

Chapter 1 : Demographics of Minnesota - Wikipedia

Minnesota is often associated with its Scandinavian heritage, but in fact Germans are the largest single immigrant group in Minnesota history and were the largest ancestry group in the census.

In Minnesota, the pinch was felt especially acutely in agriculture, food processing, and logging. Women and even children often stepped up to help with the labor shortage in agriculture and food processing. One notable local example was year-old Duluthian Shirley Armstrong, who appeared on the cover of the September 27, , issue of Life magazine because she was working in corn fields near Fairmont, Minnesota. In spite of the help, the labor shortage grew worse. Early in , the state of Minnesota had begun working on a plan for using prisoners of war to fill some vacant jobs and help keep the industries operating smoothly and able to provide the country with needed food and lumber. A small number of prisoners were used in Minnesota agriculture in , but usage increased greatly in . In a meeting held on November 11, , in the St. Louis County Courthouse in Duluth, U. Army representatives made a presentation to a group of timber producers outlining the procedures for employing prisoners of war. At that time, no prisoners of war had been used in the lumber industry in Minnesota. According to an article in the Duluth Herald, the timber producers were told: Prisoner of war labor is last resort labor. In order to obtain such aid to production an employer is required to obtain a certificate of necessity from the War Manpower commission. Such certification is on the premise that no other labor is available through usual channels. Duluth Herald, November 11, , p. Two weeks later, the Mayor of Duluth, Edward H. Hatch, publicly opposed the use of prisoners of war to help the logging industry. But the industry proceeded with the plan, and by early a former Civilian Conservation Corps CCC camp near Remer in Cass County, about miles northwest of Duluth, had been approved by the Army to house prisoners. A group of German prisoners on their way to Remer, along with their Army guards, arrived on the Soo Line railroad in Duluth on January 30, , to spend the night in the depot on Sixth Avenue West and Superior Street. They had been sent from a major prisoner-of-war camp in Concordia, Kansas. The next day they continued by train to the Remer site to begin nine days of upgrading work, making the camp ready to house prisoners who would be harvesting pulpwood to help alleviate the serious shortage. The camp at Remer was the first in Minnesota to use German prisoners to cut pulpwood and was considered a test case. Eventually there would be four such camps in Northeastern Minnesota: By June of , oversight of camps in Minnesota, Iowa, and North and South Dakota was assigned to a base camp near the town of Algona, in north central Iowa. Officials at Algona would be responsible for 34 camps, 20 of which were located in Minnesota. The reporter, who had visited the Remer facility on March 6, said the camp housed several hundred German prisoners, most of whom had served in the Afrika Korps under Field Marshall Erwin Rommel. The article says most of the prisoners had arrived by rail and had traveled through Duluth. The prisoners were paid ten cents a day by the federal government, and, on days they worked, another 80 cents a day from the company benefiting from the work; the pay was in money negotiable only at the camp canteen, where prisoners could purchase items such as cigarettes, candy, razor blades, and soap. Harding, camp commander, said: They are courteous, well-disciplined as soldiers and have the utmost respect for American officers. They never fail to salute, they obey orders without hesitation and observe military regulations and camp rules to the letter. Another group of Nazi prisoners passed through Duluth late yesterday under heavily armed guard, en route to a northern Minnesota lumber camp. Chatting gaily among themselves as they strode from their prison train in the Soo Line depot, they were marched down the lower sidewalk of West Superior Street and filed through the doors of a cafeteria to be fed. Its last official day of operation was December 26, Simmons, from the Duluth Public Library.

Chapter 2 : Anti-German Nativism, 1848-1860 | MNopedia

Germans are the largest single immigrant group in Minnesota history and perhaps its most invisible. Exploring this paradox, author Kathleen Neils Conzen recounts the struggles and triumphs of the Germans who transformed acres of wilderness into productive farms and brought to America their love of.

