

# The house of HEINRICH

THE STORY OF HEINRICH EPP (1811 - 1863) ROSENORT, MOLOTSCHNA  
AND HIS DESCENDANTS



| m. Maria (Thiessen) Wiens |   |      |   |     |   |      |   |     |  |
|---------------------------|---|------|---|-----|---|------|---|-----|--|
| 11                        | Heinrich Epp<br>26.08.1833-<br><br>m.<br>Agatha Mathies*<br>21.11.1833-<br>18.12.1924 | 12   | Peter Epp<br>20.08.1838-<br>11.11.1914<br>Mt. Lake, MN<br><br>m.<br>Anna Janzen | 13  | Johann Epp<br>31.10.1842-<br>1908<br>Kleefeld<br><br>m. 1865<br>Maria Harder<br>1849-<br>1902 | 14   | Kornelius Epp<br>04.08.1844-<br>10.01.1916<br>Rosenhof<br><br>m.<br>Anna (Harder)<br>Schmidt Wiens<br>23.10.1841-<br>1897 | 15  | Abraham Epp<br>13.01.1846-<br>28.07.1920<br><br>m. 30.06.1868<br>Katharina Fast<br>20.09.1850-<br>24.02.1903 |
| 111                       | Justina   | 121  | Mary.   | 131 | Susanna   | 141  | Kornelius.  | 151 | Justina  |
| 112                       | Anna  | 122  | Henry.  | 132 | Kornelius.  | 142  | Nikolai.  | 152 | Katharina  |
| 113                       | Heinrich  | 123  | Justina   | 133 | Johann.   | 143  | Heinrich  | 153 | Anna   |
| 114                       | Agatha  | 124  | Peter.  | 134 | Justina.  |      |   | 154 | Abraham  |
| 115                       | Jacob   |      | m.  | 135 | Kornelius.  |      | m.  | 155 | Helena   |
| 116                       | Katharina   |      | Elizabeth Enns<br>1844-<br>1917<br>Mt. Lake, MN                                 |     |   |      | Agatha Franz<br>05.04.1856-<br>16.01.1937<br>Naco, Alta.  |     | m. c. 1904   |
| 117                       | Elizabeth.  |      |   |     |   |      |   |     | Maria Friesen<br>c. 1873-  |
| 118                       | Cornelius   | 125  | Elizabeth   |     |   | 144  | Johannes  |     |  |
| 119                       | Abram   | 126  | Katherina   |     |   | 145  | Cornelius   |     |  |
|                           | *m. Aaron Klassen   | 127  | Peter.  |     |   | 146  | Petrus  |     |  |
|                           |   | 128  | Jacob   |     |   | 147  | Agathe  |     |  |
|                           |   | 129  | Anna  |     |   | 148  | David   |     |  |
|                           |   | 1210 | Peter.  |     |   | 149  | Anna.   |     |  |
|                           |   | 1211 | John.   |     |   | 1410 | Abram   |     |  |
|                           |   | 1212 | Susie.  |     |   | 1411 | Gerhard.  |     |  |
|                           |   | 1213 | Peter.  |     |   | 1412 | Helene  |     |  |
|                           |   | 1214 | Suzanna   |     |   |      |   |     |  |
|                           |   | 1215 | Daniel  |     |   |      |   |     |  |
|                           |   | 1216 | Marie   |     |   |      |   |     |  |
|                           |   | 1217 | boy.  |     |   |      |   |     |  |
|                           |   | 1218 | Peter   |     |   |      |   |     |  |
|                           |   | 1219 | Cornelius   |     |   |      |   |     |  |
|                           |   | 1220 | Abram.  |     |   |      |   |     |  |
|                           |   | 1221 | Gerhardt  |     |   |      |   |     |  |

All the third generation names with a period behind them had no descendants.

.03.1811 - 28.08.1863 Rosenort, Molotschna

m. Justina Willms 17.03.1822 - 1891 Rosenort, Molotschna

|   |  |   |  |  |   |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|
| <i>Gerhard Epp</i><br>13.07.1848-<br>1933 | 17 <i>Jacob Epp</i><br>17.04.1850-<br>19.07.1910<br>Rosenort         | 18 <i>David Epp</i><br>18.02.1854-<br>before 1914 | 19 <i>Bernhard Epp</i><br>18.02.1854-<br>28.08.1926<br>Lindenau  | 110 <i>Katharina Epp</i><br>c. 1890  | 111 <i>Martin Epp</i><br>06.04.1860-<br>15.07.1912<br>Kurushan                                  |
| m.<br><i>Susanna Dyck</i>                 | m.<br><i>Katharina Boese</i><br>1853-<br>23.06.1937<br>Manitou, Man. | m.<br><i>Maria Harder</i><br>02.11.1856-          | m.<br><i>Anna Wiens</i><br>19.06.1854-<br>24.02.1926<br>Lindenau | m.<br><i>Daniel Boschmann*</i><br>1851-<br>1909  | m. 10.01.1885<br><i>Katharina Penner</i><br>05.11.1863-<br>15.08.1895                           |
| 1 Johann                                  | 171 Heinrich.  | 181 Heinrich                                      | 191 Gerhard  | 1101 Jakob   | 1111 Justina  |
| 2 Gerhard                                 | 172 Katharina.   | 182 Justina                                       | 192 Justina  | 1102 Daniel  | 1112 Kornelius.   |
| 3 Heinrich                                | 173 Heinrich   | 183 Baerbel                                       | 193 Agatha   | 1103 David   | 1113 Martin.  |
| 4 Justina.                                | 174 Justina  | 184 Mariechen                                     | 194 Jacob  | 1104 Johann  | 1114 Mariechen.   |
| 5 Elizabeth                               | 175 Jacob  | 185 Katharina                                     | 195 Anna   | 1105 Katharina   | 1115 Johannes   |
| m.<br><i>Maria Penner</i>                 | 176 Katharina  | 186 Agatha  | 196 Bernhard   | 1106 Justina   | m. 07.12.1895<br><i>Susanna Rempel</i><br>22.06.1873-<br>23.05.1910                             |
|   | 177 Martin.  | 187 David.  | 197 Katharina  | *m. 13.10.1891<br><i>Anna Peters</i><br>04.06.1861<br>Halbstadt-<br>18.06.1921<br>Rosenort | 1116 Susanna  |
|   | 178 Cornelius.   |   | 198 Johann   |  | 1117 Anna.  |
|   | 179 Johann   |   | 199 David.   |  | 1118 Jakob  |
|   | 1710 Abraham   |   | 1910 Maria   |  | 1119 Tina   |
|   | 1711 Maria   |   |  |  | 11110 Heinrich  |
|   |  |   |  |  | 11111 Bernhard  |
|   |  |   |  |  | 11112 David   |
|   |  |   |  |  | 11113 Gerhard   |
|   |  |   |  |  | m. 29.08.1910<br><i>Margareta Enns*</i><br>12.08.1877-<br>1948<br>Niagara-on-the-<br>Lake, Ont. |
|   |  |   |  |  | 11114 Margaret  |
|   |  |   |  |  | 11115 Martin.   |
|   |  |   |  |  | *m.<br><i>Wilhelm Neufeld</i>   |

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# THE HOUSE OF HEINRICH

The Story of Heinrich Epp (1811-1863) of Rosenort,  
Molotschna and His Descendants

Compiled and Edited  
by Anna Epp Ens

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**The House of Heinrich**

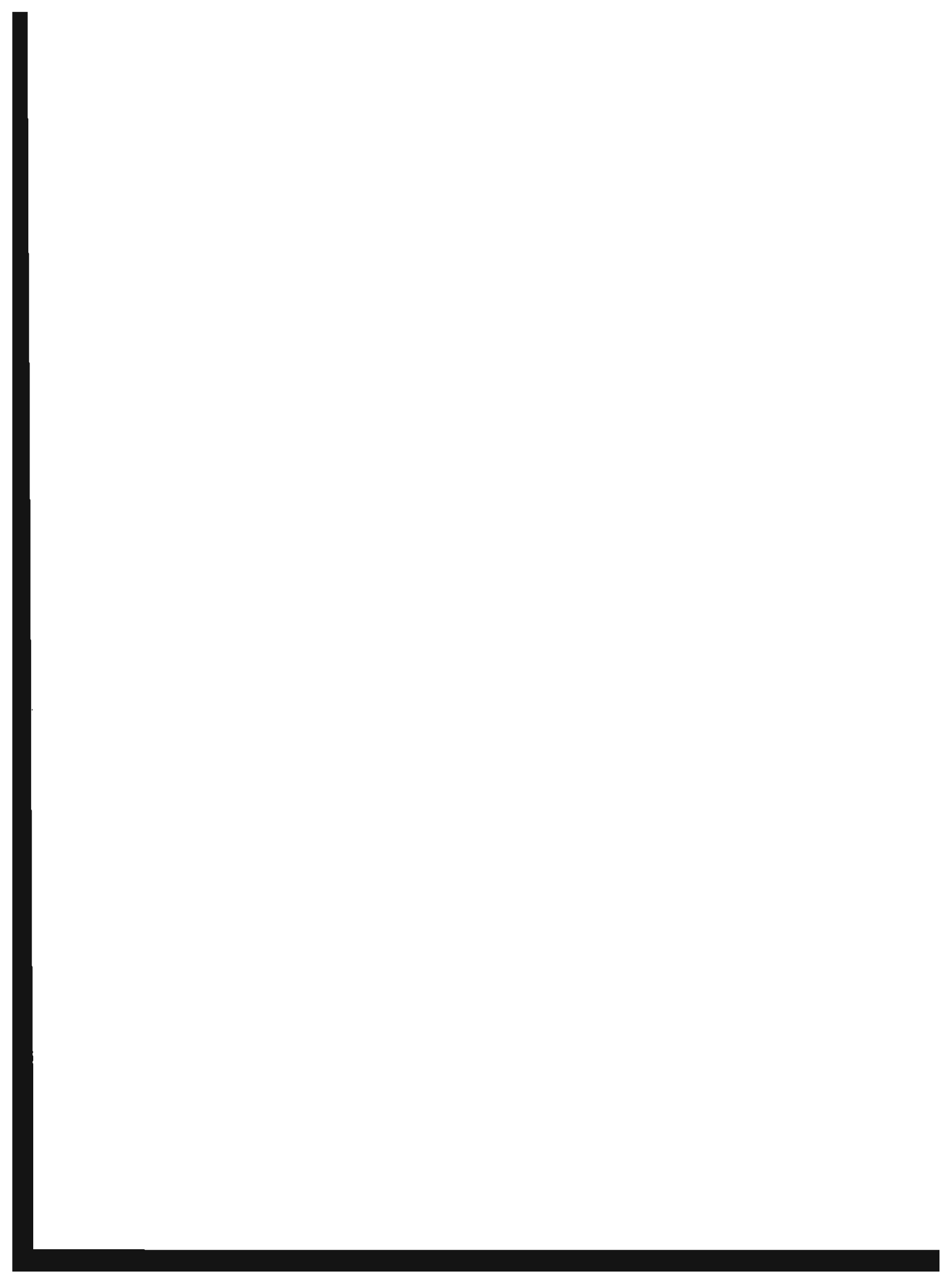
**The Story of Heinrich Epp (1811-1963) of Rosenort,  
Molotschna and His Descendants**

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To

Martin, Jonathan and Anita



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## Foreword

When the Lord turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing: then said they among the heathen, The Lord hath done great things for them.

The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad.

Turn again our captivity, O Lord, as the streams in the south.

They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.

He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

Psalm 126 (KJV)

The words of this psalm could be the words of the men and women depicted in this book. In a period spanning about 55 years (1875-1930) descendants of HEINRICH EPP in the hundreds emigrated from Russia to regions of Asia, Europe, and North and South America. Again and again we read in their letters and chronicles that their first act upon crossing the border of what had been their beloved homeland was to speak and sing joyful thanks to God their Deliverer.

They went forth weeping, bearing precious seed. We, their descendants, are the fruit of that seed, the sheaves.

For us too, the psalm has a word: *Turn again our captivity, O Lord.* Our captivity is the captivity of materialism, not as destructive of the body as the brutality and carnage of the Bolsheviks, but perhaps even more destructive of the soul.

Ernie Dyck



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I am grateful to the numerous informants for the eleven house stories who shared their knowledge and memories of persons and relationships. Their names appear in the Bibliography.

Special thanks are in order:

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Most of all I wish to thank my husband, Adolf, and our children, Martin, Jonathan and Anita, who have patiently and sacrificially walked with me in this intensive family involvement and have helped me in ways too numerous to mention.

Anna Epp Ens

## Introduction

Who am I that I am as I am? I have received many of my characteristics from my two parents, my four grandparents, and my eight greatgrandparents to become the unique me. Like "Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat Judas. . ." (Matthew 1:2, KJV) so somebody also begat you and me.

The fact that our ancestors live in us through the transmission of genes and the communication of values cannot be denied. Knowing their characteristics, environment and experiences will, we hope, contribute towards our self-understanding and identity in our ever-changing environment which in turn is shaping us.

The experiences of persons and families in this book are stories of all that human life in its struggle for existence, identity and purpose entails, namely: love and hate, understanding and misunderstanding, forgiveness and unforgiveness, courage and discouragement, hope and despair, faith and unfaith. It is the story about men and women whom some of us have never known personally but without whom we would not be here.

Actually, this book comprises a series of eleven family histories, about whose progenitor we have very little information and no memories. Yet he, together with his two wives, becomes our common denominator so that 112 years after his death his descendants come together and find a sense of belonging to this larger family.

Through the 1975 reunion and this book project it was discovered that an awareness of this kinship was very much alive among the few living of the third generation (grandchildren of HEINRICH EPP) and many of the fourth generation (greatgrandchildren). Gradually one realized that with persistent effort, biographical and anecdotal tidbits of fact and memory could be retrieved and collected and the pilgrimage of our extended Epp family recorded lest it be lost to succeeding generations forever. For this reason less attention is given here to the experiences and stories of present generations.

The stories generally end with the grandchildren of HEINRICH EPP, though some additional attention is given to those families whose fate and continued whereabouts may never be known if not told here. This, of course, leaves the story somewhat incomplete, disappointingly so, but I hope the making of this book will encourage the recording of individual family histories and autobiographies to continue.

The incompleteness of this history is also due, among other things, to the loss of many records through flight and emigration, to willful neglect and destruction, to the separation of families, to the actual loss of memory, to the reluctance of writing things down, and in some cases, to a lack of interest.

The request for this book came during the 1975 Epp family reunion. According to the 10 August 1975 minutes the Epp family history book desired by participants of the reunion should include: (a) origin/history of Epp name (b) report and pictures of first reunion (c) genealogy (d) family history of eleven branches (e) photos. I regret that in trying to fulfill this mandate not all the expectations of all the readers will have been met. I apologize for any errors in dates or identification of individuals, for inconsistencies or other weaknesses that may unintentionally still be there.

Several clarifications may be helpful. The genealogical record was prepared in chart form to meet the needs of the reunion and has been photoreduced for inclusion in the book.

The purpose of the numbering system, in addition to helping locate persons with identical names more easily, is to identify the generations and to indicate the person's place in the family. It is also helpful in establishing the relationship of one descendant to another.

HEINRICH EPP is arbitrarily given the number 1. (In the text the number 1 is omitted but HEINRICH is capitalized for easy identification.) His children are numbered in chronological order of birth with his number as prefix in each case: 11, 12, 13, etc. This pattern is repeated in the following generations. For

example, Justina Janzen Tenhoff 1236 is the sixth child of Justina Epp Janzen 123 who is the third child of Peter Epp 12 who is the second child of HEINRICH EPP 1. Where more than 9 children are born into one family the digits are linked. For example, Rudi Epp 1111013 is the 13th child of Heinrich Epp 11110 who is the 10th child of Martin Epp 111 who is the 11th child of HEINRICH EPP 1.

In the stories the Epp numbers are frequently added after the name to keep the reader from becoming confused as to which Heinrich or Agatha or Jacob or Justina is being talked about. These are not to be mistaken for dates, especially in the 18 and 19 stories. When the Epp numbers appear in parentheses it means that this person married into the family and carries the spouse's number, e.g. Susanna (175).

Adopted family members are circled on the genealogical charts, e.g. 111105③ and placed in parentheses in the printed material 111105(3). Other examples where there is no blood relationship can be recognized in family contexts where remarriage has taken place. In such instances surnames or dates will provide the clues.

A circled number before a name in the genealogical record, e.g. 118 ③Katharina Epp means that Katharina was the third wife of her husband. A circled number above an Epp number or name (e.g. ②above 1116 Susanna Willms) means that that person and the following siblings were from the second marriage.

The data on vocation or profession, church membership or affiliation and separation and divorce are obviously incomplete. Most vocations and addresses, where listed, were as of 1975 and in a number of cases are no longer applicable or accurate. Any sociological generalizations that might be made therefore can only be suggestive rather than final.

With some exceptions spellings of personal names in the genealogical records are as submitted with an attempt to use the given name rather than an abbreviation or nickname. This spelling is also used in the stories. When several variations of a name were submitted, an arbitrary decision was made in favor of one of them. In the Appendix, however, one spelling is used for all variations of a particular given name (e.g. Cornelius for Kornelius, Kornelus, Cornels or Cornelius).

The spelling of geographical names, especially of places in Russia/USSR became somewhat problematic. At first the *Mennonite Encyclopedia* spelling was used but when inconsistencies were discovered even there, a choice was made arbitrarily. Present day spellings were confirmed wherever possible in *Philips' New World Atlas*. We ask the reader for forbearance where inconsistencies still occur.

Wherever High or Low German words or expressions are used the translation will be found either within the text or in the glossary. In a few instances the context provides the meaning.

A final word. As I worked on this project off and on since 1975 I experienced a growing sense of interest, togetherness and commitment develop among many persons in our extended HEINRICH EPP house. The reunion in August of 1975, which may for some have begun as a family picnic outing, established a sense of history, of belonging, of an identity as a people knit together by a common ancestry and

heritage. But what has thrilled me even more is the discovery of a host of witnesses, both past and present, to a firm faith in Jesus Christ and a commitment to His people. We are a family, one extended family under God, the Creator of families. This is reason for worship, thanksgiving and celebration.

My hope is that this book will inspire and encourage descendants of the House of HEINRICH to seek more diligently this identity with the people of God and with its mission in the world.

Anna Epp Ens  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Pentecost, 1980

## Glossary

*Ältester* - elder, bishop or leading minister of a congregation; only an *Ältester* could baptize, administer communion and ordain ministers or deacons.

*Altenheim* - senior citizens' home.

*Chutor* (Russian), or *Gut* (German) - an estate or farm not part of the traditional village landholdings; in other literature also referred to as *Ökonomie*.

*Dorfschule* - primary or elementary school.

*Eschalon* - a Russian word for a passenger train consisting of an unspecified number of cars used to transport special groups of people, e.g. military personnel or emigrants as over against ordinary passengers.

*Forstei* - forestry.

*Forsteidienst* - forestry service obligatory for all healthy males in peace times and one of the alternative services rendered by the Russian Mennonites in lieu of military duty in times of war.

*Fortbildungsschule* - high school, secondary school; also called *Zentralschule*.

*Gut* - see *chutor* above.

*Gutsbesitzer* - owner of a *Gut* or estate.

*Nebengebäude* - another building on the same property near the main residence.

*Nebenhaus* - a second residence on the same property, plainer and smaller than the main residence, usually meant for newly married couples or retired parents.

*Sanitäter* - medical officer.

*Sanitätsdienst* - medical service; one of the alternative services rendered by the Russian Mennonites in lieu of military duty.

*Selbstschutz* - self-defense units organized among German colonists in Russia during the German military occupation in 1918. During the Civil War the Mennonite *Selbstschutz* provided some protection against Makhno anarchist bands.

*Schulze, Schult* - mayor, village head; *Oberschulze* - district head above the village mayors.

*Schulzenamt* - mayor's office or local government headquarters.

*Volost* - district government; a rural soviet.

*Wirtschaft* - a village farm; *Vollwirtschaft* - a full-sized farm of 65 *dessiatines* or 175 acres; *Halbwirtschaft* - a half-sized farm of 32.5 *dessiatines*; *Kleinwirtschaft* - a small farm of about 16 *dessiatines*.

*Zentralschule* - high school, secondary school; also called *Fortbildungsschule*.

**TABLE 1**

**Measurements**

|  |
|--|
| 1 foot = 0.3048 meter                      |
| 1 mile = 1.6093 kilometers                 |
| 1 verst = 0.6629 mile = 1.067 kilometers   |
| 1 dessiatine = 2.7 acres = 1.0925 hectares |
| 1 acre = 0.4047 hectares                   |
| 1 hectare = 2.471 acres                    |
| 1 pud = 40 pounds = 16.38 kilograms        |
| 1 tschet = 10 puds = 360 pounds            |
| 1 pound = .454 kilograms                   |
| 1 ruble = 100 kopeks                       |



## BEGINNINGS

*A people who have not the pride to record their history will not long have the virtues to make history worth recording; and no people who are indifferent to their past need hope to make their future great.*

*Jan Gleysteen*



## EPP - FAMILY REUNION

Address enquiries with reference to accommodation, program, etc. to: John J. Epp, 612 Oakland Ave., Winnipeg, Man. or to Bruno Epp, Box 38, Springstein, Man.

On August 5, 1972 descendants of Elder Bernhard H. Epp, Lichtenau, Molotschna, South Russia gathered for a reunion at the Peace Gardens near Boissevain, Man. At that time a committee was asked to plan a reunion for the summer of 1975. At an early preparatory meeting it was decided that the descendants of the brothers and sister of Bernhard Epp be included as well. The committee is in the process of making final preparations for the reunion on August 9 and 10 at the International Peace Gardens near Boissevain.

The invitation thus includes the descendants of the children of Heinrich Epp, Rosenort, Molotschna, born 1810 (1811?). The children are: Heinrich (18 ?), Peter (1838), Johann (1840 ?), Abram (1842 ?), Cornelius (1844), Gerhard (1846), Jacob (1850), David (1852 ?) Bernhard (1852 ?), Katherina (1854 ?) and Martin (1856).

Arrival time on Aug. 9 is that morning, departure time 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. Main Assemblies will be at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday and 10:00 a.m. on Sunday.

The International Peace Gardens Lodge serves for Saturday's meet; Saturday evening after 8:00 p.m. and Sunday the Family will gather at Camp Koinonia, north of the Gardens.

Lodging is available at Camp Koinonia for 80; Campsites are at the Gardens, Lake Adam, Lake William and in Boissevain. There will be two common meals during the event. Please bring food, etc. with you. The reunion will provide opportunity for reminiscing, music, skits, etc.

Mennonite Reporter  
Monday, June 9, 1975

DER BOTE Dienstag, den 17. Dezember 1974, Nr. 49

## Epp - Familientreffen

Am 5. August 1972 versammelten sich Nachkommen des Aelt. Bernhard H. Epp, Lichtenau, Südrussland, zu einem Familientreffen. Bei der Veranstaltung in den Peace Gardens bei Boissevain, Man., wurde ein Komitee beauftragt, ein ähnliches Treffen für den Sommer 1975 zu planen. Das Komitee ist nun dabei, die Vorkehrungen zu treffen.

Zusätzlich entschied das Komitee bei seiner letzten Sitzung, auch die Nachkommen der Schwester und der Brüder von Bernhard H. Epp zu dem Treffen einzuladen. Das schließt ein: die Brüder

Peter, Johann (geb. 1840), Abraham (1842), Kornelius (1844), Gerhard (1846), Jakob (1848), David (1852), die Schwester Katharina (1854) und den Bruder Martin (1856) — alles Kinder von Heinrich H. Epp, Rosenort.

Das Treffen soll, will' Gott, am 9. und 10. August 1975 in den Peace Gardens (Lodge) und beim Camp Koinonia, dort in der Nähe, statt finden. Wir bitten, alle Anfragen betreffs dieses Treffens an: John J. Epp, 612 Oakland Ave., Winnipeg, Man., oder Bruno Epp, Box 38, Springstein, Man., zu richten. Weitere Bekanntmachungen folgen im Frühjahr 1975.

Im Auftrage.  
Epp und Epp



Eldo Epps (on the front side of the table) and other Peter Epp 12 descendants at the 1975 reunion.

## EPP Family Reunion 1975

Preparations for a family reunion of the descendants of HEINRICH EPP (1811-1863) evoked a variety of responses. Many looked forward to it as a joyous occasion, a time to meet unknown relatives, reminisce, visit, and a time to rediscover their roots. Some were convinced it would be boring. Understandably some of the young people questioned the purpose of such a gathering. What are the prospects of meeting someone interesting and available among relatives?

For most of the 340 people who signed the register the reunion was a very happy occasion. It was exciting and uplifting to be a part of such a group of beautiful people. It was especially meaningful to meet those who had come long distances. Several had come from as far away as Germany and Brazil. Others came from Texas, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Florida, Minnesota, California, Iowa, Nebraska, Oregon, Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario and many parts of Manitoba. It was soon evident that the far away cousins did not take their kinship for granted like those of us who had lived all our lives surrounded by kin. Their enthusiasm at meeting long lost cousins was contagious. Agatha Epp 1817 of West Germany wrote: "*Wir sprechen noch so oft von unsern neuen Bekannten und Verwandten in Canada. . . Das grosse Bild. . . So eine Riesen-Sippe zu haben. . . es ist ja kaum glaubhaft* (We so often still speak of our new acquaintances and relatives in Canada. . . That huge photograph. . . To have such a monstrous clan . . . It is almost unbelievable!)" Someone from Oklahoma wrote: "We remember with pleasure, the time spent at the Peace Garden. It was a revelation to me that we had so many relatives." From Florida came this response: "We continue to talk about, and write about to others, the great Reunion. How we did enjoy meeting so many cousins and we look forward to other contacts, the Lord willing."

The 1975 EPP family reunion was preceded by a smaller gathering when the 270 descendants of Bern-



Agatha Epp 1817 (left) and her friend, Mary Wessel, were the only reunion participants from West Germany.

hard H. Epp 19 (1854-1926) and Anna Wiens (1854-1926) of Lichtenau, Molotschna, South Russia met at the Peace Garden on 5 August 1972. The committee in charge of planning the 1975 reunion agreed to go back one more generation, to the parents of the late Bernhard Epp. This would include all the descendants of HEINRICH EPP (1811-1863) who was married first to Maria (Thiessen) Wiens and then to Justina Willms (1822-1891). It would enlarge the reunion to include all the descendants of Bernhard Epp's nine brothers (Heinrich, Peter, Johann, Kornelius, Abraham, Gerhard, Jacob, David and Martin) and one sister (Katharina). The committee began planning for a two-day event. The colossal task of locating the HEINRICH EPP descendants was begun, a program set up and invitations extended.

**Participants at the 1975 reunion. Taken Sunday after the worship service at Camp Koinonia.**



The weather was beautiful on 9 and 10 August 1975. Registration began at the International Peace Garden Lodge at 10:00 a.m. Intense visiting began with the first arrivals and did not end until the last farewells were spoken the following day. The register was signed by 340 people.

Words can hardly describe the impression made by the large genealogical charts exhibited on both sides of three rows of nine-meter stands 1.8 meters high. At all times, except during the formal sessions, these charts were the center of attraction. Everyone was intent on finding his/her name among the 3,200 some names. Somehow this created a warm feeling of belonging to a truly extended family. It was almost too much to comprehend, especially as one realized that every married couple could research three more such family lines and feel a part of four such larger families. Not only did we try to locate our own

names, but we were able to check our birthdate and occupation and we could pinpoint where we fit into the total picture. Recognition must be given to Anna Ens 111104 who did most of the genealogical research and Paul Friesen 143321 and Winona Rempel 17522 who made up the final charts, as well as to Harry Loewen (19812) and John J. Epp 1981 who constructed the stands.

The first formal session held in the Lodge on Saturday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. began with a devotional by Katie Friesen 14332. There was singing, introduction of persons from far-off places and people were asked to stand according to which house they belonged. Interspersed during the afternoon, the chairman, Bruno Epp 111102, had all of us chant, "*Wir sind von dem Hause Heinrich* (We are of the house of Heinrich)." Aside from the fact that we felt a little foolish repeating the chant, it did create



a feeling of togetherness. Personally, I felt a little uneasy about having stemmed from HEINRICH alone, but since HEINRICH had two wives I realized the chant could have become a bit unwieldy had the names of the wives been included. Adolf Ens (111104) gave an amusing and informative account of research that had been done into the EPP name. An address was given by David Epp 111121 on the significance of such a reunion.

The formal sessions, the informal visiting and the viewing of the charts both days came to a climax in the sharing of a common meal. Sampling the great variety of food soon had everyone in a festive, celebrating state of mind. Everyone knew how to relate to the long tables laden with food. From Missouri came this comment: "It was an epic experience and I hope our memories will always hold this event as the most impressive. It was so assuring and comforting to know we all had everything in common, our heritage, our religion, even our language in most instances. Yes, the food, too brought memories of my childhood some 60 years ago, am 70 now."



Getting ready to photograph. Left, Bruno Epp 111102, chairman of the reunion, and his older brother Henry. The following year Henry, with assistance from his son-in-law, Fred Kaethler, spent many an hour printing dozens of reunion photos which had been ordered.

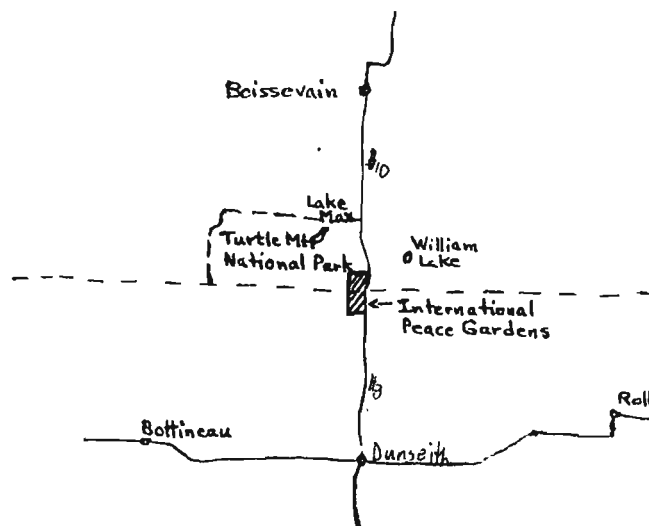


The youngest grandchildren of HEINRICH EPP from the House of Martin met at the reunion. L-r: David Epp 11112—Manitoba, Aganeta Enns (11113)—Alberta, Margaret Rogalsky 11114—Ontario. On the floor: David Epp's youngest son, Werner. On the walls a sample of the genealogy charts.

Date of reunion: August 9 and 10, 1975

Time: 10:00 a.m. (registration begins)  
5:00 p.m. on Aug. 10.

Place: International Peace Gardens Lod p.m. Aug. 9) and Camp Koinonia Aug. 9 to 5:00 p.m. Aug. 10). Inquiries re Lodge can be made Garden Gate.



Lodging: The following camping facilities possibilities:

- (a) Peace Gardens' Camping Grounds (s)
- (b) Camp Koinonia - bunk beds for app. grounds to pitch trailers or camps up) - \$2 per pers

The Saturday evening session as well as the Sunday afternoon session at Camp Koinonia were informal with singing and sharing. It was a time for becoming better acquainted. Most of us were completely overwhelmed with the variety of denominational affiliations, the professional diversity, the large geographical area and the great numbers of people that were encompassed in our EPP family.

Albert Epp 12152 of St. Louis, Missouri attracted a lot of attention with his little yellow self-built car featuring a big black tire on the driver's side of the car with EPP printed on it in bold white letters.

The Sunday morning worship address was given by Altester G. G. Neufeld 1923 of Boissevain. A Mountain Lake relative wrote: "We really appreciated the rich spiritual emphasis and the singing. . . The sermon was just what we needed. . . We were really thrilled with being a part of such a great family, but the greater thrill was to find that so many had kept the faith and to know that we are a part of the family of God. May Jesus Christ be praised."

It was decided to publish an EPP family history and to plan another EPP reunion for the year 1980.



Albert Epp and wife Vivian.

|                       |  |              |           |
|-----------------------|--|--------------|-----------|
| Stella Dyck           | Box 727, Boissevain                            | 24/10/1970   | Bernhard  |
| Aileen Dyck           | Box 727, Boissevain                            | 10/7/1954    | Bernhard  |
| Bertha Wall           | 618 Lincoln St. Bakersfield, Calif. U.S. 93351 | 11-6-1904    | Peter     |
| Elizabeth H. Emerson  | 1557 Lincoln Rd. Windsor, Ont.                 | 8-16-1932    | Heinrich  |
| Randolph H. Emerson   | " " " N81 253                                  | 3-8-1960     | "         |
| Richard H. Emerson    | " " "  | 8-30-1967    | "         |
| Jessie Williams       | Box 1354, Coaldale, Alta                       | 21-1-1923    | Martin    |
| Albert Harder         | Box 64 Mt. Lake, Minn 56154                    | 11-2-26      | Peter     |
| Bessie Harder         | Box 64 Mt. Lake, Minn                          | 7-10-25      | Peter     |
| Agatha Neufeld        | 54 Russell St., Karamington, Ont.              | 24-10-23     | Heinrich  |
| KATIE DIRKS FRIESEN   | BOX 251 MORDEN MAN.                            | 31-7-26      | KORNELIUS |
| JOHN E FRIESEN        | 600 SHAFESBURY BLVD. WPG                       | 20-8-56      | KORNELIUS |
| PAUL T. FRIESEN       |  | 15-9-51      | KORNELIUS |
| Kirsten Jansen        | 310 N 12 <sup>th</sup> St Mt. Lake Minn        | 9-15-'03     | Peter     |
| Marie Jansen          | " " "  | Feb 2-19-'06 | "         |
| Pauline Jansen Bartel | Rt. 1 Box 293 Mt. Lake, MN                     | Oct. 4, '26  | Peter     |
| Lijzel H. Bartel      | " " "  | May 22 '25   | "         |
| Martha Wall           | 620 Lincoln St. Bakersfield, Calif             | 6-11-04      | Peter     |
| Hugo Hildebrand       | 263 Donald Ave. Winnipeg                       | 20-12-35     | Bernhard  |

Excerpt from the 1975 reunion registration book.





## About the Epp Name

“Epp” is by no means an exclusively Mennonite or even German name. It is not uncommon in England where it occurs also in the various forms of “Epepe,” “Epps,” and “Eppson.” According to a book published in London in 1912, *Surnames of the United Kingdom*, all presumably derive from the Old Teutonic personal names: “Eppa,” “Epepe,” “Eppo,” and “Epo.” Among Methodists the Epworth League and Epworth Press are well known. In India the British had an “Epps Cocoa.”

During colonial times the name was brought to North America. Sir Frances Epps was granted a large tract of land in Virginia by the British monarch. John Wyles Eppes, born in Virginia in 1773, became a US Congressman and Senator and married a daughter of Thomas Jefferson. American Blacks with the name Epps probably took it from early slaveholders by that name. Albert Epp 12152 of St. Louis, Missouri, Peter A. Epp 121812 of Mt. Dora, Florida, and Frank H. Epp 111103 of Waterloo, Ontario, all report having met Blacks with the surname Epps.

In the Swiss canton of Uri, particularly in the Wilhelm Tell town of Altdorf, the name occurs very frequently. In fact it is said that in the Maderan Valley every second person is an Epp. Uri, however, is an almost exclusively Catholic canton. Furthermore, local historians do not agree whether the name is indigenous to the area, or whether it was brought there by German immigrants in the 15th century.

Hermann Epp of Hamburg, Germany, discovered a number of authors by the name of Epp who had published books in Baden (Bavaria) in the 19th century. He then wrote to a Mennonite pastor in South Germany to find out if there were any Mennonite Epps in the area. Christian Neff, one of the publishers of the *Mennonitisches Lexikon*, replied in 1916 that the name “Epp” did not occur among South German Mennonites, although “Eby” was found occasionally. Hermann Epp nevertheless pursued his research in Baden and neighboring Wuerttemberg and discovered a long list of Epps who had graduated from the University of Tuebingen between 1498 and 1600, as well



as public servants and citizens dating back to the year 1297. (Reported in *Mitteilungen des Sippen-Verbandes der Danziger Mennoniten Familien Epp/Kauenhowen/Zimmermann*, 1936, Heft 1, pp. 6-8.) He concludes that the Epps originated in South Germany, but neither he nor historian Christian Neff know of any emigration of Mennonites from that area to the east. Thus the Prussian-Russian Mennonite Epps did not come as Mennonites from South Germany.

The fourth area in which the name was found during the time of the birth of the Mennonite church is the North Sea corner of what is now the Netherlands and Germany. According to a chronicle published in 1652 in Husum, Schleswig-Holstein, a nobleman "by the name of Abbe or Ebbe or Epp" was regent of that area during the time of Emperor Charles the Great (Charlemagne, c. 742-814). Whether that is true or not is not so important. What the chronicler goes on to say is that the name "Epp" had been current among the Frisians in the past. Hermann Epp therefore consulted the basic work on *Friesische Namen* by B. Brons and found in North Friesland the names: Eppema, Eppena, Eppinga, and Eppenga; in West Friesland: Epe, Epo, Eppe; and in East Friesland: Epe, Eppe, Eppke, and Eppo. These names, however, occurred mostly during the 14th, 15th and 16th centuries. By the early 1900s Hermann Epp found himself to be the only one with that surname in Hamburg (on the eastern edge of Schleswig-Holstein) and could not discover any Epps in Bremen or any of the other cities between Hamburg and the Dutch border.

Some of these Frisian Epps joined the Anabaptist movement very shortly after it came to that area. Horst Penner reports that in 1535 a group of about a thousand of these Doopsgezinde gathered in front of the house of Eppe Petersz at t'Zandt near Appingedam. The Mennonite settlements in Danzig-Prussia-Vistula region (from whom our HEINRICH EPP is descended) were begun in the 1530s by Anabaptist emigrants/refugees from the Frisian regions. Among them, according to Heinrich Schroeder in a book entitled *Russlanddeutsche Friesen*, was Abel Eppens, an Anabaptist leader in Mittelfriesland who moved to Danzig where he died in 1588. A birth certificate in the State Archives of Danzig, dated 30 May 1586, reads: "*Johann Epsen, itzt auf dem langen Garten wonende, der geboren ist in Losendorff im Gröninger Lande von Epp seinem Vater und Hille seiner Mutter, echter und ehrlichvoller Geburt in einem rechten Ehebett gezeuget, von Vater und von Mutter rechter deutscher czunge.*" (John Epsen, now living at Langegarten, was born in Losendorff, Groningen region, to his father Epp and mother Hille, a pure and honorable birth conceived in wedlock of a father and mother of genuine German tongue.) According to Horst Penner, the earliest mention of an Epp in the Vistula delta region is Hermann Eppe in the village of Heubuden, in 1584.

Thus, although the name Epp was known from Switzerland to Frisia during the Middle Ages, only in the Frisian area was it found in the Mennonite church. Gustav Reimer concludes that our Epp sur-

name then presumably derives from the various forms—Eppema, Eppo, Eppke, etc.—of the common Frisian personal name These in turn are believed to be derived from the German personal name Eberhard (old High German "Ebur"). The Germans chose the name "Eber" (boar) as symbol of strength.

Commercial heraldry houses have reconstructed a coat of arms for many common surnames. Sovereign, located in Cornwall, Ontario, markets an Epp Coat of Arms which features a black ape holding a red rose, seated between two gold wings. A heraldic artist drew the illustration on the basis of information found in *Rietstap Armorial General*. The accompanying description, however, does not suggest any etymological connection between ape and Epp. Instead, it agrees that the surname Epp is probably derived from a German "pet form of Eber (boar)."

While the Epps are thus ethnically Frisian, in the Mennonite church most of them became part of the Old Flemish congregations of West Prussia. Reimer found that by 1776 there were 46 Mennonite Epp families in the area for a total of 325 persons. This represents 2.1% of all the Mennonites in West Prussia at the time.

The first Epp to be found among the ranks of ministers was Peter Epp (1725-89) who served the Flemish congregation of Danzig as preacher from 1758 and as *Ältester* in 1792 of the Chortitza (Flemish) church.\* Schroeder thinks that a larger than normal number of Epps became ministers. In 1910 they made up 4% of the ministers of the Flemish church in Russia and in 1925 about 3% of the ministers of the Russian Mennonite churches in the USA and Canada. This compares with 1.2% Epps in the Mennonite population of Frisian descent as a whole.

\*See Pedigree Chart of Peter Epp and Anna Claassen—enclosed.

## Roots of the House of HEINRICH EPP

As has already been said, the House of HEINRICH EPP belongs to the Anabaptist-Mennonite tradition.

Sixteenth century Anabaptists differed from the existing Catholic, Lutheran, and Reformed churches in their convictions that the church should be free of state controls, that membership in the church should be voluntary (therefore only adults should be baptized on their own confession of faith), and that members should live a life of discipleship, i.e. follow Christ's example in life. This included among other things, loving one's enemies, not using violence and therefore not participating in war, and being ready to suffer for one's faith.

Because they rebaptized adults who had already been baptized as infants, they were called Anabaptists. As a result of their firm refusal to conform to the requirements of the state in matters of religious practice, they were severely persecuted and scattered in all directions. Through their life and testimony new groups of like-minded believers were formed in other European countries.

In the Netherlands the believers came to be named Mennisten or Mennonites after the most outstanding Dutch Anabaptist leader, Menno Simons.

Persecution by the Spanish Catholic rulers of the Netherlands caused a large number of Mennonites to seek refuge in the Vistula River delta of Prussia in the area later made famous by the cities of Danzig and Elbing. The Dutch-German congregations that developed here gradually were characterized linguistically by the use of the Low German dialect in everyday conversation and by the use of High German in church and school.

### BEGINNINGS IN RUSSIA

In 1788 the first group of their descendants emigrated to southern Russia.

Their first settlement, Chortitza, was founded in 1789 on the banks of the Dnieper River. A second one, Molotschna, was created in 1804 on the Molochnaya River, about 161 kilometers southeast of Chortitza.

The circumstances for the establishment of these two colonies were similar. In Prussia, Frederick William had issued a series of edicts which restricted Mennonites from enlarging their lands, a considerable problem to a people known for their large families, and which also eroded their privileges of military exemption. While the door was being closed in Prussia, however, another was being opened in Russia. Czarina Catherine had just successfully acquired from the Turks large tracts of land in the Ukraine which she wished to populate with agrarian settlers.

Generous terms were offered to all immigrants, and groups of settlers were invited to negotiate special additional privileges. The Mennonite *Privilegium* included unrestricted exercise of religious belief and permanent exemption from military service, as well as the usual freedom of location and occupation, loans for farm and industrial purposes, the right to local self-government and free land.

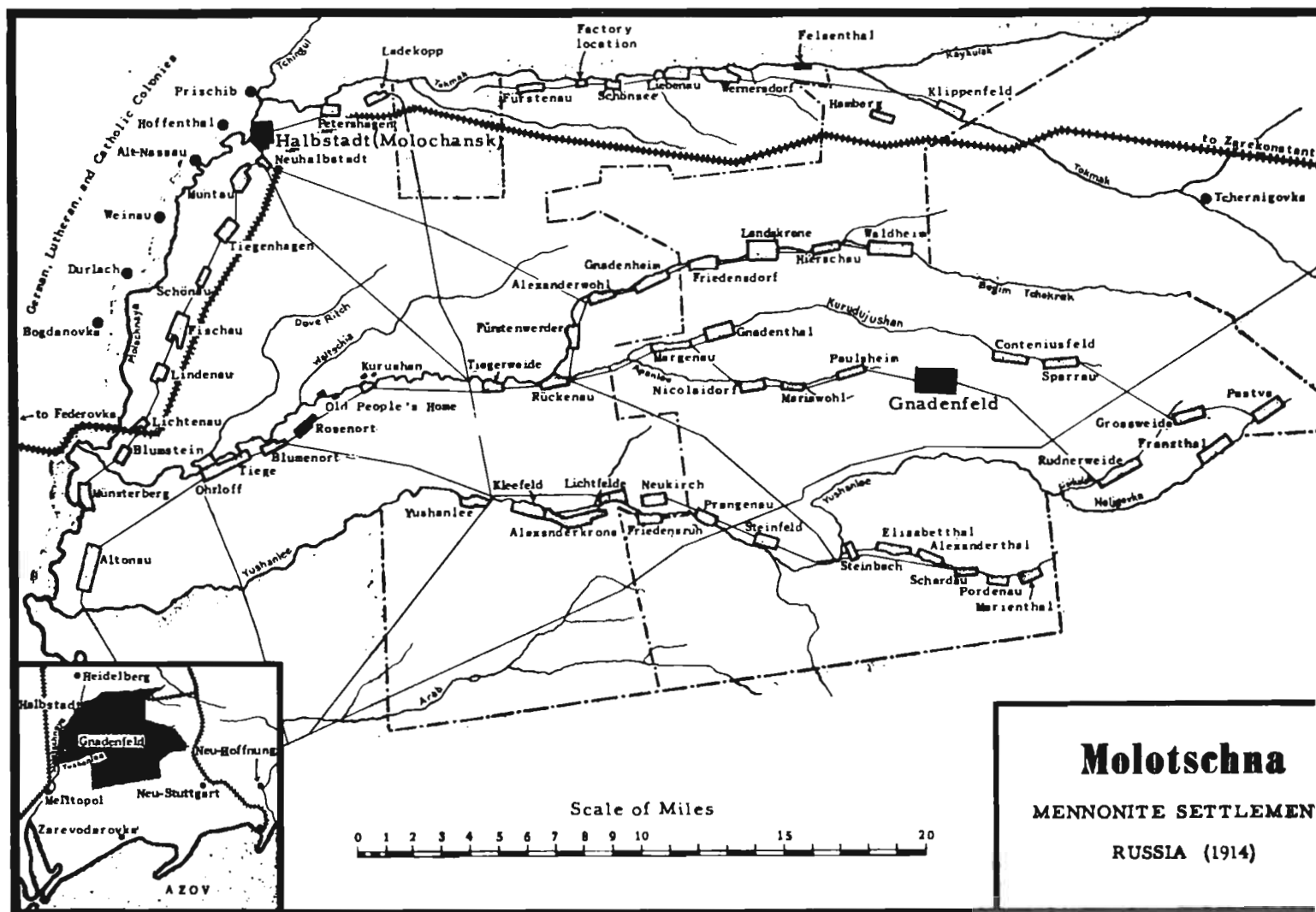
From 1803 to 1806 there was steady immigration from Prussia to the Molotschna where 365 families made their home. Some sources suggest that the father of HEINRICH EPP was among these immigrants. This, however, has not been documented.

### THE MOLOTSCHNA COLONY

From the beginning the economy of the Molotschna colony had an agricultural base. The Mennonites raised sheep, cattle, horses and grew wheat, rye, barley, oats, and fruit trees. However, small industries such as carpentry and blacksmith shops, brick factories, breweries and oil presses held important places within the colony. Already known for their successful farms in Prussia, the Mennonites made veritable garden spots of their colonies and were highly regarded throughout Russia.

The land in the colony belonged to the Mennonites in perpetuity. Land could be privately owned with each landowner allowed 65 dessiatines. This is equal to 175 acres or 71 hectares. It was divided into four or more pieces, each of which was called *kogel*. The land could be bought and sold by Mennonites

Map 1



Reprinted from MENNONITE ENCYCLOPEDIA by permission of Herald Press, Scottdale, PA 15683.

among themselves but not to outsiders.

Sixty-five dessiatines of land with a farmyard in the village was known as a *Vollwirtschaft* (full-sized farm). After the land reforms of the 1860s *Kleinwirtschafte* (smaller plots) were common. A *Halbwirtschaft* (half-sized farm) counted 32.5 dessiatines. Anyone who owned 80 or more dessiatines was considered to be well off. There were no separate large independent estates within the colony except those established by imperial decree, such as Felsental and Yushanlee.

The Molotschna colony eventually grew to include 58 villages, listed below by their original German and their present Russian names.

Each village was administered by an elected *Schulze* (mayor) and council. An *Oberschulze*, located at the major centre of Halbstadt, acted as general head of the entire colony or Volost. After 1870, a second *Volost*, with Gnadefeld as center, was formed because of the growing size of the colony. Most of the other settlements in which members of the House of HEINRICH EPP lived also had this form of local government.

Lack of strong religious leaders and qualified ministers in the early part of the 19th century contributed

to a decline in the spiritual life of the Molotschna Mennonites. At first there was only the one large Ohrloff-Petershagen congregation. As early as 1812 a small group of its members, dissatisfied with what they considered lax church discipline and rather low moral standards, left the larger group to form the *Kleine Gemeinde*.

In 1842 a large conservative group, comprising about three-fourths of the membership, separated from the spiritually and culturally progressive Ohrloff church and founded the Lichtenau-Petershagen congregation. In the following years both groups erected meetinghouses (church buildings) in numerous villages throughout the Molotschna colony.

The greater part of the population of the village of Rosenort initially belonged to the more progressive smaller congregation named Ohrloff-Halbstadt after the 1842 division. However, the HEINRICH EPP family chose to go with the more conservative group, the Lichtenau-Petershagen congregation.

A religious awakening that spread throughout the Mennonite settlements as a result of several influences marked the second half of the 19th century. Contact of Prussian Mennonites with Moravian pietism prior to their settlement of the village

of Gnadenthal, Molotschna, had given inspiration and stimulus as early as 1835. Of remarkable influence in the 1840s and 1850s was the work of Pastor Edward Wüst from Germany who ministered among the neighboring Lutheran pietist congregations and occasionally also among the Mennonites. The practice of private devotional meetings and Bible study attracted and brought a revival of spiritual life. On the one hand, the movement brought renewal to many individuals and groups, but on the other, it created division and tension when those having experienced renewal separated from the old churches (*Kirchengemeinde*) and formed the *Brüdergemeinde* (Brethren Church) in 1860.

Suppression of the new life and opposition to it resulted in some rather sad and antagonistic positions. The tensions and divisions affected many families including the Epps. Their effects live on in the House of HEINRICH EPP to this day.

The *Evangelische Mennonitengemeinde*, popularly known as *Allianzgemeinde*, was founded in 1905 to serve as a bridge between the *Kirchengemeinde* and *Brüdergemeinde*. In Canada the members of the *Allianzgemeinde* joined the *Brüdergemeinde*, in Paraguay they continued as a separate group, and in Brazil they joined the *Kirchengemeinde*.

In the US those belonging to the *Kirchengemeinde* in Russia, for the most part became part of the General Conference Mennonite Church and in Canada they affiliated with the Conference of Mennonites in

Canada, the national equivalent of the US-based North American General Conference.

## ROSENORT

Rosenort, founded in 1805, was one of the most important villages of the Molotschna colony for the House of HEINRICH EPP. It was here that HEINRICH EPP lived and where his children were born and spent some of their lives.

A description of Rosenort following the turn of the century has been related by Maria Kliewer 1710 of Winkler, Manitoba. Rosenort possessed a two-room *Dorfschule* (primary or elementary school) on the outskirts of the village. One room housed grades one to four and the other grades five to seven. Further education was pursued in the *Zentralschulen* (secondary schools) and *Mädchenschulen* (girls' schools) in the larger villages. Rosenort's *Dorfschule* was closed during World War I and the upheaval of the Revolution, according to Mrs. Kliewer.

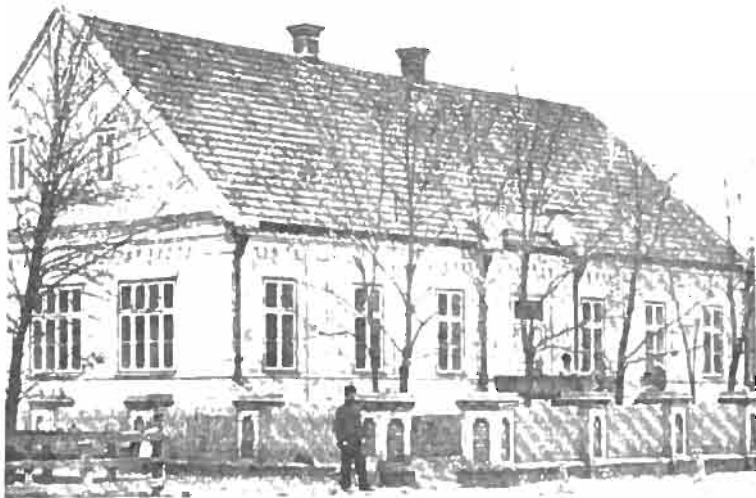
Since Rosenort did not have a church building, the school occasionally housed special German religious services. More frequently, however, the residents would attend either the *Kirchengemeinde* church in the villages of Ohrloff and Lichtenau or the *Brüdergemeinde* church in Tiede, villages to the west of Rosenort. Weddings and funerals were held in homes during the winter months and in *Scheunen* (machine/storage sheds) in summertime.

TABLE 2

### Modern Russian Names of Molotschna Villages\*

|                          |                  |                        |              |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Alexanderthal . . . . .  | Alexandrovka     | Margenau . . . . .     | Raekovoe     |
| Alexanderkrone . . . . . | Molotchnoye      | Mariawohl . . . . .    | Maryevka     |
| Alexanderwohl . . . . .  | Svetloye         | Marienthal . . . . .   | Panfilovka   |
| Altonau . . . . .        | Travnyeve        | Muensterberg . . . . . | Prilukovka   |
| Blumenort . . . . .      | Orlovo           | Muntau . . . . .       | Yasnovka     |
| Blumstein . . . . .      | Kamenskoye       | Neuhalsstadt . . . . . | Molochansk   |
| Conteniusfeld . . . . .  | Dovge            | Neukirch . . . . .     | Udarnik      |
| Elisabetthal . . . . .   | Yelizavetovka    | Nikolaidorf . . . . .  | Nikolayevka  |
| Fischau . . . . .        | Rybolovka        | Ohrloff . . . . .      | Orlovo       |
| Franzthal . . . . .      | Lugoviy          | Pastva . . . . .       | Pastva       |
| Friedensdorf . . . . .   | Chemelniukoye    | Paulsheim . . . . .    | Pavlovka     |
| Friedensruh . . . . .    | Mirnyy           | Petershagen . . . . .  | Kutuzovka    |
| Fuerstenau . . . . .     | Lygovka          | Pordenau . . . . .     | Vesnyanka    |
| Fuerstenwerder . . . . . | Balkovoye        | Prangenau . . . . .    | Stepovye     |
| Gnadenfeld . . . . .     | Bogdanovka       | Rosenort . . . . .     | Orlovo       |
| Gnadenheim . . . . .     | Balagovka        | Rudnerweide . . . . .  | Rozovka      |
| Gnadenenthal . . . . .   | Blagodatnoye     | Rueckenau . . . . .    | Kozolugovka  |
| Grossweide . . . . .     | Prostore         | Schardau . . . . .     | Garovka      |
| Halbstadt . . . . .      | Molochansk       | Schoenau . . . . .     | Dolina       |
| Hamburg . . . . .        | Kamenka          | Schoensee . . . . .    | Snegurevka   |
| Hierschau . . . . .      | Vladovka 2       | Sparrau . . . . .      | Guy Selyoniy |
| Kleefeld . . . . .       | Roskoshnyy       | Steinbach . . . . .    | Kalinovka    |
| Klippenfeld . . . . .    | Mogochnoye       | Steinfeld . . . . .    | Sadovyy      |
| Ladekopp . . . . .       | Ladovka          | Tiede . . . . .        | Orlovo       |
| Landskrone . . . . .     | Lankove          | Tiegenhagen . . . . .  | Levadnoye    |
| Lichtenau . . . . .      | Svetlodolinskoye | Tiegerweide . . . . .  | Mostovoye    |
| Lichtfelde . . . . .     | Grushevka        | Waldheim . . . . .     | Vladovka 1   |
| Lindenau . . . . .       | Lyubimovka       | Wernersdorf . . . . .  | Pribrezhnoye |
| Liebenau . . . . .       | Mayskoye         |                        |              |

\*Those villages not mentioned either do not exist anymore, have been amalgamated with another village or their modern name could not be established. This list has been compiled from various sources.



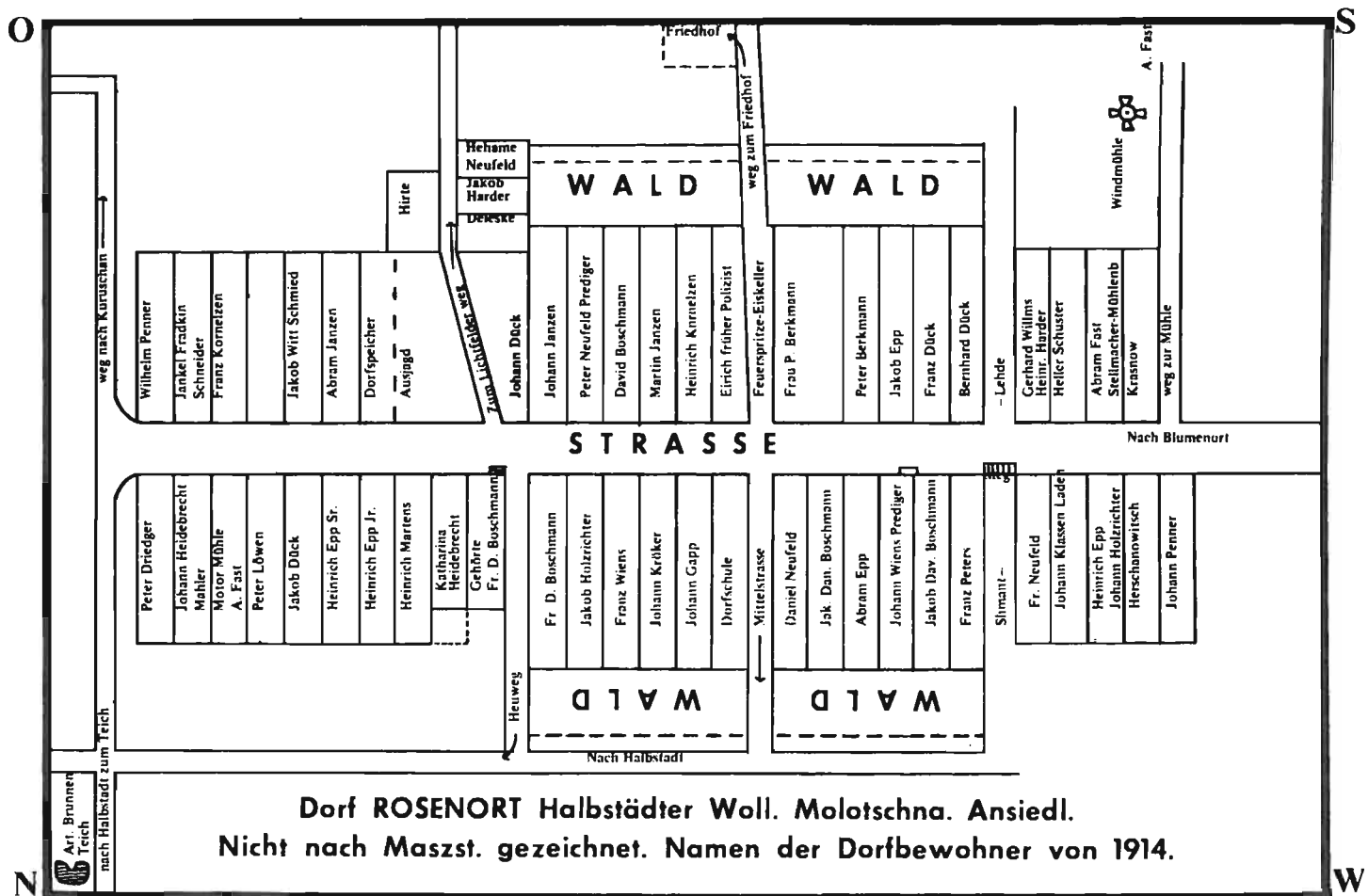
The DORFSCHULE at Rosenort. Photo courtesy CMBC Publications.

Residents of Rosenort could purchase essentials such as sugar and coffee at their own village store, but other shopping was done in the larger stores in nearby Blumenort, in Halbstadt and in Tokmak. A mill situated within Rosenort provided flour for baking as well as most of the feed for livestock.

Rosenort, like the other villages, was administered by a locally elected *Schulze*. The administration, on behalf of the villagers, employed a Russian policeman to maintain order. In large part this policeman's responsibility was to prevent disturbances that arose from the "visits" of drunken Russian peasants. He was salaried by the village landowners and armed with a revolver.

Most of the smaller Molotschna villages were similar to Rosenort. Some of them, including Rosenort, had quaint nicknames. Lindenau, where Bernhard Epp 19 lived, was nicknamed *Rollkuchen*, after a traditional pastry (cruller) which is deep-fried. Rosenort itself was called *Schmandthal* and its inhabitants *Schmandlecker*, roughly translated cream valley and cream licker. One of its side streets was referred to as *Schmandleagt*, *Schmand* meaning cream and *laegt* referring to low-lying land. When water after a strong rainstorm gushed along this low-lying stretch it reminded the villagers of foaming cream and thus derived its name.

Map 2



The village of Rosenort, Halbstaedter Volost, Molotschna Settlement. Not drawn according to scale. Names of homeowners are as of 1914. Reprinted by permission from D.P. Heidebrecht EIN HOLPERIGER LEBENSWEG.

Some of the villages were distinguished by important institutions or landmarks. Tiege was the location of a school for the deaf and dumb where Abraham Epps 15 were houseparents for some time. Grossweide had an orphanage founded by Abraham Harders 151 which was home for several House of HEINRICH EPP grandchildren, namely Bernhard Epp 11111, Martin 11111 and Anni 11112 Neufeld. The meetingplace of the Lichtenau-Petershagen *Kirchengemeinde*, where Bernhard Epp 19 was the *Ältester* from 1908-22, was located in Lichtenau. The area along the Kurushan River between Rosenort and Tiegerweide, known as Kurushan, was the location of the *Altenheim* where Jacob Epps 17 were houseparents from 1907-11.



Rear view of the Institute for the Deaf and Dumb at Tiege. Photo courtesy CMBC Publications.



The Orphanage at Grossweide. Photo courtesy CMBC Publications.



The ALTENHEIM at Kurushan. Photo courtesy CMBC Publications.



## EXPANSION

In general it can be said that the story of the first three generations of the House of HEINRICH EPP parallels very much the story of the growth and development of the Molotschna colony. The settlement was in its pioneering stages when HEINRICH EPP was born and together with it he and his siblings experienced its growing pains during the first half of the 19th century. His children were born and raised during a period marked by economic progress and cultural achievement. The second half of the 19th century saw increased establishment of schools and hospitals and other institutions designed for public service.

As was the case in Prussia, the Mennonite population grew steadily and soon the Molotschna colony could not contain its own people. By the 1860s, the time when HEINRICH EPP's oldest sons were ready to start independent farming, it was virtually impossible to obtain land in the colony. A solution to this problem of the landless was found in the colonization system and in the purchase of smaller and larger estates. An estate was known as a *Gut* or *chutor*. Under the colonization system families were given the opportunity (totally on credit) to establish their own homes in new settlements, which were called daughter colonies. Descendants of the House of HEINRICH EPP made their homes in the following Molotschna-sponsored daughter colonies in European Russia:

Epps 115 also lived at Krutojarowka, Pavlograd).

A second area were the Omsk and Pavlodar settlements east of the Ural mountains in western Siberia. (See the stories of Johann Epp 13 and Susanna (Epp) Kroeker 131). Here virgin areas of crown land were given to any settlers who were able to farm the land.

The search for a haven of freedom, peace and security in the late 1920s took Susanna Kroeker 131 and her children to the Far East where they joined other co-religionists in the Asiatic settlements on the Amur River, the last ones to be established voluntarily by the Mennonites of Russia before the enforced collectivization of the Soviet era.

Two of the most disturbing factors during the second half of the 19th century, which made the Mennonites feel uncertain about their future, were the introduction of a universal military conscription law and a general program of Russianization of foreign settlers in Russia. As a result some 18,000 Mennonites, including the House of Peter 12, emigrated to North America from 1873 to 1880. The rest of the House of HEINRICH EPP chose to stay and accept the compromise worked out with the Russian government under which acceptable alternatives to military service were found in *Forsteidienst* (forestry service) or during the war, in *Sanitätsdienst* (medical service). This special privilege was officially rescinded about 1935.

The increasing anti-German attitude of the Russian government affected among other things also Mennonite publication and educational efforts. The estab-

TABLE 3

Molotschna Daughter Colonies in which HEINRICH EPP Descendants Lived

| Settlement        | Province      | Date Founded | See Stories                                   | Map on Page |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------|---|-------------|
| Crimea            | Taurida       | 1862         | 1412, 151, 152, 176, 187, 192                 | 114         |
| Davlekanovo       | Ufa           | 1894         | 13 and family                                 | 73          |
| Memrik            | Ekaterinoslav | 1885         | 1139, 115, 13                                 | 84          |
| Naumenko          | Kharkov       | 1889         | 11, 16  | 84          |
| Neu-Samara        | Samara        | 1890         | 1111  | —           |
| Schoenfeld/Brazol | Ekaterinoslav | 1868         | 119, 14 and family, 175, 197, 1101, 111, 1112 | 84          |
| Suvorovka         | Caucasus      | 1894         | 113, 114, 1102, 1103, 1104, 1105, 111         | 42          |
| Terek             | Caucasus      | 1901         | 114, 118, 1110                                | 42          |

Aside from these settlements there were several other areas where House of HEINRICH EPP descendants farmed land in Czarist times. One of these, was the village of Herzenberg in the district of Pavlograd, Ekaterinoslav, in the Ukraine. It was established in 1880 by Mennonites from the Molotschna. (See stories Jacob Epp 115 and Gerhard Epp 162. Jacob

lishment of a much needed Mennonite theological seminary thus was never realized and young men and women increasingly went to Germany or Switzerland for their education in this field. This became possible for several persons of the House of HEINRICH EPP as well, namely: Johann K. Epp 144, Anna Epp 153, and David Boschmann 1102.

## 20th CENTURY

The events of the early 20th century that most heavily affected all families of the House of HEINRICH EPP were those precipitated by World War I, the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution, the ensuing Civil War, the anarchistic activities of roving bands, especially the Makhnovites, and the ultimate establishment of the Communist regime. The uncertain times, precarious circumstances and untold suffering which these events precipitated through the confiscation and nationalization (collectivization) of property, the burden of taxation both in money and in kind, the replacement of Mennonite self-government by local soviets, drought and crop failures, and the resulting problems of widespread poverty, hunger, starvation and disease are said to be unimaginable for those who have not experienced them. Indescribable were the constant fears of death, arrest and imprisonment, exile and deportation, and the hardships and suffering caused by sudden, and frequently lasting, separation of families.

Hope and relief came temporarily in the form of the Austro-German army which occupied the Ukraine from spring to November of 1918, the American Relief Administration (ARA), and the American Mennonite Relief (AMR) 1921-26, and the Soviet government's New Economic Policy (NEP) 1923-25, which brought some improvement in the social, economic and political situations. In fact, while emigration to Canada was already in progress, it was this new economic program which led many Mennonites, including some from the House of HEINRICH EPP, to decide to stay in the USSR.

The times however did not improve but became more difficult as the years went by. The First Five Year Plan (1928-32) called for more intense collectivization and dekulakization and altered the Russian way of life to its very core.

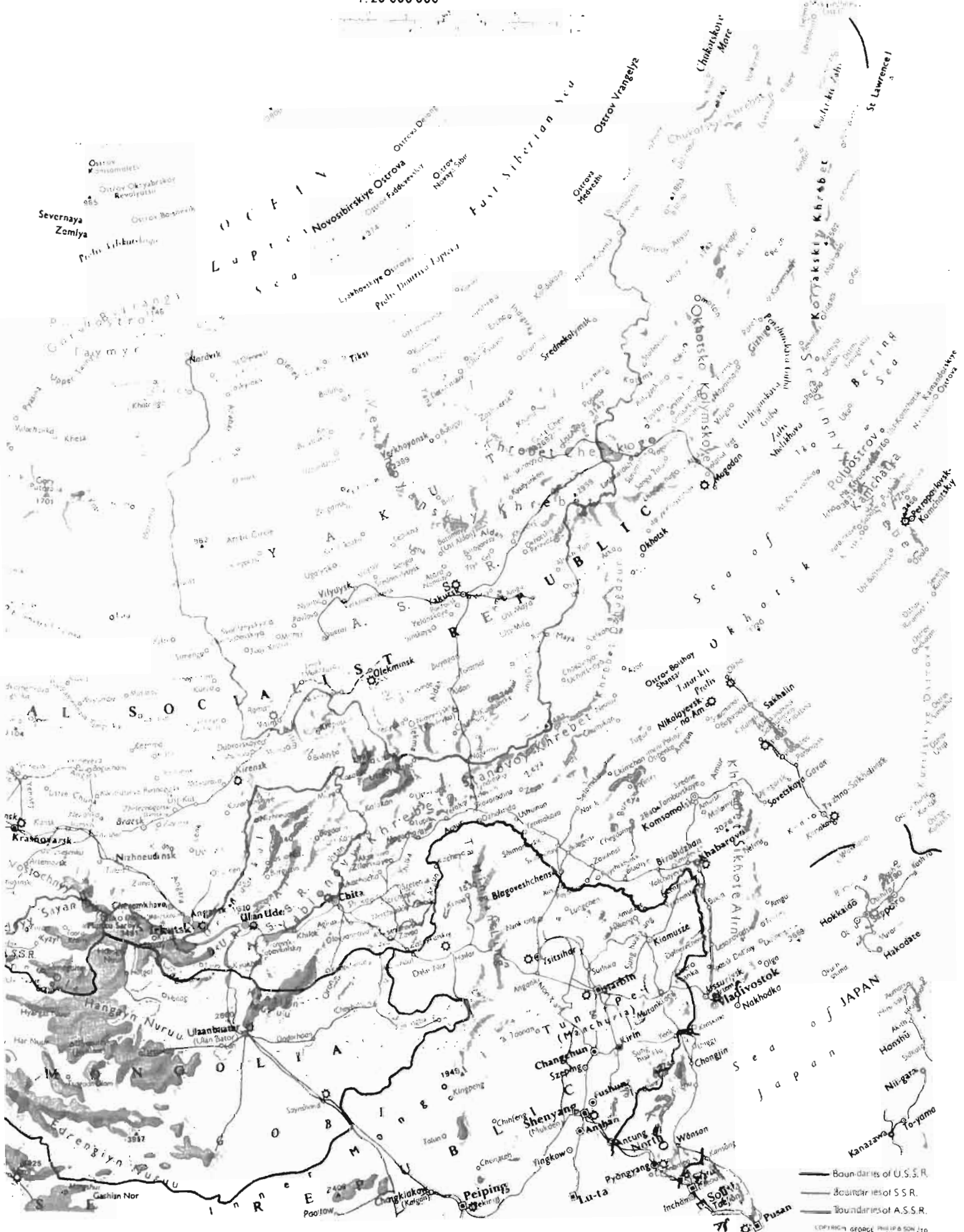
In addition the Mennonite people suffered as their churches were closed, their leaders exiled, and their schools increasingly made to serve the purposes of atheistic and anti-religious propaganda. Families were under tremendous pressures. All the freedoms seen necessary by the all-Mennonite Conference in Moscow in 1925 for continuing Mennonite life in the USSR had been taken. Life for many became utterly desperate and hopeless. The last efforts to emigrate came in 1929 to 1930. (See stories 131, 144, 174, 1910, 1111, 11114).

By 1937 communication with relatives in the West had virtually ceased. The Mennonite colonies in the Ukraine were completely emptied of their remaining inhabitants during the German invasion in World War II (1939-45). An estimated 35,000 Mennonites went west with the Germans. About 10,000 (among whom were 1152, 1155, 1433, 1437, 1439, 181, 1931, 11113) were able to emigrate to Canada and South America. Two, Agi Epp 1818 and her cousin Maria Sawatzky 1834, remained in West Germany. The rest (including 14310, 14311, 1817 and 183, 1835, 1836) were forcibly repatriated by the USSR with Allied agreement and assistance after World War II.

Gradually after World War II contact between those of the House of HEINRICH EPP in the Americas with those in the USSR was again established.

The stories of labor and concentration camps, prisons and torture, suffering and despair but also of God's mighty acts are still being told.







Seven of the ten sons of HEINRICH EPP with their spouses at a summer family gathering at the home of Kornelius Epps 14 between 1889 and 1903. L-r: Jacob, Martin and Susanna, David and Maria, Bernhard and Anna, Abraham and Katharina, Kornelius and Agatha, Gerhard and in front of him Agatha, the widow of Heinrich 11. Peter was in America, Johann probably at Davlekanovo, and

## HEINRICH EPP, Progenitor

As far as is known, HEINRICH EPP lived in the village of Rosenort, Molotschna all his life. Whether his pioneering parents emigrated from Prussia in the early 19th century or whether they came to the Molotschna from the Chortitza colony, to which they may have emigrated in the late 18th century, has not been established.

HEINRICH was not the only child nor even the oldest in his parents' family. The information available to date is insufficient to determine a firm chronology of his siblings Johann, Kornelius, Gerhard, Peter, Jakob and three sisters.\*

HEINRICH married twice. His first wife, widow Maria (Thiessen) Wiens, already had five children: Jacob Wiens (later minister), Claus Wiens, Sara Wiens (married John Neufeld), Elizabeth (married Bernhard Klassen), and Susan (married Claus Reimer). Some of the Wiens grandchildren and greatgrandchildren currently live at Delft and Mountain Lake, Minnesota, USA.

HEINRICH and Maria then had two sons together, Heinrich and Peter.

His second wife was Justina Willms from Halbstadt. This marriage resulted in eight sons: Johann, Kornelius, Abraham, Gerhard, Jacob, David, Bernhard, and Martin, and daughter Katharina. David and Bernhard were twins. (See inside front cover.)

According to one account HEINRICH was murdered on a trip home from Kharkov in 1863. His youngest son, Martin, was almost three years old at the time, his oldest son age 30.



Justina Willms, HEINRICH's second wife.

\*See Appendix.



Eight of the HEINRICH EPP sons and their spouses at the Kornelius Epps c. 1904. L-r: youngest to oldest: Martin and Susanna, David and Maria, Bernhard and Anna, Jacob and Katharina, Gerhard and wife, Abraham (widower), Kornelius and Agatha, Johann. In front of Johann is Heinrich's widow Agatha now also widow Klassen.



This chair was built by HEINRICH EPP as a gift for Katharina (Boese) Epp. It was one of the few belongings rescued when Katharina and her family fled from Neuhof. When emigrating from Russia to Canada Katharina took it along to sit on on the ship. Today it is at her daughter Anna's place in the Menno Home at Abbotsford, B.C. The seat has been rewoven in Canada.

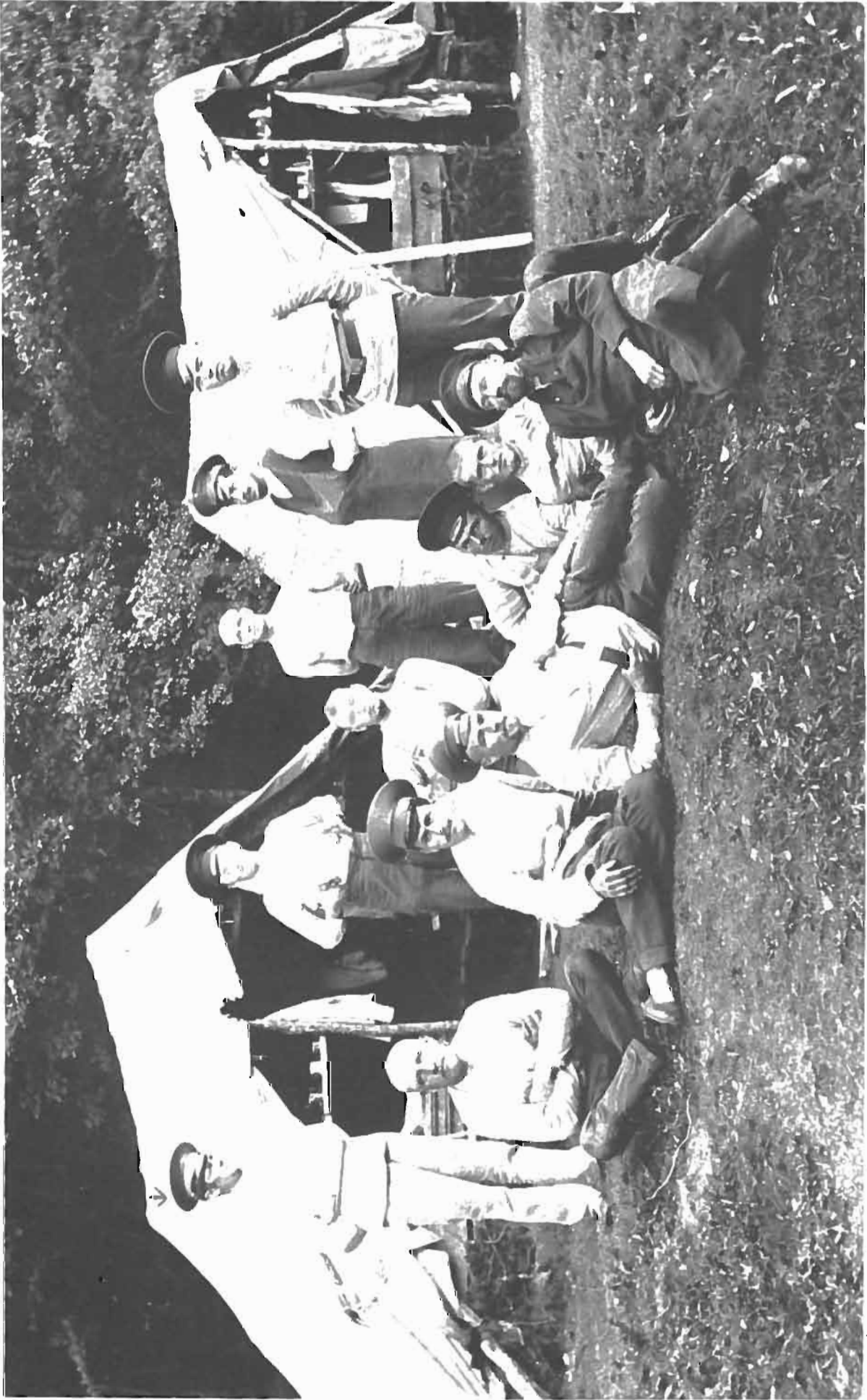




## STORIES

*Being a member of a certain people and a certain family is a mysterious combination of memories, experiences, dreams, relationships and a vision which defies empirical studies. Yet, it is as real as gravity, the wind, or a wet kiss in a farm pond.*

*Levi Miller*



FORSTEIDIENST (Forestry Service)

## The House of Heinrich Epp 11

### HEINRICH 11 (1833 - ? )

Heinrich 11, the oldest of ten brothers, was named after his father, according to the custom in Mennonite families in Russia.\* Together with his wife Agatha (nee Mathies) he owned a *Vollwirtschaft* in Kleefeld, a short distance of about 12 kilometers southeast of his parents' village of Rosenort. Three sons and six daughters were born to Heinrich and Agatha. Beyond that, very little is known about Heinrich 11 and no photograph of him has been found.

He died of a heart attack on his *Fadawoage* (surrey) on the way home from business in Tokmak. Immediately, Heinrich's wife's uncle, a Mr. Mathies, hurried home to prepare Agatha for the sad news. However, he came too late, for the surrey carrying Heinrich's dead body drove onto the yard at the same time. Agatha mounted the surrey. The shock was too much for her. She fell backward, suffered a heart attack and sustained permanent injuries from the fall.

Widow Agatha later married Aaron Klassen. Her new husband received title to her debt-free property. He co-signed a note for his brother Franz to operate a store in Liebenau, using the Kleefeld farm as collateral. Franz went bankrupt. Almost all that Agatha and Aaron Klassen owned was lost and the debt was never repaid.

This loss influenced the whole Heinrich Epp family and caused separation. Agatha and her daughter Katharina 116, borrowed money to train as seamstresses. Two sons, Jacob 115 and Abram 119, borrowed money to study as teachers. All the children went to work so that the parents could continue living in their house. When Aaron Klassen died, Agatha (11) went to live with her children.

Justina 111  
Anna 112  
Heinrich 113  
Agatha 114  
Jacob 115  
Katharina 116  
Elizabeth 117.  
Cornelius 118  
Abram 119



Agatha (Mathies) Epp Klassen

\*The custom was to name sons after the father, grandfathers, uncles or greatgrandfathers and greatuncles in the order of importance to the parents. Almost always the oldest son carried the father's or grandfather's name. Frequently, if a child carrying the father's name died, the next born son would be given the same name so that it would be carried on. A similar pattern was followed for girls. Exceptions occurred and variations are also seen when the names were chosen from both the paternal and maternal families.

Agatha must have been a formidable woman. See *wiea koasch, schmock, 'ne goode Taunte. See wisst sich* (She was spry, pretty, a good lady. She could take care of herself).

She always wore a *huw*, that is, a hairdo coiffed over a wire frame worn on top of the head. She was small of stature, wore many petticoats and was always well dressed.

She seems to have been on good terms with her children, living with them and staying where convenient—*kaum woa dann Hennasupp wiea*.

At age 90 she still worked, and a granddaughter recalls that picking apples made her breathe heavily—as well it might many a younger person!

She died at Pohonovka *chutor*, Barvenkovo, Naumenko settlement, at the home of her daughter, Katharina Dirksen 116, just before Christmas, 1924(?). She had intended to emigrate to Canada with the family and the necessary documents had already been procured for her.

