

FORREST ELMER MITCHELL



The First Wisconsin State Horseshoe Tournament Champion, Forrest Elmer Mitchell, known as F.E. was born in Indiana in 1888. In 1917 he moved to Wausaukee, Wisconsin with his wife and four children.

It is known that he was pitching horseshoes when he moved to Wausaukee and there he practiced with the town constable, Mr. Stadahaur. In 1923 he decided to enter the first state tournament at State Fair Park and he won the singles and doubles events. It is not known if he entered any more state championships after that but he did pitch in many fairs and exhibitions. His son Fred remembers a story in Chicago where bets were made on when he might miss a ringer. He also has his father's singles trophy and a gold watch that he won in the doubles championship.

F.E. and his wife, who passed away in 1944, had a total of 14 children. They operated a farm, dairy, and trucking business. He hauled granite stone from the Amberg quarry to many places in the state; also freight such as newspapers, appliances and furniture. He belonged to the Equity Livestock Association and had a contract to take cattle to market from 1939 to 1968. He was treasurer of the Wausaukee School District for ten years, one of the originators of the Marinette County Fair, and the first trucker to own an Interstate Commerce License which entitled him to haul to seven states in the midwest.

Because of his accomplishment 66 years ago, we find it fitting that F.E. Mitchell, the very first Wisconsin State Champion, is now a member of the Wisconsin Horseshoe Pitchers Association Hall of Fame.