

From the Pioneer Journal of May 30, 1968

CANNON AT WADENA CEMETERY

AT NEW LOCATION--The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3922, The American Legion Post 171, members of the Green Thumb program and the village worked cooperatively in arranging a new location for the familiar cannon at the Wadena cemetery. The cast mark on the cannon was 1832 and on Wednesday of last week, Ivan McGarry, along with Albert Rieni, village street commissioner, Clarence Neels and Charles Paper, Wadena Chamber president, assisted with its placement on a new concrete station near the mausoleum. The Green Thumb planted appropriate flower gardens near the site. The cannon weighed nearly 4,000 pounds and it was a tough task in making correct placement. All veterans and auxiliaries are urged to attend Memorial Day Service (May 30) Thursday, according to chairman Charles Paper. VFW flag raising ceremony will occur at NP Park at 6 a.m., followed by a breakfast at the VFW clubrooms. Services will be held at the cemetery Thursday morning with a Memorial Day parade slated to begin at the bandstand at 9:30 a.m. The American Legion, VFW and others will honor the war dead and gold star mothers.

(The following is added information regarding the cannon) This cannon was manufactured in 1832 at Pittsburg, Pa. It weighs 7,800 pounds is a 32 pounder and is effective at a range of three miles with a service charge of eight pounds of powder.

It was mounted at Fort Wagner, Charleston harbor, S. C., and was taken by the U. S., troops at the capture of that place.

It was donated by the U. S., to Farragut Post 102, G. A. R., at the request of Honorable Page Morris and mounted as a monument at the cemetery at Wadena in 1898.

A picture of the cannon is on file at the Wadena County Historical Society. (R. C. Zosel, 11/28/1996)