Search Oktoberfest in Minnesota Lots of beer, brats and oompah music will await those celebrating their German heritage at a Minnesota Oktoberfest this fall. In September and October , these German beer festivals will be a popular destination for the nearly 2 million people in Minnesota who claim ancestry from Germany. With festivals spanning the state from New Ulm to Duluth, and several Minneapolis Oktoberfest options as well, we hope you are able to find one that you are able to attend. October 14, Fall Festival Organizer? More than , people came to Funtober last year looking to attend a fall festival and another , were specifically interested in attending an oktoberfest. We can help increase attendance at your event through a sponsored listing, coupon giveaway, cross-promotion or other creative marketing initiative. Special deals for nonprofits. Please see our advertising page or contact us for more information. Start the day with the fun run at Pierz Healy High School for a 2 mile or 5K run for the whole family. Parade generally starts around 11 AM. Purchase and wear their button to win one of the prizes in their giveaways. Champions Forever, a traveling entertainment organization that performs at schools, colleges and halftime shows will also be there in Free shuttle bus transportation to the park from various parking lots - no unauthorized vehicles are allowed on Park Ave near the park. Related events take place for the week prior to the event. On Saturday night, for example, there will be a concert and fireworks. Paul Oktoberfest - St. Sundays are family days with all ages welcome from noon-6 PM. Activities include free face painting, balloon twister, music, dancing. Be sure to taste the giant pretzels, cinnamon roasted almonds, Hammerschlagen, brats and chops, and of course lots of imported beers. Enjoy Friday nights karaoke entertainment and dinner specials at the Anchorage Inn. A Bavarian bar and eatery in Northeast Minneapolis that pitches a massive tent and brings in the picnic tables for a celebration of Germany. Food options include brats, smoked pork chops, BBQ ribs, german potato salad, sauerkraut, soft pretzels and apfelstrudel. There will be live polka music and dancing, too. Oktoberfest beers, food, and music. Weiner dog races, free beer tastings, stein holding competitions, a pretzel toss, German food and a HUGE selection of Oktoberfest beers are all on tap for the outdoor Oktoberfest celebration at The Blue Moose Bar and Grill! Bring the family as this event is family friendly with lots of games for the kids too! Up to 13 participating locations. Enjoy the tastes, smells, sights, and sounds of Germany with activities inside the museum, outside in the Ruin Courtyard and at the Farmers Market area in the Train Shed and Chicago Mall next to the Guthrie Theater. Watch a cooking demonstration, enjoy music and dancing, and relax with a Minnesota brew and German fare in the Ruin Courtyard beer garden. Mill City Museum admission is required for certain activities inside the museum. Paul Oktoberfest provides two days of live music, dancers, brats and Summit Oktoberfest beer. This has been ranked one of the top 25 events in Minnesota for many years. The Best Western Plus has two indoor band stage areas with German-style polka and bands playing party favorites for dancing. This will be the 19th annual event. In the past, Thursday events have included the crowning of Mr. Friday has held the largest pumpkin contest, chainsaw sculpting, more bingo and a salute to the troops with live music at the VFW. Kids events included hay rides, pumpkin decorating and games at the PR Fire Hall. Or participate in the VolksMarch Walk for 11K. Proceeds go toward community beautification projects. Pelican Rapids is located in western Otter Tail County. Lots of fun activities for kids. It survived Prohibition and has been passed down through six generations of the family. They make German craft beer. The tentative schedule has a harvest buffet dinner show with live music by the Concord Singers and Alpensterne. Saturday and Sunday both start off with a breakfast buffet. Eat dinner at the buffet featuring German music and end the evening with a free admission polka dance.

Chapter 3 : Germans in Minnesota - Kathleen Neils Conzen - Google Books

Today, Minnesota is home to many German entrepreneurs and over 80 German companies. Allianz Life Insurance, one of the largest global insurance companies, has its U.S. headquarters in Minnesota.

