

Peder Paulson

1849 - 1927



Mr. Paulson was born near the city of Alborg, in the southern part of Denmark, October 4, 1849, and was the son of Paul and Anna (Neshbey) Anderson. According to the Danish custom Peder Paulson was named Paulson, that being the Christian name and a part of the surname of his father.

In 1867, when Peder Paulson was seventeen years old, he immigrated to America with his father, and after landing here went directly from New York to Chicago. Here young Paulson obtained employment, working on the streets. At that time he was unable to speak a word of English, and he met a number of his countrymen who had been in this country for ten or twelve years, who understood the English language no better than he. This condition did not appeal to him, as he realized that to make progress in this country it was necessary to learn the language. Accordingly, he left Chicago and went to Wilmington, Ill., and got employment from a man who spoke English, working for him about a year at \$15 per month. During that time, he applied himself to the study of English in conversation, as well as making use of school books, until at the end of the year he was able to speak English quite well.

He then secured another position at an advanced salary and in 1870, he and his brother came to Kansas, coming by rail as far as Emporia, and taking the stage from there to El Dorado. He came here for the purpose of getting some land. Paulson settled north of Towanda, Kansas where he homesteaded 160 acres of land.

He engaged in farming and stock raising, and as prosperity came, he bought more land from time to time. Paulson eventually owned 2,000 acres in the El Dorado field where the Stapleton Strike of 1916 came. Reaping an immense fortune, he was one of the largest farmers and cattlemen of Butler County, and one of Kansas' richest men in the time of his death. His land was well improved with fences, buildings, etc., and most of it is under a high state of cultivation. He raised cattle and hogs extensively, as well as followed general farming and was one of the largest wheat growers of the county.

Mr. Paulson was married in 1873 to Miss Ida Margon, who died in February, 1886. In the following December, he was united in marriage with Miss Martha Jones, a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Braden) Jones.

Mr. Paulson was a member of the Butler County Commission, the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodman. He generously gave to churches, government bonds and the Red Cross. Mr. Paulson also donated the land for a school to be built the oil town of Midian.

SOURCE: Page 754-755, transcribed by Carolyn Ward from ***History of Butler County, Kansas*** by Vol. P. Mooney. Standard Publishing Company, Lawrence, Kan.: 1916. ill.; 894 pgs.

http://www.ksgenweb.org/archives/butler/history/1916/33/p/paulson_peder.html