BIOGRAPHY OF HENRY ALBERT MADETZKE

Henry Albert Madetzke was born March 5, 1894 in Hebron, Kosseth County, Iowa to August (1864-1932) and Emilia W Rau (1872-1923). Henry was the second oldest in a family with two sons and three daughters. August and Emilia were German born and immigrated to the United States in the late 1880's. The Madetzke family lived on a farm that they owned in South St. Paul, Dakota, Minnesota and prior to the war Henry worked as a Boilermaker as well as a watchman for Swift and Company, South St. Paul, Minnesota.

At age 23, Henry registered for the military draft on June 5, 1917. Enlistment came on May 28, 1918 and Private Madetzke (#3131671) took his military training at Camp Stuart as a member of the 166 Depot Brigade. He then was moved to the Quartermaster Corps Camp at Johnston, Florida where he remained until August 3, 1918. For the rest of his military service he was a member of the Base Animal Transportation Depot 302 in the Quartermaster Corps. Sailing to Europe on the Aeolus, he departed Newport News, Virginia August 14, 1918. While in Europe he served in Gievres and Brest, France. By June 30, 1919 he was shipped home on the U.S.S. W. A. Luckenback from St. Nazianz, France and arrived back in Hoboken, New Jersey eleven days later. He was honorably discharged July 21, 1919.

After the war, Henry never married and although his Service Record states that after the war he resumed his former activities under the same conditions as before the war, by 1930 he was living in St. Cloud, Stearns County, Minnesota in the U.S. Veteran's Hospital. He remained at the U.S. Veteran's Hospital until his death on June 23, 1943 at the age of 46. His death certificate lists his cause of death as "pyemia with metastatic accesses involving lungs, kidneys, and pericardium, as well as dementia, praecox hebephrenic type. Henry was buried at Fort Snelling Cemetery in St. Paul, Minnesota.