#### JUSTINA (EPP) REIMER 111 (1857-1910)

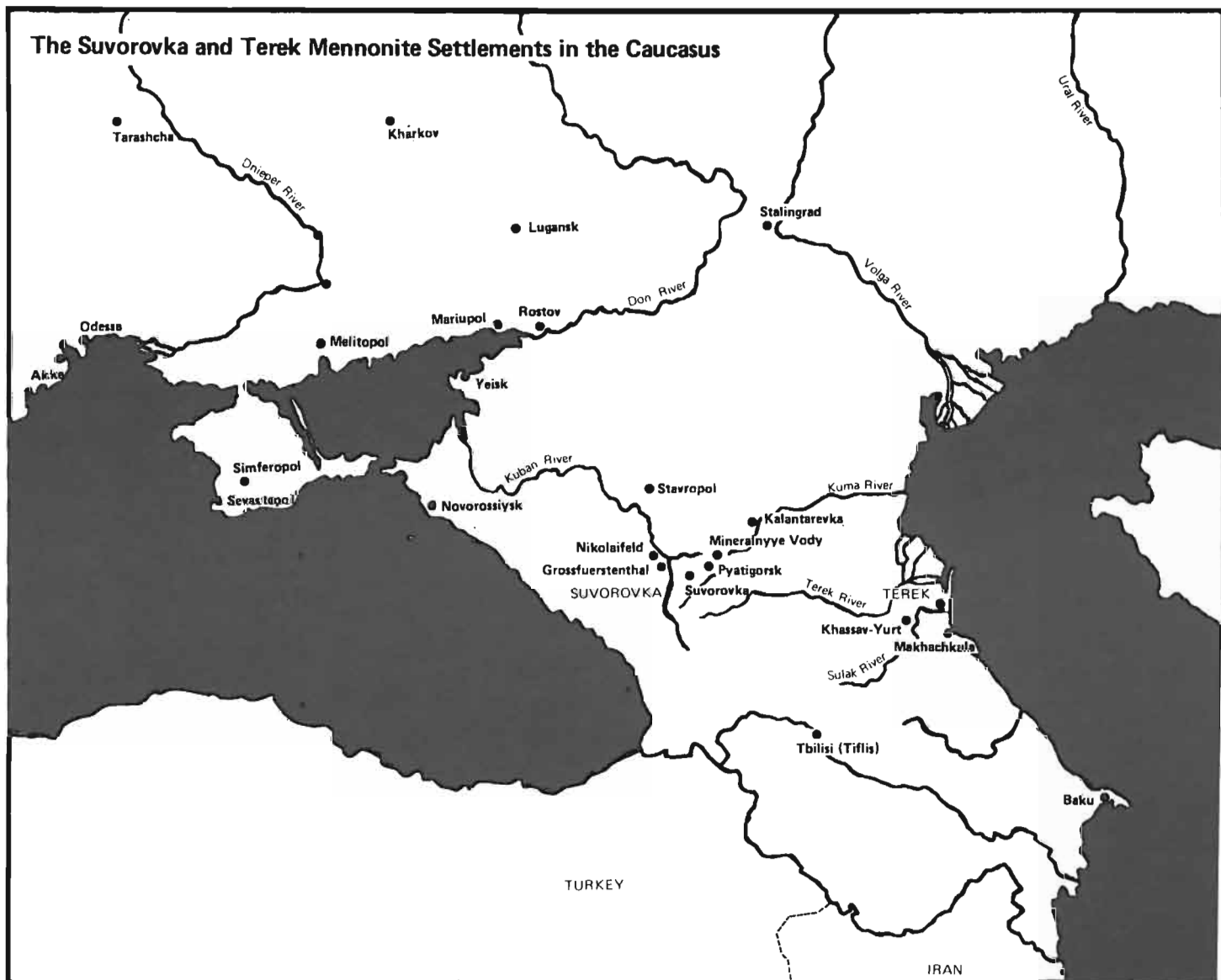
When Justina 111 grew to womanhood, she lived with relatives in Rosenort and worked as a seamstress. Here in Rosenort she met Peter Reimer, a carpenter from Ladekopp, whom she married.

Together with two other families, Fast and Derksen, the Peter Reimers resided on the Silberfeld *chutor* near Melitopol, somewhat southwest of the Molotschna Colony, where they sharecropped. All their children were born here, three of them having died in early childhood and been buried on the *chutor*.

About 1900 the family moved to the pioneering village of Nikolaifeld, on the Suvorovka settlement about 25 kilometers northwest of the present city of Pyatigorsk in the Caucasus. Their land was next to the school. Step by step they built their home.

First, a *sarai* was erected. This was a simple building of two rows of poles set on the ground meeting at

Map 4





Peter and Justina Reimer with their children, l-r: Justina, Jakob and Agathe.

a steep angle, lashed together along the apex and thatched right down to the ground. This meant that the interior walls slanted, and that no windows could be placed in the side walls. The *sarai* would be a dwelling only at the one end. The other end housed the machinery, grain, and, further along, poultry, cows, horses and pigs. The danger of fire ignited by sparks from the chimney was great. The floors were sanded daily with white sand.

Once a shelter had been erected the crops were planted. In later years a more durable brick house was built.

On her deathbed Justina expressed the hope that she would see her beloved family again. "*Ihr kommt mir doch alle nach* (You will all surely follow me)," she said. She had loved her children, and had taken the time to say prayers with each of them. Justina 1115, then age 14, thinks she died of stomach cancer.

Justina's husband was a diligent, devout and strict man. He regularly conducted an evening family worship hour at which the three children took their turns leading in prayer as well.

In their early 20s, daughters Justina 1115 and Agathe 1114 felt drawn to the *Allianzgemeinde* which held its meetings in homes. The fact that they decided to be baptized into that church and leave their parent church, the *Kirchengemeinde*, saddened their father very much. In the *Kirchengemeinde*, according to Justina 1115, one did not speak of conversion. The experience of being moved or spoken to

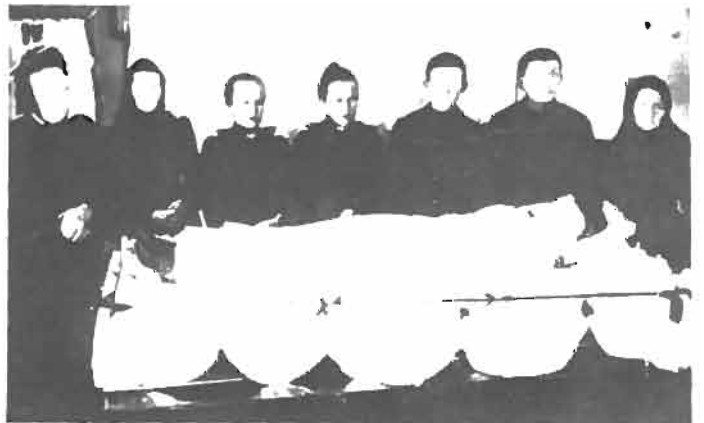
by the Spirit of God was referred to as *Seelenangst* (anguish of soul). Brother Jakob 1113 followed his sisters' example later.

With time the *Allianzgemeinde* and the *Brüdergemeinde* merged and worshipped in the meeting-house of the latter group in Grossfuerstental, Suvorovka. One of the best known and beloved preachers of their church was Johann Toews, well known for his Bible instruction, who later died in exile.

Church services of the *Kirchengemeinde* were held in the school in Nikolaifeld. Preachers were Abram Janzen, Born, and Dirks, the latter living on a *chutor*.

Peter Reimer (111) died in 1924 in Nikolaifeld. His second wife died in the arms of granddaughter Greta 11131 years later, when all had fled the village.

Three of the Reimer children, Aaron 1111, Peter 1112 and Heinrich 1116, died when they were still young. Jakob 1113 died of starvation in March 1932. Agathe 1114, betrothed to William Penner from the Terek settlement died of typhus, as did her fiancé. Only Justina 1115, married to Johann Doerksen and then mother of three, emigrated to Canada in 1924.



At the funeral of Justina Reimer. L-r: Agatha (Mathies) Epp/Klassen, a sister to Peter Reimer, Justina, Agathe, Jakob and Peter Reimer, another sister to Peter Reimer.

Widowed for 26 years, at age 85, she is the only survivor of the Justina and Peter Reimer children. Her home is in Winnipeg, Manitoba but her interest is very much with her seven living children and their families scattered from London, England to Vancouver, British Columbia.

## ANNA (EPP) REIMER 112 (1858-1933)

Anna 112 married Klaas Reimer. The Reimer family lived at Friedensruh, a *Pachtdorf* (a village where land was rented rather than owned) on the Yushanlee River. Here they farmed a *Vollwirtschaft*. The oldest child was Agatha and the youngest Anna, with five boys in between. Son Nikolai served one season at the *Anadol Forstei* (forestry) even though he was actually enlisted in the Crimean *Forstei* unit. The family did not emigrate.

Because there was only one Reimer family in Friedensruh, it is believed that the reference in *Menonitische Märtyrer* (Volume 2, page 371) to Abram Reimer of Friedensruh is to one of Anna's sons.

## HEINRICH EPP 113 (1860-1925)

Heinrich 113 grew up on his father's farm near Kleefeld on the Yushanlee River. He established his own home and family in Rosenort.

About the year 1900 the family moved to Nikolai-feld, Suvorovka settlement, where Heinrich had purchased a 50-hectare farm.

Because of ill health, Heinrich himself held a clerical job in a bank in a nearby Tatar village, leaving the operation of the farm to his wife and children. Produce included grain, sugar cane, beets for fodder and a large variety of fruit. Although the land was productive and the climate excellent, farming was at the subsistence level because no reliable system of transportation and marketing existed in the area. Produce shipped out, such as apples packed carefully in layers padded with grain in large wooden barrels, was often plundered by the various mountain tribes.

Pears, cherries, grapes, strawberries, raspberries and plums were sold directly off the farm. Much fruit was preserved by drying, canning or pickling. Vinegar was another product. One daughter recalls celebrating Heinrich's birthday towards the end of November when the geese were ready for slaughter. Pickled cherries and grapes were also served.

Although they were poor, the family lived a secure and happy life. The countryside was beautiful and the climate benevolent. Indeed, the area is a resort,



Heinrich 113 and Anna Epp with their children. Back, l-r: Katarina, Anna, Agatha, Aaron, Heinrich, Franz. Front, l-r: Liese, Justina, Anna (Klassen) Epp, Peter, Heinrich and Jakob.



Heinrich Epp 113 beside the Benz engine that ran his threshing outfit. His sons had been drafted and Anna, Katarina, Liese and Justina ran the outfit with their father.

with the famed hot springs of Mineralnyye Vody a central attraction.

Their four cows supplied milk, cream and cheese; their six or seven horses provided draft power and transportation; and from their sheep they sheared the wool that their own hands turned into socks, underclothing, and blankets. Their uncle Klaas Reimer (112) built their spinning wheel.

Though father Heinrich 113 was sickly and mother Anna (nee Klassen) and the children worked long hours, others found welcome and hospitality with the Epps. Heinrich M. Epp 11110 together with cousin Abraham J. Epp 1710 came to them at Nikolaifeld. Abraham soon left, but Heinrich M. Epp, sick with *Fleckentyphus* (spotted typhus), stayed for two years, gradually regaining his health under the care of his cousin Liese 1137 and eventually finding employment.

However, not all was sun and light. Communication with some close relatives was cold and distant. Furthermore, divisions within the church fellowship resulted in some people leaving the *Kirchengemeinde* to join the *Brüdergemeinde* or *Allianz* congregations.

Heinrich himself seems to have been almost the caricature of the small Russian landholder, sickly though he was. He held the office of *Schulze*, and was always very conscious of the dignity of his position. Of a very independent temperament, he preferred solitude and read a great deal. Often he was

much too preoccupied to concern himself with household matters, management of the farm or the rearing of his children. "He hardly knew our names," said one of them.

As the patriarch of his domain he expected and received the best. He buttered his white bread while the rest smeared their heavy ryebread with *Jreeveschmolt* (the fine residue left after rendering and straining pork fat). He breakfasted on six boiled eggs and *Rieatchaworscht* (smoked pork sausage). After breakfast the children scraped out his eggshells and licked out the sausage casings.

One of the more memorable tasks the girls had was to wash his feet, fairly frequently during the summer, but generally only once during the winter. After supper mother Anna would call out: "*Na Meatjes, aun wem es et vondoag Paupe siene Feet woasche* (Girls, whose turn is it to wash Pa's feet)?" Of course, nobody would ever remember, and the girls would flee to their other tasks, hoping to get out of sight. One of the best escapes was the outdoor toilet, where one could while away many minutes. But invariably one of his daughters would find herself collecting tub, hot water, soap and towel, and proceed with the foot-washing.

The fatal flaw in Heinrich's regal splendor was that he was very ticklish. Because humor was beneath him, tickling made him angry. Very often the girls would contrive accidentally to lightly brush the bot-



toms of his feet. In his rage he would kick and bel- low, and, if all went well, in anger send them out of the house and finish the job himself.

It was customary in their church to observe foot- washing twice annually along with the ordinance of the Lord's Supper. In summer this occasioned little trouble, for Heinrich's feet were washed often enough to require only a little extra attention for the public and symbolic footwashing at church.

But in winter, on the day of Epiphany, the matter was considerably different. Because wintertime was a holiday from washing the feet, Twelfth-night was a dramatic evening in the Epp household. Father's feet had to be prepared for church next day. The daughter, honored with the task, would find, once the thick woolen socks were rolled down and pulled off, that Pa's footwear housed a world of its own, a sort of scruffy subterranean terrarium—in short, the less said the better. When the job was done, no doubt with more than a minimum of tickling and roaring, and Pa's clean feet were encased in clean socks, the patriarch could feel himself properly purified for the ritual footwashing on the morrow.

By then it would be time for *Schlussmoake* (family evening worship) which Heinrich conducted in his household daily. All gathered round, though adult children could excuse themselves, to hear him read a portion of Scripture. They sang a song, and he led them in prayer.

Saturday night was a special time. All took their weekly bath and gathered in the kitchen for a bed-

time snack of fresh baking. Mother Anna loved music and taught the children to play various instruments like the mandolin, zither and guitar. She loved to sing and make music with her children, and spent much time with them in this fashion. She made every effort to make a loving home for her children; her reward is the beautiful and happy memories they have of her and of their childhood.

During the War the sons were drafted. One Janu- ary day Franz appeared at home with the sad news that Aaron, the oldest, had died of typhus in Pyati- gorsk. Franz had left the body in a coffin which he had purchased. Next morning the men drove with two horses and a haywagon to Pyatigorsk to bring home the body. They found the coffin stolen and the body cast on a heap of refuse. They came home late that same day, having had to make a coffin. The horses were exhausted. Tired from the journey, the men slept late next morning, only to discover that their weary horses had been requisitioned by soldiers and replaced with two old nags.

To escape the looting of food, the Epps hid their grain in barrels covered with heaps of stones. They experienced no plundering or brutality on the farm.

Their Aunt Agatha 114, as well as Peter Janzen who later married Katarina Neufeld 1144, found refuge in their home. Both had fled the terrorized Mennonite settlement in the Terek region on the west coast of the Caspian Sea.

Anna (113) died in 1921 of typhus and Heinrich 113 died in 1925, both at their farm home in Niko- laifeld.



Some of the Heinrich Epp 113 children and grandchildren, Nikolaifeld, Suvorovka, 1926. Back, l-r: Anna Neufeld, Jakob Bergmann, Peter Fast, Nikolai Engbrecht, and Peter Berg. Middle, l-r: Anna Regehr, Ernest Bergmann, Agatha Bergmann with Jakob. Front, l-r: Heinrich Bergmann, Heinrich Regehr, Heinrich Fast, Liese Fast, Peter Engbrecht.

## AGATHA (EPP) NEUFELD 114 (1862-1930)

When son Abram 1142 was age ten, his parents, Agatha 114 and Abram Neufeld, moved from Klee-feld in the Molotschna region to the Terek region.

Their village was named after the nearby river, Sulak, but was commonly known as Number 5. The Terek villages numbered from 1 to 15—the higher the number, the nearer to the sea coast and the sandier and less productive the soil.

The region had but recently been conquered from the Turks, and the Russian authorities were opening this land up for settlement in the hope that the settlers would provide a bulwark against the hostile Islam mountain people of the Caucasus.

The energetic Mennonites set out to practise the dryland grain farming techniques they had pioneered in the Ukraine. They uprooted shelterbelts of tamarisk trees and closed the irrigation ditches. Sons Peter 1141 and Abram 1142 worked hard at hewing the desert shrubs, becoming accustomed to seeing many poisonous snakes. However, the Mennonites learned fast when they saw their precious soil lifted in huge clouds and falling into the Caspian Sea. They replanted the shelterbelts, but instead of tamarisk they established rows of cherry, olive, plum, apricot, pear and peach trees. Orchards sprang up, irrigated by the crystal clear mountain waters or by artesian wells.

Abram and Agatha Neufeld's early years on their rented half *Wirtschaft* were hard times and required back breaking labor. Agatha once told a daughter-in-law that she literally ran, not walked, to get her daily tasks done. Like the Peter Reimers 111, they too first lived in a *sarai*, the typical dwelling of the poorer folk among the settlers.

As times got better they purchased a *Wirtschaft* in the village near their first home with a beautiful brick house on it. The yard featured a fast-flowing artesian well excellent for irrigation. Here was situated a fine apple orchard and a grove of walnut trees—a beautiful farmyard in a beautiful village.

Agatha's husband, Abram, died 15 June 1915. The older sons were on *Sanitätsdienst* and could not attend the funeral. Together with her sons Agatha continued to farm and share in the economic progress of the Terek settlement.

Then came the Revolution. The relaxed tempo of life and the visiting back and forth, which Agatha especially enjoyed, came to an abrupt end. As the Czarist government lost power, the mountain peoples reclaimed what had been taken from them. Fierce colorful riders on their swift mountain ponies, brandishing long daggers and delighting in daring raids soon made daily life precarious for the Mennonite settlers.

Late evening 28 February 1918 friendly Tatar tribesmen warned them that within an hour that same night an overwhelming onslaught on the settlement was planned. They offered the Mennonites shelter at their own village of Khassav-Yurt. The Mennonites, torn between trust of the Tatars and fear of them, hastily packed their wagons, sold their livestock to the Tatars for a fraction of its value, prepared food and harnessed the horses. Agatha with her children spent the night on the road to the Tatar

village, taking a route south to Petrovsk (now Makhachkala) and then to Kassav-Yurt. Here they were treated with the utmost kindness.

Two weeks later they continued their flight from their beautiful Terek home by train, taking with them what livestock and goods they had saved. Journeying westward they reached the Suvorovka settlement. Here at the home of Heinrich Epp 113, Agatha 114 spent the winter. However, remaining at Suvorovka was undesirable because the huge influx of Terek refugees had overcrowded the settlement. Agatha therefore made plans to travel to Kurushan, Molotschna region to stay with her brother Cornelius 118.

A few days before the departure to the Molotschna, son Abram 1142 and his paternal cousin Abram Dyck, surreptitiously on foot, reconnoitered a route to Stavropol. To return they bribed a conductor in Stavropol to let them ride to Suvorovka. He agreed on the condition that they disembark at a siding five kilometers outside Suvorovka.

Unfortunately, they were seen disembarking and soldiers began a search. Abram Neufeld 1142 and his cousin Abram Dyck were hiding in Heinrich Epp's 113 attic. Dyck's brother David sauntered along the road to get an idea of the intensity of the search, and saw ten Cossacks hacked to death on the suspicion that they were infiltrators from Stavropol.

Consequently, Agatha 114 and her children, Jacob Dyck, his wife Barbara (nee Neufeld, sister-in-law to Agatha) and their children, and a few others secretly left Suvorovka in two horse-drawn wagons for Stavropol. This enterprise was very risky. Neither eyes nor ears could be trusted. If caught they would probably be shot as traitors. Also accompanying them was a Toews family who had become aware of the preparations for a secret escape. Being deemed trustworthy, they were given no choice but to accompany the group to Stavropol.

The trip was everything but uneventful. The Red-White battlefield was situated between Pyatigorsk and Stavropol. To reach the Molotschna region they would have to cross the front and take a train from Stavropol.

The route itself was over unbelievably rough terrain, steep hills and ridges and deep ravines and valleys. At the top of each hill the wheels would have poles stuck through them and lashed tight to slow down the descent. However, soon the small horses (mountain ponies?) would be trotting, cantering and then galloping full tilt, trying to stay ahead of the swaying sliding wagon. Invariably at the bottom of the descent would be a *Struckbridj* (bridge of brushwood) over which they would precariously bounce, and once again begin the ascent.

Soon the horses would falter and the passengers would begin pushing the wagons uphill. Stones were carried by the younger folk ready to be placed under the wheels to prevent the wagons from rolling back while both horse and man rested. Thus they continued for three days. Once in broad daylight a patrol of cavalry crossed the trail not far ahead of them. "*Nu mut we aula bäde* (Now we must all pray)," Barbara Dyck said. Discovery would have meant the end for all of them, but they were not seen.

In the Molotschna on her brother's farm Agatha 114 and her children spent two good years. Son

Abram 1142 as well as daughter Agatha 1143 married. Agatha 114 and the younger children occupied an unused watchman's hut at one end of the farm. On the farm was a school for the children of the residents. Frank Dyck, later of Boissevain, Manitoba and a minister of the Mennonite Brethren church there, was the teacher.

One reason the Agatha Neufeld 114 family lived in relative security here was that the menfolk of this



Agatha Neufeld with son Cornelius (left) and Barba (right).

*chutor* by and large did not hold with the Mennonite principles of nonresistance and successfully defended themselves against murdering bandits. Hot lead served as a strong deterrent. One would-be marauder paid with his life.

During this time Agatha's oldest son Peter 1141 was living with his wife's people, Dirksens 116, on the Pohonovka *chutor*, also known as Marjevka, where he managed the *chutor* after Dirksen's murder.

One day in the summer of 1921 Gerhard Dyck (later spouse of Annie 1942) and his sister Anna, children of Agatha's husband's sister Barbara, came to Kurushan from Ossokino *chutor* near Memrik to visit their Aunt Agatha 114 and her children. They also wanted to deliver some clothing and personal possessions to their brother Abram who had recently escaped from Lugansk prison and was hiding at his brother Peter's home on Cornelius Epp's 118 *chutor*. They were travelling on a steel-wheeled cart fashioned from an abandoned mower, pulled by one horse. Gerhard vividly recalls banging and jolting and crashing over the cobblestone road at Orechov.

The Peter Dycks and the Abram Neufelds 1142, upon hearing from their visitors that potatoes were plentiful at Ossokino *chutor*, decided to journey thence to obtain some, for at Kurushan food was scarce, again and again having been confiscated by Makhnovites or other bandits, Red army troops or White army soldiers. So the wheels were taken off the cart, the parts set on a haywagon and their horses hitched together. Then they set off. One of the horses was a fine young black stallion which Abram Neufeld 1142 had secretly removed from a Red army encampment and for some time hidden

on the farm. This beautiful horse was causing him a good deal of worry; he did not like to contemplate what might happen if its owners recognized it.

On the way north they stopped for night at a Russian farm home. The farmer needed a stallion and liked this handsome black horse. Neufeld was only too eager to swap the stallion for a good mare. The Russian, sensing Neufeld's eagerness, upped the price to include a quantity of barley. Neufeld agreed, knowing he could get barley from his brother Peter 1141 at Pohonovka and deliver it on the way back home to Kurushan. But the farmer demanded security, so Peter Dyck left a fine leather briefcase, exceeding the value of the barley. Neufeld was most satisfied to have got rid of the stallion and to have taken a good mare in trade.

The visit to brother Peter Neufeld 1141 turned out well. On the way back Abram delivered the barley and picked up the briefcase. However, when the Neufelds and Peter Dycks reached the Kurushan with their load of potatoes, they found themselves homeless. The *chutor* had been expropriated by the Reds.

Agatha and her youngest children moved into a small *Waisenheim* (orphanage) at Kurushan, and together with her son Abram 1142, now living in Rosenort, each possessing one horse, farmed a small tract of rented land.

In June 1924 Agatha and her unmarried children, Cornelius 1148 and Barba 1149, boarded a train at Lichtenau, in the first *eschalon* and arrived in Ontario, Canada in August.

Soon thereafter her married children arrived in Manitoba in the second *eschalon*. These participated in a group purchase of the large Jones farm near Whitewater, Manitoba.

Early 1925 Agatha 114 went to live with them, residing first on NE 16-3-21 WPM in the house in which a grandson now lives. For a week it housed not only Agatha and her unmarried children, but also her children Peter 1141, Abram 1142, Agatha 1143, Heinrich 1145 and their families, and Abram's wife's sister and her husband and children as well.

Agatha got along well with her children. She cleaned up after meals, helped take care of the meat, made butter and other things.

She was a small quiet woman, a contrast to her impatient husband. She sang at her work, enjoyed gardening, baked well and loved to visit. Her children say of her: "*Daut wea 'ne pienje Mama* (She was a hard-working mother)," although they recall as well that she never took time to play with them or pay any special attention to them other than conscientiously attempting to provide for their needs.

A great sorrow entered her life one day when a telegram arrived. Her daughter Katarina 1144, enroute to Canada from Russia had died in Germany during childbirth. She read it, was stunned and in a frenzy began to sweep the kitchen. She took ill, and died in March 1930 at the home of her oldest son, to which she had come for a short visit the week before.

## JACOB EPP 115 (1867-1943)

Jacob Epp 115 and his family lived at Krutojarovka, near the city of Pavlograd and near the railway joining Alexandrovsk (Zaporozhye) and Lozovaya. For a number of years he was employed as a school teacher, and for a time he owned and operated a 75-hectare farm. The Jacob Epps had six children. In the year 1907 the family moved east to Herzenberg, a distance of about 50 kilometers from Pavlograd, to a farm of 100 hectares. Here his wife Elizabeth (nee Tiessen) gave birth to a son in February 1908. She died shortly thereafter of puerperal fever; the child perished a few days later. Elizabeth was humpbacked; as a bride she walked down the aisle on crutches, although medical help later enabled her to cast them aside.



Jacob Epp and his first wife, Elizabeth Tiessen.



Widower Jacob Epp 115 with his children in 1908. L-r: Elizabeth, Heinrich, Justina, Maria and Anna.



Jacob Epp and his second wife, Helena Dyck.

In May 1908 Jacob 115 married Helena Dyck of Grigoryevka, Naumenko settlement. She bore him another nine children, of whom three survive in the USSR. During World War I Jacob served for a while as a translator for the Germans. When the Revolution brought hard times for Mennonites he found a position as German teacher in a Russian village. He was noted for his ability to get along well with Russian people.

In 1932 all private property was confiscated and the family moved to Ebenthal, also called Nikolaiyevka in the Memrik settlement. Here one of their sons who had served in the White army, died of typhus. From here wife Helena and three children, Helena 1159, Olga 11512 and Peter 11513, were deported to Siberia in October 1941. Daughters Elizabeth 1152 and Maria 1155 avoided deportation by moving to the home of sister Katharina 11511 in Pavlograd. In the period 1942-43 the two sisters were able to reach Germany.

Jacob 115, was an aggressive person, very active in village affairs, often deeply involved in helping people, and generally holding public office of one kind or another. His daughter Maria Wiebe 1155 writes: "Father was *Vorsänger* (song leader) in the congregation at Herzenberg and an ardent supporter of education. He always assisted when the annual statement was prepared at the *Schulzenamt* or when something needed to be negotiated for the village at the government office in Ekaterinoslav. He was the only auctioneer in the village."

Jacob was murdered by Reds during a battle with the German army in 1943. His wife Helena died 20 July 1962.

## KATHARINA (EPP) DIRKSEN 116 (1871-1952)

Near the Mennonite settlement of Naumenko a number of small estates had been purchased by Mennonite farmers. One such *chutor* was Pohonovka, also called Marjevka. On it lived seven families, including that of Katharina 116 and Peter Dirksen. The *chutor* had a school which also served as a house of worship. It was a reasonably prosperous enterprise.

On the evening 5 April 1918, Peter Dirksen and his future son-in-law, Peter A. Neufeld 1141, made a coffin for their neighbor Isaac Hildebrandt, who had been murdered by plundering Red army soldiers. Next day and the following night, the Dirksen family hid in a neighbor's cellar for fear of the cross fire between the German and Red fronts. When the fighting died down, they returned home—home to a shocking scene. Their house had been totally and senselessly plundered. Every nook and cranny had been ransacked. The featherbeds were cut open and the feathers scattered and liberally doused with homemade watermelon syrup.

Although the children begged their father, Peter Dirksen, to accompany them he sent them to spend the night at neighbors, while he and Katharina 116 and Peter A. Neufeld 1141 decided to spend the night in their looted house.

But it was not to be so. The plunderers, who were actually stragglers of the northward fleeing Red army, returned. They called for the head of the house, and Neufeld and Dirksen briefly conferred as to who should go, each insisting on taking the risk himself. Dirksen, as the elder, prevailed.

He was questioned as to the whereabouts of German soldiers of the vanguard. He had seen none, and said so. Unknown to him, there had been some on his yard during the day. The plunderers beat Dirksen, rode away, but returned in a few seconds and shot him—for being a spy.

Katharina 116 and Neufeld 1141 fled through the back door, and ran to the neighbors, Katharina call-



Katharina and Peter Dirksen.

ing out from afar: "They have killed Father." The body lay in the open. Neufeld and a neighbor were commandeered by the murderers to take it away. The two realized that a similar fate awaited them. On a pretext they went to the back yard, sneaked along a hedge and took cover. The Reds grew tired of waiting and left. That night Neufeld and a Prussian acquaintance carried the body into the house.

While hiding from his would-be executors, Neufeld discovered that the late Peter Dirksen's pigs were being confiscated by a Russian neighbor. He was able to repossess them. Later, horses were harnessed to a wagon and the frightened Dirksen family, along with other residents of the *chutor*, fled to Grigoryevka almost 13 kilometers away, the young afoot and the elderly on the wagon.

Next day the White army—Cossacks trailed by Prussians had instituted "law and order" and on April 8 widow Katharina Dirksen 116 with her family returned home to Pohonovka. The bodies of Hildebrandt and Dirksen were wrapped in sheets, placed in a plain wooden box and each buried without ceremony on his own plot.

The family recovered from its shock and resumed farming. The *chutor* organized itself with Peter A. Neufeld 1141 as manager, and became deeply involved in the intricacies of survival in the bureaucratic maze of state-controlled agriculture. Until 1924 these *chutor* families precariously made a fairly good living on the farm, though frequently in danger of arrest or instant execution at the whim of a disgruntled official. A steady flow of bribes, was, so to speak, their lifeblood.

When Katharina 116 and her children decided to emigrate in 1924, they undertook to auction their property. Neufeld went to Grigoryevka to obtain a permit to hold an auction sale, even though such sales were illegal. To bypass the long queue awaiting access to the government offices, he brought a large beautifully-framed mirror and some chickens to the commissar's wife.

When he entered the commissar's office, he found that the secretary was Jakob N. Albrecht, an acquaintance. Difficulties vanished, and arrangements were easily and quickly made. Katharina's sale was not only permitted, but at government expense four armed guards were assigned to protect the exposed property from theft and vandalism during the sale, and an escort was provided to convey cash to the bank as the sale proceeded. The auction lasted a full day, was a great success, and all the more memorable for being the last one allowed in that region.

At Moscow on the way to America, Neufeld 1141 was able to exchange their rubles for Canadian money at favorable rates. Consequently, when the family reached Manitoba they were, while not wealthy, certainly not penniless. After the children had received their portion, and the passage had been paid, Katharina 116 still had over \$800.00 when she arrived at Whitewater in May 1925.

Here she and her unmarried children, Agatha 1166, Peter 1167, Anna 1168 and Jacob 1161Q first lived with Cornelius Epp 118. Later she moved to the house on NE 6-3-21, and then to the hamlet of Whitewater. She supported herself with money which she had brought from Russia; her children



Katharina Dirksen.

hired themselves out. She moved to Ontario in 1934 with her two sons, her two daughters having by now entered marriage. She lived with her children and passed away in 1952.

Katharina was a small robust woman. Her grandchildren have a warm memory of her. She sewed well and enjoyed tailoring clothes for them. "*Wann etj mau miene Neimaschien bie mie hab* (If only I have my sewing machine with me)," she would say, and happily measure, cut and sew.

Her step-grandchildren recall her justice and fairness. She never made them feel less loved even though they were not her true grandchildren.

#### ELIZABETH EPP 117 (1873-1928)

Elizabeth 117 is described as being a small, thin, homely woman. She lived with her mother until her death, and then went to live with her sister Anna Reimer 112 at Friedensruh. Her older siblings regarded her as a child favored by their parents.

## CORNELIUS EPP 118 (1874-1967)

In 1906, at the Terek settlement, Cornelius Epp 118 married the widow Katharina (Pankratz) Holzrichter, whose husband, father of her four children, had died of typhus at age 32.

In 1913, like many others, Cornelius and his family gave up the harsh pioneering life in the Terek for an easier life in the Molotschna settlement where he rented a *chutor* from Kornelius Epp 14 in the Kurushan district. Life here was relatively stable. When his relatives and friends had to flee from the Terek settlement, a number of them found refuge on this small estate (e.g. sister Agatha 114, sister-in-law Aganeta 1161/(119) and family, and the Peter J. Dyck family, later of Boissevain).

But in 1921 the farm and inventory were confiscated by the Reds, and Cornelius Epp 118 then moved his family to Rosenort, where together with his sister Agatha 114 and nephew Abram 1142, he tried to eke out a living on a small plot of rented land. Between the three of them they had two houses.

In 1924 they emigrated to Canada, arriving in Ontario in July and establishing themselves at White-water in February 1925 as participants in the group purchase of the large Wilson farm.

Here, in cramped quarters housing many families, Cornelius 118, though small of stature, liked to think of himself as cutting a very wide swath. His responsibility in the temporary communal arrangement was care of the milk cows. The actual milking was done by young single women who saw no harm in talking and laughing and singing as they pulled at the teats. Cornelius tended to believe in general, that if there was to be any speech in his presence, he ought to do



Cornelius Epp with his daughter Agatha's children.



Cornelius Epp.

the speaking. This led to many an altercation between him and the girls. They avenged themselves by remembering many an anecdote at his expense.

One Sunday morning he came to the barn, somewhat late, already dressed for church, to see how the milking was going. He observed Annie Epp 1924 hobbling a cow. "*Na, waut fe Dummheit es daut, dee Koo spaune* (Now what foolishness is that to hobble the cow)?" He threw the hobbles aside, grabbed the milkstool, and set about showing her how to milk a cow, for he loved to humiliate women. The cow, blithely ignoring the peaceful Sunday morning atmosphere and dubious about Cornelius' masculine assertions, struck a blow for femininity, and the milking supervisor in his Sunday best found himself gliding to a stop in a well lubricated gutter.

Because he was so short Cornelius had great difficulty harnessing horses. Especially during threshing he had to endure much teasing about this.

He was once saluted by a younger man, "*Na, Onkel App, see habe sich noch goanich jiellat* (Mr. Epp, you are not aging a bit)." He replied: "*Joa, etj bliew soo aus etj sie, en jie woare aula ella* (Yes, I am staying as I am, and you are all growing older)."

He was a nervous irritable man, blunt and egocentric. One person from whom he had borrowed

money once asked to have the loan repaid. "I need the money more than you," had been the reply. This same person spoke of Cornelius fondly, as did many who found nothing in him to praise but his utterly candid nature.

When the Wilson farm was divided among the group, Cornelius and his family moved onto NE 9-3-21. In 1936 he moved to Ontario. His wife died shortly after.

When he remarried in 1944, he joined his wife's, Susanna (Dyck) Epp's, church, the Mennonite Brethren in Leamington, and spent his last working years as a janitor of this same church. He retired to the senior citizens' home in Leamington where he died in 1967.

#### **ABRAM EPP 119 (1876-1918)**

Abram Epp 119 is remembered as being a somewhat shy and diffident man. He first earned a living as a teacher, and eventually acquired, through marriage to a widow Wiens with three children, a full farm near the Russian village Warbowa. She was a sister of Jacob Born (184). This union produced three children: Justina 1194, Abram 1195 and Anna 1196. Abram's 119 wife died in October 1913.



**Abram Epp.**

Aganeta Dirksen 1161, daughter of Peter Dirksen's (116) first marriage, was asked to take care of the Abram Epp 119 family i.e. to be a *Wirtschafterin* (housekeeper). Abram Epp 119 later married Aganeta. They had three children: Peter 1197/11611, Henry 1198/11612 and Katherine 1199/11613.

On 31 October 1918, Abram took the train for a trip to Rosenhof in the Schoenfeld (Brazil) settlement where his cousins, the family of the late Kornelius Epp 14 resided. Abram had once taught school at Neuhof. His business on this trip was to bring his identification papers up to date. On the Neuhof *chutor* was located the *Schulzenamt* (the administrative office of the local government). Upon his arrival he was confronted by a plundering gang of bandits who were just then engaging in murder and in pillage of the premises. They immediately seized him and asked his name. He replied: "Epp." To which they responded: "That's just whom we are looking for!"

They dragged him into a room, stripped him to his underclothes and compelled him to lie face up on the floor beside a table. The bandits, in heavy boots, then proceeded to leap on to him from off the table. Surely the agony is indescribable. Repeatedly he called out, "Oh, my poor children!" and prayed in Russian. The leader of the gang was none other than



**Aganeta Dirksen.**



СОЮЗ СОЦІАЛІСТИЧНИХ РАДЯНСЬКИХ РЕСПУБЛІК  
Союз Социалистических Советских Республик

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République Socialiste des Soviets d'Ukraine

Закордонний Пашпорт  
Заграничный Паспорт

Passeport pour l'étranger

Пред'явник цього громадян Української  
Пред'явитель сего граждан Украинской  
Соціалістичної Радянської Республіки  
Социалистической Советской Республики  
Іпп Аганета Еппівна сиб. Бенед. 9 д.  
Генуза Билі, док. Катюф Билі  
відправляється до Канада, м. Ванкувер  
отправляется в  
в посвідчення чого і для вільного переїзду  
в удостоверение чего и для свободного проезда  
видано цей пашпорт з прикладенням печатки  
дан сего паспорт с приложением печати  
Народнього Комісаріату Внутрішніх Справ.  
Народного Комиссариата по Внутренним делам.  
Цей пашпорт є дійсний на 12 місяців  
Настоящий паспорт действителен на  
до 17 Магиса 1926 р.  
Видано 17 Магиса 1925 р. в м. Київ  
Выдан 17 Магиса 1925 г. в гор. Киев

L... porteur du présent, citoyen  
de la République Socialiste des Soviets d'Ukraine  
Epp Aganeta avec ses filles Lette âgé de  
7 ans, Gubria âgé de 6 ans et la fille Kaita-Sans  
Se rend Kamatcha, la ville Rostern  
en foi de quoi et pour le libre passage le présent  
passeport est délivré avec apposition du sceau du  
Commissariat du Peuple aux Affaires Intérieures.

Le présent passeport est valable pour 12 mois  
au 17 Mars 1926  
et délivré 17 Mars 1925  
à la ville Bachmout

Відомости про пред'явника  
Сведения о пред'явителе  
Час і місце народження 17 березня 1888 року  
Время и место рождения  
Родинний стан Вдова  
Семейное положение

Signalément du porteur  
Lieu et date de naissance  
la ville Berdianuk 1888  
Etat de famille Veuve

Прикмети  
Приметы.  
Зріст 154 сантиметри  
Рост  
Очі темно карі  
Глаза  
Ніс гудиний  
Нос  
Волосся каштанове  
Волосы  
Особливі прикмети  
Особые приметы  
Кели

Signes  
Taille 154 centimetres  
Yeux noir gris  
Nez droit  
Cheveux noir rouille  
Signes particuliers Non

З уповноваження Народнього  
Комісаріату внутрішніх справ  
Завідуючий Закордонним Відділенням  
Губерніяльного Відділу Управління



Цей пашпорт є дійсний для переїзду  
Настоящий паспорт действителен для проезда  
державного кордону до 17 Магиса 1926 р.  
государственной границы до 1926 р.  
через Конт рольно-Кордонний Пункт  
через Контрольно-пограничный пункт.

Official stamps and signatures. Includes a circular stamp from the Ministry of Internal Affairs, a date stamp '9 MAI 1925', and a handwritten number '15916'. There are also several illegible signatures and stamps.

the infamous Nestor Makhno. He now showed a spark of compassion and ordered him released. Epp was told to go.

Laboriously he dragged himself away. He managed to crawl into the garden. But here he was spied by a look-out who not only refused to let him pass but mercilessly bayoneted him, opening his side. Piti-fully Abram called for water. A compassionate employee of the *chutor* brought him some, but it ran out of his open side.

So ended his life. The above details were only with time discovered from eyewitnesses, Russian employ-ees of the *chutor*, and recorded by Sara (Dirksen) Neufeld 1162 years later.

Abram's wife received a timely warning and fled, heading south to the home of her husband's brother Cornelius 118 in the Kurushan district.

During this time the children of Abram Epp 119 and his first wife were separated from Aganeta 1161/(119), his now-widowed second wife, and were stay- ing with friends and relatives, thus leaving Aganeta with her own three children.

After staying in the Kurushan district for two to three years, Aganeta left for the home of her step- mother, widow Katharina Dirksen 116, at Marjevka *chutor*.

On the road, presumably with horse and wagon, they met riders who warned them of danger ahead, but too late. Bandits accosted the frightened woman and her children and robbed them. A few items the robbers missed. One of these was deceased Abram Epp's 119 Waltham pocketwatch, which his wife was wearing around her neck and which is still in the family.

When night fell, they stayed in a barn in a Russian village, sleeping on straw. Next day they arrived at their destination. Here, at Marjevka *chutor*, they lived a comparatively calm life, the children attending school whenever the unsettled political situation would allow.

In April 1925 the widow Epp emigrated, travelling with the Dirksen household, settling first at White- water, Manitoba. Here her children attended school. She married a widower, Johannes Tiessen, with eight children. This marriage produced one child, a daugh- ter Agnes. They resided at many Manitoba locali- ties -Justice, Harding, Moling and Rivers. During the Depression, in March 1934, they turned their farm chores over to a finance company and moved to Leamington, Ontario.

Ontario was good to Aganeta 1161/(119) and the family. After over 30 years of a secure and peaceful life in Leamington, she passed away in 1966.

What happened to the children of Abram Epp's 119 first marriage? Justina 1194 was reunited with her step-family in Leamington in 1947. Abram 1195 was arrested in 1937 and never heard from since. Anna Hildebrandt 1196 died in the Karaganda dis- trict, USSR in 1973.



Peter 12 and Elizabeth Epp and family. Front, l-r: Suzanna, Elizabeth, Elizabeth (mother), Marie, Peter (father), Justina and Katharina. Back, l-r: Gerhardt, Peter, Daniel, Abram and Jacob.

## The House of Peter Epp 12

### PETER EPP 12 (1838-1914)

Peter Epp 12 was the only one of the ten sons of HEINRICH EPP who emigrated to America. Several factors probably influenced him to make this decision.

Some of his half brothers (Wiens) were already living in the United States. The lure of the American plain also drew him, for he loved farming.

Secondly, even though Peter had in his latter teens been freighting supplies to the Russian front in the Crimean War (1854-1856), he did not want his own sons to have to participate in military service. Thus, when universal military conscription was introduced in 1874 along with intensified attempts at Russianization of foreign settlers, and one-third (18,000) of all Mennonites in Russia emigrated to America, Peter Epp, his second wife and eight children were among them.

Peter and his first wife Anna, daughter of Cornelius and Maria (Klassen) Janzen of Petershagen, had farmed in Petershagen and Gnadenthal until her death in 1863. Three months later Peter 12 married Elizabeth Enns. Together they became members of the community of Mountain Lake, Minnesota 14 years later.

Within two weeks of their arrival in America, Peter and Elizabeth lost three of their children in quick succession. They had contracted gastroenteritis (summer sickness) and died of it.

The family did not emigrate in poverty for Peter 12 was able to buy land about 19 kilometers northwest of Mountain Lake. Peter erected a farm dwelling after the model of the Russian Mennonites with the barn attached to the house by means of a large storage area. Even the well was under the same roof.

Becoming accustomed to the harsh, bitterly cold winters was an ordeal. But in the summer Mother Nature in her customary wanton way strewed the open wild fields with strawberries, gooseberries, chokecherries and other fruits.

Peter farmed very successfully and was able to

EPP, Pierre (38) farmer  
 Elisabeth (32) wife  
 Justine (14) child  
 Elisabeth (12) child  
 Catharine (10) child  
 Jacque (8) child  
 Anna (5) child  
 Jean (4) child  
 Susana (2) child

Peter and Elizabeth Epp and children sailed from Antwerp on the S.S. Kenilworth arriving in New York on 17 July 1876. Above: the family as it appeared on the ship's list.

Mary 121.  
 Henry 122.  
 Justina 123.  
 Peter 124.  
 Elizabeth 125  
 Katherina 126  
 Peter 127.  
 Jacob 128  
 Anna 129  
 Peter 1210.  
 John 1211.  
 Susie 1212.  
 Peter 1213.  
 Suzanna 1214  
 Daniel 1215  
 Marie 1216  
 boy 1217.  
 Peter 1218  
 Cornelius 1219  
 Abram 1220.  
 Gerhardt 1221

support his family well. At the first opportunity he secured American citizenship for the whole family.

Peter loved nice things though he himself was not gifted in handiwork. His wife took delight in sewing. One day he noted how nicely she had made a lovely dress out of some plain material. He set out for the town of Windom and returned with a fine piece of cloth enabling her to make another dress even more beautiful than the first.

Although he drove himself hard, he was considerate of the health and strength of his children when they worked in the fields. He was always in a hurry and often in the field or on the road at sunup. Once on a trip to Windom he came across a very sick man lying on the road—perhaps he was already dead. He lifted the man into his wagon and took him along to Windom. This got him into a bit of trouble with the government authorities, for in Windom the man's death was questioned and suspicion cast on the

would-be benefactor.

Peter Epp kept fine horses, mostly with white faces. He took pride in having a pair of fast young horses hitched to a buggy, wagon or sleigh. It didn't take him long to cover the distance to Mountain Lake, a 19-kilometer stretch. His son-in-law, Frank Janzen (123), took about three times as long to drive the same distance but, as he would say, they would by then already have had one good visit, a leisurely visit on the road!

In 1903 Peter and Elizabeth retired from farming and moved to Mountain Lake, Minnesota. Here they built a four-bedroom two-storey frame house. Near the house they put up a summer kitchen. A barn a little farther back housed some livestock and his white-faced horse Charlie. The two hectares pastured two cows and provided a garden.

Peter travelled with his sleek horse hitched to a light farm wagon. Sitting tall and erect high up on the spring seat of the wagon it appeared as though a young man was driving.

A distant relative said that Peter Epp was a wild and robust person. This is not hard to believe. Reminiscences of him repeatedly note his mercurial temper, his zest for life, and his straightforward integrity.

One year Peter V. Janzen (1234) was plowing his grandparents' garden. He and Grandfather Epp stopped for a rest at the end of the little plot near the road. An old man with a long white beard came walking by. He was stooped and humpbacked. As he slowly passed down the road, Peter, no longer young himself, stood and looked after him, then turned to his grandson, and said, "*Wo sittet dem*



Peter and Elizabeth Epp.

*Mensch oba! Nä, wo sittet dem Mensch oba! Sittet mie uk so verrekt* (Just look at that man! Look at him! Do I also look that queer?) Peter had a fine erect figure, a neat goatee, and was about 1.8 meters tall.

One of his grandchildren remembers him as a big man who demanded and got obedience from his children. He was known as *dee dolla App* (that hot-headed Epp).

In 1894 Peter underwent a religious experience that moderated his temperament somewhat. His daughter Katherine 126 in the early years of her marriage burned her hands severely in an accident. She suffered great pain. Her father and mother came to visit her. When they were taking their leave, she asked her father to pray for her. This touched him deeply. He said: "My child asked me to pray for her. I didn't know how." This brought him to his knees.

His new understanding of Christianity led him to join the Mennonite Brethren Church a few kilometers from his home. He was baptized and found great joy and happiness in his new life. He now bore a burden for the salvation for his family. He undertook to fast one day a week until one of his sons should be converted to the Christianity which he had discovered.

He turned to much Bible study and sermon writing. He also kept a diary and wrote his autobiography. Unfortunately, all of these materials have been destroyed.

That Peter Epp was a well-loved grandfather becomes apparent from the way in which grandchildren reminisce about his visits. When his white-faced horse Charlie and the buggy would be spotted coming



Peter and Elizabeth Epp with Elizabeth, Marie, Abram and Gerhardt.

down the road, excitement filled the air.

Just as exciting was the annual Christmas celebration with the grandparents. Riding in sleighs with blankets, straw, and footwarmers, the various families converged on the Peter Epp home every Boxing Day, looking forward to seeing distant cousins or uncles or aunts who had not been seen since last Christmas.

Although the grandchildren perceived Grandfather Epp to be a stern unsmiling taciturn man, one of them wrote: "We kids were always treated with real friendliness and loved to be in his company."

Another grandchild recollects:

My grandparents were very taken up with being Christian. They had made a fresh start and now all that became very important to them down at the M.B. church. But some trouble came up between him and his neighbor and they wanted to make it right before the congregation. They called a meeting of the brotherhood. The brethren came, and these two as well. My grandfather and his neighbor were supposed to forgive each other and let bygones be bygones. And my grandfather was willing to do this. He felt that perhaps he had sinned. But the other fellow was not ready to share the blame, and he and my grandfather talked the matter back and forth there in the brotherhood meeting.

My grandfather lost his cool. My grandfather could become very agitated over things. He couldn't stand it any longer, just standing there and begging and wanting to have the matter made right and proper. Suddenly it all burst out. He just couldn't stand it any more like that. 'That fellow is still just as crazy as always,' he exploded.

And that is how he was in general. And so the matter stood. That evening, I stayed there overnight, and he led family prayers. And still he wanted to have peace of heart. So he prayed to God confessing his sin. And so he found peace over it.

In his last years Peter 12 suffered from a blood condition but still lived to become 76 years. The Mennonite Brethren Church was filled to capacity at his funeral.

Peter Epp 12 had come to America a committed farmer and a firm adherent of the Mennonite church and its teaching of nonresistance. He had been successful in avoiding military service for his children but already some of his grandchildren, the third generation in America, made other choices. Proud of their country and obedient to it, they and some of their children served in various capacities: in the Navy, the Marines, the Army, and the Red Cross in both World Wars.

Peter Epp had tried to keep the family together geographically and in terms of relationships. He found it difficult to accept when some of his children moved elsewhere because of their occupation or calling. Along with occupational diversity, a geographical and denominational scattering hastened the assimilation of Peter's descendants into American society and its way of life.

In the case of Peter's siblings who remained in Russia this process of assimilation was in most cases delayed at least one generation.



Peter and Elizabeth Epp with Gerhardt and Suzanna.

#### JUSTINA (EPP) JANZEN 123 (1861-1943)

Justina 123 was the only surviving child of Peter Epp's first marriage. She was two years old when her mother died. She left school early to help take care of her younger half brothers and half sisters, and to help with the farm work. However, in spite of her limited formal education she learned to read and write in the village school, writing equally well with either hand. Like other Mennonite children of her day, she memorized *Wünsche* to recite at Christmas and New Year's. She sometimes accompanied her father when he hauled wheat to Berdyansk and took great delight in the wild flowers on the wayside.

When Justina left for America, grandmother Janzen gave the 15-year-old granddaughter a white china hen, a buckle from her grandfather's knee pants, a pretty white shawl, and Jan Philips Schabaelje's *Die Wandelnde Seele*. In preparation for the trip Justina helped her stepmother prepare many sacks full of *reesche Tweebak* (roasted buns).

On their new farm in Minnesota one of her jobs was to herd cattle in the summer, and to gather and pile up long grass from a slough for winter fuel. She milked cows with freezing hands in winter, and plowed the fields in spring. She would walk behind the horses, singing as her father had taught her. She sang because she loved music. Godly hymns warmed her heart and the hearts of those who worked with her, including the animals.

Even though Justina could get angry, most of the time she was very gentle, seldom harsh, and never



Abram Frank  
 Abraham Simmer  
 Peter Gaery, Leventhaler in jallig.  
 Peter Simons, sen.  
 Jof. Fernand. Vausfeld  
 Cornelius Enns  
 Heinrich Janzen  
 Hans Daniel Enns  
 Isaac Enns  
 Jakob Karsten  
 Wilhelm Rempel.



Justina Janzen in 1905.

raised her voice. She lived her Christianity in a quiet way.

With Frank H. Janzen she founded a home near Maiden Lake north of Bingham Lake, Minnesota, and in joy and happiness raised a family of seven. Upon her husband's death in 1907 she moved to Mountain Lake. Here she and her father often saw each other.

Justina was a firm grandmother, not hesitating to paddle a youngster when she deemed it necessary. In her home she never allowed her grandchildren upstairs for fear they might do some damage or mischief, for she was very particular about her possessions. Neither would she allow them to play in the dusty and rickety barnloft. These prohibitions served to tantalize her grandsons with the mystery of the unknown, and boys being boys, they sometimes disobeyed.

She socialized mainly with her children and her neighbors, and in her older days seldom attended church. She had a radio already in the 1930s when this was unusual. She spent many hours sitting in her open front porch watching the neighbors and the traffic.

Because she lived in town her house served as a base for various grandchildren. Some boarded there to attend high school or Bible school. Others found it a good place to stay while temporarily stuck in town for a doctor's appointment or an evening school function.

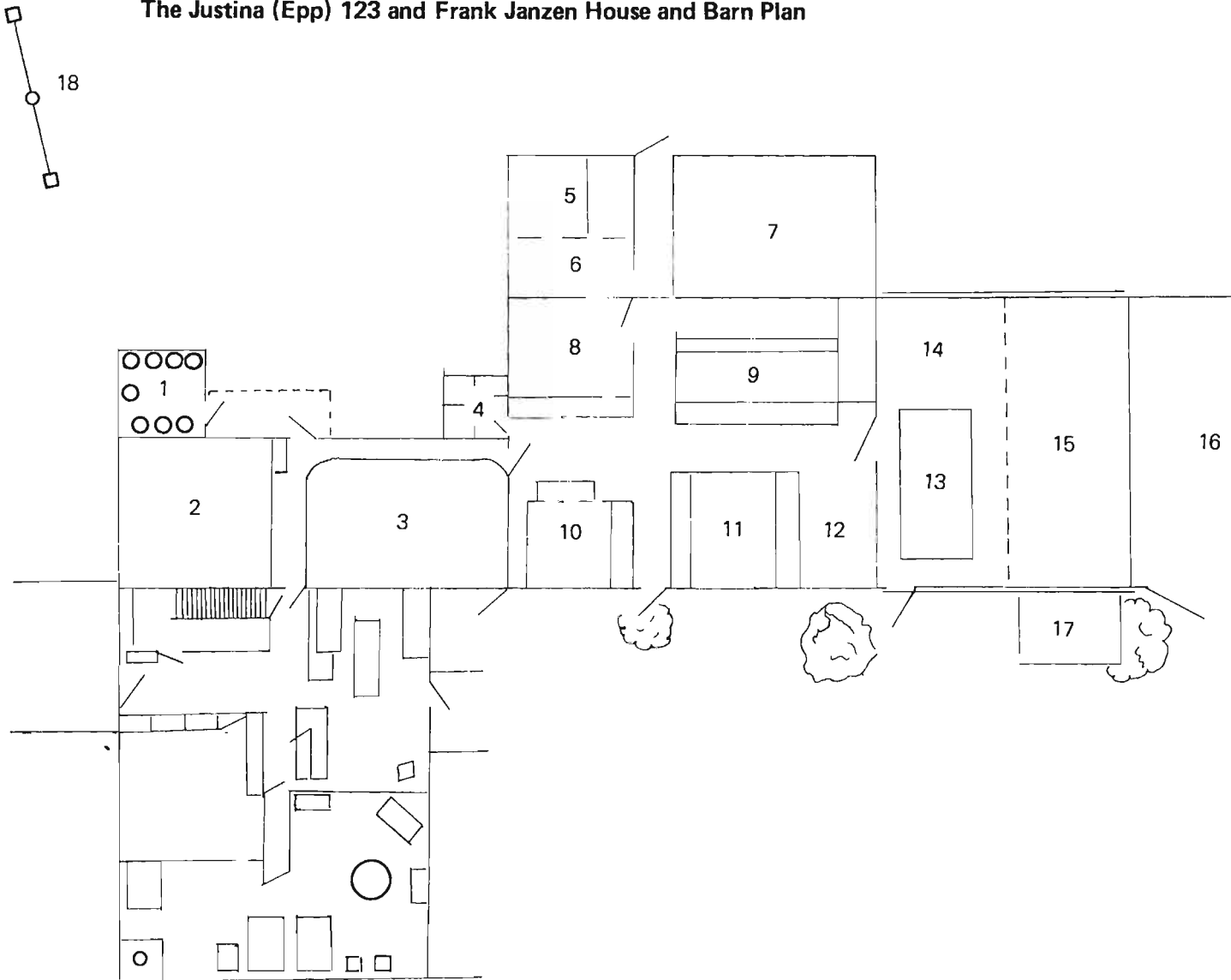
Before she came to live with daughter Elizabeth in 1939 she visited the homes of her children, staying two weeks or so. She liked clabber and they often had some on hand for her.



Justina and Frank Janzen's first farm near Maiden Lake in 1884. Seen in foreground are Justina with Mary.



## The Justina (Epp) 123 and Frank Janzen House and Barn Plan



Original by Peter V. Janzen 1234.

### Legend:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1 <b>Wota Koma</b> (water room) with tanks for rain-water.</p> <p>2 Oat bin.</p> <p>3 Heating fuel shed in winter and laundry room in summer. The <b>Brenning</b> (fuel) was coarse slough hay or long reeds. After being cut with the binder in low places when the ground was frozen, the real long hay and reeds were tied in bundles and the stove slowly fed with a bundle at a time. These bundles were referred to as <b>Sindoagschi Brenning</b> (Sunday fuel).</p> <p>4 <b>Borrim Koma</b> (well room).</p> <p>5 Bins for <b>Schrot</b> (ground cattle feed).</p> <p>6 Multi-purpose room (e.g. cutting chicken, mixing things, etc.).</p> <p>7 Hay shed.</p> <p>8 Stall for horse or cow with its newborn.</p> <p>9 Stalls for milk cows.</p> <p>10 Horse stalls. Frank (mouse color) and King (black) were kept here.</p> <p>11 Horse stalls. Fan, Kate, Doll and Charlie were kept here.</p> <p>12 Stall used for chickens or calves.</p> | <p>13 Here a rack of hay was struck by lightning which destroyed the home.</p> <p>14 <b>Schien</b> (machine shed).</p> <p>15 Hay shed.</p> <p>16 Machine and buggy shed.</p> <p>17 Sandbox.</p> <p>18 Merry-go-round.</p> |
|--|---|



Justina Janzen about 1941.

Kindliche Wünsche  
zum  
frühen Neujahrstag 1871  
und zum Jahreswechsel 1871  
an

Lieben Eltern in  
Kindlicher Liebe  
und

Dankbarkeit.

Luise

von

Ihrer  
Kindin

Justina

1871

Neujahr - Wunsch

Kauf Gutes und einen Regen.  
Zum lieben neuen Jahr;

Auf allen irden Wegen  
Der lieben Eltern Dank!

„ Höflich ist die feine Liebe  
Zu mir und Herz fein  
Lass mich für ihre Liebe  
Ihm mich recht dankbar sein

‘halt auf viele Jahre  
Liebe Eltern mir!

I am liebsten immer und alle  
Stunden mich zu Dir! Amen.

A New Year's WUNSCH (left) for her parents, one of two (as the above information indicates) presented by 10-year-old Justina in 1871.

Her last four years were spent with daughter Elizabeth's family. She often longed for an accordion, so one was given to her. She accompanied herself on it, singing songs of her youth, such as *Kam ein Vogel geflogen* and others.

She died of a stroke at Mountain Lake Hospital in 1943.



**ELIZABETH (EPP) WALL 125 (1864-1920)**

Elizabeth 125 was married to Henry E. Wall, who together with his parents, the Herman Walls, had come to America in August of 1875 and also settled in the Mountain Lake area.

Both Elizabeth and her husband Henry were baptized upon confession of their faith by Reverend Heinrich Voth in August of 1897, ten years after their marriage. They were accepted as members into the Mennonite Brethren Church.

Most of their life was spent in farming, first at Bingham Lake, Minnesota till 1900, then in North Dakota for five years and finally at Reedley and Shafter, California. Elizabeth was frequently unwell but nevertheless showed great hospitality to all who came to her house. She died in 1920, only two years after their move to Shafter.

Her husband, Henry, did not have many years of formal schooling but read and studied a lot on his own. He served on the local school board in the earlier years of his life. He died in 1943.

Left: Elizabeth and Henry Wall with children. Back, l-r: Elizabeth, Katherina, Anna. Front, l-r: Henry, Bertha, and Martha.



Back, l-r: Henry and Elizabeth Wall 125, Anna Wall 1253, Elizabeth 1251 and Jacob Voth, Katherina Wall 1252, Peter Epp 1218 with son Peter and wife Elizabeth. Front, l-r: Henry Wall 1254, Elizabeth Voth 12511, Martha Wall 1256 (seated) with Alvin Epp 12184, Viola Voth 12512, Bertha Wall 1255 (seated) with Harold Voth 12513, Arthur 12181 and Eldo Epp 12182.

## KATHERINA (EPP) HEPPNER 126 (1865-1944)

Katherina 126 married widower Peter Heppner. They lived on a farm nine and one half kilometers northeast of Mountain Lake in a two-storey house. On two occasions fire struck and destroyed their home. Both times they escaped with only the clothes on their backs. In one of those fires Katherina badly burned her hands, which disabled her for many months. Her hands were scarred and deformed but, thanks to her doctor who told her to exercise her hands by milking cows, her fingers straightened out and she regained complete use of them.

She had very attractive hands, beautiful to her children, because they did so many lovely things. They knitted mittens and socks and many a shawl. In later years Katherina crocheted and made three bedspreads which remain in the family. Like her sisters, she was an excellent seamstress. As a nurse too she often showed her competence, which was a great help in her large family. She took great pleasure in cooking and baking, which she also did skillfully.

Her homemaking skills all came to a focus in her love of entertaining. Their home was a large one and suited to housing guests. Visiting preachers often were billeted at the Heppners. This gave Katherina the opportunity to serve the many ducks and geese she raised, and to prepare wholesome meals of fresh farm produce.

She took pains to raise her children properly. At home Molotschna Low German was spoken. At school and at church High German was used. She insisted that they use the polite *Sie*, not the familiar *Du*, when addressing aunts and uncles and older persons.

Katherina and Peter were converted in 1894 and on 5 May 1896, upon baptism received into the Carson Mennonite Brethren Church, near Delft, Minnesota.

Katherina did her best to make their home a Christian one where the Word of God was studied in daily devotional exercises. She and Peter sang together a great deal not only at home but also as they travelled by horse and buggy along country roads on their way to visit one relative or another. Katherina enjoyed talking of relatives left behind in Russia.

Katherina had many a heartache in life. Five of her children predeceased her. But she received many a blessing too. Her marriage to a hardworking prosperous man lasted 50 years short one month. Death took her husband in the peaceful slumber of an afternoon nap. Together they had been able to enjoy 17 years of retirement in Mountain Lake.

Serious illness afflicted Katherina for six months before her death. She suffered pernicious anemia, though cardiac spasms was her last illness. She bore her pain patiently. A week before she died, she said, "You know, there is nothing between me and God. The way is open." And a few hours before her final sleep she told her sisters Justina 123 and Anna 129 that the crown of righteousness was waiting for her.



Katherina and Peter Heppner.

**JACOB EPP 128 (1868-1938)**

Jacob Epp 128 was eight years old when the family settled at Mountain Lake in 1876. After his marriage in 1891 he and his wife, Gertrude (nee Goossen) lived on a farm 11 kilometers northwest of Windom until 1908, when they sold the farm and moved to Mountain Lake.

**ANNA (EPP) GOOSSEN 129 ( ? - ? )**

Anna 129 and her husband Abram Goossen lived on a farm about eight kilometers northeast of Mountain Lake. Upon retirement they moved to Mountain Lake and one of their sons assumed ownership of the farm. A devoted mother of 15 children, Anna Goossen was also an excellent cook and housekeeper, as well as a very good neighbor.

**SUZANNA (EPP) JANZEN 1214 (1877-1957)**

Suzanna 1214 was baptized by Reverend Heinrich Voth 30 May 1897. He also officiated at her wedding ceremony. The following November she and her husband Cornelius Janzen moved to North Dakota, 48 kilometers south of Langdon. The church at Munich, North Dakota, was built one year later.

In 1907 they and their five children returned to Minnesota and settled in Mountain Lake. In August 1934 they moved to Reedley, California. They became members of the Mennonite Brethren Church there, faithful and devoted members to the last.

Until her husband's death in 1941 Suzanna was never ill. She was a strong, hard-working woman. She passed away at the age of 80 in 1957.



Suzanna 1214 and Cornelius Janzen with their children. Back, l-r: Elizabeth, Arpa, John, Naomi, Theodore, Lillie. Front, l-r: Ruth, Frances (between her parents) and Martha.

## DANIEL EPP 1215 (1878-1947)

Daniel's farm lay about 19 kilometers west of Mountain Lake and about 16 kilometers north of Windom, the seat of Cottonwood County. He obtained the land cheaply from his father.

Daniel was a prosperous farmer. Crops were good, and crop failure unheard of. The farm had good horses, machinery and buggies, and the family had no lack of food or fine clothes. The cattle were sheltered in adequate barns during the cold winter months. While his wife milked, Daniel fed the stock; then helped her finish the milking. In the meantime, the cats and dogs stood patiently around waiting for their turn to drink the warm milk after it was separated in the manual separator.

Daniel 1215 kept the household well supplied, buying ten or more sacks of flour and 100 pounds of sugar at a time. During World War I this practice caused inspectors to come around and compel Daniel to return some of these basics. The kitchen always held a box of cookies for the children to snack on.

A bottle of whiskey was kept on hand during the winter. When someone had a cold, whiskey, sugar and hot water made up the healing medication. The children got to like it and on one memorable occasion concocted their own mixture while the parents were out doing the chores.

About once a month every winter Daniel took his family to visit grandparents Peter 12 and Elizabeth Epp in Mountain Lake, a trip that could take two hours one way. On very cold days several chickens in a sack placed under the sleigh robes over the children's feet served as foot warmers.

During the summer grandfather Peter came alone in his buggy for a weekly visit. He would arrive at mid-morning and pick up one of the grandchildren to guide him to the field where Daniel 1215 was working. On one such occasion Albert 12152 recalls Peter 12 telling Daniel about the sinking of the *Titanic* and speculating whether acquaintances or relatives might have been on board.

Daniel's first dwelling was constructed in the Russian style, with barn attached. Later he built the house and barn which were still standing in 1977.

Daniel had a bad itch on his bunions. Evenings after supper while he sat reading the weekly German paper, the boys had to take a few corn cobs from the pile that served as fuel for the cookstove and scratch his feet, a most vexing and aggravating task.

Daniel's purchase of a car in 1911 led to a rare thing, an argument between him and his father. Peter 12 apparently regarded automobiles as the devil's invention, and predicted that henceforth Daniel 1215 would go to resorts on Sunday instead of to church.

But the car enabled the family to visit the grandparents in Mountain Lake much more frequently. For the children this meant romping in the orchard, eating of the enormous quantities of food and visiting with many cousins.

Daniel's prosperity was such that in 1913 the family spent the winter in California. Daniel himself made many trips to Canada and to California to visit with relatives.

He died in 1947 of an appendix operation.



Sisters Marie 1216 and Suzanna Epp 1214.

## MARIE (EPP) VOTH 1216 (1881-1968)

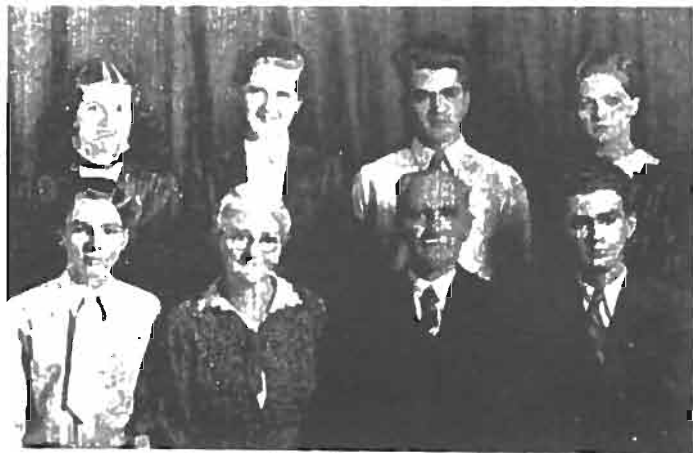
When the youngest daughter Maria 1216 with her husband John Voth (son of Rev. Heinrich Voth of the Mennonite Brethren Church at Mountain Lake) and an infant daughter left for India in 1908 to be missionaries, she left a very sorrowful mother and father at the local train station. Peter 12 did not like to see the family separated by so great a distance.

Marie and John Voth were blessed with eight children. The twins, Otto and Mary, died in India at nine and seven months, and Hugo, the youngest, was killed in World War I as 2nd Lieutenant in Normandy, France, in his first engagement without having fired a shot. The other five are living in the United States.

The Voths ministered among the Telugus in the southeastern part of Hyderabad State, in the very large village of Devarakonda. "The mission compound of Devarakonda is called 'Voth Peta', which means the place where Voth and his family resided and established God's ministry and His Church through the untiring effort of their hard labour for about thirty-four years," writes the Rev. M. B. John, Indian pastor of the Calvary Mennonite Brethren Church at Mahbubnagar, A. P. India in the small booklet *A Brief Sketch of the Lives of the Late Rev. and Mrs. John H. Voth.*



Farewell at the Mountain Lake railroad station for Marie and John Voth leaving for India in 1908. Front, l-r: Peter Epp 12, John and Marie Voth with baby Elizabeth, Elizabeth Epp (Marie's mother).



Missionaries Marie and John Voth before departing for India in 1937 and leaving all their children in America.



Cousins Anna (Epp) Bergthold 153 from Russia (second from left) and Marie (Epp) Voth 1216 from the USA (second from right), meet on the same mission field in India. Their husbands are beside them and in the center are J. H. Pankratzen.

Of Marie Voth 1216, M. B. John writes:

Mrs. Voth also laboured equally along with her beloved husband, and shared feelings of joy and happiness in the ministry. Sometimes they might have experienced also feelings of bitterness and hardship in the service of God. In spite of it they were very happy always in the Lord and worked with great joy and peace for God's glory and the edification of His Church.

Mrs. Voth had a special talent for working among the women. She started women's meetings and associations and worked cooperatively and lovingly with them. She was a great inspiration for the ministry of women in Devarakonda. At present the Devarakonda field is one of the important centres for women's evangelism due to the foundation work laid by Mrs. Voth in the beginning of her ministry. Now the women of Devarakonda go into the various villages and present the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ. They also hold regularly weekly meetings for women in the compound and in the nearby villages. Once a year they call for a general Women's Association from all nine fields (nine mission stations) and conduct meetings for three or four days, inviting special guest speakers for such big gatherings. . .

She was also very kind and loving to the poor and needy people, as well as to the sick in their miserable and desperate conditions. She used to visit them and help them, giving clothing and financial assistance. She used to pray for them also and comfort them with the Word of God in their helpless and hopeless situations. She used to bring the glorious and saving gospel of Christ Jesus to such people whenever she visited them.

The late Rev. and Mrs. Voth were a very happy and loving missionary couple. They unitedly worked for the growth of God's kingdom. They loved the Lord, His ministry, His church and the church people in India. They identified themselves with the Indian Christians in sharing their love, kindness, burdens and concerns. I remember very well when I was a boy, the late Rev. and Mrs. Voth took a photo along with the preachers, wearing Indian costumes. Father Voth wore a turban on his head like other preachers of the Devarakonda field.

On their furloughs the Voth family stayed at the various relatives. Marie was a lovable woman and exercised much influence among her relatives. One of them attributes to Marie's influence his becoming a missionary to Africa. Marie passed away in September 1968, leaving behind many warm memories.

### **PETER EPP 1218 (1883-1961)**

Peter Epp 1218 graduated from Normal School at Windom and taught around home. After living a few years in Inman, Kansas, Peter took his inheritance and homesteaded in Montana. During two years of drought he lost everything. In 1913 he moved his family to Reedley, California. Five years later the family relocated to Shafter, California, where Peter and his wife lived on a fruit farm until their deaths.

Peter was the shortest among his brothers and always said he got pushed from the trough. In appearance he was a neat and handsome man.

He took his Christianity seriously and did his utmost to raise his children in a manner pleasing to God. When his son Eldo 12182 went to Africa as a missionary, he undertook to fast and pray once a week.

In contrast to him, his wife Elizabeth was a soft-spoken gentle person. They marked 50 years of marriage in 1960 in a celebration at the Shafter Mennonite Brethren Church.

Peter's good health broke in November 1958 when he suffered a light stroke. He recovered enough to attend church services. On 10 April 1961 he died at home. He had been an affable man who made friends easily. His funeral was by far the biggest known in the community of Shafter.

### **CORNELIUS EPP 1219 (1884-1971)**

Cornelius 1219 completed Normal School and taught in North Dakota for a time. He married Marie (Friesen) Faust, a widow with two daughters. They moved to Ellensburg, Washington, where he worked as an interior decorator. One source says that he was a retired school teacher in Ellensburg in 1953.

During his last years Cornelius 1219 lived with his son Woodrow, an Episcopalian priest, very appreciative of visits from his nieces and nephews.

### **ABRAM EPP 1220 (1886-1906)**

Abram 1220, while hauling dirt to the construction site of the new Windom courthouse, accidentally drowned in the Des Moines River in 1906. The death of their 19-year-old son greatly shocked his parents, Peter 12 and Elizabeth Epp, especially since they felt he had not been converted.

On his tombstone is inscribed Revelation 21:6: "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely."

### **GERHARDT EPP 1221 (1889-1959)**

Gerhardt 1221 the youngest of the Peter Epp 12 children received his early schooling at the parochial school north of Mountain Lake. Apparently he learned more there than his parents guessed. One Sunday afternoon he invited one of his younger nephews to walk a few blocks up town with him. A short-run movie about a train wreck and an ad depicting the stopping power of Oldsmobile brakes was being shown in the side room of a tavern. Gerhardt must have been a persuasive character for his nephew believed him when he told him that if he told grandfather Peter 12 that they had been in the saloon he would pull off both his big toes.

On 15 February 1912 Gerhardt married Sarah Unruh. They farmed in the Mountain Lake area but for short periods of time lived in Montana and California. One niece recalls the watermelons in their garden and the fascinating hayloft.

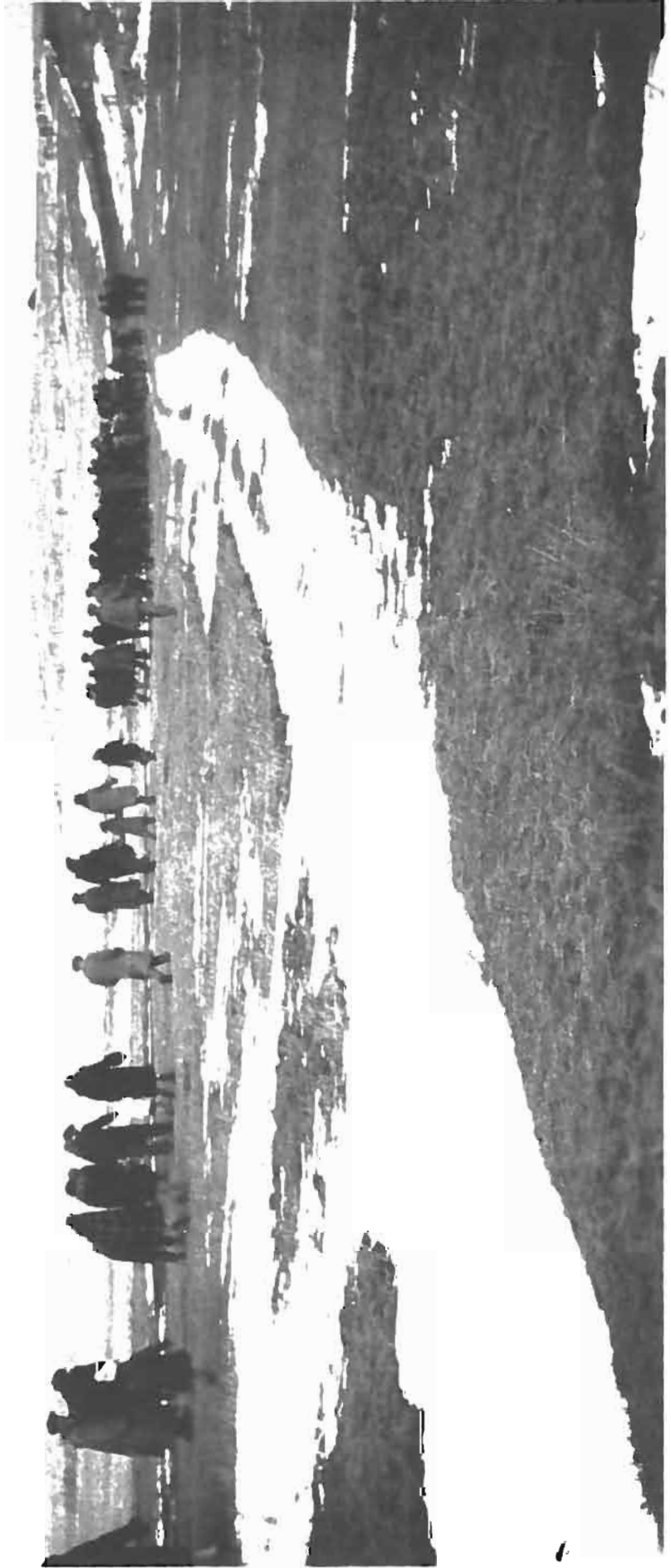
Gerhardt was on very good terms with sister Marie 1216.

He retired from farming in 1943 and moved to Windom. In 1953 he experienced a heart attack. In 1959, while visiting his youngest son Jerome in Jamestown, North Dakota, he passed away suddenly at age 69.



**Cornelius Epp.**





Funeral procession April 1933 for Theodore Epp 1483.

## The House of Johann Epp 13

### JOHANN EPP 13 (1842-1908)

Most of HEINRICH EPP's ten sons and his one daughter remained in or near their native Molotschna all their lives. Only Peter 12 went west to America. Johann 13 relocated a number of times in the vast reaches of European and Asiatic Russia, from the Black Sea in the south to Omsk in Siberia.

The Johann Epps 13 settled in the village of Kotlyarevka in the Memrik settlement, Ekaterinoslavl province, soon after the founding of the settlement in 1885. We know that their oldest child Susanna received baptism in the Memrik *Brüdergemeinde* in 1887. Their youngest son Kornelius was born in 1879 prior to the move to Memrik. Susanna was born in Rosenort, the native village of her father.

In Memrik Johann Epp 13 earned a livelihood as farmer and blacksmith. Here daughter Susanna 131 met and married a widower, Johann Kroeker. Soon the Johann Epps were grandparents. None of their other children married. In fact, when the Johann Epps left Memrik they had buried their next three children: Kornelius 132 as an infant, Johann 133 at age 17 and Justina 134 at age six. They were left with 16-year-old Kornelius 135.

The Johann Epp 13 family and the Johann Kroeker 131 family lived almost as a unit, both moving in 1895 to the Davlekanovo settlement in the Ufa province just west of the Ural mountains. Here they lived and worked on neighboring farms at Gortchakovo near the city of Davlekanovo.

Maria (Harder) Epp, wife of Johann 13 died in 1902. Of her, granddaughter Aganeta 1312 recalls: "She was often sickly and at the last wholly bedridden. She was a very dear person."

Shortly before her death, son-in-law Johann Kroeker 131 had sold his land and given his son Jacob of his first marriage his share of the inheritance so as to enable him to train as a land surveyor in the city of Ufa and later in Moscow. Kroeker was set on moving

Susanna 131  
Kornelius 132.  
Johann 133.  
Justina 134.  
Kornelius 135.



The Johann Epp family. Front, l-r: Maria, Kornelius, Johann 13. Back, l-r: Susanna and Johann.

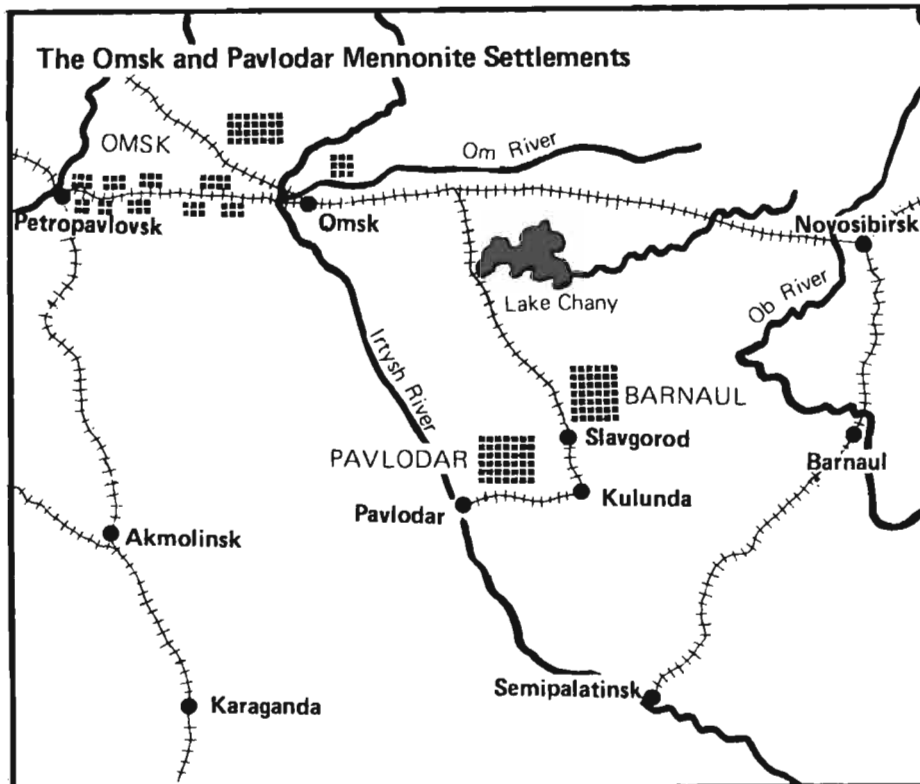
to the Omsk settlement in western Siberia where cheap land was to be had on both sides of the Trans-Siberian railroad, but Susanna was reluctant to leave her parents.

After the death of his wife Johann Epp 13 sold his farm. With son Kornelius he journeyed to Muntau, Molotschna where they both underwent surgery for hernia. Kornelius was so tall that his feet stuck over the end of the bed and needed the support of a chair. Five men were required to carry him. When he talked of his father he referred to him as *de Ola* (the old man).

After their convalescence Johann 13 joined daughter Susanna's 131 household while son Kornelius 135 undertook the study of photography in the city of Ufa. Johann 13 is described by some of his grandchildren as having been a very strict man.

In 1904 Susanna 131 and Johann Kroeker with their children and father Johann 13 made the move to the Omsk settlement where they settled at Luzino Station on a rented dairy farm. In 1908 when the Kroekers were contemplating a move to the Pavlodar settlement where they would be able to own land, Johann Epp 13 went south, planning to rejoin them later at Pavlodar. However he died in Kleefeld, at a time of deep snow, shortly after the Kroekers had moved to Pavlodar.

Map 5



Omsk, formerly Akmolinsk region, today in Kazakh SSR, was the first Mennonite settlement in Siberia. Because of its location on the Trans-Siberian railroad it became the gateway for the establishment of further Mennonite settlements in other Siberian regions. Kulomzino was a station west of the Irtysh River near the city of Omsk. Luzino Station was still farther west.

Approximately 550 kilometers south, in the former Semipalatinsk region, was the Pavlodar settlement. The village of Sofiyevka was located approximately 97 kilometers east of Pavlodar.



