

Benedict Lang

Nominated by Jean Lang Paasch

Benedict Lang lived a life of servitude. Benedict "Ben" Lang came to Marshfield in a covered wagon in 1878. His father purchased 160 acres in the town of McMillan and Ben farmed with his father as a young man.

During the Marshfield fire on June 27th, 1887, he assisted people and store owners in helping them get their belongings out of their homes and stores.

Ben was a State Assembly man in Madison, and a town chairman and member of the county board of education.

For over 30 years he was President of the Marathon County Agricultural School, and of the Consumers Store Company from its founding until his retirement in 1958. He also served as a director of the American National Bank of Marshfield and president of the Wisconsin Association of Mutual Insurance Companies.

Ben was an avid promoter of the co-op concept and was instrumental in the founding, managing, and directing of the Farmers Co-Op Produce Company, of which he became president in 1943.

He was a member, director, and president of the Marathon County Society of Equity. He also founded, managed, and directed the Marshfield Shipping Association, and was a member of the Equity Livestock Sales of Wisconsin.

He was also secretary of the McMillan Grange Fire Insurance Company, which today is the McMillan-Warner Mutual Insurance Company, of which he served for over 60 years.

He also assisted in the foundation of the Seehafer Corner Cheese Factory, of which he was president and director.

In addition to his many jobs he was active in several fraternal organizations. He also belonged to several Catholic societies, including the Knights of Columbus.

Ben Lang's dedication to this community impacted many lives and he will always be remembered as a hero who led a true life of servitude.