Ripley Overview Situated in the heart of Europe, Germany today adjoins nine neighbors: Denmark to the north; Poland and the Czech Republic to the east; Austria and Switzerland to the south; and the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, and France to the west. With a population of nearly 80 million, Germany follows Russia as the most populous nation in Europe. In size, however, Germany is smaller than either France or Spain and equates roughly with the combined area of Minnesota and Wisconsin. With an average of people per square kilometer, Germany has one of the highest population densities in Europe. As cohesion among the population of the eastern realm increased, the term Deutschland applied to all German speakers. Once confined west of the Elbe River, Germans gradually penetrated farther east into former Slavic territory, often peacefully, but sometimes by force. Almost from the time of Charlemagne, Germany bore versions of the name Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation, beginning with the Salian dynasty and proceeding with the rule of the Hohenstaufens, the Habsburgs, and the Hohenzollerns. Germany suffered religious schism when Martin Luther proposed reforms in , which led to the pillaging of the country by those who profited from the weakened central political, religious, and social ruling structures. During this period, also known as the Enlightenment, Prussian king Frederick the Great became a patron of the American Revolution. During the Napoleonic period, the Holy Roman Empire dissolved in favor of the Deutscher Bund German Confederation , a loose confederation of individual sovereign states that functioned with a single participatory government unit, the Bundestag, a delegated parliament in Frankfurt. The Bundestag often behaved like a monarchical oligarchy, suppressing freedom, enforcing censorship, and controlling the universities and political activity. Arguments arose among the liberals over whether to establish a "greater Germany," along the lines of Great Britain, or a "smaller Germany," which would include only the more traditionally German principalities without Austria. Because Austria wanted to bring into the union its more than a dozen ethnic groups, the National Assembly opted for a smaller Germany, for which they offered a constitution to King Friedrich Wilhelm IV of Prussia. A large group of German intellectual liberals, known as the Forty-eighters, immigrated to the United States during this period to escape persecution. The contemporary flag of Germany with its black, red, and gold stripes derives from the flag of the Forty-eighter parliament. Following three short wars in , , and , the new Prussian chancellor Bismarck united the remaining German states into the smaller German Reich, which lasted until World War I. German industry grew during the late nineteenth century. Domestic unrest erupted when Kaiser Wilhelm I attempted to suppress the domestic socialist working class. In the early twentieth century, Germany struck up alliances with Austria and the age-old Ottoman Turkey, triggering fear abroad. The Republic was doomed from the outset by its struggles with burdensome war reparations, inflation, foreign military occupation west of the Rhine, a war guilt clause in the Versailles Treaty, and heavy losses of territory. Stricken by the political-economic disaster of , Hindenburg in appointed to the chancellorship Adolf Hitler. Hitler promptly banned parties, expelled Communists from the government, and restructured the military. In Germany occupied France, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Austria, and Hungary, and acted on the policy of extermination of unwanted peoples that nearly resulted in destroying the Jews and Gypsies of Europe. Systematically, Jews and political prisoners in Western Europe were shipped from Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, and Holland to forced-labor camps and to prisons. Concentration camps, which held Jews captive without regard for the accepted norms of arrest, appeared in France, Germany, and Austria, as well as Poland and Czechoslovakia. There were camps built to exterminate the Jews; most were gassed, but some were shot, drowned, or starved to death. Nearly six million people were killed by Nazi command although there was some national resistance. When Germany was defeated in World War II, the country was divided into several parts governed by the various countries of the opposing armies. Eventually the Western countries that had opposed the Germans combined their sections into a European-influenced West Germany. This part of Germany was established as a democratic republic in . For nearly 40 years distrust among Germans was