Davlekanovo, located in the province of Ufa west of the Ural Mountains on the Samara- Ufa railroad, was not divided into customary villages but groups of landowners settled around Gortchakovo, Berezovka, Karanbash, etc.

#### KORNELIUS EPP 135 (1879-1921)

When Kornelius 135 left Muntau after his operation the doctor assured him that he was healthy enough to live to age 100. This became his aim, but it was not to be. He got along well with others and was beloved of his nieces and nephews, despite his somewhat eccentric nature.

After training in Ufa city he practised his trade of photography briefly at Davlekanovo. In 1905 he visited his Uncle Kornelius 14 on the *chutor* Neuhof, Rosenhof, Schoenfeld (Brazol) settlement in order to undertake the *Forsteidienst* for his cousin Kornelius 145. His brother-in-law, Johann Kroeker, encouraged him in this venture but nothing came of it because government authorities did not permit it.

Thus in 1905 Kornelius took up residence in the city of Slavgorod, Barnaul/Slavgorod settlement where he made his living as *Mahler* (artist), sketching, among other things, a man with his prize cattle, or a house with its proud owner or a fancy team with its driver.

In 1907 he moved to Kulomzino, Omsk settlement where he again lived alone until 1920, when out of fear of the Bolsheviks, he joined the Kroeker household in the village of Sofiyevka, Pavlodar settlement. His relationship with his sister Susanna 131 was cordial according to one of Susanna's sons, but seemingly never intimate or affectionate.

Kornelius was an extraordinarily gifted man, blessed with acute powers of observation, and the ability to draw what he observed. His nephew Abram Kroeker 1316 long possessed a treasured drawing which had its origin as follows.



Kornelius Epp.

One day Susanna and Johann Kroeker were entertaining company that had arrived in a fine sleigh with beautiful horses hitched tandem. Just as the visitors were leaving, Kornelius happened to come upon the scene and briefly observed them. He went indoors but soon came out and handed his nephew Abram a sketch depicting in vivid detail the horses, sleigh and occupants. In astonishment Abram observed on the *Kutschbock* (coach-box) Mr. Wieler, and behind him, peeking from under the fur robe, his three sons, Fritzka, Schurka, and Mietja—all easily recognizable.

In January 1921 Kornelius paid a visit to the Barnaul/Slavgorod settlement, travelling with his own horses and wagon. Planning to return after a two-week stay, he discovered that epidemic typhus was raging at home. Frightened, he decided to stay where he was, and purchased a preventative medicine at the pharmacy. In his panic he took too much and died as a result. Whether or not he passed away at peace with God, his family could not know.

The news of his death and the arrival of his body were sorrowful experiences for his nieces and nephews.

## SUSANNA (EPP) KROEKER 131 (1870-1936)

At Pavlodar in the village of Sofiyevka Susanna and Johann Kroeker did not find life easy. Pioneering the land was immensely difficult. The children were too young to do heavy manual work and Johann Kroeker himself was aging. As homeopathist he spent much of his time serving the sick. The nearest doctor was almost 100 kilometers away and so Johann was frequently called upon to make house calls. He kept his medicine chest stocked with drugs. Both his Mennonite and his Russian patients were usually too poor to pay the expenses, let alone compensate for his time. In the local Mennonite church Johann served as deacon, Sunday school teacher and minister.

The early years of settlement brought many crop failures, trials and misfortunes. The years 1917 and 1918 produced good crops, but the difficult years that followed once again destroyed everything.

Susanna's husband Johann Kroeker died of epidemic typhus in 1918. She cared for him to the end of his illness and buried him. The oldest sons were serving in the *Sanitätsdienst* at this time.

The end of the war and the bad times it brought were followed by even worse conditions: revolution, civil war, anarchy, open banditry. Refugees poured into Siberia on crowded trains with passengers even sitting on the undercarriages of cars. They came for Siberia's famed bread, but found only more famine. Starving people paid with the clothes off their backs for coarse cakes of baked millet.

Susanna's sons were all able to return home. As the new regime strengthened itself, collectivized farms were established by force and the *kulaks* (See footnote on page 176) done away with.



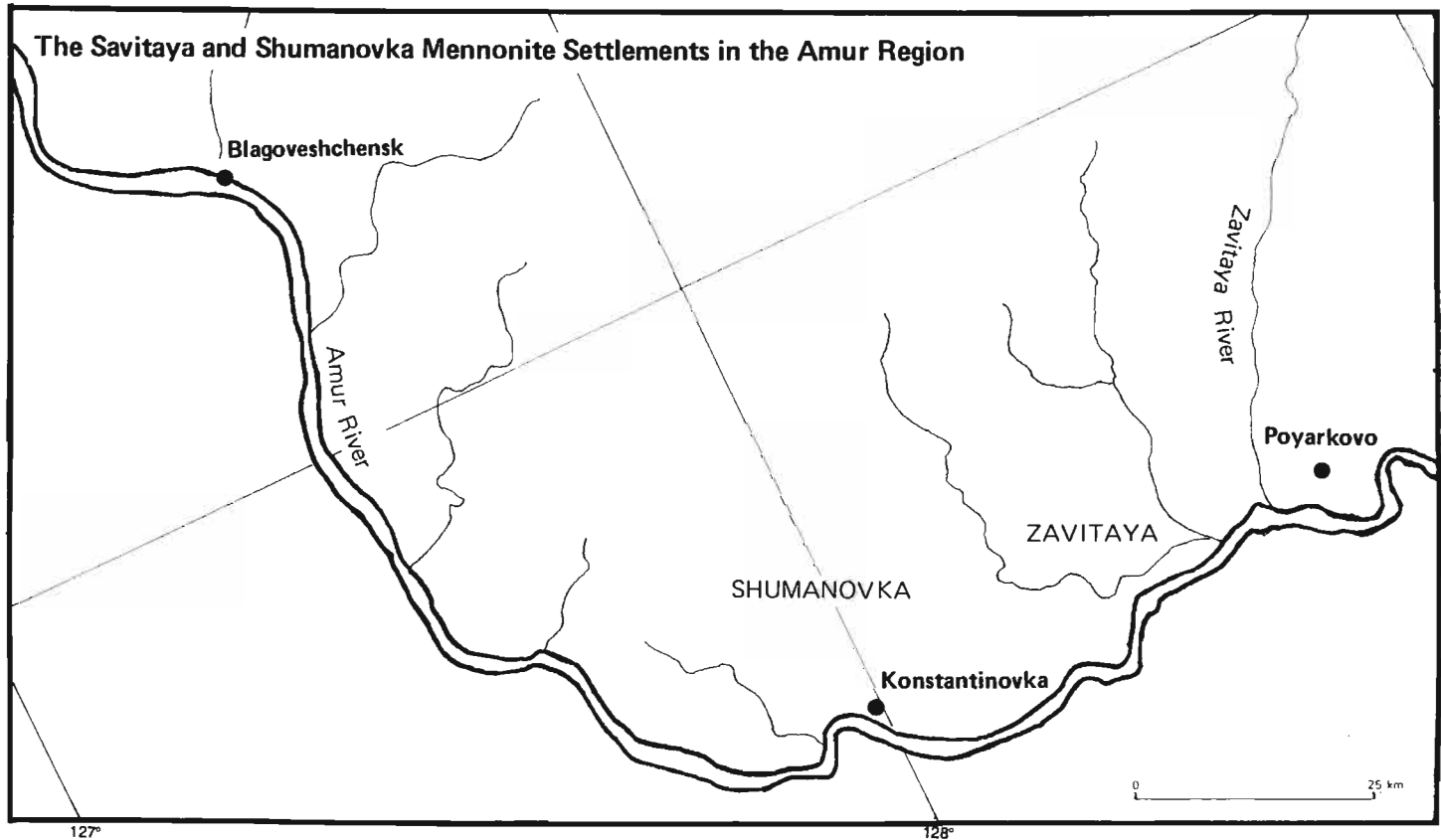
Susanna Epp Kroeker.



Johann Kroeker.

Susanna and her sons, together with many other Mennonites, decided in 1928 to find refuge in the far-off region of the Amur River. Surely there Moscow would allow them to live their life as God-fearing tillers of the soil.

Map 7



Located in far eastern Asiatic Russia, the settlements on the Amur River were the last to be established voluntarily by the Mennonites of Russia in the late 1920s. There were five settlements. Shumanovka, the largest, consisting of eight villages including Kleefeld, Friedensfeld, Ebenfeld, Gruenfeld, Memrik and New York, was located north of Konstantinovka approximately 70 kilometers from Blagoveshchensk. Zaitaya, in which the Kroekers lived, included the villages of Orechovo, Kleefeld, Halbstadt, Reinfeld, Schoensee and Pribrezhnoye, and was located nearer to the Zavitaya River not far from Poyarkovo.

On the shores of the Amur River, 90 kilometers downstream from the city of Blagoveshchensk, they made their home in a large barrack near the surveyed site of what was to become the village of Pribrezhnoye, in the Zavitaya Mennonite settlement. They arrived in late winter of 1928, the ground still frozen. When spring arrived, sod houses smeared with clay and painted white with lime sprang up. All about them in Russian and Cossack villages were signs of a land prosperous before the Revolution: large farms with spacious buildings and land worked with the latest mechanized equipment from America.

Hopes were high. On such fertile soil prosperity would come in four or five years. A school was built in the neighboring village of Halbstadt where Susanna's son Abram 1316 and colleague Bernhard Unruh taught.

In the midst of haying season news came via radio that the Amur was in flood. No matter, their homes were ten meters above the normal water level. Next

day news spread that a .6-meter bore was rapidly moving down the river. People went to bed fully dressed. Horses were ready, hitched to loaded wagons. At 3:30 a.m. the village flooded. In a short while all the inhabitants had run or splashed or swum to a hogback near the village. The dawn of day revealed the worst. With tears rolling down her cheeks Susanna pointed: "There stood our house."

The hogback had become an island. Rafts were built and horses, cattle, and goods moved to a larger island. This had barely been accomplished when an unbelievable sight appeared. Over the village a ship came steaming toward them. It stopped, delivered to them bags of flour, and then proceeded onward to give aid where needed.

The floodwaters subsided and eventually the villagers returned to their village, rebuilt it on higher ground, only to encounter another rising flood—the flood of Bolshevism. Rapidly the land was made into a collective farm and a strong border patrol set up

along the Amur to prevent people from fleeing across the river to China.

The new village was located along the hogback, and here the winter of 1929-30 was spent amid growing unrest and fear of the communist police, the GPU, who regularly investigated homes and occasionally sent persons to prison or labor camps. A few small groups from the Mennonite villages succeeded in stealing across the ice of the Amur the first winter, and a few more by boat in the summer of 1930. There were others as well who made the attempt but failed.

As the demands placed upon the collective became harsher and ever more unrealistic, and as police repression grew ever sterner, the people of Pribrezhnoye more and more often lifted up their eyes toward the land of China, from which the blue mountains of the Lesser Khingan range beckoned with imagined promises of freedom amid exotic splendor.

Susanna 131 was beset with fear and worry for her family. Three of the 16 landowners in the village as well as the minister had already been arrested and had not returned. It was the 1930 Advent season and more women feared that their men too would be taken even before Christmas.

Susanna's youngest and only unmarried son Abram 1316 was teaching at the school in the next village, Halbstadt; Franz 1313 lived far away in western Siberia. To invite Franz's family to join them was to invite GPU suspicion and heightened surveillance. Her other married children and their families, namely Aganeta Quiring 1312, Johann 1314, Kornelius 1315 and Susanna Boschmann 1318, were getting ready to flee. Both Aganeta 1312 and Susanna 1318 were pregnant.

To prepare in any thorough way for an escape across the Amur was unthinkable, for spot checks with thorough house searches by the GPU were common. Kornelius 1315 was *Dorfsvorsitzender* (village head) and as such was frequently involved with the GPU.

There were other considerations. The Amur River was extremely wide. Although numerous days of -30° to -35° C weather had passed, the question still was: Would the ice bridge hold? Protected by heavy falling snow and storm and armed with rifles, Susanna's sons-in-law, Wilhelm Quiring (1312) and Aron Boschmann (1318) evaded the border patrols one day as they walked out to the center of the river testing the ice. It was firm.

Planning a group escape of any size was a formidable task, extremely risky, for the GPU by bribery or compulsion recruited spies among the Mennonites. Neighbor was often unsure of neighbor, and friend of friend. Talk of flight from the Red Paradise might be reported to the police, with death or long imprisonment the inevitable outcome.

Nevertheless, in the late hours of that bitterly cold day of December 16 word cautiously filtered through the Mennonite village of Pribrezhnoye that this was the night. Cattle were fed and left in their stalls.

Silently the cavalcade of 13 sleighs\* moved down

the long narrow street along the hogback. The squeaking of the sleigh runners on the dry snow seemed deafening. The last house, between the steep slope of the hogback and the even steeper riverbank, was that of a family not included in the escape. This family often housed the border patrols and seemed friendly to them.

Would the glare of searchlights suddenly confront the cavalcade? Or even gunshots? Nerves stretched to anguish, horses and sleighs and contents careened down the abrupt hill. Most sleighs tipped and spilled their load. Susanna lurched out and hurt her chest, causing an injury from which she later suffered much. In desperate silence repairs were made, blankets and foodboxes, children and travelbags were heaped back into the sleigh, and the flight resumed.

Now turning aside, better to avoid the feared last house, the descent of the precipitous riverbank began. Horses floundered in the deep snow. The sharp grade proved unmanageable. Again the sleighs spilled their contents, 60-year old Susanna 131 included now as before. Again the desperate reloading.

Mid-river the group reached the relative security of a wooded island. A halt, stock-taking and headcount, and then a rapid resumption of the nightmarish journey, for by now day was dawning. A woman's scream: Mrs. (Unruh) Weis' three-year old daughter Mariechen had suffocated in a mass of fur robes and blankets. No time for artificial respiration. No time to stop.

In bright sunlight with no benefit of any fog such as frequently enveloped the river's breadth the fliers finally reached the far shore, craning their necks for any sight of pursuit. A heartfelt *Gott sei Dank!* (praise God!) from Susanna. They were in China.

The Chinese, by the refugees called *Chodjas*, received them kindly and housed them in a large rough dimly-lit barrack, furnished with a cut-down steel drum for a stove and a plank along all four walls. Smoke escaped via a hole in the roof. Here in the town of Schiecade they spent a frustrating and confused 11 days.

Christmas came. They set up a scrawny tree and sang carols, but a happy Christmas spirit wouldn't come. Their situation was grim.

Fortunately, a separate and warmer room had been found in the home of a Chinese man whose wife was Russian, where the sick could be cared for. Here Susanna's 131 daughter Susanna Boschmann 1318, gave birth to her first baby.

Their Chinese hosts seemed determined to overdo a good thing. They would not let them proceed without visas, but at the same time made it virtually impossible for the refugees to take any steps toward obtaining them. Meanwhile they gouged the group for all they were worth, relieving them among other things of the frozen pork they had butchered in preparation for the trip and buying horses, harness, bedding, watches and sewing machines for trifling sums. Protest was in vain, for a politely smiling Chinese would say: "Do not drive such a hard bargain and ask such shameless prices. You are in our hands. We

\*The whole group consisted of: Mrs. Epp and family (6 persons); Kornelius Kroekers 1315 (6); D. Boschmanns and Aron Boschmanns 1318 (10); Wilhelm Quirings 1312 (5); P. Gossens (6); ? Tiesen and D. Thiesens (7); Johann Kroekers 1314 (4); H. Klippenstein (7); P. Nikkels (4); Susanna Kroeker 131 (3); Peter Weis family (6).

need only give a sign, and the border patrol will carry you back. See! There they are!"

Perplexity and despair set in. How would they ever get away? They needed money to live and to buy transportation to Harbin through the vast wilderness of Manchuria. And there they sat, having their last kopek pried out of them.

Like a saving angel there came to their barrack a young man, a Russian fur buyer from Harbin, who offered his assistance. He negotiated with the Chinese, even guaranteeing the money needed to charter buses.

Boarding the buses had all the appearance of going, so to speak, from the frying pan into the fire. The buses were wooden boxes on wheels, and the wood very thin. The driver, so as to accommodate friends desiring a free ride, doubled up the wooden benches that served as seats, and had one row sit on the laps of the row behind. Vociferous protests did no good. In their precarious plight the refugees were invariably the losers.

Into each small bus were crammed 21 to 24 people, not counting the Chinese. Their body heat sufficiently warmed the interior in the -40° C weather, but the danger of frostbite to their feet was great, inasmuch as they could not stir them, other than wiggling their toes to test whether sensation remained. Two young men in the group already had badly frozen feet which stank strongly.

Roads were bad. Deep snow often had to be shovelled aside, and progress was slow through the Manchurian hills and forests. Packed in like sardines in the morning, the passengers would not leave the bus all day, not even at long stops. The Chief deemed it too troublesome to pack everybody back in again. The long-suffering mothers were in despair.

Lodged for the night in a huge rough barrack, Susanna 131 instructed son Abram 1316 to seek bread, handing him a large feather pillow. He went, but the people would offer so little bread in exchange that he returned without. "Mother, it won't do, even for one roll," he said. Silently she took from her travel sack a huge down quilt and with tears in her eyes handed it to him.

Finally the group reached the city of Aigun, where they stopped four days, and met up with compatriots, a group of refugees from the Mennonite village of Schumanovka, of the Schumanovka settlement in the Amur region, who, each unknown to the other, had fled the USSR on the same night.

On the road to Tsitsihar, a woman in Susanna's bus delivered a child, dead. The cadaverous smell of the frozen feet of the two young men became mixed with the stifling air of the crowded bus. The sun gleamed brightly in the -40° to -43° C cold. One old man, exhausted by hardship and deprivation, died. He was buried in the snow by the roadside.

In seven days the group reached the city of Tsitsihar and tentatively ended its arduous trek. The very old, the ill, the maternity cases and those with frozen feet went on to Harbin. This group now also included Susanna's children, the Quirings 1312, for Aganeta's time to deliver was near. Susanna 131, not in those categories, remained with the other children in Tsitsihar and found shelter in the home of a Russian priest.

Son Abram 1316, along with others of the group, found work with meager pay in a rice hulling plant, and daughter Maria 1319 too found work. The days of starvation were over. Thank God! On the second day they enjoyed a bit of bacon with their rice—a real treat!

Meanwhile in Harbin a roomy three-storey house had been rented for the group, and so another leg of the journey was undertaken. This trip was easier, the cold less intense, the road better.

One disaster marred the event. A young man named Neufeld was shot by bandits and buried in the snow by the wayside. Thus, of those leaving Pribrezhnoye, a total of three did not reach their goal, the city Harbin.

In the unfurnished house in this large city the families arranged themselves on blankets on the floor, three or four to a room. Susanna 131 already at that time suffered from nerves and a weak heart, and was mostly bedridden. Unable to bear the noisy commotion of the crowded rooms, she moved into a tiny cubicle partitioned off for her in the kitchen of one storey. She was happy for this privacy, in spite of the noisy bustle and occasional quarrel as the women prepared meals.

Most of the group sought and found employment, the men cleaning windows, shovelling snow from roofs, sorting in a paper factory, delivering milk, standing watch at night—always for European employers. The women and girls took house cleaning jobs. Daughter Maria found a good position with the family of a communist railway official.

Abram 1316 and Maria 1319 did not earn much, but enough to support Susanna 131 and to eat. Bread, meat and vegetables were cheap. Susanna badly needed medical attention; the hardship and deprivation had been too severe.

Those unable to work or find work were supported by the committee for refugees. Nobody had to suffer want. This help came from Mennonite Central Committee.

Contrary to the refugees' hopeful wishes, Canada would not admit them, and with good reason. Above all, trachoma was an evil hindrance abundantly found in this group. Entire families were afflicted by it. A doctor and two nurses battled against it with minimal success.

As refusal upon refusal came from Canada, many considered trying their luck as farmers in Manchuria. The idea was thought feasible both economically and politically. Nevertheless most preferred South America. But there Paraguay alone could be considered—an unstable impoverished landlocked country with frequent revolutions. Manchuria, on the other hand, was equally unstable, a bone of contention between China, Russia and Japan. Indeed, Japan conquered it during these very days.

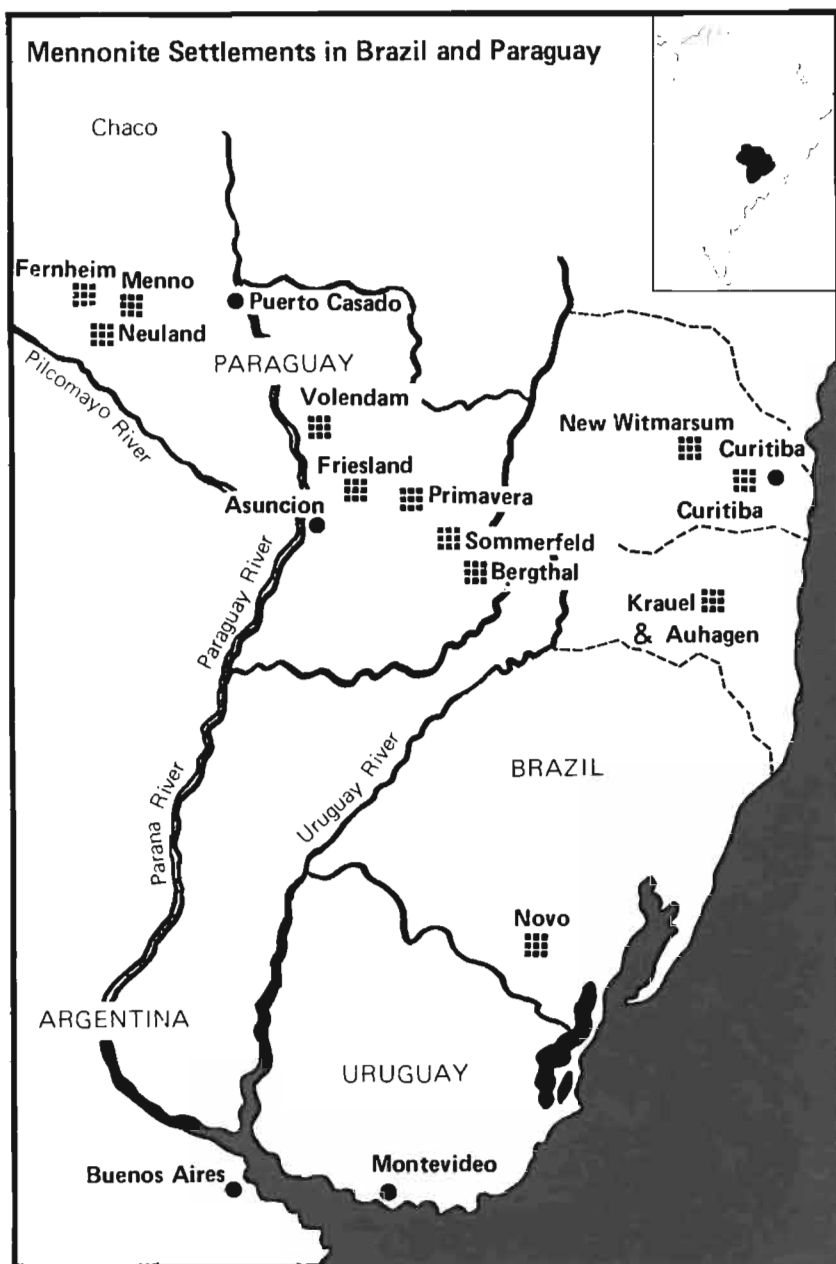


So, they were off to Paraguay. On 22 February 1932, the long voyage began. From Dairen to Shanghai in China, to Marseille in France, by train to a pleasant four-day stop in Le Havre, France, and then west and south across the equator to Buenos Aires, Argentina. Most of the trip was not by jet but on ships—some clean and comfortable, others filthy and rough.

As the group approached its destination—near the end all too rapidly—it was hard to know whether they felt a vain joy at its nearness or a fear of the uncertain future in the Paraguayan Chaco: the green hell of bushland and sandstorms, dry bittergrass, salty water and countless snakes.

In Buenos Aires a purportedly thorough medical examination took place. A lad behind Abram 1316 in the queue said: “My, these are clever doctors. They need only to touch my coat sleeve to know whether or not I am fit.”

Map 8



Mennonites fleeing Moscow in 1929-30 found homes in Canada, Brazil and Paraguay.

In Brazil two Mennonite settlements were formed, the Krauel/Witmarsum and the Auhagen. The Krauel settlement was located along a small river in the deep Alto Krauel valley. The Auhagen settlement was about 32 kilometers away on the Stolz Plateau, 620 meters above sea level.

In Paraguay the 1929-30 Moscow group with the help of MCC founded the Fernheim Mennonite settlement. This is also where the Amur-Harbin group went.



Susanna Kroeker's children. Back, l-r: Johann, Abram, Kornelius. Front, l-r: Susanna, Aganeta and Maria.

Next the journey proceeded to the city of Parana and up the Paraguay River to the end of navigation, Puerto Casada. Then they travelled 120 kilometers of narrow gauge railroad followed by 145 kilometers of ox-drawn wagon, courtesy of the Fernheim colony settlers.

Their village site was already surveyed—village 16, Fernheim Colony. It was named Karlsruhe. The oxen halted, and their few possessions were placed in the knee-high grass. Their host stepped into his wagon, bade them farewell, heard their thanks and then from his wagon seat turned his oxen with a long stick, and slowly drove back down the trail.

Susanna 131 and her two children stood there, feeling not a little desolate. She looked at Abram, lowered her eyes, and silently, with a slow scrape of her foot bent down a few blades of bittergrass. She was fighting back tears.

Abram could well imagine what might be running through her mind: the years of strenuous travel, the toll on body and soul, all the suffering and sorrow—for this?

The universe did not rear its head in astonishment but proceeded as always. And so too continued the daily struggle for survival. Abram went for water.

A small shelter of blankets and sheets served for the night. Next morning the new settlers set about digging a well. Many were dug without much success. Beyond three meters the water was salty; less than that the water, if sweet, very scant. Anyone who wanted water by the bucket learned to rise very early. Late risers had to scoop with a cup from the bottom of the well.

The Fernheim settlers of 1930 showed them how to erect huts of poles and grass and mud, to make rough bricks, makeshift doors and screen windows. They worked hard, in the hope that soon things would be better. They would plant fast growing Paraisoi trees and in five or ten years saw them and erect houses, with fine beds and shelves and cupboards and tables. They would once again live more respectably.

Son Abram 1316 recalls:

My God! How optimistic, how hopeful, how confident people can be in the most miserable situations! Whence comes this courage, this confidence, this firm faith in a better tomorrow?

And we all did our part. And conditions improved. We made rapid progress. . . . Paraisoi trees indeed did grow fast and enhanced the village streets. Life became better, more agreeable.

Abram 1316 taught in the village school, but lived with Susanna 131; Maria married and left home. Much to the relief of his mother, Abram eventually married too.

Susanna's heart condition deteriorated, and dropsy set in. She died 11 May 1936 at peace with God.

Susanna's children continued the struggle. In 1937 when health and economic conditions had become too discouraging, all but the Johann Kroeker 1314 family joined a larger group of pioneers to found the Friesland Colony in East Paraguay. In the early 1950s a further move was undertaken to Curitiba, Brazil, where the Johann Kroekers eventually also made their home.

This is where, with a few exceptions, descendants of the following four children of Susanna 131 live today: Johann 1314 and Greta Kroeker; Kornelius 1315 and Maria Kroeker; Susanna 1318 and Aron Boschmann; and Maria 1319 and David Epp. Two families, Aganeta 1312 and Wilhelm Quiring and

Abram 1316 and Maria Kroeker, emigrated to West Germany.

Franz 1313 and the half-brother Jacob remained in Russia. Franz was exiled in 1937 and perished. His wife Tina died in 1938. They left four children who with their families live in the Pavlodar region today.

Jacob is believed to have died in or near Moscow during one of the purges. He and his wife had two daughters but their names and whereabouts are unknown.

Two children, Susanna 1311 at age five in Memrik and Peter 1317 at age three in Omsk, had predeceased Susanna 131 and her husband.

When Abram 1316 visited Susanna's grave in 1977, he found the little cemetery sadly neglected, and their former village of Karlsruhe nearly abandoned. He decided on the spot to transfer the remains of his mother along with the tombstone to the beautiful cemetery at Filadelfia, Fernheim.



Burial site of Susanna Epp Kroeker, Filadelfia, Fernheim, Paraguay.

# Sammlen Chronik

Name *Kornelius Epp.*  
Geboren *am 4. Aug. 1844 in Prosenort.*  
Name *Agathe Epp geb. Franz,*  
Geboren *am 5. April 1856 in Choritz.*

In den Stand der heiligen Ehe getreten:

Ort *in Prosenort*  
Datum *am 14. Okt., 1880.*  
Bemerkungen *wird auf Prosenort gemeldet,  
auf dem Hofe, dort in Prosenort  
geb. am 19. Okt. 1918 um 30.*

One page of the family record in the Kornelius Epp Bible.

## The House of Kornelius Epp 14

### KORNELIUS EPP 14 (1844-1916)

Kornelius Epp 14, like his brothers, was born in Rosenort. He was primarily a farmer, active in civic and community affairs. Considering that he had only four years of formal education, he was a strong supporter of Mennonite schools and institutions and all worthy causes. He often helped a brother in financial need and had good rapport with his servants until they fell prey to the teachings and influence of the revolutionaries.

As a young man, Kornelius, with his inheritance portion of 200 rubles, set out to invest in the community of Rosenhof, Schoenfeld (Brazol) settlement in the Ukraine. From this frugal beginning, Kornelius, a shrewd speculator in land and other property, built his *chutor* which he named Neuhof. He invested in more agricultural land and also in a small brick factory and other business, thus becoming the most prosperous of the ten EPP brothers. His Neuhof *Gut* with three *Höfe* (yards) numbering 1,683 dessiatines (approximately 1834.47 hectares) was the largest of the 15 estates of owners belonging to the Rosenhof *Dorfgemeinde* (village community). Actually this parcel of land constituted several smaller *chutors*, two of which were named Herzenberg and Krutojarrowka. The latter had been bought for his son David 148.

Land had not only been acquired and designated for all of his sons to help them get started, but, with the same intention, was also rented out or sold to brothers and nephews. This help from Kornelius was appreciated by most of his relatives as confirmed by Cornelius Heinrich Epp 118, Leamington, Ontario, when he visited cousin David Kornelius Epp 148, Clearbrook, British Columbia in the 1960s. Unfortunately some of the relatives did not see it that way and the story is told of one who refused to pay rent because "he was not about to make his rich uncle any richer."

Property owned by Kornelius 14 was located in Tiegerweide in the Molotschna, which became his

Kornelius 141.  
Nikolai 142.  
Heinrich 143  
Johannes 144  
Cornelius 145  
Petrus 146  
Agathe 147  
David 148  
Anna 149.  
Abram 1410  
Gerhard 1411.  
Helene 1412



Kornelius Epp.

second wife's home from 1917-24, and Kurushan, where a number of Epp relatives consequently made their home. For one particular piece of land, Kornelius 14 ended up paying double. On the original document he had signed his name with a different signature than the usual one, using a nickname for his designated second name Heinrich. The signature was not honored. For Kornelius 14, as for many other estate owners, land was seen as the only sure and wise investment of surplus capital.



Kornelius Epp married twice, the first time to the former Anna N. Harder of Steinbach. She had already been widowed twice, having been married to Johann Schmidt and to Jacob Wiens. Of the three sons from Kornelius' first marriage, only Heinrich 143 lived to adulthood, Kornelius 141 having been killed by a horse at the age of 14 and Nikolai 142 having died in infancy.



Kornelius and Anna (Schmidt Wiens) Epp.

### HEINRICH EPP 143 (1872-1921)

Heinrich 143, a farmer on the Andrejewka Gut, married Katharina H. Thiessen, from Gavrilovka *chutor*, Schoenfeld (Brazol) settlement. They had 11 children.

Heinrich was noted for his good nature and his physical strength sufficient to carry a 90.8-kilogram sack of wheat into the loft.

He was very popular with his Russian workers. On Wednesday night, 18 April 1918, Heinrich's place was raided but not too severely. When threats continued, his workers invited him and his family to come and stay in their village for protection but Heinrich 143 chose to move his family to Gnadenfeld, Molotschna in August of 1918.

On the 24th of June 1921 Heinrich was banned to Tarashcha. He died of typhus and malnutrition on Christmas Eve 1921 in a Kiev prison, having been incarcerated mistakenly for another man by the same name. He was found dead on his knees.



Kornelius and Agatha (Franz) Epp.

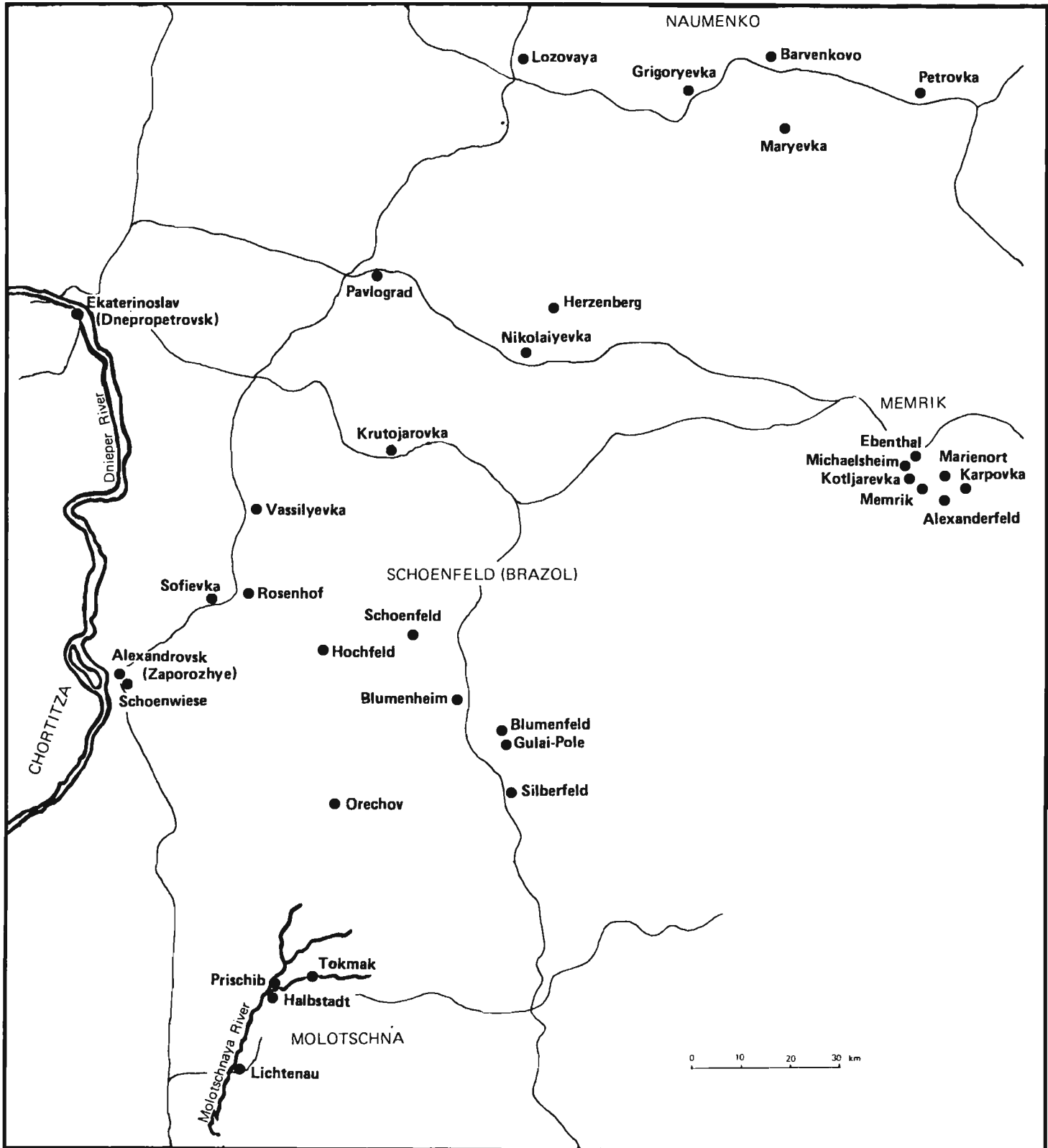
Heinrich's wife, Katharina, and four children: Agathe 1436, David 1438, Gerhard 14310, and Margarethe 14311 were banished to Siberia 5 May 1929. Agathe married Isaak Penner in Orenburg. David was imprisoned and never heard from again.

Katharina (143) and her youngest two children returned to Gnadenfeld in January 1934. Here she lived in abject poverty and in continual hiding. One of her daughters relates how, on one occasion, she



Heinrich 143 and Katharina Epp and family. Children, back, l-r: Gerhard, Cornelius, Susanna. Front, l-r: Johann, Heinrich and Agathe.

## The Schoenfeld (Brazol), Naumenko and Memrik Mennonite Settlements



Schoenfeld, in Ekaterinoslav province, differed from most other Mennonite settlements of Russia because it was purchased primarily by individuals and was scattered over a large area interspersed by numerous Russian and German settlements. Among the groups of estates which comprised this settlement were: Schoenfeld, Blumenheim, Blumenfeld, Hochfeld, Rosenhof, Kronsberg (not located) and Silberfeld. Most of the dwelling places were scattered on estates and few of the villages resembled the traditional pattern. Rosenhof, the village of the House of Kornelius 14, was more likely a community of chutor owners living fairly close together. Gulai-Pole was the birthplace of the anarchist Nestor Makhno.

Naumenko in Kharkov province grouped its estates around Grigoryevka, Barvenkovo, Petrovka and other villages along the Lozovaya-Rostov railway.

Between the two settlements lay isolated Mennonite villages including Herzenberg and Nikolaiyevka where House of Heinrich 11 descendants lived. Farther east lay Memrik.

swept the cracks in the attic in search of kernels of grain, but without success. Then she went down to the shed where she saw a stray hen, a God-send. This she slaughtered and cooked. It was devoured before it was fully cooked for the hunger was great. The bones and a bay leaf made some soup.

Katharina (143) passed her days in constant fear until she and the two children moved to Kronstal, Chortitza Colony in 1935. Here daughter Margarethe 14311 married Dietrich Martens.

During World War II in September 1943 Katharina (143), son Gerhard 14310, daughters Susanna Dirks 1433, Anna Pankratz 1437, Katja Klassen 1439 and Margarethe Martens 14311 and their children (their husbands having died or been deported) joined the trek west to Wartegau (Poland) where they found a temporary home in Marschland. After much suffering Katharina (143) died and was buried there in October of 1944. Her children Susanna, Anna, Gerhard and Margaretha could be at the funeral.

Of Heinrich 143 and Katharina's children, Cornelius 1432 emigrated to Canada in 1924, Susanna 1433 in 1947 and Anna 1437 and Katja in 1948. Gerhard 14310 and Margarethe 14311 were forcibly repatriated by the Communists. Currently both, with their spouses and children, live in the village of Krasjnoe Oktjaberski Pasjolok near Frunze, Kazakh SSR. Agathe 1436, with husband and children, lives a ten-minute walk from them in the village of Romanovka.

Heinrich 1434 came to West Germany as *Umsiedler* (immigrant) in 1967.

Kornelius' 14 second wife, Agatha Franz, was a cousin of the first, and a daughter of Heinrich Franz, a well-known teacher in Chortitza. By this marriage there were nine children, six sons and three daughters.

It was said that Kornelius never punished his children in anger, but would first go for a long walk down the lane (in winter, along the long verandah at the front of the house) before he would lay a rod on them. Actually he was in the habit of taking daily walks.

Like a patriarch he sat at the head of the table and discussed with his sons the plans for each day—for the fields, the business and the home.

He emphasized the importance of a good reputation, because once it was lost it is almost impossible to attain again. He never allowed anyone to speak ill of others in his presence, and could gently smooth the children's ruffled feelings. He could reprimand without hurting anyone. He loved his grandchildren, and made swings of all kinds and descriptions for them and their guests. Especially at Eastertime they enjoyed these get-togethers and grandfather watched the grandchildren lovingly.

At Christmas the servants and their families came to the house carrying a huge Christmas star with Virgin



Kornelius and Agatha Epp and family.





In the living room at the Kornelius Epp Neuhof residence in 1809. L-r: Cornelius 145 and wife Anna, Agatha (14), Helene 1412 and Kornelius 14. Front, l-r: Agathe 147 and Anna 149.

Mary on the picture and a candle lighting it. They sang songs and wished their "master" a good Christmas, were given a bag of goodies and went again.

This was repeated at New Year—without the star, but with a bag of barley which they scattered into the open door. This time they were given money in return.

The baking for Christmas was always a tremendous thrill. Watching grandmother and the aunts bake and bake! Oh, that was bliss when the baking began at the end of November! First the dough was mixed, days later it was baked. All the children stood by to "help." Then finally, the aroma! The sampling! The children of course were allowed to sample only the not-quite-perfect cookies. That was a foretaste of heaven!

Then the Christmas preparations. And finally, on Christmas morning, all the children and grandchildren went early to sing "Silent Night" at the grandparents' bedroom door.

"It is a beautiful dream never to be forgotten," wrote Agathe Epp 1441, adding, "I thank God for our Christian ancestors who showed us by their lifestyle and their teachings to live a good God-fearing life."

In 1913, on the day that the Czar made his journey to his winter residence at Yalta in the Crimea, the entourage passed Vassiljevka, where that day a son was born to Johannes 144 and Helene Epp. Kornelius 14 looked at the child and said sadly, "Children, children, you are facing a difficult future. I won't live to see it." Less than a year later, war broke out and the Czar never made that journey again.

During World War I, when one son after another was compelled to go into some sort of alternative

service, the wives and children assembled at Neuhof with the parents and grandparents, Kornelius 14 and Agatha. This was a wonderful time for the children with so many cousins together all the time. They were of course innocently unaware of the dangers and anxieties of their elders. On at least one occasion, when the children were all seated around the table (they were often fed before the adults were), grandfather Kornelius looked in and proudly exclaimed to their grandmother: "Thy children like olive plants round about the table!" (Ps. 128:3).

On another occasion, but already after the death of Kornelius, three four-to-five year-old boys discovered some matches and cigarettes that the coachman had forgotten in the carriage. They did what many a normal boy would have done. They went behind the feed stack and started to experiment. They neatly pushed together a little pile of straw and lit it; they just wanted a little fire. The end of the experiment was that all four of the feed stacks, the whole winter's supply, went up in flames, and a pair of very irate uncles (Petrus 146 and David 148) had all they could do to keep the fire from spreading to the buildings. The little boys? Overwhelmed with sorrow and regret they sat beside grandmother on the outside house steps begging not to be punished by Uncle Petrus—he hit too hard. Grandmother Agatha dealt with them appropriately, admonishing them severely.

Kornelius 14 died in January 1916 of pneumonia and enteritis. He was buried in the family plot in the northwest corner of the main yard at Neuhof. Many friends came to pay their last respects.

Amidst the total anarchy that followed the over-

throw of the Czar, Petrus 146 arranged to have telephones installed in the Neuhof residences to expedite communication and warnings. His mother questioned the necessity of this. "We want to leave here," she said. "Why all this?"

On 30 October 1918 Agatha (14) together with the children that had assembled at home (Petrus 146 and family, David 148, Anna 149, Abram 1410, and Helene 1412) fled from Neuhof to Schoenwiese in the district of Alexandrovsk. Their first stop was the Woelk's yard at Sofievka. Johann J. Nickel, a minister of Rosenhof, recorded in *Thy Kingdom Come*, his diary of 1918-19:

All land owners of the Rosenhof area were gathered here, at least 300 persons. . . . Some youths rode away to scout for information. At 9:30 Gerhard Weisse arrived and said, "Drive on, the band with 50 wagons is raiding the Epp [14] place." They lived about two *versts* [about two kilometers] from Rosenhof. David Epp [148] came and said his brother Gerhard [141] is probably murdered.

In less than 15 minutes the yard was empty, and a long row of wagons proceeded at a rapid pace toward Alexandrovsk.

Some loyal servants later returned to Neuhof and salvaged a wagonload of valuables including all the photographs, heirlooms, some linens and food and brought them to Agatha (14) in Schoenwiese. Here they lived with acquaintances, Thiessens and Hieberts. In the end they also found a house where they could live alone. But this was not for long.

While Petrus 146 and his family stayed in Schoenwiese, mother Agatha (14) with Anna 149, Abram 1410 and Helene 1412 went on to Tiegerweide, Molotschna. Here Kornelius 14 had earlier purchased a warehouse or store of some kind which had been remodelled and had been meant to provide a home for Agatha (14) in her retirement. David 148 continued on to the Crimea where he was a stranger and could remain in hiding. He stayed there for two years before returning to Schoenwiese.

In Tiegerweide love and life continued in spite of the tense atmosphere of fear and hate as the Civil War raged on. There were happy days and sad days. It was here that Abram 1410 married Maria Thiessen, now living in Landskrone, Molotschna. He was the last of the five Kornelius Epp 14 children to marry



During the war years when some of the families lived together at Neuhof. Back, Agatha Epp 1453. Middle, l-r: Cornelius Epp 1443, Cornelius Epp 1452, Kaethe (Tinchen) Epp 1442. Front, l-r: Agatha (14), Ljulja, Gerdde, Margareth 1451.

into the extended Thiessen family, formerly of Rosenhof.

Also in Tiegerweide a gang of Makhnovites invaded Agatha's (14) home one night. Anna 149 narrowly escaped. Mother Agatha stood helplessly by while in the next room Helene 1412 suffered as she was ruthlessly assaulted and raped. To recuperate from this traumatic experience Helene was sent to the Crimea where life was deemed to be safer.

During the war years, with the battle front raging back and forth across the Ukraine, farmers were probably the biggest losers. They lost all their horses, their crops were trampled and they had to resort to using whatever cattle they could muster to work the fields. Severe hardships followed, but as is so often the case, where there is need, the Lord provides help. This came through the ARA and AMR as well as from other sources. These agencies brought in not only foodstuffs, but also tractors and other farm machinery.

During these difficult times for the Kornelius Epp 14 family, four sons, one son-in-law, and several grandsons were lost as a direct result of the Revolution, and more indirectly through famine and devastation. Had their faith not been so strong, they might well have been driven to despair. However, they felt God's leading throughout, and it was His hand that brought most of them through those turbulent times.

Agatha (14) lived to come to Canada with her sons David 148 and Abram 1410 in 1924. Besides large photograph albums and other heirlooms she brought with her a remarkable knowledge, and a collection of herbs (e.g. muscat and bitter aloes) which she used for medicinal purposes. Some of the potions she concocted were vile and bitter, but so much the better for whatever ailed one.

She took a lively interest in everything that went on and was always eager to go along when the family vehicle went anywhere, whether winter or summer. She had a lovely long fur-lined cape that kept her warm on the coldest days. At home she always looked quite elegant, often sitting in her rocker, always wearing her *Haube* (a ribboned head-covering), her knitting in her lap and the Bible open on the table beside her, not content to do just one thing at a time. Someone once remarked that she looked like a portrait of Queen Victoria.

In 1935 she suffered a stroke and was bedridden. Her daughter Anna 149 nursed her until her death at the age of 80.

Identity card. Far left: Agatha (Franz) Epp (14). Then l-r: Margarethe Epp 1451, David Epp 148, Agathe Epp 1453. Katherine (148) with Gerhard 1481, Cornelius 1452.



## Медицинское свидетельство. Medical Certificate.

This is to certify that I have medically examined the bearer of this Identification Card and find him/her in good health.

Forwarding authorised.

Medical Officer



## УДОСТОВЕРЕНИЕ IDENTIFICATION CARD.

|   |                  |  |      |
|---|------------------|--|------|
| Проданная карта<br>The bearer of the    | Epp Agatha Henry | лет<br>age   | 6    |
| пол<br>sex                              | female           | МЕНЩИК следует в Канаду<br>is a Mennonite emigrating to Canada |      |
| По основному списку<br>On original list | 2                | Эв. Союз. Толмак, выходец<br>On behalf of the                  |      |
| Семейный<br>Family                      | No               | на Украине<br>Mennonite Union                                  |      |
| Личный<br>Personal                      | No 1701          | Старший эшелон<br>Conductor echelon                            | No 7 |

## JOHANNES EPP 144 (1883-1919)

Johannes 144 was the oldest of Kornelius 14 and Agatha's children. About 1904, while in the *Forstedienst*, he had a conversion experience during some evangelistic services conducted in the camp.

He married Helene Thiessen from Blumenthal *chutor*, Schoenfeld (Brazil) settlement in 1908. In 1909 they went to Berlin where Johannes attended the Alliance Bible School for two years, later being ordained as minister. In Berlin their first child, daughter Agathe, was born.

During the war years Johannes was in the *Sani-tätsdienst* in St. Petersburg. Some time after his return, their home was also visited by Makhnovites. Irene 1444, almost a year old, was lying on a bed in one room. The bandits leaned their guns against the bed, one fell and went off accidentally, narrowly missing the child.

In another room the bandits found some *Stundist*\* Russian tracts which Johannes held for distribution among Russian-speaking inhabitants. When the band leader saw these he ordered his men "Do him no harm. He is a good man." Molestation ceased.

As minister, Johannes 144 served the Rosenhof congregation until his death in 1919. Johann J. Nickel's diary documents occasions of his ministry:

Sunday, April 21 [1918]. Johannes Epp conducted the church service today. He thanked God in several ways according to the words of Psalm 107:1-16.

At Eastertime "Johann Epp took the Second holiday" and on the first day of Pentecost he preached on the sharing of God's spiritual gifts.

In 1919 Johannes cared for and nursed sick soldiers passing through the area. He contracted typhus and died after 12 days. After his death his wife and the children moved to Landskrone, Molotschna. "In later life we have experienced it abundantly that God is the father of widows and orphans," wrote Cornelius 1443.

Hunger years, help from MCC, collectivization, attempts to emigrate and a last visit with relatives in Rosenort followed. By 1930 Canada was closed for this family as for many others but an alternative was found. After being stationed at Hammerstein and Moelln in Germany, the family went to Brazil in 1931.

The first years in the Brazilian Chaco on the Auhagen settlement, Stolz Plateau, were very rigorous. Each person was issued basic cooking utensils, an axe, a sickle, a hoe, enough food for half a year, and one hectare of land to clear. They cleared the land and raised a crop of corn in that first half year. Together with other Mennonite families they soon built a church and school. Later they moved to Curitiba where the living was easier, and still later some of the family have come to Canada.



Johannes and Helene Epp.



At Curitiba, Brazil. In front far right is Helene, widow of Johannes 144. To her right in foreground is cousin Margaret Rogalsky 11114.

\*Stundism, a religious movement, can be traced directly to leaders of Pietism who transplanted the practice of private devotional meetings and Bible study from Germany and England to the German and Russian population of the Ukraine. The word Stundism comes from the German *Stunde* meaning hour, an hour set aside for worship and fellowship.

**CORNELIUS EPP 145 (1884-1919)**

Cornelius 145 was an avid photographer and even built his own darkroom. A photo he took of his wife, Anna Wiens of Schoenberg *chutor*, Schoenfeld (Brazol) settlement, and children is now in his daughter's cherished possession. Together with Johannes 144 he was in the *Sanitätsdienst* in St. Petersburg and Zarskoje Selo during World War I.

On Sunday, 26 January 1919, after the church worship service he was taken from his home by Soviet authorities for a "trial" and several days later brutally killed. His widow suffered pneumonia, typhus and finally died of tuberculosis in August 1920, leaving their three surviving children in the care of her brother-in-law David (see David 148). These orphans overcame their handicaps and have acquired a good education. The oldest, Margarethe 1451, was, at the time of her death in May 1978, a professor at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon. Cornelius 1452, a very ambitious and promising young man, died of a perforated ulcer at the age of 23 in 1935. Agathe 1453 taught school until her retirement.



**Cornelius Epp and Anna Wiens.**

**Below: Anna Epp with children, l-r: Agathe, Cornelius and Margarethe.**



**PETRUS EPP 146 (1886-1954)**

Petrus 146 married Helene Rempel of Yeisk on the Sea of Azov. He served as a *Sanitäter* during World War I.

The Petrus Epps were the first of the Kornelius 14 family to emigrate to Canada in 1923 with one of the major Mennonite immigration groups. Their first home was the Wilson Farm at Harris, Saskatchewan, where many Mennonites got their introduction to Canadian farming. After three years of farming in Girvin, Saskatchewan (see David 148) he worked in a store in Drake, Saskatchewan. Several years later they went to Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, where he was involved in the same type of work. The surviving members of the family are still in Ontario.



**Petrus and Helene Epp.**



**Petrus Epp with wife Helene (to his right) and her sister Margaret Rempel (to Petrus left). The Petrus Epp children, l-r: Margaret, Helene and Ewald.**

**AGATHE (EPP) THIESSEN SAWATZKY 147  
(1888-1941)**

Agathe 147 was the fourth of the Kornelius 14 children to marry into the extended Gerhard Thiessen family.\* This was in keeping with the general pattern of children of *Gutsbesitzer* marrying children of other *Gutsbesitzer*. Her first husband, Heinrich Thiessen, was mercilessly killed 25 January 1918 by the Makhnovites, leaving Agathe with five children. While anarchistic activities had already been frequent throughout the fall of 1917 and tension, fear and uncertainty filled the German Mennonite population throughout the Schoenfeld (Brazol) settlement and the entire Ukraine, human life thus far had been spared. Agathe's family, together with other Thiessen relatives, was the first to become victim of what became know as *die Zeit des schwarzen Terrors* (the time of black terror).

Years later, in 1941, both Agathe and her second husband, Wilhelm Sawatzky, were exiled to Siberia for the "usual unspecified reason" and there they both perished of hunger two years later.



Agathe Epp.

*Ihr Hochzeitsfeier unserer Tochter*  
 — — — — —  
*Agathe*  
 mit Herrn  
*Heinrich Thiessen,*  
*der im Gattrecht, am 26. August d. J. stattfinden*  
*woll. werden wir Sie erbet. Sumitio feierlichst ein.*  
*Hochachtungsvoll*  
*Kornelius u. Agathe*  
*Epp.*  
 August 1910.

Wedding invitation.



Agathe Sawatzky (center back) and family.

\*The GERHARD THIESSEN family and the Kornelius Epp children who married into it:

- HEINRICH THIESSENS — Katharina, m. Heinrich Epp 143  
 Gawrilowka Gut — Maria, m. Johann Wiens  
 — Heinrich (murdered), m. Agathe Epp 147  
 — Susanna, m. Jacob Thiessen  
 — Gerhard (murdered), fiancé of Anna Epp 149
- GERHARD THIESSENS — Helene, m. Johannes Epp 144  
 Blumenthal Gut — Maria, m. Jacob Rempel  
 — Gerhard  
 — Peter (murdered)  
 — Heinrich, m. Anna Toews  
 — Abram (died in White Army)  
 — Katharina, m. J. Enns, Ontario  
 — Jacob, m. Maria Toews, sister to Anna
- JACOB THIESSENS — Anna Wiens, m. Cornelius Epp 145  
 Schoenberg Gut — Margareta (died as an infant as did several  
 — other siblings)  
 — ?  
 — ?  
 — ?  
 — Gerhard (died at age 11)  
 — Jacob (murdered)
- ABRAM THIESSENS — Gerhard  
 Soljonaja Gut — Anni (murdered)  
 — Maria, m. Abram Epp 1410  
 — Katharina  
 — Abram
- ARON THIESSEN  
 Soljonaja Gut

DAVID EPP 148 (1890-1976)

David 148 was the last of the Kornelius 14 sons to leave home in March of 1916 and was stationed in Moscow as *Sanitäter*. It was his duty to administer first aid to wounded soldiers as they arrived from the front. But attending up to 650 wounded men in one day was beyond David's strength and he was transferred to a different department where forms were made for fractures.

When the War was over and chaos set in, David, like everyone else, left his position and went home. With the family he fled from Neuhof to Schoenwiese and then on alone to the Crimea. He was spared and when the worst in lawlessness was over he returned to Schoenwiese with one loaf of bread under his arm. On the way he encountered some friendly Russians in a village and spent the night with them. There was little sign of life in the village. When he asked an old gentleman where all the people were, he was told that all but a few had starved.

David had placed his bread—what was left of it—under his pillow. In the morning it was gone. He didn't have the heart to find out who had taken it.

Later, on that trip as well, Cornelius' 145 widow Anna, had recognized him, beard and all, and had asked him to take care of her three children, knowing that she had only a short while to live. He was destitute himself and had no home, no means, not even a wife. What could he do?

In Schoenwiese David lived with his brother Petrus 146 for a while. He worked for the ARA, which was instrumental in saving many from starvation.



David Epp.

AMERICAN RELIEF ADMINISTRATION  
RUSSIAN UNIT.

Cablegrams & Telegrams:  
„Childfund — Moscow”.

Wm. N. Haskell,  
Director in Russia

Series

December 6, 1922.  
Alexander voh.  
V33.

Subject

\_\_\_\_\_

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT EPP David has been in the employ of the AMERICAN RELIEF ADMINISTRATION as an Accountant, from 17 May to 1st December 1922.

I. HARTPIDGE,  
District Supervisor  
Alexandrovsk.

У Д О С Т О В Е Р Е Н И Е .

Сим удостоверяем, что ЭПП Давид Корнеевич состоял на службе Американской Администрации Помощи, в качестве Счетовода, с 17-го мая по 1-ое Декабря, 1922 г.

Л. ХАРТРИДЖ  
Окружной полномоченный  
Александровск.

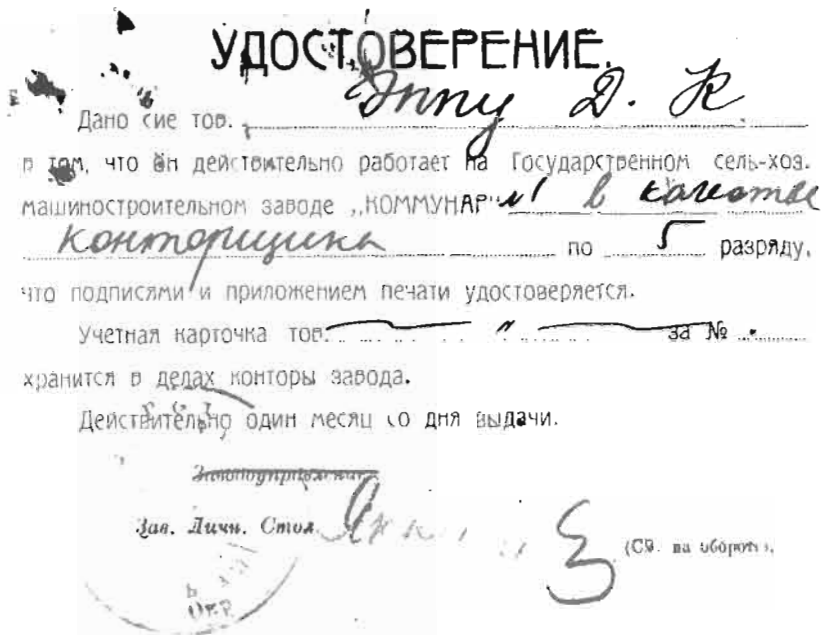
Декабря 6, 1922 г.

№ . 33  
106





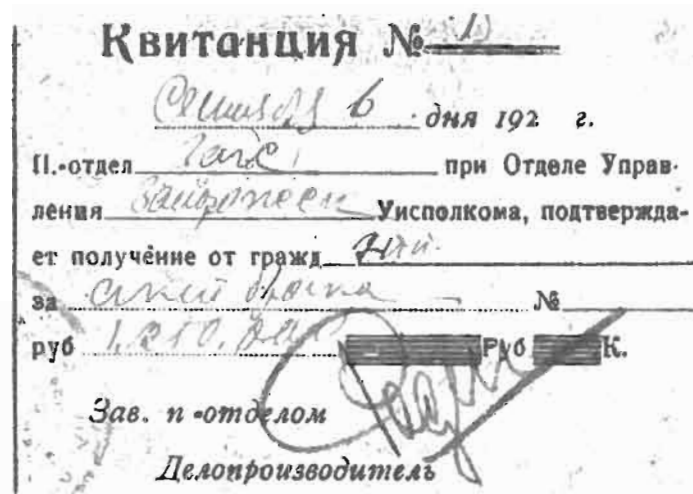
Ф. № 15, 5000, тп 23.



David Epp's certificate of employment at the UKRTESTCELMACH factory.



Katherine Unrau.



Receipt of payment of 1,250,000 rubles for David and Katherine's marriage license (shown on next page). The wedding rings cost another 20,000,000 rubles each.

On Saturday, 16 September 1922, David married Katherine Unrau, an employee at the former Lepp and Wallmann industry.\* The wedding meal consisted of coffee and *Zwieback*.

When David 148 and Katherine moved into their own house the following Monday, the house which had been the home of his slain brother Cornelius' 145 family, they immediately assumed responsibility for the three orphans aged 12, 10, and 8 who had been living with the maternal grandparents.

When the ARA discontinued its aid, David acquired a position as manager of the former Lepp and Wallman firm which was now a nationalized trust company called UKRTESTCELMACH. He worked there until their departure for Canada on 18 June 1924. This was none too soon for within one week

he was to have been captured and deported, according to information disclosed by one of the Reds living with David and Katherine.

Together with his mother, his wife and son, the three orphans, and his brother Abram 1410 and his wife and son, he came to Canada arriving in July 1924 in the Waterloo, Ontario area. David and Katherine described their reception:

We were all taken to Waterloo, unloaded on a church yard and then the people came, all Old Mennonites, and chose whoever pleased them most. Because we were a large family, we were continually bypassed and it got late. The sun sank lower and lower, when at last a man took pity on us and took us along. He did that for his neighbor who couldn't come himself. Since we had been rejected by so many, we were rather afraid to disembark but how surprised we were to be received so very warmly and to be hosted so well. It was a farm, the home of Sylvester Martin. . . .

\*This firm had owned the largest of the Mennonite farm implement factories in Russia. By 1914 its two factories of Chortitz and Schoenwiese had employed over 700 men.

# Выпись о браке

№ 1) *Мин. А. / 1922*

1) Место записи . . . . . *Минск 16/20/22*

2) Число и месяц заключения брака . . . . . *6 сентября 1922*

**С В Е Д Е Н И Я**

|   | О женихе                      | О невесте                  |
|---|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 3) Фамилия и имя . . . . .  | <i>Васильев Василий</i>       | <i>Степанова Екатерина</i> |
| 4) Возраст (число, месяц и год рождения) . . . . .                | <i>1901</i>                   | <i>1901</i>                |
| 5) Постоянное местожительство (указать подробный адрес) . . . . . | <i>Минск Вавилов ул. № 25</i> |                            |
| 6) Род занятий . . . . .  | <i>Учитель</i>                | <i>Домашн.</i>             |
| 7) Семейное положение . . . . .                                   | Холост, вдов, разведен        | Девича, вдова, разведена   |
|   | <i>Холост</i>                 | <i>Девича</i>              |

8) В который по счету брак вступает . . . . . *первый*

9) Фамилия, которой желают именовать брач. шире . . . . .

10) Особые замечания . . . . .

11) Подпись жениха и невесты . . . . . *Васильев*  
 и в полном поступлении в брак . . . . . *Степанова*



Зав. Под'отделом ЗАГС

Делопроизводитель

*[Handwritten signature]*



The farm at Girvin, Saskatchewan where Petrus, David and Abram attempted to farm.



Above: the families on the Girvin farm in 1927. L-r: Margarethe 1451, visitors Helen and Cornelius Epp 1432 with Irmgard, Petrus 146, Agatha (14), Agathe 1453, Helene (146), Margaret 1461, Cornelius 1452, Katherine (148), Maschinka (1410) with Edith, David 148 with Theodore, Abram 1410. Children in front, l-r: Gerhard 1481, Irene 1482, Melita 14103, Herbert 14102 and Ewald 1464. Missing is Helene 1462, daughter of Petrus.

Below: the David Epp family in 1940. Back, l-r: Irene, Louise, Gerhard. Front, l-r: Katherine, Paul, David.



David and Katherine were not accustomed to the farm work and had many and difficult adjustments to make. The third week daughter Irene 1482 was born—the first *Russländer*!

The following March 1925, again together with mother and brother Abram 1410 and family, they went west. Abram and David worked for farmer Brooks near Ardath, Saskatchewan, for the first year (April 1925 to spring 1926). After that the three brothers, Petrus 146, who had lived at Harris, Saskatchewan since 1923, and David 148 and Abram 1410 bought a farm at Girvin, Saskatchewan. The very flat rocky land made farming operations most difficult. David wrote in his *Memoirs*:

Not nearly always did the partnership farming go well, for three heads also have three minds and opinions, and not nearly always was it possible to come to consensus so that there were rather frequent disagreements. It would probably not have been as bad if things had gone well economically but here there was also one disappointment after another.

During the first spring David burned one of his hands severely in a pumphouse fire and was consequently hospitalized for a longer period of time.

In August 1927 the women, Katherine and Helene (Petrus' wife), and sons Gerhard 1481 and Ewald 1464, respectively, set out on a trip to town. The horses, unaccustomed to their drivers, bolted and the democrat was wrecked. Katherine broke an arm and was wounded severely on the head, narrowly escaping the loss of an eye. Ewald also suffered a broken arm but fortunately the others were uninjured.

There were few other Mennonites living around Girvin and credit and trustworthiness had not been established with the business people in the area. When an essential part of the plow had to be ordered and upon delivery couldn't be paid for in cash, it was necessary to drive out to the former owner of the farm who vouched for the Epp brothers. Then the plowing could continue. In five years this changed, and a reputation of reliability and trust had developed.

Abram Epps left this farm after three years and mother Agatha (14) went with them, hoping the other families would follow to a larger Mennonite settlement at Naco, Alberta. Petrus Epps moved to Drake, Saskatchewan after the fourth year, but David and family continued on a further year, not as owners but as workers for its former owner who reclaimed the farm because the payments could not be made. Then David and Katherine also moved their family to Naco where they lived the greater part of their farm life, 1930-47. A heart-breaking experience for them came in 1933 when their lovable and very promising son Theodore 1483 died—a result of internal bleeding caused by a fall from an apple crate.

Several consecutive years of drought and crop failure forced the Epps and everyone else to ration their food in order to be able to realize even a token income from such things as butter (10-15 cents a pound) and eggs (3-5 cents a dozen). Accepting government aid and gifts of fruit and vegetables from Mennonites living in irrigation areas became a necessity. In 1937 the total crop on the David Epp farm was 32 bushels of wheat of which by agreement one-fourth went to the company to which the land

belonged. Several years nothing was harvested except Russian thistle which became feed for cattle.

When as a result of these depression years many Naco Mennonites including Abram Epps 1410 sought a better future in the Peace River, Lacombe, Tofield or Rosemary areas, David Epps were among the handful who remained at Naco. More land became available, crops improved and there was new hope. After the Depression David was the first in the neighbourhood to acquire a car and a tractor, albeit second-hand, and was able to do most of his own repair work and upkeep of machinery.

Fairly regular inter-Mennonite Sunday church services were conducted in the homes with David leading the services and reading the sermons. Lunches were taken along and in the afternoon there was Sunday school for the children and Bible study for the adults.

Gradually, however, David 148 and Katherine looked around for another community which would offer more social opportunities, especially also for their children. In 1947, although David would have preferred a strictly grain farm, they moved to a dairy and grain farm with considerable pasture land near Carstairs, Alberta. Here they farmed until a heart attack and later arthritis necessitated David's complete retirement.

After two and a half years in Calgary, Alberta, David 148 together with his wife Katherine enjoyed the retirement years in Clearbrook, British Columbia. He was able to drive a car until his 86th year shortly before his death.



Anna K. Epp.



Theodore Epp.

**ANNA EPP 149 (1894- )**

Anna 149 came to Canada in 1924, living for a short while in Saskatchewan, but then taking nurses' training in the Mennonite Deaconess Hospital in Nebraska and in a Chicago hospital. She nursed in various hospitals throughout Canada and spent several years looking after her invalid mother. In 1938 she took care of her widower brother Abram 1410 and his children.

Twice she was engaged to be married but each engagement ended in tragedy. One of her fiances was Gerhard Thiessen, of the extended Thiessen family already referred to. However, in 1962, she married a widower Heinrich D. Epp and became wife, grandmother, and greatgrandmother within a few moments, without even changing her name. It was a happy marriage, but of short duration. Since her husband's death in 1969 she lives in the Menno Home at Abbotsford, British Columbia.



Abram Epp's first wife, Mariechen Thiessen.



Abram Epp.

#### ABRAM EPP 1410 (1894-1971)

Abram 1410 was in the Forsteidienst in the Azov region during World War I. After Neuhof, Schoenwiese and Tiegerweide, Abram and his wife Mariechen (always known as Maschinka) and one infant son emigrated to Canada in 1924. In addition to farming (see David 148), Abram was ordained as a minister in Naco, Alberta in 1931. Later he served the congregations in Lacombe, Tofield and Edmonton.

His first wife died at the birth of their seventh child. The second marriage was to Mariechen Enns Klassen and they had two children.

Abram 1410 was a great tease, a happy man who could see the brighter side of most situations. He had a lovely tenor voice. There was much singing in the family—a tradition that the children still cling to. Abram's widow lives in Edmonton, Alberta.

Below: Abram and Mariechen (Enns Klassen) Epp.



## GERHARD EPP 1411 (1896-1918)

Gerhard's 1411 short life was an example of ironic tragedy. On 30 October 1918, when the family fled from Neuhof to Schoenwiese, they had to spend the night in Sofievka waiting to move on to Alexandrovsk. The next day young, impulsive Gerhard decided to go back to retrieve some money that had been buried for safekeeping. He rode straight into enemy hands. Nickel recorded in his diary:

Eyewitness accounts from the Epp servants gave details of the murders. Gerhard and several other young men had stopped by in our summer kitchen during one of their scouting trips (seeking out news of impending raids). Then Gerhard rode over to the estate to fetch something. There he was attacked by a gang riding in fifty-one wagons. They robbed him of 23,000 rubles, took off his clothes and killed him with a slash of the sabre through his neck.

Had the rest of the family remained at their Neuhof home even just another 12 hours, the same fate would have befallen all of them. The decision to flee was seen as a direct sign of God's guidance and his protection.



Helene and Johann Janzen with Hildegard.



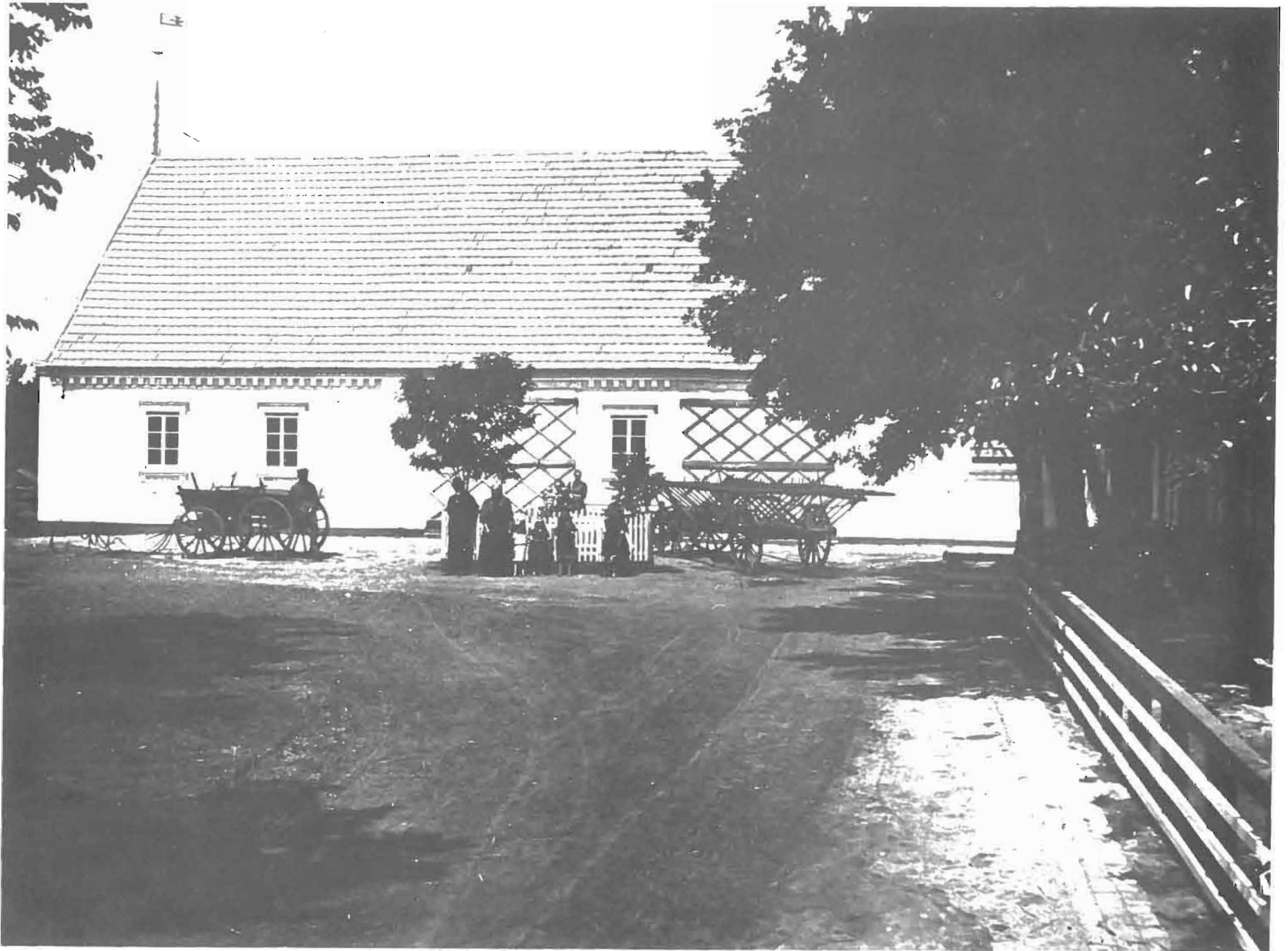
Gerhard Epp.

## HELENE (EPP) JANZEN 1412 (1898- )

Helene 1412, while convalescing in the Crimea, met and married Johann Janzen, a bookkeeper. They had six children, only three of whom survived infancy.

Sometime after 1938 Johann was exiled to northern Siberia. Helene and her three children moved to Solijkamsk. Here, after an 18-year separation, she and her husband were reunited. However, the years had taken their toll and after a lengthy illness Johann died. Their children had gradually gone back into more southern regions and eventually Helene followed them to what used to be the Mariupol area on the Azov Sea in South Russia. There she still resides with her children, a survivor of a most difficult and turbulent life.

One of the beautiful things that helped members of the house of Kornelius 14 was their love of music. It seems that wherever they went they were able to sing. Even during hard pioneering days in a new land, music played an important part. One of the favorite songs and one which symbolized the way of life of these generations, was *Befiehl du deine Wege* based on Psalms 37:5: "Commit thy ways unto the Lord; trust also in him, and he shall bring it to pass."



The Abraham Epp yard in 1913. In front of the picket fence are Abraham and Katharina Epp and their Bergthold granddaughters.

## The House of Abraham Epp 15

### ABRAHAM EPP (1846-1920)

Abraham Epp 15, farmer in Rosenort for most of his life, is remembered in Mennonite history for the contribution he, together with his first wife Katharina, made as houseparents of the *Marien Taubstummerschule* (Deaf and Dumb Institute) at Tiege from 1895-99. This school had been opened in 1885 in Blumenort at the suggestion of the Halbstadt *Volostversammlung* (municipal council) in remembrance of the 25-year reign of Czar Alexander II. It was supported by voluntary gifts from all Mennonites in Russia through the *Allgemeine Mennonitische Konferenz* (all-Mennonite conference).

Responsibilities of the houseparents consisted of administering and supervising the financial aspects of the operation and looking after the physical needs of the students.

Abraham Epp was first a member of the *Kirchengemeinde*, then of the *Allianz* and later of the *Brüdergemeinde*. He was a minister and also had carpentry skills.

In 1877 the Abraham Epps lived in Kleefeld, from 1895-99 in Tiege and later in Rosenort. In the latter village they lived across the street from the Jacob Epps 17.

Memories of life in the Abraham Epp 15 home have been recorded by granddaughter Lydia (Bergthold) Marple 1532, who in 1912 at age five, together with three sisters participated in her missionary parents' furlough from India.

Grandma Abraham Epp had prepared the guesthouse (*Nebenhaus*, no doubt) across from the large farmhouse for daughter Anna, her husband Daniel Bergthold and their children. Lydia recalls how she and her sisters played with their new-found cousins at the Peter Bergmanns 155 across the street. They were fascinated by the huge stork's nest which perched near the chimney at one end of the roof on the Bergmann house.

Grownups and children ate their meals in a bright and sunny room with white curtains at the windows. At noon a type of salad, which the adults seemed to

Justina 151  
Katharina 152  
Anna 153  
Abraham 154  
Helena 155



Abraham and Katharina Epp.

like very much, was often served. It consisted of clabber milk into which lettuce and hard-boiled eggs had been sliced, and was served in large soup plates with wide edges. When at times the children were too active and noisy, Grandma Epp would tease them saying she would put them into the pen of wooden slats with the baby chicks if they wouldn't keep quiet!



At dusk a young farmhand would go into the fields to the rear of the farm and blow a melodious horn, whereupon the grazing cattle would obediently come into the barns. Lydia was deeply impressed by this daily performance.

All loved the orchard with the trees laden with apricots, cherries, apples and plums and beautiful clumps of purple iris growing in the area. Viola 1531 and Lydia 1532 attended Kindergarten during furlough time and remember their teacher well.

When the Bergtholds went to visit the Abraham Harders at the Mennonite orphanage at Grossweide, they rode in what seemed to five-year-old Lydia, a very large and deep wooden sleigh, in which they were covered with heavy, furry blankets to keep warm. It was drawn by two big horses. A similarly eventful experience was riding in a drosky drawn by horses.



Institute for the Deaf and Dumb at Tiege. Photo courtesy CMBC Publications.



Abraham and Katharina Epp with their children. Front, l-r: Abraham, Katharina, Anna. Back: Justina.

Sometime between 1905-10 strong winds drew glowing embers which had been carried out from the Jacob Epp 17 cookstove and set fire to the Jacob Epps' barn and shed. A further gust of wind carried the sparks across to the Abraham Epp 15 yard, causing its house and barn to go up in flames. As he vainly attempted to save his property and possessions, Abraham suffered grave burns on his body and head. From this time on he was bald.

Granddaughter Marie Kaethler 1518 remembers the unsteadiness of one of her grandfather's hands, which kept turning as it clasped hers while they walked along the garden path together. Later in life she wondered if Abraham Epp could have had Parkinson's disease.

When in 1920-21 bandits burned down the neighboring village of Blumenort and killed many of its inhabitants, the agonized cries of the survivors were heard in the village of Rosenort. As a result Abraham Epp 15 suffered extreme shock or a stroke. After this his health failed and his memory suffered. At times he would become very restless, even hysterical, and was hard to control. A relative by the name of Hildebrand from Altonau was hired to nurse him. During one of his better moments before his death, son-in-law Abraham Harder (151) asked Abraham Epp: "Father, are you at peace with the Lord? Can you die happily?" "Yes," answered Abraham Epp assuredly. This was a big comfort for all children and grandchildren who wanted to remember their father and grandfather as they had known him in better years.

Four daughters and one son were born to Abraham and Katharina (Fast) Epp: Justina 151, Katharina 152, Anna 153, Abraham 154 and Helena 155.



Front: Abraham and Maria Epp. Back, l-r: Daniel and Anna Bergthold, Justina and Abraham Harder.

No children resulted from Abraham's 15 second marriage, but two other members joined the family. Mariechen Goossen came to live with the Epps after her mother died and her father couldn't keep her. She later trained as a nurse. At age 89 with failing eyesight, she lives today in Frunze, USSR.

The second member was known as *Onkel* Johann by the Abraham Epp grandchildren. Shy, but very diligent, this young man later married and had two children. His lot, like that of many others, was exile.

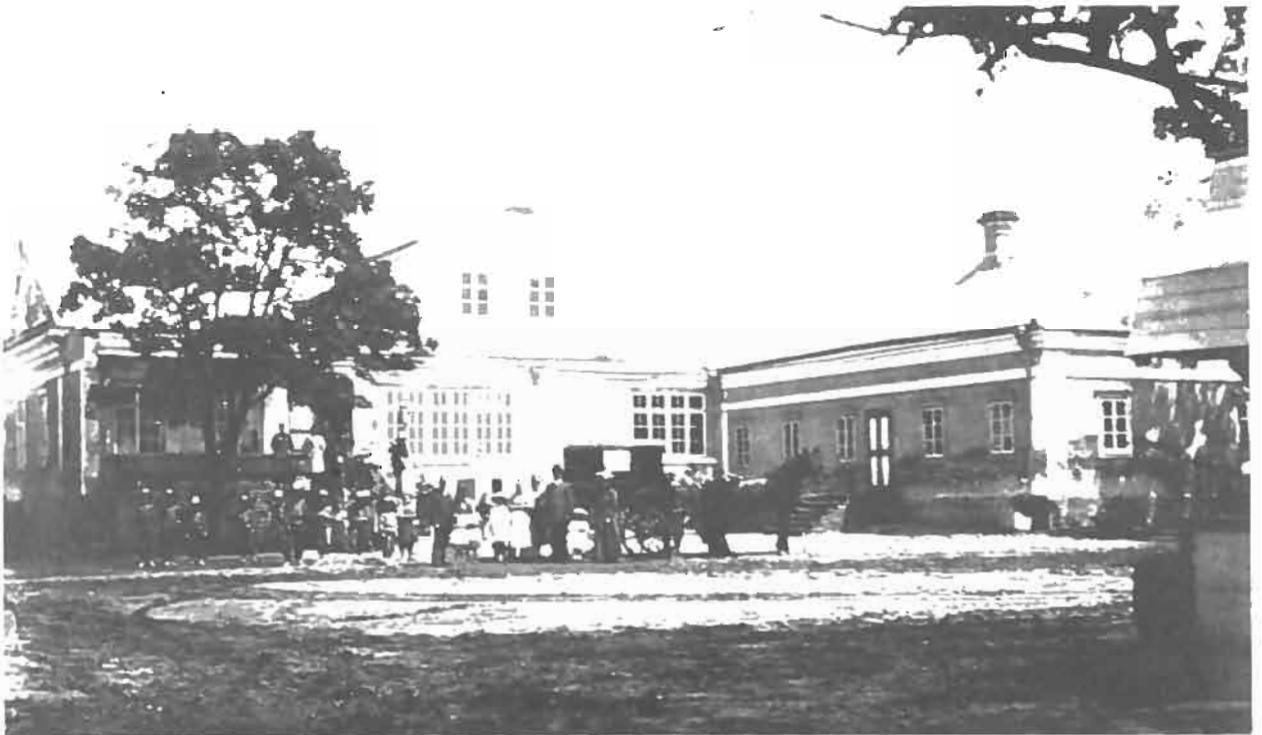
#### JUSTINA (EPP) HARDER 151 (1871-1936)

Justina 151 married Abraham A. Harder, the founder of the Mennonite orphanage at Grossweide, Molotschna. When Mennonites began to settle in the Crimea, the Harders joined the movement, settling at Neu-Toksoba, about 43 kilometers from the seaport Yevpatoriya. Here Harder and his wife were rebaptized by immersion. They joined the *Brüdergemeinde* at Spat in the Crimea.

