

1933

Nicholas G. Heinz. A product of the agricultural regions of Peoria County, Nicholas G. Heinz comes from a family of farmers and was himself intended for that vocation, but in his young manhood decided upon the trade of carpentry instead and for many years has been engaged therein at Kickapoo, where a number of residences and other structures bear evidence to his skill and good workmanship. He has never been a seeker after public office, but has always been a good citizen, and has won and held the respect and good will of his fellow-men. Mr. Heinz was born on the home farm in Kickapoo Township, Peoria County, in 1884 and is a son of George and Fredericka (German) Heinz, and a grandson of George and Catherine Heinz. The grandfather was born March 30, 1813, in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, where he received his education in Catholic schools, and was a young man when he made his way to the United States in search of his fortune. Landing at Baltimore, he came directly to Peoria, where he soon found employment by the day as a farm hand, but was industrious, enterprising and ambitious, and soon saved enough to start operations of his own in Kickapoo Township, where he took up land. Mr. Heinz eventually became one of the substantial men of his community and had the respect and esteem of his fellow-citizens. George Heinz, son of the pioneer was born at Mossville, Illinois, in which locality he attended the country school, and during all of his school period gave his leisure time to his father, in assisting in the development and cultivation of the home place. Born in 1845, he reached the ripe old age of more than eighty years, passing away in January, 1926, when he was accounted one of the well-to-do men of the county. He and his wife were the parents of seven children: Gertrude, Maximilian, Margaret, Charles, Nicholas G., Rose and Alexander. Nicholas G. Heinz attended school in the vicinity of the home farm, on which he worked until entering upon his individual career. His boyhood was crowded with hard and unremitting labor, and he had little liking for the tasks of the farm, so when it came time for him to make a choice he applied himself to a mastery of the carpenter's trade, which he learned with his brother. He has made a success both as a general carpenter and in addition has done some contracting and is known as a master of his vocation and as a man who lives fully up to the letter of his contracts. Mr. Heinz is unmarried and makes his home with his brother. He belongs to the Carpenters' Union at Peoria, and as a German Catholic holds membership in the Catholic Church at Kickapoo and in the Knights of Columbus, in which fraternity he has numerous friends.

The transcription was taken from "Illinois: the heart of a nation" Volume 3.

1975

Nicholas George Heinz was born May 29, 1884. He was the 9th child of George Heinz II and Fredricka (German) Heinz. He was of Catholic faith. He never married.

In his early years he worked on the farm at home. Then he bought the Silverleaf Pavilion, two miles east of Kickapoo, Illinois, in partnership with Emil Heinz. Later he bought out Emil's share. Nick operated Silverleaf for several years, holding dances every two weeks and lots of parties. The annual Heinz Reunion was held there, starting in 1924. The building is no longer in existence. Mr. Heinz worked for his brother Felix for awhile. He worked at Keystone Steel and Wire Co. for several years. He joined the Carpenter's Union #183 and was employed in that line of work until his death on Aug. 15, 1953.

Sources:

Quoted from The Heinz Family History, by Mrs. William L. Heinz, page 77.