

BROTHERS MARK DOUBLE GOLDEN WEDDING TODAY

Live Side by Side for Fifty Years.

BY ONEY FRED SWEET.

PICTURE ON PAGE TWO.

Married in a double ceremony fifty years ago, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Kolb and Mr. and Mrs. John Martin Kolb of Niles plan the observance of a double golden wedding today. Throughout the half century the brothers and their families have lived side by side within a mile of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran church, Milwaukee avenue near Waukegan road.

The church has meant much in the lives of the Kolb families. It was at the altar in the earlier church building that the couples took their marriage vows in 1883, and today they will attend the steepled brick structure which occupies the site of the frame church that was the scene of the long ago wedding ceremony.

Last Sunday the church passed resolutions expressing good wishes to the Kolbs. This afternoon the pastor, the Rev. L. A. Grotheer, will conduct services at the John Martin Kolb home, and there will be a reception at the Theodore Kolb home.

One Family Homestead.

The Theodore Kolb home is the old family homestead, the John Martin Kolb home having been built on the farm shortly after the double wedding took place. Today's reception will be held in the same rooms as was the reception in 1883.

St. John's church has had but three pastors during its 75 years. The Kolbs were married by the first pastor, the Rev. G. S. Loeber, pioneer of the Missouri synod. The second pastor was the Rev. Herman Brauer. At the ceremony today the Rev. Mr. Grotheer will sing "Bleibe Bei Uns Denn Es Will Abend Werden" ["Abide with us for the evening is near"], and will take the title of the song as the theme for his address.

The father of the Kolb brothers, the Rev. Will Kolb, was a member of the clergy and, in an early day, came from Wisconsin to Niles. Theodore Kolb is 79 and John Martin Kolb 77.

The Kolb brothers engaged in truck farming on 115 acres along Milwaukee avenue, and were particularly successful in the raising of lima beans for the Chicago market.

Part Now Golf Course.

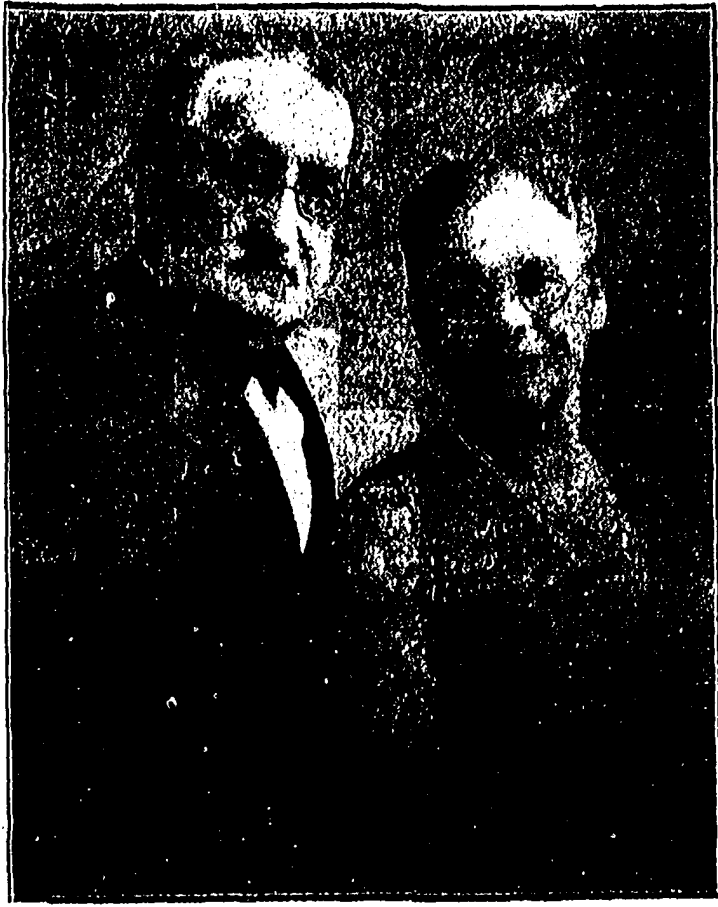
Eventually Chicago encroached on their acres, part of which became the Bunker Hill golf course, and a portion of them St. Adelbert's cemetery. Improving the grounds about their homes, the Kolbs have remained in the old setting, Milwaukee avenue being remembered by them as a plank road.

Theodore Kolb married Sophia Buchholz, who was born in Addison. They have three sons, six daughters, nine grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. The children are Paul Kolb, Elmhurst; Theodore Kolb Jr., Park Ridge; Louis Kolb, Niles; Miss Clara Kolb, Niles; Mrs. William Schroeder, Chicago; Miss Alma Kolb, Niles; Miss Tillie Kolb, and Mrs. A. F. Eilers, La Grange, and Mrs. Martha Brooks, Norwood Park.

John Martin Kolb married Ottilie Berlin, who was born in Germany and came as a child to live in Evanston. They have two sons, four daughters, and ten grandchildren. The children are Dr. Otto Kolb, Chicago; William Kolb, Chicago; Mrs. Edwin Schuricht, Tinley Park; Mrs. Otto Thoms, Park Ridge; Mrs. Otto Franke, Park Ridge, and Mrs. Emma Lapins, Elmhurst.



Married fifty years ago in a double wedding ceremony in the old Kolb family home in Niles, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Kolb (left) and Mr. and Mrs. Martin Kolb are celebrating a double golden wedding anniversary today in the same room in which the wedding ceremony took place. Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Kolb now occupy the old homestead.



MR. AND MRS. JOACHIM LORENZ.

Mr. and Mrs. Joachim Lorenz of 4908 Berceau avenue celebrated their golden wedding anniversary recently with a family dinner at their home. Both Mr. and Mrs. Lorenz, who are 77 and 76 years old respectively, were born in Germany. Mr. Lorenz came to Chicago in 1888, and Mrs. Lorenz in 1881. They have three sons and three daughters, August, Louis, and Otto, and Mrs. Ernest Reineke, Mrs. Walter W. Luecke, and Mrs. L. G. Hedman. The couple have seven grandchildren.



MR. AND MRS. GEORGE SCHLESINGER.

Mr. and Mrs. George Schlesinger, 2712 North Fairfield avenue, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary Thursday afternoon with a dinner and reception for friends and relatives at the Steuben club. Mr. and Mrs. Schlesinger were married in Hungary and came to America five years later, settling in Chicago. The couple have a son, four daughters, and eleven grandchildren, all of whom were present at the celebration.