Minneapolis four days after Rupert Blue, U.S. Surgeon General, had declared the disease had first reached Minnesota. Henry Bracken, head of the state's Board of Health initially asked the Surgeon General's office in Washington for further confirmation, but reports were soon flooding into his office from around the state and from nearby Fort Snelling and Dunwoody Institute that soldiers were taking ill. For the next ninety days, Spanish Influenza ran rampant across the state as well as the nation.²⁶

Newspapers in the Twin Cities ran counts of how many new cases and subsequent deaths were reported each day, though Minneapolis and St. Paul took vastly different approaches in response to the outbreak.²⁷ In early October in Minneapolis, Dr. Guilford ordered an immediate ban on all unnecessary public meetings and on October 12 his office soon closed all public schools, churches, and entertainment venues.

Across the Mississippi River in St. Paul, its city health officer, Dr. B.F. Simon, did not issue formal closure orders on schools or other establishments, though public fears did result in a drastic loss of patronage in many such businesses. Regardless of whether government officials forced closures or not, Spanish Influenza was reaching epidemic proportions, with over 1,000 cases in Minneapolis alone.²⁸

Bracken remained optimistic, telling a meeting of the State Board of Heath that "we are in good shape to handle the epidemic." Bracken opposed official closure orders believing them unlikely to stop the epidemic's spread. This put him at odds with Minneapolis officials, who stood by their decisions.

In Washington, Congress had allocated a million dollars (about \$16 million today) to combat the epidemic and Bracken remained confident in curbing the disease without closing schools and businesses. In St. Paul, Dr. Simon seemed to agree, at least until the latter half of October when public opinion had forced itself upon the city's officials. St. Paul banned public dances on October 22 and a week later Dr. Simon limited the number of streetcar passengers to 84 per car.²⁹ The University of Minnesota had delayed the start of its fall term until October 23, and fraternities were not allowed to meet until the second week in November. Even the U.S. war effort was put on hold, as the *Pioneer Press* reported in late September that 142,000 new draftees were prohibited from entering training camps until the epidemic showed signs of waning.³⁰

Spanish Influenza in White Bear

White Bear, Claude and Daisy White's new home, also responded to the influenza outbreak. City health official Dr. A.E. Voges was actually part of a contingent of relief workers who headed north to the fire areas that the Whites had recently evacuated, but by the latter part of October he was back in town and ordered local churches and movie theaters closed. along with banning public gatherings. Interestingly, Dr. Voges did not order public schools closed. He was quoted in the White Bear Press saying that "children of the community can be kept under observation better if they are in school than if they are at large," though he said children who are themselves ill or if the influenza was present in their homes should not attend school.³¹ In this matter, Voges agreed with Henry Bracken, and to a lesser extent, St. Paul's Dr. Simon. In any event, the response to the epidemic when coupled with the response to the fires, greatly strained the state's medical resources. Other states were not forced to address two crises at the same time.³²

The first White Bear resident to succumb to Spanish Influenza was a twentyone-year-old soldier at Fort Snelling, William H. Prindle. Prindle's death was reported in the October 17, 1918, edition of the *White Bear Press*, and special attention was paid to the recent order from Henry Bracken at the State Board of Health that no influenza victim was to have a public funeral and that all bodies had to be buried within 24 hours of death.³³ Influenza cases continued to be reported by the *White Bear Press* for the next two editions.

While federal, state, and city governments were reacting to the epidemic, and newspapers were reporting on the matter, people continued to take ill and die. For all the closures (or non-closures) of schools and entertainment venues, there



Daisy and Claude White. Photos courtesy of Marianna Day.

was still a war going on and the American war effort required people to go to work. If it was believed that closing certain places where young people congregated might help curb the epidemic, no thought was given to closing work places such as factories or offices. Though Germany and its allies were on the brink of collapse, the battles in Europe raged on and Americans still needed to produce munitions and the other supplies of war.

Aside from the elderly, a primary age group with high mortality were men and women between the ages of 20-30; hence the decisions by health officials to close those places where young adults would congregate.³⁴ Claude White may or may not have visited an entertainment venue, but he definitely continued to go to work at the munitions plant in Stillwater. Daisy White, on the other hand, may have contracted influenza from her husband, for we do not know how long she had been ill prior to her death. She died at 9:00 a.m. on November 1, 1918. In keeping with the strict regulations against funerals and the requirement for prompt burials, she was laid to rest in Union Cemetery at 5:30 p.m. that same day. Daisy White was twenty-four years old.

Records indicate Claude also had the disease and he passed away on November 3, 1918, at the age of twentyseven, probably later in the day, as he was buried the following day. His death certificate, signed by White Bear health official Dr. Voges, states that Claude had been ill for nine days prior to succumbing to influenza.³⁵ The White family that had lost its home and worldly possessions in the Cloquet fire and had traveled over a hundred miles to live with family members in White Bear had now just lost both parents in a span of two days. The day Claude White died, St. Paul's health official ordered all schools, churches, saloons, and places of amusement closed.