encouraged by the Soviet Union on the one hand and by the West on the other. Both feared a united Germany. Finally in a revolution in East Germany deposed the communist regime there and the leaders sought reunification with West Germany. The two German states agreed to reunite under a two-house parliament and the pattern of free elections that had been developed by West Germany. Germany has worked to balance the economies of an agriculturally entrenched east and a west with a long-standing industrial sector. When Columbus arrived in America in 1492, he did so in the name of Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain, that is, with the entitlement of the Habsburgs who also ruled Germany as part of the Holy Roman Empire. Contrary to myth, the first German immigrants did not originate solely in the state of Pfalz. During the American pre-Revolutionary War period, immigrants came primarily from the Rhine valley, an artery that gives access to the sea. German emigration during this period was almost exclusively via French or Dutch ports like LeHavre or Rotterdam. Pennsylvania has remained the heartland for various branches of Anabaptists: Pennsylvania also became home for many Lutheran refugees from Catholic provinces e. By 1790, when the first census of Americans was taken, more than 8. During the Revolutionary War, these German Americans were numerically strengthened by the arrival of about 30,000 Hessian mercenaries who fought for England during the hostilities, of whom some 5,000 chose to remain in the New World after the war ceased. In addition to those who had arrived for political and religious reasons until about 1790, Americans and some foreign shippers brought many Germans to America under the redemptioner system. The scheme was that a German peasant traveled on a sailing vessel without charge and on arrival at an Atlantic port was sold to an American businessman to work from four to seven years to redeem his passage and win his freedom. Some of the early sectariansâ€”Baptist Dunkers, Schwenkfelders, Moravian Brethren, and othersâ€”were only able to reach America in this way. Populous as German immigrants to America were by the end of the eighteenth century, the major waves of immigration came after the conclusion of the Napoleonic Wars in 1815. Too many goods were imported, especially cloth from industrialized England. Antiquated inheritance laws in southwestern Germany caused land holdings continuously to be divided, rendering farms too minuscule for assistance. A failing cottage industry collapsed when faced by a flood of foreign products. Finally, the population had grown artificially large because of growing dependence on the potato. Like Ireland, rural Germany in the 1840s was suddenly hit by famine precipitated by the potato blight. Because the revolutions in Europe failed to bring democracy to Germany, several thousand fugitives left for America in addition to the nearly 1,000,000 other Germans who immigrated to America in the following years. While a mere 6,000 Germans had entered the United States in the 1790s, nearly one million did so in the 1840s, the first great influx from Germany. Despite annual fluctuations, especially during the Civil War period when the figure dropped to 100,000, the tide again swelled to 1,000,000 in the 1850s and peaked at 1,200,000 in the 1860s. During the nineteenth century religious and political refugees were numerous. During the 1830s, for example, Prussia forced a union of the Reformed and Lutheran congregations, which by the late 1830s caused many Old Lutherans to emigrate. Saxon followers of Martin Stephan came in to escape the "wickedness" of the Old World. Nazianz in Wisconsin, and Amana in Iowa. Societies sponsored by German princes sought to use emigration as a solution to social problems at home. For example, the Central Society for German Emigrants at Berlin 1824, the National Emigration Society at Darmstadt 1825, the Giessener Emigration Society 1826, and the Texas Braunfels Adelsverein operated on the principle that a one-way ticket for the downtrodden was cheaper than a long-term subsidy. Also influential in unleashing a tidal wave of German emigration were writers like Gottfried Duden whose book about Missouri became a best-seller. During the 1840s small farmers and their families dominated the first major wave of immigrants, who often came from southwest Germany. Soon after artisans and household manufacturers were the main arrivals from the more central states of Germany, while day laborers and agricultural workers from the rural northeast estates characterized subsequent waves of German immigrants. Not until German industrialization caught up with the English in the late nineteenth century did German emigrants no longer have to leave the country to improve their lives. Beginning in the late 1840s and for several decades thereafter, migrants from depressed German agricultural regions were destined less for America than for the manufacturing districts of Berlin, the Ruhr, and the Rhine in Germany itself. It was sort of an assembly building where you got processed. There was an exodus from Europe at that time, and they had all races in this place. You could see people from Russia,

