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DROBNE ECHA

Installment #9

Dateline: New Brighton and Mounds View

From *Wiarus*, 1890, 1900 - 1903, 1906-1907, 1914

By Greg Kishel

For the ninth installment of this series on Minnesota's past in the Polish-language press, we'll drop into the arc of the modern-day Twin Cities metro area, to New Brighton in Ramsey County. A century ago, long before it was engulfed by urban sprawl out of Minneapolis and St. Paul, New Brighton was a free-standing small town with a strong independent industrial base.[1] More to our interests, outside of their town centers New Brighton and its neighbor Mounds View were farming communities–settled in large part by Kaszubians from the Polish lands.[2] I have translated the following reportage on these two villages, all of which appeared back then in *Wiarus*, the Polish-language newspaper that was published in Winona.[3]

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From the issue of October 30, 1890:

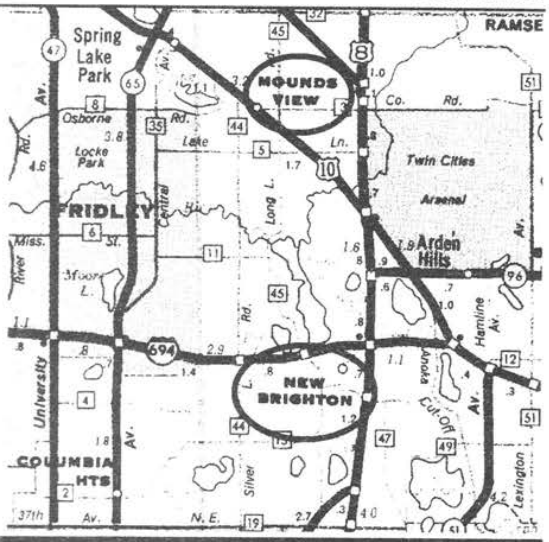
MOUNDSVIEW, Minn. Our village has grown so much larger through the building of a slaughterhouse and various residence houses that it is trying to be counted in the community of cities. Three Polish farmers, who are also supposed

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[1]*See* text accompanying nn. 14-17 *infra.*

[2]Wacław Kruszka, *A History of the Poles in America to 1908, Part IV: Poles in the Central and Western States* (Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 2001), p. 121; John Radzilowski, *Poles in Minnesota* (St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2005), pp. 8-9. Father Kruszka based his coverage of the Poles in New Brighton almost entirely on the letter in the March 27, 1902 issue of *Wiarus* presented herein.

[3]I retrieved all but one of these items by using John Radziłowski's research into the Minnesota-bylined correspondence that appeared in *Wiarus* during its three-decade run; the 1890 item I discovered myself.



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