

Old Lumberman Sells

Jamestown, N. D., July 14.—

The sale of the properties of the Lutz Lumber company to the Welles-Thompson company, came as a surprise to the general public, though for some time Mr. Lutz had desired an opportunity to retire for the present from active business in which he has been engaged in Jamestown for many years. The career of Mr. Lutz in Jamestown is one of the longest of any in the city, and exceeded by very few. For 32 years, almost to the month, he has been engaged in the lumber business in Jamestown, and with only one vacation, and that was of three months duration when he revisited the scenes of his childhood in Germany.

Mr. Lutz came to Jamestown in August, 1882, when he engaged with Hartman, Durstine & Co., lumber dealers. There were but few builders in Jamestown then, the court house was on the north side of the N. P. track, a session of court was being held and when he strayed about there to listen to the proceedings he was drafted as a jurymen, and immediately began to take part in the life of the city. In 1884 Mr. Lutz was appointed manager of the lumber business of the James River Lumber company, remaining with them until 1893 when he established the independent lumber business of Geo. Lutz. He bought out the wood yard of Topliff & Co., in 1895 and began the handling of fuel in connection with his lumber business. The business grew and the territory developed until branch yards were established at many points in the county, a traveling auditor was employed and the line of yards became a formidable array. The encroachments of larger line companies led to the disposal of some of the yards until at the present time there was included in the sale yards at Buchanan, Montpelier, Ypsilanti and Edmunds.