Unable to rid himself of a calling which he had already felt early in his youth, Abraham Harder gave up farming in the Crimea and the family moved back to the Molotschna settlement with the intention of establishing an orphanage. But Abraham's call was not encouraged by the Halbstadt and Gnadenfeld municipal councils who rejected his petition to buy a 7.4-dessiatine sheep camp at Kurushan. The idea of forming an organization to be responsible for an orphanage was rejected by some of the Mennonite brethren. "Even the *Ältester* of the church discouraged me," wrote Abraham Harder in his diary which he sent to his son Johann 1514 after the latter had already emigrated to Canada. By that time all other



Justina and Abraham Harder.



The orphanage at Grossweide, Molotschna, in 1913. Standing beside the carriage is the Bergthold family.



Abraham and Justina Epp and family. Back, children l-r: Johannes, Katharina, Abraham, Anna. Front, l-r: Justina and Marie.

written records pertaining to the orphanage had been lost or destroyed.

But Abraham and Justina were convinced that they were following God's will and were not easily shaken. Harder's diary records the purchase of a property at Grossweide on 20 July 1906. This purchase included the buildings (a large house, barn and granary), a garden and 4 dessiatines of land. In later years a large modern school building with a boys' dormitory was added. Shortly before World War I a 17.7-dessiatine farm with some buildings was purchased at Kurushan. At this farm the older boys received training in farming and gardening skills and shops. Many Mennonite orphans educated in the Grossweide orphanage became valuable citizens of Mennonite communities.

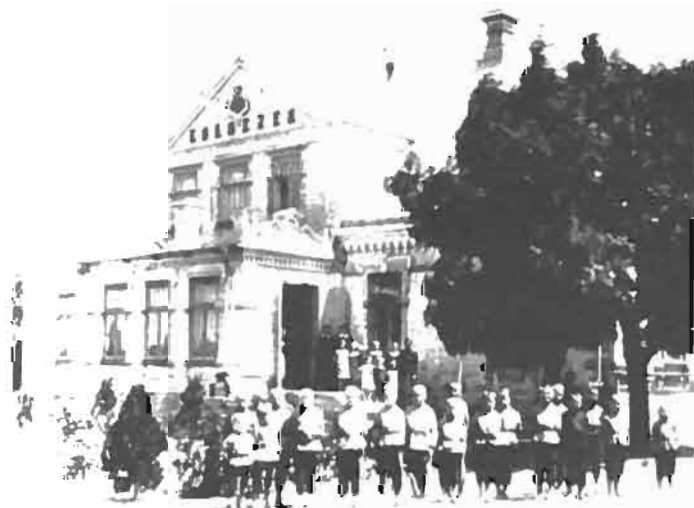
The number of orphans grew from year to year until it reached a total of 80 children during 1921-22, the year remembered as the year of famine. Abraham Harder remembers the hard winter of 1921. Often they had no bread at all. The thin barley soup was not enough to satisfy the hungry children. They would go out and pick up whatever they could find and eat it. Their bodies began to swell because of the unbalanced diet. God kept his hand over them and none died.

When they heard that the American relief was coming the children were very excited. Within a few days the supplies were distributed among the surrounding villages but the orphanage received no help. In Halb-stadt it had been decided that, because it was so uncertain how long the orphanage could be kept, there was no need to send any supplies.

Obtaining enough food for the children became more and more of a problem. One day, in the Harders' absence, some of the boys killed a cat and prepared a meal from it. They ate it without any

qualms. Another boy ate poisonous weeds and became deathly sick. He was delirious from 5 p.m. till 8 a.m. All night efforts continued to remove the poison from his system.

On April 8 at the morning devotions I [Abraham Harder] mentioned to all of them that we would pray that God would change the Americans' plan and that they would decide to bring us some supplies. We prayed about it right away and also later on when we had our regular, daily devotional services. . . . We did the same thing the next day. And do you know what happened?



This building at the orphanage was named Ebenezer.

By 10 o'clock the next day, the American help arrived. I am unable to describe the jubilation and excitement that the children displayed in that hour.

Together with the staff and the Harder family a total of 104 persons lived at the orphanage. Three of the orphans were Bernhard M. Epp 11111 and Anni 11111 and Martin Neufeld 11112.

When the new revolutionary government began to meddle in the affairs of the orphanage, forbidding religious instruction and ordering the teaching of a Communist curriculum, Justina 151 and Abraham Harder refused to comply. They were forced to leave. Some of the orphanage children were given new homes by relatives and friends. The remaining 22 were transferred to Prischib to a government institution for German children. The Grossweide orphanage became a home for Russian orphans and later a secondary school for the neighboring villages.

After living in a former teacherage for two years, Justina 151 and Abraham Harder moved to Kurushan to become houseparents in the *Altenheim*. In the fall of 1926 they resigned this position and moved to Rueckenau. Here Abraham was elected and ordained deacon in the church.

Because of the ill health of their daughter Anna 1511, the Harders were denied permission to emigrate to Canada. They would spend the rest of their lives in Rueckenau, they thought. But it was not to be so.

On a Sunday morning in 1931, Harder was called out of the morning church service by Communist officials. According to son Johann 1514 the Communist officials confiscated all their possessions except the most needed clothes and bedding. Abraham Harder knew that the next step would be imprisonment or exile to Siberia. They decided to flee. M. Derksen took them to the station and they left for the Crimea.

They found a friendly welcome at their children's home, the Jacob Janzens 1513. Their house was small.

After four months the Jacob Janzens were banned to the age-old forest at Archangelsk. The parents had to go along, but they were released after three days and were able to return to the village of Spat. However, they were not allowed to move into the former Janzen house.

There was no room for the parents in the village. They were allowed to move into a dugout, which was located at the edge of the village and had been used as a chicken coop. Here they established a new home under extreme difficulties but their faith in their Lord did not waver. Abraham Harder and daughter Bertha 15110 earned as much as they could, but it was not enough to supply their daily needs. Abraham and Justina went after the reapers in the harvest fields to glean some of the ears of grain that had fallen on the ground. Cattle dung was gathered and stored. The children in Canada tried to help.

In July 1936, after a short illness, Justina 151 passed away in the dugout. Son Johann writes: "She remained true to the Lord until the end. She went home, as only a tired pilgrim can, who has no home in this world."

The last news from Abraham Harder (151) was received in March 1941 by relatives in Canada. Later it became known that at age 75, in September 1941, he and his daughters Anna 1511, Bertha 15110 and grandson Rudie 151101 had been banned to Kazakhstan. Bertha's husband, Kornelius Harder, had disappeared a few months after the birth of their son Rudie.

Abraham Harder died 19 October 1941 at the Omsk settlement as a result of blood poisoning of the hand.



Justina Harder 151 seated at the entrance of her underground mud hut in the Crimea. Sitting at the side of the hut are l-r: the youngest daughter Bertha and the oldest daughter Anna. At the whetstone is Abraham Harder.



Katharina and David Boschmann.

### KATHARINA (EPP) BOSCHMANN 152 ( ? - ? )

Katharina 152 and her husband, David Boschmann, lived at Steinbruch in the Crimea. Of their children, Abram 1523, Mariechen 1524, and their daughter-in-law Lena (1522) are living in the USSR. David 1522 died in Siberian exile. His twin, Tina 1521, and her husband, Gerhard Bergmann, were both transported to the Ural region and died of typhus. Tina's sister, Mariechen, nursed them and took care of their little daughter Erna. After her parents' deaths Erna 15211 went to live with her aunt Mariechen Boschmann. At present their home is in Karaganda.

### ANNA (EPP) BERGTHOLD 153 (1877-1915)

Anna 153 married Daniel Bergthold and served as missionary in India for 11 years until her untimely death at age 38. According to daughter Lydia 1532 Anna's acceptance of Christ as Savior must have occurred very early in her life since her early essays and poems show a clear love for Christ and a desire to serve Him at any cost.

In the late 1890s she was allowed to go to the Bethel Deaconess Home in Berlin, Germany, where, under Christian auspices, she began and completed nurses' training. At first her father Abraham Epp 15, had been very much opposed to Anna's going into "so menial a work" as nursing.

During her years at the Deaconess Home, Anna wrote in careful Gothic script in a bound notebook, many outlines of sermons or complete sermons. She often inserted her own thoughts and prayers, for example, *Nimm mich selbst und lass mich sein ewig, einzig, völlig Dein* (Take myself and let me be, ever, only, all for thee). Three verses which she had marked in her personal Bible are: Romans 6:11, Psalms 18:30 and 51:17.

In 1904 with the backing of the German Baptist Church in Russia, she was sent to India as a missionary, apparently travelling alone to this strange land to work for the Lord whom she loved and wanted to serve. She was stationed in Mulkapett, an American Mennonite Brethren station, to study Telugu. This was in the State of Hyderabad, otherwise known as

the Nizam's Dominion, a Muslim province with Urdu as the official language, but populated as well by thousands of Telugu-speaking Hindus.

Very soon after Anna 153 began mission work in India she married widower Daniel Bergthold, an American Mennonite Brethren missionary. His first wife, Katharina (Mandtler), had died of smallpox at the age of 28, three months after the Bergtholds had arrived in India in 1904.

The Bergtholds worked together in Mulkapett with J. H. Pankratzes while Daniel Bergthold sought a suitable location for a new mission station in virgin territory in the interior. A site was finally chosen 128.8 kilometers south of Hyderabad City and about 1.61 kilometers from the small village of Nagarkurnool, Mahbubnager District. Here a mission station was built on an approximately 5-hectare plot, the bungalow and church completed in 1908. Also constructed were homes for the workers, boarding homes for boys and for girls and a deep well.

From the beginning, Anna Bergthold supervised the care of the native children, their feeding, clothing and housing. A Telugu houseparent lived in each of the children's boarding homes.

A year or two later, a small hospital and clinic were built in a small compound, separate from but directly adjacent to the larger compound. In this hospital-clinic, Anna Epp Bergthold, assisted by Telugu women whom she trained as aides, provided the sole medical care available locally. From the neighboring villages, all who sought help, whether children or adults, and whether Christians or non-believers, were given the best and most devoted medical care of which she was capable. The visits of the people to the hospital-clinic provided a great opportunity to speak to them about Christ and His salvation for them. Lydia Bergthold remembers her mother asking her to help hold bandages. Lydia's



Anna Epp in Berlin about 1898.

face turned away from the gruesome sight, while her mother sterilized and bandaged a head wound on a little boy, part of whose scalp had been torn away by a cheetah as he slept out on the open road with his family.

Anna Bergthold taught the Christian women and school girls in the compound to sew and mend clothing for the boarding school, as well as to crochet and embroider.

Lydia recalls their home as a most happy place, where love was shown between parents, and between parents and children. This happiness was communicated to the Telugu people in all walks of life. Over and above all was the conscious love of their heavenly Father, the Bergtholds' love for Him and the guidance they gave to their children and the Telugu people in accepting Christ as Savior.

The Bergthold children loved to listen to their mother's story-telling, and to sing the German songs which she taught them. One song the four girls sang every Christmas morning at their parents' bedroom was *Weihnacht ist heut, wir sind erfreut, dass der Herr Jesus Christ zur Welt geboren ist*. Anna taught them other songs which were favorites of their father, but had certainly been taught to her by her parents, Abraham Epps. Daniel Bergthold taught his children *Tischlieder* in German which were sung together as a family before meals.

The Bergtholds remained in India for eight years without interruption. They usually spent one or two months annually in mid-spring on a needed vacation in the cool, mosquito-free Nilgiri Hills of South India. In 1912, accompanied by their four little daughters (Viola 1531, age 9, Lydia 1532, age 5, Bertha, age 4, and Martha, age 3) they left India on their first fur-rough travelling by steamer to Trieste, Italy, and then by train to Rosenort, South Russia, to visit Anna's parents and her brothers and sisters and their families.

*Überprüfbarer Liebe und Dankbarkeit  
 In vielgeliebten Eltern zum Jahresanfang  
 1888/89 gewünscht von*

*Anna Epps*

*1. Weil das alte Jahr vorflohen,  
 Lieber Gott, so möcht ich sein,  
 Als das traurig Leidenessen;  
 Laß erwas von dem Reichen!  
 Ja ich möcht' das alte Lob erfassen,  
 Und von demm Ehrlich sein,  
 Als das Kind in freier Zeit  
 Dir zu Dank und Lieb bereit!*

*2. Lob und Dank, der Himmel Höre,  
 Allerschöner Gott, für die*

The first part of 11-year-old Anna Epp's New Year's WUNSCH for her parents 1888-89.

Map 10





The Abraham Epp guest house where the Daniel Bergthold family lived while on furlough from India in 1912-13.



Anna Bergthold with her four daughters in Abraham Epp's orchard.

In 1913 the Bergthold family returned to India to resume mission work at Nagarkurnool. Toward the end of 1914, Anna (Epp) Bergthold became pregnant again. It was arranged that a woman physician, a Dr. Booker, would come to Nagarkurnool to assist in her delivery. Of this experience Lydia 1532 wrote:

Unfortunately, my mother went into premature labor on September 5, 1915, before Dr. Booker's arrival, and delivered a rather frail, dark-haired, blue-eyed baby boy with only Mama's faithful Telugu helper-nurse, Lusamah, in attendance. Then tragedy struck. With Papa helpless and in terrible grief, he and Lusamah stood at her bedside and watched Mama gradually slip away to be with her Savior, a victim of post-partal hemorrhage. Before she went to be with the Lord, she was able to tell Papa in her sweet, selfless spirit that it would be best for the sake of their children and for himself if he would remarry.

In keeping with her wish, Anna was buried in the spot in the garden which she had chosen when discussing this contingency with her husband Daniel several years before. Engraved on her headstone is I Thessalonians 4:16-17. Viola, Daniel Bergthold's daughter from his first marriage, remembers her as a beautiful, godly, kind woman, who never differentiated among the children and whom she loved dearly. Daniel Bergthold also followed Anna's death-bed advice and married a third time, a fellow missionary, Anna Suderman.

Daniel and Anna (Suderman) Bergthold retired from the field in India in 1946, after having served 42 and 48 years respectively. Both died in California, Daniel in October 1948 and Anna (Suderman) Bergthold in March 1957.



Some of the Bergthold family members with relatives in the Molotschna in 1913.



Daniel Bergtholds in Berlin, Germany enroute to the USA for further furlough and to visit Bergthold relatives. It was the only such visit for Anna. Daughters, l-r: Lydia, Viola, Martha and Bertha.



Anna Bergthold's grave in India.



Cousins Marie Voth 1210 and Anna Bergthold 153 with their daughters in India.



**ABRAHAM EPP 154 ( ? - 1943)**

Abraham Epp 154 was a teacher by profession. For one year he taught at Kurushan. He married Katharina (Tiena) Friesen.

The years of famine, notably 1921-22, did not affect all Abraham Epp 15 families equally. The Abraham Epps 154, for example, could still have cherry fritters on their menu, a sign that things were not as scarce.

In 1931 the family was transported to the Ural mountains with no means of support. Abraham Epp 154 worked in the coal mines for one month but ill health led the authorities to assign him to lighter work. In 1939 Abraham was arrested or abducted and his family never saw him again. He died in the far North in 1943.

During World War II Abraham's widow Katharina lived alone with daughter Njuta and they diligently sewed and crocheted. In 1958 Katharina made contact with her Bergthold relatives and wrote to Viola (Bergthold) Wiebe 1531 in India: "God has blessed our endeavors. We do not need any help, we have our daily bread. . . We all were led through ways of deep suffering, but were wondrously preserved. Honor be to the Lord."

About her children she wrote in the same letter:

Mary died at age ten from blood poisoning; Njuta suffers from a heart ailment—she lives with me in small warm government housing project quarters of one room and kitchen; Kaethe, at age 30, drowned while floating lumber; Minna, a teacher, lives at Liepezk. Her husband is an engineer in a tractor factory. They have two children ages 18 and 14. Abram, my oldest son, a German teacher, spent ten years away from home but was wondrously kept. He has a wife and two children age 12 and 5. Gerhard, the second son, died at age 34 after brain tumor surgery. He left a boy of eight years for whom a small pension was being received. Another son, also a German teacher, died. Agnes, the youngest daughter, works in an eating hall.



**Abraham and Katharina Epp and children.**



I think need USA, Al. Y  
 stamped other side June 25 1932  
 ПОЧТОВАЯ КАРТОЧКА  
 CARTE POSTALE

Куда Северная Америка  
 Nord-America  
 Оклахома Корнб.  
 Кому Mr. Daniel Fr.  
 Bergthold

This postcard from Abraham Epp was received by the Daniel Bergtholds in June 1932 while on furlough in the USA. Among other things Abraham Epp expresses regret for not having left Russia when so many others emigrated in the 1920s.

Милые Geschwister Bergtholds mit Kindern.  
 Laut Nachricht aus der alten Heimat seit ich  
 e. Geschwister auf dem Wege nach America  
 oder vielleicht auch schon dort. Es wird ja  
 für Euch ein frohes Wiedersehen gewesen sein,  
 u. es ist doch so sehr angenehm, wenn man  
 nach langer Abwesenheit sich mit seinen  
 Lieben wieder treffen kann. Oft kommt es uns  
 so vor, als ob wir die Freude des Wiedersehens  
 nicht mehr erleben werden. Es waren im  
 April zwei Jahre, das wir von Haus u. Hof  
 weg sind, u. beinahe ein Jahr sind wir  
 hier in dem kalten Sibirien. ~~Unser~~ Krank  
 begeben wir hier bald nach ~~unser~~ Au-  
 künft hier, u. wir anderen Kranken gleich  
 alle, infolge der unnormalen ~~Reis-~~  
 weise. Sind jetzt aber wieder alle gesund  
 wenn auch schwach. Wir sind so wie bei  
 den Kohlenröhren, doch nachher ich  
 einen Monat unren gearbeitet hatte kam  
 ich Krankheits halber auf keinen ~~Arbeits-~~  
 mir ist der Verdienst so klein das es  
 schwer anzureichen will bei der gegenwärtigen  
 hohen Preisen Zeit. Oft schon habe ich  
 et bedauert, das wir damals nicht über au-  
 dom nicht hinüber kamen, das wir  
 hier. Vater hat den Weg so far ~~so~~ be-

HELENA (EPP) BERGMANN 155 ( ? - ? )

Of Helena 155 and her husband Peter Bergmann, sister-in-law Katharina Epp 154 wrote in her 25 May 1958 letter to Viola (Berghold) Wiebe: "Uncle Peter died yet at home in Rosenort; Aunt Helena here in the North of a multiple stroke. Aunt Helena did not see her four sons, they all were gone and are still missing."

Helena's husband died of typhus in late 1921. She later married his brother, widower Johann Bergmann. Some of the struggles of her life as a widow as well as her faith are seen in the following excerpts from her April 1922 letters addressed to Anna (Epp) 153 and Daniel Berghold, at the time thought to be on furlough in the United States.\*

Rosenort  
April 3, 1922

Dear sister and brother,

Four months today my beloved Peter died. I wrote you about that. We are in the midst of our Easter celebration. Last year we still celebrated it together. Who knows who will live to see next year's? So many men in their most productive years are dying here, and those still with us look old and weak.

Tomorrow a friend of my youth will be buried in Kleefeld. She leaves behind five children aged two months to 12 years. Five months ago her husband passed away and seven months ago her sister died. This sister lost her husband a year ago in December and they left six children. This affects me deeply. These were two happy families; two brothers and two sisters all raised in Rosenort and now there are 11 orphans without food. We begin to ask ourselves often why the Lord does this or that. Why does he take so many of us? He seems especially to take so many of our people to him! Grant that we might eventually understand what he has in mind for us. . .

We received a letter from the Harders [151]. It told us how desperate their food situation is. They were going to slaughter their last horses for Easter. They are too weak for work and food is needed desperately. We have also nearly finished a horse. The children say it tastes good but I would sooner have a piece of bread. We still have had something to eat every day, naturally not enough to satisfy the hunger, but enough to know that the Lord blesses even the small amounts.

The American Relief kitchens have been operating in our areas for several weeks but we don't get anything there yet as there are so many who are in even worse straits. The Tiege congregation received 25 parcels by mail and I got a little from there. We will cook the rice soon, and be thankful to some American donor. If only the donors could see some of the faces here! They would not be sorry for having spent the money. Just last year 100s of *tschet* of wheat were exported from here and now—only those people eat who had the insight to put some away. Some wheat and rye were seeded last fall but because it was so dry then it only grew poorly. However many vegetables and *Welschkorn* are being planted, as well as millet by those who still have seeds; but that's only a few people. The rest of



Helena Bergmann.

us hope that when God again sends His blessing we will be able to eat our fill. That's the best we can promise the children now, when we try to encourage them to work. . .

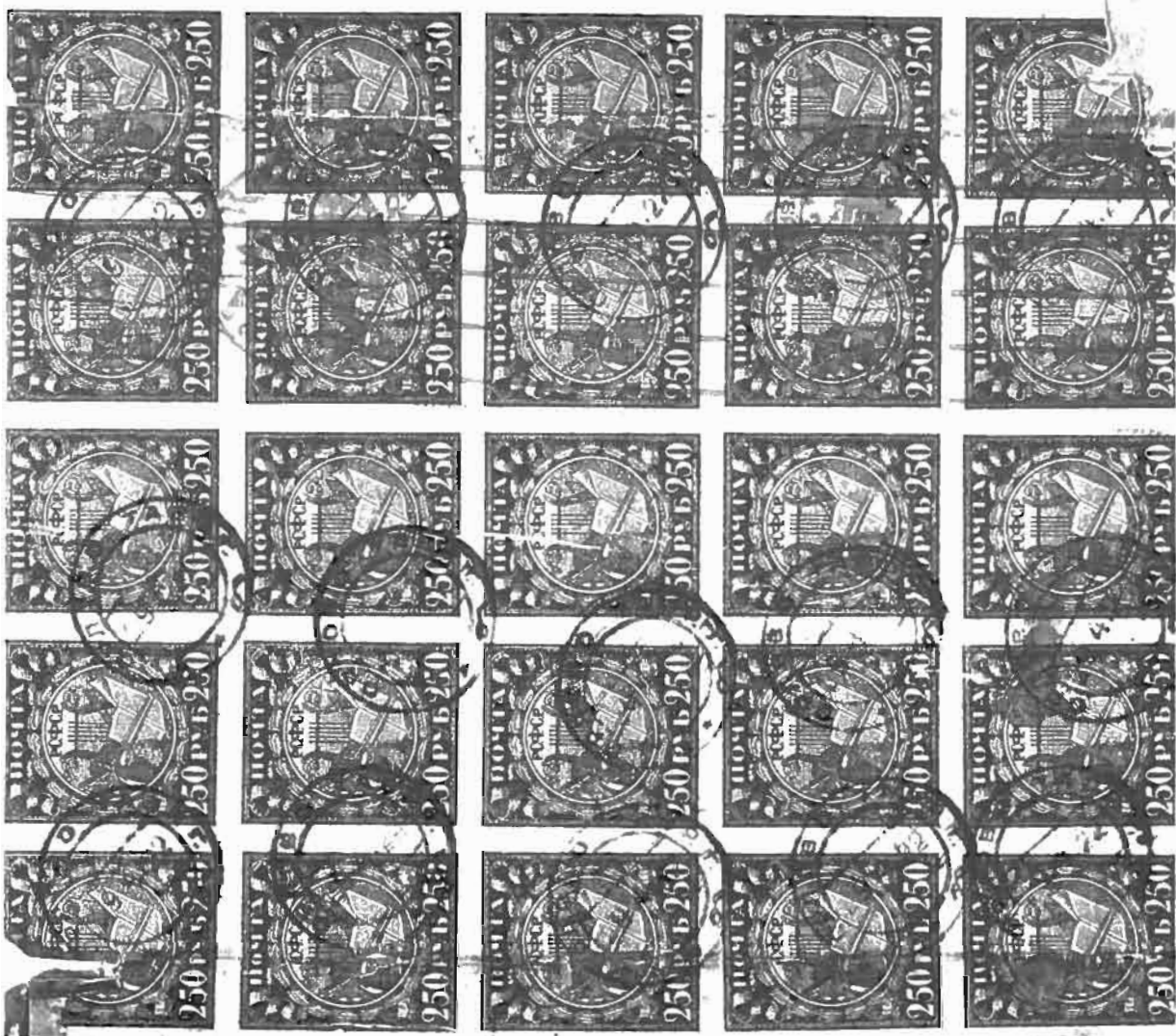
We would really appreciate reading a detailed letter from you. It was ten years ago that you celebrated Easter here in Russia, and so much has transpired since then. There is much talk here of emigration but right now it is not possible. Yes, if Peter were still alive, I'd be eager too, but what would I do there with five children? To add to that, our possessions are worthless now and we would have to leave as beggars. Perhaps moving will not be necessary. Surely the time for the Lord's coming must be near at hand. So many of the prophecies are already coming to pass.

5 April

Yesterday we received your greetings via Brother Huebert. He, as well as his two partners, were preaching in the Ohrloff church. I was there and was richly blessed. The scripture "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" has become meaningful to me. Yes, if I didn't have God and His word during these times, then it would be hopeless.

Yesterday the Boschmanns [152] with their children, Brother Johann Rueckenau, and I with the children were at Mother's. The Harders [151] haven't been here for a long time. Oh, if only they could get some of the assistance too, but because they received some aid from

\*Because correspondence had either ceased or been infrequent during the years of war and revolution, Helena Bergmann 155 probably did not realize that her sister Anna (Epp) Berghold 153 had died in 1915. Daniel's third wife was also an Anna but the letter suggests in several places that Helena had her bodily sister, Anna 153, in mind when she was writing. It seems that even after receiving greetings via Brother Huebert this had not been clarified.

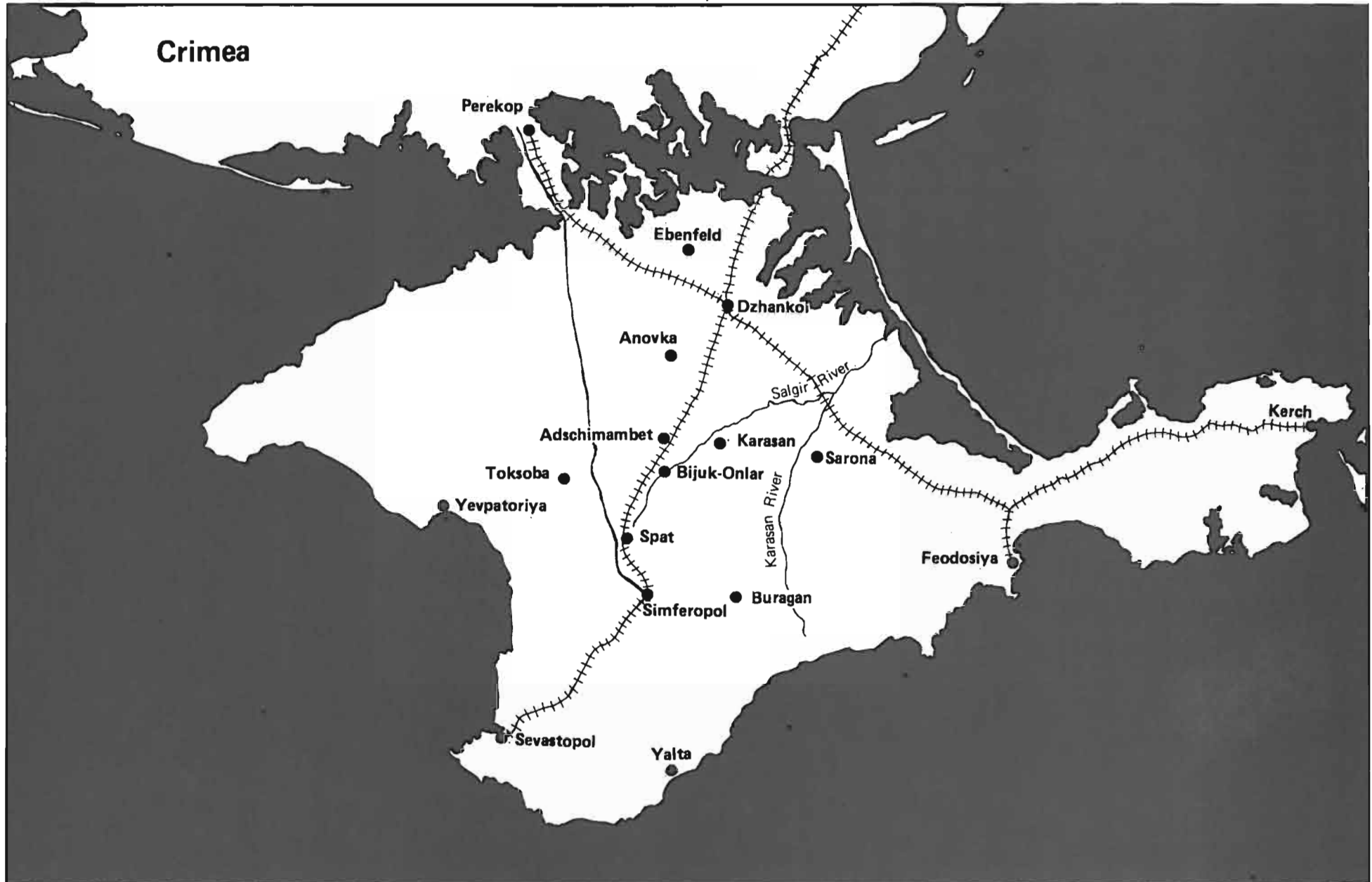


Ford-Америка  
 U. S. A.  
 Calahoma  
 Korn  
 Mr. Daniel Fr.  
 Bergthold.

телег. и телеграмма  
 Oklahoma  
 Корн  
 г-ну Даниелу  
 Фр. Бергтольдту

PROBOLTAPO

The envelope with 25 of the 85 stamps in which Helena Bergmann's April 1922 letter arrived for the Daniel Bergtholds at Corn, Oklahoma.



Crimean Mennonite settlements consisting of small villages and estates were founded largely along the main Poststrasse (mail road) from Perekop to Simferopol and along the north-south railroad which connected Kharkov in the Ukraine to Sevastopol in the Crimea and along its adjoining east-west branch from Dzhankoi to Kerch and Feodosiya. These included the main districts of Kerch, Feodosiya, Simferopol, Dzhankoi, Yevpatoriya and Perkeop. Tchongrav was in the Perkeop region but its exact location could not be found.

Thanks to its internationally favorable strategic position the Crimea was protected from Bolshevik and anarchist invasion during the 1917 Revolution. It therefore served as a refuge for persons fleeing the mainland.

Sevastopol became the gate of entry for AMR in 1921 when famine swept the settlements.

the government for a while, they get nothing now, and yet so many there are suffering from malnutrition and are actually bloated. The Lord is testing the *Geschwister*. A few months ago cards were distributed here to obtain addresses in exchange for food relief packages. We didn't want to give them your address, but we were told it was just a formality. If now you should receive these cards, . . . please don't think us shamelessly selfish, for we didn't want to burden you.

Dear sister, if you were to drive through our villages now, you would be surprised how things have deteriorated. However, if we would again have some semblance of order, then you would see wonders, for our people are tough and don't readily throw up their hands in despair. The government up there in Moscow also knows that, even though down here we are being oppressed and milked dry. I could write you surprising things about that.

How are things there? What's life like? Do you still want to go back to India? If we could only see each other once more here on earth!

the 12th

Dear sister and brother,

About an hour ago I received your dear letter and how happy it made me. I was just preparing supper when Abramka [155] brought it from Halbstadt. He, with a number of others, had gone there on foot to get seed potatoes. I was able to trade four and one half pounds of butter for 40 pounds of potatoes. That's expensive! One denies oneself the butter in order to get something to plant. Butter is now the only source of income from the farm, and with fodder as poor as it is, the cows only produce four or five pounds a week. But it is getting better as they are now able to eat grass. We are thankful that we still have two cows. I don't think anyone here has more than that as a result of the redistribution in 1919 and the extensive slaughtering which has gone on this year.

I look back now and realize how bleak things looked for the winter and how the good Lord helped us through that, even though there were some trying times. Now if the Lord sends us rain and his blessings, we should be eating fresh bread in about three months. When we look ahead like this it still seems like a long time but the Lord has helped us until now, and that must be our surety for the future.

A few days ago the Dutch Aid arrived here in Lichtenau. Seed has also been distributed. There were 1,000 pounds of potatoes and 40 pounds of barley per village, and one bushel of beans and one quarter bushel peas per person for planting. They say the remainder is to be distributed into the homes and we look forward to that, for maybe we'll get something then too. The American Relief Committee's instructions are that only those from the church who no longer have horses, cattle, sheep or pigs receive aid. I still have a horse and two cows and if we want to continue living and not depend constantly on others to feed us, we don't want to slaughter our last animals. Our representatives also conveyed this to yours and we are told that in the future it is supposed to change; for up until now aid went mainly to those who took from us and now don't have anything again.

Yesterday was the commencement day at our school here. I saw children there that brought tears to my eyes. For many the help has come too late. Our doctors say that the great intake of liquids, such as the soups we constantly have to eat, ruin the body. However, we have nothing to give them outside the barley,

coffee and soup. Even many of the adults, who go from village to village begging are not careful when they do get food, and as a result often die suddenly. If we can only stay healthy, for typhus is raging in every village.

My cousin Heinrich Epp's eldest son [173] is to be buried tomorrow. He died of epidemic typhus. He had been suffering from malnourishment and could not fend off the disease. The day before yesterday I walked to Blumstein to attend the funeral of my dear Peter's cousin, also a young man of 36. . . . The men suffer much more from hunger than we women. Despite the fact that I had to take in my skirt again today, I am still healthy, although I have to be careful with my stomach. Very few clothes have been distributed as yet but apparently this is to happen soon.

We have learned a great deal during these last few years. Almost every house has a spinning wheel or two. Hats, scarves, coats, and even dresses are knitted from the wool. We have our own silk for sewing and for summer stockings. This year we want to keep silkworms again. Naturally this is all a great deal of work. If we had enough to eat we'd probably think we needed new underclothes and bedclothes as well. However, our main daily concern now is getting food.

Well, I'll stop now but I felt I had to answer your questions.

Accept our thanks for your interest. It does us so much good. And we may expect packages from you? Some here have already received some. How is it? Do you hear from other relatives? Is Uncle Peter Epp [12] still living? If he or his children could only send a package to Uncle Gerhard Epp [16]. They need help so badly. He is so old and sickly and Uncle Bernhard Epp [19] is also without food.

Yes, how we long to be with those loved ones who have already gone on before us. . . . I have experienced that God again and again helps, assists, guards and also always again gives me the strength and the will to work; and my prayer is that He might make me wise enough to raise the children properly and to lead them to Him. Oh what a reunion we would then have up there where there will be no pain and no tears! But how I would love to see you just one more time here in our midst. Oh, that it would be possible on your return trip to India. A hearty greeting from my children and from your sister, Lena.

Helena's two daughters Sara 1552 and Maria 1553 married into the Katharina (Epp) Boschman [10] family. As a result of the deprivation of rights of children of former landowners, these families went through many hardships. Until their deaths in 1979 Sara and Maria lived in retirement in Almalyk and Frunze, Kazakh SSR, respectively.

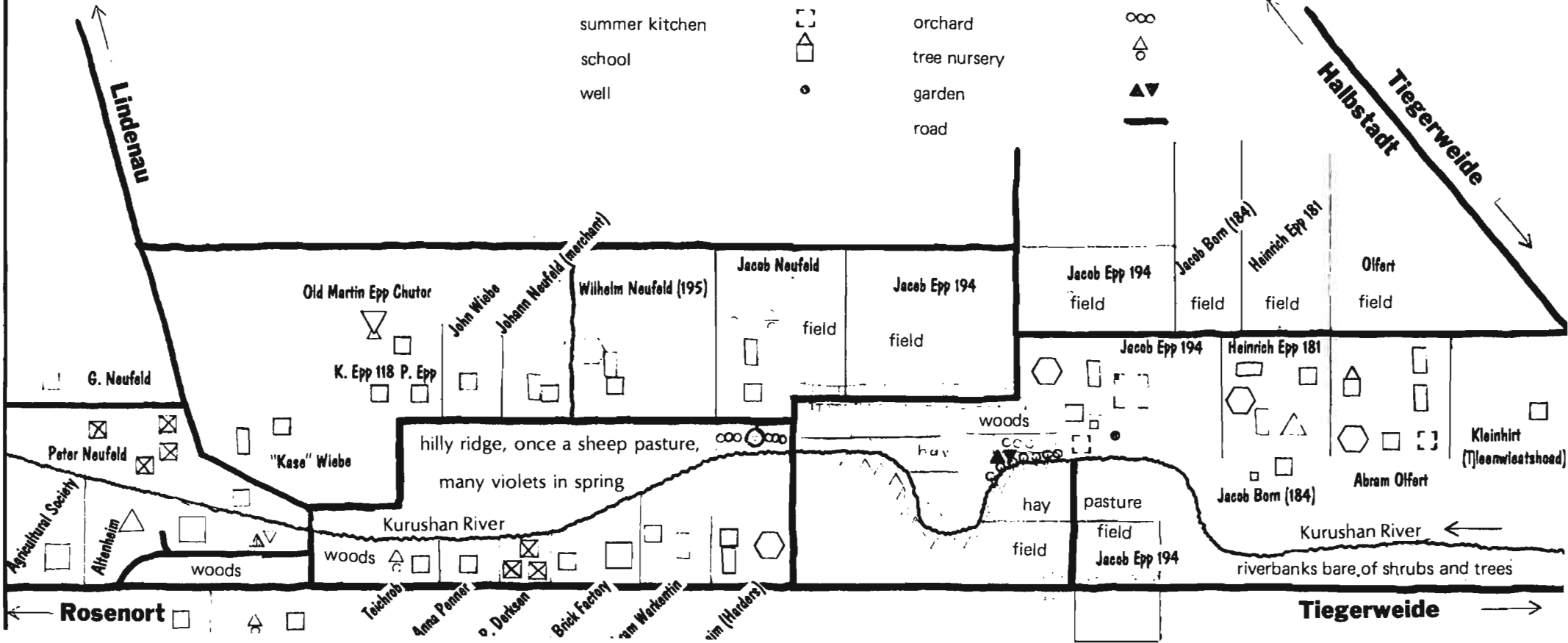
# Kurushan

Drawn by B.J. Epp 1944  
 Re-copied by E. Dyck, 19426,  
 with additions.  
 January 1979  
 Boissevain, Manitoba

This map roughly indicates directions and relative locations only. No scale is observed.



- |                       |  |                 |  |
|-----------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| building              |  | ash trees       |  |
| unidentified building |  | elm trees       |  |
| corral                |  | big poplars     |  |
| granary               |  | planted willows |  |
| henhouse              |  | mulberry hedge  |  |
| house                 |  | olive hedge     |  |
| shed                  |  | vineyard        |  |
| stable                |  | footpath        |  |
| summer kitchen        |  | orchard         |  |
| school                |  | tree nursery    |  |
| well                  |  | garden          |  |
|                       |  | road            |  |



## The House of Gerhard Epp 16

GERHARD EPP 16 (1848-1933)

Johann 161  
Gerhard 162  
Heinrich 163  
Justina 164.  
Elizabeth 165



Gerhard and Susanna Epp and daughters, l-r:  
Elizabeth and Justina.

Gerhard Epp 16 and Susanna (nee Dyck) made their home in the village of Kleefeld where they were neighbors to Mrs. Klassen, the widowed spouse of Heinrich 11. Here they operated a small farm and this is where their five children were probably all born. To supplement their income Gerhard would occasionally do carpentry work for neighbors and friends. Some of his grandchildren still recall the piles of lumber neatly stored on his farmyard in Kleefeld. The family suffered a major financial setback when fire destroyed most of the buildings on the farm. Apparently a cherished pocket-knife was saved while most other valuable possessions were destroyed.

Susanna died in the village of Kleefeld sometime before 1914. Gerhard married a second time, this time a widow, Maria Penner, from the neighboring village of Lichtfelde.

About 1914 Gerhard sold his property in Kleefeld and returned to Rosenort, the village of his birth and youth. Here he purchased a half *Wirtschaft* from his younger brother Jacob 17.

This Rosenort property consisted of two quarter *Wirtschaften* with two houses. At first Gerhard 16 moved into the main house while his son Heinrich 163, who helped operate the farm, occupied the smaller dwelling. Son Heinrich had moved into Rosenort from Kurushan. Later Gerhard took up residence in the smaller house and Heinrich and his family moved into the larger one. Those who remember Gerhard say that he always insisted that his property be kept clean and tidy.



He and his son Heinrich shared a large and very productive garden in Rosenort. In addition to the many varieties of vegetables that were grown, Gerhard was particularly proud of his many fruit trees including cherry, apple, plum and others as well.

Gerhard was of medium height, about 1.6 meters tall and had clear blue eyes. He had brown hair, grew a trimmed beard and mustache, and became bald at a relatively young age. He had a stocky build with broad shoulders.

As Gerhard grew older he became convinced that he should accept baptism by immersion and join the Lichtfelde *Allianzgemeinde*. This happened in the 70th year of his life. His grandchildren remember him as a deeply religious person. They were aware of his deep concern for their spiritual welfare.



Gerhard Epp with his second wife Maria in 1908.

Being a kindly gentleman and very fond of children Gerhard spent a great deal of time with his grandchildren and obviously enjoyed their company. One granddaughter, Justina (Heidebrecht/Toews) Neufeld 1653 and 164(1), remembers a visit to his home in Rosenort, where he taught her at age 13 how to tie strong knots when playing with rope or string. At the conclusion of the visit 76-year-old Gerhard walked back to Alexanderthal with Justina, a distance of approximately 32 kilometers one way.

In 1919 the youngest daughter of his brother Jacob 17, Mrs. Peter Kliewer 1711 of Rosenort, gave birth to a baby girl 17111. Gerhard was happy to see the baby and wanted to be one of the first to congratulate the new mother. Mrs. Kliewer remembers how proud her Uncle Gerhard was to see the infant, and recalls too how Gerhard took the young child and placed a kiss on its cheek. This kiss from the lips of Gerhard was the first received by the baby girl.

Another interesting incident involving Gerhard and a newborn infant is remembered by Justina Doerksen

1115, a granddaughter of Gerhard's oldest brother Heinrich 11. When a son was born to Johann 198 and Maria Epp, and they named him Gerhard, Gerhard 16 apparently commented: "*Nun werden die Gerhard Epps noch nicht gleich aussterben* (Thus the Gerhard Epps won't be extinct just yet)."

Gerhard's retirement years were spent in the village of Lichtfelde. Here he and his second wife lived in a small house belonging to a Dyck family (children of Gerhard's second wife). His garden continued to be a source of pride and satisfaction for him.

He continued to participate in various church activities and to devote his time and interest to his family and friends. Occasionally he would embark on rather lengthy walks. He always walked with a cane, recalls Agatha Franz 1143, who was a school girl then, and took pleasure teasing her and her friends by hooking their legs with the crook of his cane.

The war, revolution and hunger years did not pass Gerhard 16 by. When in 1923 and the years following thousands of Mennonite people chose to leave Russia and migrate to Canada and other countries offering more freedom, Gerhard, as well as most of his family, decided to remain in the land of his birth. Only one of his children, his daughter Justina 164, established a new home in Canada.

Before emigrating in January 1930, Cornelius Epp 1443 and his mother (144) went to bid farewell to relatives in Rosenort. Recalling this occasion Cornelius 1443 wrote: "My great-uncle Gerhard Epp sent personal greetings with me for my grandmother. . . . It was very significant for me when he talked to me. It was as if a patriarch spoke to me."

According to Jacob J. Epp 175, Gerhard died in the years of famine. Another source states that he was the last of the HEINRICH EPP children to die, namely in March 1933, at the home of his stepson Abram Dick in Grosstokmak.

#### JOHANN EPP 161 (1870-1946)

Johann 161 married Eva Penner from the village of Chortitza in the Old Colony. During the first year of their marriage Johann and Eva operated a farm in the village of Rosenort. However, when less expensive land became available at Suvorovka in the Caucasus, the family sold their Rosenort property and relocated. There he became a house painter and was known as *Foawa App* (painter Epp).

Gerhard 1612 was the only one of the six Johann 161 children to emigrate to Canada. His twin brother Johann 1613 died in his youth. The two boys were walking in a wooded area near their home in Rosenort when Johann accidentally caught a splinter of wood in his foot. The injury became infected and before long resulted in convulsions, unconsciousness and death.

GERHARD EPP 162 ( ? - ? ) and  
HEINRICH EPP 163 (1874-1932)

At first Gerhard 162 lived in Rosenort and then later, together with his family, moved to Herzenberg in the district of Pavlograd, Ekaterinoslav, in the Ukraine. He was married twice: first to Maria Wiebe of Neukirch, and then to Sarah Matthies of Pordenau.

Gerhard 162 and Heinrich 163 were members of the *Kirchengemeinde*. They and their families remained in Russia. Heinrich's wife, Helena Penner, was a sister to Eva, the wife of Johann 161.

JUSTINA (EPP) TOEWS FUNK 164 (1881-1952)

Justina 164, as the oldest daughter in the family, was kept busy assisting her mother with household duties. The fact that her mother was quite sickly placed even greater responsibilities on her shoulders.

As a young woman Justina was hesitant to receive baptism and join the local Mennonite congregation. One day she told one of her friends that she would like to be baptized by immersion but feared that her mother would object to this. She confided to her friend that she planned to wait until her mother, who was sick, would die and then she would be baptized. Through indirect sources Justina's mother heard about her daughter's plan. She immediately told Justina to do what she believed was right. She did not want to stand in the way of her daughter's happiness. Justina appreciated her mother's love and concern and soon afterward was baptized by immersion and received into the membership of the *Brüdergemeinde* in the year 1900.

In 1906 Justina married Heinrich Toews, a stout, broad-shouldered farmer who had grown up in the village of Alexanderwohl. He and Justina made their new home in the village of Gnadenheim. Toews was also a member of the *Brüdergemeinde*.

Justina 164 had been informed by her physician, already before her marriage to Heinrich Toews, that she would never be able to bear children. Upon sharing this information with her younger sister Elizabeth 165, the latter had replied: "Well, if you cannot have any children, then I will have a large family when I get married and will give some of my children to you." This promise, probably given without much thought at first, was later literally fulfilled.

In 1913 Elizabeth's 165 infant daughter Elizabeth 1653 was adopted by Justina 164 and Heinrich. The decision was not arrived at hastily. Only after much prayer and discussion was an agreement finalized which would make the 19-month-old child become the adopted daughter of Justina and Heinrich Toews. Justina 164 was thrilled to have a child of her own and immediately renamed her Justina 164(1). The child, now Mrs. George Neufeld, has retained the use of her name Justina until the present time.

Heinrich Toews was drafted into the *Forsteidienst*



L-r: Eva and Johann Epp 161, Justina (Epp) Toews 164, Heinrich 163 and Helena Epp.

during World War I. He was sent into Russia's north-land where he died of the dreaded typhus. He was buried there and only a few of his clothes and personal possessions were sent back to the bereaved widow in the south.

After several years of widowhood, Justina 164 married Abraham H. Funk of Alexanderkrone. Funk's first wife, Aganetha Toews (a cousin to Justina's husband Heinrich Toews), had died in 1914, a few days after giving birth to a baby which also died soon after. Abraham Funk had been left with four children: Isaac, Heinrich, Nettie and Abram.\*

Justina 164 and Abraham married in Gnadenheim and then made their home in the village of Alexanderthal where Abraham had purchased a farm. Here they attended and participated actively in the *Allianzgemeinde*. They benefited greatly from the ministry of leader and preacher Johann Toews, who was also teacher of the village school.

The Funk family shared in the difficult experiences which followed the conclusion of World War I and the Communist Revolution in Russia. Justina 164(1), about nine then, still remembers how a group of Makhnovites tore a bright red silk belt from her new Christmas dress and then cut it into short ribbons which they pinned to their shirts. This was a great tragedy for her at the time.

During the famine Abraham Funk on one occasion traded a valuable ring for a bag of flour. He brought the precious flour into the house, rejoicing that his family would again have something to eat.

\*Three of these children married as follows: Isaac to Martha Kuhn, Nettie to Frank Rempel (d.1977), and Abram (d.196?) to Mary Heinrichs.

However, while the family was attending to a matter outside, someone quietly crept into the house and ran off with the flour. The members of the family saw the thief leaving and immediately ran after him. They were finally able to apprehend the hungry thief and bring their food home once more. Following this incident, Justina 164, whenever baking bread, always made sure that all her windows and doors were securely closed. It was a difficult time for the family. Still, they were thankful that each member was able to eat at least one piece of bread per day at a time when many had none.

In August 1926 Abraham and Justina Funk left their home in Alexanderthal to seek freedom in North America. They travelled first to Moscow where they hoped to receive immigration papers from the Canadian Consulate. After a waiting period of three weeks Abraham was told that the family, with the exception of daughter Justina 164(1), could now enter Canada. Several members had suffered the contagious eye disease trachoma, and all were declared fully healed. Justina's 164(1) eyes, however, were still marked with scars. Consequently she would have to remain behind. Abraham, however, insisted that all members would go or all would stay. He would not agree to any action which might endanger the unity of the family or the safety of any single family member.

Unable to receive clearance for Canada, the family, together with five other families, set out for Mexico. They passed through Germany and finally arrived in

Rotterdam. From this Dutch port they sailed to Mexico in a freight ship called *Volendam*. The ship made several stops, including Spain and Cuba, before reaching Mexico City. Christmas 1926 was spent in the warm Mexican environment.

In February 1927 the group left Mexico, traveling north through the United States toward Canada. The trip included a three-week stopover in Hillsboro, Kansas where relatives of Abraham were visited. On a very cold day on 27 February 1927, they arrived in Gretna, Manitoba. From Gretna the Funk family travelled by train to Plum Coulee where they were met by Rev. Heinrich Goossen, another former resident of Alexanderthal, Molotschna, who was also a family relative. He now lived in the Manitoba village of Gnadenthal and later in Manitou.

Abraham and his three sons were able to buy a farm in the Melba district, north of the village of Horndean. Here the Funk family lived until 1951 when Abraham and Justina retired to the town of Winkler. They rented a small house on Stanley Avenue while they waited for their new home on Third Street to be completed. Justina 164, however, never lived to see her new home. After a lengthy period of suffering from stomach cancer, she died in the Winkler hospital on 28 January 1952.

Abraham moved into his new home in the spring of 1952. He continued to take an avid interest in his farm which he now rented to his son Isaac and son-in-law George Neufeld. He enjoyed very good health, spending long hours reading (without glasses)



Justina 164 and Abraham Funk and family in 1941, Winkler, Manitoba. Back, l-r: John Neufeld, George W. Neufeld, Isaac Funk, Frank Rempel, Abram Funk. Front, l-r: Jake Neufeld, Leonard Neufeld, Justina (Toews/Funk) Neufeld, Justina Funk, Linda Neufeld, Abraham Funk, Nettie (Funk) Rempel, Mary (Heinrichs) Funk, Abe Funk.

in his Bible and *Gesangbuch* (hymnbook). He remained very active in the affairs of his church until shortly before his death in the Winkler hospital in 1964.

**ELIZABETH (EPP) HEIDEBRECHT 165**  
( ? - 1922)

Elizabeth 165 married dark-haired, broad-shouldered, 1.8-meter tall Johann Heidebrecht while in her 20s. Johann, usually rather quiet, was a kind man.



Elizabeth (Epp) Heidebrecht.

Elizabeth 165 and Johann lived in several Molotschna villages, including Fischau, Lichtfelde and Blumstein. In Lichtfelde, where in 1911 baby Elizabeth 1653 was born, they served as caretakers of the *Allianzgemeinde* meetinghouse. They were often poor and had to supplement their farm income with outside employment.

Elizabeth 165 died on 11 May 1922 in Blumstein during the typhus epidemic. Her husband, suffering from the same illness, spent the duration of the funeral sitting at a window in his home observing the funeral service being conducted for his wife on their yard.

Some time after Elizabeth's 165 death Johann Heidebrecht married Lena Dyck of Gnadenheim.

Of their children the following are living in Canada today: Tina (Ballau) Heidebrecht Harder (1652), Elizabeth 1653, i.e. Justina (Toews, Funk) Neufeld 164(1) and Helen (Heidebrecht) Wiens 1656. The latter was a small child when her mother died and so was cared for by a Willms family which loved Helen and treated her as one of their own. In 1926 when this Cornelius Willms family migrated to Canada they took Helen with them to their new home in Saskatchewan. There Helen married John Wiens



Johann Heidebrecht.

and together they established a home in the Dalmeny district near the city of Saskatoon.

Mariechen 1651 who remained single, and Johann 1654, named after his father, remained in Russia during the period of Mennonite migrations. Johann is today serving as an ordained minister in the *Brüdergemeinde* in the USSR.

Heinrich 1655, like Gerhard 1652, was drafted into military service during World War II. He was forcibly taken from his family and never heard from again.



Elizabeth Heidebrecht and her children in 1915.  
L-r: Mariechen, Johann, Gerhard and Heinrich.

Only a few of the Gerhard 16 descendants would recognize each other should they chance to meet.



The homestead of the Jacob Epp family in Rosenort c. 1913.

## The House of Jacob Epp 17

### JACOB EPP (1850-1919)

Jacob Epp 17 was born in Rosenort and married a Rosenort girl, Katharina Boese. Unlike many of his brothers he stayed right there in Rosenort for most of his life where he owned a *Vollwirtschaft* and a *Kleinwirtschaft*. He was an excellent manager, enterprising and unusually accurate. Fussy was another word used to describe him; everything had to be just so. He was insistent that everything be neat and well cared for. It just wouldn't do to have machinery break down during harvest time, for instance. All this prompted one of his brothers to comment: "Jacob is so restless and active, he won't ever take time to die."

When it came time to building a new house, he had most of the materials imported. The house was of the latest style, with attached barn. There were special stalls for the young animals, a large feed barn across the back, a horse barn, and an adjoining building to house the hired workers or for use by married children. In the yard Jacob had a pigeon house built on four tall posts; it took a long ladder to reach it. Everything was trimmed, with rungs painted in two colors.

Jacob Epp also loved order in his garden. The pathways were made of stone. There were lots of early flowers and roses in the summer. There were red currants and gooseberries and plenty of fruit trees in the orchard.

Jacob's wife, Katharina, ran a model household. Family and hired workers alike were always well fed. For the religious holidays there were usually *Pflaumenmoos\**, ham and *Zwieback* at noon. For *Vesper*

Heinrich 171.  
Katharina 172.  
Heinrich 173  
Justina 174  
Jacob 175  
Katharina 176  
Martin 177.  
Cornelius 178.  
Johann 179  
Abraham 1710  
Maria 1711



Jacob and Katharina Epp.

\*Preparing *Pflaumenmoos* (*Plume Moos* in Low German) is comparatively simple. To sweetened cooked or stewed fruit is added a thickening made of flour and milk or cornstarch and water and brought to a boil. Almost any combination of fresh or dried fruits can be used. Probably the most common are dried prunes, raisins, apples and apricots. *Zwieback* (*Tweeback*) are double-decker buns, the top deck being about half the size of the lower. These were unique to the Molotschna settlement and its daughter colonies. *Vesper* (*Faspa*) is the light festival, Sunday or weekday afternoon meal for which every housewife was prepared since relatives and friends dropped in unannounced. The basic menu was: coffee, *Zwieback* (or a bread) and some pastries like cookies or cake. *Paska* is a sweet bread usually baked only at Easter.

there were *Paska* and cookies. She always had her pantry well stocked with apples and baking. In addition to cooking and baking, she liked and was good at knitting, using wool from their own sheep.

A strict disciplinarian, Jacob was also fair, soft-hearted and generous. Mennonite institutions, the poor and the needy experienced his philanthropy. He always held out a helping hand to others.

One such instance is when Jacob and Katharina took in an orphan, a young fellow named Thiessen, and raised him as one of their own. Roughly the age of their oldest (living) son, Heinrich 173, this Thiessen eventually married and had a family of his own. Unfortunately he died while still a young man.

When several of the children were married and the sons were able to take over active management of the farm, Jacob 17 and Katharina Epp were able, from 1907-11, to serve as houseparents in the *Altenheim* on the River Kurushan between Rosenort and Tiegerweide. The youngest daughter, Maria 1711, was still attending the village school in Rosenort at that time. During the week she boarded with her sister Justina 174, by now Mrs. Johann Baerg. Every Saturday

noon Jacob 17 would come to take Maria home to Kurushan.

The *Altenheim* was a long building with many rooms along each side. There was a large entrance hall where worship was held. Here, too, Jacob took care of the yard, the fruit and the vegetable gardens, while Katharina was in charge of the kitchen and the maids.

In 1912, Jacob and Katharina took in Jacob's nephew, Heinrich Martin Epp 11110, who had become orphaned. Of this experience Heinrich himself wrote in the 1950s:

In 1913 I came under the guardianship of my Uncle Jacob Epp in Rosenort. . . . whose strict training is still of benefit to me today. It will remain unforgettable to me how he summoned me to his deathbed and I could ask for forgiveness of all transgressions of disobedience and unfaithfulness. Gratefully I also remember how after his death, his children cared for me, a full orphan.

For some years already arteriosclerosis had caused a general deterioration of Jacob's health. In 1919, on Pentecost Sunday, members of Jacob's family had gathered under large shade trees and were enjoying



Jacob and Katharina and family. Left front section, l-r: Maria, Katharina and Jacob. Left back, l-r: Abraham, Johann and Cornelius. Couples in the right-hand section, l-r: Heinrich and Katharina Epp, Justina and Johann Baerg, Jacob and Susanna Epp, Katharina and Peter Baerg.



The Altenheim at Kurushan in 1910. It was built as a monument and as a token of gratefulness for the 100-year existence of the Molotschna Colony, 1804-1904. The three persons in the foreground are l-r: Jacob 17 and Katharina Epp and daughter Maria.

the warm afternoon when their father suddenly walked into the house and lay down to rest. His sons noticed that something had happened to him and later diagnosis confirmed that he had suffered a light stroke. From an active, energetic person he changed into a very quiet, almost apathetic individual. He lost his appetite for food and all interest in his farm. Spending most of his time in bed, he was concerned that he would become a burden to others.

On July 9 he became seriously ill. Due to unstable political conditions it was impossible to notify family members. Couriers who travelled by train were hired to bring the news to those of the married children living in the Crimea, Schoenfeld (Brazol) and Memrik settlements.

Daughter Maria and husband had travelled to Schoensee to help with the harvesting of mother Kliewer's crop and to pick cherries. While in Tokmak on business Maria met Philip Cornies, school teacher in Rosenort, who had a letter for her saying that her father had but a short time to live. Maria hurried home immediately to be with her father. He died peacefully on July 19 and was buried in Rosenort.

By this time all the children but Cornelius 178, who had emigrated to the United States in 1913, and Abraham 1710, were married. Jacob 175 and Johann 179 had bought their father's farm.

In 1924 after the tumultuous years of war, revolution, disease and hunger, the momentous decision was made by Jacob, Johann, Abraham, Maria and Peter Kliewer, together with their mother, Katharina, to seek emigration to Canada—to leave the country which had been home to the family for over a century.

Jacob 175 and Johann 179 and their families were

the first to receive the necessary papers. The farmland and many of the better animals had been confiscated by the authorities, but they left to their brother Heinrich 173 what they could of the buildings. Their mother and brother Abraham temporarily took up residence in one of the dwellings.

The Jacob and Johann families left from the railway station at Lichtenau on 12 July 1924. The train trip to Riga, Latvia took ten days. From there it was a two-day trip on the new ship *Margarite* to Southampton England where they spent four days being examined by doctors, getting the necessary immunization papers. Then they boarded the *Melita* for the six-day trip across the Atlantic to Montreal, Canada. Finally, there was a four-day train ride to their destination, Winkler, Manitoba, where they arrived on 12 August 1924, exactly one month after leaving the Molotschna.

Katharina, now in her 70s and lame in one leg because of a broken hip sustained some years earlier, had been rejected for immigration by the Canadian authorities, as had Abraham because of an eye disease. During a subsequent examination of Abraham's eyes, Dr. Drury of the Canadian Immigration Department at first hesitated, then suddenly stamped the necessary papers and allowed him to go. His mother, too, was given the desired go-ahead, possibly because now three sons would be in Canada to support her, as well as her youngest daughter Maria and her husband Peter Kliewer, who also received their passes.

Before leaving the only place she had called home for the past half century, Katharina divided her china and silver among her children and grandchildren. Some years previously she and her husband had imported from Solingen, Germany identical sets of





Jacob and Katharina Epp's grandchildren and foster children in 1913 (when Abram Boese from America was at Jacob Epps for a visit).  
 Back, l-r: Peter Baerg 1762, Heinrich Epp 1733, unknown, Jacob Baerg 1741, Johann Baerg 1742, Heinrich M. Epp 11110. Middle,  
 l-r: foster-daughter Margaretha with Margaret Baerg 1765, Willie Baerg 1744, Katharina Baerg 1743, Helene Epp 1735, unknown,  
 Katherine Epp 1751, Justina Baerg 1746, Katharina Baerg 1763, Katharina Epp 1732. Front, l-r: Martin Epp 1734, unknown, Bertha  
 Epp 1752, unknown, Jacob Baerg 1764.

cutlery as gifts for every one of their children.

For Katharina leaving Russia was a heartbreaking experience. The oldest son, Heinrich 173 was staying behind with his family, as were daughters Justina (Mrs. Johann Baerg) 174 and Katharina (Mrs. Peter Baerg) 176 and their families. In fact, the day before embarking for Canada they buried Katharina 176. The scene at the station was a sad one indeed. In the years which followed, mother Katharina's letters to daughter Katharina's 176 children kept admonishing them to visit their mother's grave and to lay flowers on it. She would so much have liked to have done the same to the grave of her husband back in Russia.

This contingent arrived in Canada aboard the *Empress of France* on 6 September 1924, and it was natural for Katharina (17), Abraham 1710, and the Kliewers 1711 to proceed to Winkler where Jacob 175 and Johann 179 had arrived a month earlier.

Though leaving Russia had been difficult, it did give Katharina the opportunity to meet again with some of her own brothers. Her father, brothers and sister had all emigrated to the United States in 1873. They were quite well-to-do by this time and some of them came from Kansas in the early 1930s to visit her.

For the remaining years of her life Katharina (Boese) Epp (17) lived with her children, principally the Jacob Epps 175 and the Peter Kliewers 1711. After spending several weeks in the Winnipeg Concordia Hospital under Dr. N. Neufeld's care, she died in 1937 in the Kliewer home at Culross. Burial took place in Manitou, Manitoba.

During their life together Jacob and Katharina had belonged to and strongly supported the *Kirchengemeinde*. In her later years Katharina joined the *Brüdergemeinde*.

#### HEINRICH EPP 173 (1878-1945)

As the oldest living son, Heinrich 173, had been exempted from the three years of service for the state. He therefore became the main support of his father in the operation of the farm. Also after his marriage to Katharina Janzen, Heinrich continued to live and farm in Rosenort, working to build a happy future for his family.

When war and revolution came, Heinrich, considered a landowner and therefore to be well off, was held in disfavor. He and his sons, Martin 1734 and Kornelius 1736, were imprisoned in Neuhalbstadt. Somehow Martin escaped and came to where his cousins Katharina 1763 and Margaret Baerg 1765 were working. However, he was recaptured and shortly thereafter, Heinrich 173 and Katharina and their whole family were banned to Siberia. The last time Heinrich's whole family was seen was at the wedding of Katharina Baerg 1763, in Lindenau in August of 1939.

While Heinrich 173 was still confined in Neuhalbstadt his niece Margaret Baerg 1765 walked by one day. The windows of the jail were open, though barred, and he called out to her, and held her hand. She would always remember that.

After some very hard years, Heinrich 173 died in Siberia in 1945 and his wife Katharina in 1955. The oldest of their eight children, Jacob 1731, had died at age 20 in 1922 during the typhus epidemic, and the

third child, Heinrich 1733, died several years later of tuberculosis. The youngest, Mariechen 1738, had contacted meningitis when she was seven or eight and died in Rosenort.



Heinrich and Katharina Epp.

Of the children exiled to Siberia with their parents, only Katharina 1732 and Johann 1737 still live, both in Siberia. Katharina never married. Johann works as a bookkeeper. Helene 1735 died in 1949. Her husband, a Thiessen, is also dead. Martin 1734 was taken away 28 February 1938 and was never heard from again. Kornelius 1736 also disappeared about the same time. Some of Heinrich Epp's children left descendants but little is known about them.



Justina Baerg with daughter Justina and son Kornelius or Heinrich c. 1930.

#### JUSTINA (EPP) BAERG 174 (1880-1945)

Justina 174 was the first of the Jacob 17 and Katharina Epp children to marry and her choice was Johann Baerg. For some time Johann helped on his father-in-law's farm, but later he and Justina settled in Adshimambet, approximately 36 kilometers south of Dzhankoi, today called Baglikova, in the Crimea.

The Baergs had planned to build a new house but, as for so many others, the Revolution changed all that. Farming became almost an impossible task, for they were heavily taxed and repeatedly robbed.

Johann then turned to cabinet making while his sons tried to work the farm to the best of their ability. But with only one lame horse and a cow, how far can one get? While there were improvements in some aspects, overall living conditions became worse, affected, among other things, by the great famine. When son Johann married in 1922 only coffee was served at the reception which followed. Who could afford the luxury of extra food for such an occasion? But generally speaking Johann and Justina 174 were not as ill-treated as others, inasmuch as they had not been landowners.

The day came in 1929 when the Baergs came to the conclusion that they too would emigrate. Johann would have liked to auction off everything, but auction sales were strictly forbidden. He then sold everything he could to private purchasers and the remainder was left behind.

Passes to travel to Moscow were difficult to obtain, so son Willie 1744 and one of his brothers were sent to Simferopol with a couple of dozen eggs and some butter. They got their passes. They came home only to find their father under house arrest. The next night they managed to get away, however, and to catch a train for Moscow at 4:00 a.m. Acquaintances met them at the station and together with four other families they were able to find accommodation in a two-bedroom summer cottage just outside the city.

Now came the task of procuring the all-important

passports and visas. Willie 1744 in particular wanted his as he was due to be drafted into the army. They lived in Moscow for some months, always in the hope of soon getting their papers. But there were 12,000 or more others like them, and the government increasingly tried to talk people into returning home with promises to investigate problems and to make improvements. When that effort failed, it turned to the use of force. The Baergs too were to experience this.

One night Willie 1744 came home from Moscow with the happy news from the German Consulate that Germany would open its doors to the immigrants. But the house was empty; the military had arrived and taken the others to a train to be returned to the Crimea.

Quickly Willie raced to the third station down the track where he found his family. While he helped his father load their belongings onto the train he tried to talk him into fleeing. To Johann 174 this was unthinkable, for son Kornelius 1745 had a bad leg and limped. His parents then wished Willie 1744 God's grace, gave him some money, and packed some underwear, a blanket and a pillow for him. Shortly before the train's doors were closed he took leave of his parents.

Fortunately it was stormy with snow and rain. Willie threw his package under the train, scrambled after it, and disappeared into the night. Thus he was separated from his parents, never again to see their faces or to speak to them.

Not too long afterwards, aided by the payment of some money which had been requested to expedite matters, Willie was on his way to a new home in a new land. God had performed a miracle for him.

In Germany Willie stayed at Sperlingslust in Prenzlau for about three months. When the decision needed to be made as to where he wanted to go, he chose Canada, since grandmother Epp, several uncles and an aunt were already there.

Before Willie left Germany he reported the plight of his parents, two younger brothers and his youngest sis-

ter. Two years later they, too, were given permission to leave Russia. Germany couldn't hold all refugees, however, and a new government in Canada had closed its doors to immigrants. The senior Baergs with their youngest three children, Kornelius 1745, Justina 1746, and Heinrich 1747, went to Brazil.

Initially they settled in the Krauel Colony, located in the district of Alto Krauel, Santa Catarina, where living conditions were severe. Later they were able to move to Curitiba to take up dairy farming and house building. Economic conditions slowly improved but remained tough until the death of both Johann and Justina 174 in the early 40s. Their children, Kornelius, Justina (now Dyck), and Heinrich still live there with their families.

The Johann Baergs' two older children, Johann 1742 and Tina 1743, had married prior to the decision by their parents to leave Russia, and they remained there. Both have since died. The oldest son, Jacob 1741, drowned in 1919 at age 19 while attempting to cross a river on horseback.

### JACOB EPP 175 (1882-1969)

Jacob's first teaching position was at Akerman, 40 kilometers southwest of Odessa in the Ukraine. Four years later, in 1907, he went back to Rosenort, both to teach and to get married. His bride was Susanna Pries of Gnadenfeld.

Born in Schickel, north of Tchongrov, Crimea, Susanna had taken up nursing, a calling which she was to practice for many years to come. In the year prior to her marriage she had trained in Koenigsberg, Prussia, to get her diploma as a midwife. As such her services were very much in demand also among relatives. For example, it is known that in 1910 she assisted Susanna (Rempel) Epp (111) in the delivery of her son Gerhard 11113 and nursed her when pleurisy developed. Susanna (175) did for her what she could and was with her when she died.

She served both rich and poor, friend or foe, also during the years of the Revolution. Makhnovites called for her help and they did her no harm. When she needed to pass through the battlefield she was protected by four armed men. On one occasion, after threats that she would be shot if she could not help with the delivery or if the woman should die as a result, Susanna insisted that an intern be called as witness. However, one had been there earlier in the day with a midwife and had been unable to deliver the child. This "dog" they would not ask. "Then shoot me," Susanna had said. "I want a witness, otherwise you will blame me." They complied. Three hours after the delivery of the stillborn child the woman was able to fall asleep.

Susanna asked that they fetch her the next day so that she might check whether all was right. She waited till the third day. When no one came to get her, she and her husband Jacob 17, against his will, went to see how things were. The woman, up and around, showered Susanna with kisses and then served her and her husband tea and sugar and *Kringel* (twisted buns). Susanna would not take any money for her services. The Makhnovites gave her a letter enabling her to go unhindered wherever necessary.

The teaching profession took Jacob 17 to Lindenau (1909-15) and Fuerstenau (1915-17) in the Molotschna, and Johannesheim, Schoenfeld (Brazol) settlement (1917-19). At Johannesheim Jacob was the last teacher before its destruction. Of those days Jacob recalled in 1938:

Promptly, with the retreating of the Germans in October the Makhnovites appeared. I remember vividly, as if it were yesterday, when on the 10th of November [1918] in the afternoon, Wilhelm Penner came by the school and announced that Makhno was coming, shooting every one who crossed his path.

With this day began a very sad time for us. Often we did not dare to undress for the night. Frequently we spent whole evenings in the dark. If light was used, it was sunflower oil burned in a little dish.

As soon as undesired visitors appeared anywhere in the vicinity, we were warned by the neighbors. Immediately the children were awakened and preparations made for flight. No one was spared such visits. The men were lined up against the wall; then the barrel of the pistol was stuck in their mouth with the command, "Money, weapons and clothes. Hand them over." How the little children cried out of fear for their fathers. Sometimes the crying of children helped but often it was to no avail.



Jacob and Susanna Epp.



Jacob and Susanna Epp with children and grandchildren. The families l-r are: Warkentins—Rudy, Eleanor, Gerhard and Katherine; Janzens—Bertha with Betty, Gerhard, Edward; Epps—Jacob and Susanna; Epps, Jr.—Jacob Alexander and Ruth, and to the right of Ruth, Winona Janzen.

It is interesting to note that the name Jacob Alexander was the first deviation in the Jacob 175 family from the traditional use of the father's first name as the son's second "given" name.

Soon after Christmas our neighbor Johann Warkentin and his daughter Agnes were almost beaten to death with knouts and bootheels. During a pitch-dark night Henry Enns' skull was fractured with a sabre. Since no doctor dared drive at night, my wife was sent for, applying the first bandage to his injuries. . . .\*

From Johannesheim, Jacob and family fled back to the Molotschna in the summer of 1919. His father was ill and so he helped on the farm, as he had done in summers between school terms. He bought a house in Blumstein where he became town secretary. From there he could also help manage his father's affairs.

Soon after his father's death in July 1919, Jacob sold his house in Blumstein and, together with his brother Johann, bought the family homestead in Rosenort. Here Jacob was involved in village affairs, being *Schulze* (mayor) while the Whites were in power, and then Chairman of the local soviet when the Reds took over.

He became active in the Emigration Committee when in 1922-23 B. B. Janz made contact with the Canadian Pacific Railway regarding immigration possibilities. This work involved much travelling and Jacob was away from home a great deal. Those who had fled or had been forced from their homes were given priority to leave Russia. By 1923 emigration

from the Chortitza or Old Colony was in full swing and by 1924 thousands from the Molotschna area joined the exodus.

Jacob, Susanna and their three children became a part of the group numbering 1,200 that left the Molotschna on 12 July 1924. Together with a Mr. Lepp and a Mr. Pauls, Jacob was in charge of this group which included several hundred from the Old Colony and from one of its daughter colonies, Ignatjew.

On arrival in Canada, Jacob soon became involved with the Board of Colonization in helping people get settled in Manitoba. He also acquired a job at the Winkler general store, owned by the Nitikman Sirluck Company, now Janzen's Department Store Limited. Susanna meanwhile had plenty to do in the nursing field.

H. H. Ewert from Gretna was encouraging former teachers to attend the Gretna school (today known as Mennonite Collegiate Institute) but Jacob decided against it. He bought a small house in Winkler for 500 dollars. Soon his mother and brother Abraham 1710 joined them, and he arranged for the Kliever 1711 family to stay at a farm nearby.

In 1927 Jacob Epp 175 bought a farm at Manitou and took up full-time farming for the next 15 years. In 1942 Jacob and Susanna, their children grown and

\*Gerhard Toews. *Schoenfeld*. Winnipeg, Rundschau Publishing House, 1939, p.95.

married, sold their farm and settled near the home of their older daughter in the North Kildonan section of Winnipeg. In the latter 40s Jacob worked part-time as caretaker in the local Mennonite Brethren church.

Another even bigger move in 1951 took them to Vancouver, British Columbia. Eleven years later Jacob made his final move to nearby Clearbrook. He was a member of the Mennonite Brethren Church most of his adult life. Jacob died at Clearbrook in 1969 at age 86.

Susanna, still surprisingly spry for her 96 years, is a resident of the Tabor Home, a Mennonite Brethren home for senior citizens. Her two younger children have both died, but Katherine 1751 and George Warkentin live close by and often visit her or have her over.

### KATHARINA (EPP) BAERG 176 (1884-1924)

The first daughter of Jacob 17 and Katharina Epp had been named Katharina. She died in 1881. When another girl was born in 1884, she too, was named Katharina after her mother Katharina (Boese) Epp.

After completing the *Dorfschule* in Rosenort, Katharina 176 helped in the kitchen, as was the custom. Often she would have to get up early in the morning to milk the cows, and then to separate the cream from the milk. The latter gave her much opportunity to sing, something she enjoyed immensely.

From time to time Katharina 176 would visit her uncle's home, *Alttester* Bernhard Epp 19 of Lindenau. There Katharina and her cousins would play guitar and sing in the arbor in the garden. Next door lived Peter and Justina (Ens) Baerg, and it was not surprising for their oldest son Peter to join the group with his guitar. Soon Peter and Katharina got married in the *Kirchengemeinde* in Ohrloff. Making their home in Lindenau, the young couple attended the *Allianzgemeinde* which later became the *Brüdergemeinde*.

Peter Baerg, a first cousin of Johann Baerg who had married Katharina's older sister Justina 174, was a farmer. He bought land, machinery, horses and cows, and hired workers. And he built a new house for Katharina and himself across the street from *Alttester* Bernhard Epp 19. A barn and shed already stood there. Peter had learned carpentry following his completion of the *Dorfschule*.

The Revolution didn't pass them by. Several times Peter was stood up against the barn, beaten and threatened by armed thugs. Katharina and the children knelt and prayed. Peter gave the bandits what money he had, but that wasn't enough, so they took the best horses and a wagon. In the house they broke cupboards and took anything and everything of value.

Typhus hit Katharina 176 hard. The others, hus-



The clock the Jacob Epps brought from Russia to Canada.



Katharina and Peter Baerg.

band Peter with typhus and the children with both typhus and malaria, had come through the epidemic in better shape. In 1924, at the age of 40, Katharina, a victim of pulmonary tuberculosis, gave premature birth to a baby boy and hemorrhaged severely. The child lived only a short time and two weeks later, after much pain, Katharina also died.

Some time passed before Peter Baerg remarried. Peter's new wife, widow Katharina (Willms) Baerg, was from Tiegenhagen.

In 1930 the authorities came to take inventory of everything the Peter Baerg's possessed for purposes of taxation. Peter paid his taxes. Then more, and still more was charged, until almost nothing was left. Finally the Baerg family harnessed the last pair of horses to the wagon and fled to the Crimea. Only daughter Katharina 1763, married to Heinrich J. Loewen of Halbstadt, remained behind.

In 1934 Peter (176) was sentenced to six years imprisonment. The first three years were spent in Simferopol, Crimea, where his daughter Margaret 1765 lived. She was able to visit him there. The next three years were spent in Karaganda, Kazakh SSR. Finally, in 1941 he was allowed to go home, still in reasonably good health. But six months later World War II broke out for Russia, and Peter, his wife, and all the children still at home were sent to Siberia.

In 1943, after much heavy labor and a heart attack, Peter (176) died. His youngest son, Heinrich (by his second wife), was 16 at the time. The second Mrs. Baerg died in Rusajewa, Kazakh SSR at age 90. Heinrich and his family still live there.

The Peter Baerg's 176 children (and grandchildren) today are found as follows: Justina 1761 and Herman Klassen at Lugovoy near Frunze, Kirgiz SSR; Katharina Loewen 1763 at Duschambe, Tadzhik SSR where her husband Heinrich died in 1977; Peter P. Baergs 1762 in West Germany after 15 years in Paraguay; Margaret 1765 and David Goertzen in Vancouver, British Columbia since 1964 and 1948 respectively.

Jacob 1764 was deported from the Crimea to the Caucasus and from there to the North with brother Wilhelm 1766. Jacob was freed and after more than 20 years of sojourn in Kazakh SSR has moved back to Simferopol, Crimea with his family.

Wilhelm 1766 was discharged from a Siberian hospital still very weak from typhus. Together with two other men, he got lost in a fierce snowstorm on their 50-kilometer trek home on foot. They were attacked by wolves and in spring 1944 only their bones were found. His wife Emilie also died in Siberia in 1944 not far from Kokchetaw. Mariechen 1768 died of blood poisoning in 1941 at age 22 at Spat in the Crimea.

## CORNELIUS EPP 178 (1889-1969)

While still in his teens Cornelius twice broke the same leg, once in a fall off a horse. He experienced considerable pain in his crippled leg and some years later had it amputated. He continued to suffer as a result of the accidents for the remainder of his life.

In his early adulthood Cornelius worked in a store in Halbstadt. His plan to marry was thwarted due to fake rumors that the girl had epilepsy. In 1913 he emigrated to the United States. He settled in the Newton, Kansas area where his maternal grandfather, Heinrich Boese, with the rest of his mother's family, had settled some 40 years earlier.

In Kansas Cornelius became a very capable college instructor in Russian and German. He was very talented musically and could play many an instrument. He also led a church choir for several years. At one time he seriously considered putting out a book on penmanship. Anyone who ever saw his beautiful script could well believe his interest in that subject. His writing on envelopes particularly was always a work of art. In due course one felt like discarding the card but keeping the envelope.



Cornelius Epp.

Received your beautiful Christmas card. Many, many thanks for that message!!

It is gratifying to see, that dear friends in faraway lands think of an old lonesome man at this time of the season. May God bless you and your family!

Wishing you all health, happiness and success for the Holidays and the coming months of a another New Year!

Sincerely

C. J. Epp

12/15/64



Mr. & Mrs. Helmut Epp  
and Children  
22 Lochinvar Drive  
St. Catharines, Ontario  
Canada





Back, l-r: Maria and Cornelius Epp. Front, l-r: Abraham and Johann Epp.

Cornelius maintained contact with his family. He and his sister Katharina 176, who was two years his senior, corresponded regularly until 1924 when she died.

For the second time Cornelius wanted to marry but when he discovered that the mother of his beloved was not happy to have a cripple for a son-in-law he was deeply hurt and felt compelled to leave the Kansas community. He became estranged from the rest of his family and for many years no one heard from him or really knew where he was. There was some speculation that he had moved to Chicago but that was as far as it went. From his acquaintances, some Thiessens in Chicago, relatives learned that this was so.

In Chicago Cornelius worked in a bank for a number of years, and then as a bookkeeper. His last job prior to retirement was with a publishing house.

In Manitoba, mother Katharina (17) waited and waited for her son Cornelius. He had written saying he would come that fall. Mother Katharina prayed and waited. He did not come. His mother died.

In about 1956 Cornelius sent a letter to his brother Jacob 175, addressed to him at Manitou.\* Thereupon he also visited his three brothers and his only surviving sister Maria Kliever 1711. This was the first time they had seen each other for about 43 years. Several of the relatives also visited him in Chicago.

To one of them Cornelius expressed some of his feelings of rejection. He could not believe that his parents had wept and been concerned about him. He was told that his mother had cried when as a crippled child he couldn't play outside. Cornelius had felt she was waiting that he might die. Later, when his mother's efforts to cure his leg by hot loam baths in the Crimea had failed, his father had gone out, away from him because he did not want to cry in his son's presence. But Cornelius had felt unwanted. He had felt he was the black sheep of the family. And now it was too late to change any of that.

Cornelius was last visited by his nephew Helmut Epp 17101 in 1967. He found his uncle living in a single room surrounded by his many books. In particular he seemed to be very interested in astrology.

In 1969 a wedding invitation was sent to Cornelius, but it returned with the notation "deceased." Helmut made several attempts in 1969 and 1970 to get information from the city hall in Chicago regarding his uncle's death, but no reply was ever received.

\*It is interesting to note that Jacob had moved to Winnipeg in 1942, moved at least once while in Winnipeg, then moved to Vancouver, British Columbia, and finally to Clearbrook, and the letter still reached him.

## JOHANN EPP 179 (1890-1976)

Johann 179, born in 1890, started the usual three years in alternative military service when he turned 21. Resuming private life in 1914, he became a teacher like his brothers Jacob 175 and Cornelius 178.

