

# Who's Who In Wisconsin Rapids

The Who's Who column will be run each Saturday in the Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune. It will include a brief sketch of the life of citizens who have helped make history for Wisconsin Rapids.

## Charles F. Kellogg



CHARLES F. KELLOGG

Do you remember way back in 1855 when—

Abraham Lincoln was practicing law in Springfield, Illinois?

Victor Hugo was in exile in the Island of Guernsey?

Franklin Pierce was President of the United States and Jeff Davis was one of his cabinet members?

Queen Victoria was in the eightieth year of her reign?

U. S. Grant was farming near St. Louis and barely eking out an existence?

In this year on the eighteenth day of April, Charles F. Kellogg was born on a farm ten miles from Racine Wisconsin. The homestead was at a place called Sylvania, but was more widely and popularly known as Kellogg's Corner, where three of the Kellogg ancestors had settled in 1837. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. Frederick F. Kellogg, pioneers.

### His Nationality

Mr. Kellogg claims to be half Irish but he has a hard time establishing his nationality because the family records reveal that his mother was a native of China and his father came from the Land of Goshen (China, N. Y. and Goshen, Conn.) When he had

reached the strenuous age of three years, the Kellogg family moved from the farm to Neenah, where Charles F. Kellogg spent the early boyhood days in the usual mischievous manner, at the same time gleaning the common school knowledge as he went along. Later he realized the importance of education and attended the Oshkosh Business College for one year.

### Started to Work

After the short schooling, Mr. Kellogg went to work as a clerk in the J. N. Rollins shoe store where he remained for about six months. "Shoes were all right to wear but not to sell," he thought, thus culminating a short career in that line of business, so his version goes. This happened in the year 1873, when a widespread panic caused much unemployment and left all business pretty badly paralyzed. There seemed to be no job for the ambitious young Charles and, when he found no employment, his father purchased six cows and we next find Mr. Kellogg engaging in the milk business. He took care of the cows, milked them morning and night and delivered the milk by hand to his various town customers, serving a satisfied but particular clientele for about one year.

### Dreams of Railroading

The year as milk boy for the Neenah people soon lost its attractions, and a brilliant young mind soon turned to dreaming of great railroad lines, fast locomotives and he saw in himself one of the nation's railroad magnates. He had read the stories of the rise of the great railroad presidents and signified his willingness to succeed them by entering the employ of the C. N. W. R. R. Co. as baggage man and general roustabout, hoping to ultimately ascend the ladder of promotion, rung by rung. But the call of the east was too strong and in the summer of 1876 he left his job for a short trip to New Jersey to act as best man at the wedding of his most intimate friend, one Charles B. Kellogg, who although of the same name, was not related to him. The trip to New Jersey was the first visit outside the state of Wisconsin. He took full advantage of the opportunity and put in several weeks touring the country, visiting the Centennial Exposition at

Philadelphia and saw the wonders of the eastern cities. During his protracted absence from his railroad job, a change of employees was made and thus ended the career of what might have been a promising railroad magnate.

### The Lumber Business Next

The lumber business appealed to the taste of the young man. He determined to master it from start to finish so in the fall of 1878 he started out by going into the woods forty miles north of Shawno on the Wolf River working for Henry Sherry of Neenah. For three years he scaled logs and acted as timekeeper and purchaser of supplies for three logging camps employing seventy five men during the winter months. In the summer months after the logs were ready for market he worked on the log drive from the landing of the Bay Boome near Winneconne, where the logs were sorted and sold. In 1881 he returned to Neenah to work in the office of Henry Sherry as bookkeeper. He remained there until Sept. 10, 1876 when he moved to Vesper to be employed by the Henry Sherry Co., composed of Henry Sherry, George Gerry and J. W. Cameron, three of the best known lumbermen in the pioneer days in this section of the country. The towns of Sherry and Cameron are named after these two pioneer lumbermen.

### Became Secretary

In 1887 Gerry sold his interest in

the company to the two other partners and the company was incorporated as the Sherry-Cameron Co. Charles F. Kellogg was elected secretary of the new corporation and served in that capacity until January 1, 1893 when he resigned and came to this city to enter the wholesale and retail lumber business with his brother William F. Kellogg, the late John Daly and Henry Sampson. The new firm was incorporated as the Centralia Lumber Co. In 1899 the Kellogg brothers bought out the interest of the other stockholders. In 1901, the firm name was changed to the Kellogg Bros. Lumber Co. C. F. Kellogg is treasurer and one of the executive managers of the company. The company now owns and operates two lumber yards in this city and ten other yards in this vicinity. Mr. Kel-

logg has been prominent in the retail lumber business for many years and is regarded as one of the leaders in his trade in the state, as evidenced by his election as president in 1916 by the Wisconsin Retail Lumber Dealers Ass'n. holding the office for two

years. He has since then been a member of the board of directors of the association.

### Married in 1878

Charles F. Kellogg and Jennie Cutting of Racine were married in that

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and Elkskins for custom tanning—to be made into hand-sewed gloves,

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city on September 26, 1878. They are the parents of two sons and two daughters, the eldest son, Elbert C. Kellogg, is vice-president of the company and manager of the Nekoosa branch yard, Edgar F. Kellogg is bookkeeper at the main office of the Kellogg company in this city. The daughters are Mrs. Elmer A. Hannon of Waupaca and Mrs. Kathryn Fisher of this city.

Mr. Kellogg is prominent in the lodge circles of this city as member of the Masonic Lodge, of which he is a past master, the chapter Crusade

Commandry, is a Thirty Second Degree Mason, a Shriner, an Elk and a member of the Rotary Club of which he was the first president.

Mr. Kellogg is an attendant of the Congregational church, votes the straight Republican ticket, is a loyal and true friend, a good booster for good things, a real American and a very generous giver to worthy causes and institutions. He believes in the future of Wisconsin Rapids and is now devoting much of his time to reestablishing the Chamber of Commerce of which he was recently chosen president.

### Mighty Good Fellow

Every one who knows Charlie Kellogg, need not be told of his fine qualities, because once you meet him you know right off the start that he is one of those democratic fellows whom people like to call a "prince."