Poland, Lithuania, you name it. Interspersed among these waves of economic emigrants were fugitives from oppression, including thousands of German Jews who left because of economic and social discrimination. Young men sometimes fled to avoid serving in the Prussian military. Also during the latter half the nineteenth century, a host of agents fanned out across Germany to drum up emigration. Some were outright recruiters who were technically outlawed. More often these agencies took the form of aid societies working to better the lot of the emigres in Germany, such as the Catholic Raphael Society, the Bavarian Ludwigsmissionsverein, the Leopoldinen Stiftung in Vienna, the Pietist society of Herrnhut in Saxony, and the Lutheran support groups at Neuendettelsau of Franconia in northern Bavaria. Frankenmuth, Michigan, for example, traces its roots to the latter organization. Much better funded promoters were those established by the north-central states most prominently, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota as they joined the Union, many of which had ample support from their legislatures for their Immigration Commissioners. Even more influential were transcontinental railroads that sent agents to the ports of debarkation along the Atlantic and Germany to recruit immigrants to either take up their land grants or supply freight activity for their lines. Especially active was the Northern Pacific during the time when German immigrant Henry Villard headed the corporation and sought to populate his land grant with industrious German farmers. In the latter phases of German immigration, newcomers joined established settlers in a phenomenon called "chain migration. Chain migration strengthened the already existing German regions of the United States. One such concentrated settlement pattern gave rise to the phrase "German triangle," that is, St. Louis, and Cincinnati, with lines stretching between them so that the triangle incorporates Chicago, Milwaukee, Indianapolis, Fort Wayne, Davenport, and other strongly German cities. Other descriptors include the more accurate "German parallelogram," which stretches from Albany westward along the Erie Canal to Buffalo and farther westward through Detroit to St. Except for large settlements in Texas, San Francisco, and Florida, German American settlement is still largely contained within the German belt. The number of German Americans has remained constant. From to German was the most widely used language in the United States after English. In the U. When France, which had attempted to colonize Louisiana in the early eighteenth century with the help of Germans, assumed an important role in the cotton trade, German immigrants arrived in New Orleans and made their way up the Mississippi, Ohio, and Missouri rivers. The primary port of arrival for early immigrants was Philadelphia and many Germans chose to settle in Pennsylvania. The German American population of 58 million breaks down demographically as follows: With regard to specific states, Americans reporting German ancestry are the most numerous in California, followed by Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, and Texas. In terms of absolute numbers, the Germans have always been at their largest in New York City. Acculturation and Assimilation In many respects, the Germans were slower to assimilate than their fellow immigrants from other countries. This was due in part to their size and in part to their overall percentage of the population. When a cross-section of basic needs can be supplied within an ethnic community, the need to assimilate in order to survive is less urgent. Germans had their own professionals, businesses, clergy, churches, and especially schools. However, second generation German immigrants were drawn more quickly into the mainstream and the survival of German communities depended upon immigration. In the United States Bavarian culture is regarded as synonymous with all German culture, even though Bavarian customs and language are confined to the regional state of Bavaria and its capital, Munich.

Chapter 4 : The secret history of prisoner-of-war-camps in Minnesota | MPR News

Minnesota is often associated with its Scandinavian heritage, but in fact Germans are the largest single immigrant group in Minnesota history and were the largest ancestry group in the census. Author Kathleen Neils Conzen tells the story of German Americans and their profound influence on Minnesota history and culture.

