

# 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.

## Leonard Alexander DeGuere



Leonard Alexander DeGuere, architect and engineer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis DeGuere, was born in Appleton, January 12, 1875, where he attended the city schools until fifteen years of age. He then entered as an apprentice in the office of the Valley Iron Works at Appleton, builders of paper mills and machinery, remaining with them three and one-half years. There he laid the foundation of his great knowledge in the line he had chosen for his life work.

### Took Charge of Office

His next place of employment was as an apprentice draftsman in the C. B. Pride Paper Mill in Appleton, where after four year's service he was promoted to the position of the entire charge of the office, which position he held for seven years when he resigned to enter into a copartnership with J. C. Jacobson who was then engaged in the same line of business in this city. He came here with his family to reside. The copartnership between Jacobson and DeGuere was dissolved in January, 1911, the senior partner moving to Minneapolis. Mr. DeGuere continued in the business in the same locality, in the Wood Block.

### Paper Industry Grows

During the period of years that Mr. DeGuere has been engaged in this line there has been a stupendous expansion in the paper business, all through the northern part of this locality, and at some time and in some way, he has been identified with the majority of these various big projects.

### Held Big Responsibility

Among his more important work of

earlier years and more recent dates was that done for the Rhinelander Paper Co. at Rhinelander the Wautab Pulp & Paper Co. at Sartell, Minn., the Northwest Paper Co. at Cloquet, Minn., the Wausau Paper Mills Co. at Brokaw, Wis., the Tomahawk Pulp & Paper Co. at Tomahawk, the Grandfather Falls Co. at Merrill, Wis., the Nekoosa-Edwards Paper Co. at Nekoosa and Port Edwards, the Menasha Paper Co. at Ladysmith and Ashland, Wis., the Wolf Paper & Fibre Co. at Shawano, Wis., the Falls Manufacturing Co. at Oconto Falls, Wis., the Marinette & Menominee Paper Co. at Marinette, the Hoskins-Morainville Co. at Menominee, Mich., the Peshigo Pulp & Paper Co. at Peshigo, Wis., the Peshigo Fibre Co. at Peshigo, the Neenah Paper Co., at Neenah, Wis., and the McGillan-Asmuth Paper Mills at Menasha, Wis., Dells Pulp & Paper Co., Eau Claire, Wis., and Cornell Wood Products Co., at Cornell, Wisconsin. He was also architect and engineer of all the recent vast improvements made by the Consolidated Water Power & Paper Co., in their mills in this city and Biron.

### Builder of Dams

Mr. DeGuere is also a builder of dams and hydro-electric power plants and much in this line is included in the \$10,000,000 worth of work finished by him in the past year. A corps of skilled workmen is employed to assist him.

His office is one of three in the state engaged in the same line of work, the other two being located at Appleton, and include the only three that have succeeded in his twenty-seven years of experience in the work.

On January 21, 1904, L. A. DeGuere was united in marriage to Miss Belle MacArthur also of Appleton. Four children were born to this union, three of whom are still living. They are one daughter, Helen Antoinette, and two sons, Robert MacArthur and Philip Leonard.

### Has Wide Reputation

Mr. DeGuere is of the Catholic faith, and is a member of SS. Peter & Paul's Catholic church of this city, also a member of the Knights of Columbus, B. P. O. E. and the Rotary Club.

His name is well known throughout the paper industry in the United States from coast to coast, and also throughout the dominion of Canada, and today he has risen from a humble apprentice boy to become a great factor in one of the biggest industries of the age.

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