Johann 179 and brother Jacob 175 bought the family homestead shortly after their father's death in 1919. But in 1924 the big exodus to Canada took place and Johann and Anna and their almost two-year-old son Henry 1793 were in the second contingent with Jacob 175 and his family.

For a time the Johann Epps lived in Rosenort, Manitoba, near Winkler, but in 1925 Johann 179 and Abraham 1710 bought a farm at St. Adolphe, south of Winnipeg, where Johann and Anna's daughter Johanna 1794 was born in 1925. In the late fall, however, Abraham 1710 moved to Winnipeg and Johann 179 carried on alone. In 1933 Johann 179 and family moved to Culross, Manitoba, where he worked on a farm for wages. Four years later they moved to the Essex County area of Ontario, living first in Leamington, then Blytheswood and next Harrow. There Johann worked in an orchard for a time, and then farmed for many years. Back in Leamington before retiring, he worked in a canning factory for several years.

Johann 179 and Anna were able to celebrate their golden wedding anniversary in June of 1968, but six months later Anna died at the age of 73. The following year Johann married Susanna (Dyck) Epp, the widow of cousin Cornelius H. Epp 118.

For the last few years of his life, Johann and Susanna lived in the Leamington Mennonite Senior Citizens' Home, where he died in April 1976 at the age of 86. He had lived a good long life. He was buried from the Leamington Mennonite United



Johann and Anna (Warkentin) Epp with Johanna and Henry.



Johann and Susanna (Dyck) Epp.

Church, to which he had belonged in his earlier years, and to which he had returned after leaving Harrow. Susanna continued as a resident of the Home until her death in June 1978.



Abraham Epp.

#### ABRAHAM EPP 1710 (1892-1971)

Abraham 1710 attended the *Dorfschule* in Rosenort, where one of his teachers was the well-known Jacob H. Janzen, later *Ältester* Janzen. From there he went to the Ohrloff *Zentralschule*. However, after becoming disenchanted with one of the teachers he changed to the high school in Halbstadt.

His father had wanted him to be a teacher like his brothers Jacob 175, Cornelius 178, and Johann 179. Abraham 1710 may have attended the teachers' school in Kharkov for a time but he soon realized that his temperament was not suited to that profession. He next learned woodwork and harnessmaking.

For several years Abraham helped on the family farm until he had to serve three years at the state nursery at Altberjan, near Melitopol in the Ukraine. After his alternative service years ended, Abraham was drafted by the Whites to serve in the army medical corps.

In 1918 when the Red army took over Abraham was conscripted for the express purpose of teaching Red soldiers to read and write Russian. On the pretext of having to get their belongings from another town, he and a friend got temporary passes. Once away, they managed to get some forged papers (Abraham used the name of his deceased brother Martin 177) and went into hiding, even spending some time in Turkey.

Eventually Abraham was able to return home. When he and his cousin, Heinrich Martin Epp 11110, a foster child of Abraham's parents, decided they

would try to get to America, Abraham proceeded to sell the cow which he had inherited. The price he received was 7,000,000 rubles, but they had to turn right around and pay 10,000 for a loaf of bread. Such was the inflation situation at the time.

In August 1924 Abraham came to Canada. On the trip he met Wilhelm W. Loewen of Tiegenhagen, originally of Muntau, Molotschna. He, too, was headed for Winkler where several of the Loewen clan had arrived earlier. In fact, Wilhelm's sister Anna had been in the group which included Abraham's brother Jacob. Through her visits with the Jacob Epps, and Abraham's association with the Wilhelm Loewens, Abraham and Anna met. They were married on 4 January 1925 in the Winkler Bergthaler Mennonite Church by Rev. Peter Cornelsen, a Mennonite Brethren minister also newly arrived from Russia.

Anna had started out as a domestic, but following her marriage she joined Abraham in Roland, Manitoba, where he worked briefly for a harnessmaker. This was a winter job since harnesses were fixed in the off-season. In the spring they went back to Winkler. Next, Abraham 1710 joined his brother



Abraham and Anna Epp.

Johann 179 in buying the farm at St. Adolphe.

In the late summer, expecting her first child, Anna became quite ill and the baby came prematurely, stillborn. The birth had been an extremely difficult one and Anna lay in a coma in the farmhouse for 11 days, hovering near death. She then spent another three weeks recovering in the St. Boniface Hospital. The baby had been a girl. When in succeeding years Anna had one boy after another the loss was felt more and more.

The crops at the farm looked beautiful until a hailstorm destroyed them. Abraham had met David Heidebrecht, also formerly from Rosenort, who mentioned that he was making one dollar per hour at the Great West Saddlery in Winnipeg. Abraham and Anna thereupon moved to Winnipeg and he too got a job at this harnessmaking establishment. This job lasted for one and a half years, although later Abraham was rehired for a time.

In 1929 the Depression hit, and from that time on Abraham and Anna faced many hardships. They lived in Niverville, Marchand, Gruenthal, Morris, and the Brooklands area of Winnipeg, never staying in one place for any appreciable time. Abraham would find brief jobs from time to time, but a good deal was spent on relief. This meant road work and other work for the city when needed.

In 1938 Abraham was given a quarter section of land at Roblin, some 340 kilometers west-northwest of Winnipeg, through the Back-to-the-Land program.

It included two horses, two cows, two pigs, some chickens, some basic farm implements and a wagon. The rocky soil around Roblin wasn't exactly conducive to good farming. It was also very cold and Abraham and Anna earned a meager living there. They still received some assistance from the government. It started at 12 dollars a month, and was reduced by two dollars each succeeding year. And how does a family of eight live on 12 dollars a month?

In 1941 wife Anna and oldest son Helmut prevailed on Abraham to answer an advertisement for a family to help on a fruit farm near Jordan, Ontario, in the Niagara Peninsula. They were accepted and arrived there in June. Some months later they moved to nearby Beamsville, where the family lived for three years. Then they went on to Niagara-on-the-Lake, in 1944, where Abraham rented a house, raised some chickens, and worked as a carpenter.

In 1946 Abraham and Anna bought property, including a barn, in Niagara-on-the-Lake, which in size took up the better part of a city block. The price paid was 2,600 dollars. By this time sons Helmut 17101 and Rudolph 17102 were working in St. Catharines. Every possible moment was utilized in raising the well-built barn, pouring a good foundation and cellar, then remaking the building into a very habitable house. The house was large and contained five bedrooms, as well as living rooms upstairs and on the main floor. It was well suited for six boys, and it remained the family home for 25 years.



Abraham and Anna Epp and their six sons: Back, l-r: Herbert, Leonard, Theodore, Rudolph and Helmut. Front center: Werner.

Abraham always maintained a good garden, and in the winter he liked to putter in his workshop. When his carpentry days were over he used the shop to build children's furniture and doll cribs both for his grandchildren and to give to church bazaars.

Anna had been baptized in the *Kirchengemeinde* while still in Russia. In Canada they had attended the South End Mennonite Brethren Church in Winnipeg, and then the United Mennonite Churches (G.C.) in Vineland (while in Jordan and Beamsville) and in Niagara-on-the-Lake. It wasn't until after his 65th birthday that Abraham took the step of being baptized and joining the church. It was a difficult but courageous move at that age.

In 1971 Abraham Jacob Epp died of cancer at the age of 78. At the funeral the presiding minister pointed out that Abraham had been well aware of his impending death, but had still taken time to plant his garden as usual. This time, however, he had considerable help from grandchildren, and it seemed as though he was passing the torch on to another generation. Life must go on.

Anna spent the last few years in the Vineland United Mennonite Home for the Aged.



Maria Epp and Peter Kliewer.

## MARIA (EPP) KLIEWER 1711 (1895- )

The youngest of Jacob 17 and Katharina's children, Maria was born in Rosenort in 1895. During the time her parents served in the *Altenheim* at Kuru-shan, Maria became severely ill with rheumatic fever and was unable to attend school thereafter.

When Maria's parents moved back to Rosenort she became her mother's right hand in the kitchen and wherever necessary. On weekends when her brothers Johann 179 and Abraham 1710 and also Heinrich Martin Epp 11110 were home from *Zentralschule* she would have clean clothes and lunches for them to take back.

During the time Maria's brother Johann 179 was in alternative service he brought home a friend, Peter Kliewer, from Schoensee. Maria 1711 and Peter were married during the War in August 1917. After living in Rosenort for three years they moved to Lindenau where they were baptized and became members of the *Brüdergemeinde*.

In August of 1924, glad to escape further hardships in Russia, Maria and Peter Kliewer sold their few belongings and with their three small children left for Canada to make a new home. It was a trip that lasted for nearly three months due to a delay of ten weeks in England where the children contracted measles and were kept in quarantine. Finally, at the end of November they arrived in Winkler, where they spent the winter working on a farm.

The following spring they purchased a farm at Fannystelle. A few years later they moved to Culross. In spite of the Depression years and other setbacks, Peter and Maria loved farming with their six children. They enjoyed singing and many songs were sung by memory.

Then in 1962 they gave up farming and moved to Winkler. Here gardening was a specialty with different flowers beautifying their yard. Many visits were made to friends or acquaintances who were patients in the Winkler hospital across the street from their home. Peter Kliewer read many books and enjoyed the local Mennonite Brethren church, especially the adult Sunday School class. Maria spent her time sewing for the Ladies Mission Circle and MCC as well as crocheting for her children and grandchildren. She kept in close contact with brother Cornelius 178 and sent many parcels to him until he passed away in Chicago in 1969. A highlight in the Kliewers' life was their 50th anniversary which God granted them in 1967.

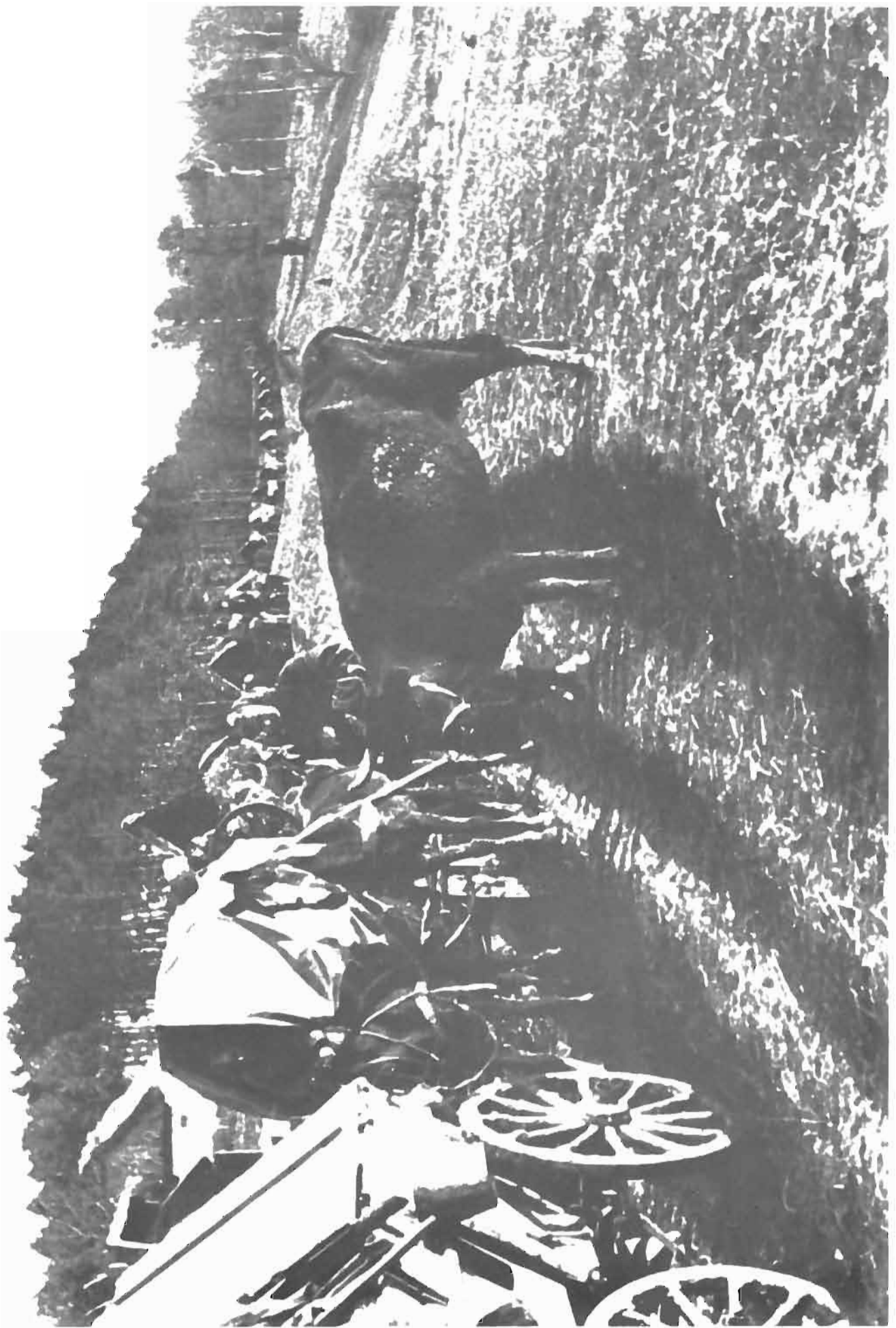
After a lengthy illness Peter Kliewer died in October of 1973. Maria is presently residing in the high rise apartments in Winkler, always happy when her children and friends visit her. She is the only one of the Jacob Epp 17 children still living.



**Maria (sitting on left) and Peter Kliever (sitting on right) with their children and grandchildren.**



**Maria Kliever at the 1975 Epp reunion with her children Victor and Katherine Kliever (left) and Marianne and Benjamin Wiebe with Darren (right). Benjamin died in 1977 and Katherine in 1978.**



The 1940s trek west from the USSR to Poland.

## The House of David Epp 18

### DAVID EPP 18 (1854- ? )

David 18 rented a small *chutor* from his brother Kornelius 14 in the Kurushan district. The large dwelling housed the David Epps and some of their children, including the Jacob Born 184 family. In a *Nebenhaus* lived Heinrich Epps 181. Before moving to Kurushan David operated a *Laufstje* (store) in Fischau. However he lost this business. It was through the generous help of his brother Kornelius 14, that he was able to establish himself on the Kurushan *chutor*. Although David was never well to do and frequently had to borrow money, he had the reputation of honoring his debts.

The David Epps were members of the large Lichtenau congregation of which his twin brother Bernhard was *Alttester*. Because of the distance to Lichtenau, Sunday morning worship services were often held in the dining hall of the *Altenheim*. Here David 18 served as *Vorsänger* (song leader). His diffident manner was not well suited to this task. Now and again the congregational singing would falter. At such times David would ever so slightly incline his head and fix an eye on his children. This never failed to strengthen the singing perceptibly and to bring concealed smiles of amusement to many of the worshippers.

In appearance David was tall and thin. He wore a beard. He was in failing health for some time. He wasted away, becoming thinner and thinner. Because he was a spare man even in good health, he took on a very emaciated appearance. He died of pleurisy.

Heinrich 181  
Justina 182  
Baerbel 183  
Mariechen 184  
Katharina 185  
Agatha 186  
David 187.



David and Maria Epp.



## HEINRICH EPP 181 (1881-1922)

Before landowners had to flee the Kurushan in 1921 Heinrich 181 and his family lived in the *Nebenhaus* on his father's *chutor*. The *chutor* was not a prosperous one but there was sufficient time for a normal participation in church activities and the visiting back and forth of Mennonite social life. In 1921 they took refuge in the village of Tiegerweide, staying a short while at Aaron Thiessens 182, then a longer period in the *Nebenhaus* of a Matthies family at one end of the village.

Among the happy memories of pre-Revolution times are those of Christmas. On the eve of Christmas young and old alike attended church in the late afternoon. The celebration consisted of much singing and the recitation of verses by the children. At the close of the long celebration each child received a *Weihnachtstüte* filled with peanuts, fruit, nuts and candy.



Heinrich and Susanna Epp.

Back home from the excitement, the children placed colorful empty plates beneath the Christmas tree. On Christmas morning they found them filled with nuts, halvah, and other sweets. Then the family went to a Christmas morning worship service. This was followed by a family gathering at the grandparents, David Epps 18. Here the grandchildren recited their *Wünsche* and Grandmother Epp gave out small gifts, such as a pretty handkerchief wrapped around a few cookies, a candy, and an apple.

Heinrich Epp 181 did not live to experience the full aftermath of the Revolution. He died in 1922 of stomach troubles complicated by a cold, choking on his phlegm. His funeral took place in the *Nebengebäude* of Diedrich Olfert and his half sister, a widow Quapp. This building was used as a place of worship until it was closed down by the Soviet authorities.

In 1928 Heinrich's widow Susanna purchased the *Nebenhaus* on the Quapp family's farmyard. Here the family took up residence until 1937.

Daughter Katharina 1812 along with her brother David 1811, became the head of the family after their mother died in 1931.

David 1811 was able to train as a bookkeeper and worked at this vocation both as a free citizen and as a slave in Siberia. He was forcibly separated from wife and children for a long time.

Katharina 1812 married Hein Matthies in 1935 and shortly afterward fled with him to Eigenfeld, Caucasus, where they lived undisturbed until 1941 when slavery in Siberia became their lot. They survived and made their home there until he died in 1975. She was able to emigrate to Germany in 1976.

Heinz 1813 first worked as an agronomist. Then, after forced labor and long separation from his family, he trained as a coal-mining technician. He died in a mining accident in 1959.

Hans 1814 was taken by the NKVD (the Soviet secret police) in 1937 and without any formalities condemned to slave labor and, as far as is known, death.

Kolja 1815 accidentally shot and fatally wounded himself with a homemade gun while hauling cream to the creamery. He was descending a wagon, hoping to shoot some crows.

Kornelius 1816, a trained mechanic, was enslaved in Siberia during World War II. He survived and found work in a coal mine in Jurga, Siberia. There his wife joined him and they raised a family.

Maria 1817 became a widow after a marriage of two years, worked as a nurse, came to Berlin in 1945, was transported back to Russia, and then sentenced to 25 years imprisonment in the far North. Her sentence was reduced by half, and upon release she found employment in Siberia near sister Katharina's home in Tselinograd. In 1975 she managed to emigrate to West Germany, a survivor of a hellish life in a beastly prison-free at last.

Agatha 1818 attended school in a building that had been the Rueckenau church. For students to be caught attending Christian worship service meant failing marks in school. Eventually such worship services became illegal. The Tiegerweide place of worship, actually an old firehall, became a clubhouse and movie theater.

In September 1943, Agatha 1818 and sister Maria



Widow Susanna Epp with children. Back, l-r: Katharina, David, Hans, Heinz. Front, l-r: Kornelius, Maria, Kolja.

1817 joined the arduous trek toward Poland. Women and children, leading milk cows for food, set out to elude the Russian army, trying to stay on the German side of the battlefield. Until Christmas they marched, then halted at a small Polish village, hoping to see the German army drive back the Russian. But they hoped in vain. After Christmas old women and children were entrained; the rest hoisted their knapsacks and continued on afoot. Horses pulling wagons loaded with basic household furnishings gave out. Their loads had to be lightened, and eventually horses, wagons, and goods were abandoned. The road lay strewn with a Singer sewing machine here, a featherbed there, and other items—a windfall for the poverty-stricken natives of the area.

At the end of February 1944, frozen and filthy, they reached Hermannstadt, Wartegau (Poland) and found shelter in a refugee camp. Here the endless stream of refugees fleeing the Russian advance was

channelled into the German war effort with amazing orderliness. Agatha found employment in an office and sister Maria in a hospital in the town of Thorn, on the east German border.

But by 1945 they again found themselves on the road, fleeing the still advancing Russians. Agatha and Maria were separated. Maria, as mentioned, came to Berlin, fell into Russian hands and was condemned to slavery in Siberia. Agatha had the good fortune to elude the Russians and in August 1945 took up residence in Eschwege, West Germany, where she still lives and until 1 January 1980 earned a livelihood as *Geschäftsstellenleiterin* (department head) of a sizeable newspaper.

Gerhard 1819 also was enslaved in Siberia at the onset of World War II and barely survived. Upon release he married and fathered a family in Orsk, USSR.

## JUSTINA (EPP) THIESSEN 182 ( ? - ? )

Justina 182 died before 1921. Her husband Aaron Thiessen remarried and about 1928 made the long journey to the region of the Amur River on the border of China and USSR. They hoped thus to flee the country. They failed. They were exiled to Khabarovsk, where Aaron perished.

Daughter Justina 182?, a young widow, married Peter Sawatzky in Tiegerweide. They had four children. In 1932 they moved to the north Caucasus region. Eventually the long arm of Soviet injustice reached them here too, with the inevitable result—slavery and death in Siberia. Their children survived, and now reside in Alma Ata, Kazakh SSR.



Mariechen and Jacob P. Born.

## BAERBEL (EPP) SAWATZKY 183 (1883-1970)

Baerbel 183 and her family lived in Lindenau. She managed the household and her husband Abram Sawatzky taught school in the neighboring village of Blumstein. For a time they lived in the school.

During the German occupation in World War II, her husband was an inspector of schools. His jurisdiction extended to Gnadenheim, which was on the road on which Tiegerweide too was located. Hence he often stopped in to see his relatives when passing through on official business.

Baerbel 183 and Abram with their youngest three children, Maria 1834, Abram 1835, and Agnes 1836, fled toward Germany in 1945. They arrived just ahead of the Russian army.

Maria 1834 found employment with the German *Wehrmacht* (army) and consequently stayed in Germany in 1945 and since then has lived in Lueneberg. In Russia she had studied zoology. In Germany she took up sketching and is now employed as an illustrator.

The others, like many before them, accepted Russian promises of a safe return to a safe home but found the promises to be lies and their destination to be the Siberian north.

Baerbel's 183 husband perished there. She survived and was able to locate her daughter Baerbel Bletsch 1833. Mother and daughter, and the latter's husband Emil, settled in Angren, Taschkent. Until her death in 1970 mother Baerbel 183 lived with the Bletsches. Baerbel 1833 and Emil have been able to build a house. They live on pension and grow grapes and vegetables.

Baerbel's 183 oldest son David 1831 was, at the beginning of World War II, carried off by Russian police and never seen again. His family still lives in Lindenau, Molotschna.

Both Anna 1832 and Agnes 1836 live in Angren also. Agnes, mother of a family, works in a kindergarten. Anna, never married, receives a pension.

Abram 1835 and his wife are both teachers in the USSR.

## MARIECHEN (EPP) BORN 184 (1887-1964)

Mariechen 184 married Jacob Born. Their life was marked, both in Russia and in Canada, by great personal sorrow. In Russia, their only son died of an illness at age five. This loss deeply and lastingly affected Mariechen.

They too lost their homes during the Revolution and lived precariously until they left Russia in the first *eschalon* to depart from the Molotschna settlement. They arrived in Ontario in the summer of 1924. In February of 1925 they came to Whitewater, Manitoba, participating in the group purchase of the large Wilson farm. They moved onto SE 8-3-21 in 1927 and built up a small farm.

Jacob Born was elected to the pulpit ministry of the Whitewater Mennonite congregation, a position he filled humbly and devotedly despite discouraging obstacles.

Already in Russia they had adopted two children. One was a girl, Tina 184(2), left orphaned by anarchist atrocities during the Civil War. The other was a 1.35-kilo infant boy left on the steps of the nurses training centre in Halbstadt. He was bluish and emaciated but he lived. This child, Theodor, 184(3), grew up to become a burden to his foster parents. In his teens and adult life he lived a loose and dissipated life. His mother raised many an anguished prayer to God that her son might turn and repent his ways. Her prayers went unanswered during her lifetime.

But much later, on his deathbed in 1977, Theodor repented, found peace, and asked for a church funeral. He was buried alongside his parents Mariechen 184 and Jacob Born.

### **KATHARINA (EPP) FAST 185 (1890-1957)**

Katharina 185 learned to be an accomplished seamstress. She sewed for others and also taught sewing. Sometimes she would be retained by a family to live with them for a month or two in order to teach sewing to the daughters of the house. She is remembered at such times, as being somewhat shy, a contrast to her sister Agatha 186.

Her skill stood her in good stead in Canada. In their small house in the little hamlet of Whitewater she would sew for neighbors and acquaintances who, busy with seasonal farmwork, could not take the time to do their own sewing. She had the reputation of being a tidy housekeeper as well as keeping a pretty yard.

Her husband Jacob Fast worked on the Canadian Pacific Railroad section gang. He received a small pension from the Canadian government because of his service with the Allied forces during World War I in Russia. The Fastes were poor and lived modestly. Nevertheless, they were able to acquire a car.

The resting place of Jacob Fast has one of the most striking, though also one of the plainest, tombstones in the Boissevain cemetery. It reads, clearly and simply: "Jacob Fast, Private in the Russian Army." It was purchased and erected by the Canadian Legion.

### **AGATHA (EPP) NEUFELD WOELK 186 (1892-1948)**

Agatha 186 is remembered as a pleasant girl in her youth, cheerful and outgoing. She trained as a midwife. She married a widower Johann Neufeld (1111) and lived with him in Blumenort. He died not long thereafter. Agatha then married Heinrich Woelk, Fischau, whom she bore six children. Woelk, a widower, already had children.

Of Heinrich Woelk's later fate nothing is known. Agatha 186 with her youngest children took part in the trek to Poland with Maria (Epp) Janzen 1817 and Agatha Epp 1818.

### **DAVID EPP 187 (1893-1946)**

David Epp 187 as a young man was a likeable youth with a flair for amusing people with his comical stories and actions.

Upon his marriage to Elizabeth Fast he moved to the Crimea. At the outbreak of World War II he and his wife were carried off by Russian police, and they and their two foster children, children of Heinrich Woelk (186), disappeared.



A number of Epps and their suitors in 1927.

## The House of Bernhard Epp 19

### BERNHARD EPP 19 (1854-1926)

Bernhard 19 lived in Lindenau and operated one and a half *Wirtschaften* producing grain and livestock. At age 35 he was ordained to the ministry in the *Lichtenauer Gemeinde*, a large conservative congregation of about 1,000 members, known as the *Kirchengemeinde*. In 1908 he became *Ältester* of the congregation. He was able to devote his time (unpaid) to the church while making his living from the farm because he could entrust much of the farm work to his sons. He also used hired help. During World War I when his sons were in *Forsteidienst* he employed a Russian manager on his farm. At times the village people and the congregation also assisted him.

Bernhard served as *Ältester* during the years when the German pietist movement swept the Molotschna. Many new congregations arose, drawing their members from the established church groups including the Lichtenauer congregation.

Even more difficult was the time of war, revolution, and upheaval when life was cheap. The time of his retirement in 1923 was not a promising time for the flock he had served so devotedly.

He had an aversion to participating in the communal meal that always followed a Mennonite funeral, and invariably he departed before the meal was served, although his youngest daughter who frequently accompanied him on his official duties would stay for the meal.

Bernhard kept two fine horses, Brahmin and Major, solely for use in his church work. His grandchildren still recall these steeds with pleasure in their eyes. With his *tweeroada* (curricle) he covered distances quickly and surely.

His grandchildren, in their recollection of him, stress his piety, his Prussian thoroughness, and the faithfulness and devotion with which he carried out his duties. On his foreyard in Lindenau, neatly sanded and raked clean so that guests could park their horse-drawn vehicles handily, was a children's sandpile. Every grandchild recalls that, even as he waved a farewell to them after a Sunday afternoon's visit,

Gerhard 191  
Justina 192  
Agatha 193  
Jacob 194  
Anna 195  
Bernhard 196  
Katharina 197  
Johann 198  
David 199  
Maria 1910



Bernhard and Anna Epp



Above: the Lichtenau church in the 1920s. Photo courtesy Aaron Klassen, R.R. 1, Waterloo, Ontario from *Als ihre Zeit erfüllt war*, by Walter Quiring and Helen Bartel.

Below: the same building in the 1970s.



he would already be raking the sandpile into its proper precise shape. And so he was in all walks of life. His stables and sheds were swept utterly clean, his behavior was regulated and precise, and he demanded of himself the same rigid standards that he hoped to see about him.

When one of his sons fathered a child out of wedlock, the son was not allowed to eat with the family or to enjoy any normal social relations until he had asked the congregation for forgiveness. This apparently was not a brief period.

When his grandson, Wilhelm Neufeld 1953, was in Canada contemplating joining the Mennonite Brethren Church—a rather earth-shaking prospect for a member of the Lichtenau congregation—he wrote to Grandfather Epp for advice. Bernhard 19 replied that if Wilhelm could find true Christian fellowship in the Mennonite Brethren Church he need have no

fear in making the change; he should do what seemed in his heart to be right.

One of the older members of Bernhard's household insisted that his grandchildren should show their respect for him by addressing him not with the familiar *du* as was their custom, but with the formal *Sie*. To settle the matter, the grandchildren decided to put the question directly to Grandfather Epp himself at a Sunday noon family dinner. He arrived at the table late, as was his habit on Sundays, because he remained at the church chatting with his congregation until the last member departed. After he had settled himself in his customary dignified manner, the question was put: "Grandfather, shall we address you as *du* or as *Sie*?" He paused, quiet and still, and then in a decisive and final manner said: "*Tjinja, wann jie mie goot sent, woa jie mie emma du sahje* (Children, if you love me, you will always use *du*)."

All the family regarded the home of Bernhard and Anna Epp in Lindenau as central. Sunday family dinners were the rule, with married children and their children, as well as an assortment of brothers and sisters, cousins and others attending. Grandchildren whose parents lived far from secondary schools roomed and boarded with them.

Anna Durksen, Annie (Epp) Dyck 1942, Anna (Neufeld) Koop 1952 and Helena (Cornelson) Friesen 1931 all went to *Mädchenschule* and boarded and roomed at Bernhard Epps. One evening the girls secretly entertained some boys in their room—something absolutely forbidden. Their grandfather, aware of what was going on, chose a quiet moment to knock and casually call through the closed door to these bold young ladies: "*Meatjes, vejaet nich den Tuppen henen te hoale* (Girls, don't forget to bring in the potty)." This, in a day of outdoor plumbing and Prussian self-discipline, fearfully embarrassed them.

Bernhard's sense of humor had its limits. One day, at a hog butchering, his younger sons, aware of his aversion to wild game, went out in the early afternoon and shot some rabbits. These were ground up and fried to resemble *Schwienkotlette* (hamburger patties). At supper he ate heartily, sat back, and praised the fine hamburger. When the awful truth was revealed, he was not amused.

He loved to sing, a gift his descendants of five generations have inherited in goodly proportion. Before his election to the pulpit ministry, he served his church as *Vorsänger* (song leader).

Bernhard Epp 19 was cleanshaven but his twin David 18 in his later years wore a close beard. During the preparations on Bernhard's *Tooschetjungsdach* (day before the wedding), his bride, Anna Wiens, at one point wanted her husband-to-be and couldn't find him. She searched for him in and around the home and farmyard, and finally found him—so she thought. She approached him, took his arm—and froze. It was Bernhard's twin, David, at whose side she was standing. David realized her embarrassment and said: "I'll go find your Bernhard."

Of Bernhard's wife, Anna, her grandson, Gerhard G. Neufeld 1923, said at the August 1972 Epp reunion:

She ruled and reigned in the house. It was her domain and her world. Here she worked and prayed, patient and tireless from morning till night. I knew her only as

a little bent grandmother. She was very hard of hearing. To hear us little grandchildren she needed to bend down very low. She was a loving, gentle and deeply humble mother and grandmother. She bore thirteen children, of whom three died in infancy. To nourish and care for them—how much labor and prayer that must have cost!

During the years of anarchy late one evening when some of the Epp household was already abed there came a knock on the door. Son Bernhard 196, still single, went to answer it. Just as he was in the act of opening the heavy door his brother-in-law David Enns (1910) cried out: "*Schwaga, moak nich oap* (Brother-in-law, do not open)!"

But it was too late. A number of armed men rushed in and loudly commandeered all the household into the cellar. They then proceeded thoroughly to loot the house. Old Anna Epp (19) quite deaf, already in bed, was unaware of all this. When the marauders entered her room she suddenly sat up. The butt of a revolver was smashed against her chest, gashing it. The cut never healed.

A heart-breaking farewell took place when all the living children but the oldest, Gerhard 191, and the youngest, Maria 1910, decided to emigrate to Canada with their families. The night before the departure of the first group some 40 odd people descended on Grandmother Epp. She served them a huge meal and bedded them down for the night.

On the morning of 22 June 1924 when all were seated in the wagons ready to make the short journey from Lindenau to the railway station at Lichtenau, Bernhard Epp and his son Jacob 194 left the group and went into the barn. They stayed for quite some time, presumably praying together. Maybe Jacob, as the oldest of the sons leaving for Canada, was asked to make some promises to his aging father, and perhaps he was entrusted with money for use in the new country.

They never saw each other again. In October of 1926 Bernhard died. His last word to his congregation was simply: "I love you very much."

This love he showed in his 37 years of service in the ministry, 12 of these as *Ältester*.

Thirty-seven years in such a position in such a large congregation in such tumultuous times, such a burden sufficed to set him apart from the ordinary, but also to leave him worn out and work-weary as was the case in the last three years. A few facts and figures show what his position entailed. *Ältester* Epp officiated at 641 funerals, 371 weddings, spoke at 110 engagements and at 60 silver wedding anniversaries, a total of 1,182; in addition, from 1911 to 1925 (the figures for the first two years are missing) he baptized 938 persons (491 males, 447 females) in the Lichtenauer church, 163 in the Petershagen church, for a total of 1,101. Add to this the formerly affiliated Rosenhof church, Ohrloff, for one year, and so on. If we consider the many sermons and other church addresses, baptismal instruction, pastoral counselling with groups and individuals, with the healthy and the sick, the young and the old, at deathbeds and with anguished souls—then one begins to grasp the magnitude, the weightiness and the import of the vocation which the deceased, with God's help, was able to fulfill. . .\*

At his funeral a colleague, using as a text Genesis 24:56, pointed out that, like the old servant Eliezer, Bernhard Epp had always been in a hurry, and, come time to die, he hurried off just as impatiently. Only eight days separated his last sermon and his funeral.

The long funeral procession from Lichtenau to the cemetery in Lindenau halted before the house of the deceased so that his erstwhile estranged son Gerhard, himself on his deathbed, could pay his last respects.



The Bernhard Epp sons and daughters and their spouses that emigrated from the Ukraine to Canada. Couples, l-r: Justina 192 and Gerhard Neufeld, Anna 195 and Wilhelm Neufeld, Jacob 194 and Maria Epp, Bernhard 196 and Gertrude Epp, Katharina 197 and Gerhard Fast, Johann 198 and Maria Epp. Photo taken in 1941 at the Wilhelm Neufelds.



The Bernhard Epp 19 children in 1965 at the Gerhard Fast residence in Boissevain. L-r: Johann Epps, Gerhard Fasts, Justina Neufeld, Wilhelm Neufelds, Jacob Epps, Bernhard Epps.

\**Unser Blatt*, 2 Jahrgang, Nr. 1, October 1926, p. 20. See also the reference to his funeral in his daughter Maria's letter, p. 171.



## GERHARD EPP 191 (1875-1926)

Gerhard 191, after a *Zentralschule* education, became a teacher at Nikolaidorf-Mariawohl. He left teaching and joined the firm Lenzmann and worked in their offices in Halbstadt, eventually travelling for them from a posting at Tsaritsyn.

He married a Lutheran girl, Elsa Langerfeld. Because of ill health, associated with a crippled foot, he left Halbstadt. For a time the couple lived with the Jacob Epp 194 family on the Kurushan River near the *Altenheim*. Gerhard 191 resumed employment in the city of Berdyansk, but with the onset of the Revolution he and Elsa moved into the *Sommerstube* of his parents' house in Lindenau.

The Gerhard Epps did not fit easily into the clan, nor into Mennonite society in general. Their stay at the Jacob Epps was an uneasy time. The nieces recall an incident when Elsa laid a ham on a Sunday tablecloth, greatly displeasing Maria 194. Maria Enns 1910 mentions this tension in a letter (see p. 171).

Gerhard Epp 191 was a skilled musician, able to play many instruments and to sing a powerful bass. Because he was lame, the family was unable to emigrate. He died of tuberculosis, suffering a painful illness. His wife and children survived him, she to die in the 1920s.



Gerhard Epp.



Elsa Epp with children, Shura and Eugen.

## JUSTINA (EPP) NEUFELD 192 (1877-1964)

Justina 192 married Gerhard Neufeld also of Lindenau. For the first six years of their married life the Gerhard Neufelds lived in their native village of Lindenau. From 1904 to 1912 they lived in Dgelkui in the Crimea. The little village of Dgelkui, recalls son Gerhard 1923,

had a wide street; in the middle of the street was a big well from which the whole village drew drinking water, and at which the cattle was watered. My parents lived on one of the best *Wirtschaften* which they had rented. It had a roomy brick house, with a long barn adjoining, which in turn adjoined a hog barn.

Almost 2 kilometers from the village flowed the Salgir River. About 16 kilometers distant at Karasan, were a church and *Zentralschule*. The climate was mild, with spring tillage commencing in February. The land abounded with wildlife and was suited to pasturing cattle. Because it was not fertile the Neufelds moved back to Molotschna to settle at Akerman (about 10 kilometers east of the Molotschna River just south of the Yushanlee River) where they had rented a prosperous *chutor*. While living here they often attended worship services at Ohrloff although they were members of the *Lichtenauer* congregation. When Gerhard was conscripted into the *Forsteidienst* Justina managed the large farm alone; her young sons attended school.

In 1917, because of the breakdown of law and order, the family left their thriving farm for Lin-

denau, where they, with the rest of the population endured the looting, carnage and famine that the Great War and the Russian Revolution brought with them.

With many others, Gerhard and Justina Neufeld and their children left Lichtenau for Canada by train on 31 August 1924. About 35 to 40 persons were assigned to a common boxcar, and the station was crowded with friends and loved ones helping the emigrants arrange their belongings for the trip. Before the train slowly pulled from the station in the late afternoon, two solemn hymns were sung en masse: *Befiehl du deine Wege*, and *Gott mit euch bis wir uns wieder sehn*.

Ten days of rail travel brought them to the Latvian border, and heartfelt thanks rose to God once the gates marking the border were behind them. With mixed feelings of joy and sorrow they left the beloved homeland they had come to fear. The rail

Silber -  
Hochzeitsladung

Zuerst an Herrn  
Wilt. Neufeld

Allenheim

Werte Freunde!

Zum Dankfeste für die  
gnädige Führung unsers  
fünfundzwanzigjährigen  
„-„-„- Ehelebens „-„-„-  
werden Sie mit Familie zum  
15. Mai n. St. um 12 Uhr nach-  
mittags nach der Sonnenzeit  
freundlichst eingeladen.

Gerhard & Justina  
- Neufeld -

Lindenau

den 8. Mai 1923.

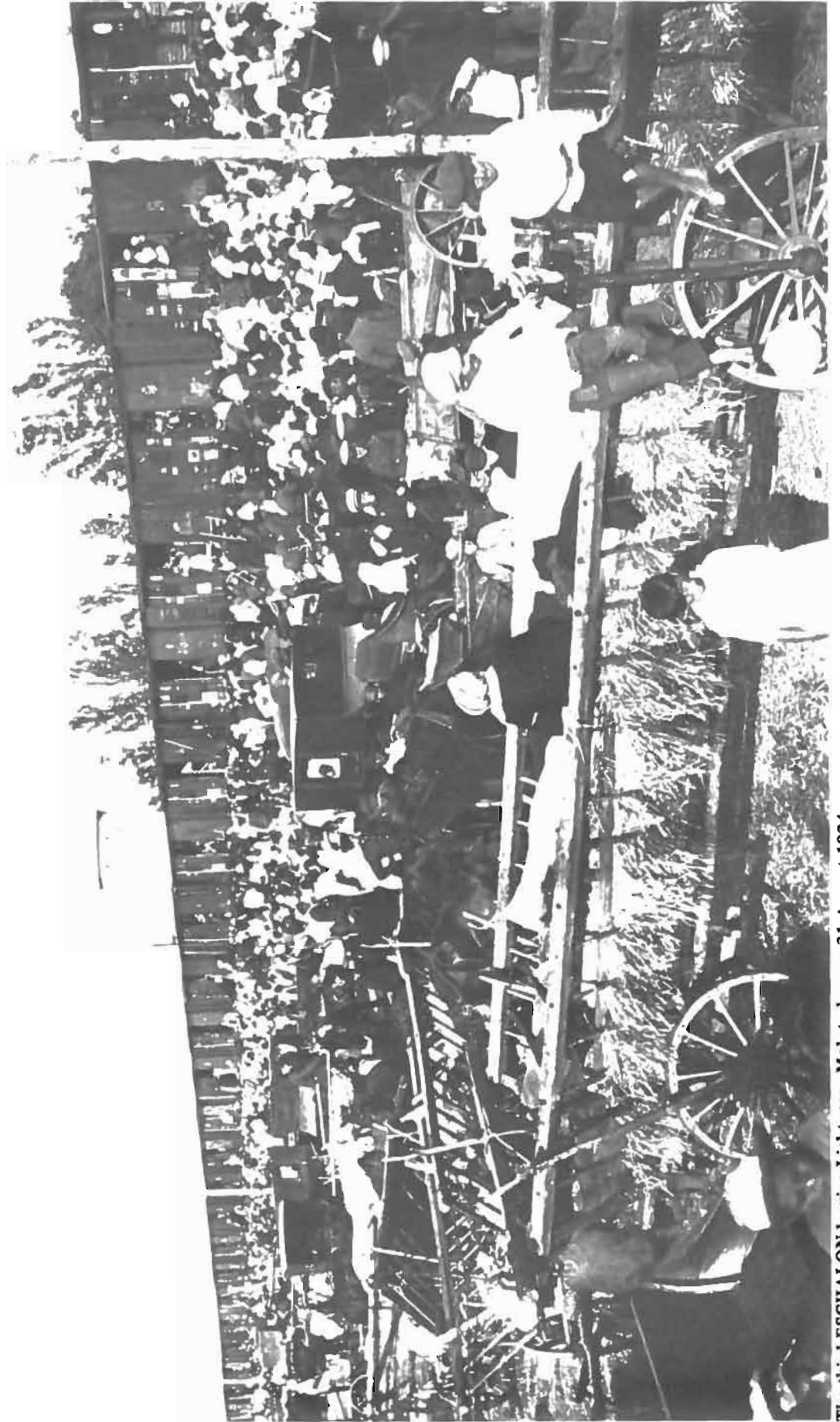
(N. uns.)

Unsere Einladung ergelt:

Allenheim:

an H. Wilt. Neufeld  
in Tiegerweide

an Wilt. des Korn. Epp  
" " Ag. Thierpau  
" Herr Al. Epp  
" " B. Epp.  
" " Gerh. Fast  
" " Joh. Epp  
" " Jac. Epp



The third ESCHALON leaving Lichtenau, Molotschna on 31 August 1924.

journey followed the route Lichtenau–Kharkov–Moscow–Riga; then by ship on the Baltic Sea via the Kiev Canal onto the North Sea to London. Buses took them from the harbor to the railway station; thence to Southampton, then aboard the *Melita* for a nine-day ocean voyage to Quebec City. Finally, they travelled by train to Waterloo, arriving 28 September 1924.

Ontario –that is, a total of 17 people, four families– were to be housed here. The two-storey house had four rooms on each floor.

That first night it became very cold. The heating was very primitive, the wood not dry, and so we very soon experienced the cold winter of western Canada. Our first day we spent seeking firewood in the bush in the biting cold.



Justina and Gerhard Neufeld and family in 1924 just before emigrating from Russia. Back, l-r: Jacob Loewen, Johann Neufeld, Bernhard Neufeld, Justina Neufeld, Lena Neufeld, Katharina Neufeld, Gerhard Neufeld. Front, l-r: Agathe Neufeld Loewen, Agatha Warkentin Neufeld with Gerhard, Abraham Neufeld, standing between the rows, Justina Epp Neufeld, Bertha Neufeld, Gerhard Neufeld, Hilda Neufeld, Anna Neufeld, and Helena Warkentin Neufeld.

Like many others, the Neufelds travelled on credit extended by the Canadian Pacific Railway on the guarantee of the Mennonite Board of Colonization and Immigration, and arrived penniless. The drought and depression of the 1930s delayed repayment of this debt, but it was finally, though not easily, liquidated.

The family spent four months in the Waterloo area, working for various Mennonite farmers among whom was Samuel Shantz. The unaccustomed farm work following hard upon nine days of seasickness initially seemed unbearable. Against the advice of their hosts the Neufelds joined with 12 other families in the purchase of the large Wilson farm near Whitewater, Manitoba, where they arrived by train 25 January 1925. Son Gerhard 1923 recalls:

As we disembarked at Whitewater station, we were met by a boxwagon and a haywagon. Some families had arrived earlier, and were on hand to receive us and take us to an abandoned farmyard on section five, two miles south of the hamlet of Whitewater. It was a very warm, mild day, with scant snow on the fields and snow melting on the roadway. We were agreeably surprised.

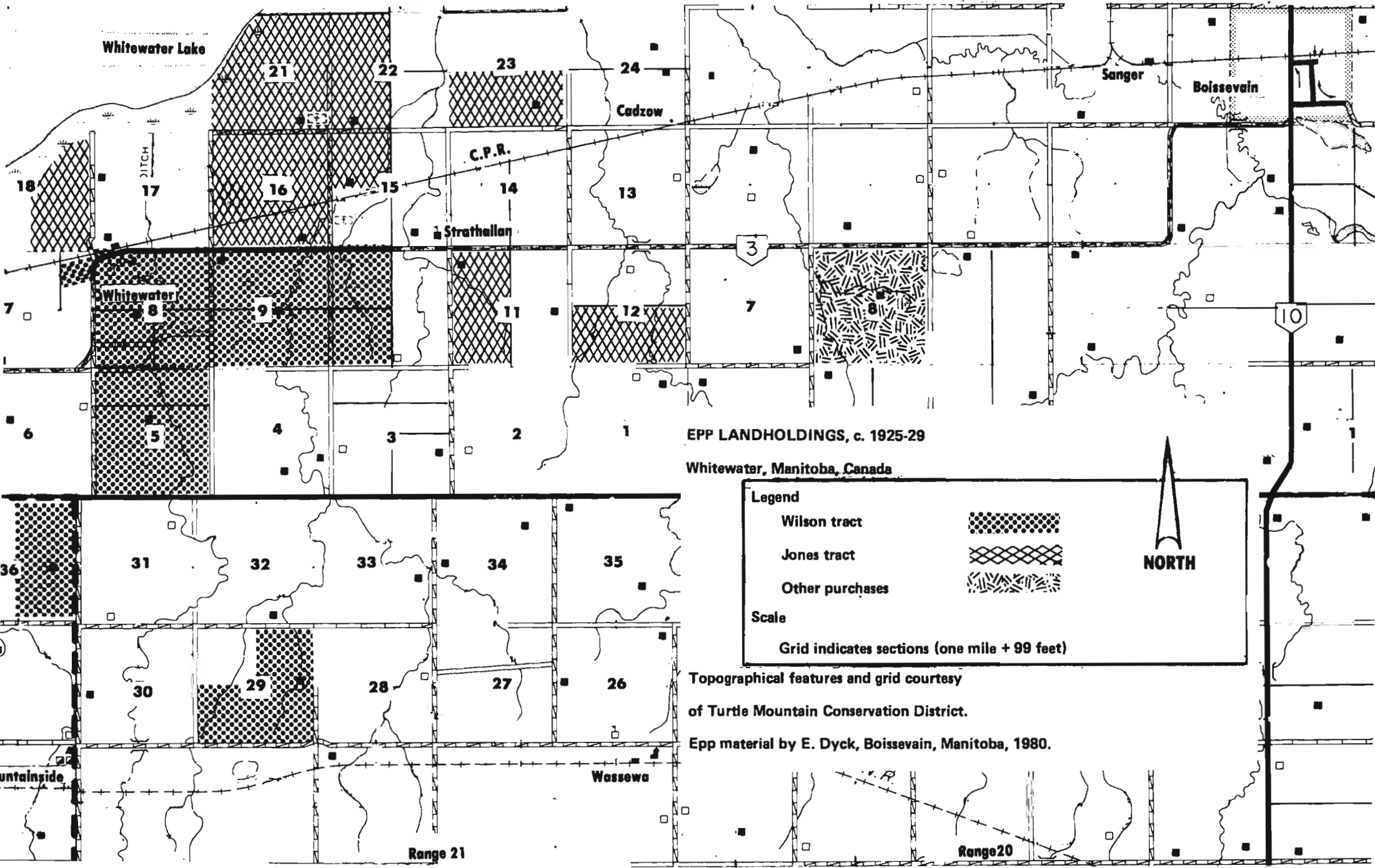
The house that was to receive us was old, uninhabited for many years. On the yard was also a barn. Our parents, Gerhard Neufelds, with seven children and three married couples: John Neufelds with one child, we with (Lena's) mother, and Martin Riedigers, newly married in

Difficult was our beginning, but we were nonetheless grateful to have found a home. In hope and before God we wanted to tend the land and hope for a harvest. In 1927 the farms and houses were divided among the thirteen families.

Martin Riedigers gave up farming because Martin wanted to continue his studies. For this reason they moved to Gretna where he attended the M.C.I.

After 12 years of independent farming the Gerhard Neufelds 192 moved to Whitewater. Here Gerhard died of stomach cancer.

Justina 192 lived many years as a widow alone in her house in Whitewater, with about six Mennonite families as neighbors. During her last years she lived in the homes of her children. She was the matriarch of a very large family, and exercised a great influence on the life of her children and relatives. She was blessed with a curious mind, was very interested in people, and eager to talk. Though a mild, gentle person, she would not hesitate to tell someone her opinion if she felt that person had transgressed the bounds of proper behavior. She insisted on being addressed as *Sie* by her children and grandchildren. She was not without her human failings; she could complain eloquently. She was unique in insisting that a certain seat of a certain pew in church was hers. If ever a stranger inadvertently took her place small children



EPP LANDHOLDINGS, c. 1925-29

Whitewater, Manitoba, Canada

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Legend</b>                                |  |
| Wilson tract                                 |  |
| Jones tract                                  |  |
| Other purchases                              |  |
| <b>Scale</b>                                 |  |
| Grid indicates sections (one mile + 99 feet) |  |



Topographical features and grid courtesy of Turtle Mountain Conservation District.

Epp material by E. Dyck, Boissevain, Manitoba, 1980.

waited with bated breath to see what she would do.

She died of a stroke in the Boissevain Hospital and her body was buried in the Boissevain cemetery.

**Left: Epp landholdings.** The group that bought the Wilson tract were descendants mainly of Bernhard Epp 19 and were of the Molotschna colony in Russia. Among the group buying the Jones tract were descendants of Heinrich Epp 11; these were of the Terek settlement. As indicated on the map a few Epp descendants settled on land apart from these two tracts.

When the land was divided the Wilson farm families lived as follows: Gerhard G. Neufelds 1923, NW 8-3-21; Bernhard Epps 196, NE 8-3-21; Gerhard J. Neufelds 192, SW 8-3-21; Wilhelm Neufelds 195, S 5-3-21; Johann Neufelds 1922, NE 36-2-22; Franz Penners 194, SE 36-2-22; Johann Epps 198, 29-2-21; Jacob Epps 194, NW 9-3-21; Gerhard Fast 197, NW 10-3-21; Cornelius Epps 118, S 9-3-21; Jacob Borns 184, SSE 8-3-21; Heinrich Franzes 1143, S 4-3-21.

The settlers on the Jones tract located as follows: Abram Neufelds 1142, S 16-3-21; Cornelius Neufelds 1148, SW 15-3-21; Gerhard J. Dycks 1942, S 23-3-21.

Two "Epp" families lived outside the Wilson and Jones tracts, namely, Peter A. Neufelds 1141 and H. Neufelds 1145 on 8-3-20.

Church life first centered in a rented church at Whitewater. Years later a church was built on the southwest corner of 15-3-21. Cemeteries at first were located on a number of farmsteads that had a secure title, but later on 15-3-21.

Schools were located on 8-3-21 and 15-3-21.



The barn on the old Wilson farm on SW 8-3-21 where Epps first settled in Manitoba.

#### About the Settlement of EPP Descendants at Whitewater.

Through a Mennonite realtor from Winkler, Manitoba and his non-Mennonite associate from Winnipeg, Wilhelm Neufeld (195) heard of land available in southwestern Manitoba on terms requiring no downpayment. Wilhelm (195), together with his son Wilhelm 1953 and brother-in-law Jacob Epp 194, who had come from Ontario for this purpose, travelled to Whitewater to inspect the land. This was in December 1924.

The owner of the land was a Mr. Wilson who had suffered a heart attack and consequently ceased farming.

While Mennonites in Winkler had cautioned against the purchase, the three men proceeded to negotiate. The deal seemed fair and so in the name of the larger group of relatives and friends they bought approximately 1246.5 hectares of land with complete inventory of dwellings, tools, machinery, and livestock for 26,000 dollars with no downpayment. Unknown to the purchasers, among other things, was the fact that some of the land had liens against it.

When word got around that Mr. Wilson had sold out, quite a few people, who considered themselves creditors and feared they might not collect, proceeded to settle accounts by surreptitiously removing inventory. Mr. Wilson himself died in January 1925.

The Wilhelm Neufeld children, Anna 1952 and Wilhelm 1953, together with their uncle Jacob Epp 194, fed the numerous livestock and maintained the large farm until the participants in the purchase could arrange their affairs and come to Whitewater. By 2 January 1925 the whole Wilhelm Neufeld 195 family had moved to Boissevain.

Other relatives and friends participating in the group purchase arrived the succeeding weeks and months. Ignorant of the language, customs and climate of their new home they moved together under primitive conditions into three crowded residential facilities as follows: Gerhard Fast 197, Peter Neufelds and Wilhelm Neufelds 195 on NE 9-3-21; Jacob Epps 194, Bernhard Epps 196, Johann Epps 198, Franz Penners 1941, Cornelius Epps 118, Jacob Borns 184 and Herman Lohrenzes (Mrs. Lohrenz was Mrs. Johann Epp's sister) on 8-3-21 WPM; Gerhard J. Neufelds 192, Johann Neufelds 1922, Gerhard Neufelds 1923 and their mother and Martin Riedigers in the third residence on section 5.

Crops were fairly good the first few years and prices were good. In 1927 the group as a whole judged that the property could be split up and farmed in independent units. This division was handled by the drawing of lots.

Jacob Epps and Bernhard Epps salvaged lumber from a grain elevator that was part of the land deal to build houses and barns. Gerhard Fast built only a barn and a lean-to with elevator lumber and lived two winters in the lean-to.

Then came the first of many disheartening blows for the group. Coupled with the onset of the Depression, its low prices, grasshoppers, drought and frost, came the shattering news that their land payments had never reached their creditors, but had instead filled the pockets of their trusted agent.

Bernhard 196 was treasurer for the group, responsible for executing the payments of money on the mortgage against the land on which most of the various Epp families were living. Gertrude (196), Bernhard's wife, recalls him stuffing a diaper bag full of small bills and taking it to the agent who readily accepted it and smoothly assured Bernhard that no receipts were necessary—he would take care of all the messy details. Some of the payment was in grain.

Only when their third crop had been paid did the group discover that they had been deceived and that their agent had absconded with every cent of the pennies and dollar bills they had scratched together with such self-denial and hope. He had held their creditor at bay with hard luck stories. Now, with the onset of the Depression the group found itself not only penniless, but landless. In some cases, the land reverted to the creditors of the deeply indebted Wilson estate, and the land was rented to the Epps, as was the case with Bernhard Epps 196 and Wilhelm Neufelds 195. Some renegotiated and bought the land again. The Gerhard Fast 197 moved, renting a farm on NE 21-2-21, two miles east of Mountainside.

All of them were reduced to a position where their landlord even supplied seed grain. In fall they had to face the fact that there wasn't enough of a harvest to repay that, let alone any rent.

## AGATHA (EPP) CORNELSON 193 (1879-1922)

Agatha 193 married Jacob Cornelson, a wagon-maker by profession. He also built beautiful *Droschke* (drosky, democrats). His nieces and nephews admired the various patterns hanging on his workshop walls after which he modelled his products.



Jacob Cornelson.



A drosky. Photo courtesy CMBC Publications.

The Cornelsons had five children. Agatha 193 died in Lichtenau when her youngest child was three.

The Jacob Cornelson family did not emigrate in the 1920s because of the conviction that conditions would soon improve and the country become the paradise it was destined to be. The family remained in Lichtenau until the upheavals of World War II. Jacob Cornelson was massacred, along with many other people, by being shut in the car of a freight train and then burned.

Of the Cornelson children, Helena 1931 worked on a collective farm. One day she secretly took milk from the dairy for a sick child and spent some time in a forced labor camp for this offence. During World War II she took part in a forced march driving cattle north from Lindenau to keep it out of German hands. When the Germans caught up she was able to make her way to Germany, from thence to Paraguay, and then to Canada.

Anna 1932 died as an infant. Jakob 1933 and Kornelius 1935 disappeared during World War II.

Bernhard 1934 was sympathetic to the new government after the Revolution and shunned contact with his relatives. He moved to East Germany and married there.



Jacob Epp and Maria Neufeld.

## JACOB EPP 194 (1883-1961)

Jacob 194 and wife Maria (Neufeld) lived with his parents in Lindenau until after the birth of their second child. He then rented a *chutor* at Kurushan from Kornelius Epp 14.

Produce of the farm was grain, cattle, sheep, corn, sunflowers, vegetables, honey, and so on. Three hired hands, one of whom was married, as well as a cook and three servant girls were all living on the premises.

The first significant disruption in this secure and uneventful life was the departure of Jacob to carry out his compulsory military service in the *Forsteidienst*. During this period his wife managed the farm. Although against regulations, Jacob often contrived to be home for a brief visit of a few hours. On such occasions the household would be in turmoil, his wife busy packing great quantities of food for him to take back, and on one occasion the boys busy catching a huge turkey tom. He sported a thick beard those years.

During the War and Revolution, the Jacob Epps 194 were compelled to billet troops. One such group left the house crawling with lice. Some days thereafter Jacob took his oldest daughter Elizabeth 1941 to girls' boarding school in Halbstadt for the week. Horse and wagon arrived home but without a driver. Jacob was found unconscious on the floor of the wagon, stricken with epidemic typhus. The horse, although but recently purchased and having gone the route only one previous trip, brought its new owner home on its own. Within hours most members of the family were deathly ill, including Elizabeth at boarding school. Maria 1943 recalls people visiting the home to give their last farewells to her parents. But they all managed to survive.

One day after a battle in their locality, the Jacob Epp children brought home a cartridge belt filled with live shells, which they had found in the fields. It was taken from the children by Jacob 194, and dust-covered and forgotten it was found atop a cupboard during a routine search and looting by Red army soldiers. Jacob was immediately suspected of covert military involvement. The younger children ran to hide in a field behind the house. Jacob and Maria were stood up before an ad hoc firing squad. Truly fearing her parents were about to be shot, Annie 1942 begged the soldiers to spare her parents' lives. They were not shot.

The family, bereft of all possessions immediately fled for refuge to Halbstadt to the home of Maria's (194) mother, where daughter Elsa 1946, wrapped in a tablecloth, died of black pox.

The family spent the winter of 1920-21 at Muntau where Herman Lohrenz, Maria's brother-in-law, lived in a government-owned teacherage. Physically crowded and politically touchy for Lohrenz, the situation was such that Jacob Epps moved to Tiegerweide in 1921. They shared quarters here with Bernhard Epps 196, Gerhard Fasts 197 and Johann Epps 198.

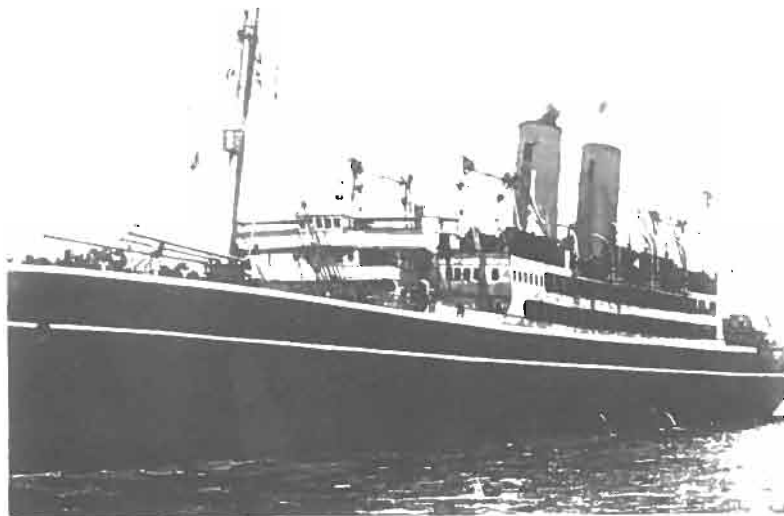
In Tiegerweide severe famine threatened their lives. Maria (194) bore and nursed the twins through this period. At the time of their birth there was not a crust of bread in the house. A neighbor lady brought a slice of bread spread with butter and told the wide-eyed hungry children: "This is for your mother, not for you."

Jacob had 40 measures of wheat owing him which the debtor finally paid. The family took pleasure in seeing all the sacks of flour ground from this wheat piled up in their already crowded quarters.

By 1924 conditions had improved somewhat, but along with his brothers and sisters Jacob 194 decided to emigrate to Canada.

The last few days in Russia were a time of busy preparation for the trek to a new land. Enough baking was done to last the family about two weeks on the train trip to Riga. Maria's sisters, Liese and Anna, came to help. Son Bernhard took them back home to Halbstadt. He had to walk alone. It was by now a dangerous road, with many a murder and mugging. But a 12-year-old boy was thought to be safer than an adult.

While the ladies prepared food and roasted *Zwieback* by the bag, Jacob was busy making crates and packing food.



The MELITA.

They boarded the train on the morning of 22 June 1924, crowded with hundreds of emigrants into cattle cars, in which primitive housekeeping arrangements were set up for the week or so of rail travel to Riga.

When the train reached the Latvian border, every passenger on the 50 crowded cattle cars had to strip and give up all possessions other than the most personal necessities. An axe packed by Jacob Epp was confiscated as being the property of the state. As word flew from car to car that all property was being confiscated, people who had managed through plague and famine to cling to a treasured keepsake, in desperation stuffed their necklaces and jewels and watches and such under stacks of piled snow fence along the tracks. The hope that somehow they might retrieve these goods proved a vain one.

From Riga they travelled by ship to Antwerp, Belgium. Here Canadian immigration authorities delayed the family for two weeks because a louse was found in wife Maria's hair. Eventually they boarded the *Melita*, suffered agonizing seasickness, and arrived at Quebec City August 1.

They went by train to Waterloo, Ontario, Jacob's cash amounting to a total of about 30 pennies in Russian currency and still travelling on credit extended by the CPR. Near Waterloo they were housed in a huge vacant farmhouse, owned by a Weier family. They were immediately put to work and suffered greatly, weakened from seasickness, soft from lack of exercise, and not recovered from the malnourishment and strain of the last years in Russia.

Jacob found himself shovelling gravel the afternoon of his arrival and thought he would never live to the end of the day's work. The girls were sent to work harrowing - that is, walking behind horses.

During the winter Jacob took an opportunity to buy land at Whitewater, Manitoba. Here Jacob settled his family, here he earned his living, and here he paid his debts.



The life of Jacob Epp 194 revolved around his church and congregation. On the 21st of August he was ordained as a deacon of the newly established Whitewater Mennonite Church, charged with visiting and comforting the sick and poor, visiting and assisting widows and orphans, supporting and assisting the ministers of the congregation, and generally to serve the church. One of his more visible duties was to gather up the Sunday morning offering. He sat with



Jacob Epp and his four Clydesdale horses—horses of distinction—*feea blesa*.



Harvesting with binder and horses.



The stokers, l-r: unknown, Hermann Loewen, Maria Epp 1943 and Bernhard Epp 1944.

the ministers facing the congregation, always walking at the end of the short procession, and sitting farthest from the pulpit. His seat was far from convenient, for, to gather up the offering he had to squeeze by all the ministers, and squeeze back in again, but, though inconvenient, it was proper.

His two youngest sons, along with nine other local Mennonite youth, joined the Canadian armed forces during World War II. This brought into his life a burden and made his calling as deacon more difficult.

Jacob was a man able to set his mind to a task and bring it to completion, but also able to live life at a tranquil pace. He was the first of the Mennonite immigrants in the area to construct a house and barn, and among the first to own a car. However, he never pursued wealth, living modestly on a small income to his death.

He was held in high esteem and respected as a pious and devout man. He lived soberly, neither smoking nor drinking, although in Russia his beekeeper's net included a hole for his cigarette.

Like many of his peers, he never seemed fully to grasp that an automobile is not an intelligent horse. He was once seen turning out of the slow line of traffic heading to the annual Brandon Fair and up the steep hill on the two-lane Highway 10 passing a long string of cars and disappearing over the crest of the hill still gaining speed. Even after he had a partially paralyzing stroke in the late 50s, he continued to drive in the same style. His children feared for his life every time he backed down the driveway to get the mail.

As he grew older he seemed to develop an iron will to live, surviving a number of crises. It was a common sight in his last few years to see him and Maria toward evening sitting in the sun porch of their house on Rae Street in Boissevain, observing the sunset, and awaiting a visitor. He would be rubbing his stroke-afflicted hand and wearing his typical bemused smile.

He died of stroke in the Boissevain Hospital. His bones are buried in the Boissevain cemetery.



Jacob and Maria Epp visiting with daughter Annie and her husband Gerhard Dyck in Boissevain.



Maria Epp (194) in the garden of their new home at Whitewater in 1929.



View from the Jacob Epp house looking east, showing highway No. 3 to Boissevain. The land on both sides of the highway is owned by 'Epps' with their farms seen in the distance.

*Ca Dneuro Anna!*  
*Li, bu Njuta wil Glück in Gott ab*  
*Ingen reimpflich Sin spazur.*  
*Di artig in fittu Inf wu allor*  
*Vinde, Sam re in ab Sin /stuf*  
*wost gef...*

A birthday message from Jacob to his daughter Annie. Freely translated it reads: "Dear Njuta, your father wishes you much happiness and God's blessings. Be good and shun all sin that it may always be well with you."



Jacob Epp 194 and family. Seated (in couples), l-r: Annie and Gerhard Dyck, Maria and Jacob Epp, Elizabeth and Frank Penner. Couples standing, l-r: Maria and John Fast, Tina and Bernhard Epp, Katherine and Heinz Epp, Margaret and George Riediger, Jakob and Anne Epp, Nick and Irma Heide, Jacob and Helena Dyck.





marriage on this rented farm at Kurushan in the Halbstadt *Volost*.

In 1905 the couple, with all their livestock, moved over to his parents' approximately 202-hectare farm in the same district. In 1907 his father divided his land five ways among five sons. Wilhelm's portion had no buildings, so he built house, barn, and sheds. Thus the young couple happily began raising children on a new farmstead in tranquil peace.

Whatever significant events transpired during the

### ANNA (EPP) NEUFELD 195 (1885-1963)

At age 19, when she married, Anna seems to have been a very practical person. By his own account, Wilhelm courted her because his mother, in 1904, became ill of skin cancer, and his sister, Agatha, with whom he was operating a *Käseverein* (i.e. using loaned cows to supply milk to a small cheese factory), felt compelled to leave Wilhelm and care for her mother. This left the farm without distaff support. Wilhelm said to himself: "You must seek a lifelong companion." He prayed the Lord for guidance and felt led to Anna Epp who said Yes to the question that evidently was not long in coming.



Anna (above) and Wilhelm Neufeld (below).

*Wilhelm Neufeld  
Anna Epp.  
Verlobte.*

Lindenau.

Lindenau.

Engagement card.

"Soon thereafter," says Wilhelm's diary, "our engagement was announced and in a few weeks, 30 October 1904, our wedding took place in Lindenau at the home of her parents. It was Saturday."

Sunday was *Nachhochzeit* (literally, 'after-wedding', for those who could not attend the wedding). On Monday close friends and relatives drove to the farm to help the couple get started. That day a cow was slaughtered and on Tuesday hogs. "These were happy days," says Wilhelm of the beginning of their



next few years faded into the shadows of the cloud that swooped upon them in the form of World War I and the Russian Revolution.

By 1921 the family had abandoned their beautiful *chutor* on the Kurushan River and fled for safety to Tiegerweide. When they, on the eve of their departure for Canada, paid a farewell visit to the farm, they found it degenerated into ramshackle buildings, housing seven crowded families, and fields striking only in their obvious neglect. What the hand of man had in hope and toil erected, the hand of man had in spite destroyed.

Having survived the long ocean passage and the dreary rail journey, Wilhelm and Anna and their nine children arrived in Winkler, Manitoba, 11 August 1924. Local Mennonites found them temporary housing, but what could a penniless immigrant family look to for a future? They cast their lot with relatives and friends at Whitewater, Manitoba.

Anna and Wilhelm Neufeld were dedicated believers, living their Christianity as honestly as they knew how. They daily held a family worship hour. In the early months of life at Whitewater, General Conference Mennonites and adherents of the Mennonite Brethren Church worshipped together, meeting first in homes, and then in the United Church building in Whitewater, a small stone church at that time no longer in regular use.

Stonewall, Manitoba. In 1938 they moved to Leamington, Ontario, where Wilhelm was employed as a gardener at several lakeshore houses. In October 1946 Wilhelm and Anna took up residence in Winnipeg. Here they reached old age, living a serene life, happy in much visiting back and forth among their children and relatives.



The wedding of Katherina Neufeld and Jakob Toews at Wilhelm Neufelds' home. To the right is the Neufeld residence.



Dedication of the new church building at Whitewater in 1939.

However, shortly after the arrival of *Ältester* Franz Enns of the General Conference church, and Rev. David Derksen of the Brethren church, the two groups began to worship separately. An important tenet of the Brethren was that baptism of believing adults should be by total immersion. *Ältester* Enns, in typical Anabaptist fashion, openly scorned this attention to the form of baptism. His attitude affronted Wilhelm and Anna Neufeld and their adult children, with the result that on 19 August 1928 son Wilhelm 1953 and daughter Agatha 1954 were baptized and received into the Mennonite Brethren church, to be followed by their parents and sister Maria 1955 on 12 July 1931.

In 1937 the family left their unsuccessful farm operation and rented a 60-cow dairy farm near

#### BERNHARD EPP 196 (1886-1960)

Bernhard worked as a clerk in a store in Lindenau where he learned to handle accounts and do book-keeping. When the conflict between Reds and Whites reached Lindenau, Bernhard, because of his open anti-Communist stand and because of some indiscretions, incurred the bitter enmity of some Lindenau men. As civil disorder increased, the danger to his life increased and he felt it necessary to hide out in Tiegerweide even though his parents were old and alone in Lindenau.

One day toward evening Bernhard took a short cut from Tiegerweide to Lindenau through a deep ravine. Unexpectedly, on the open path, he encountered a band of men including these his sworn enemies—men who had shot others, and would have shot him, at sight. They never saw him, and rode right past him. He could only say, with heartfelt thanks: "*Gott haft an de Uage too gehoole* (God held their eyes shut)."

Bernhard's marriage to Gertrude Penner brought with it the necessity for the couple to go to Halbstadt and register their marriage with the civic authorities. However, Bernhard feared for his life if he so exposed himself in public. So it came about that his brother Jacob 194 who somewhat resembled him in appearance, and who throughout his life took delight in risking his neck, walked from Tiegerweide to Halbstadt with the pretty bride on his arm, and signed the register with Bernhard's name.

The enemy chiefly responsible for Bernhard's fears was a certain Penner who bore him a grudge from the time that Bernhard Epp was mayor of Lindenau.

On the eve of the beginning of their journey from Russia, Bernhard 196 and Gertrude stayed overnight

at his parents' home in Lindenau. However, the next morning they did not leave for the railway station in the same vehicle nor at the same time as the rest of the Epp clan. Instead, he and Gertrude and Wilhelm Neufeld 1953 were taken by side roads to the train station at Lichtenau. Here Bernhard immediately boarded a car, not the one assigned to him, and there hid himself. His enemy Penner, meanwhile, was seen walking along the cars, apparently searching for someone. To further prevent his departure from being noticed, Bernhard had had himself and his wife slated for departure in the second *eschalon*, but secretly had arranged with those in charge to go in the first.

Upon his arrival in Ontario, Bernhard first held a job with a road-building crew, but soon found more congenial employment in a store.

When his brothers and brothers-in-law made the decision to leave Ontario for the uncertainties of the Manitoba west, it was with great reluctance that he followed them and shared in the purchase of the Wilson estate at Whitewater.

Life in rural Manitoba in the 1930s was the acid test of many a penniless immigrant family. When Gertrude was pregnant with Jacob 1966 her children all contracted scarlet fever. For the major part of the

winter their small house was under quarantine, with five children ill bedded down one beside the other in the living room. The doctor, a young physician from Boissevain, who was called to treat the first of the sick children, from a distance took one look at the child, hastily backed out and nailed a quarantine sign on the door. He left with not a word about care or treatment. *Altester* F. F. Enns of Whitewater brought some medication and counsel on proper care.

Gertrude 196 had one visit that winter from her neighbor Mrs. Jacob Epp (194). On Christmas Eve the Jacob Epp family delivered goodies for the children from the church gift-giving service, but did not dare to enter, and neither would Gertrude have permitted them for fear of infection.

The Bernhard Epps' extreme poverty had many a bitter edge to it. They received letters from Bernhard's youngest sister Maria 1910 in Russia entreating financial help for emigration. They were powerless to help.

Bernhard was a man who loved reading and conversation. He subscribed to a number of German periodicals when he could afford them, and borrowed them when he could not. As was the case with many people, the rise of Hitler greatly interested him and his friends. He had photos on display of Hitler and



Bernhard and Gertrude Epp and family. Back, l-r (in couples): Bernhard and Elsa Epp, Anna and John Wiens, Gertrude and Henry Wiebe, Augusta and George Epp. Front, l-r: Jacob, Selma, Gertrude and Bernhard B. Epp with grandson, Maria, Henry.

Goering and others of the German leadership.

With the outbreak of war in 1939, prudence dictated that all such material be destroyed. Among the predominantly Anglo-Saxon population the German-speaking Mennonites were suspect in any case. To be found in possession of pro-Hitler material, no matter how innocently, could have given rise to real trouble. Later, when the true nature of Hitler's cause became apparent, Bernhard, like many others, regretted his earlier enthusiasm.

Until he became too old to do the work Bernhard was treasurer and secretary for the Whitewater Mennonite Church. His beautiful handwriting fills many pages of the church records.

He wore a mustache until the mid-1940s. One Saturday night he walked into the kitchen-living room looking very sheepish and startlingly different. At first nobody in the family could fathom the reason for his strange appearance, but when the change was suddenly linked to a vanished mustache, gales of laughter filled the house.

In 1951 Bernhard 196 and Gertrude retired from farming and took up residence in Boissevain where they lived peacefully for nine years. He suffered from arteriosclerosis, a series of strokes, and died of pneumonia in a Winnipeg hospital.



Bernhard Epps and son George enroute to son Bernhard's wedding in Ontario in October 1949.



Bernhard B. Epp reading at home.

#### KATHARINA (EPP) FAST 197 (1888-1966)

Katharina 197 married Gerhard Fast, a man with bright flashing eyes and a snappy demeanor who had just completed a three-year term of compulsory alternative military service at the Anadol *Forstei*. Two of these years he served as *Gefreiter* (lance corporal).

The newlyweds settled on the Wiesenfeld *chutor* near Schoenfeld in the Schoenfelder Volost. Here the couple hoped to settle into a pleasant life of fruit farming. Gerhard Fast's parents were wealthy, always travelling with a chauffeur and possessing one of the finer homes in the prosperous city of Halbstadt. The young couple had telephone communication with neighbors and all the usual conveniences of *chutor* life - servants to do the menial work, including cooks, and a nursemaid for the children.

The outbreak of World War I in 1914 abruptly halted this idyllic life. Gerhard was drafted into the medical corps of the Russian army. During the autumn of 1915 he escaped being taken prisoner when the Russian front collapsed in southwest Poland only because the Germans had no interest in *diese unnötigen Fresser* (these unnecessary gluttons). Upon the occurrence of the October Revolution in 1917, he obtained a month's furlough which, because of later events, was extended indefinitely. Katharina

meanwhile had been managing the estate and raising the two boys.

When Gerhard returned home, it was from the frying pan into the fire. Civil order had disappeared and chaos prevailed. Makhnovites terrorized the area, preying on the relatively wealthy landowners such as the Fasts. They shot their victims at whim.

One night when the first Bernhard was but a few weeks old the Fast home was raided. In his night-shirt Gerhard was prodded about with a bayonet by the bandits while the boys cried in terror. They took all the money, but no one was killed, as had been the case the previous night at another home nearby.

Raid succeeded raid, until clothing, bedding, jewelry, cured meats, lard, livestock, and horses had all been taken.

Interspersed with the raids was the forced billeting of soldiers—to the point where Katharina and her boys finally had to seek rest and relief from this anguished existence. She left Wiesenfeld to live with her brother's family, the Johann Epps 198, at Tiegerweide, where their fourth child was born.

She briefly returned to Wiesenfeld, but soon the family abandoned its home and took refuge in Lindenau, living in the *Nebenstube* (adjoining room) of her father's neighbor, Peter Baerg. From here they moved to Tiegerweide to live with Johann Epps 198 again, where they eked out a precarious existence until emigration to America.

At Whitewater, Manitoba, the Fasts threw in their lot with the others of the Epp clan who participated in the purchase of the Wilson tract. In 1947 the family relocated on the old Haight farm (NE 2-4-18 WPM) near Ninga. Two years later the family moved to Boissevain, where Gerhard had taken employment as a laborer with Dring's Laminated Structures, and where he worked until his retirement in 1958.



Katharina Epp.



Katharina and Gerhard Fast in 1919 with their children, l-r: John, Jacob, Bernhard 1973, Gerhard.





**Katharina and Gerhard Fast in front of their lean-to home c. 1928.**

Katharina Fast is remembered for her generous hospitality. She delighted in baking goodies for birthday celebrations and other gatherings of friends and relatives. She enjoyed housekeeping and took pride in doing well the tasks associated with it. Her embroidery is remembered for its beauty.

Some Anglo-Saxon acquaintances spoke of her as “a real Christian lady.” She was a quiet woman, steadfastly refraining from saying anything nasty about her fellowman. She said she preferred silence to gossip, and she hated having to listen to it.

Both she and her husband showed something of what their Christianity meant to them when their youngest daughter agreed to marriage with a non-Mennonite, an unusual occurrence in those days and highly disapproved of in church circles. They not only tolerated their daughter’s decision, but supported her. They showed genuine acceptance and love to their English-speaking son-in-law, resorting to sign language and trust when words failed.

Katharina and her husband formed a habit of openly displaying their affection for one another—an unusual thing to do in their time and place. On one occasion when he had been absent a few days attending a church conference, she greeted him with a kiss as he stepped from the automobile. This called forth much gleeful laughter among the men-folk in the car, and many years later was still recalled with mirth.

On her deathbed Katharina was deeply appreciative of the visits of friends who refrained from pious moaning and instead conversed cheerfully and perhaps read a brief portion of Holy Scripture. She died of cancer of the liver, and her body lies buried in the Boissevain town cemetery, near the graves of others of her clan.



**Katharina and Gerhard Fast on their 50th wedding anniversary in 1963.**



Johann B. Epp.

land to the dismal certainties that would be their lot in their beloved homeland.

From Lichtenau to Riga they shared a boxcar, in the second *eschalon*, with the Wilhelm Neufeld 195 family. By boat they voyaged to Southampton, and from Liverpool to Quebec. They arrived at Elmira, Ontario, and were temporarily housed with a family named Erb.

They joined relatives at Whitewater in early winter of 1925 and two years later embarked on their own



Neighbors joining to saw the winter's fuel supply. L-r: George Riediger 19251, Johann Epp 198, Henry Engbrecht 1136, Bernhard Epp 196 and Henry Wiebe 19241.

## JOHANN EPP 198 (1892-1972)

Johann 198 married Maria Warkentin, a woman who 63 years later still possessed a sparkling twinkle in her blue eyes and a vivacious smile. Johann and Maria began their marriage under a cloud, but it survived war, famine, plague, migration, drought and poverty, and produced a throng of descendents who today are found scattered over the North American continent.

Shortly after their marriage in Lindenau they moved to Tiegerweide where Johann soon left his family to fulfill his term of compulsory military service in the *Forsteidienst*.

For a period after his return Johann 198 was *Pre-sedatelj* (chairman) of the village of Tiegerweide. On one occasion he was threatened at gun point while his oldest two sons stood by crying. He was actively involved in the *Selbstschutz*, an army comprised of Mennonites determined to defend themselves, especially against the Makhnovites.

When American relief supplies began to reach the Molotschna region, Johann Epp worked on the Ford tractors that were brought in, operating them, and teaching others how to handle them.

As a form of civil order gradually came into being in the 1920s, Johann Epps, together with Gerhard Fasts 197, attempted to operate a *Wirtschaft* in Tiegerweide.

When the opportunity to emigrate arose in 1924 Johann took his wife and three sons out of the country, preferring the uncertainties of life in a foreign

farm operation. In 1948-49 when their lease was terminated, the family moved to Ontario to take up fruit farming. Johann Epp successfully operated the farm at Jordan Station alone until he suffered a stroke that paralyzed his one side.

The last year on the farm was also the occasion of the celebration of their golden anniversary. They retired to a small house which they had purchased in St. Catharines.

Johann Epp was an active person in the life of his community. He served on the board of directors of the Mennonite Collegiate Institute of Gretna, Manitoba, and was a member of the Whitewater Mennonite Church Council.

For various periods he was director of a church choir, first in 1920 in Tiegerweide, and later at Whitewater. He terminated his conducting career abruptly during one memorable Sunday morning worship service. The choir that day for some reason had only five voices in the ladies' section and wasn't doing too well. As the leading voices lost confidence, the whole choir slowly ground to a halt in mid-song. In a rage he threw his baton to the floor and sat down—thus resigning permanently from his position.

At an *Abschiedsfest* (farewell party) held in honor of the Epps upon their departure from Whitewater, Johann 198 made the following remarks:

When one autumn evening in the year 1920, in the village of Tiegerweide, South Russia, some young men came to me and asked me to become their choir director, and when I had recovered from the surprise some-



The Whitewater mixed choir and male choir combined in the early 1930s. Third from left is John B. Epp. Beside him is Bernhard Neufeld 1927, also choir conductor.

what and had said I would try—I did not think then I had taken on a responsibility for the better part of my life. But I must acknowledge to the glory of God that despite shortcomings and frailty, despite unfaithfulness and slothfulness in his service, the time which I have served as choir conductor, about 25 years, belong

among the best of my life to this point and the rewards of this work are manifold.

We have been uplifted when we could contribute to the enrichment of festive days like Christmas and Easter with the singing of beautiful music. Very gladly we sang the beautiful nature songs at youth festivals. We were, so to speak, proud when we could perform greater works like cantatas and such from which we drew courage to continue to work. We have sung songs of comfort and praise at many funerals and weddings.

