

Steven W. Freimuth

From: Sherman Garon [garonls@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 23, 2014 11:29 PM
To: Steven W. Freimuth
Subject: Re: Garon Knitting Mills & Freimuth Store

Because of the friendship, Israel allowed the store to buy on long credit terms, as the store was not in a position to pay, so the store owed Garon a large amount of money.

When Edgar decided that he could no longer continue the store, so would soon have to declare bankruptcy, he called Israel, telling him that, and suggested he come to the store to buy as much from the store as possible, which would cut down how much the store would owe when it went bankrupt.

As to the items and the amount involved, it was so long ago, that I have no knowledge. It does show that Edgar was very aware of Israel's help.

On Wed, Jul 23, 2014 at 9:18 PM, Steven W. Freimuth <Steve@freimuth.biz> wrote:

Paul was my father. Edgar was his older brother and Don his younger. And of course that makes David (Dick) my grandfather.

Thanks for the great piece of our family history.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 23, 2014, at 7:41 PM, "Sherman Garon" <garonls@gmail.com> wrote:

Steve, it was good meeting you. Who were your father and grandfather? Were they part of the Freimuth Dept Store.?

My father, Israel Garon, learned knitting as an apprentice, in a knitting mill in Russia as a boy, came to the Duluth at about age 17, worked at Nelson Knitting Mill, but bought a knitting machine and began knitting sweaters in his one room apartment. He brought those first sweaters to Freimuth Dept Store.

Mr. Friemuth liked the sweaters, and to encourage him paid in gold coins which were legal tender at the time.

From that, my father started his own knitting mill about 1900 at age 19. Over the years the products changed from sweaters to mittens, gloves and knit headwear. Israel Garon had a good relationship with the Nelson Knitting Mills people who were then buying those mittens, gloves and knit headwear items from Garon Knitting Mills. Later a grandson, Jim Nelson was a friend of mine and when they had a problem, I hired him to work in our factory

I grew up working in the knitting mill as a boy and teen, but while the army paid for my graduating from the Business and Law schools at the U of M. and passing the bar, I married in 1950 and joined the knitting mill in sales.

Apparently the relationship with Friemuth continued all those years, as I was selling Friemuth.

I had a problem because a Friemuth buyer was ordering merchandise each week in very small quantities, when the orders should have been much larger, not requiring weekly deliveries.

I spoke to my father, who called Edgar, and the orders became larger.

My father's relationship with Edgar was quite close, so that when the store was in financial trouble it was my understanding that my father went with Edgar to the bank to try to get loan extensions for the store. Sherman Garon

On Wed, Jul 23, 2014 at 1:50 PM, Steven W. Freimuth <Steve@freimuth.biz> wrote:

Sherm,

It was a pleasure meeting you at the Reunion. So many faces and stories. You mentioned, I believe, that my great grandfather I Freimuth was the first or an early customer of Garon Mills. Also you said something about how he paid for the goods. My mind was so full of things from that night things have blurred. Would you be kind enough to respond to this email with a description of those items?

Thanks,

Steven W. Freimuth, CPA

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