Despite centuries of disruption, their cultures survive. Germans in the Upper Midwest Many of our most-loved traditions arrived with emigrants from Germany. When they crossed the ocean, they brought hot dogs, potato salad and beer gardens. Thanks to them, we have kindergartens, Christmas trees and fairy tales. Their traditions now are woven into the fabric of Upper Midwest life. To paraphrase the words of John F. Kennedy, we are all Germans. Thanks to them, we have Oktoberfests all fall, Christkindl markets over the holidays and, to welcome spring, Maifests. Germans are by far the largest group in Wisconsin, land of beer and brats. There, 44 percent of residents reported Germany ancestry in the census. There, 38 percent of Minnesotans reported German ancestry. The next-largest groups were Norwegians, 17 percent; Irish, 12 percent; and Swedes, 10 percent. After the revolts were suppressed, many of their middle-class organizers fled to America. Their arrival coincided with the signing of Indian treaties that opened the best farmland to settlers. It was good timing for both the Germans and the state, said the late Madison historian Richard Zeitlin, author of "Germans in Wisconsin. They were there to make something more than it was. It was a fertile land, just waiting for a hard-working people to come and put down roots and transform it. Calling themselves "freethinkers," they had a passion for education, equality and clean government. In Milwaukee, they formed so many social and cultural clubs the city became known as "the German Athens. In Milwaukee, freethinking Germans sent a Socialist to the U. Congress in , and a Socialist was mayor from to , with an eight-year break in the s. Called "sewer socialism" because it promoted the orderly delivery of services to all citizens, their approach to politics exists even today in Wisconsin and Minnesota, said historian Zeitlin, though not solely because of the Germans. What you got was an alliance of these two immigrant groups. Unlike the more puritanical Yankees, they liked to get out and about on Sundays, gathering with family and friends over food and drink. Over the years, the stereotypical German has become a beer-bellied goof in a furry green hat, bobbing up and down and flapping his elbows to oompah music. Germans not only gave us "The Little Chicken Dance," but they also invented kitsch, from garden gnomes to cuckoo clocks and Wayne Newton crooning "Danke Schoen. And secretly, we love it all. German towns Around here, there are many ways to get in touch with your inner German. Certain towns are bastions of Teutonic culture. Sheboygan calls itself the bratwurst capital of the nation. In nearby Elkhart Lake , immigrants from Germany built grand lakeside resorts. In western Minnesota, heavy concentrations of Germans settled in the fertile farmland between the Minnesota and Mississippi river valleys, where towns bear the names New Germany, Hamburg, Cologne and New Munich. And at the junction of the Minnesota and Cottonwood rivers, a group of German workingmen and Turners bought land and established the town of New Ulm. Along with schools and churches, they took time in to put up a foot copper statue of the Alemannic warrior Hermann, who routed the Romans from the Teutoburg Forest in 9 A. In eastern Iowa, a group of devout German Inspirationists formed a communal society in , pooling their resources and adhering faithfully to Scripture. The name they gave their settlement, Amana , comes from the Bible and means "remain true. Today, restaurants in the seven Amana Colonies still serve meals family-style, and Millstream Brewery makes its beers according to old German purity laws. Maifest in Amana, Iowa. Bavarian Blast in New Ulm, Minn. Gemuetlichkeit Days in Jefferson, Wis. Oktoberfest celebrations can be found everywhere. For more, see Toasting Oktoberfest. Christkindlmarkets have become very popular. For more, see Old World Christmas markets. Language and culture German was the first language taught at Concordia Language Villages , an immersion camp started in by an elementary-education professor at the Moorhead college who saw how quickly children of U. Today, the Waldsee campus on a lake near Bemidji hosts immersion camps for youth all summer and weekend camps for adults and families. Paul, the Germanic-American Institute is an active association of native Germans as well as people of German ancestry. It offers its 1, members language classes, lectures, trips, cultural groups and dinners, and it frequently opens its

house on Summit Avenue to the public for festivities, including Deutscher Tag in June. In the countryside near Dodgeville, in southwestern Wisconsin, Folklore Village presents ethnic workshops, concerts and festivities, including the lighting of a candlelit German Christmas tree in December. In the summer, interpreters take visitors back to the years , and , explaining how immigrants observed Old World traditions and adopted new ones. A restaurant occupies the Clausing Barn, an octagonal barn built by a German immigrant in Near Milwaukee in Germantown, the Dheinsville Settlement includes original half-timbered buildings. Last updated on May 2,

Chapter 5 : Oktoberfests Celebrate German Food & Fun : Explore Minnesota

In western Minnesota, heavy concentrations of Germans settled in the fertile farmland between the Minnesota and Mississippi river valleys, where towns bear the names New Germany, Hamburg, Cologne and New Munich.