I have experienced many a thankful handclasp in appreciation of these lovely songs. But the greatest blessing, and I want to say, the favor of God on our efforts we felt most of all when we sang here on a Sunday, often a well-known song and when the preacher then rose and let it be known in his sermon or in his prayer that our singing had moved his heart and so had helped him—then I have always silently thanked God that he could use us in his vineyard and have prayed that in future too he would make us worthy and fit, and keep us humble. And his grace has been with us—that will be our song of praise.

A highlight of Johann's life was his friendship with well-known choir conductor K. H. Neufeld of Winkler, Manitoba. Both at Whitewater and at Jordan Station, K. H. would in his travels include a visit with his friend.

Johann suffered from arteriosclerosis and died of a stroke.



Johann and Maria Epp with their children and grandchildren. Back, l-r: Katharina with Ruth and Johann, Maria, Kornelius, Katie, Gerhard and Anna. Front, l-r: Mary Ann, Maria, Werner John and Agatha Ruth behind him, Johann B., Helen Marie, Jakob, Erika Helen.

## DAVID EPP 199 (1892- ? )

David was a twin of Johann 198. The latter vaguely recalled David as a childhood playmate. David died when still a pre-schooler.

## MARIA (EPP) ENNS 1910 (1898-1944)

Maria 1910, judging from personal letters she wrote to relatives in Canada, was a gifted and sensitive woman. She married David Enns, an educated man with strong convictions who easily became involved in educational and political controversies.

Their marriage was celebrated according to custom even in the troubled year 1920. On the eve of the wedding day a *Pultaoawend* (shower) was held at which the couple and the community were entertained by singing, the recitation of poems, skits, and such. Guns were fired behind the barn to add to the festive atmosphere. David's students were present, reciting for their teacher.

David Enns was barred from emigrating to Canada because he was a cripple, lacking an arm, and therefore unacceptable to the Canadian immigration authorities. He could not endure the thought of letting his wife and child go without him, as another teacher of his acquaintance did. The hope that sooner or later they would be able to go to Canada was strong. The sinister changes inexorably coming about as the Communist regime established itself fueled this hope.

Writing 24 August 1924 of the high taxes his father-in-law, Bernhard 19, now must pay, he said: "[this] money goes directly into the accounts of the local office and now all employees are to draw salaries from these monies. The teachers as well are no longer to be appointed by the congregation of the church; henceforth they serve the government!!"

By November 1924 David was completely discouraged. He wrote to brother-in-law Bernhard Epp 196: ". . . since Maria and Mother constantly speak only of America, I must now approach you and beg your counsel. . . . It has now in fact come to the point where I feel unhappy." The letter goes on to urge Bernhard to explore every possibility of making emigration to Canada feasible.

In the November 1924 civic elections, the voters of Lindenau rejected the list of nominees set up by the authorities and nominated another set of names, including that of David Enns. To everyone's surprise the election went quietly and the local list was elected. David Enns commented: "But one thing about this election is noteworthy: all was quiet, without fighting or uproar. That, in Lindenau, is an agreeable rarity, for the blood of the Lindenau sparrows is as hot as *Rollkuchenfett* [*Rollkuchen*: crullers—nickname for Lindenau; *fett*: lard] —and now without strife!"

However, the next day brought with it a return to "normalcy." Comrade Senner, chairman of the regional government, called a meeting at which it was unanimously decided that because of their practical experience all the incumbents would continue in office as representatives of the people, and the newly-



Maria and David Enns in Brazil 20 July 1930.

elected slate would be dismissed. Enns wrote: "*Glück und Glas, wie schnell bricht das* (Happiness and glass, how soon they shatter)."

In February 1926 Enns again urged his brothers-in-law in Canada to explore any possibility for immigration.

While David was anxiously striving to hold a job and to get his family to America, Maria was shouldering another burden, namely the care of her aged parents. When the final illness of her brother Gerhard 191 set in, he and Elsa also came to live under the care of Maria, albeit in their father's home. In the fall of 1926 a moving letter reached the relatives at Whitewater.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in a very distant, distant land!

Oh, once again such a longing overwhelms me. I am home alone, that is, not alone, Gerhard is abed in the *Eckstube*. The others are all out. Elsa went to Tokmak with the children. She wanted to see whether she could obtain Gerhard's pension. Gerhard told her to say this would be the last time, they may as well grant it. Yes, brothers and sisters, our brother is deathly ill. Today, for instance, he hasn't requested anything yet. He is so weak he can hardly talk or turn. Eats very little. But he is so good to us. How we feared how we would make



**Above and below: Bernhard Epp 19 descendants at a reunion in the International Peace Garden in 1972.**



out and now we have just the opposite. When I enter the *Eckstube* he asks me to sit with him on the bedside. Yes, so our loving God leads and for that I am thankful. Earlier the two of us never could get alone. Oh brothers and sisters, let us too forget by-gones. I know I have often not behaved toward you nearly as I ought to have. Many a time I should have responded with greater friendliness when you came home but that is past. Now I would have gladly seen you come many a time already but this is the punishment. Oh, you cannot at all understand how often longing overcomes me. Now, if brother also dies and she his wife leaves, it would be much lonelier without them. The doctor said, however, that if at all possible, we should help them both to go because things would get too difficult for us. He thought he would still have very great pain.

I had myself examined too. I am supposed to do nothing, at least not sit inside alone doing needlework. And to think about nothing, to let the past rest completely. And eat well and do much visiting. But to get all that done seems very difficult to me. Like today it is again impossible. And yet I gladly stay home. These are perhaps the last services I can do for him [Gerhard]. He has become much worse since Father's funeral. Yes, brother Jacob, we received your letter the day before yesterday, and the one last week. How happy we are that you received the telegram. Yes, that was a big funeral. One could see that father [Bernhard Epp 19] was held in honor by many. Recently I was at Hamms in Lichtenau. 'Ach,' said Sarah, 'how happy I was at the funeral that I had always loved him and that he so often dropped in to see us.' At the funeral she had been so sad, especially when the minister had said he would never again speak the benediction—then she had almost had to weep audibly. And one lady—I do not know who she was—she came forward during the service, pressed father's hand and went out and cried. Many wreaths were laid on his grave. I was just in the *Eckstube*. . . His medicine has run out; [his wife] is supposed to bring more along. What the doctors prescribe doesn't go very far. . . . Our children are now well again. Rudi was very ill, had fever and bronchitis. Gerhard today again had very great pains in his chest. Also coughs very badly and then his hemorrhoids torment him fearfully. The doctor says he has tuberculosis of the intestines and the lungs.

In 1929 the Ennses were one of a group of 300 families who travelled to Moscow to arrange emigration from the USSR. They were able to proceed to Germany. From Germany they wired their relatives at Whitewater, Manitoba, asking whether they could arrange entry into Canada, adding that they needed an answer very quickly. Since these relatives were poor and unable to help, just having lost all their land in a swindle, the Enns family went to Brazil.

Here they settled at Auhagen on the Stolz Plateau, in the state of Santa Catarina. Late in 1933 David wrote an optimistic letter to his in-laws in Canada, expressing hopes that their settlement, high on a sierra, could become a health resort because of its bracing climate. He praises Rudi's devotion to the farm chores. However, the settlement ultimately was a failure.

Widowed as of 1939, Maria Enns 1910, writing from Boqueirão, Curitiba, Parana, related that she now lived in a milk-producing area. Their income was from transporting milk, keeping chickens, and some cows. She repeatedly mentioned her loneliness. The envelope of this undated letter was date stamped at Mountainside, Manitoba, 30 January 1945, some



Maria (middle, third from right) and David Enns in their home in Brazil. With them are the Riediger and Hamm families. Their sons are peeking out the upstairs window.

months after her death.

David Enns took great interest in family genealogy and carefully recorded information. He kept a personal diary. Unfortunately most of this material was lost.

All who knew Maria and David Enns speak of them with love and respect. Maria 1910 died far from her homeland in a harsh alien land, lonely, leaving three children behind.



The wedding of David Boschmann 1103 and Lydia Peters. Seated, l-r: are the Franz Peters children (with the exception of Emilie Peters who is standing second from the right) and standing behind them are their spouses as follows: Isaak F. and Elizabeth (Riediger) Peters, Franz and Elizabeth (Wiebe) Peters, Justina and Gerhard Harder, Anna and Daniel Boschmann (110), Mrs. Franz (Fast) Peters with the bridal couple, Lydia Peters and David Boschmann 1103 behind her, Liesbeth and Jakob Cornies, Maria and Heinrich Toews, Emilie Boschmann (1101), Sara and Heinrich Schellenberg, Bernhard Peters and his first wife. Standing to the far left is Jakob Boschmann 1101.

## The House of Katharina (Epp) Boschmann 110

KATHARINA (EPP) BOSCHMANN 110 ( ? - ? )

Katharina 110 was the only daughter of HEINRICH EPP and his wife Justina. She was known to be a loving person.

Unfortunately Katharina Boschmann suffered much illness during her short lifetime. Her husband Daniel Boschmann often took her to the chiropracter at Lichtfelde.

Katharina Boschmann's early death and her husband Daniel's remarriage meant that with time the Katharina and Daniel Boschmann children had little contact with the Epps. They became more closely attached to the Franz Peters family from which not only Daniel Boschmann took his second wife but into which two of his oldest three sons also married.

The Boschmann home was noted for the huge lime tree which in the season of its bloom flooded the garden with a sweet aroma. The blossoms were picked and dried and used to brew a tea for times of illness. A patch with numerous sweet watermelons added to the embracing hospitality of the Boschmann yard.

One of the last gatherings that Daniel Boschmann attended was the wedding of his son David 1103 to Lydia Peters at Bergthal, Schoenfeld (Brazol) settlement, where he was photographed with the bridal couple. He died of cancer of the stomach. His second wife, the widow Anna (Peters) Boschmann died of cancer of the liver.

Of the seven children of Daniel Boschmann's 110 second marriage only Abram (1904- ) is still living in the USSR.\* To date none of the Katharina (Epp) Boschman 110 descendants have emigrated to North or South America.

Jakob 1101  
Daniel 1102  
David 1103  
Johann 1104  
Katharina 1105  
Justina 1106

\*Of the other six, Franz (1892-1919) was murdered with David 1103; Maria (1893-1936) emigrated to Brazil; Gerhard (1897-1919) was mobilized into the White army and killed; Bernhard (1899-1945) died in exile; Anna (1902-1975) emigrated to Brazil and another daughter died as an infant.



## JAKOB BOSCHMANN 1101 (1876- ? )

Jakob 1101 was the favorite grandson of his grandmother Justina (Willms) Epp for he was the oldest child of her only daughter. According to an acquaintance, he was appropriately named in view of certain of his characteristics. His wife Emilie too bore a name well suited to a certain trait of character. She possessed much motherly common sense and was well versed in Scripture.



Jakob and Emilie Boschmann with daughter Liesbeth.

During their first two years of marriage, Jakob Boschmanns lived with Emilie's mother on the Bergthal *chutor* in the Schoenfeld (Brazol) settlement. This *chutor*, consisting of approximately 566.5 hectares, had been purchased by Emilie's father, Franz Gerhard Peters, in 1877.

The soil of this area was wonderfully fertile and the climate gentle. The orchard bore plums, cherries, peaches, and raspberries. Aside from grain, the farm produced cattle, horses, chickens, hogs, and ducks.

Of two ponds the larger was stocked with crayfish.

For a number of years the family then lived in Blumenort. About 1905-06 they moved outside of Blumenort to the *Mühlenberg*, so named because of the mill located on a low hill. When Jakob Boschmann's oldest daughter was two or three and was asked her name, she, in the pert manner of clever small children, is said to have answered: "I am Lisenka Boschmann of *Mühlenberg*."

The *Mühlenberg* was widely known and especially noted for its superior grapes. At that time vineyards were rare in the Molotschna. Emilie's sister, Sophie Peters, often took her students from the School for the Deaf in Tiede on excursions to the *Mühlenberg* to enjoy the delicious grapes.

In the fall of 1909, after Emilie's father had died and after her mother had held an auction sale, the Jakob Boschmanns 1101 moved back to the Bergthal *chutor*, the loveliest place on all the earth, according to Justina (Dueck) Fast.\* The *chutor* had in the meanwhile been divided into three portions of about 189 hectares each. On one of these the Jakob Boschmanns lived.

Shortly after David Boschmanns 1103 returned from Germany in 1912, while on a visit to Jakob Boschmanns, all the children of both families simultaneously contracted scarlet fever. David Boschmann's little son Hans 11033 developed croup as well and died shortly after. Next to die was little Anna 11016, Jakob and Emilie's daughter. She was just a little over a year old and beginning to talk. She suffered great thirst in her fever and would sit up in her cradle and beg for water. Her six-year-old brother David 11013 developed nephritis and died.

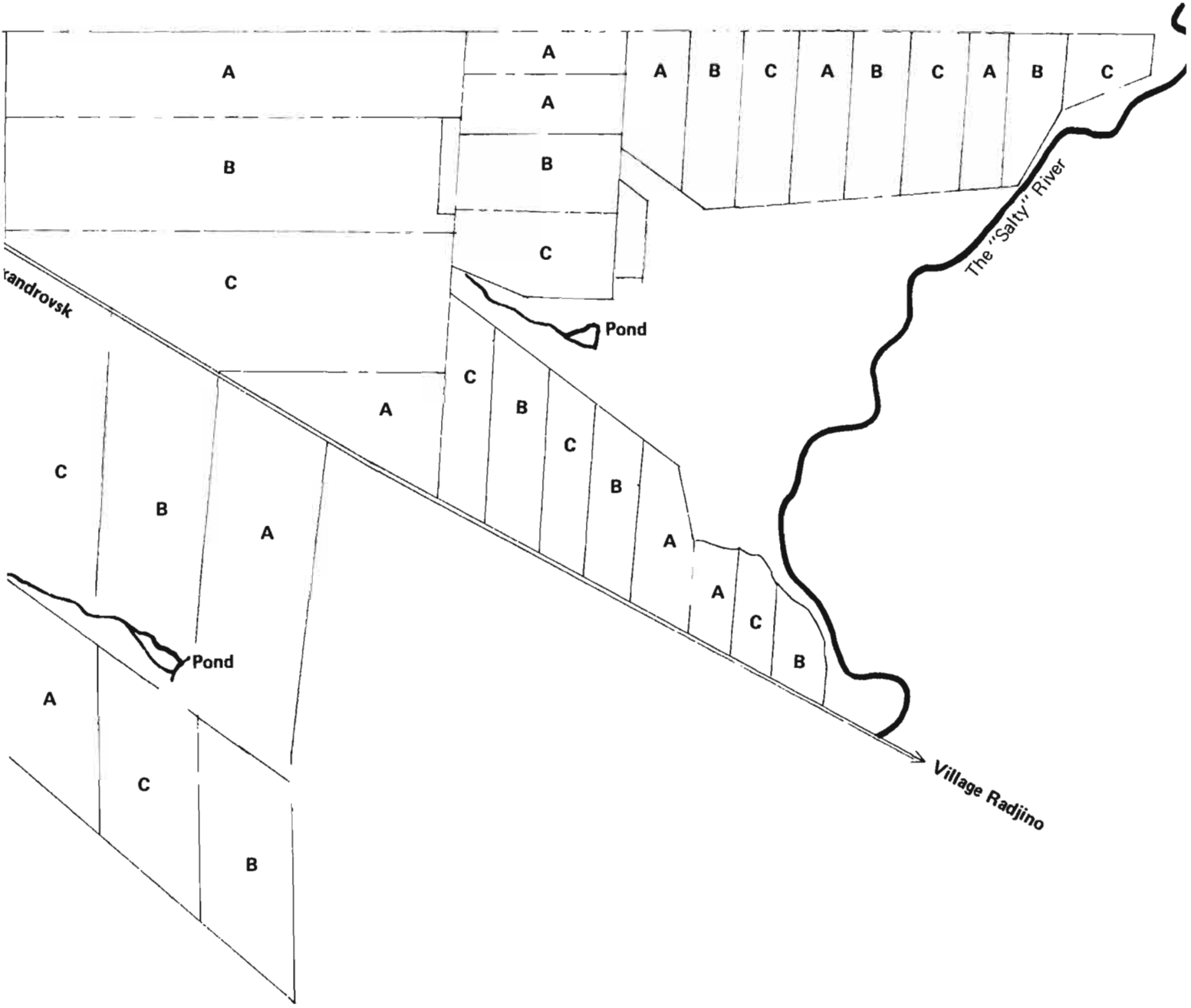
In the Boschmann home great emphasis was placed on education. On the Bergthal *chutor* the Boschmanns together with the Peters hired a governess. Eight to twelve pupils, including children of the blacksmith, of the herdsman, and of refugees for a time finding shelter on the *chutor*, attended instruction. In their house the Jakob Boschmanns had a pedal organ and also took pleasure in singing.

With the onset of war in 1914 Jakob 1101 was drafted and wife Emilie then cared for the four children. The oldest daughter was ten. In the summer of 1915 son Hans 11019 was born. During the 'lying-in', extended after childbirth as was customary among the Mennonites, Emilie was very nervous and fearful. Grain was normally stored on the second floor of homes. During threshing time the heavy tramping feet of the farm hands bearing sacks of grain on the floor above frightened her. Nights she would fear attack. It was a terrible period.

\*Justina (Dueck) Fast, the stepsister of Daniel Boschmann's (110) second wife, Anna Peters, and of Emilie (1101) and Lydia (1103/1102), was born 7 July 1896, the tenth child of Johan and Katharina (Wall) Dueck. Her mother died immediately after her birth and she and the youngest of her five brothers were given to foster parents. Justina was given to Widow Franz Peters of the Bergthal *chutor* in the Schoenfeld (Brazol) settlement. When Widow Peters left the *chutor* Justina remained and joined the Jakob Boschmanns 1101 when they returned there. Later she lived with and helped the David Boschmann 1103 family at Suvorovka in the Caucasus settlement. When the family had to abandon its life there Justina went to train as a nurse. She married Hans Fast in July 1924, moved to Davlekanova, Ufa region and emigrated to Canada in 1925.

Justina (Dueck) Fast provided most of the Katharina and Daniel Boschmann story, photos and genealogical information. After living in Winkler and Winnipeg, Manitoba, homesteading in the Peace River district, Alberta, adopting four children and practicing as midwife for many years, she now resides at Sardis, British Columbia. Her husband died in 1948, a year after they moved there.

The Bergthal Chutor



This estate/chutor, bought by Franz G. Peters in 1877, was located in the Schoenfeld (Brazol) Volost not far from the village of Radjino. In 1909 it was subdivided into three units, A, B and C. Jakob 1101 and Emilie (Peters) Boschmann acquired the parcel marked B. A and C belonged to brothers Bernhard F. Peters and Isaak F. Peters, respectively.

Jakob Boschmann returned after the War but in the autumn of 1918 the family had to flee. In the midst of a hog butchering, word arrived that a Makhnovist gang of murdering bandits was coming. Hastily, necessities were packed onto a covered wagon, the children bundled up, and so they abandoned their home heading in the direction of Rosenort. Two children were born to them in Rosenort.

The flood of events set loose by the Revolution separated the family. In 1932 Jakob 1101, fearing abduction or arrest, made his way to the home of his brother Daniel 1103 in the Caucasus region. Daniel's family was large and living conditions nigh intolerable, but Jakob found refuge there.

Later, in autumn, wife Emilie arrived too. They made a home in a hovel belonging to the collective. It consisted of a hole 5 by 3 meters and about 1.5 meters deep. Along the four sides stood a brick wall about half a meter high on which the rafters rested. These walls had windows about 50 by 75 centimeters at ground level. A stove divided the space into two rooms. The front room featured a stairway of clay steps leading outside. The roof was of poles thatched with reeds and brush and covered over with clay and soil; the entrance was similarly roofed. Here Jakob and Emilie lived with three sons. Because Jakob was night watchman at the cattle barn his bed was available to one of the boys.

Most of the residents of the settlement were German and civil order more or less prevailed. People there were from diverse regions, generally such who

in their native town had been in danger of deportation to Siberia or the far North or the Urals. Some came with property. Some with absolutely nothing. Such was the case with Jakob and Emilie. They were given a beef animal and milk from the collective's dairy.

Autumn 1932 to spring 1933 was a hard time of famine. Jakob and his family suffered. Summer 1933 saw a good harvest and Jakob and his two older sons made good wages. The vegetable garden gave a good yield. So things looked better for the winter of 1933-34. There was now enough to eat even though the pitiful housing remained the same.

On 3 January 1933 daughter Liesbeth's 11011 husband, Gerhard Rempel, was abducted by the authorities in Rosenort, and without any formalities, together with five other men, forced to fell logs in the northern forests. Both Gerhard and his wife lost all citizenship rights. Liesbeth had to work in the *kolchos* (collective) for no wages. With her ten-month old daughter she left their home in Rosenort in November, and, selling all she had to buy a ticket, took a train to her parents' home in the Caucasus to live with them in the crowded little hovel.

Shortly thereafter Jakob 1101 and his brother Daniel 1102 were adjudged to be *kulaks*\* and exiled.

Emilie lived to an old age, spending her last years in the home of her widowed daughter Liesbeth Rempel 11011. Liesbeth herself emigrated to West Germany in 1977.



Front, l-r: Katie Boschmann, Marina Markus 110111(1). Middle, l-r: Lisa Suderman Sawatzky, Sara Boschmann (11015)/1552, Manja Boschmann (11014)/155, Anna Boschmann and behind her, her husband Abram (youngest son of Anna and Daniel Boschmann (110)). Back, l-r: Tina Loewen (sister-in-law to Abram Boschmann), Liesbeth Rempel 11011, Theodor Boschmann 11015, Anna 11034 and Johann Peters and Otto Markus (110111).

\*Literally "fists". Initially, only the wealthiest farmers, who were seen as "fists" directed at the poorer peasants, were included in this designation. They were branded as parasites and exploiters of the poor and became the most hated and scorned elements in Soviet society. Since they were considered a socially dangerous people earmarked for physical destruction, anyone associated with them ran the risk of being identified and treated as one of them. Also, anyone in any of the lower categories of the agricultural population who was found to be unfit for collectivization could overnight be branded as a middle class peasant or even a *kulak*.

**DAVID BOSCHMANN 1103 (1883- ? )  
& DANIEL BOSCHMANN 1102 ( ? - ? )**

Unlike his two older farmer brothers, David 1103 initially chose to teach. Following his marriage in 1909, he spent a year as a teacher in the Neuhalsstadt elementary *Musterschule* (model school). Then he moved with his young family to Leipzig, Germany to study.



David Boschmann

Upon their return he instructed at a newly-founded *Fortbildungsschule* (secondary school). In 1913 he joined his brother Daniel 1102 of Rosenort and they moved to the Suvorovka settlement in the Caucasus. Daniel Boschman 1102 had a *Wirtschaft* in the village of Nikolaifeld and David 1103 and his family moved into a house by the mill which he and Daniel, with the help of their uncle, Kornelius Epp 14, were able to purchase. The mill, previously owned by another uncle, recently deceased Martin Heinrich Epp 111, was still under construction.

Construction of the mill proceeded apace and in November 1913 David met his cousin Cornelius Epp 145 in the great harbor city of Rostov on the Don River in order to arrange the purchase of a huge Otto-Deutz motor for the mill. Once all the parts had arrived and had been assembled by a skillful Russian mechanic and his assistants, the mill came to life. It was an impressive building, three stories high, of brick, with a tin roof. It featured three millstones. Many Tatar customers came to have their grain ground.

The mill was advantageously located in that it was near the railway and the rail station. Its drawback was that the area lacked good water. A small stream near the yard was too alkaline, though cattle could

drink of it.

When the rain water supply ran out, water was brought by rail from the Kuban River. When the train arrived at night a message would pass from house to house: "Water has arrived. Pass it on." Barrels would be loaded and filled at the station.

The Boschmanns made of this task an easier one than did other farmers. The water-laden wagon was brought to the mill where the water was piped into a large open reservoir. A high tower in the middle of this reservoir was so devised that water circulated and was cooled; this helped conserve it by making the tepid water useable.

With the outbreak of war in 1914 both Daniel 1102 and David 1103 left home reluctantly and travelled to Moscow where both filled responsible positions in the *Sanitätsdienst* (medical corps). David was a platoon commander and Daniel supplies overseer. Other men too were drafted and the mill lacked laborers.

Before she married David 1103, Lydia Boschmann had trained as a cook in Riga and was acknowledged to be outstanding in this field. But now she handed this work to an older German girl and took on a man's job at the mill. Peter Ediger, Agathe's (1102) youngest brother, assisted her, as did their foster-sister, Justina Dueck. Lydia acted as supervisor and bookkeeper; the accounts ran into the millions. Much correspondence was carried on in Russian.

Justina, Peter, and two other employees labored in the fields and took care of the bountiful grain and hay crops. The summer was wet: the grain had to be turned, harvested, shovelled, dried, cleaned, and marketed. The workers were young and strong and willing. The task had to be done and it was done.

The men came home on furlough once, in 1916.

Meanwhile Peter Ediger reached draft age and was conscripted. His father then assisted the Boschmanns



Daniel and Agathe Boschmann.



The Boschmann flour mill at Suvorovka.

with the harvest. In November Lydia turned the office work of the mill over to Justina Dueck and in January 1917 gave birth to twin girls.

When the War ended the men returned. David 1103 and Lydia with daughters Mariechen 11031 and Sophia 11032 took a two-week trip to visit Molot-schna relatives. But when Justina Dueck later, in November of 1917, went to the Ukraine to participate in the *Taufunterricht* (baptismal instruction) she was unable to return to the Caucasus because trains no longer ran.

Once the Boschmanns' mill was plundered by bandits seeking David Boschmann. He himself helped them search but they were unable to locate him. Not one of the employees betrayed him to them. He had a sunny disposition and was beloved of his workers.

Shortly after this incident David and his half brother Franz and a certain Lehrer Nuernberg travelled by wagon to Berdyansk on the Black Sea. Enroute they fell into the hands of murderers who took them to be officers. So they never reached their destination, and never returned.

When epidemic typhus struck the Caucasus region, it included in its toll the wife of Daniel Boschmann 1102. Daniel now a widower, and Lydia (1103) so abruptly a widow, entered into wedlock and their two families became one. This too was but a short-lived respite in an arduous pilgrimage. Daniel 1102 and his brother Jakob 1101 were adjudged to be *kulaks* and exiled.

#### JOHANN BOSCHMANN 1104 ( ? - ? )

Johann 1104 and wife Maria Wiens came to the Caucasus region as a young married couple. At first they lived in separate quarters in the spacious David Boschmann 1103 house. Johann bought land in a new settlement about 19.4 kilometers from Suvorovka and began to build a house there. But World War I cancelled his plans at a stroke. He was drafted. His half-finished house was used by his brothers to store damp grain.

After the Revolution Johann was given a *Wolfspass*, meaning that nowhere could he settle down but constantly had to move on.

#### KATHARINA (BOSCHMANN) BERGMANN 1105 ( ? - ? )

The experiences of this couple parallel those of the Johann Boschmanns 1104. Katharina died on the Suvorovka settlement and widower Johann Bergmann married the widow of his brother Peter, Helena (Epp) Bergmann 155.

## JUSTINA (BOSCHMANN) DUECK 1106 ( ? - ? )

It is believed that Justina 1106 starved to death when her husband was exiled.

In April 1977 a Canadian Mennonite friend of the Boschmanns attempted to depict the depth of suffering and despair to which the children and grandchildren of Daniel Boschmanns 110 were subjected:

. . . *das Schicksal der Rechtlosen* (the fate of those deprived of their rights) is beyond description. First they lost their franchise and with this all other rights. Exorbitant taxes were levied which were not only to be rendered in cash but in natural products. Since it was impossible to meet either of these demands, all those who did not meet this obligation were driven from their homes. Some were banished from the village Soviet, others from the entire region and were left to find their own shelter and work. Still others, which was even worse, were exiled to the North. In addition, their personal document, the pass, had the entry *Рус.* before the number of the pass. This was the sign that the person was outlawed and without rights. It was extremely difficult for such persons to find a job or lodging. Some had the *Wolfspass* and could remain at one location for just a brief period of time. Schooling was out of the question for children of such *Stimmlose* [disenfranchised ones]. The well-educated and experienced teachers were removed and with very few exceptions died in

exile. Ministers experienced the same lot. Farmers were subjected similarly. There was no family in Russia in our Mennonite settlements who was not affected in this way. Often it was the father, son, husband, or son-in-law of the family who was taken. There was no breadwinner and no one among the relatives who could help, for every family suffered hunger in the years 1931-34. Very many *stimmlose Kulaken* starved to death. Whoever had relatives in Canada or Germany who could send money, with which they could then buy provisions in special shops dealing in foreign currency, could live. . . . letters finally came, written petitions—for help. We could only send dried onions, parsley and dill. We ourselves were barely resettled and had nothing. Those families who were sent to the North experienced even far, far greater suffering.

Two granddaughters of Katharina (Epp) Boschmann 110, namely Liesbeth Rempel 11011 and Tina Funk 11043, came to Espelkamp, West Germany as *Umsiedler* in the late 1970s. Also living in West Germany is Valy Peters 110342.

Other Boschmann descendants continue to live in the USSR. They are found mainly in Kazakhstan province in such places as Frunze, Almalyk, Karaganda, Katurkul and in other places as indicated on the genealogy charts.



Front, l-r: Victor Dirks 110262, Heinz Boschmann 110232, Ferdinand Peters 110323, Leni Unruh 110283, Valy Peters 110342, Maria Dirks 110263, Agatchen Boschmann 110233. Middle, l-r: Mariechen (Mimi) Boschmann 11031, Mariechen Fehderau 11021, Lydia Peters Boschmann (1102), Anna Peters 11034, Sophia Peters 11032, Herta Boschmann (11023). Back, l-r: Peter and Agathe Heidebrecht 11024, Gerhard and Ilse Unruh 11028, Johann Peters (11034), Heinrich Peters (11032), Nikolai Boschmann 11023, Johann and Lydia Dirks 11026.



Widower Martin Epp 111 with his children in 1910. Back, l-r: Susanna, Jakob, Anna, Johannes. Front, l-r: Heinrich, Justina, David, Martin, Bernhard, Johann Neufeld (Justina's husband) with son Martin, Tina.

## The House of Martin Epp 111

### MARTIN EPP 111 (1860-1912)

Martin 111 was the youngest of the large family of HEINRICH EPP. He married Katharina Penner, a fosterchild of Kornelius 14. Her dowry of 1,000 rubles is said to have far surpassed the dowries of Kornelius' other foster children.

Martin 111 turned to business to make a living for himself and his family. He established a small *Handelsladen* (general store), first in the village of

Justina 1111  
Kornelius 1112.  
Martin 1113.  
Mariechen 1114.  
Johannes 1115  
Susanna 1116  
Anna 1117.  
Jakob 1118  
Tina 1119  
Heinrich 11110  
Bernhard 11111  
David 11112  
Gerhard 11113  
Margaret 11114  
Martin 11115.



Martin Epp.

Sofievka, Schoenfeld (Brazol) settlement and later in the village of Fischau, Molotschna. After the birth of son Heinrich 11110, which occurred on the day of the family auction sale in Fischau, Martin moved his family to Kurushan. There he acquired a *Gut*, an estate complete with 36 horses, a steam engine, and other equipment.

One of Martin's nieces (by marriage) has recalled the physical setting of the Epp *Gut*. Approaching his house from the rear one had to pass through the large vineyard and the long, spacious back yard where the huge strawpiles, the threshing floor, the sheds and the barns were located. The farmhouse was a long, one-storey brick building from which the steep driveway descended very rapidly into the Kurushan valley. Opposite the house stood the little private schoolhouse attended mostly by Epp children. Surrounding the farmyard was a magnificent orchard tended regularly by a gardener. Peaches and other fruits, seldom seen in other gardens, were plentiful here.





attack enroute to the funeral. She died at the Tula train station. A Russian priest assisted the family and buried her there, the body clothed in an everyday print dress.

The resultant insecurities of family life were compounded for all by the instabilities caused by the Great War (1914-17), the Revolution (1917) and the Civil War (1917-23). The reputation of their father served the children well as is illustrated by son Heinrich 11110. He, together with cousin Abraham Epp 1710, was enroute to North America via the Crimea in 1922 when he was forced by difficult circumstances to reroute to Novorossiysk-Rostov and Suvorovka in the Caucasus settlement. Seriously ill, he was taken in and lovingly nursed by his hitherto unacquainted relatives, the Heinrich H. Epp 113 family.

Years later, recalling these troublesome experiences, Heinrich 11110 paid his father a fine tribute when he wrote in *Meine Kurze Lebensgeschichte*: "In this home my deceased father was known and loved. ...Through God's help I recovered. I looked for a job. Again it was the reputation of my father that served me well. People would give me work not because they knew me but because they knew my father."

The migrations which followed the time of tribulations distributed the family to four continents. The story of this scattering is best begun by recalling Martin Epp's marriages and offspring. Of the five children of his first marriage to Katharina Penner, only two, Justina 1111 and Johannes 1115, survived to become adults. Kornelius 1112 died at age five, Martin 1113 four hours after his birth and Mariechen 1114 in her tenth year.

#### JUSTINA (EPP) NEUFELD 1111 (1885-1912)

Justina 1111 was married to Johann Neufeld in 1906. They had two children, Martin 11111 and Anni 11112. Justina died, as already mentioned, in 1912 enroute to her father Martin's funeral. The children then stayed with close relatives, Martin with the Jacob Borns 184 and Anni with her father's aunt, Mrs. Wiebe, from the village of Tiege. Johann, after liquidating the property at Samara, Neu-Samara settlement, returned to the Molotschna. In the spring of 1913 he married his first wife's cousin Agathe Epp 186. Less than two years later he died.

According to Johann's earlier instructions, Martin and Anni were now placed in the orphanage at Grossweide. Martin joined relatives in the historic flight to Moscow in the fall of 1929 and with about 5,000 other Mennonites emigrated to the West. Anni remained with relatives, David Boschmanns 152, in the Soviet Union. Later she ended up with an aunt from her father's side at Omsk, Siberia, where she became a nurse. She married Nikolai Wiens, an accountant, and they are still living there.



Justina and Johann Neufeld.

## JOHANNES EPP 1115 (1892-1955)

Johannes 1115 was already on his own at the time of his father's death. During World War I he served as a *Sanitäter* on Russia's western front. For some time after that he made his home in the village of Halbstadt and then for over a year with Jacob B. Epp 194 at Kurushan or Tiegerweide. During the Civil War he sometimes substituted for his cousin Jacob B. Epp, in the army wagon trains in which Mennonites were compelled to serve.

Johannes had a hearing problem, frequently a distressing handicap. After a raid at the Jacob B. Epps he was found, trembling in his room, with his hands up, some time after the soldiers had already gone. His hobby was hunting. As a hunter he kept gunpowder and filled his own cartridges. The soldiers had discovered these during their search for hidden valuables and had put him to the wall. Unable to hear the soldiers depart, he had stood about an hour with his face to the wall, his hands above his shoulders, expecting to be shot any minute.

In 1921 Johannes 1115 married Anna Friesen in the church at Lichtenau. For one year they lived in Rosenort; after that, until they emigrated, at Kurushan. Johannes himself suffered acutely as a result of the widespread famine and narrowly escaped death. He never regained full physical health and strength.

The Johannes Epps and their two small daughters left the Soviet Union in 1924, the second year of the immigration which saw 20,000 Mennonites transferred to Canada between 1923 and 1930. Like most of the 1924 immigrants, they went to Waterloo County, where they were welcomed by the Swiss (Amish) Mennonites. At first they stayed with a family at Wallenstein, but before long, Johannes, with 11 other immigrant men, continued on to northern Ontario to begin homesteading operations at Reesor.

It was wet and cold, and the first night they slept among the wild raspberry bushes. They built log cabins and after two months Johannes' family joined him. That was in October after daughter Tina 11153 was born at Wallenstein.

The settlement at Reesor Siding was established in 1925 by the Colonization Department of the Canadian National Railways on government timber land owned by the Province of Ontario. Thomas Reesor, a pioneer Mennonite settler at Pickering, Ontario, assisted the Department, and thus his name was given to the settlement.

Each settler was permitted to take up an approxi-

*Йоаннъ Мартиновъ  
Еппъ.*

Johannes Epp's calling card.



Margaret (Epp) Rogalsky visits her brother Johannes Epp in Kitchener, Ontario. They had never known each other in Russia. Johannes was the oldest of the Martin Epp children that came to Canada, Margaret the youngest.

mately 30.3 hectare lot and was charged a nominal price of \$1.24 cents per hectare. One quarter of the purchase price was paid in cash and the balance in three annual installments with interest at six percent.

Reesor Siding was located at Mile 103, between Kapuskasing and Hearst. The nearest towns were Mattice and Oposticha (19.3 kilometers). Distance from large population centers was one of the problems of the new settlement. Marketing of agricultural produce was difficult. Most of the income was derived from cutting cordwood for the pulp and paper company and from road-building.

For ten years the settlement grew. A school, as well as stores, were built. But after 1936 decline set in as people began to see better economic opportunities and possibilities for Mennonite community elsewhere in Ontario.

Johannes Epps lived about 1.6 kilometers north of the school, fondly known as the little black shack, which was situated close to the tracks. Here Johannes 1115 and Anna toiled for 15 years cutting down bush and clearing land. It was real pioneer life. In the winter when his health allowed, Johannes cut pulpwood for the paper mill. He also repaired shoes for the families and harnesses for horses needed to supply lumber to the Spruce Falls Power and Paper Company at Kapuskasing. He tanned and cut his own leather for laces.

These were hard years. Johannes was frequently sick. The family grew and Johannes and Anna had difficulty providing the bare necessities of life. Since

they had no wagon or horses themselves, all the travel to church, to school, to shop and to visit was by foot.

Church services were conducted in homes and in the school. When the family could not make it to the Sunday service Johannes conducted family services at home. Johannes read and they all sang and knelt down to pray. One Christmas the older girls received mouth organs as gifts.

After 15 years at Reesor—the entire settlement was later dissolved—the Johannes Epps settled in Kitchener, Ontario. In remembrance of the years at Reesor, Johannes made for each of his children wooden magazine racks laced with varnished leather.

The move to Kitchener was made gradually. In December of 1939, the oldest daughters, Helen 11151 and Anna 11152 went there. Tina 11153 and Justina 11154 joined them in February 1940.

Mother Anna and the other sisters and brother followed after eight months. Johannes himself came to Kitchener in the fall of that year.

For the occasion of Johannes' birthday in March 1954, daughter 11151 made family tree records for each family member. A letter accompanying the record to her sister and family in Winnipeg reported: "Dad was feeling pretty poor. You sometimes wonder how much a person can suffer. But as he said: *'Endlich kommt Er leise/Nimmt uns bei der Hand/ Führt uns von der Reise/Heim ins Vaterland'*."

Johannes died of cancer in 1955. His wife, Anna, died of a heart attack in 1962. They left a family of 11 children, ten daughters and one son. One son predeceased them.



Johannes 1115 and Anna Epp and family. Back, l-r: Susie, Anthony Wolske and Justina, Tina and Henry Bergen. Middle, l-r: Rudy Szozda, Marie, Erma, John, Frieda, Liese, John Jacob Epp. Front, l-r: Anna with Marie Ann, Agnes, Johannes and Anna, Helen with Agnes.

The second marriage of Martin Epp 111 was to Susanna Rempel in 1895. Eight children were born to this marriage. Three, Susanna 1116, Heinrich 11110 and David 11112 came to Canada in the 1920s and the other five, Anna 1117, Jakob 1118, Tina 1119, Bernhard 11111 and Gerhard 11113, stayed in the USSR. These were distributed among immediate relatives after their father's death.\*



Martin Epp and his second wife, Susanna Rempel.



Susanna and Abraham Willms.

#### SUSANNA (EPP) WILLMS 1116 (1896-1972)

Susanna 1116 was married in 1918 to Abraham Willms of Petershagen, the village where she had resided with relatives since the death of her father in 1912. For nearly four years they lived with Abraham's parents and then they moved to Ladekopp, settling on their own small parcel of land for three and one half years.

For the first 15 years of his married life Abraham kept a diary, though entries were few and far between. After four years of silence he wrote in May of 1922 about the difficult times they had been through. He spoke about the Bolshevik Revolution, about the German occupation which had restored order, and about the organization of the Mennonite *Selbstschutz*, partly with the help of the Germans, to protect the villages against the roving bands led by

\*According to Susanna Willms 1116 they went to live as follows: Susanna 1116 with Aunt Tina (Rempel) Willms; Anna 1117 and Jakob 1118 with grandparents Driedigers (Rempel side); Tina 1119 with Aunt Lena (Rempel) Becker; Heinrich 11110 with Jacob Epps 17; Bernhard 11111 with cousin Toews (Rempel side). After Toews died, Bernhard went to the orphanage at Grossweide where his Aunt Justina 151 and Uncle Abraham Harder were houseparents; David 11112 with Aunt Anna (Rempel) Enns, a half-sister of mother Susanna (Rempel) Epp; Gerhard 11113 with Mariechen Warkentin, a strong healthy single lady who lived with her parents. She was not directly related to the Epps but a sister to the spouse of Heinrich Epp 181.

Makhno. One time they entered the Willms' home. According to the diary:

They demanded a vehicle. We had none to give them. Two armed men assembled our entire family in one room and demanded 25,000 rubles because I was supposed to have served in the White army. We had no rubles to give them. To reinforce their demands, they struck my father, poked my mother in the ribs and also made demands of me. I gave them everything I had. They took my father's clothes and our rings. Then they shot twice, once at father and once at me. They then took father and me away in order to kill us. The cries of our voices were of no avail. Several times we were lined up, but our prayers were answered. At the end of the village they turned us around and directed us to go home and not to cause any problems. When we arrived home we thanked God for His protection.



Children of Martin and Susanna Epp. Back, l-r: Tina, Susanna, Anna, Heinrich. Front, l-r: Bernhard and Jakob.

Below: Ladekopp July 1922. American Mennonite Relief Center. Food Center card No. 148 belonging to the Abraham Willms family for son Abram, age two. It was not permitted to give this card to any other person.

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|---|---|---|
| <b>1922</b><br><b>ИЮЛЬ</b><br>В. П. В. С. Ч. П. С.<br><del>2 3 4 5 6 7 8</del><br><del>9 10 11 12 13 14 15</del><br><del>16 17 18 19 20 21 22</del><br><del>23 24 25 26 27 28 29</del><br>30 31 | <b>ПИТАТЕЛЬНЫЙ ПУНКТ</b><br>Американск. Мennonитск. Помощи<br><i>Ладекопский</i><br>Входная карточка № <i>148</i><br>Имя <i>Вилмс, Абр.</i><br>Возраст <i>2 года</i><br>Адрес _____<br>Подпись _____<br>Подпись <i>Зд</i> Председ. Комитета <i>В. Дин</i> | <b>1922</b><br><b>ОКТАБРЬ</b><br>В. П. В. С. Ч. П. С.<br><del>1 2 3 4 5 6 7</del><br><del>8 9 10 11 12 13 14</del><br><del>15 16 17 18 19 20 21</del><br><del>22 23 24 25 26 27 28</del><br><del>29 30 31</del> |
| <b>АВГУСТ</b><br>1 2 3 4 5<br><del>6 7 8 9 10 11 12</del><br><del>13 14 15 16 17 18 19</del><br><del>20 21 22 23 24 25 26</del><br><del>27 28 29 30 31</del>                                    | ПРИМЕЧАНИЯ:<br>Карточки без право передачи, при прекращении получения продовольствия карточки сдаются на питательн. пункт.<br>№ 2167  | <b>НОЯБРЬ</b><br>1 2 3 4<br><del>5 6 7 8 9 10 11</del><br><del>12 13 14 15 16 17 18</del><br><del>19 20 21 22 23 24 25</del><br><del>26 27 28 29 30</del>   |
| <b>СЕНТЯБРЬ</b><br>1 2<br><del>3 4 5 6 7 8 9</del><br><del>10 11 12 13 14 15 16</del><br><del>17 18 19 20 21 22 23</del><br><del>24 25 26 27 28 29 30</del>                                     |   | <b>ДЕКАБРЬ</b><br>1 2<br><del>3 4 5 6 7 8 9</del><br><del>10 11 12 13 14 15 16</del><br><del>17 18 19 20 21 22 23</del><br><del>24 25 26 27 28 29 30</del><br>31  |

# СВИДѢТЕЛЬСТВО

## о рожденіи и крещеніи.

№ 163. | Тысяча ~~восемьсотъ~~ <sup>1893.</sup> девяносто ~~третья~~ года  
Ноября двадцать четвертаго дня отъ  
законнаго брака поселянина Т а в р и ч е с губернии  
Б е р д ж а н с уезда, селенія Л а д е к о п  
меннонита Я ко в ъ Я ко в ъ В и л м с и жены  
его М а р і я А р о н о в ъ ., урожденной В а л д е  
— родилсѣ сынъ А б р а м ъ и окрещенъ  
Тысяча девятьсотъ четырнадцатъ. годъ. Мая 26-го  
въ Петерсгаген. меннонитс. Молитв. Домѣ.

Что эта выпись изъ метрической книги томъ II стр. 5  
Петерсгагенска. меннонитскаго церковнаго прихода върни  
съ подлиннымъ. въ томъ удостовѣряю подписью и приложеніемъ церковной  
печати.

Сел. Петерсгагенъ июля 21 дня 1919 года.

за Духовный Старшина Т р о н ъ В е р ж н и н ъ  
меннонитскаго церковнаго прихода:



Гергаръ Эппъ

In Canada this birth and baptismal certificate was accompanied by an English translation as follows: "November 24, 1893 to the resident of the Village of Ladekop. in the County of Berdjansk of the Province of Taurida, Jacob, son of Jacob Willms and his wife Mary, daughter of Aron Walde in legitimate matrimony a son was born, named Abram, and he was baptized May 26, 1914 in the Mennonite Church of Petershagen.

That this excerpt from Metrical Book page 5, volume II of the Mennonite Church of Petershagen is a true copy of the original is certified herewith by signature and church seal.

Village of Petershagen, July 21, 1919  
For Elder of the Mennonite Church  
Gerhard Epp, Minister."

On 5 November 1925 the Willms joined a trainload of 250 other persons at Lichtenau enroute to Canada via Kharkov, Moscow, Riga, London, Southhampton and St. John, arriving in Winnipeg on December 10. For ten days they stayed in Winkler, Manitoba with Heinrich Epps 11110 who had preceded them to Canada. During this time six persons stayed in the one small second-floor room which Heinrich was renting.

Until the summer of the next year they rented a place for five dollars a month in the village of Gna-denthal in southern Manitoba. Abraham Willms' plan was to find employment in Winnipeg. However, work was scarce. In nine days he worked only nine hours at 35 cents an hour. His meals for a day were 25 cents and lodging was 30 cents a night.



Susanna and Abraham Willms just prior to emigration from Russia with children, l-r: Jacob, Helen, Abram and Susan.



Susanna Epp 1116 (back right) with three of her friends.



Back, second from the right, Susanna Epp 1116 and next to her Anna Epp 1117. Front, far left, their brother Jakob 1118. They are seen here with their teacher and classmates, probably at Kurushan c. 1909.



The prospects for work in the city being what they were, Willms took up homesteading at Glenbush, Saskatchewan, where they experienced three difficult years of pioneer farming. The next three years (1929-32) were spent on a large farm at Pincher Creek, Alberta. Then followed a year on a sugar beet and potato farm at Nobleford, before the Willms family found their permanent home at Coaldale in 1933. Five years later they bought their own farm of 32.3 hectares.

The Willms had 11 children, four born in Russia (Jacob, Abram, Susan and Helen), two at Glenbush (Mary and Henry), one at Pincher Creek (Annie) and four at Coaldale (Margaret, David, Johanna and Martha).



Susanna Willms with daughter Mary at Glenbush, Saskatchewan.



Susanna and Abraham Willms and family. Back, l-r: Mary, Helen, Jacob, Abram, Susan. Front, l-r: Henry, David, Annie and in front of her Johanna, Susanna with Martha, Abram and Margaret.

## HEINRICH EPP 11110 (1904-58)

Heinrich 11110 who came to Canada in 1924, had his teacher education in Halbstadt interrupted by the troubles of civil war and famine. In 1922, as already mentioned, he went to his father's former home in the Caucasus, namely Suvorovka. Here he found employment in the fuel business of J. Siemens. In 1924 he married Anna Enns, the third daughter of F. F. Enns, *Ältester* in the local *Kirchengemeinde*.

Four months later the young couple was on its way to Canada, arriving in Quebec 10 October 1924. After a two-week stay in Drake, Saskatchewan, the Heinrich Epps made their home in Winkler, Manitoba where he earned first \$20, later \$50 a month in local business. At the end of the second year the travel debt of \$320 had been paid.

Early in 1927 the couple and their young son joined the F. F. Enns family, including two married daughters and two unmarried sons, in a farm operation at Lena in south-western Manitoba. A congregation was established in the first year and on 4 August 1929 Heinrich was ordained to the ministry. By that time the first three of 13 children had been born.

The following year Heinrich and his family moved



Heinrich and Anna Epp in 1924.



Heinrich and Anna Epp and family at the time of their 25th wedding anniversary. Front, l-r: Lydia, Linda, Viola, Alvin, Susan and in front of her Rudi. Middle, l-r: George, Anna, Heinrich and Frank. Back, l-r: Bruno, Anna, Henry, Menno and Martin.

to a small farm on Highway 18, 3.21 kilometers from the Canada-US border where he engaged in mixed farming. During the 1930s the farm produced barely enough to feed the growing family and pay the rent.

In the fall of 1945 Heinrich moved his family to British Columbia where he bought a berry and dairy farm at Mt. Lehman. Here Heinrich could devote more time to the ministry which he loved. In 1946 he became the leader of the West Abbotsford Mennonite Church and two years later its *Altester*. During this time he also became very involved in the provincial Mennonite relief committee which he served as chairman, and in the Canadian Mennonite Board of Colonization. Both Heinrich 11110 and Anna died in 1958, he of a stroke in April and she of a brain tumor in December.

One of the hopes realized from the move to British Columbia was a church high school education for all the children, the Mennonite Educational Institute at Clearbrook being nearby. The strong emphasis on church school education led a number of the children into church ministries and this direction also continued into the next generation.



Heinrich harvesting strawberries.



Heinrich with his Sunday School class at Lena in 1927.



Heinrich in the pulpit at West Abbotsford.



The West Abbotsford Mennonite Church, Abbotsford, B.C. where Heinrich ministered from 1946-58.

**DAVID EPP 11112 (1908- )**

David 11112, the seventh member of the second marriage recalls that he had no memories of his mother, only faint recollections of his father who was frequently away on business trips, and because of the placement of his brothers and sisters in various homes, only diffused reminiscences of other family relationships. In his own words, "We were scattered to the winds and we hardly learned to know each other, which was very unfortunate."



David Epp standing behind his foster parents, Anna and Johann Enns. To the left is Mrs. Driediger.

David lived with his foster parents at Tiegenhof, Schoenfeld (Brazol) settlement, and attended the Rosenhof private school; his education was interrupted due to the terror of Makhno. He remembers that they fled to Alexandrovsk (see the Kornelius 14 story) to escape Makhno and that several of their messengers who were sent out to test the safety of the situation never returned, having been murdered by Makhno. One of those killed was a cousin, Gerhard Epp 1411. David remembers the poverty, the famine of 1921 and the help which came from North America through the newly organized Mennonite Central Committee. Since the situation in Russia seemed so hopeless many made up their mind to emigrate. He recalls the day of departure at the Lichtenau train station in June of 1924:

It was a beautiful day, the sun shining in all its friendliness. Many of those planning to board the train were not so happy. They knew that they might never see their loved ones again. As the train began to move we all sang "God be with you till we meet again." It was an unforgettable and moving moment. A train of 50 cattle cars was loaded with people on their way to a new homeland.

David Epp arrived in Quebec on July 18. The destination was Waterloo County where he, along with his foster parents, the Johann Ennses, stayed with Swiss Mennonites. The following year they went to Westbourne, Manitoba, and a year later, in 1926, to Grunthal where they bought land from other Mennonites leaving for Paraguay. A church was started and David helped along in the choir and in the *Jugendverein* (Christian Endeavor programs).

In this setting he became acquainted with Margaret Wiens, an orphan since 1919, her father having died of epidemic typhus and her mother a victim of robber bands. With her grandparents, Franz Wienses, she had arrived at Grunthal in 1926 after spending three months at Herbert, Saskatchewan. David 11112 and Margaret were married in 1931. A year later they took ownership of the Johann Enns farm. They raised six children, three boys and three girls.



David Epp and Margaret Wiens.

In 1966 the Epps gave up the farm for health reasons and moved to Winnipeg for five years. In 1972, again for health reasons, they moved to Clearbrook, British Columbia, but by 1974 they had concluded that the Manitoba climate was better. They are now at home in Steinbach.



David and Margaret Epp and family in 1956. Children, l-r: Mary, Henry, Helen, Werner, Sara with Kenneth, David and Margaret.

ANNA EPP 1117 (1898-1944),  
 JAKOB EPP 1118 (1900-68),  
 TINA (EPP) KRUEGER 1119 (1902-     ),  
 BERNHARD EPP 11111 (1906-     )

Five children of the second Martin Epp marriage remained in the Soviet Union: Anna 1117, Jakob 1118, Tina 1119, Bernhard 11111 and Gerhard 11113. The reasons for their remaining behind were several. Health was one problem. The dreaded eye disease, trachoma, prevented many immigrants from passing the medical inspections of the Canadian doctors. People with trachoma, like Bernhard 11111, were inadmissible.

Jakob 1118 had a different permanent health problem, likewise an obstacle to immigration. As a boy he had frozen his foot and leg so badly that it was retarded and shorter than the other one. Surgery was never completely successful. *Knochenfrass* (caries) set in and the wound in his upper leg kept opening up with discharge from internal infections. He never recovered fully and his leg gave him pain almost every day of his life.



This photo represents the three Martin Epp families who remained together in the USSR. L-r: Jakob Epps 1118, Bernhard Epps 11112, and Tina Krueger 1119.



Gerhard 1113 visits his relatives, Anna 1117, Jakob Epps 1118, Hans Kruegers 1119 and Bernhard Epps 1111 in the Caucasus in 1933. Talking to him is Hans (Krueger?). The lady is probably Anna (Mrs. Jakob Epp) with daughter Liena. Their shelter—a long mud hut with straw roof partitioned for the different families.

The family situation also affected their destiny, Gerhard 1113 and Bernhard 1111, for instance, were placed with people who did not emigrate.

The difficulties in the Molotschna caused four of the five to make their home in the Caucasus. Jakob 1118 was the first to go. In 1922 he established himself at Kalantarevka as a teacher with a small farm besides. He was baptized and became a member of the *Brüdergemeinde*. In 1925 he married Anna Goertzen. He switched to bookkeeping when it became impossible to teach religion in the Soviet schools.

Jakob 1118 felt an obligation to other members of his family. Anna 1117 came to live with him and so did Bernhard 1111, the latter to help Jakob with his farm until he had his own. The Hans Kruegers 1119 also moved to Kalantarevka.

In 1929 Bernhard 1111 married the second Goertzen sister. He claims that the next 12 years were the happiest of his life. *“Endlich hatte ich die Liebe und das Heim wonach ich mich lange gesehnt hatte (At last I had the love and the home for which I had longed for so long).”*

For the Hans Kruegers the good times did not last. Hans fell victim to the same purge, which took hundreds of Mennonite fathers, sons, and brothers from their homes in 1936-37. He was taken on 13 December 1936 and sent to the Donetz coal-mining region along with a brother-in-law who led an organized opposition.



Jakob and Anna Epp with the oldest three children, Liese, Tina and Liena. To the left of Anna is her sister.

The result was that Krueger and many others were sent to the eastern end of Siberia. The only direct message ever received by the family was a letter (perhaps one of several), written on a scrap of paper, dropped without stamp or envelope from a train, and forwarded by an unknown but sympathetic Russian who found it.



Hans Krueger (left) with a co-laborer in the mines.

From other sources it is known that working conditions were tolerable as long as a certain General Bluecher was in charge. Krueger is reported to have said: "If I could have my family here, I would want nothing more." Then Bluecher too fell victim to the Stalinist purge as an enemy of the people. Sentences were increased from eight to ten years, but Krueger never completed his sentence. He died, unknown to his family, in 1942, shot to death like many others, or because of overwork, malnutrition and disease. Years later, after the death of Stalin, the family was informed of his death and that he had been "rehabilitated."

Other Mennonites of the Caucasus and Molotschna, including Gerhard 11113, were soon to share similar hardships. In the fall of 1941 German-speaking peoples west of the Dnieper, not yet under German occupation, were resettled eastwards, while the men 16 to 60 years old, not yet conscripted for military duty, were enlisted in the *Trudarmee* (worker's army).

The Jakob Epps 1118, Tina Krueger 1119 and Bernhard Epp 11111 families were loaded on to trains on 10 October 1941 and transferred to isolated villages of the Kazakhs (then a nomadic people) at Kustanai in the north-eastern part of Kazakh SSR. The resettlement plan called for the *Dietsche* (Germans) to share homes (dwellings built of mud) with the Kazakhs. The latter, however, left their homes and villages and doubled up with friends and relatives elsewhere to make way for the newcomers. The division of the two peoples, however, was never complete, and the relatively sophisticated Germans, including Mennonites, now had to adjust not only to a nomadic, largely illiterate people, but also to desert-like topography and primitive homes. The families in question were separated by many kilometers.

Here the famine experiences of 1921 repeated themselves for these Mennonites. Many survived only because they stole goat's milk on the sly or because they ate *Hirse* (millet), a barley-type grain recovered from the dry manure of animals and baked into bread or biscuits. This meager existence became an even greater hardship because the able bread-winners were taken into the *Trudarmee*. Before Christmas, 1941, Bernhard Epp 11111 was shipped to the forests of Sverdlovsk to help provide lumber for the war effort for four long years. During this time his wife as well as the youngest daughter died.



Tina Krueger with daughters, l-r: Greta, Susa and Mariechen.

The oldest sons of Tina Krueger 1119, Hans age 16 and Gerhard age 15, were sent to the coal mines of Karaganda where they labored under the most difficult conditions. Gerhard 11194 died of heart failure after three years. Hans recalls digging his brother's grave and burying the body naked. The tattered and soiled pants were thrown away; the shreds of a jacket were used for a pillow; the sheet which was intended to cover the body was stolen by desperate co-workers.



The Bernhard Epp family in 1956. Front, l-r: Tina (Huebert) and Bernhard Epp with son Bernhard. Back, l-r: Tina and her husband, Heinrich Dueck, Berta and Jakob.

Jakob Epp's 1118 physical handicap saved him from the labor camps of the *Trudarmee* and thus he became responsible not only for his own family but also for his sister Anna 1117, his sister Tina 1119 and her children, Greta 11192, Susa 11195 and Mariechen 11196, and for the children of Bernhard Epp 11111.



L-r: Bernhard and Tina (Goertzen) Epp with children, Jakob and Tina.

After Jakob's wife died in 1945 he married her sister, Liese (Goertzen) Regehr, whose husband had been taken in August of 1941 and not heard from since. Thus he assumed responsibility for four families until June 1946, when Bernhard 11111 returned from Sverdlovsk and also remarried. Anna 1117, the sister, had died of epidemic typhus in 1944.

The rich coal-mining region of Karaganda, now a rapidly growing city, required more workers, and thus Mennonites and other Germans left the villages of the Kazakhs as soon after the War as possible and transferred to the city where the Krueger boys and many others had been since 1941. The move included Jakob Epps 1118, Tina Kruegers 1119, and Bernhard Epps 11111.

Though conditions were somewhat improved from the arid steppes of Kazakhstan, life was still very primitive. For one year bread was rationed, and for ten years (1947-57) the people lived under military-type government and regimentation. Work in the mines was very hard. Slowly but surely most of the men would lose their strength, contract various illnesses, die or face an early retirement.

Hans Krueger 11193, for instance, retired with a pension at age 50 after 34 years in the mines, his lungs and liver diseased and incurable. Jakob Epp 11111 spent 17 years underground, after which he could handle only a reduced workload and only with occasional one-month trips to a *Kurort* (health resort) five in all to date.

Needless to say perhaps, the trials and tribulations of the preceding decades left especially the older people handicapped in one way or another, if not physically than emotionally. Most of their lives remained filled with fear. In the words of Bernhard 11111: "*Eine verwillerte Krähe hat für ihr eigenes Nest Angst. So ist es mit uns* (A frightened crow is afraid of her own nest. So it is with us)."

Jakob 1118, the hard-working bookkeeper, also felt his health failing prematurely. He remembered



the better days in the Caucasus and returned there with his wife and several children for five years (1963-68). Loneliness and ill health caused him to return to Karaganda. Cancer was the cause of his death on 14 October 1968. His children testified that he never complained and that in spite of his crutches he walked upright and held his head high until the end of his days.

An important source of spiritual strength for these families was the renewal of congregational life and worship in Karaganda. Mennonites worshipped with the emerging Baptist congregation already in the late 1940s. Gradually, however, representatives of both Mennonite groups, *Brüdergemeinde* and *Kirchengemeinde*, began to feel that linguistic, ethnic and theological assimilation was not their destiny; thus both groups began to meet separately.

Both were formally organized in 1956, though both had their meetings interrupted and their meetinghouses closed from time to time. Independent registration for both came in 1968 when a new meetinghouse was built to serve both groups.

The Jakob Epps 1118 have nine children and 40 grandchildren; Tina Krueger has three living children and 13 grandchildren. All are living in the USSR except Tina Krueger's youngest daughter, Mariechen, and her family who came to West Germany as *Umsiedler* in spring 1979.



The Mennonite Brethren church in Karaganda. It is also used as a meetingplace by the KIRCHENGEMEINDE.



Epp, Goertzen and Warkentin relatives at the wedding of Anni Warkentin and Heinz Epp 11189 in Karaganda, USSR. Seated to the left of the bride is the groom's twin sister Gredel, then his mother Liese. Seated second from the left is the groom's sister Alize Regehr with husband Hans 11186 behind her. Other of the groom's brothers and sisters are: on the right front Gredel and Jakob Epp 11185 and behind them Heinrich and Liese Toews 11181. Fourth couple from the right: Liena 11183 and Abram Guenther with sisters, Anna Thiessen 11184 and Tina Derksen 11182 to the left of Liena. Third from the left in the back row is Mariechen 11187. Also on the picture seated on the far right is Tina Krueger 1119 with daughter Greta behind her slightly to the right. Tina and Bernhard Epp 11111 are to the left of Greta.



Greta Krueger 11192 and her uncle Bernhard Epp 11111 travelled to Alma Ata in August of 1971 to meet tourists from Canada hoping to find some relatives in the group. There were no relatives in the group, but on the last day of the tourists' stay in Alma Ata Greta and Bernhard were delighted to discover two Ens brothers, Gerhard and Henry, brothers to Adolf Ens (111104), who became a new link with the West. The Ens brothers brought greetings and the message: "Please write." Greta and Bernhard Epps wrote too and a question was, "Why don't you come?"



At last someone went. Five years later, in 1976, Bernhard Epp 11111 (center above) again went to Alma Ata to meet Canadian Mennonites, specifically this time his nephew Frank Epp 111103, with wife Helen. This time Greta Krueger did not accompany Bernhard (she had died in February of that year) but others from the three Karaganda families were there. L-r: Lieschen Krueger 111931, Mariechen Rempel 11196 (she and her family came to Neuwied, West Germany as Umsiedler in 1979), Rita Rempel 111963, Hans Krueger 11193, Jakob Epp 111111, Berta Dueck 111115, Bernhard 11111, Liese Toews 11181, Tina Derksen 11182, Anna Thiessen 11184, Helen Epp (111103), Gredel Epp 11188, and Frank H. Epp 111103.

## GERHARD EPP 11113 (1910-43)

Gerhard 11113 alone remained in the Molotschna when his older siblings moved on to the Caucasus. He attended school in the village of Gnadenheim. Later he studied in the Crimea to become a teacher. He travelled to and from the Crimea by train many times. This included many long waits at railroad stations. The first time, while waiting at station Novo-Amskuvka on 20 Januay 1933, he wrote the following:

Only God knows what will become of me. The present time is very difficult. People are unhappy and everybody is scolding. Oh, if only I had some freedom to spend a happy hour with my loved ones. It is my deepest desire. I will give myself entirely to my Lord and Master. He has cared for me in the past and will do so in the future.



Gerhard Epp as a student.

When he completed his studies his faith was put to a test. To receive his teacher's certificate he had to sign up with the Communist Party and thus negate his faith in God. Since he could not, in good conscience, do this he was not permitted to teach anywhere in Russia. So he worked as a bookkeeper in the office of a machine and tractor station at a collective farm.

He married Aganeta Baerg 1934 and four children were born to them in their home in the village of Waldheim. During the War in the fall of 1941 he was taken to a labor camp along with many other men. His whereabouts remained a mystery to his wife and family until 1955. Then they learned that he had died in 1943.

Aganeta (11113) and the three children joined the trek west in 1942. They spent a winter in Wartegau (Poland). Here they became German citizens. Soon the journey by horse-drawn wagons had to continue. In rain, snow and storm the children sat or lay on top of the family's meager belongings in the open wagon. When they neared the German border some kind people helped them board a train. Although this train ride held some frightening experiences for all, the children thought it a luxury compared to the cold outdoor wagon ride. Hoppegarten, Berlin, was *Endstation*, and that is where they got off the train. About the times that followed daughter Herta, 111133, wrote as follows:

Here we spent the winter of 1944, a winter of unrest and *Fliegerangriffe* (bombing raids). We learned to fear the sound of the siren announcing the coming of bombers. Day or night at the insistent howl of the siren everyone hurried to the basement of a house or to an air raid shelter. One day many bunkers were hit. A bomb fell across the street from the house in which we were and caused such vibrations that all windows in the surrounding area were shattered. There was glass and shrapnel everywhere. We were spared.

The following summer and winter were a struggle for survival. Ration cards were handed out much later and even then food was scarce. One sack of swept-up grain from an attic where rye had been stored helped seven children and two mothers through that winter of 1945. Both mothers had to work in the kitchen and laundry of a Russian headquarters in Dahlwitz-Hoppegarten, where they got their noon meal free. The children survived on a thin watery soup made from the ground-up grain, potato peels or any scraps that mother and Tante Katja\* could smuggle home past an ever-watching guard.



Aganeta Baerg and Gerhard Epp.

\*Tante Katja, Katharina (Welk) Goertzen, and her four children were no relatives to Aganeta and her children. They were neighbors and friends from Gnadenheim, Molotschna, and they travelled together on one wagon and lived together in one *Wohnung* (residence) in Germany—like one family.

The arrival of the Russian army, the looting and everything connected with it, would fill a book in itself, if all could be written down. Mercifully the war ended 6 May 1945. Children were told that there was no more need to run and hide when an airplane was heard or seen. It was safe to stay in the open and look up at the plane.

Conditions in Germany improved steadily, schools opened up and all was well, or so it seemed to the children. All immigrants were to return to their homeland, it was said. Although two soldiers appeared at the door one day demanding full names of all living there, an order to leave never followed. That unit of soldiers was transferred and our names were probably lost in the red tape involved. No one knows for sure. On 6 July 1949 Brigitte Magdalene was added to our family.

In 1950 Aganeta managed to contact relatives in Canada and in May of 1951 the family arrived in Coaldale, Alberta, where they received much help from the Willms family 1116. In due course Aganeta married Gerhard Enns, and the children also married and had families. Commenting on the Canadian experience, Herta wrote:

1976 marked the 25th anniversary of our coming to Canada. They have been years of peace and freedom, health and happiness, prosperity and well being. We have so much to be thankful for. God has blessed us richly, beyond all expectations.



Margareta Enns, third wife of Martin Epp.



Aganeta Epp (11113) and children in Bremerhafen 1951. The children, l-r: Heinrich, Gerhard, Brigitte and Herta.

As mentioned earlier, Martin Epp's 111 third marriage was to Margareta Enns in 1910. Two children were born, Margaret 11114 and Martin 11115. Martin 11115 died at the age of four.

Soon after Martin's 111 death, mother Margareta (Enns) Epp married Wilhelm Neufeld, and in 1929-30 the family emigrated via Moscow and Germany to Brazil. Germany could not keep them and Canada had become very selective in the admission of immigrants.

Margarethe Enns  
Martin Epp  
Verlobte

Lichtenau.

Kuruschan.

**MARGARET (EPP) ROGALSKY 11114 (1911- )**

On the ship daughter Margaret 11114 was reunited with the young man, Jakob Rogalsky, who became her husband later. The ocean trip took 18 days. At Rio de Janeiro the immigrants were transferred to an island for six weeks. Margaret 11114 has recalled some of the experiences as follows:

The sea voyage went well the first few days. Then almost all the people became sick. To understand seasickness one has to experience it. The main problem was that one got nothing to eat unless one went to the table. On the island we were given lots of beans, cooked with meat, to eat. It wasn't very tasty. The strong black coffee, sweetened with sugar, was also new to us. In one hour we could walk all around the island. There were bananas and other fruits to eat. There were many black people. Their work was to lay sods on a hill. We tried to help them. In the evening we were all given a bar of soap, ten inches long, to wash our clothes. That was good.

When it was time to go back to the mainland we were glad to go. After reaching Rio de Janeiro, we boarded a coastal steamer for a five-day journey. We young people slept on the deck. Then inland we went by trucks and by train. The final stretch to our new homeland on the Plateau was by wagon, another good day's drive. . . . We were put up in barracks until we could build our own house of sticks and clay and palm leaves. Our land was another three hours away into the bush. Clearing the land was a difficult task but the younger people accepted it as a challenge. Evenings we would sing and play games. The older people were unhappy. They said: "If we at least had as good a place to live as our horse stables in Russia."

In 1932 we got married. The Sunday before the wedding it was announced that everybody was invited. Whoever wanted to stay for coffee should bring some baking along. The night before the wedding was *Polterabend* when gifts were given to us. Jakob had cut his toe three days before. He couldn't wear a shoe, so he was given a large wooden shoe in jest.

Six children were born to the Rogalskys. Mariechen, the second child, born on Christmas day, died shortly after New Year's.



The Rogalsky family just prior to emigration from Brazil to Canada. L-r: John, Louise, Peter, Hermann, Margaret, Jacob and Mary.



Pioneering on the Stolz Plateau, 1935. L-r: Margaret, Peter and Jakob Rogalsky.

In 1935 the Rogalskys left the Plateau for Ponta Grossa to work. In 1947 they could go to Canada, as had been their intention when they left Russia. They made their home in the Niagara Peninsula, Ontario. In 1948 the widowed mother of Margaret arrived, but she died three months after her arrival.

A great happiness for Margaret 11114 was to meet members of her own family, whom she had hardly known prior to the departure from Russia. She recalls:

It was a very great joy when Heinrich 11110 and Anna Epp came to visit us. Heinrich had sent us beautiful postcards in Russia and Brazil. . . . I knew too few of my brothers and sisters. In Russia there was this young man, Jakob, who was lame. He was supposed to be my brother, but I didn't know him.



**Margaret and Jacob Rogalsky 11114 with their children and grandchildren in December 1971. Back, l-r: Hermann, John, Peter, Dan Wiebe, Debbra Wiebe. Middle, l-r: Lori, Rodney, David, Albert, Leona, Margaret Wiebe. Front, l-r: Wendy, Reta, Patricia, Margaret and Jacob, Mary Riddington, Louise Wiebe.**



**John Rogalsky with children, John and Susan.**

Thus, five of the ten Martin Epp children who grew to maturity, and the family of a sixth who died in the USSR, found a new home in Canada. Two, David 11112 and Margaret 11114, are the only ones left in 1980. Of the five who stayed in the Soviet Union, also only two survive: Tina 1119 and Bernhard 11111. In both countries, large numbers of grandchildren and great-grandchildren guarantee the continuation of the house of Martin Epp 111.



## GENEALOGIES

For the purpose of this family history HEINRICH EPP and his two wives are counted as the first Epp generation. The chart on the inside front cover shows also the second and third generations, the HEINRICH EPP children and grandchildren, respectively.

The following genealogy charts repeat the grandchildren with added details and then continue with the succeeding generations. Entries give the following information (where submitted): Epp number; name of Epp descendant; occupation in parentheses; denominational affiliation (abbreviated); date and place of marriage; name of spouse (if applicable); occupation and denominational affiliation (abbreviated). Where known, birthdate and place, and death date and place are given directly underneath the name. Abbreviations for separated and divorced are s. and div., respectively.

The children and their spouses underneath are listed in the left-hand column, their children and spouses follow in the second column, etc. moving to the right in the generations and down in families. Surnames are not repeated but are underlined when a new family surname is introduced.

The numbering, clarified in the introduction of the book, and the vertical lines further outline the family units. A bold black line is used when a third generation family with all its descendants is completed.

Below follow the abbreviations of denominations with which Epp descendants identify.

### Abbreviations of Denominational Affiliation

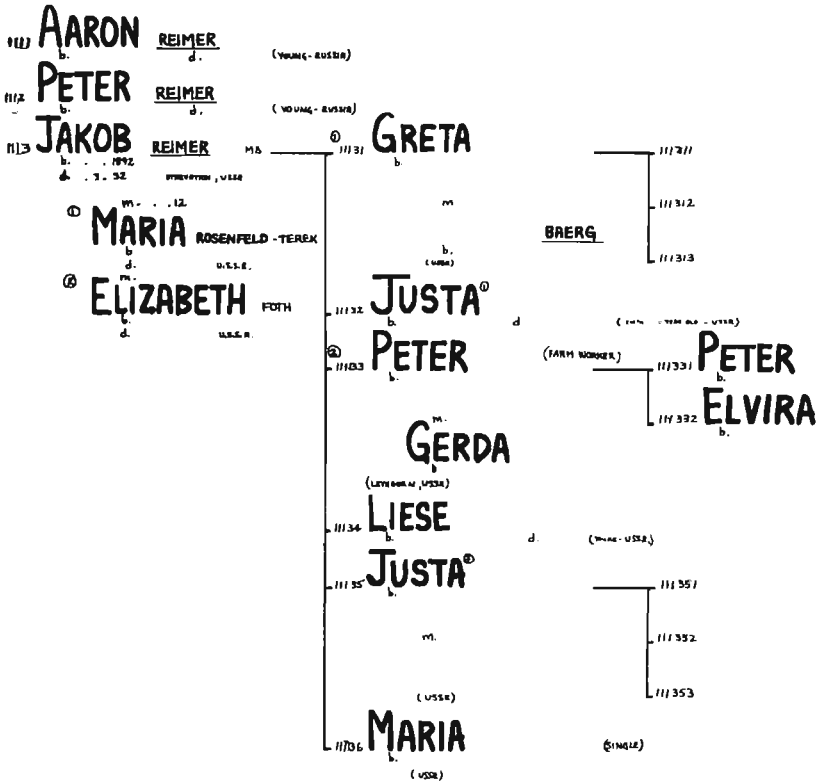
|    |   |
|----|---|
| AD | Advent Christian Church                         |
| AG | Associated Gospel Church                        |
| AL | Alliance  |
| AN | Anglican  |
| AS | Assembly of God                                 |
| BA | Baptist   |
| BR | Brethren in Christ                              |
| BU | Buddhist  |
| CB | Church of the Brethren                          |
| CC | Community Church                                |
| CH | Christian Church                                |
| CJ | Church of Jesus Christ                          |
| CM | Christian Missionary Alliance                   |
| CN | Conservative Mennonite                          |
| CO | Congregational                                  |
| CS | Church of Scotland                              |
| CT | Calvary Temple                                  |
| CW | Church of the Way                               |
| EB | Evangelical Mennonite Brethren                  |
| EC | Evangelical Covenant Church                     |
| EF | Evangelical Free Church                         |
| EL | Evangelical Lutheran                            |
| EM | Evangelical Mennonite Church                    |
| EP | Episcopalian                                    |
| EW | Elim Chapel (Winnipeg)                          |
| FC | Free Church                                     |
| GC | General Conference Mennonite                    |
| GG | Gottesgemeinde                                  |
| GM | Gospel Mennonite                                |
| IB | Independent Bible Church                        |
| IC | International Community Church<br>(Afghanistan) |
| LU | Lutheran  |
| MA | Missionary Alliance                             |
| MB | Mennonite Brethren                              |
| MC | (Old) Mennonite Church                          |
| ME | Methodist                                       |
| MF | Mennonite Brethren-Evangelical Free             |
| MN | Mennonite                                       |
| ND | Nondenominational                               |
| OM | Operation Mobilization                          |
| PE | Pentecostal                                     |
| PR | Presbyterian                                    |
| QU | Quaker  |
| RC | Roman Catholic                                  |
| SD | Seventh Day Adventist                           |
| UC | Union Church of India                           |
| UD | Union Church of Dacca                           |
| UE | United Mennonite Evangelical                    |
| UN | United Missionary                               |
| UN | United  |
| UT | United Church of Christ                         |



III JUSTINA EPP  
 b. 5. 11. 1857 KLABEELD, RUSSIA  
 d. 13. 2. 10 NIKOLAI FELD, RUSSIA

q.c. m.

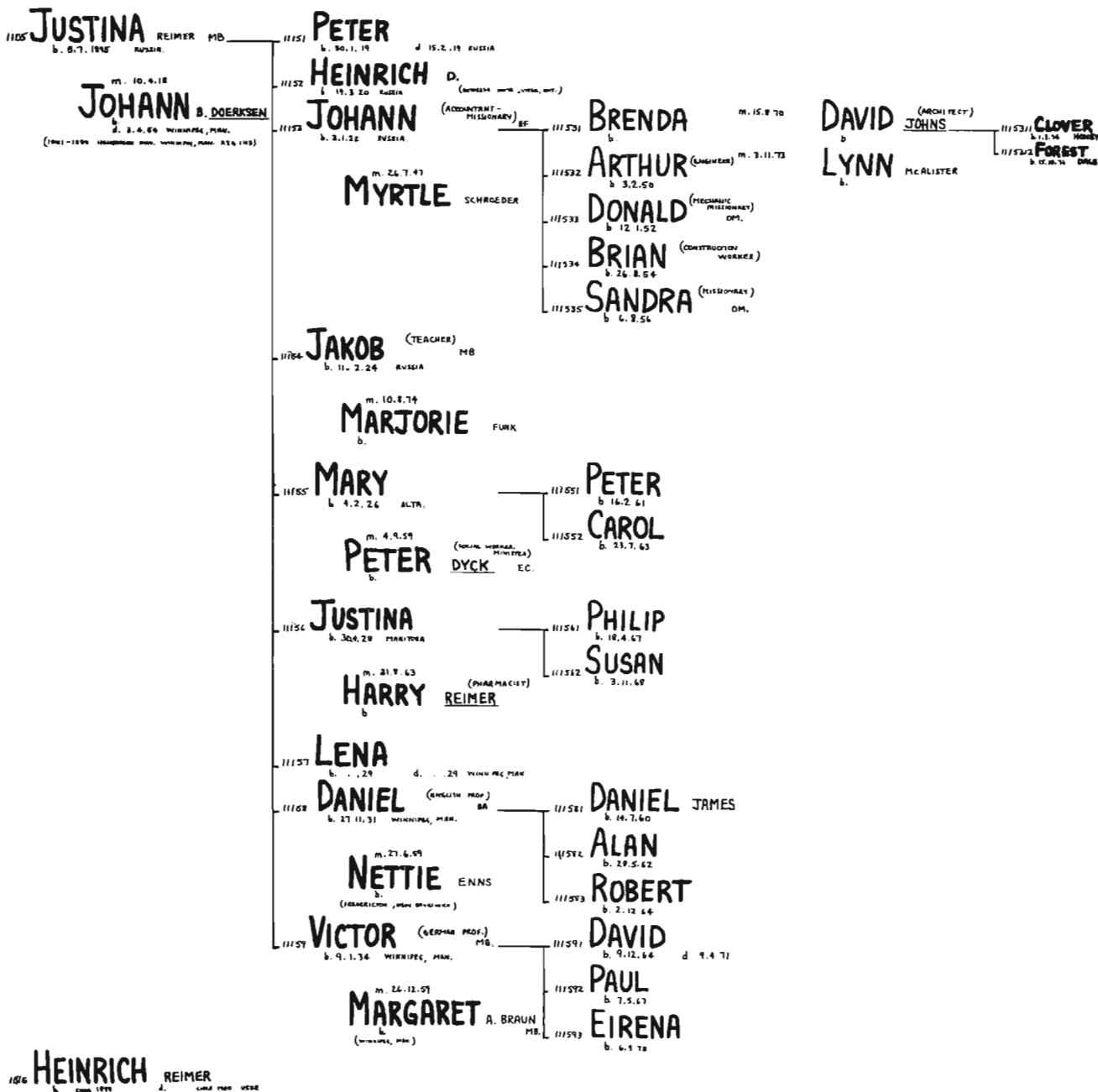
PETER REIMER (FARMER) — GC  
 b. 6. 1. 1858 LADEKOPF, RUSSIA  
 d. . . . 34 RUSSIA



III Agathe REIMER (U.S.S.R.)  
 b. 23. 3. 1876  
 d. . . . 19



Justina Doerksen 115 with children and grandchildren. Front, l-r: Peter and Daniel Doerksen. Middle, l-r: Mary Dyck, Justina Reimer, Margaret Goertzen with David, Justina Doerksen, Myrtle Doerksen, Nettie Doerksen with Robert, Brenda and Sandra Doerksen. Back, l-r: Donald Doerksen, Peter Dyck with Carol, Harry Heimer, Victor, Jakob, Heinrich, Johann, Daniel with Alan, Arthur and Brian—all Doerksens.