Save for information about the couple in their obituary, and emails from their descendants to the author. little else is known of Claude and Daisy White. If movie theaters and churches were closed, and public gatherings were banned, presumably the Whites did not contract their illnesses at one of these locations, though the inconsistency of closure actions left opportunities available for those who wished to continue going to such entertainment establishments. The Whites' young sons were not old enough to attend school: so it's not likely other children carried the disease through schoolyard contact. So how did disease come to their house?

Life was not one giant quarantine during the outbreak. As mentioned above, people continued to go to work, to have contact with one another, and live their lives as best they could, given the circumstances. In Claude's case, he presumably rode the train between White Bear and Stillwater to his place of employment, or he could have encountered an individual on the street who may not have covered a cough, or could have come in contact at a local market, or any number of other possibilities. The Stillwater Daily Gazette reported the munitions plant was operating at full capacity with a workforce of nearly 2,500; any one of these workers could have exposed Claude to influenza.³⁶ If Claude had been ill for nine days, his health was probably weakened by the night air during the flight from Cloquet. Or he could have become ill on the journey from Duluth to Markville to White Bear. Speculations could be endless and not very helpful. What the historical record shows is that first Daisy, and then Claude, became two more victims of a worldwide pandemic. Two faces among an estimated count of nearly 100 million victims.

Eventually the bans on gatherings and the closings of those businesses frequented by young adults (which met with opposition from the owners of such businesses) were lifted. St. Paul's health official, Dr.

Simon, appeared to be more optimistic in declaring the epidemic on the decline as he was already predicting its end by late November.³⁷ Already in White Bear, the Press essentially stopped covering the outbreak once news of the Armistice came from Europe. A headline in the December 23rd edition of the St. Paul Pioneer Press noted a "big slump in influenza" further reflected the epidemic's decline.³⁸ Reports from St. Paul and Minneapolis of new influenza cases continued randomly throughout the winter of 1919. The Minneapolis Journal attempted to show influenza's economic impact when it stated that passenger rail profits were off by \$180,000 for October and November 1918.39 By March 1919, the influenza pandemic had for all intents and purposes, run its course in Minnesota.

Epilogue

Statistics can be the historian's gold mine. Numbers can add a sense of drama to any story and give a situation purpose and meaning. Indeed, I've used numbers to help illustrate the accounts of the Cloquet fires and the Spanish Influenza pandemic.



Keith, left, and Rawson White. Photo courtesy of Marianna Day.

Because they occurred in Minnesota nearly simultaneously, the statistical data vividly shows just how significant the impact of the fire and influenza was on the local economy and on the resources of the day. History, of course, is more than simple statistics. In the case of the White family, it is the recounting of daily life in another era. Claude and Daisy White were more than statistics. They were vibrant, living human beings who faced adversity as best they could. Daisy's father, William McCartney, was more than just a person who took in his daughter's family. Claude

and Daisy's obituary identified McCartney as a teamster who was trying to establish a permanent home in White Bear. That Daisy's mother was not mentioned indicates that she, too, had passed away at some point. In spring 1919, Adeline White, a great-aunt who was a physician, adopted the two orphan boys and brought them to live with her in Chicago. Thus ended the connection of Claude and Daisy White's family with Minnesota, save for two graves in White Bear Lake.

It's been said that the historian's task is to recreate a world that the subjects of his research would recognize. My hope is that I've recreated a world that Claude and Daisy White would indeed recognize as the one they had lived in.

A lifelong resident of Ramsey County, James Lindner holds an M.A. in History, has published a history of Gem Lake, and serves on the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization Technical Commission. He thanks Pat Grage, Marianna Day, and Kathy Beard, White family descendants, for their assistance in the research for this article.

Endnotes

1. See William Watts Folwell, A History of Minnesota in Four Volumes (St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, reprint edition, 1969) and William E. Lass, Minnesota: A History (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 1983).

2. Agnes M. Larson, The White Pine Industry in Minnesota: A History (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1949; reprint ed., 2007), 259.

3. Larson, 235, 253.

4. Following the deaths of Claude and Daisy White, their children were adopted by their great-aunt, Adeline R. White, M.D., of Chicago. Information provided to the author from White family member Pat Grage in an email dated December 12 2014 Why Adeline White changed the boys' names is unclear.

5. Email from Mary Day to the author dated September 21 2015 According to the email, Daisy's father delivered supplies to lumber camps and it is quite possible that Claude was living and working in one such Tennessee lumber camp and was somehow introduced to Daisy.

6. Mary Day email to the author. In this email, Ms. Day further adds that Claude had attended Dunwoody Vocational Institute in Minneapolis and had studied auto mechanics. According to its website, Dunwoody was founded in 1914, which means Claude would have been among the earliest students to attend. The website adds that it is the oldest institution of its kind in the Upper Midwest which would imply that Claude had few options when looking for post-secondary vocational education. 7. Larson, 346.

8. Francis M. Carroll, Crossroads in Time: A History of Carlton County, Minnesota (Cloquet Minn · Carlton County Historical Society 1987) 221 - 4

9 H.W. Richardson "The Northeastern Minnesota Forest Fires of October 12, 1918," Geographical Review, 7:4 (April 1919): 221; JSTOR retrieved August 31, 2015.

