

ANOTHER PIONEER GOES TO REWARD

CONRAD VON WALD ANSWERS
FINAL SUMMONS FOLLOW-
ING LONG ILLNESS

Conrad Von Wald, another one of Groton's pioneers, answered the last call last Thursday and laid down his life, after fighting a lingering illness for the past two months.

Although his illness of the past two months kept him confined, Mr. Von Wald really had not been in his usual health for the past year. About a year ago he was attacked with a severe case of the hiccoughs, and while he recovered from this, it left his physique in a greatly weakened condition. Flu and its complications were the final factors in his death.

An Early Pioneer

Mr. Von Wald was one of the earliest pioneers of this section. He came to Brown county in company with Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Ringger. At the time they arrived in Groton, the railroad had not been extended this far west and they were compelled to ship building material, stock and household goods to Webster. There it was placed on wagons and hauled to their new home in Hanson township—a distance of about sixty miles.

After spending considerable time erecting suitable buildings and improving the farm upon which he had homesteaded, he returned to his old home at Alma, Wis., and was accompanied back to Dakota by his family. When they arrived here the railroad had been built into this city and a small store erected.

Thus he and his estimable family began their real existence in South Dakota. Their careers were not unlike those of other early pioneers who blazed a trail across the vastness of the prairies, enduring their hardships with fortitude and faith. The present generation can but little visualize the remarkable transformation, the achievements of pioneers' handiwork, that followed in the wake of trail blazing. The mind is too young and too modern to picture pioneering as it was forty-five years ago. But as the old-timers drop by the wayside, they leave behind them a heritage that is rich beyond words—a monument of achievement erected by their own hands that grows greater with each enduring year.

Born in Switzerland

The deceased was born in Sayis, Canton Graubunden, Switzerland, in 1846, and came to America with his parents at the age of three years. The family located in the town of Prairie du Sac, Wis. As he grew to manhood, he and his brother, Christ, established a wagon and blacksmith shop and later a machine shop.

In 1872 he was united in marriage to Elizabeth Accola, of Sauk county, Wis., and ten years later he came to South Dakota. To this union were born fourteen children, four of whom have preceded him in death. Those who survive him are: Mrs. Elizabeth Zoellner, Mrs. Anna Zoellner, Mrs. Barbara Rose and Mrs. Mary Thiemann, all of Groton, Conrad, of Stratford; Valentine, George and Mrs. Christina Zoellner, of Groton, Ora, of Cochrane, Wis., and Walter of Aberdeen. He is also survived by one brother, Ulrich, of Baraboo, Wis., and three sisters, Mrs. Margaret Iehl, of Bloomfield, Mont.; Mrs. Mary Schroeder, of Baraboo, Wis., and Mrs. Ursula Luck, of Prairie du Sac, Wis. Thirty-one grandchildren and four great grandchildren, together with his faithful wife. He had been married 56 years. In January, 1922, he and Mrs. Von Wald celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

In 1908 he retired from farming and with his family moved to Groton. They have since made their home

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