1106 HEINRICH REIMER  
b. 1871

112 ANNA EPP m. KLAAS REIMER  
b. 7.8.1859  
d. . . 33 RUSSIA

1121 AGATHA REIMER

1122 }  
1123 }  
1124 } SONS - ONE WAS NIKOLA  
1125 } - ONE WAS ABRAM  
1126 }

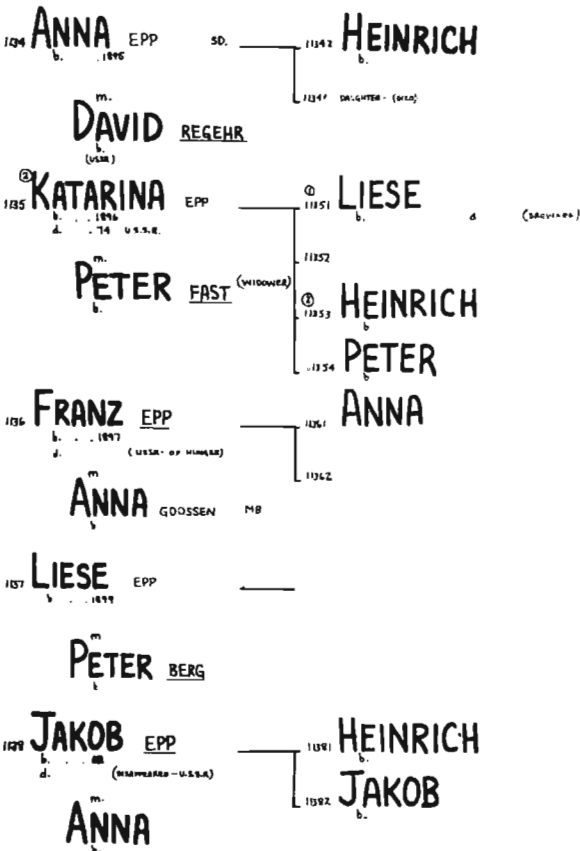
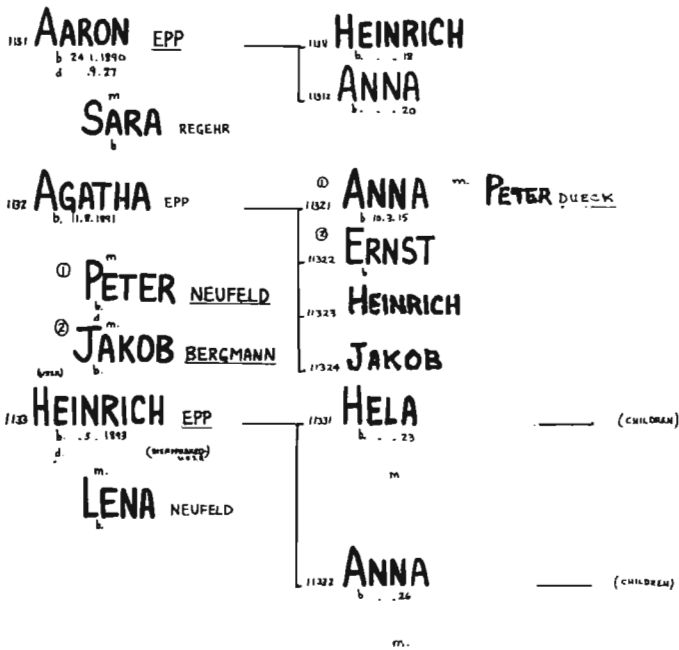
1127 ANNA REIMER

113 HEINRICH H. EPP

b. 25. 11. 1960  
d. 24. 1. 25

ANNA KLASSEN

b. 9. 2. 1894  
d. 20. 1. 21



The Regehr family.

1079 JUSTINA EPP (DOMESTIC) GC  
 b. 25.1.06 (BRITISH, SUDAN) m. 10.9.33 SUVOLOVA  
 NIKOLAI ENGBRECHT GC  
 b. 1.9.1916 (RUSSIA, POLAND) (DIED 1972)

1071 JAKOB PETER d.  
 1072 LOUISE m.  
 1073 RAMONA m.

1074 ANNIE b. 3.9.24  
 1075 HENRY HEIDE m. 21.10.43  
 1076 DAVID FR. Wm. F. SHADFORTH m. 3.4.71

1077 KATIE b. 5.12.26 (STRASBURG, PA) m. 26.7.44  
 1078 GEORGE J. NEUFELD v. 14.12.23 (AUSTRALIA)

1079 LENA b. 30.6.28 m. JOHN ALBERT MARTENS b. 26.7.27  
 1080 HENRY b. 30.6.28 m. BETTY NEUFELD b. 22.5.32

1081 PETER EPP (AGRICULTURALIST) b. 24.8.05 (SUDAN) m. (AUSTRALIAN TEACHER)

10921 ALLAN b. 9.5.46  
 10922 LINDA b. 7.12.49  
 10923 JUDY b. 2.4.53  
 10924 BARBARA b. 12.55

10925 JOHN HENRY b. 24.11.44  
 10926 KENNETH EDWIN b. 9.5.98  
 10927 SANDRA GAYLE b. 29.7.49  
 10928 JANICE E. b. 15.9.50  
 10929 MURRAY A. b. 2.9.52

10930 ARTHUR GLEN b. 9.9.53  
 10931 RICHARD G. b. 14.7.47  
 10932 FRIEDA L. b. 12.10.48  
 10933 JOHN ROBERT b. 2.4.52  
 10934 PHILIP EDWARD b. 10.4.55  
 10935 INGRID ANNE b. 23.1.60  
 10936 HERBERT PAUL b. 24.10.65

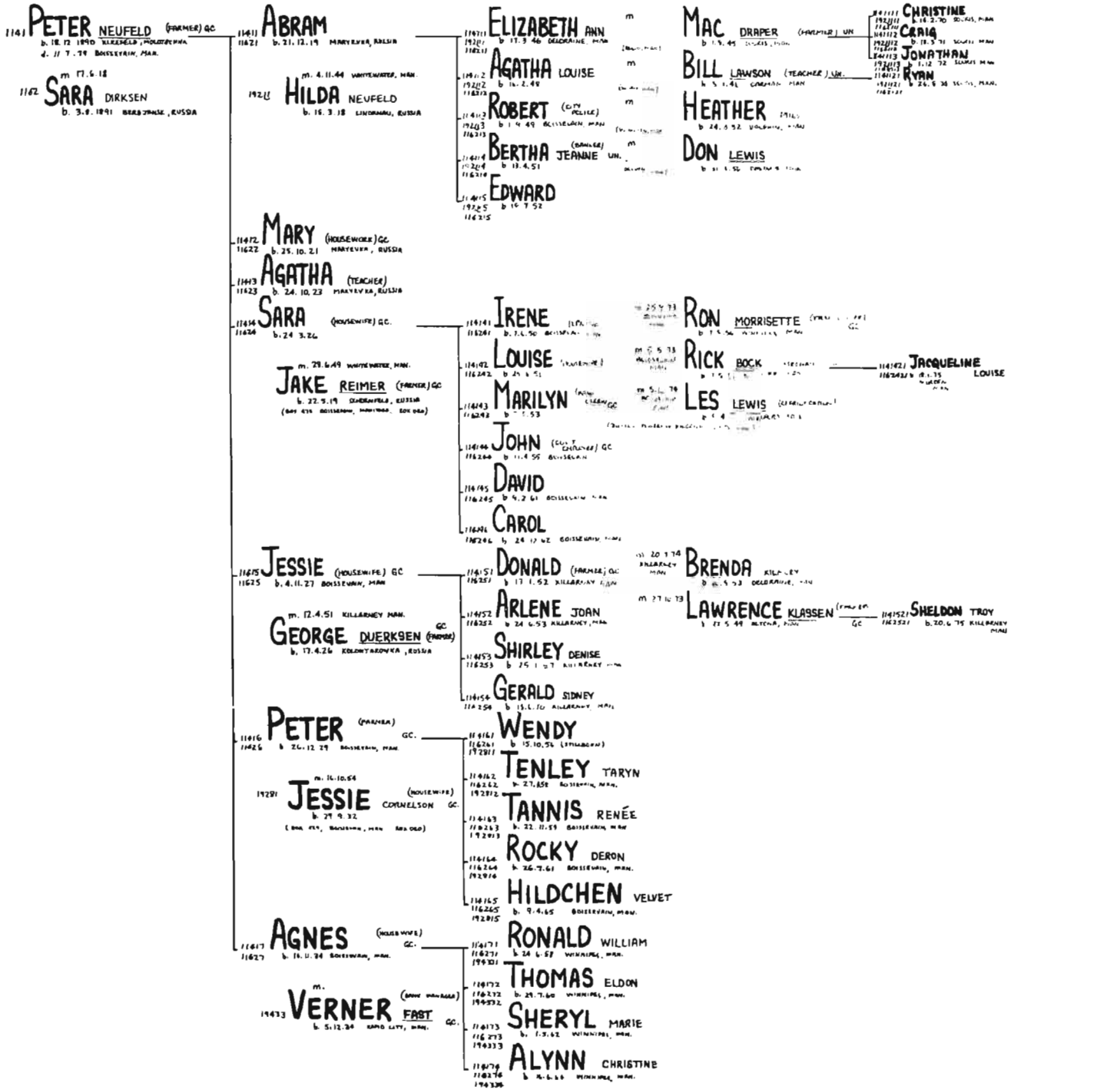
10937 ALBERT JOHN b. 24.11.50  
 10938 JANET LOUISE b. 11.2.53  
 10939 ERIC ALAN b. 15.6.54  
 10940 PATRICIA JANE b. 4.7.57  
 10941 DANIEL CRAIG b. 22.5.60  
 10942 DARRYL MARC b. 1.5.67

m. GORDON ROBERTS b. 13.6.33 m. BEVERLY DAWN b. 11.9.74  
 m. 8.10.66 SHEILA M. LUMSDEN b. 4.5.47 m. JASON JOHN b. 5.3.69  
 m. 24.9.70 GLORIA J.M. PUDLO b. 25.5.49 m. LISA ANNE MARIE b. 4.9.72  
 m. 19.9.53 JESSICA AMY b. 29.1.75  
 m. 23.6.73 LINDA DARLENE WALLACE b. 24.6.55 m. 5.9.70 DIANE G. GIESBRECHT b. 10.11.75  
 m. 11.4.70 JACK TOUROUND b. 10.11.75  
 m. 11.4.75 KENNETH GEORGE b. 14.7.71  
 NICOLE LOUISE b. 21.6.73

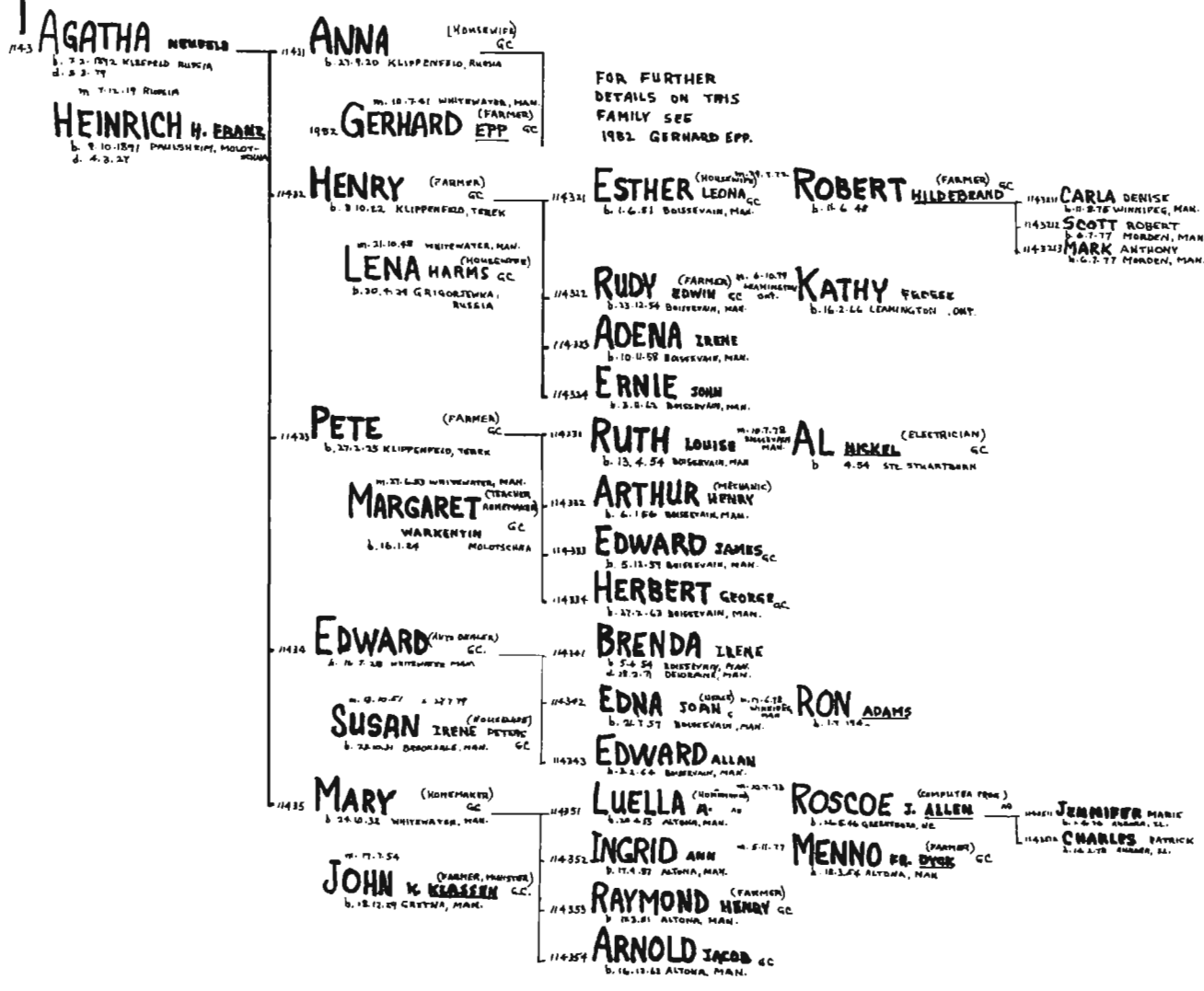
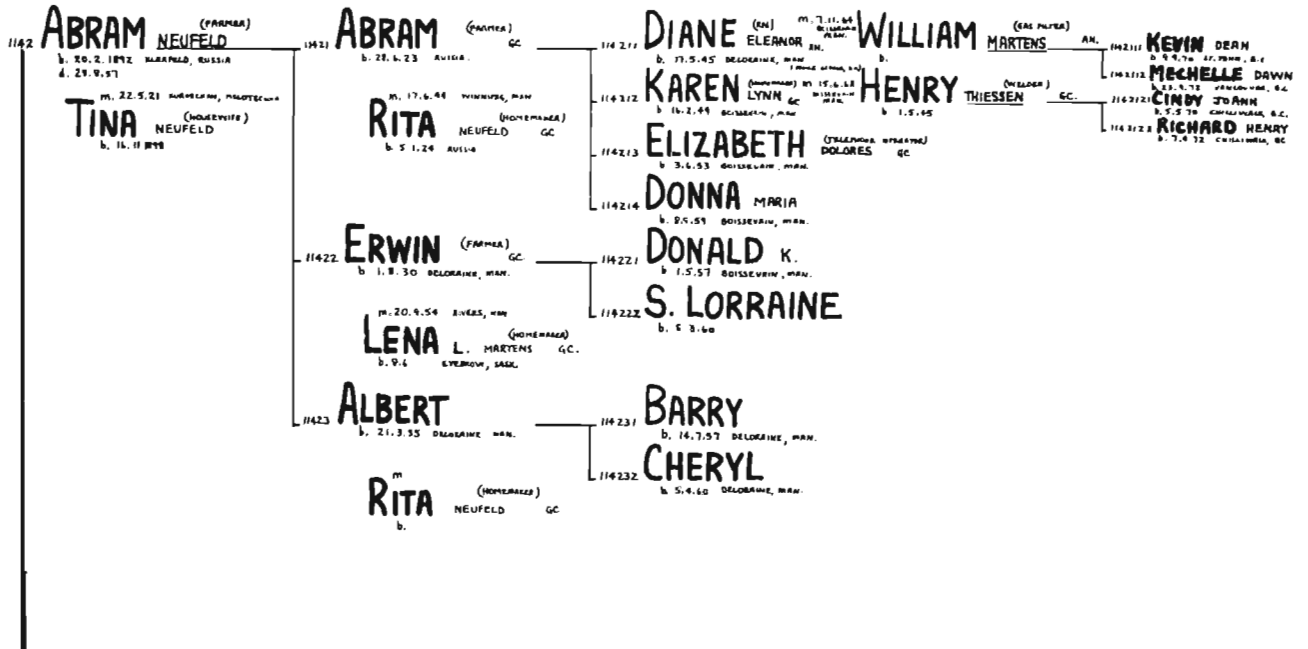
m. MICHAEL W. TREMAINE b. 30.7. m. THERESA DAWN b. 14.2.72  
 m. 23.6.73 LINDA DARLENE WALLACE b. 24.6.55  
 m. 5.9.70 DIANE G. GIESBRECHT b. 10.11.75  
 m. 11.4.70 JACK TOUROUND b. 10.11.75  
 m. 11.4.75 KENNETH GEORGE b. 14.7.71  
 NICOLE LOUISE b. 21.6.73

114 AGATHA EPP (HOUSEWIFE)  
 b. 17.11.1862  
 d. 9.3.30 WHITEWATER, MAN.

m. ABRAM NEUFELD  
 b. 15.6.15



Sara and Peter Neufeld with 1-r: Mary, Abram and Agatha.



1144 KATARINA METZGER CC  
b. 5-7-30 GERMANY

11441 AGATHA  
b. 2-4-15 SUILEN, VEREN  
d. 26 5-63 BRANDON, MAN.

11442 PETER JANSEN CC  
b. 7-2-1890 PANGORAU  
d. 8-16-45 WHITEWATER, MAN.

11443 OLIVER WHITEMAN  
b. 6-3  
d. 10-1-69 BRANDON, MAN.

11442 BARBARA DYCK  
b. 15-3-1897 KLEEFELD, MOLOTECHNA

11442 PETER  
b. 24-7-18 ATEWAL, SILVOROVA  
FRIEDENSKAU, MOLOTECHNA

11443 KATHARINA (HOUSEWIFE, APPL. DESIGN)  
b. 11-5-21 FRIEDENSKAU, MOLOTECHNA

11443 LEONARD (CANNER)  
b. 18-10-16 BOISEVAIN, MAN.

11443 MARY ANNE DRIESER (HOUSEWIFE)  
b.

11443 RACHEL  
11443 LISA  
11443 REBECCA

11443 JAKE & FAST (FARMER)  
b. 19-2-20

11443 HENRY  
b. 12-4-46 BOISEVAIN, MAN.

11443 ANTOINETTE VAN KUIK (HOUSEWIFE)  
b. 6-8-78

11443 SUSAN  
11443 ALISON

11443 AGATHA G. (HOUSEWIFE)  
b. 12-2-50 BOISEVAIN, MAN.

11443 ALAN DOERSEN (TECHNICIAN)  
b.

11443 EDITH KLINGER CC

11443 EDWARD A. (HOUSEWIFE)  
b. 22-10-64 BRANDON, MAN.

11443 PETER (TEACHER)  
b. 18-5-74  
11443 EVELYNN ANDRES (LAB. TECHNICIAN)  
b. 18-7-25 DEBORAH, MAN.

11444 ELIZABETH (HOUSEWIFE)  
b. 9-8-28 PANGORAU, MOLOTECHNA

11444 ELEANOR L. (HOUSEWIFE)  
b. 18-8-47 DEBORAH, MAN.

11444 JOHN WIEBE (ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN)  
b. 11-5-41

11444 WESLEY DASH  
11444 ROBERT JAMES  
11444 RONALD DAVIN  
11444 DEBRA LENORE  
11444 LEAN BERNADETTE  
11444 NATHAN JON  
11444 TORRE DIONE  
11444 AMBER DAWN  
11444 BRIAN LESLIE  
11444 DEJETTA JEAN  
11444 CURTIS NORMAN HENRY

11444 HENRY PROSE (FARMER)  
b. 10-2-18 CHORTYTA, RUSSIA

11444 ANN (SECRETARY)  
b. 1-7-49 BOISEVAIN, MAN.

11444 BRIAN NORTON (TECHNICIAN)  
b. 11-8-46

11444 WILMA IRONS (STENO)  
b. 12-4-46 BOISEVAIN, MAN.

11444 BARBARA (HOUSEWIFE)  
b. 10-6-21 BOISEVAIN, MAN.

11444 WILFRED KIER (WAITER)  
b. 1-1-19

11444 WENDA ROTH (FLORIST)  
b. 1-4-42 BOISEVAIN, MAN.

11444 BERNARD (HOUSEWIFE)  
b. 13-6-51 BOISEVAIN, MAN.

11444 IRIS FAYE PATTISON (HOUSEWIFE)  
b. 12-4-24

11444 BARBARA VOORDE CC  
b. 4-8-47

11445 ANNA  
b. 17-10-18 FRIEDENSKAU, MOLOTECHNA  
d. 17 FRIEDENSKAU, MOLOTECHNA

11446 MARIA (HOUSEWIFE)  
b. 25-5-27 FRIEDENSKAU, MOLOTECHNA

11446 MURRAY (HOUSEWIFE)  
b. 26-6-03 BOISEVAIN, MAN.

11446 JACKIE PUGH (CLERK)  
b. 1-6-60 BOISEVAIN, MAN.

11446 PETER PROSE (FARMER)  
b. 8-2-17 CHORTYTA, RUSSIA

11446 DARLENE ANETTE (NURSE)  
b. 8-7-50 BOISEVAIN, MAN.

11446 ERNEST JAKE  
b. 6-4-61 BOISEVAIN, MAN.

11447 PETER  
b. 1-2-30 GERMANY  
d. 30 GERMANY

11446 AGANETA  
b. 1-2-66 BOISEVAIN, MAN.

11447 PETER  
b. 27-9-31 WHITEWATER, MAN.

11447 JACOB  
b. 14-8-37 WHITEWATER, MAN.

**HEINRICH NEUFELD** (POLSKA)  
 b. 26.5.1915  
 d. 9.11.60 BOSTONIAN, MAN.

**AGANETA ENGELBRECHT** (POLSKOWIE)  
 b. 17.3.1897 RUSIA, GC.

**KATHERINE**  
 b. 15.7.23 KUPOROVKA, USSR

**JACOB** m. 27.6.50 WHITEWATER, MAN. (PLAQUE)  
**ISAAC** GC.  
 b. AMSTERDAM, HOLLAND.

**HENRY** (POLSKO SUPERINTENDENT)  
 b. 9.10.24 SIVODVINA, USSR, GC

**JESSIE** (POLSKO NAZEM)  
 b. 2.6.25 WOLSKA, MAN, d.

**ELsie** (POLSKO WIEPE)  
 b. 29.9.26 BOLLERMAN, MAN, GC

**PETE** m. 2.6.54 BOSTONIAN, MAN  
**SUDERMAN**

**BRUNO** (POLSKA)  
 b. 6.4.28 BOSTONIAN, MAN, GC

**FREDA** m. 21.10.54 BOSTONIAN, MAN. (POLSKO)  
**ELVIRA ENGELBRECHT**  
 b. 29.11.35 BOSTONIAN, MAN

**ABRAM**  
 b. 15.9.29 d. 15.9.29 WHITEWATER, MAN

**OLGA** (POLSKA)  
 b.

**MORRIS RYCHLIWSKI**  
 m. 28.12.72 POLSKA, MAN  
 b. 19.9.35

**HENRY** (POLSKA)  
 b. 19.3.31

**LOUISE** (POLSKO)  
 b. 2.11.32 ALYDIA, MAN.

**PAUL** (POLSKO)  
 b. 25.9.36 CARPENTIER, MAN.

**PATRICIA**  
 b. 29.5.39

**SUSAN**  
 b. 9.3.42

**SHARON LOUISE** (EN) m. 21.11.73 WINNIE, MAN. CC MAN.  
 b. 31.2.52 WINNIE, MAN.

**WILLIAM CLIFFORD ENNS** (STUDENT PILOT)  
 GC  
 b. 1.3.51

**FLORENCE** BERNICE  
 b. 22.3.55 WINNIE, MAN.

**HEATHER JOY**  
 b. 26.6.66

**BRENDA LYNNE**  
 b. 29.9.55 WINNIE, MAN.

**DENNIS LEE** GC  
 b. 16.11.56 WINNIE, MAN.

**GARY WAYNE**  
 b. 11.1.58 WINNIE, MAN.

**RONALD LEO**  
 b. 30.10.59 WINNIE, MAN.

**ROBERT JAMES**  
 b. 3.6.60 WINNIE, MAN.

**MARILYN DIANNE** (BLACK TALKING) m. 12.12.73 WINNIE, MAN. CC MAN.  
 b. 27.11.55

**BLAINE FACEY** (POLSKO)  
 b. 28.1.59

**CAROLE YVONNE** m. 12.12.73 WINNIE, MAN. CC MAN.  
 b. 4.1.57 BOSTONIAN, MAN.

**MILES JAMES DALRYMPLE** (WIFE MARY AGANETA)  
 b. 21.6.29 BOSTONIAN, MAN.

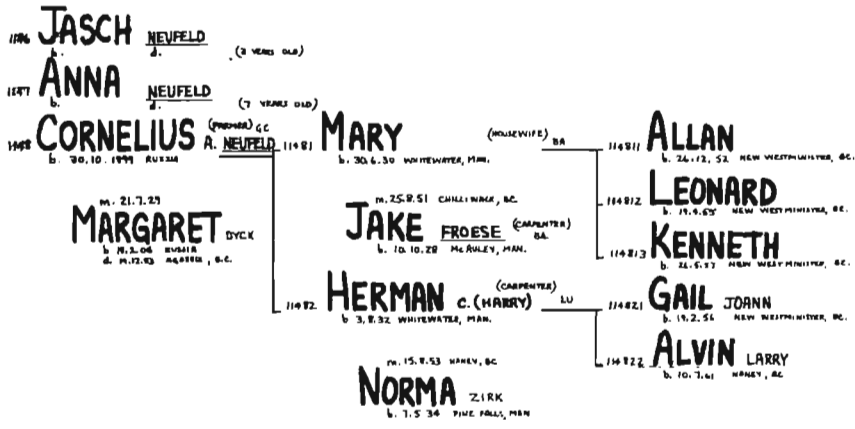
**WENDY JOHANNE**  
 b. 22.3.61 BOSTONIAN, MAN.

**RONALD BRUND**  
 b. 6.9.63 BOSTONIAN, MAN.



The Heinrich and Aganeta Neufeld family. Back, l-r: Henry, Katherine, Elsie and Bruno. Front center: Olga.





1189 **BARBA** NEUFELD  
d.

**GERHARD** DYCK  
m.

1190 **JUSTINA** NEUFELD  
d. (2 YEARS OLD)



Back: Margaret and Cornelius Neufeld. Front: Herman and Mary.

Barba and Gerhard Dyck.

115 JACOB EPP

b. 30.1.1867  
d. . . 43 (MURDERED)

m. ① ELIZABETH TIESSEN  
b. . . . . d. . . . . 09  
m. .5.08 ② HELENA DYCK  
b. . . . . d. 20.7.62.

① HEINRICH EPP  
1151 b. . . . . 1899 d. . . . . 20

① ELIZABETH EPP  
1152 b. 19.2.1900 RUSSIA  
d. 18.3.1980 LEAMINGTON ONT.

m. 24.9.68 LEAMINGTON ONT.  
CHARLES A. HENDERSON } 2 SONS &  
b. 10.11.1890 ENGLAND } 11 GRANDCHILDREN

1153 JUSTINA EPP  
b. . . . . 02 d. . . . . 09

1154 ANNA EPP  
b. . . . . 04 d. . . . . 09

1155 MARIA EPP GC  
b. 30.5.06 RUSSIA

m. 9.11.58 LEAMINGTON ONT.  
GERHARD WIEBE GC } 3 CHILDREN  
b. 7.9.06 ZARNOBYNIA, POLAND  
m. 3.3.35 FARMERS  
① SISTER IN LAW

1156 JACOB EPP  
b. 2.08 d. . . . . 08

② ABRAM EPP } ALICE  
b. 25.3.01 d. . . . . 43 (MELBOURNE, VICTORIA) b. 13.9. (DARWIN, U.S.S.R.)

m. ANNA HILDEBRAND  
b. 22.12.18 (SARNOVO, U.S.S.R.)

1158 FRANZ EPP  
b. 17.7.10 RUSSIA d. . . . . 34 RUSSIA

1159 HELENA EPP  
b. 30.7.11 MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

m. 2.22.  
GRIGORY IWAN BORODANKO  
(SARNOVO, U.S.S.R.)

11571 OLGA b. 10.4.32  
11572 TASJA b. . . . . 35  
11573 VICTOR b. . . . . 39  
11574 ANATOLY b. . . . . 41

11510 JOHAN EPP  
b. . . . . 12 d. . . . . 20

11511 KATHARINA EPP  
b. 18.12.13 RUSSIA  
d. 1.12.74

m. 20.9.31  
VICTOR J. HOCHHALTER PE.  
b. 1.6.04

11571 ERNST (TEACHER) M.B. m. 9.9.61 ST. CATHARINE, ONT.  
11572 AMALIE (HOUSEWIFE) SA. m. 5.4.69 ORANGEVILLE, ONT.  
11573 VICTOR (PROXY WORKER) SA. b. 26.3.42 RUSSIA.

KATIE (HOUSEWIFE) WIEBE b. 3.1. VINCENZO, ONT.  
EDWARD A. MICHAEL (TEACHER) SA.

11512 KARIN JOYCE b. 18.9.62 ST. CATHARINE, ONT.  
11511 ROBERT VICTOR b. 26.9.63 ST. CATHARINE, ONT.

11513 OLGA EPP  
b. 18.3.15 RUSSIA.

11511 DORIS b. 19.2.16  
11512 RUDI b. 6.5.41

koop

FAST

11513 PETER EPP  
b. 1.5.16 MELBOURNE, VICTORIA.

11521 WALLY b. 20.9.51  
11522 LARISSA b. 15.11.52

m. MARGARETHA b. 30.11. SARNOVO, POLAND REGENH (SARNOVO, U.S.S.R.)

11518 MARGARETA EPP  
b. 12.7.17 RUSSIA d. . . . . 29

11515 JACOB EPP  
b. . . . . m d. . . . . 30



L-r: Katharina and Victor Hochhalter, Elizabeth and Charles A. Henderson, Maria and Gerhard Wiebe.

# 116 KATHARINA EPP

b. 12. 3. 1871 KLEEFELD, RUSSIA  
d. . 2. 52

# PETER DIRKSEN

b. 1883  
d. 6. 4. 18 MURDERED

(WIDOWER)

m. 28. 6. 1897 FIRST WIFE: AGATHA EPP  
SECOND WIFE: LILJA ALLBRECHT

1161 AGANETA DIRKSEN  
b. 20. 3. 1889 MURDERED IN RUSSIA  
d. 12. 7. 66 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

m. 20. 5. 14  
119 ABRAM H. EPP  
b. 16. 11. 1876  
d. 24. 10. 19 FIRST WIFE: MARGARET  
m. 1. 11. 25  
J. TIESSEN (WIDOWER)

1191 JACOB WIENS  
1192 LISA WIENS  
1193 AGATHA WIENS  
1194 JUSTINA EPP  
1195 ABRAM EPP  
1196 ANNA EPP HILDEBRAND

MORE DETAILS ON  
119 ABRAM EPP  
GENEALOGY

11611 PETER EPP (ARMY ILLEGIT.)  
b. 21. 2. 15 GERMANY  
m. 16. 4. 29 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
HELEN TIESSEN (MARRIED)  
b. 14. 7. 16 RUSSIA  
(1st MARRIAGE ONLY, LEAMINGTON, ONT.)

MARY (RN) M  
b. 22. 12. 38 GERMANY  
J. ROBERT (MARRIED)  
b. 20. 10. 54 MEXICO (1st MARRIAGE, LEAMINGTON, ONT.)

DIETRICH NIEDERMEISER (MARRIAGES) GC  
b. 17. 7. 31  
ERNEST IRENE GERRY  
b. 1. 4. 56  
b. 4. 18. 54  
b. 17. 3. 39

11612 HENRY EPP (FARMER) GC  
b. 27. 11. 16  
m. 3. 2. 40  
MARGARET TIESSEN GC  
b. 25. 12. 12 (1st MARRIAGE ONLY, ONT.)

KARL (FARMER) GC  
b. 30. 3. 43  
ERNEST HENRY (FARMER) GC  
b. 17. 7. 95  
HILDA IRENE GC  
b. 24. 11. 47

MARLENE RUTH PLAMING  
b. 25. 9. 49  
LOUISE JOAN WIENS GC (HOUSEWIFE)  
b. 9. 6. 47  
IRENE LISA  
b. 2. 6. 73  
LEE-ANN MARIE  
b. 27. 1. 73  
BARBARA LOUISE  
b. 24. 7. 19  
KEVIN LORY  
b. 15. 2. 72  
b. 27. 8. 75 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

11613 KATHERINE EPP (HOUSEWIFE) GC  
b. 25. 7. 18 RUSSIA  
d. 1. 12. 76 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
m. 23. 4. 97 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
JOHN ENNS (EMPLOYEE) GC  
b. 4. 9. 72 RUSSIA  
(2d MARRIAGE ONLY, LEAMINGTON, ONT.)

HELEN LOUISE GC  
b. 11. 11. 53  
HARRY VICTOR GC (C.A.)  
b. 27. 9. 40 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
RUDY HERMAN  
b. 30. 8. 42 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
d. 16. 1. 95 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

JOAN FUNK (HOUSEWIFE) GC  
b. 13. 2. 95 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
MARK DAVID  
b. 11. 1. 69 WINDSOR, ONT.  
KRISLYN JANE  
b. 12. 2. 71 WINDSOR, ONT.

11614 AGNES TIESSEN (MARRIED)  
b. 1. 9. 26  
GORDON HAYMAN (EMPLOYEE MARRIAGES)  
b. 11. 2. 27 TORONTO, ONT.

HELEN LOUISE GC  
b. 11. 11. 53  
HARRY VICTOR GC (C.A.)  
b. 27. 9. 40 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
RUDY HERMAN  
b. 30. 8. 42 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
d. 16. 1. 95 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
DAVID JOHN GC (CONDUCTOR)  
b. 9. 9. 45 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
ERMA IRENE GC (HOUSEWIFE)  
b. 16. 4. 49 (1st MARRIAGE ONLY, TORONTO, ONT.)  
AGNES JANE  
b. 5. 10. 50 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
d. 3. 11. 50 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
CYRIL LAURENCE  
b. 27. 11. 54  
DOUGLAS JOHN  
b. 5. 10. 54  
ROBERT HOWARD  
b. 21. 12. 58

JUDITH ANN WILLIAMS GC (CONDUCTOR)  
b. 1. 2. 95  
LOREE ANN  
b. 20. 9. 66 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
JOEL DAVID  
b. 12. 4. 71 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

1162 **SARA DIRKSEN**  
b. 9.8.1891 DEAR MARY, RUSSIA.  
d. ROSEMARY . MAN.

(SEE 114 CHART)

1141 **PETER A. NEUFELD**  
b. 18.12.1890

1163 **JUSTINA DIRKSEN**  
b. 18.3.1894

m.  
**JOHN J. WARKENTIN**  
b. (ENGLAND)

1164 **KATHARINA DIRKSEN**  
b. 26.1.1896

m.  
**PETER WILLMS**  
b. (ENGLAND)

1165 **MARIECHEN DIRKSEN**  
b. AGE 12.

1166 **AGATHA MARG DIRKSEN**  
b. 16.4.06 RUSSIA

m 30.9.28 WHITEWATER, MAN.  
**JACOB HOLZRICHTER**  
b. 26.7.02 RUSSIA  
(MARRIED LEAMINGTON, ONT.)

m. 6.6.57  
**SOPHIA ALICE** (HOUSE-  
WIFE)  
b. 26.9.24 WHITEWATER, MAN.

m 25.12.31 WHITEWATER, MAN.  
**JOHN ARTHUR**  
d. 7.1.36 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

m. 3.7.44  
**JAMES RICHARD** (EMPLOYEE)  
b. 11.9.42 CHATEAU, ONT.

m. 7.7.63  
**RAYMOND GERRY**  
b. 4.1.46 WINDSOR, ONT.  
(PLUMBER)

m. 12.6.26  
**ELVIN KONOPASKY** (MERCHANT  
TRAVELER)

m. 23.7.50  
**BARBRA JEAN McBRIDE** (HOUSEWIFE)  
b. SPENCERTOWN, ONT.

m. 9.44  
**MARGARET** MELVILL  
b. PERDUE, S.C.

116511 **RICHARD ALLEN** (STUDENT) BA b. 7.5.54 WINDSOR, ONT.

116512 **MARY KATHERINE** (STUDENT) BA b. 1.4.58 WINDSOR, ONT.

116513 **CAROLYN SUSAN** b. 9.3.40 WINDSOR, ONT.

116514 **JAMES PETER** b. 5.11.63

116531 **TAMMY MARRIE** b. 29.6.47 WINDSOR, ONT.

116532 **PAMELA ANN** b. 7.8.49 WINDSOR, ONT.

116541 **DAVID** b. 6.1.64 VERDUN, S.C.

116542 **KENNETH PAUL** b. 5.5.64 VERDUN, S.C.

1167 **PETER DIRKSEN** (ENGINEER) GC  
b. 20.3.08 RUSSIA

m. 21.7.63  
**KATHERINE LOUISE** (HOUSEWIFE) GC  
b. 14.3.93 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

m. 5.6.65  
**HELEN MARGARET** (SCHOOL  
TEACHER) GC  
b. 20.6.45 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

m. 28.7.72  
**ROSALYNN**  
b. 2.11.49 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

m. 16.2.42  
**JAKE UNGER** (TEACHER) GC  
b. LEAMINGTON, ONT.

m. 24.12.42  
**DONALD HUGH WILKINSON**  
b. LEAMINGTON, ONT.

m. 5.2.48  
**WILLIAM J. FEATHERSTONE** (CONCRETE  
WORKER)

116711 **SANDRA LYN** b. 28.5.64 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

116712 **JAMES JAYSON** b. 25.5.68 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

116721 **KEVIN DONALD** b. 5.7.68 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

116732 **PAUL BLAIR** b. 3.9.71 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

116741 **KARL PETER** b. 1.12.73 WINDSOR, ONT.

116752 **BENJAMIN MARTIN** b. 7.4.75 GRANT, ONT.

1168 **ANNA DIRKSEN** GC  
b. 5.1.10 RUSSIA

m. 9.5.54  
**ELISABETH KATHERIN** BA  
b. 16.8.32 KEESSE, ONT.

m. 16.3.43  
**CHARLOTTE** (N.N) UN.  
b. 15.11.93 KEESSE, ONT.

m. 11.5.57  
**ANNI ELVIRA** (HOUSE  
WIFE) GC  
b. LEAMINGTON, ONT.

m. 7.7.38  
**KENNETH RUSSEL EMERSON** (MARRIED)  
BA

m. 24.12.42  
**RICHARD JAMES SHARP** (PROFESSOR) UN.

m. 29.10.32  
**WALTER DICK** (STREET  
CLEANER) GC

116811 **RANDY ALAN** b. 8.3.60 WINDSOR, ONT.

116812 **RICHARD ALAN** b. 30.8.68 WINDSOR, ONT.

116821 **BRIAN DOUGLAS** b. 27.10.64 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

116832 **KIM DIANE** b. 15.7.67 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

116841 **KENNETH PAUL** b. 19.9.58 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

116852 **KAREN ANN** b. 29.12.61 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

1169 **HEINRICH DIRKSEN**  
b.

11610 **JACOB DIRKSEN** (PREMIER) GC  
b. 28.12.45

m. 23.9.49  
**MARY JEAN** (LIBRARIAN) GC  
b. LEAMINGTON, ONT.

m. 21.12.53  
**DIANA CHRISTINE** (RN) GC  
b. LEAMINGTON, ONT.

m. 18.7.54  
**KATHERIN ANN** (SECRETARY) GC  
b. LEAMINGTON, ONT.

m. 1.2.62  
**DENNIS JAKE** STUDENT  
b. LEAMINGTON, ONT.

m. 28.8.93  
**JAMES TAYLOR** (BAR  
MAN) UN.

117 **ELIZABETH EPP**  
b. 5.6.1873  
d. . . 29

118 **CORNELIUS EPP**  
 b. 27.10.1914 KLEEFELD, RUSSIA  
 d. 22.5.1947 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

m. ① **KATHARINA (PANKRATZ) HOLZRICHTER** (WIDOW)  
 b. 31.12.1879 RUDERWEIHE, RUSSIA  
 d. . . . .36

m. ② **SUSANNA DYCK**

1181 **JACOB HOLZRICHTER** (GEMMA) CC (SEE 116 CHART)  
 b. 26.7.02 RUSSIA

m. 30.9.28 WHITEWATER, MAN  
 1166 **AGATHA MARG. DIRKSEN** GC.  
 b. 16.04.06 RUSSIA  
 (SING. LEAMINGTON, ONT.)

1182 }  
 1183 } DIED IN CHILDHOOD  
 1184 }

1185 **AGATHA EPP** MB  
 b. 3.4.10 RUSSIA  
 d. 19.9.71

m. 19.9.31 WHITEWATER, MAN  
**NICK UNGER** (GEMMA) MB  
 b. 6.1.10 RUSSIA  
 (SING. LEAMINGTON, ONT.)

11851 **ELSIE** BA (SECRETARY) MB  
 b. 16.8.32 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

11852 **MARTHA LENA** BA (HOUSEWIFE) MB  
 b. 27.3.34 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

11853 **LORENE** (HOUSEWIFE) BA MB  
 b. 9.6.35 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

11854 **HELMUTH WILBERT** (FARMER) BA MB  
 b. 21.11.40 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

11855 **WILMA RUTH** (HOUSEWIFE) MB  
 b. 3.7.43 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

m. 13.7.57 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
**HENRY PETER WILLMS** ANGE.  
 b. 21.1.32 d. 31.10.57

m. 12.10.67 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
**JAMES P. HESELTINE** (FARMER) BA  
 b. 6.8.31 KENTLAND

m. 30.10.56 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
**LOTHAR OLFERT** (FARMER) BA.  
 b. 29.6.29 RUSSIA

m. 7.4.62 SIMCOE, ONT.  
**LINDA MARRIE DERKSEN** (HOUSEWIFE) MB  
 b. 2.5.43 SIMCOE, ONT.

m. 1.8.64 SIMCOE, ONT.  
**PETER EDWARD HILDEBRANT** (FARMER) MB  
 b. 16.5.44 SIMCOE, ONT.

11857 **GREGORY ALLEN** b. 23.5.58 LEAMINGTON, ONT. d. 23.9.58  
 11858 **LUCILLE ANN** b. 17.1.60 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
 11859 **LORETTA KARON** b. 17.1.60 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
 11860 **STEVEN HENRY** b. 7.1.63 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
 11861 **NANCY SUSAN** b. 24.3.65 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
 11862 **MICHELLE** b. 11.9.58 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
 11863 **JENNIFER LYNE** b. 24.11.59 ST. THOMAS  
 11864 **RUTH ANN** b. 7.9.63 ST. THOMAS

11853 **BARBRA ANN** b. 21.2.58 ORLEVILLE, ONT.  
 11853 **MARKUS KIRK** b. 30.12.62 ORLEVILLE, ONT.  
 11853 **DERRICK CHRISTOPHER** b. 19.1.64 ORLEVILLE, ONT.  
 11854 **RANDALL DWIGHT** b. 26.2.63 SIMCOE, ONT.  
 11854 **KEVIN BLAIR** b. 4.3.64 SIMCOE, ONT.  
 11854 **GREGORY JAMES** b. 10.10.65 SIMCOE, ONT.  
 11854 **CHRISTOPHER CHARLES** b. 17.4.67 SIMCOE, ONT.  
 11854 **LISA MARRIA** b. 18.3.71 SIMCOE, ONT.

11855 **DARREN EUGENE** b. 15.6.69 SIMCOE, ONT.

119 ABRAM EPP (TEACHER)  
b. 16.2.1976  
d. 31.10.18 (MARRIED)

m. ①  
m.30.5.14 ② 1141 AGANETA DIRKSEN (WIDOW)  
b. 20.3.1978 MARIYINA, RUSSIA  
(M.11.11.87 TIESSEN)

1191 JACOB WIENS

1192 LISA WIENS

1193 AGATHA WIENS

① 1174 JUSTINA EPP (EMPLOYED) MS  
b. 13.7.09 RUSSIA (M. LEARN. LONDON, ONT.)

1175 ABRAM EPP  
b. 31.3.11 RUSSIA d. (MARRIED IN RUSSIA)

1196 ANNA EPP  
b. 27.12.12 RUSSIA  
d. 27.4.73 RUSSIA  
m. 22.11.36 RUSSIA

ABRAM HILDEBRAND  
b. 12.2.12 RUSSIA  
d. (MARRIED IN RUSSIA) WIFE

② 1177 PETER EPP (ADMINISTRATOR) GC.  
b. 21.2.15 RUSSIA

HELEN TIESSEN (MOTHER) GC.  
b. 14.7.16 RUSSIA  
(M. FARMER MS, LEAMINGTON, ONT.)

1198 HENRY EPP (FARMER) GC.  
b. 27.11.16

MARGARET TIESSEN (HOUSEWIFE) GC.  
b. 25.12.12 (MRS. LEAMINGTON, ONT.)

1199 KATHERINE EPP (HOUSEWIFE) GC.  
b. 26.7.18 RUSSIA  
d. 6.12.76 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

JOHN ENNS (EMPLOYEE) GC.  
b. 4.3.72 RUSSIA

11961 FRIEDA BA.  
b. 6.2.38 RUSSIA

11962 ERNST m. 6.6.55  
b. 16.1.45 POLAND

11963 WALDEMAR  
b. 7.6.53 RUSSIA

11970 MARY (RM) GC.  
b. 27.12.38 GERMANY

11971 J. ROBERT (STUDENT) GC.  
b. 20.10.54 NEVADAY

IDA b.

DIETRICH (TEACHER) GC.  
b. 17.7.31 GERMANY  
(M. TRUSTEE ST. W. OPT. G. LEAMINGTON, ONT.)

J. ROBERT (STUDENT) GC.  
b. 20.10.54 NEVADAY  
(M. BANCHEER, LEAMINGTON, ONT.)

11967 INGE b. 11.4.65 RUSSIA

11968 EDDY b. 11.7.70 RUSSIA

11972 ERNIE m.  
b. 6.4.56

11973 IRENE b. 5.10.56

11974 GERRY b. 17.3.59

11975 IRENE LISA b. 5.6.76

11976 LEE-ANN MARIE b. 21.6.73

11977 JEFFREY K. b. 27.2.75

11978 BARBARA LOUISE b. 2.6.70 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

11979 KEVIN b. 12.2.73 MRS.

11980 LORY MICHELLE b. 27.9.75 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

11981 JENNIFER MARGARET b. 2.3.80

11982 DAVID RUDOLPH b. 9.3.80

11983 MARK DAVID b. 11.6.74 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

11984 KRISLYN JANE b. 12.3.81 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

11981 KARL (FARMER) GC.  
b. 29.6.68

11982 ERNEST HENRY (FARMER) GC.  
b. 19.7.45

11983 HILDA IRENE (TEACHER) GC.  
b. 26.11.47

11984 HELEN LOUISE (RM) GC.  
b. 11.11.53

11985 HARRY VICTOR (CA) GC.  
b. 29.4.40 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
(MRS. LEAMINGTON, ONT.)

11986 RUDY HERMAN  
b. 20.11.42 LEAMINGTON, ONT. d. 6.1.95 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

11987 DAVID JOHN (INSURANCE) GC.  
b. 9.9.45 LEAMINGTON, ONT. (MRS. WILSON, ONT.)

11988 ERMA IRENE (BOOKKEEPER) GC.  
b. 14.4.49 (M. BRITISH ST. TOMAS, ONT.)

11989 AGNES JANE  
b. 5.10.50 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
d. 3.11.50 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

MARLENE RUTH FLAMING  
b. 25.9.49

LOUISE JOAN WIENS (HOUSEWIFE) GC.  
b. 9.6.47

JOHN MICHAEL KROTZ (TEACHER)  
b. 10.10.50 PALMERSTON, ONT.

RUDY KRAHN (COOKERY CLERK)  
b. 7.5.51 WILSON, PARAGUAY

JOAN FOUNK (HOUSEWIFE) GC.  
b. 13.2.45 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

JUDITH ANN WILLIAMS (HOUSEWIFE) GC.  
b. 6.2.45

11985 IRENE LISA b. 5.6.76

11986 LEE-ANN MARIE b. 21.6.73

11987 JEFFREY K. b. 27.2.75

11988 BARBARA LOUISE b. 2.6.70 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

11989 KEVIN b. 12.2.73 MRS.

11990 LORY MICHELLE b. 27.9.75 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

11991 JENNIFER MARGARET b. 2.3.80

11992 DAVID RUDOLPH b. 9.3.80

11993 MARK DAVID b. 11.6.74 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

11994 KRISLYN JANE b. 12.3.81 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

11995 LOREE ANN b. 20.1.62 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

11996 JOEL DAVID b. 12.4.61 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

121 MARY EPP  
 b. . . . 1860  
 d. . . . 1960

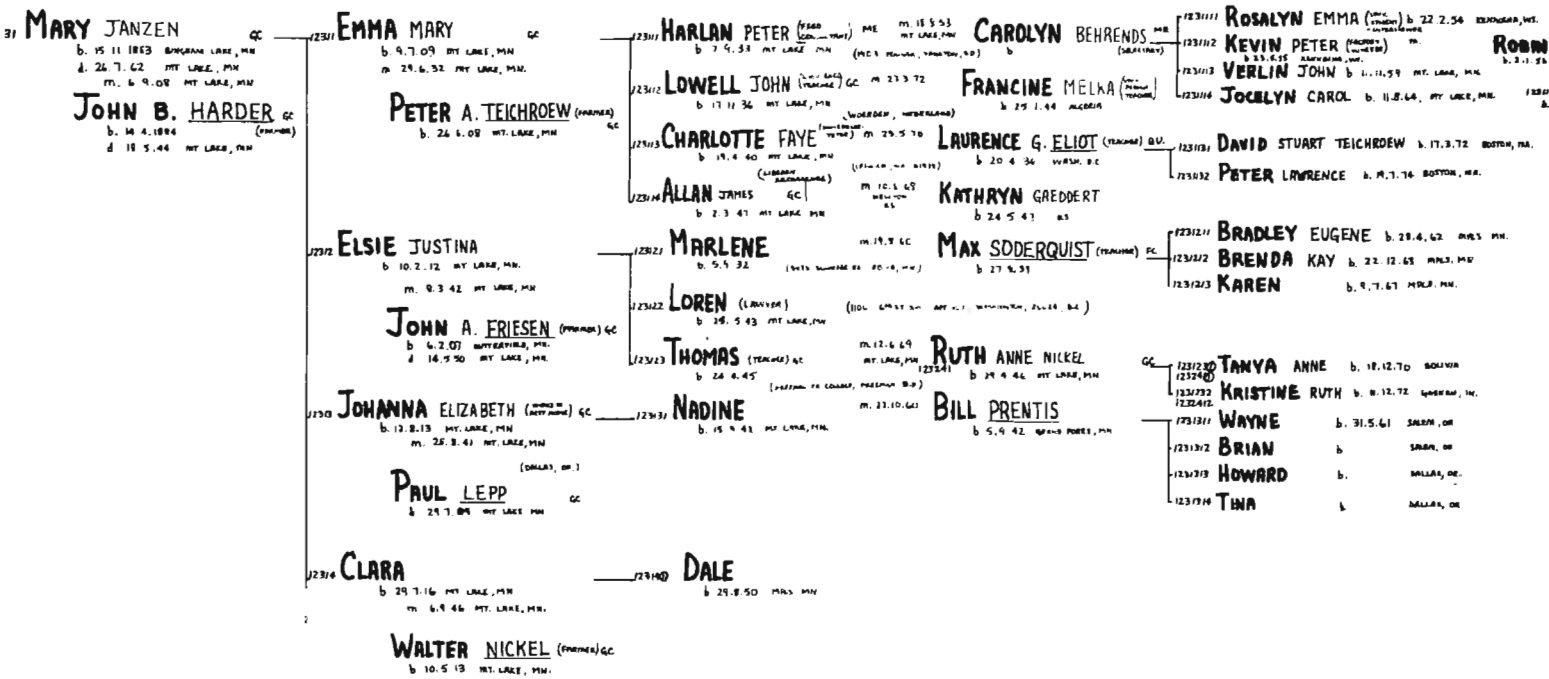
122 HENRY EPP  
 b. . . . 1860  
 d. . . . 1961

123 JUSTINA EPP  
 b. 2.12.1861 PETERSHAGEN, KHADENTHAL, RUSSIA  
 d. 11.7.93 MT. LAKE, MN.

m. 28.12.1882  
 WINDOM, MN.

FRANK H. JANZEN  
 b. 13.12.1856 SCHOENWEISE, RUSSIA  
 d. 14.1.07

GC.



Justina and Frank Janzen with their four oldest children in 1890. L-r: Anna, Peter, Mary, Henry.

**NNA JANZEN**  
b. 00.9.1885 BINGHAM LAKE, MN.  
d. 28.6.69  
m. 9.2.18.  
**JACOB HARDER** (FARMER) QC  
b. 28.2.1886 BINGHAM LAKE, MN.  
d. 3.6.52. MT. LAKE, MN.

12321 **Theresa Lillian** (MRS. NNA) (WASHINGTON, D.C.)  
b. 28.5.15 MT. LAKE, MN.  
12322 **HARRY**  
b. 28.8.16 MT. LAKE, MN.  
m. 8.10.60 MT. LAKE, MN.  
**ANNA HARDER**  
b. 17.5.18. MT. LAKE, MN.

12323 **JACOB W.** (MEMBER) QC.  
b. 1.6.18 MT. LAKE, MN.  
m. 13.10.60 MT. LAKE, MN.  
**ESTELLE LOEWEN**  
b. 19.12.17 MT. LAKE, MN.

12324 **ANNA** QC.  
b. 18.1.20 MT. LAKE, MN.  
m. 15.6.65 MT. LAKE, MN.  
**MARVIN NICKEL**  
b. 7.16 MT. LAKE, MN.

12325 **LAWRENCE** (MRS. BOONEMAN) (SCHOOL PRINCIPAL) QC  
b. 12.9.22 MT. LAKE, MN.  
m. 27.10.50 REDDEN, CA.  
**KATHERINE SUDERMAN**  
b. 14.5.28 REDDEN, CA.  
(REDDEN FILLS, MN.)

12326 **LEO** (MRS. OR TONER) QC.  
b. 21.9.23 MT. LAKE, MN.  
m. 13.9.47 FILLMORE, MN.  
① **RUTH BURKHARD** QC  
b. 11.1.20 REDDEN, MN. d. 12.1.59 MT. LAKE, MN.  
② **GLADYS HARDER** QC  
b. 30.5. MT. LAKE, MN.

12327 **ALBERT** QC  
b. 2.11.26 MT. LAKE, MN.  
m. 1.5.49 OH.  
**BESSIE ZIMMERLY**  
b. 10.7.25 DELTON, OH.  
(OHIO, MT. LAKE, MN.)

12328 **WALTER** QC  
b. 22.3.30 MT. LAKE, MN.  
m. 26.11.58 ST. PAUL, MN.  
**JOYCE BERG**  
b. 5.10.33 ST. PAUL, MN.

12321 **MARTIN** (FARMER) QC  
b. 4.2.43 MT. LAKE, MN.  
12322 **MARGARET** (FARMER) QC  
b. 17.3.47 MT. LAKE, MN.  
12323 **ELAINE**  
b. 11.3.50 MT. LAKE, MN.  
d. 25.6.58 MT. LAKE, MN.

12324 **KAREN KAY** (MRS. JACOB W.) QC  
b. 7.6.62 MT. LAKE, MN.  
12325 **JANE ELLEN** QC  
b. 6.4.66 MT. LAKE, MN.

12326 **RUTH** QC  
b. 19.4.46 MT. LAKE, MN.  
12327 **ARLENE** QC  
b. 19.7.47 MT. LAKE, MN.  
12328 **LORENE** (TEACHER) QC  
b. 22.5.50 MT. LAKE, MN.  
12329 **JAMES** (FARMER) QC  
b. 27.10.51 MT. LAKE, MN.

12325 **JANET CHARLENE**  
b. 19.11.51 MT. LAKE, MN.  
12326 **JUDY** QC  
b. 4.2.53 MT. LAKE, MN.  
12327 **STEVEN** QC  
b. 5.7.54 MT. LAKE, MN.  
12328 **JONATHAN**  
b. 7.9.58 REDDEN FILLS, MN.  
12329 **CHARLES PHILIP**  
b. 11.1.63 REDDEN FILLS, MN.

① **GORDON** QC  
b. 18.3.49 MT. LAKE, MN.  
12327 **CHARLES** (TEACHER) QC  
b. 15.6.50 MT. LAKE, MN.  
12328 **LOIS** (MRS. WILMA JEAN) QC  
b. 7.10.52 MT. LAKE, MN.

12327 **REBECCA JUNE** (MRS. ALBERT) (MARRIED AS BEANLEIGH, CA 1961)  
b. 6.6.56 MT. LAKE, MN.  
12328 **RACHEL JOYCE** (MRS. DAVID ALBERT) (MARRIED AS WOODRIDGE)  
b. 2.16.52 MT. LAKE, MN.  
12329 **DAVID ALBERT** (MARRIED AS WOODRIDGE)  
b. 24.11.53 CRYSTAL, OH.  
12327 **MARYANN JOY** (MARRIED AS WOODRIDGE)  
b. 1.5.57  
12328 **WILMA JEAN** (MARRIED AS LOIS)  
b. 11.5.52

12327 **MADLINE CLAIRE**  
b. 27.11.59 FILLMORE, MN.  
12328 **GRETCHEN JENNIFER**  
b. 1.1.62 FILLMORE, MN.

**MARY MARGARET DYCK**  
b. 8.11.46 MT. LAKE, MN.  
**JOHN ALAN JANZEN** (MARRIED AS GARDNER) QC.  
b. 15.10.47. MT. LAKE, MN.

**KENNETH J. BARKMAN** (MARRIED AS BARKMAN) QC  
b. 16.9.37 STEWART, MN.  
**VERNON D. GOERING** QC  
b. 21.11.42 DEERTRAP, MN.

**THOMAS FRIESEN** (MARRIED AS FRIESEN) QC  
b. 26.4.45  
**GLENN GEISSINGER**  
b. 19.7.70 MT. LAKE, MN.

**MARIYS JEAN HEIDE** QC  
b. 7.7.57 BUTTERFIELD, MN.

123221 **LORI MICHELLE** b. 13.5.68 TROCKEN, GA.  
123222 **CHAD ALLAN** b. 25.11.71 GARRO BARRIS, MT.

123221 **KEVIN JOHN** b. 31.7.70 CANTON, MN.  
123222 **KRISTEN ELIZ.** b. 17.4.72 CANTON, MN.

123221 **BRIAN DEAN** b. 29.7.68 WRIGHT, IA. d. 25.11.68 WRIGHT, IA.  
123222 **THERESA CHRISTINE** b. 30.2.70 WRIGHT, IA.  
123223 **JONATHAN ANDREW** b. 14.3.71 OMAHA, NE.

123221 **TANYA ANNE** b. 18.12.70 BOLLIVIER  
123222 **KRISTINE RUTH** b. 11.9.72 ROSSEL, IA.  
123223 **BENJAMIN** b. 26.9.74 FILLMORE, MN.



12333 HENRY F. JANZEN (FARMER)  
 b. 11.7.1887  
 d. 7.7.41  
 m.  
 SARA WALL  
 b. 29.7.1890  
 d. 19.11.67

12339 JUSTINA  
 b. 24.3.11  
 m. 19.12.43  
 EINAR E. NELSON (SEWER)  
 b. 15.7.15  
 (111. LAKESIDE RD., LAKESIDE, ONT. CAN.)

12330 KATHLEEN RUTH  
 b. 1.1.4  
 12331 MARYLIN JEAN  
 b. 10.1.4  
 12332 TOMMY  
 b. 10.1.4

JOHN TOWER  
 EARNEST HUNT  
 123311 SUSAN CHRISTINE  
 b. 29.9.35

12337 JACOB H. (FARMER)  
 b. 25.10.12  
 m. 11.10.36  
 EMMA EVELYN WIESE  
 b. 4.9.16  
 (MOUNTAINVIEW)

12334 JACOB FRANK (FARMER)  
 b. 4.1.44  
 123322 CHARLES EMERY (RETIRED)  
 b. 19.10.47  
 123323 DOROTHY MARILYN  
 b. 14.8.51 d. 15.8.51

DIANNE CAROL (FARMER)  
 b. 21.1.47  
 RAMONA FERN LAMBROSON  
 b. 18.1.49  
 123321 KIMBERLY KAY  
 b. 28.7.65  
 123322 MARK BRADLEY  
 b. 16.11.68  
 123322 CHARLES EDUARD  
 b. 29.2.69  
 123322 MELISSA JANE  
 b. 11.10.73

12333 ELIZABETH LINDA  
 b. 11.6.15 d. 19.6.15

12334 SARA CLARA (FARMER)  
 b. 21.7.16  
 m. 4.2.51  
 OWEN B. TROUT (ELECTRICIAN)  
 b. 15.8.19

12330 WILLIE  
 b. 5.1.1918  
 12331 ANN CARLA  
 b. 25.2.53  
 12332 ROBERT JAMES  
 b. 22.5.54  
 LINDA LOUISE  
 b. 26.7.54

12335 HENRY  
 b. 20.3.21 d. 1.6.71

12336 HILDA ANNETTE  
 b. 8.5.22  
 m. 15.5.48  
 WILLIAM STEELE (TRUCKER)  
 b. 9.7.16 d. 25.2.65  
 JOHN PAULUK  
 b.  
 (10825 WILSON BLVD., CROWN POINT, IND.)

12330 JAMES LEE  
 b. 1.4.55  
 12332 JEANETTE AUDRY  
 b. 15.5.51

PEGGY  
 DANA ABENDROTH (U.S. NAVY)  
 12331 JAMIE  
 b. 1.5.73  
 12332 CHAD WILLIAM  
 b. 19.5.75

12337 WILLIAM PETER (FARMER)  
 b. 19.6.25  
 m. 10.7.53  
 MARY GROSS  
 b. 17.3.25 ONTARIO, CAN.  
 (101. L. MT. LAKE, IND.)

12331 WILLIAM DWIGHT  
 b. 21.7.56  
 12332 BARBARA ELAWE  
 b. 15.1.59

12338 MILDRED RUTH (RETIRED)  
 b. 5.9.29  
 m. 11.5.57  
 DAVID M. BALZER (INTERLOCKER)  
 b. 11.9.29 MT. LAKE, IND.  
 (101. MT. LAKE, IND.)

12331 EDWARD MARK  
 b. 3.2.51  
 12332 NAOMI SUSAN  
 b. 5.12.61  
 DANIEL KARL  
 b. 17.2.64

12339 GLADYS MAY  
 b. 28.9.31  
 m. 3.8.52  
 HARLAN H. FRANZ (FARMER)  
 b. 10.7.30 MT. LAKE, IND.

12331 ELIZABETH SARA  
 b. 25.9.53 MT. LAKE, IND.  
 12332 DUANE MARTIN  
 b. 3.11.64 MT. LAKE, IND.  
 12333 CHRISTINE RUTH  
 b. 27.12.76 MT. LAKE, IND.  
 MARY LOUISE  
 b. 5.7.61 MT. LAKE, IND.  
 DOROTHY LENORE  
 b. 11.1.65 MT. LAKE, IND.  
 12334 MARK NATHAN  
 b. 5.6.58 LAKESHORE  
 12335 PAUL KENNETH  
 b. 4.4.60 MOUNTAINVIEW  
 12336 LAURA SUSAN  
 b. 3.8.70 MOUNTAINVIEW

**ETER V. JANZEN** 80  
b. 20.7.1887 MT. LAKE, MN.  
m. 11.11.17 MT. LAKE, MN.  
**AGANETHA WALL** 88  
b. 9.6.1893 MT. LAKE, MN.  
d. 5.4.55 BUTTERFIELD, MN.

m. 21.1.60 DULAS, MN.  
**SARA WALL** 88  
b. 24.9.1892 MT. LAKE, MN.  
(ET. 2 BOX 446, DULAS, MN. 55916)

**RUDY** (FATHER)  
b. 26.5.17 PERAZIA, MT.  
m. 30.5.41 MT. LAKE, MN.  
**MARIE RUTH QUIRING** (MOTHER)  
b. 12.1.12  
(ET. 6, POLAR BLVD, GREAT BRITAIN, GREAT BRITAIN SA 5966)

**SALOME** (MOTHER)  
b. 17.6.19 PERAZIA, MT.  
m. 27.6.41 MT. LAKE, MN.  
**PETER PENNER** (FATHER)  
b. 8.2.9 BUTTERFIELD, MN.  
(ET. 2 BOX 188 MT. LAKE, MN. 55447)

**JUSTINA** (MOTHER)  
b. 24.9.23 PERAZIA, MT.  
m. 24.9.43 MT. LAKE, MN.  
**LEONARD HIEBERT** (FATHER)  
b. 22.11.20 MT. LAKE, MN.  
(BURNINGHAM, MN.)

**RICHARD** (FATHER)  
b. 5.4.29 PERAZIA, MT.  
m. 6.5.58 WISHTON, NB.  
**DARLENE SIEBERT** (MOTHER)  
b. 2.6.93 WISHTON, NB.  
(BUTTERFIELD, MN.)

**FANNY ELIZABETH** (MOTHER)  
b. 24.1.32 MT. LAKE, MN.  
m. 24.1.58 PRINCEVILLE, ALABAMA  
**JAMES L. WHISENHANT** (FATHER)  
b. 1903  
(ONE 1/2 MI. SOUTH HAWK, INTERSECTION OF 700)

**ROBERTNA SALLY** (MOTHER)  
b. 2.9.35 MORA, MN.  
m. 25.8.56 MT. LAKE, MN.  
**JAMES DANIEL GINGERICH** (FATHER)  
b. 3.9.32 HARRISBURG, NY.  
(ONE 1/2 MI. SOUTH HAWK, INTERSECTION OF 700)

**VIRGINIA RUTH**  
b. 16.4.42 MT. LAKE, MN.  
d. 14.9.42 MT. LAKE, MN.  
**DARRELL LEE** (FATHER)  
m. 17.7.64  
b. 11.18.57 MT. LAKE, MN.  
**DEAN LEO** (MOTHER)  
b. 18.1.85 MT. LAKE, MN.

**FERNE ELAINE** (MOTHER)  
b. 23.2.48 MT. LAKE, MN.  
**DAVID** (FATHER)  
b. 3.6.42 MT. LAKE, MN.  
**LEONARD** (FATHER)  
b. 14.6.44 MT. LAKE, MN.

**PAUL** (FATHER)  
b. 23.5.47  
**JOEL** (MOTHER)  
b. 18.11.50 MT. LAKE, MN.  
**JONATHAN** (FATHER)  
b. 4.4.53 MT. LAKE, MN.  
**RACHAL** (MOTHER)  
b. 9.7.54 MT. LAKE, MN.

**GARVIN** (FATHER)  
b. 1.5.46 MT. LAKE, MN.  
**JERALD** (MOTHER)  
b. 11.12.69 MT. LAKE, MN.  
**STEVEN** (MOTHER)  
b. 9.11.52 MT. LAKE, MN.  
**LAURIE LYNN** (MOTHER)  
b. 25.8.62 BURNINGHAM, MN.

**CEMYN DENISE**  
b. 7.5.54 BUTTERFIELD, MN.  
**TAMARA DOYLENE**  
b. 16.5.60 BUTTERFIELD, MN.  
**DOYLE RICHARD**  
b. 15.12.68 BUTTERFIELD, MN.  
**NATHAN FRANK**  
b. 2.7.65 BUTTERFIELD, MN.

**GREGORY PETER**  
b. 9.11.54 PARFRANKS  
**BRENDA SUE**  
b. 14.2.66 PARFRANKS  
**CHRISTOPHER MEL**  
b. 23.4.66 PARFRANKS  
**ELISE ANNETTE**  
b. 11.1.66 PARFRANKS

**LYNETTE MAE**  
b. 13.5.60 ESCHEWATER, MN.  
**KARA DEE**  
b. 31.12.62 ESCHEWATER, MN.  
**DARWIN JAMES**  
b. 15.7.66 NEWTON, MN.

**BARBARA ANNET BOESE** CT  
b. 8.2.49 STACE CITY, TN.  
**CHESTER M. BABCOCK** (MOTHER)  
b. 11.5.47 MELROSE, NB.  
**EILEEN KILVEER** (MOTHER)  
b. 5.5.51

**DEBORAH KAY** b. 3.4.69 MELROSE, NB.  
**CANDANCE RENAE** b. 13.2.71 MELROSE, NB.  
**AUDREY MAE** b. 5.3.75 ARCADIA, NB.  
**SHLOMETE GRACE** b. 10.6.78 WINDY HOLLOW, STANBURY, VT.

**PAMELA LEAGUE**  
b. 11.5.48  
**BERNICE WHEBE** (MOTHER)  
b. 28.1.52  
**KATHRYN McCALL** (MOTHER)  
b. 12.52

**CHEERYL LOUISE LUND** (MOTHER)  
b. 2.8.47 MT. LAKE, MN.  
**BARBARA ANN WALTER** (MOTHER)  
b. 9.11.69 LEBANON, ALABAMA  
**ARLENE**  
b. 24.9.53 LEBANON, ALABAMA

**BRETT JAMES** b. 8.1.72 COON RAPIDS, MN.  
**JERAD JEFFRY** b. 4.5.74 COON RAPIDS, MN.  
**ANNA IDA** b. 2.2.75 FAIRBANKS, MN.

**KERRY PAUL** b. 8.11.70  
**GREGORY TROY** b. 26.7.72  
**JEFFREY SHAWN** b. 19.12.75 STRATTON, MN.  
**JASON JOEL** b. 24.9.78 BUTTERFIELD, MN.  
**CHARISSA ANN** b. 27.12.77 MT. LAKE, MN.

1235 ELIZABETH  
b. 30.1.1892

FR. 24.6.13 MT. LAKE, MN  
ABRAM P. KLASSEN (FRANCIS) MB  
b. 3.5.1891 MT. LAKE, MN.  
d. 1.5.49

12361 FRANK (FRANK) QC.  
b. 6.1.18 MT. LAKE, MN.

FR. 27.9.00  
ADELINE DICK QC.  
b. 15.12.16 MT. LAKE, MN.

12362 LOUIS EB  
b. 25.9.20 MT. LAKE, MN.

FR. 15.9.43  
ROSA REDEKOP EB  
b. 23.2.23 FRASER, MT.  
d. 24.9.45 MT. LAKE, MN.

FR. 20.6.47  
SOPHIE OLFERT EB  
b. 4.1.23 GLASGOW, MT.

12363 HAROLD QC  
b. 24.1.24 MT. LAKE, MN.

FR. 7.9.47  
ANN E. FAST (TEACHER) QC  
b. 3.1.26 MT. LAKE, MN.

12364 DONALD (FRANK) (FRANK) QC  
b. 30.10.27

FR. 24.6.48  
LENDRA PRIESEN (FN) (WILSON) QC  
b. 15.10.28 MT. LAKE, MN.

12365 LOYAL (FRANK) QC  
b. 30.11.32 MT. LAKE, MN.

FR. 4.5.60  
BERTHA REDEKOP (FN) QC  
b. 20.10.36 GLASGOW, MT.

12366 ALBERT QC  
b. 17.12.25 MT. LAKE, MN. d. 30.12.15 MT. LAKE, MN.

1236 JUSTINA  
b. 9.11.1894 MT. LAKE, MN.

FR. 29.5.24 MT. LAKE, MN  
ALBERT TENHOFF (FRANK) (FRANK) MB  
b. 2.9.1887 REMSEN, IA.  
d. 12.3.51 MT. LAKE, MN.

12367 JAMES W. (FRANK) (FRANK) MB  
b. 21.12.25 MT. LAKE, MN.

12368 ROBERT MB  
b. 14.9.30 MT. LAKE, MN.  
d. 15.10.92 MT. LAKE, MN.

1237 FRANK MB  
b. 13.10.1898 MT. LAKE, MN.

FR. 30.8.23 MT. LAKE, MN  
HELEN JANZEN MB  
b. 14.6.1897 MT. LAKE, MN.  
(FR. & MARRIAGE NAME IS HANZ)

12371 NORMA MB  
b. 14.9.25 MT. LAKE, MN.

FR. 14.7.50 MT. LAKE, MN.  
ARTHUR HARDER (FRANK) MB  
b. 25.2.23 WHITEWATER, KS.  
(FRANK) MB

12371 JOYCE MARLENE FR. 5.9.64  
b. 21.11.42 MT. LAKE, MN.  
(FRANK) MB

12372 LOREN FRANK (FRANK) MB  
b. 6.2.47 MT. LAKE, MN.

12373 CAROL JEAN (FRANK) MB  
b. 1.10.44 MT. LAKE, MN.

12374 ARLEN FLOYD (FRANK) QC.  
b. 7.9.54

12375 DELBERT LEE (FRANK) MB  
b. 3.6.45 MT. LAKE, MN.  
(FRANK) MB

12376 NORMAN LOUIS (FRANK) MB  
b. 6.11.49 MT. LAKE, MN.  
(FRANK) MB

12377 WENDELL FLOYD (FRANK) EB  
b. 21.8.57

12378 JANICE LOREN (FRANK) EB  
b. 25.6.54  
(FR. LAKE, MN)

12379 MELADY LYNN  
b. 20.11.57 MT. LAKE, MN.

12380 STANLEY LAVERN  
b. 30.5.60 MT. LAKE, MN.

12381 WAYNE LEROY  
b. 17.3.65 MT. LAKE, MN.

12382 BRADLEY LAURENCE  
b. 9.6.70 MT. LAKE, MN.

12383 ORVIL HARWORTH (FRANK) QC  
b. 24.1.50 MT. LAKE, MN.

12384 MYRA JANNIE (LAW) MB  
b. 25.10.51 MT. LAKE, MN.

12385 INEZ RUTH  
b. 25.9.55 MT. LAKE, MN.  
d. 24.6.74

12386 PAULINE  
b. 22.9.57 MT. LAKE, MN.

12387 MARLENE ELIZ. (FRANK) (FRANK) QC  
b. 30.8.50 MT. LAKE, MN.

12388 SHARON DONETTA FR. 15.10.71  
b. 29.2.52 MT. LAKE, MN.  
(FR. LAKE, MN)

12389 MARLO  
b. 5.9.54 MT. LAKE, MN.

12390 SANDRA  
b. 7.5.67 MT. LAKE, MN.

12391 MYRON  
b. 4.10.69 MT. LAKE, MN.

12392 SHELDON  
b. 3.10.62 MT. LAKE, MN.

12393 LORETTA RENEE  
b. 27.8.60 MT. LAKE, MN.

12394 BRIGHAM CHRISTOPHER  
b. 3.10.67 MT. LAKE, MN.  
d. 7.11.67

12395 TIMOTHY ANDRE  
b. 27.12.71 MT. LAKE, MN.

JAMES FENTON SMITH (FRANK) LUCAS  
b. 7.4.42 BRID. MT.

LARUE ANN LUEBREN  
b. 1.3.50 ST. JAMES

LEE CARLSON (FRANK) LUCAS  
b. 16.10.45

CYNTHIA SOLETA (FRANK) (FRANK) ASSISTANT  
b. 4.4.56 WINSTON, MN.

NANCY LOUISE SCHUBS (FRANK) MB  
b. 7.2.47 ROCKTON, IA.

VANCELE MARIE OTTO (FRANK) LUCAS  
b. 4.1.52 CHAMPA, MS.

GLORIA MAE CLASSEN  
b. 4.9.52 JAMA CITY, IA

ALAN SCHROEDER (FRANK) QC  
b. 4.9.52 MT. LAKE, MN.

123911 BRADLEY JAMES b. 30.4.68 WASH. ID.  
123912 KIMBERLY KAY b. 8.4.73 SLAYTON, MN.

123913 SHANNON LYWISE b. 20.1.70 MT. LAKE, MN.  
123914 JAMIE LANE b. 24.9.71 d. 28.9.71

123915 TROY LANDON b. 18.7.76 MT. LAKE, MN.  
123916 SHANE b. 24.12.76 WHITEHEAD, MN.

123917 HEATH ASHLEY b. 14.8.79 BLUEGUM LAKE, MN.  
123918 LAURENCE b. 17.6.77 BLUEGUM LAKE, MN.

123919 MICHAEL LEE b. 7.1.78 MT. LAKE, MN.  
123920 ELAINE b. 12.1.77

123921 CHAD JEREMY b. 21.1.75 MT. LAKE, MN.  
123922 TRENTON b. 29.11.77

123923 COREY b. 15.5.77 MT. LAKE, MN.

KAREN MARIE THULEN (LAW) LUCAS  
b. 3.2.54

CRAIG STOESZ (FRANK) (FRANK) MB  
b. 28.4.53 MT. LAKE, MN.

ROYCE MCKITTRICK REGISTRATION OFFICER  
b.

ALAN BOESE (FRANK) (FRANK) MB  
b. 4.1.1948 IA.

EYDIE MB RT 2

124 **PETER EPP**

b. 8. 2. 1843  
d. 15. 5. 1863

125 **ELIZABETH EPP** (HOMEMAKER) MB.

b. 7. 7. 1964 GARDENTHUR, MOLOTTUCHNA  
d. 5. 8. 20 SHAFER, CA.

m. 10. 11. 1887  
MT. LAKE, MN.

**HENRY E. WALL** (FARMER) M.B.

b. 14. 9. 1861 KONTEIUSFELD, MOLOTTUCHNA  
d. 9. 1. 43 SHAFER, CA.

1251 **ELIZABETH WALL** (HOMEMAKER) MB.  
b. 11. 9. 1888  
d. 22. 4. 70  
m. . . 11 REEBERY, CA.  
**JACOB H. VOTH** (FARMER) MB.  
b. 22. 3.  
d. 27. 5. 39

12511 **ELIZABETH** (HOMEMAKER) MB.  
b. 16. 3. 12 BRADLEY, CA.  
d. 24. 7. 65 LAMT, CA.  
12512 **VIOLA** (EN) BA.  
b. 4. 11. 13 BRADLEY, CA.  
12513 **HAROLD** (FARMER) BA.  
b. 28. 9. 15 BRADLEY, CA.  
12514 **MARVIN** (FARMER)  
b. 9. 9. 17 BRADLEY, CA.  
d. 25. 4. 33 SAN JOSE, CA.  
12515 **VICTOR** (FARMER) BA.  
b. 27. 9. 20  
12516 **DONALD** (FARMER) BA.  
b. 16. 2. 30 BRADLEY, CA.

12511 **PAUL**  
125112 **LYNETTE**  
125113 **TIMOTHY**  
125114 **JONATHAN**

**MARVIN DICK** (FARMER) MB.  
**THOMAS MOORE**  
**JACKQUE LIBBEE**  
**VIRGINIA LAVERTY**

1252 **KATHERINA WALL** MB.  
b. 22. 11. 1890 BAC-LAKE, MN.  
d. 9. 12. 68 BRADFELD, CA.

1253 **ANNA WALL** MB.  
b. 17. 6. 1894 BRADFELD, MN.  
d. 18. 4. 75 BRADFELD, CA.

1254 **HENRY WALL** (FARMER) BA.  
b. 6. 1. 02 MUNICH, MN.  
m. 29. 7. 28 WALLSDOR, NJ.  
**MARTHA REGIER**  
b. 19. 9. 08 BRADLEY, CA.

12541 **LUCILLE** (HOMEMAKER) BA.  
b. 10. 21. 30 LOS ANGELES, CA.  
12542 **STANLEY** (FARMER) BA.  
b. 1. 8. 32 TARKENTON, KY.  
12543 **NADINE**  
b. 23. 2. 34 WALLSDOR, NJ.

12541 **JAMES L. (GUEST) BA** b. 9. 9. 53 BRADFELD, MN.  
125412 **STEPHEN MARK** b. 4. 10. 54 BRADFELD, MN. d. 4. 10. 54  
125413 **PHILIP S. (COLLEGE) BA** b. 31. 10. 55 F. 195, CA.  
125414 **LU ANNE ELIZ.** BA b. 30. 9. 59 NEW ORLEANS, LA.  
125415 **JOHN PAUL** b. 11. 5. 61 NEW ORLEANS, LA.  
125421 **LAURA KATHLEEN** BA b. 8. 5. 58 BRADFELD, MN.  
125422 **JAY NEILL** BA b. 16. 5. 62  
125431 **DAVID MICHAEL (SUNSET) BA** b. 9. 10. 58 WALLSDOR, NJ.  
125432 **KENNETH CRAIG** BA b. 20. 9. 55 BRADFELD, MN.  
125433 **MARK DOUGLAS** BA b. 27. 10. 55 BRADFELD, MN.  
125434 **REBECCA ANN** BA b. 9. 5. 62 BRADFELD, MN.

1255 **BERTHA WALL** MB.  
b. 6. 11. 04 MUNICH, MN.  
m. 11. 12. 32 SHAFER, CA.  
**ISAAC R. WALL** (FARMER) BA.  
b. 26. 10. 1896  
d. 11. 8. 61 SAN JOSE, CA.

12551 **VIRGINIA JUNE** (FARMER) BA.  
b. 7. 1. 34 BRADFELD, CA.  
12552 **GERALD DEWEY** (FARMER) LU.  
b. 2. 2. 40 LONG BEACH, CA.

12551 **BRADEN** b. 22. 7. 14  
125512 **ALCHERA** b. 5. 1. 47

1256 **MARTHA WALL** (EN) MB.  
b. 6. 11. 04 MUNICH, MN.  
(628 LINDEN ST. BRADFELD, CA. 93105)

A Wall family get-together in 1951. Back, l-r: Elizabeth Dick, Marvin Voth, Harold Voth, Elizabeth (Wall) Voth. Middle, l-r: Marvin Dick, Isaac and Bertha Wall, Katherina Wall, Anna Wall, Viola Moore, Victor Voth. Front, l-r: Thomas Moore, Martha Wall, Jonathan, Paul and Lynette Dick, Marsha Moore, Timothy Dick, Gerald and Virginia Wall, Donald Voth.