Settlement[edit] The first white settlers of New Ulm, The city was founded in [9] by the German Land Company of Chicago. The city was named after the city of Neu-Ulm in the state of Bavaria in southern Germany. Following the Revolutions of , substantial numbers of Germans emigrated to the United States. In their new land, Turners formed associations Vereins throughout the eastern, midwestern, and western states, making it the largest secular German American organization in the country in the nineteenth century. Following a series of attacks by nativist mobs in major cities such as Chicago, Cincinnati, and Louisville, a national convention of Turners authorized the formation of a colony on the frontier. Intending to begin a community that expressed Turner ideals, the Settlement Association joined the Chicago Germans who had struggled here due to a lack of capital. The Turners supplied that, as well as hundreds of colonizers from the east who arrived in At the heart of the community stood blocks reserved for Turner Hall, the county courthouse, and a public school, representing the political, social, and educational center of the community. The westernmost avenues were named after American heroes George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and Thomas Paine—the latter three noted for their freethinking philosophies. Members obtained the means to support themselves “in harmony with nature” through the distribution of four-acre garden lots located outside of the residential area. The New Ulm founders aspired to establish a town with a defined philosophical, economic, and social character. Much of the town outside the barricades was burned. In an unofficial referendum in early April , local voters opposed war by a margin of to On the national level, the Wilson administration organized an active campaign to suppress antiwar fervor, joined on the state level by Minnesota Governor James Burnquist. The Minnesota Commission of Public Safety was granted broad powers to protect the state and assist in the war effort. Specific actions taken by the commission included surveillance of alleged subversive activities, mobilization of opposition to labor unions and strikes, pursuit of draft evaders, and registration and monitoring of aliens. Locally, several business and civic leaders joined in efforts to root out antiwar fervor. Martin Luther College, and F. Retzlaff, a prominent businessman. Federal and state agents mingled through the crowd, gathering information. A month later, Governor Burnquist removed Fritsche and Pfaender from their positions, while the Commission of Public Safety pressured the college to fire Ackermann. On the other side, prominent local businessmen, including flour mill managers, feared economic repercussions and promoted pro-war parades and bond drives. It is the oldest Turner Hall in the United States still in its original use. Turner Hall remains one of the most active in the country and one that continues its original mission at the same location after more than years. Its Rathskeller is likely the oldest continuously used bar in Minnesota, while its gymnastics program is also the oldest in the state. These were recently restored with support from a grant from the Minnesota Historical Society. The Brown County Historical Society, located at 2 North Broadway houses 3 floors of exhibits and one of the largest archives in the state. It contains over 5, family files, microfilm of census, naturalization, church, cemetery and birth and death records as well as business and history files. The artwork at the base was created by New Ulm artist Anton Gag. The monument has not been changed since its completion except for being moved to the middle of the block.

Chapter 6 : Germans in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and the Upper Midwest

A concise history of Germans in Minnesota including immigration patterns, the Catholic and Lutheran churches, cultural organizations, businesses, and politics, especially in the World War I years.

Author In , a strange exchange was taking place between Minnesota and Germany. Young Minnesotan men were heading off to fight in World War II, just as young Germans were being shipped to Minnesota, to prisoner-of-war camps scattered across the state. The war had left Minnesota with a critical labor shortage, and the German prisoners arrived to fill that need. They harvested beets outside Hollandale, Minn. Captured German soldiers began arriving in Bena, Minn. Fears ran high at first in the surrounding communities. Could the prisoners escape? Would they attack the local towns if they got the chance? But months passed without incident. Using a map they found in a dictionary, they plotted the only course they could imagine back to Germany: Down the Mississippi to New Orleans, where they hoped to find a ship that would carry them home. A 1, mile trek straight south to Louisiana. His family vacationed at a nearby resort, and as Treuer fished and played in the water, his father told him about the young Germans and the POW camp, which had sat on the same grounds as the resort. Standing on the camp grounds brought the war home. In his newest book, "Prudence," Treuer drops readers into the same historical moment that has fascinated him for decades. Treuer crafts an intimate portrait of a father and son against this political backdrop. The Washington Post wrote: Word of the runaways spread. With a crude raft and meager supplies, they eluded authorities for several days, surviving freezing weather and tangled terrain, but when a search party came within 15 feet of their forest hiding place, they decided to surrender. They had traveled just 30 miles. People think of Minnesota as a quiet place full of nice people and we think of World War II as a noble effort that happened far away. I wanted to turn that all around: Minnesota is not as quiet as we think and the people are far more complicated

Chapter 7 : The 5 Best German Restaurants in Minneapolis - TripAdvisor

62 German jobs available in Minnesota on calendrierdelascience.com Apply to Marketing Assistant, German Summer Camp Program Leadership, Cellarman Brewer and more!

Chapter 8 : German Restaurants: Minnesota - calendrierdelascience.com

Germans composed the largest immigrant group to Minnesota. When World War I started, 70% of the population was either foreign-born or had at least one parent born outside the United States. Of that number, more than one fourth were Germans.

Chapter 9 : Germans in Minnesota by Kathleen Neils Conzen

Herzlich Willkommen beim Germanic-American Institute! Welcome to the Germanic-American Institute. We are a Minnesota non-profit whose mission is to foster appreciation and understanding of the culture, language, arts, and ongoing history of the German-speaking peoples through public educational and cultural programs.