10. Ironically, one Cloquet business owner, H.C. Hornby, claimed his company spent thousands of dollars burning brush from their lumbering operations. See Larson, 346

11 Francis M Carroll and Franklin R Raiter The Fires of Autumn: The Cloquet-Moose Lake Disaster of 1918 (St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1990).

- 12. Claude White obituary, White Bear Press, November 7, 1918, p. 4.
- 13. Carroll and Raiter, 46-48.
- 14. Claude White obituary
- 15. Carroll and Raiter, 49. 16. Ibid.
- 17. Ibid., 3-4

18. Charles E. Twining, F.K. Weyerhaeuser: A Biography (St. Paul, Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1997), 54.

19. Wikipedia article "1918 Cloquet Fire" retrieved August 14, 2015. See also "Fire and Flu" an account of the fires and the influenza pandemic by St. Paul author Tim Brady printed on http://minnesotamedicine. com/Past-Issues/Past-Issues-2005/January-2005/Fire-and-Flu-Jan-2005, retrieved August 15, 2015.

20. Elsie Olson, compiler, Pioneer Tales of Burnett County (Webster, Wis.: Burnett County Homemakers Club, 1976), 29.

21. White Bear was the name of the town; it would not be incorporated into White Bear Lake (as distinct from the original White Bear Township) by taking the name of the adjacent lake until 1921.

22. White Bear Press, September 26, 1918, p. 1. Claude and Daisy White obituary.

23. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, "Historical Reconstruction of the Riverfront: Stillwater, Minnesota" (1985), 47. See also Stillwater Daily Gazette, particularly September 9, 1918, p. 1. The plant was looking to fulfill a new contract for 375 000 shell casings and was looking to add at around 600 more employees which would bring total employment to around 2 500

24. Wikipedia article. "1918 Flu Pandemic" retrieved August 14, 2015. 25. Dr. H.M. Guilford quoted on http://www.influenzaarchive.org/cities/ city-minneapolis.html# retrieved on August 15, 2015. Produced by the University of Michigan Center for the History of Medicine and Michigan Publishing, University of Michigan Library. This website concentrates

on 50 American cities, including Minneapolis and St. Paul, detailing their reporting and handling of the influenza pandemic.

26. http://www.flu.gov/pandemic/history/1918/your state/midwest/ minnesota/, retrieved August 15, 2015.

27. St. Paul Pioneer Press, November 4, 1918, p. 1. Subsequent issues dated November 12, 13, and 14 reported 72, 66, and 54 new cases respectively

28. http://www.flu.gov/pandemic/history/1918/your_state/midwest/ minnesota/index.html, retrieved July 3, 2016. http://www.influenzaarchive.org/cities/city-stpaul.html#, retrieved September 5, 2016.

29. http://www.flu.gov/pandemic/history/1918/your_state/midwest/

minnesota/index.html, retrieved September 5, 2016. St. Paul Pioneer Press, October 23, 1918, p. 1; November 4, 1918, p. 1.

30. St. Paul Pioneer Press, September 27, 1918, p. 1.

31. White Bear Press, October 24, 1918, p. 4.

32. Minnesota Governor J.A.A. Burnquist worked to provide relief for fire victims, but in the many articles and resources relating to the influenza epidemic, his name does not appear in any official capacity.

33. White Bear Press, October 17, 1918 p. 1. The full State Board of Health order banning funerals was printed in the White Bear Press, October 24, 1918, p. 1.

34. http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/12/1/05-0979-f3, retrieved September 5, 2016. The article states on its page 16 that to this day it is not fully clear why this strain of influenza was so particularly fatal, though it offers suggestions that those born prior to 1889 had been exposed to other forms of influenza. On page 20 it suggests pre-1889 births may have had exposure to a "then-circulating virus capable of providing partial immunoprotection against the 1918 virus" though this remains only a theory with subsequent limitations of complete conclusions

35. Claude White death certificate.

- 36. Stillwater Daily Gazette, September 9, 1918, p. 1
- 37. St. Paul Pioneer Press, November 27, 1918, p. 12. 38. St. Paul Pioneer Press, December 23, 1918, p. 7.
- 39. Minneapolis Journal, December 22, 1918, p. 9.



Published by the Ramsey County Historical Society 323 Landmark Center 75 West Fifth Street Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

U.S. Postage PAID Twin Cities, MN Permit #3989

Ramsey County History Revealed Series

Join the Ramsey County Historical Society for a new series of monthly history presentations about a wide range of topics drawn from the heritage and traditions of Ramsey County.

Ramsey County Roseville Library • 7:00 pm • See www.rchs.com for speakers, topics and dates.



Michael Price's statue of F. Scott Fitzgerald was placed in Rice Park in 1996 on what would have been Fitzgerald's 100th birthday. Behind it rises the Landmark Center, finished in 1902 and home to the former Federal Courthouse and Post Office. Photo by David Page. For more on Scott Fitzgerald and his roots in St. Paul, see page 16.