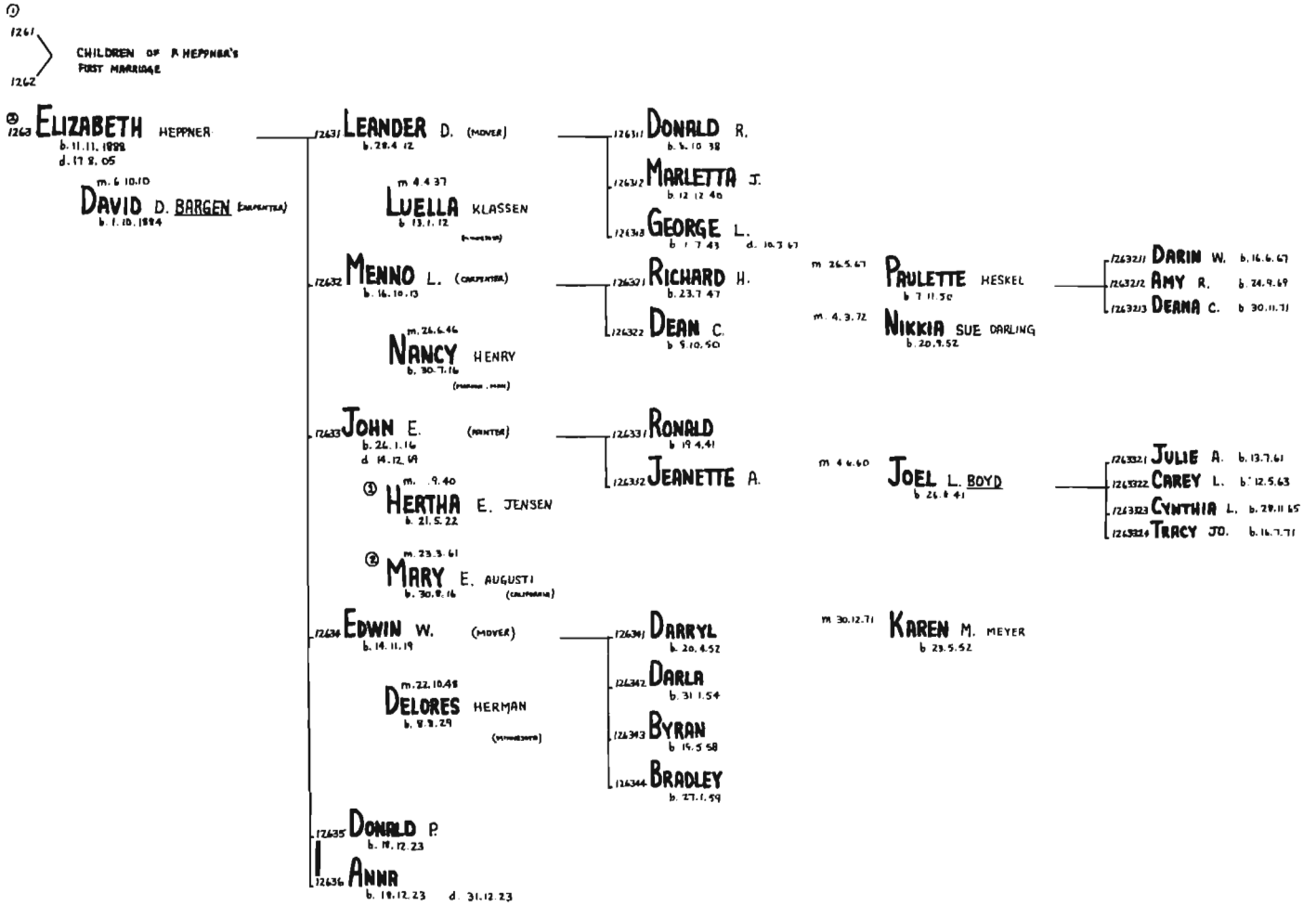


126 © KATHERINA EPP  
 b. 18.10.1965  
 d. 1.8.94

m. 17.7.1887

PETER HEPPNER (FARMER)  
 b. 19.7.1855  
 d. 16.6.37

© MARJA DICK b. 22.12.1880 d. 2.11.1954



Justina and Anna Heppner.



Elizabeth and Susie Heppner.

1264 PETER P. HEPPNER (BORNED) (MARRIED)  
b. 13.12.1899  
m. 7.11.12  
BERTHA JANZEN  
b. 1.7.1892  
(MARRIED, NAME.)

12641 PETER B.  
b. 5.1.14

① m. 17.6.39  
MARY UNRAU  
b. 29.7.18

② m. 20.11.54  
MARION BUTCLIFFE  
b. 16.10.20  
(SEE ANNOTATED OVER ANOTHER PAGE AND NAME)

12642 ANNA E.  
b. 30.7.15 d. 5.7.61 WASHINGTON, MD

12643 LEONA  
b. 19.1.17

m. 14.7.40  
PETER TOEWS (FARMER)  
b. 28.6.12  
(MARRIED, NAME.)

12644 VIOLA  
b. 13.4.19

m. 7.9.40  
JOHN J. TOEWS (BARBER)  
b. 12.12.18  
(MARRIED, ANNOTATED)

12645 JOHN C. (BARBER) (MARRIED)

12646 BERTHA  
b. 24.2.22 d. 27.10.24

12647 SUSIE  
b. 10.11.23

m. 22.5.48  
CORNIE REDIGER (MARRIED)  
b. 1.10.23  
(MARRIED, NAME.)

12648 EDWIN (TEACHER)

m. 4.6.55  
VERNA BLOOMQUIST  
b. 11.2.95  
(MARRIED)

12649 ARTHUR (BUSINESSMAN)

m. 7.6.53  
KATHLEEN BLEITZ  
b. 29.11.29  
(MARRIED, NAME.)

12650 IRENE (BUSINESSWOMAN) (MARRIED)  
(SEE-10 PAGES OF ANOTHER PAGE)

12651 ALBERT (CONTRACTOR)

m. 24.10.56  
MARIAN NEUFELD  
b. 8.5.33  
(MARRIED, NAME.)

12652 KATHERINE (CLERK)

m. 23.7.53  
GEORGE ENNS (BUSINESSMAN)  
b. 21.1.30  
(SEE 1770 MARRIED NAME AND NAME)

12653 JACOB  
b. 20.6.53 d. 17.3.34

① 126411 LEONARD P.  
b. 22.2.42

126412 PATRICIA  
b. 9.7.43

126413 DONALD G.  
b. 25.10.45

② 126414 DARRYL E.  
b. 14.11.61

126431 PETER R.  
b. 14.5.41

126432 LEONA B.  
b. 17.6.45

126433 RONALD P.  
b. 20.7.49

126434 ANN E.  
b. 15.6.53

126435 DOUGLAS E.  
b. 11.8.54

126436 DONALD A.  
b. 11.9.54

126441 FLORENCE  
b. 21.8.45 d. 25.4.74

126442 RUTH I.  
b. 9.2.50

126443 JOHN H.  
b. 9.3.51

126471 BERTHA K.  
b. 21.3.49

126472 NEIL  
b. 14.4.55

126473 KENNETH  
b. 24.9.56

126481 GREG  
b. 15.5.57

126482 CARYN  
b. 4.7.58

126491 JOANNE B.  
b. 15.1.54

126492 DUANE A.  
b. 21.2.54

126493 CHERYL  
b. 15.7.57

126494 MYRNA L.  
b. 11.2.61

126491 RAYMOND  
b. 1.6.59

126492 RACHEL  
b. 25.5.61

126493 RONETTE  
b. 14.11.64

126494 ROGER M.  
b. 3.11.54

126495 CLIFFORD G.  
b. 14.2.58

126496 CYNTHIA L.  
b. 25.3.61

126497 ELIZABETH M.  
b. 4.7.64

126498 PAUL E.  
b. 12.1.70

m. 20.7.63 ARLEEN VERMEULEN  
b. 26.9.42

m. 29.5.66 THOMAS P. FAIR  
b. 16.9.45

m. 2.7.64 BEVERLEE NOFTAN  
b. 24.4.45

m. 28.4.62 DELORES HANSON  
b. 5.7.41

m. 29.4.67 IRWIN PETERS  
b. 9.11.43

m. 15.9.65 JOHN C. DOLEZAL  
b. 17.3.50

m. 7.5.74 JOAN G. NICHOLSON  
b. 2.5.54

1264111 BRIAN L. b. 13.3.67  
1264112 DAVID C. b. 19.8.68

1264121 DARLENE b. 5.10.68  
1264122 SHANNON LYN b. 2.9.72

1264131 DARREN S. b. 13.11.69

1264311 CANDICE C. b. 26.11.67  
1264312 RICHARD J. b. 29.1.70

1264321 PHILIPPE J. b. 21.3.70  
1264322 REBECCA M. b. 11.3.72

1264421 CANDY M. b. 13.1.72

1265 DIETRICH K. HEPPNER (FARMER)  
 b. 4.1.1942  
 d. 1.12.89. MT. LAKE, MN  
 m. 5.3.14  
 BARBARA JANZEN  
 b. 14.11.1899  
 d. 19.6.77

12651 MARY  
 b. 2.6.15  
 m. 19.25  
 CLAUDE RAVENBERG (MECHANIC)  
 b. 27.12.10 d. 27.6.61  
 (OTTUMWA, ILL.)

126511 SONJA  
 b. 5.12.39  
 126512 DUANE  
 b. 13.9.44

m. 19.4.69 CYNTHIA SANE  
 b. 28.2.38  
 1265121 CHRISTOPHER J. b. 6.11.68  
 1265122 HEATHER L. b. 24.2.70

12652 PETER H. (FARMER)  
 b. 23.7.16  
 m. 24.1.40  
 KATHERINE ENNS  
 b. 5.6.17

126521 KATHERINE D.  
 b. 6.6.41  
 126522 ROSA L.  
 b. 5.4.43

m. CURTIS ATNEOSEN  
 b. 29.9.38  
 1265211 KRISTI J. b. 15.5.62  
 1265212 KARI A. b. 1.10.64  
 m. 13.6.63 KENNETH RULLER  
 b. 20.11.39  
 d. 17.6.64

m. 29.4.72 JOSEPH R. SIMINGTON  
 b. 29.41

126523 BEVERLY A.  
 b. 5.12.44

m. 23.1.64 RICHARD W. HAMMOND  
 b. 20.6.38  
 1265231 JENNY J. b. 9.10.68

126524 JOHN P.  
 b. 14.12.46

m. 27.12.68 PATRICIA M. GETZ  
 b. 21.9.48  
 1265241 ANTHONY J. b. 3.4.70

126525 DAN K.  
 b. 22.10.48

m. 25.5.68 GAIL L. ROSWALD  
 b. 2.10.48  
 1265251 TONY L. b. 17.10.70

126526 MARILYN L.  
 b. 20.10.50

m. 24.7.71 STEVEN HUTCHENS  
 b. 7.11.50

126527 PAMELA E.  
 b. 4.10.52

m. 15.7.72 RONNIE LEE GILBERTSON  
 b. 12.6.52

126528 STEVE W.  
 b. 28.7.56

126529 SARAH  
 b. 19.9.57

m. 24.4.65 KAREN PETERS  
 b. 3.1.44  
 1265311 TIMOTHY E. b. 3.1.68  
 1265312 JONATHAN b. 18.4.72

12653 TINA (HOMEMAKER)

126531 DONALD J.  
 b. 1.2.42

m. 6.9.66 JUDY SCHOFIELD  
 b. 10.1.47  
 1265321 ANTHONY L. b. 13.11.67  
 1265322 LIZA M. b. 6.2.70

m. 14.3.43  
 JOE RIFFLE  
 b. 29.9.11

126532 LARRY D.  
 b. 17.6.44

m. 7.9.65 SUSAN SOTHOFF  
 b. 10.4.40  
 1265331 HEIDE A. b. 9.1.71  
 1265332 JULIE A. b. 6.5.66

12654 EVELYN  
 b. 20.8.20

126541 DAVID  
 b. 19.3.41 d. 1.10.54 (DIED)

m. 5.7.65 RONALD P. WALL  
 b. 22.4.43  
 1265421 DEBORAH A. b. 26.11.63  
 1265422 DORI L. b. 2.12.65

m. 7.5.40  
 DAVID ADRIAN  
 b. 1.11.20 (MILWAUKEE)

126542 PAULETTE F.  
 b. 11.6.42

m. 24.8.65 LYLE E. DETTEVA  
 b. 16.10.41  
 1265431 DIANE D. b. 17.1.68  
 1265432 DARLENE D. b. 4.7.71

126543 NORMA J.  
 b. 8.1.44

126544 ROBERT W.  
 b. 20.9.45

m. 24.8.67 JOAN TINHER  
 b. 3.7.47  
 1265441 STEVE L. b. 27.12.67  
 1265442 RIMBE L. b. 29.5.70  
 1265443 SANDRA J. b. 18.8.73  
 1265444 CRYSTAL ANN. b. 6.6.76

12655 ELMER (GOOD SHOP)  
 b. 20.9.22

126551 BARBARA  
 b. 9.5.45

m. 28.4.70 DAVID FREDRICK  
 b. 16.10.45  
 1265521 MICHAEL T. b. 14.5.69  
 1265522 SUAN L. b. 1.1.71

m. 3.9.46  
 ANNA LEDDLE  
 b. 1.3.20 (M. ANN, MN)

126552 BONNIE  
 b. 14.8.50

12656 WILMER  
 b. 12.4.24 d. 1.12.77

126571 PATRICIA D.  
 b. 15.8.45

m. 11.6.65 DARRYL D. DEAKSEN  
 b. 14.10.45  
 1265711 JARED E. b. 24.1.67  
 1265712 MICHAEL P. b. 12.4.68

12657 ARLENE (HOMEMAKER)  
 b. 15.12.25

126572 CAROL A.  
 b. 14.4.47

m. 16.12.67 HOWARD J. MEYER  
 b. 21.3.41  
 1265721 PEGGY M. b. 7.5.68  
 1265722 SLOTT H. b. 20.4.71

m. 11.6.45  
 DAVID ALVIN PENNER (FARMER)  
 b. 2.9.13 (OTTUMWA, ILL.)

126573 JAMES A.  
 b. 20.2.51

126574 TERRY A.  
 b. 22.4.46

12658 BURDINE  
 b. 27.8.30

126581 LYNETTE K.  
 b. 7.1.55

m. 11.6.53  
 ALVIN WIENS (CARPENTER)  
 b. 3.10.23 (OTTUMWA, ILL.)

126582 CHARLENE R.  
 b. 23.5.56

126583 GWENDOLYN S.  
 b. 20.4.60

126584 CHARLES G.  
 b. 15.1.63

1266 **JACOB P. HEPPNER** (near center)  
 b. 11. 11. 1893  
 d. 6. 13. 58 Mt. Pleasant, MI  
 m. 1. 3. 27  
**FRANCIS** KRAUS  
 b. 20. 5. 1891

12661 **RAYMOND C.** (MONTES)  
 b. 20. 13. 27  
 ① **MICKEY**  
 m. 11. 1. 57  
 ② **DELORES H. JYMONSKI**  
 b. 11. 10. 28  
 12662 **GERALD J.**  
 b. 18. 5. 50

12661 **DWAYNE**  
 b. 10. 2. 45  
 12662 **RAYMOND C.**  
 b. 17. 4. 58  
 12663 **RONALD**  
 b. 27. 4. 61  
 12664 **RICHARD**  
 b. 5. 6. 13  
 12665 **RANDOLF**  
 b. 9. 2. 45

m. 9. 11. 63  
**CLARA** HUBERTY  
 b. 11. 2. 31

1267 **SUSIE HEPPNER**  
 b. 3. 6. 1895 d. 22. 7. 23 Mt. Pleasant, MI

1268 **JOHN P. HEPPNER** (POMPER) \_\_\_\_\_ 12681 **MARCELLA** (KOPPELHAGEN CLARK)  
 b. 23. 11. 1897 d. 2. 3. 55 no. b. 17. 7. 30  
 m. 2. 2. 23  
**JUSTINA** GOERTZEN b. 2. 7. 1897  
 m. 30. 10. 52  
**HARRY EDIGER**  
 b. 2. 9. 29

1269 **JUSTINA HEPPNER** (TUCKER)  
 b. 24. 2. 1900

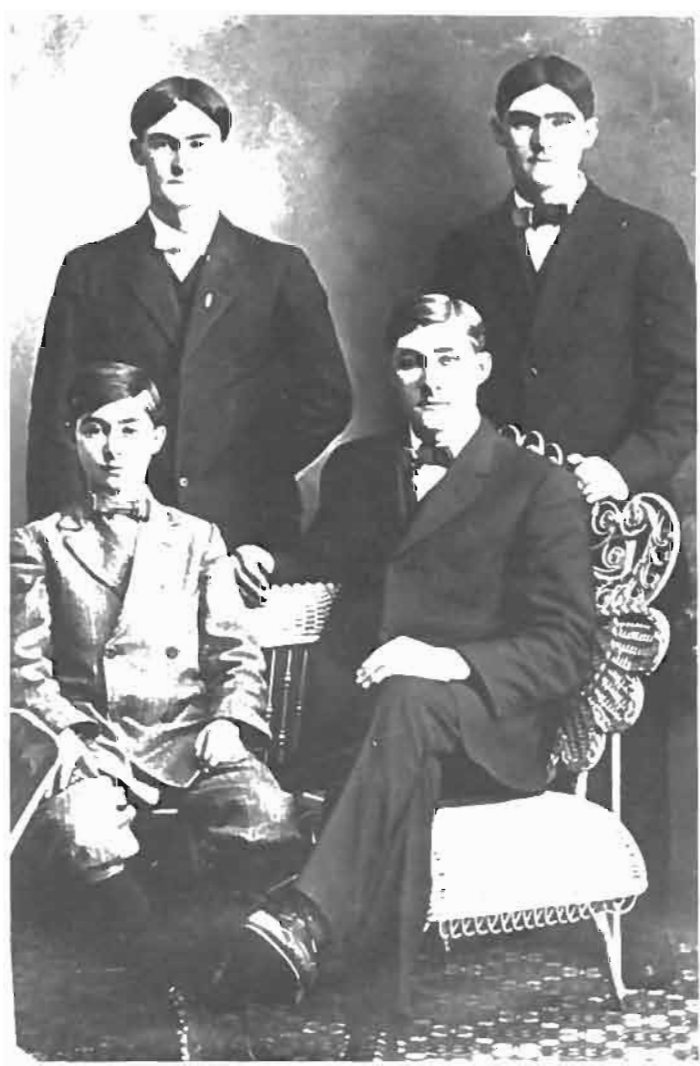
1269 **GEORGE P. HEPPNER**  
 b. 27. 7. 02 Mt. Pleasant, MI. d. 16. 9. 10

1269 **ANNA E. HEPPNER** (H.N. JACOB)  
 b. 2. 12. 04

1269 **HULDA HEPPNER**  
 b. 18. 9. 08 d. 1. 4. 01



George Heppner. Hulda Heppner.



John, Peter, Dietrich and Jacob Heppner.

127 **PETER EPP**  
 b. 15. 1. 1868  
 d.



128

JACOB P. EPP  
b. 15.1.1868  
d. 15.2.39  
KANDENTHAL, MOLOTSCHNA

m. 3.1.1891

GERTRUDE GOOSSEN  
b. 21.5.1861  
d. 20.5.25

1281 ELIZABETH EPP  
b. 20.11.1891  
d. 9.30

m. 3.4.16  
JOHN M. HARDER

1282 KATIE EPP (WIFE)  
b. 11.8.1894

m. 6.7.47  
THEODORE P. KLASSEN  
b. 21.1.1896  
(TEACHER)

1283 SUSIE EPP (TEACHER)  
b. 19.10.1891  
d. 5.42

1284 CHRISTINE EPP (TEACHER)  
b. 5.6.1900

m. 14.6.25  
LEONARD P. SUDERMAN  
b. 12.3.1899  
(FARMER/TEACHER)

12861 JEAN WESLEY (FARMER/TEACHER)  
b. 8.1.27

m. 26.1.52  
LOIS WIENS  
b. 24.3.30

12842 VERN ELVER (FARMER)  
b. 27.12.29  
d. 20.3.75  
m. 18.3.55

ELSIE LOEWEN  
b. 24.12.35

12843 LELAND JACOB (TEACHER)  
b. 29.6.33

m. 30.7.53  
MARILYN HARMS  
b. 29.5.33

12844 EMERY LOWELL (O.D.)  
b. 7.10.35

m.  
INEZ JAVORSKY (TEACHER)  
b. 10.7.38

12841 ELAINE RUTH  
b. 2.1.55

12842 LAVONNE JOY  
b. 5.1.55

12843 DAVID WAYNE  
b. 7.2.56 (STANDARD)

12844 DWIGHT ALLEN  
b. 6.12.57

12841 GAYLE LEE  
b. 26.5.57

12842 KERRY KAY  
b. 6.5.61

12843 LAUREL JOY  
b. 12.10.64

12841 MICHAEL JON  
b. 26.8.54

12842 CHRISTINE SUE  
b. 6.4.61

12843 SHANNON JOEL  
b. 24.6.60

12844 LOWELL ANTHONY  
b.

12845 NATHAN QUINN  
b. 2.1.69

12846 JAMES KEVIN  
b. 23.7.66

12847 CAROL DAWN  
b. 25.3.65

12848 TIMOTHY LOWELL  
b. 17.7.71

JOE BLOWERS  
b. 9.55

BEVERLY WIENS

1285 JACOB JAY EPP (MERCHANT)  
b. 19.5.01  
d. 2.5.72

m.  
LOUISE KINTZI  
b. 29.9.01

12851 DENNIS LEE (M.D.)  
b. 26.2.28

m.  
DOROTHY SALZMAN  
b. 19.5.28

12852 ELDON JAY (P.O.)  
b. 1.11.30

m.  
ELDORIS BALZER  
b. 10.9.30

12853 LORIN DON  
b. 29.9.39

m.  
REBECCA HAUGA  
b. 5.1.42

12851 DAVID LEE  
b. 17.5.59

12852 JAMES JAY  
b. 30.1.58

12853 STEVEN LESLIE  
b. 05.6.59

12854 JON ALAN  
b. 1.2.61

12851 GREGORY THOMAS  
b. 17.6.63

12852 JENNIFER ELIZABETH  
b. 3.12.65

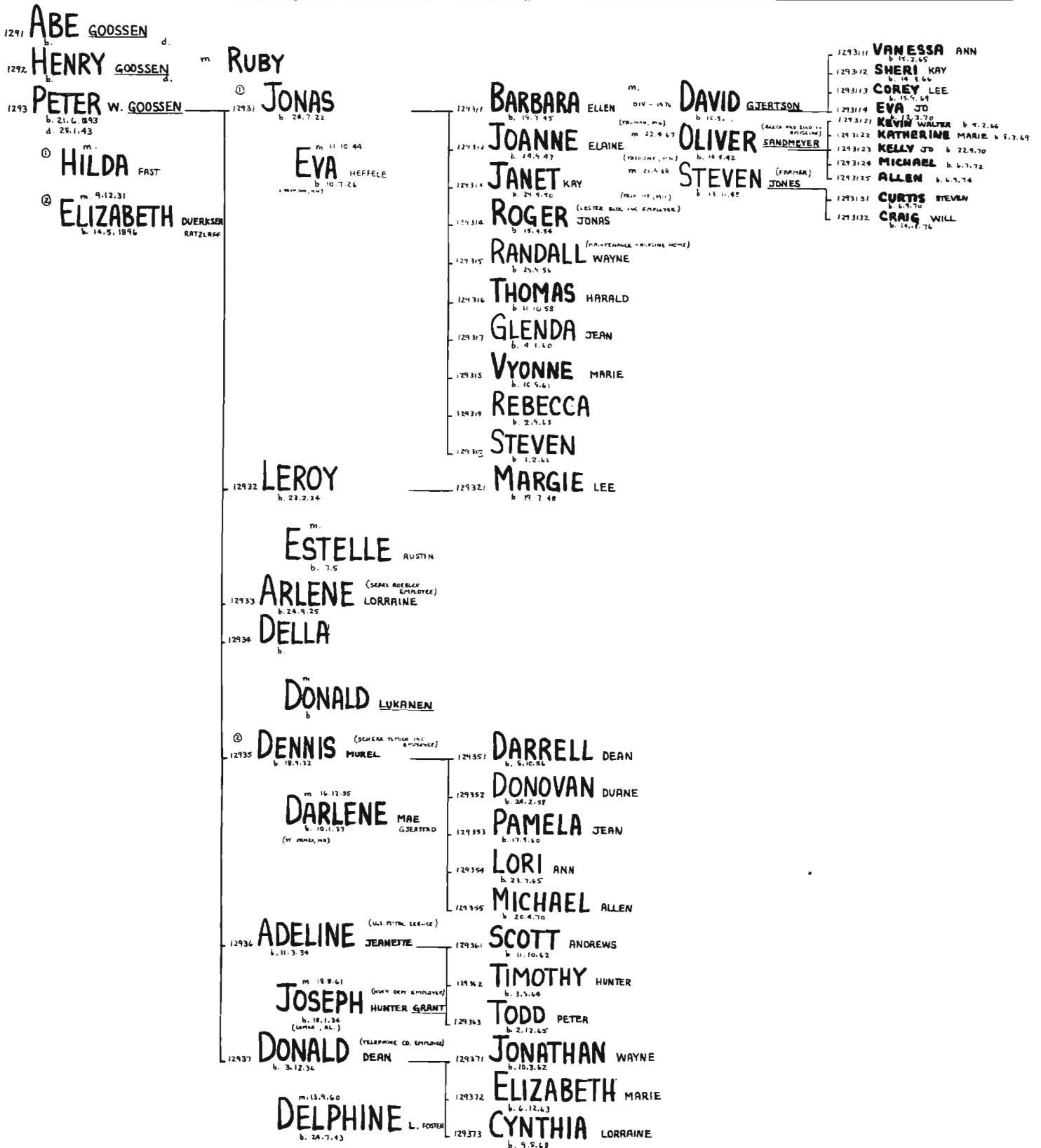
12853 SUSAN LOUISE  
b. 12.11.71

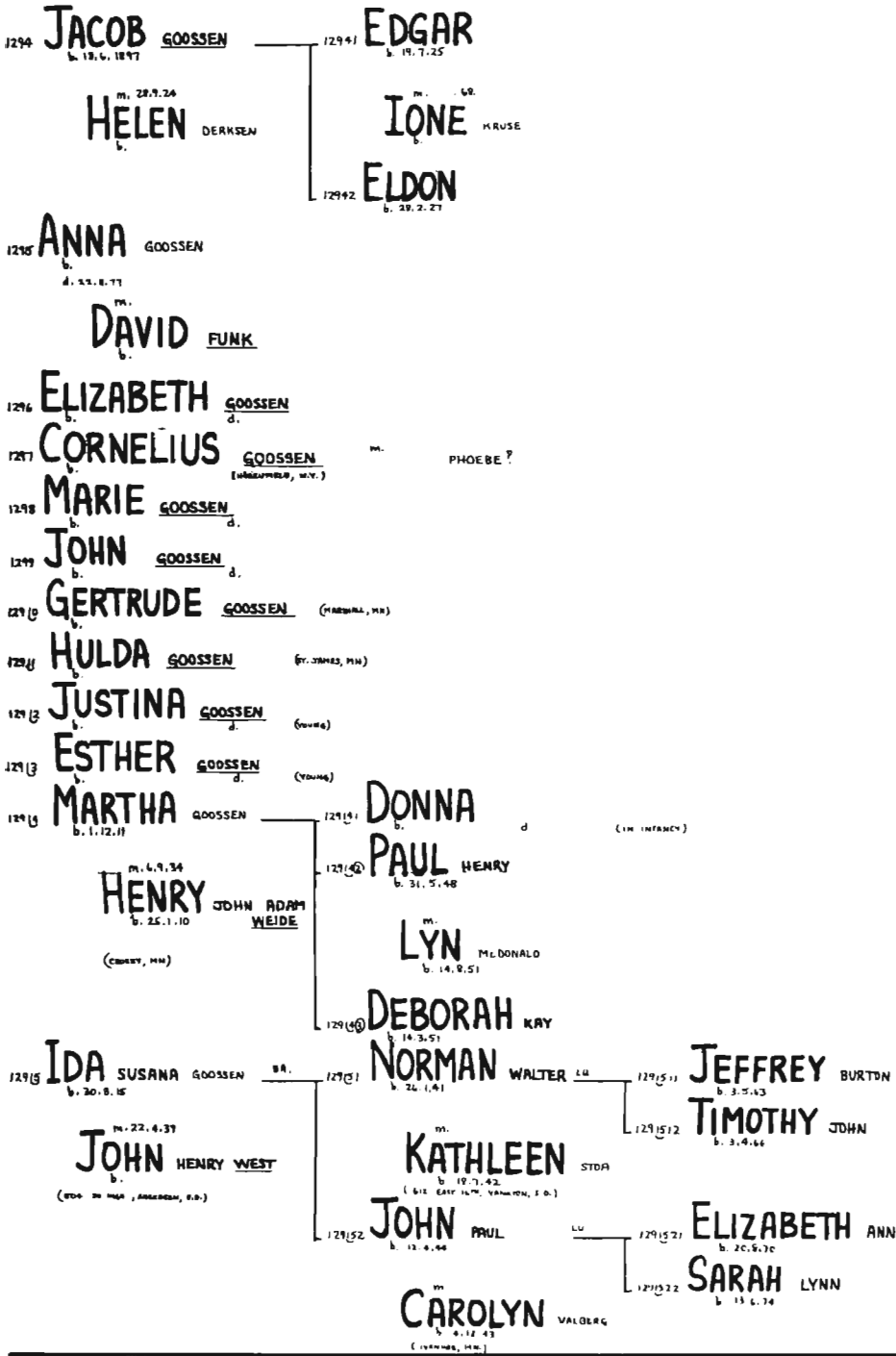
128532 STACY MARGARET  
b. 24.3.74

1286 FRIEDA EPP (TEACHER)  
b. 7.6.08

129 ANNA EPP

ABR. GOOSSEN





---

1210 PETER EPP  
b.  
d.

---

1211 JOHN EPP  
b.  
d.

---

1212 SUSIE EPP  
b.  
d.

---

1213 PETER EPP  
b.  
d.

---

*We are forever indebted to the past. It is the source of our very identity. In the present moment, which changes as we live it, the past is all we know. By telling us what our forefathers did, history inspires us in two directions, to respect their achievements, and to strive to equal their resourcefulness and courage.*

*Unknown*



1215 DANIEL EPP (FARMER) MB  
b. 24.4.1878  
d. 29.4.47

m. 11.12.01

① ANNA EWERT (HOUSEWIFE) MB  
b. 20.4.1879 d. 10.6.15

m. 22.1.17

② SUSIE FLAMING (HOUSEWIFE) MB  
b. 27.6.1884 d. 4.5.22

① 12151 SUSAN EPP (PUBLIC LIBRARIAN) GC  
b. 6.6.03 WINDOM, MN  
m. 5.9.34 MT. LAKE, MN  
HENRY KLEWER (UTILITY) GC  
b. 27.9.04 MT. LAKE, MN

121511 KENNETH (WELDER) LU  
b. 31.12.35 MT. LAKE, MN  
121512 CAROLYN (CLEAN. EDUCATION) MT. LAKE, MN  
b. 6.6.37

KATHLEEN ZIMMERMANN (HEAD) LU  
b. 22.10.38 GREENWOOD, IL  
WALLACE CHRISTENSON (SEWING) MT. LAKE, MN  
b. 22.12.36  
COLLEEN SHELLEY (C-4-10) MT. LAKE, MN  
b. 22.12.36  
BARBARA SCHWARZENBACH (CLEAN. TIG.) MT. LAKE, MN  
b. 22.12.36

② BERTHA ROGALSKY  
b. 22.10.38 GREENWOOD, IL

12152 ALBERT EPP (MECHANIC) LU  
b. 11.1.05 WINDOM, MN  
m. 1.9.31 OMAHA, NE  
VIVIAN BUSHMAN (CAPTAIN) LU  
b. 15.8.16 VANDERBILT, IA

121521 ALBERT JR. (MACH. REPAIR) LU  
b. 31.9.35 LACROIX, WI  
121522 RONALD (AIR. PARTY) LU  
b. 26.3.38 CAMP B. G. DEVON, PA

DENNIS (PUBLIC AC) 121531  
MARK 121532  
DARCY 121533  
STACY 121534  
BRIAN 121535  
TOMMY 121536  
TODD 121537  
JAMES 121538  
RANDALL 121539  
MICHAEL 121540  
PAUL 121541  
DIANE 121542  
ARON 121543

12153 DANIEL EPP (BARBER) FC  
b. 24.12.06 WINDOM, MN  
m. 20.9.31  
MARY FILLBACH (C. C.)  
b. 15.10.1888

121531 MARY  
b. 9.6.32  
121532 PATRICIA  
b. 8.9.39  
121533 DANIEL (PHYSICIAN)  
b. 4.11.45

DAN GARDNER (PUBLIC AC) b. 24.12.06  
JACK CARP (INSURANCE) b. 20.9.31  
PATRICIA b. 15.10.1888

12154 ELIZABETH EPP (HOUSEWIFE) GC  
b. 14.11.13 WINDOM, MN  
m. 23.8.36  
BEN P. DICK (WAGE REPAIR) GC  
b. 16.4.10 BUTTERFIELD, MN

121541 KATHLEEN  
b. 13.7.40 MT. LAKE, MN  
121542 CHARLES (SCHOOL HEAD) MT. LAKE, MN  
b. 15.5.43  
121543 RICHARD (STUDENT) MT. LAKE, MN  
b. 30.12.50

JAMES MARTENS (SCHOOL) b. 2.3.32  
LINDA b. 2.3.32  
ARON b. 2.3.32

② 12155 CLARA EPP (HOUSEWIFE) ME.  
b. 22.4.18 MT. LAKE, MN  
m. 3.3.39  
HAROLD PAULSEN (MACHINERY) ME.  
b. 3.3.39 VIRGINIA, MN

121551 JIMMY (LAWYER)  
b. 21.9.42  
121552 SANDRA (MACH. REPAIR)  
b. 9.1.45  
121553 ROBERT (ENGINEER)  
b. 6.7.57

JOHN FRIEDLANDER (MACHINERY)  
b. 15.9.42

12156 SAMUEL EPP  
b. 21.10.19 d. 4.28

12157 RUBEN EPP (ATHLETIC DIRECTOR)  
b. 2.10.20 MT. LAKE, MN  
m. 5.11.45  
MAVIS LUND (HOUSEWIFE) LU  
b. 8.2.25

121571 GARY (DENTIST) b. 25.3.47  
121572 VICKIE (SECRETARY) b. 4.11.48  
121573 BECKY (SECRETARY) b. 20.11.52

GEORGIA BROWN b. 25.3.47  
JAMES CHRISTENSON (READER) b. 4.11.48  
JEFFREY L. NEWMAN b. 20.11.52

12158 HENRY EPP (INDUSTRIAL ARTS) b. 26.1.22 MT. LAKE, MN  
m. 10.7.43  
ELVIRA JONES (ELEMENTARY EDUCATOR) CO.  
b. 25.4.22 LAKE CATHY, MN

121581 JEAN (STUDENT) b. 1.7.44  
121582 JUDY (STUDENT) b. 25.2.47

JERRY SONICH (HIGH SCHOOL) b. 21.12.43  
MIKE OLSON (FARMER) b. 24.4.43  
TOMMY b. 10.6.43

**1216 MARIE EPP** (HOUSEWIFE)  
 (MISSIONARY)  
 b. 1.1.1931 WINDOM, MN.  
 d. 16.9.68 MT. LAKE, MN.

m. 18.8.07  
 MT. LAKE, MN.

**JOHN HENRY VOTH** (MISSIONARY) MB  
 (INDIA)  
 b. . . 1919 BINGHAM LAKE, MN  
 d. 31.7.43 MT. LAKE, MN.

**12161 ELIZABETH VOTH** (MISSIONARY) MB/P  
 (INDIA)  
 b. 31.5.08 MT. LAKE, MN.  
 (M. - 10th of the WINDOM-DE LUZZI)

**12162 SARAH VOTH** (TEACHER) P.  
 b. 11.1.10 HYDERABAD, INDIA

m. 30.3.40 WIGGITH, KS.  
**ROBERT A. FERRIS** (ATTORNEY) P.  
 b. 2.4.13 HOUSTON, TX.  
 (34- E. 12th ST., TULSA, OK)

**121621 ROBERT A. JR.** (BUSINESS) P.  
 b. 11.9.41 TULSA, OK

**121622 JOHN A.** (STUDENT) P.  
 b. 23.4.66 TULSA, OK

**121623 MARY** (HOUSEWIFE) P.  
 b. 30.6.46 TULSA, OK

**121624 JAMES H.** (LAWYER) P.  
 b. 22.8.49 TULSA, OK

**121625 CHRISTOPHER V.** (STUDENT) P.  
 b. 2.8.53 TULSA, OK

**VIRGINIA SWANSON** P.  
 b. . . 46 INDIAN CITY, AL.

**1216211 SANDRA LEE** b. 12.7.14

**1216212 SARAH ELIZ.** b. 22.3.63

**1216213 CHRISTOPHER PAUL** b. 5.1.72

**WM. C. RACKLEY** (BUSINESS) P.  
 b. . . 46 COLUMBIA, MO.

**BONNIE LOVELACE** (HOUSEWIFE) P.  
 b. . . 49 TULSA, OK

**1216214 JAMES H. JR.** b. 2.3.71

**12163 MENNO J. VOTH** (PASTOR) MB  
 b. 22.2.12 HYDERABAD, INDIA

m. 10.11.41 DEN. ILL.  
**VERA BARB. JEAN HENDRICKSON**

**12164 OTTO VOTH**  
 b. 22.8.14 MALANGA, INDIA d. .4.15 HYDERABAD, INDIA

**12165 MARY VOTH**  
 b. 22.8.16 MALANGA, INDIA d. .2.18 MALANGA, INDIA

**12166 THEODORE H. VOTH** (MATH. PROF.) CO.  
 b. 13.1.16 MALANGA, INDIA

m. 15.11.40 BIRMINGHAM CITY, AL.  
**RHODA McCLINTOCK** (HOUSEWIFE) CO.  
 b. . . 13 PUEBLO CO.  
 (100 N. 12th ST. BIRMINGHAM, AL 35204)

**121661 THEODORE H. JR.** (MATH. PROF.) P.  
 b. 30.10.46

**121662 VALERIE KENT** (HOUSEWIFE) CO.  
 b. 29.2.46 BIRMINGHAM CITY, AL.

**PHYLLIS** (HOUSEWIFE) P

**ROBERT SIMON** P.

**12167 MATHILDA MARIE VOTH** (M) AL.  
 b. 10.11.17 MT. LAKE, MN.

m. 4.8.44 MEMPHIS, TN  
**DONALD B. DURELL** (BUSINESS) AL.  
 b. 30.4.20 d. 16.9.65 TRAGO, TN.  
 (100 NORTH ST. TULSA, OK 74116)

**121671 MARY LINDA** AL.  
 b. 15.7.46 TOLSON, OH.

**ARTHUR S. HOWARD** P.  
 b. . . 11.32

**1216711 NATALIE DURELL** b. 5.3.14

**12168 HUGO ERNEST VOTH** (2nd LIEUTENANT) WWII  
 b. 1.3.20 SECUNPURABAD, HYDERABAD INDIA  
 d. 4.9.44 HOENHAI, FRANCE

**1217 (BOY)**  
 b.  
 d. MT. BIATH



The Voth family after Marie Voth's funeral in 1968. L-r: Theodore and Rhoda Voth, John Ferris, Menno Voth, Elizabeth and Mathilda Voth, Sarah and Robert Ferris.

1218

**PETER EPP** (FARMER) MB.  
b. 11.2.1883 WINDOM, MN.  
d. 10.4.61 SHAFER, CA.

m. 19.12.10  
INMAN, KS.

**ELIZABETH EPP** (MB)  
b. 9.4.1884 BUNKER, KS.  
d. 12.11.71

1219 **ARTHUR EPP**  
b. 5.9.11 INMAN, KS.

12182 **ELDO EPP** (MISSIONARY)  
b. 2.11.12 INMAN, KS.

m. 1.8.39  
**VERNA EILEEN PAULSON**  
b. 21.5.13 FARM BUILT, MN.

121821 **LOIS RACHEL** m.  
b. 12.5.40  
121822 **PETER ALFRED** m.  
b. 1.5.42  
121823 **ANNA MARIE** m.  
b. 17.7.43  
121824 **TIMOTHY PAUL** m.  
b. 31.12.48 (BANKRUPT - MEXICO)

**EDWIN LEE DOWNING** m.  
b.  
**NANCY** ABERNATHY m.  
**ALF E. LOGAN** m.  
b.  
**JOYCE WIEBE** m.

1218211 **BRENDA LEE** b. 27.4.49  
1218212 **SANDRA RUTH** b. 14.10.47  
1218211 **ERIC ALF** b. 4.1.45  
1218212 **KIRK ALAN** b. 10.10.75

12183 **PETER EPP**  
b. INVERNESS, MT.

m.  
**MARGIE**  
b. (SHAFER, CA.)

12184 **ALVIN EPP**  
b. 15.8.15

m.  
① **MIRIAM DOROTHY WITZ**  
b. 1.1.16 d. 7.12.60

② **IONA PRAYTOR HARDING**  
b. 12.10.18

① **BRUCE DOUGLAS DR.** m. 2.3.58  
b. 25.7.37 (SHAFER, CA.)  
121841 **ALVIN PETER JR.** m.  
b. 1.6.48

**SANDRA GRACE STEALE** m.  
b. 10.8.39  
**NANCY** m.

1218411 **KIMBERLY GAYLE** b. 15.12.59  
1218412 **TRACY LYNN** b. 29.3.63  
1218421 **STACY LYNN** b. 7.7.69  
1218422 **BRANDON ALVIN** b. 27.12.71

12185 **ELIZABETH EPP** (TEACHER HOUSEWIFE) MB.  
b. 7.11.16 REBELEV, CA.

m. 15.8.48 SHAFER, CA.  
**JOHN G. KLIEWER** (FARMER) MB.  
b. 13.10.14 STOCKHART, ME.

121851 **JOHN GREGORY** m.  
b. 6.7.49 YORK, ME. d. 15.8.64 HAMPTON, ME.  
121852 **KATHRYN ANN** (RN) MB.  
b. 24.7.50  
121853 **JAMES ANTHONY** m. 27.9.75  
b. 24.7.50 (BANKRUPT - FRANCE)

**SUSAN GROSHONG** m.

12186 **JOHN EPP**  
b. REBELEV, CA.

m.  
**FRANCES**  
b. (REBELEV, CA.)

12187 **MARYANN EPP**  
b. SHAFER, CA.

m.  
**ERWIN HUEBERT**  
b.

12188 **MARTHA LOUISE EPP**  
b. 4.12.22

m. 20.7.41 SHAFER, CA.  
**WILLIAM GOERTZEN** MB.  
b. 21.3.16 BRADY COUNTY, OK.  
(WASCO, CA.) (CONTRACTOR (NEWSPRINK, INVESTMENTS))

MB. 121881 **CHRISTINE MARIE** m. 24.11.62  
b. 6.5.42 (SHEPHERD, CA.)  
121882 **WILLIAM JOHN** m. 24.11.70  
b. 30.3.45 (CONTRACTOR) JENSEN, AS.  
121883 **DEBORAH ANN** m. 9.3.69  
b. 22.3.50 (STUDENT, HOUSEWIFE) SHAFER, CA.  
121884 **MICHAEL PAUL** (BANKRUPT) m. 26.6.76  
b. 22.12.53 REP. OF CONGO (LAIKA)

**RAYMOND RICHARD PRINE** m. 5.4.69  
b. 17.7.36 d. 5.4.69  
**CHRISTINE EVA ODOLAY** m. 14.1.52  
b. 14.1.52  
**KENNETH WAYNE JANZEN** m. 12.3.47  
b. 12.3.47 (FARMER)

1218811 **CAROL ANN** b. 5.4.64  
1218812 **RAYMOND RICHARD** b. 10.7.69  
1218821 **DANIELLE LYNN** b. 5.12.72  
1218822 **SPAN WILLIE** b. 1.1.74  
1218831 **LESLIE RBE** b. 24.7.71  
1218832 **KAREN KATHRYN** b. 1.9.77

12189 **ESTHER EPP**  
b. SHAFER, CA.

m.  
**HENRY KROEKER**  
b.

1219

**CORNELIUS EPP** (TEACHER - INTERIOR DECORATOR)  
b. 8.5.1884 WINDOM, MN.  
d. 6.1.71 COLFAX, WA.

m. 27.2.14  
MT. LAKE, MN.

**MARIE (FRIESEN) FAUST** (WIDOW)  
b. d. 30.3.60

12191 **WOODROW EPP** (MINISTER) m.

121911 **CHERYL** m.  
b.

1219111 **VICKIE** b. 1.63  
1219112 b. 11.64



1220 **ABRAM EPP**  
 b. 23.6.1876  
 d. 14.6.06

1221 **GERHARDT EPP** (FARMER)  
 b. 9.11.1889 MT. LAKE, MIN.  
 d. 14.7.59 JAMESTOWN ND.

m. 15.2.12

**SARAH E. UNRUH**  
 b. 13.7.1893 MT. LAKE, MIN.  
 d. 5.1.65 MT. LAKE, MIN.

1221 **EARL EPP** (GROVEMAN)  
 b. 8.15.12  
 m. **EDNA G. KRUSE**  
 b.  
 (1000 BARRY AVE. IN MILS, MT. LAKE)

12211 **KATHLEEN L.**  
 b.  
 122112 **RICHARD L.**  
 b.

m. **MICHAEL CALLAHAN**  
 b.  
 m. **MARILYN** ACTN  
 b.

122111 **CHRISTOPHER M.**  
 122112 **BEAN M.**

12212 **ROY A. EPP** (FARMER - HUNTER - ENGINEER) GC.  
 b. 17.6.14  
 m. **LOUISE S. GOOSSEN** GC.  
 b. 20.12.15 MT. LAKE, MIN.

122121 **LORETTA LOUISE** (N) GC m. 14.6.59  
 b. 6.7.44 MT. LAKE, MIN.  
 122122 **ROY G.** (FARMER - TECH) AL m. 20.4.58  
 b. 24.11.46 MT. LAKE, MIN.  
 122123 **DARLENE ANN** (HOUSE GC) GC m. 23.4.52  
 b. 23.4.52 MT. LAKE, MIN.  
 122124 **DIANE MARIE**  
 b. 25.8.54 MT. LAKE, MIN.

m. **S. ROY KAUFMAN** (PASTOR) GC  
 b.  
 m. **CONSTANCE CHRISTINE ORELSON**  
 b. 22.2.45 THIMMAY, MIN. (SN) AL.  
 m. **ARTHUR LEE PEQUES** (PRAIRIER)  
 b.

1221211 **JOANNE LOUISE** b. 27.4.71  
 1221212 **DORA ELIZABETH** b. 12.12.73  
 1221221 **TODD JOHN** b. 12.3.49  
 1221222 **KRISTEN KAY** b. 1.10.71  
 1221223 **STEPHEN ROY** b. 12.5.72

12213 **ELSIE SARAH EPP** (NURSE)  
 b. 4.10.15 MT. LAKE, MIN.  
 m. 25.10.41  
**ALBERT HOWARD DEVRIES**  
 (657 WABASH AVE., SAN LEANDRO, CA. 94577)

122131 **DAVID J.**  
 b.

m. 5.10.65  
**SANDRA NELSON**  
 b.

1221311 **ROBERT**  
 1221312 **PEGGY**  
 1221313 **SUSIE**

12214 **VERNA EPP** (NURSE)  
 b.  
 m.  
**TED BOTTEMA** (MACHINIST)  
 b.

122141 **ROBERT**  
 b.  
 122142 **MARY**  
 b.  
 122143 **GERALD**  
 b.  
 122144 **JAMES**  
 b.  
 122145 **MICHAEL**  
 b.

m. 24.5.74  
**JOHN SYVRUD**  
 b.  
 (MAYBANK, ND.)

12215 **JEROME EPP** (MFG. PLANT OPERATOR)  
 b. 10.4.28 WINDOM, MIN.  
 m. 30.9.50  
**MARLYS ELAINE CARLSON**  
 b.  
 (28404 CO. RD. 100 80001, BELLING, MT. 59102)

122151 **SHEILA JOAN** m. 3.3.52  
 b. 3.3.52 WINDOM, MIN.  
 122152 **MICHAEL JEROME** (DESIGNER OR ENGINEER)  
 b. 19.9.53 WINDOM, MIN.  
 122153 **BYRON JOHN** (TRUCK CO. EMPLOYEE)  
 b. 5.11.56 JAMESTOWN, ND.  
 122154 **MONICA LYNNE** (FARMER CO. EMPLOYEE)  
 b. 3.7.57 JAMESTOWN, ND.  
 122155 **JEFFERY ALLAN**  
 b. 22.7.59 JAMESTOWN, ND.

131 <sup>2</sup> **SUSANNA EPP** MB m. . . 1891  
 b. 31.1.1870 ROSENORT, MOLOTSCHNA  
 d. .5.36 CHACO, PARAGUAY

WIDOWER  
**JOHANN KROEKER** (FARMER-BLACKSMITH) MB  
 b. 3.7.1852. LUKTOWAL, MOLOTSCHNA  
 d. .5.18 m. 1882. <sup>1</sup> HEINRY JANZEN d. 1891

**ACOB KROEKER** (AND BROTHER) m.  
 b. . . . .  
 d. . . . .

**ZINA** --- NO TWO DAUGHTERS

**JSANNA KROEKER**  
 b. . . . .  
 d. . . . .

**GANETA KROEKER**  
 b. 1.7.1874 MIEBROK  
 d. 13.11.77 LAKS-LIPE, W. GERMANY

**WILHELM QUIRING**  
 m. 12.11.22 ZIMMERMAN, PRUSSIA, GERMANY  
 b. 24.7.1873 AURAM  
 (WEST GERMANY)

**ADINA** (METAL FOLDS ENVELOPES) MF  
 b. 20.9.23 OKLOF, SIBERIA  
 m. 15.7.49 PRILEPPO, PARAGUAY (FARMER-TRUCKER)  
**JACOB REIMER** MIEBROK  
 d. 3.7.67 (WEST GERMANY)

**AGNES** GC  
 b. 1.12.25 HALLSTADT, ALTBAYERN, GERMANY  
 m. 11.8.45  
**JAKOB ISAAK** (FARMER) GC  
 (MEXICO, PARAGUAY)

**SUSE** (RN) MF  
 b. 26.2.28 PRIBRAMOW, RUSSIA  
 m. 62 WITTMARUM, MEXICO  
**HEINRICH** (FARMER) MF  
 b. 12/10.7.18 GIESBRECHT

**JAKOB** (CARPENTER) MF  
 b. 4.7.31 HANG-KU, CHINA  
 m. 16.8.59 BUNHEMET, CHACO  
**MARGARETA** MF  
 b. 21.5.29 CHACO, THIESEN

**EWALD** (CAR BODDY EMPLOYEE) m.  
 b. 27.1.66 CHACO, PARAGUAY

**KRIMHILDE** m.  
 b. 12. .47 CHACO (PROBLY EMPLOYEE)

**WILMAR** m.  
 b. 20.6.51 (CAR BODDY EMPLOYEE)

**AGNES** (CLEAN) m.  
 b. 5.9.52 FRIEDLAND, PARAGUAY

**ALFRED** (ARMY) m. 25.7.76  
 b. 15.9.26 FRIEDLAND, PARAGUAY

**MARIANNE** m.  
 b. 15.5.61 FRIEDLAND, PARAGUAY

**WILLY** m.  
 b. . . . 47 FRIEDLAND, PARAGUAY (CANNAB)

**EUGEN**  
 b. 1.1.63 BRAZIL  
**THEODOR**  
 b. 20.4.64 BRAZIL

**SUSANA**  
 b. 11.5.60 CURCO, PARAGUAY

**MARTA**  
 b. 11.12.61 CHACO, PARAGUAY

**HARY**  
 b. 10.9.62 BRAZIL

**HEINZ**  
 b. 7.69 BRAZIL

**HARHOLD**  
 b. 6.65 BRAZIL

**ESTER**  
 b. 19.5.67 BRAZIL

**WILFRID**  
 b. 22.6.69 BRAZIL

**RUTH** SPEFEDMANN  
 b. . . . .

**HEINI JANZEN**

**EDIET** KORNELSON

**HANS** (DEWISTRY) RUDI HEITZMANN

**BARBARA**

**MATHILDI** BERGEN

**ANZ KROEKER**  
 b. 5.4.1896 UFA  
 (IN ROMA)

**TINA** GOERZEN  
 m. . . . 20  
 d. . . . 38

**SELMA**  
 b. 13/13?

**FRANZ** m.  
 b. . . . 25

**DAVID** m.  
 b. . . . 29

**JAKOB** m.  
 b. . . . 34

**KATHE** m.  
 b. . . . 37

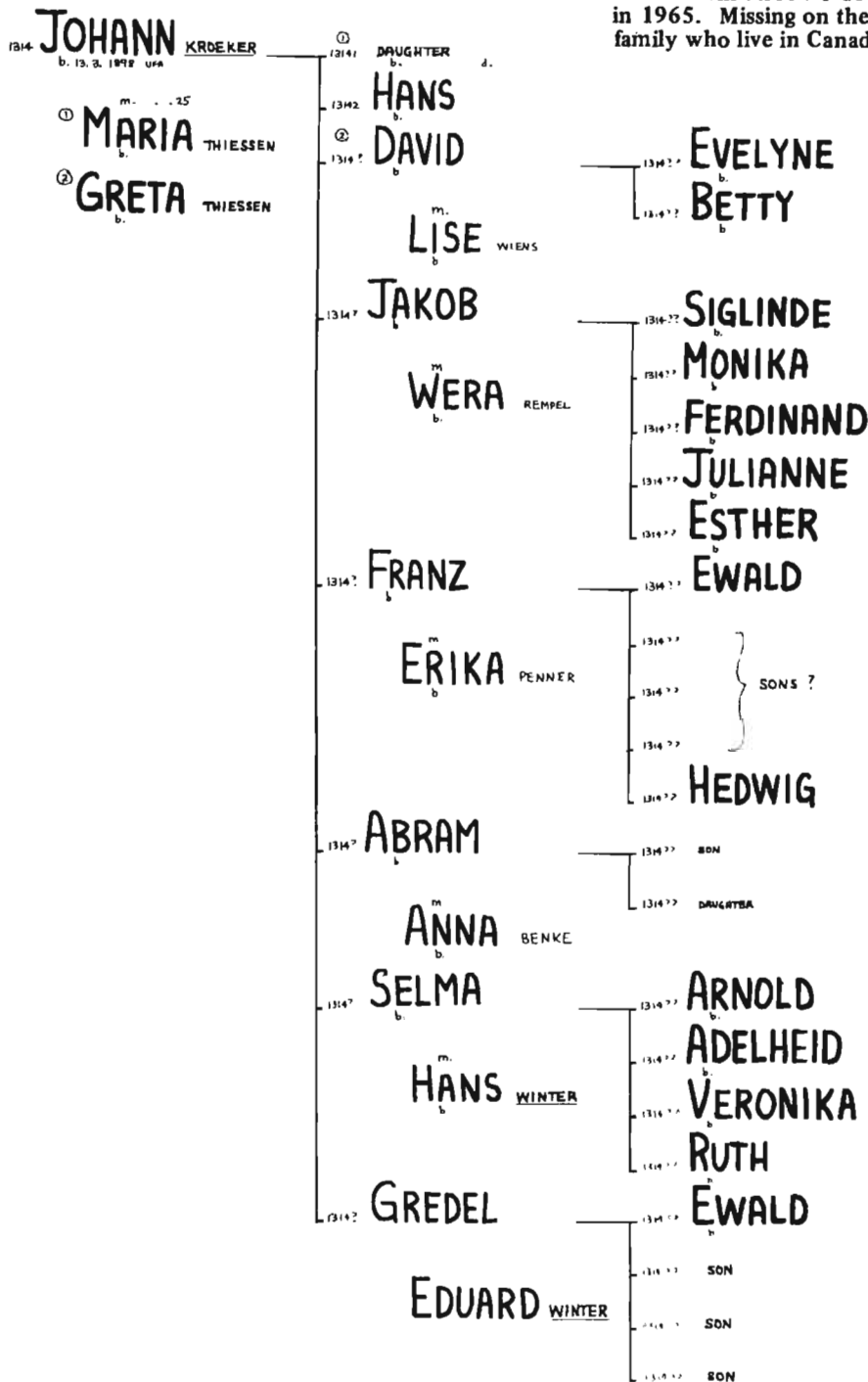
} LIVE IN PARODOR REGION

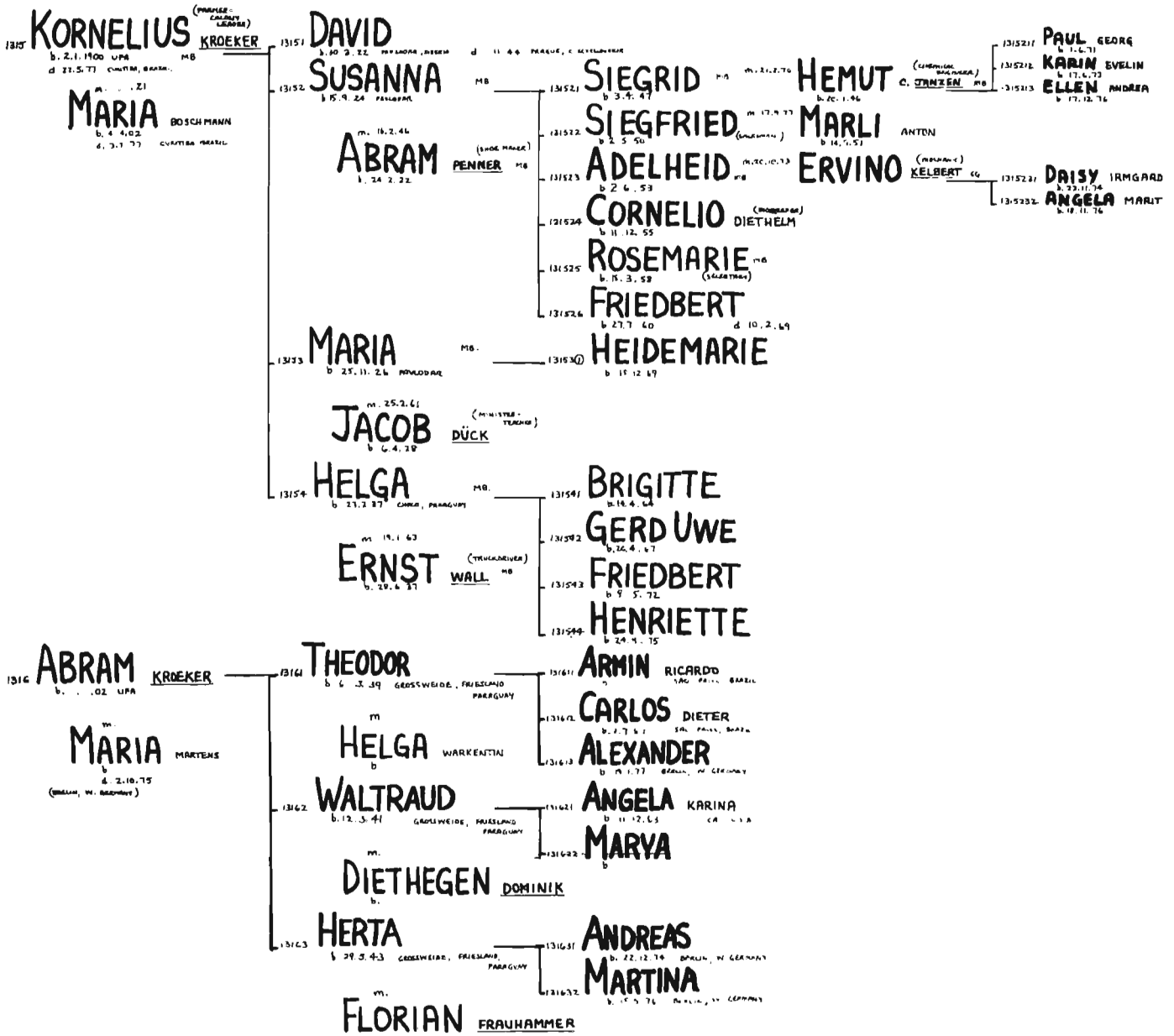


Aganeta Quiring.



The Johann Kroecker 1314 family, Curitiba, Brazil in 1965. Missing on the photo are one son and his family who live in Canada.



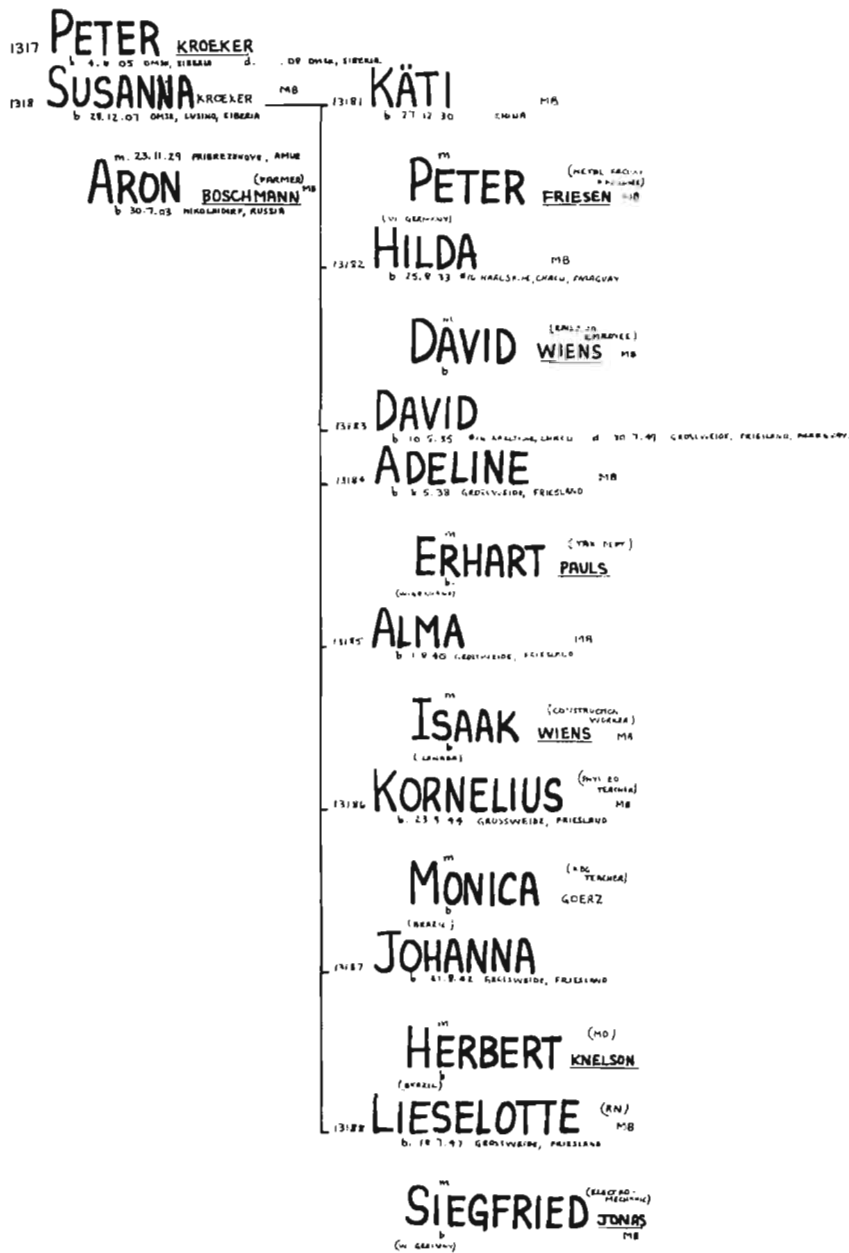


Seated, l-r: Kornelius and Maria Kroeker, Susanna and Abram Penner. Behind and to the left of Kroeker are Helga and Ernst Wall and their four children. Behind Mrs. Kroeker are Maria and Jacob Dueck and daughter Heidemarie. Surrounding the Penners are their children and grandchildren.

Abram Kroeker 1316 with grandsons Armin, Alexander and Dieter Kroeker, Berlin, West Germany.



The Aron Boschmann 1318 family in 1965, at the time all still living at Curitiba, Brazil.



|      |              |                  |    |       |               |            |                                 |
|------|--------------|------------------|----|-------|---------------|------------|---------------------------------|
| 1319 | <b>MARIA</b> | KROEKER          | MB | 13191 | <b>HELMUT</b> | b. 23.4.35 | PERKOVIC, CHERO, PARAGUAY       |
|      | b. 7.8.11    | MVLADAR, SIBERIA |    |       | <b>EDITH</b>  | b. 25.7.38 | PERKOVIC, CHERO, PARAGUAY       |
|      |              |                  |    |       | <b>MONIKA</b> | b. 24.7.43 | PERKOVIC, CHERO, PARAGUAY       |
|      |              |                  |    |       | <b>URSULA</b> | b. 19.4.48 | KROESWEIBEL, PERKOVIC, PARAGUAY |
|      | <b>DAVID</b> | EPP              | MB |       |               |            |                                 |
|      |              |                  |    |       |               |            |                                 |



L-r: Maria 1319 and David Epp (center front) with their children and grandchildren in 1977.

132 **KORNELIUS EPP**  
 b. . . . 1872  
 d. . . .

133 **JOHANN EPP**  
 b. 15.3.1874  
 d. . . . 1891

134 **JUSTINA EPP**  
 b. . . . 1876  
 d. . . . 1882

135 **KORNELIUS EPP**  
 b. 23.2.1879  
 d. . . . 21 SLAVGOROD, U.S.S.R.

141 KORNELIUS EPP  
b. 3.9.1870  
d. .8.1884

142 NIKOLAI EPP  
b. 9.2.1872  
d. .8.1873

143 HEINRICH EPP  
b. 9.2.1872  
d. 24.12.21

m. 19.1.1896

KATHARINA THIESSEN  
b. 24.8.1874  
d. 19.10.44 WARTZBURG (POLAND)

1431 GERHARD EPP  
b. 1.11.1896

d. 15.6.16 (RUSSIAN MEDICAL CORPS)

1432 CORNELIUS H. EPP  
b. 9.10.1898  
d. 20.6.58

14321 IRMGARD LENA  
b. 17.5.27

VALEDA LEONE

PAUL BERNHARD KONIG

143211 STEVEN PAUL  
b. 1918

143212 TANJA JOY  
b. 27.7.13

HELEN REDEKOPP  
b. 16.3.07

REUBEN EPP  
b. 1.2.20

CORNEL REUBEN

KENNETH ABRAM

143211 TAMARA NICOLE  
b. 4.4.16

PETER DURKSEN

AMANDA ELEANORE  
b. 1.1.30

REYNOLD CARL

JENICA

143211 DUSTIN ARTHUR  
b. 19.9.76

143212 TAMARA PEARL  
b. 11.7.76

1433 SUSANNA EPP  
b. 2.4.1900  
d. 21.2.75

14331 HEINRICH  
b. 24.5.24

143311 MARGARETHE (RITA)  
b. 12.9.00

CORNELIUS DIRKS

KATHE WIENS

PAUL THEODOR

RITA ELAINE REDEKOPP

JOHANN D. ADRIAN

KATIE

EDITH MARIAN

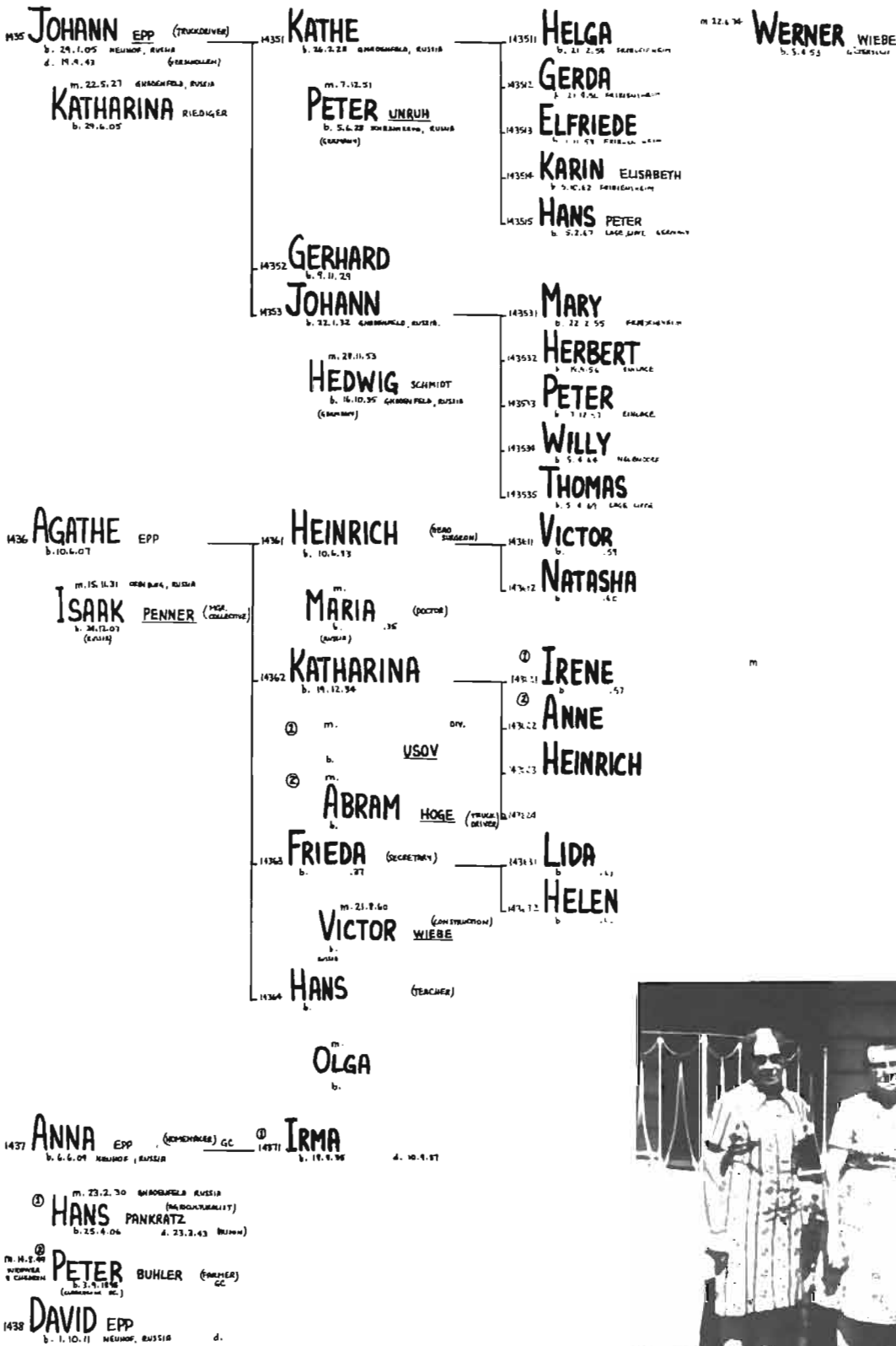
1434 HEINRICH EPP  
b. 10.10.02  
d. 11.10.78

14341 HELENE  
b. 11.7/8.24

ANNA BARTEL

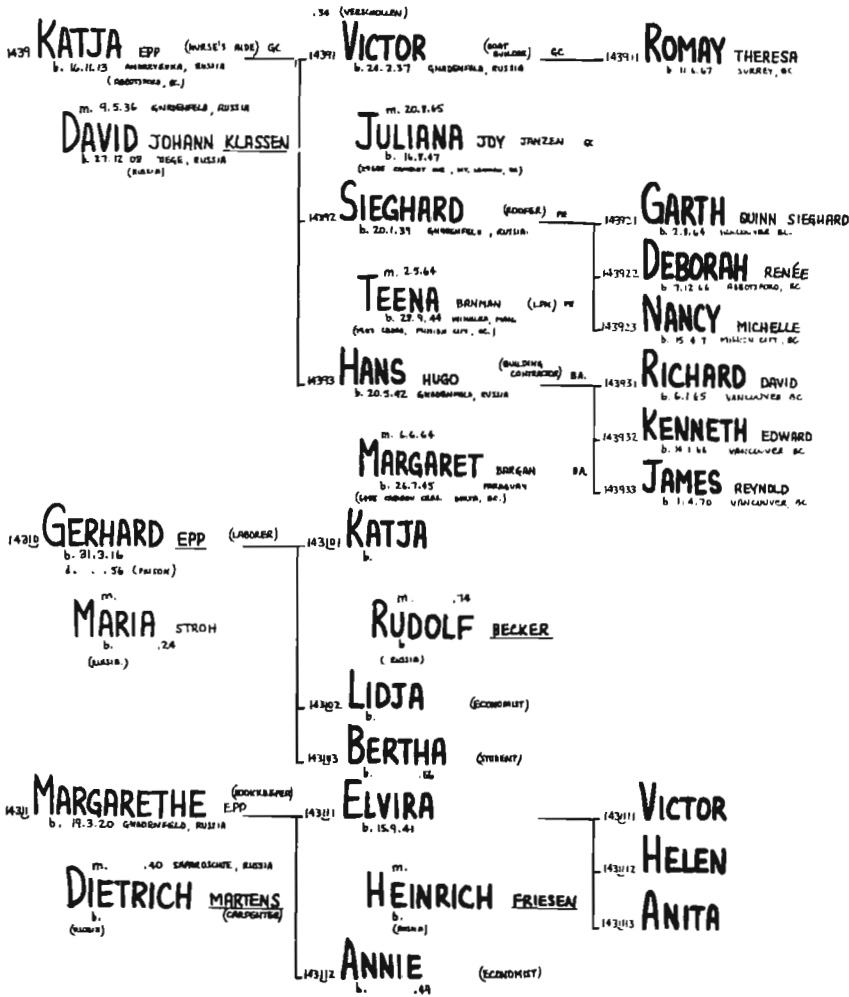
ABRAM DUECK

JOHN ERLAND



A reunion in 1975 for the three British Columbia sisters, l-r: Katja Klassen 1439, Anna Buhler 1437, and Susanna Adrian 1433 with their brother Heinrich Epp 1434 from West Germany.





*Our search for our roots must not be allowed to build a wall.*

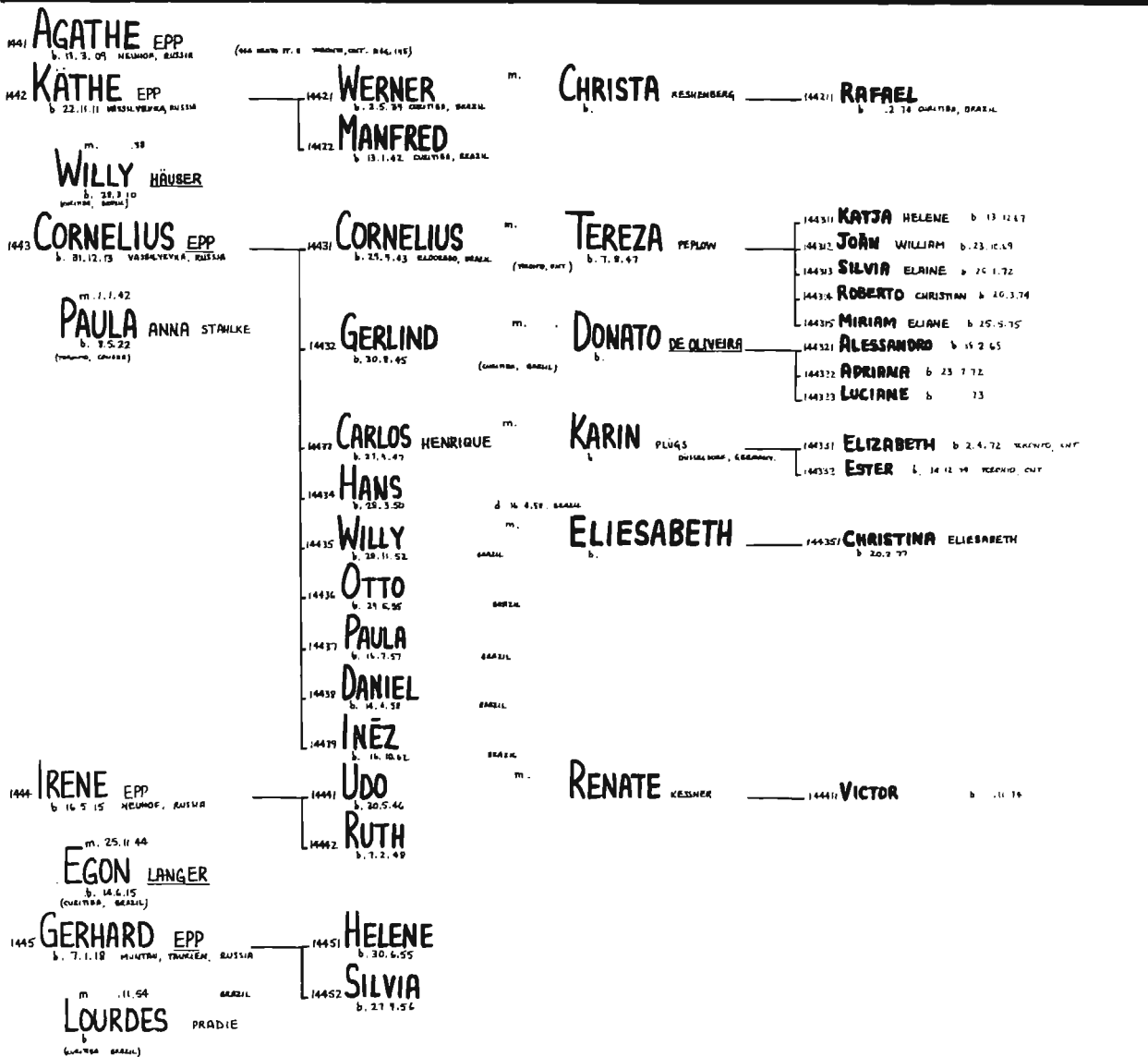
*Ruth Heatwole*

144

**JOHANNES EPP**  
 b. 20.4.1883 NEUHOF, RUSSIA  
 d. 12.1.19 TIEGERWEIDE, RUSSIA

m. 27.5.18

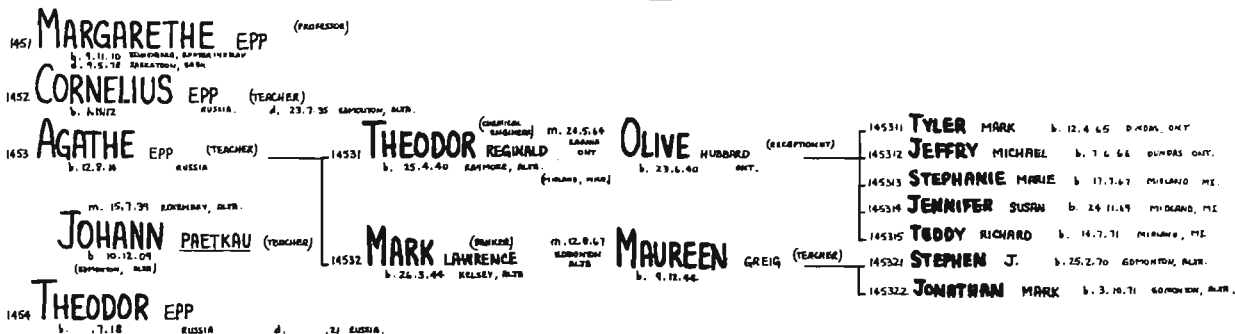
**HELENE G. THIESSEN**  
 b. 29.8.1887 BLUMENHAL, RUSSIA  
 d. 20.12.47 CURITIBA, BRAZIL



145 **CORNELIUS EPP** (FARMER)  
 b. 29.11.1884 NEUHOF, RUSSIA  
 d. 13.1.19 (VERSCHLEPPT)

m. 25.2.10

**ANNA WIENS**  
 b. 25.2.1897  
 d. 12.9.20



146 **PETRUS KORNELIUS EPP**  
 b. 1. 8. 1886 NEUHOPF, RUSSIA  
 d. 21. 1. 54

m. 13. 5. 13  
 SUPPLEMENTAL  
 RUSSIA

**HELENE REMPEL**  
 b. 23. 1. 1892 YEISK, RUSSIA  
 d. 28. 9. 68

1461 **MARGARET EPP** (TEACHER)  
 b. 3. 4. 13 NEUHOPF, RUSSIA  
 d. 19. 12. 63 LONDON, ONT.

1462 **HELENE EPP** (TEACHER)  
 b. 11. 10. 15 NEUHOPF, RUSSIA

m. 17. 10. 42  
**VICTOR DYCK**  
 b. 18. 4. 18

14621 **VICTOR ARNOLD**  
 b. 27. 5. 45

14622 **GERALD BRUCE**  
 b. 9. 5. 47

14623 **RODNEY JAMES**  
 b. 21. 9. 48

14624 **WILLIAM RICHARD**  
 b. 6. 5. 52

14625 **HARVEY DAVID**  
 b. 12. 5. 56

14626 **TIMOTHY PAUL**  
 b. 5. 4. 63

m. 13. 6. 70  
**LOUISA JANE EASTWOOD**  
 b. 30. 3. 48

m. 9. 5. 70  
**VIRGINIA FRANCIS MARY HARRIS**  
 b. 1. 8. 47

m. 21. 9. 71  
**BARBARA JANE DURCK**  
 b. 26. 11. 48

146321 **JEREMY JAMES** b. 17. 6. 72

146322 **RACHEL HELEN** b. 19. 7. 72

1463 **CORNELIUS EPP**  
 b. 2. 5. 17 NEUHOPF, RUSSIA  
 d. 5. 6. 20 SKONOWIESE, RUSSIA

1464 **EWALD EPP**  
 b. 13. 8. 18 NEUHOPF, RUSSIA  
 d. 6. 1. 69 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

m. 4. 10. 41  
**ALICE REMPEL**  
 b. 28. 7. 20

m. 20. 2. 71  
 CORNELIUS RIEDIGER  
 b. 20. 9. 20

14641 **EDITH PATRICIA ALICE**  
 b. 18. 2. 42

14642 **THEODORE EWALD**  
 b. 24. 8. 44

14643 **CATHERINE HELEN**  
 b. 8. 11. 50

m. 26. 6. 45  
**ROBERT WALTER PAE**  
 b. 24. 7. 41

m. 12. 9. 70  
**LINDA LEE ELLIOT**  
 b. 24. 11. 50

m. 19. 4. 72  
**MICHAEL WALTER JACKOWITZ**  
 b. 4. 9. 49

146411 **ROBERT JEFFERY**

146412 **TRACY LYNN** b. 21. 5. 71

146413 **KENT EDWARD EWALD** b. 15. 7. 71

147 **AGATHE EPP**  
 b. 11. 5. 1888  
 d. . 7. 41  
 (VERBANNHT)

m. 26. 9. 10  
 NEUHOPF  
 RUSSIA

m. . 6. 24  
 TIGERWEIHE  
 RUSSIA

① **HEINRICH H. THIESSEN** (AGRONOMIST BOOKKEEPER)  
 b. 25. 12. 1883  
 d. 25. 1. 18 (ERMORDET)

② **WILHELM SAWATSKY**  
 b. 16. 8. 1868 RUCKENAU, THUREM, RUSSIA  
 d. (VERBANNHT)

② 1471 **SUSANNE THIESSEN**  
 b. 22. 5. 11

m. 9. 32  
**HEINRICH BARTEL**  
 MENNA

14711  
 14712  
 14713  
 14714  
 14715

1472 **HEINRICH THIESSEN** (MECHANIC)  
 b. 9. 12. 12  
 d. . 33 (VERBANNHT)

1473 **CORNELIUS THIESSEN** (FARMER)  
 b. 18. 2. 14  
 d. . 43 (THAMU TO SIBERIA)

1474 **GERHARD THIESSEN**

m.  
**ELIZABETH**

14741  
 14742

1475 **AGATHE THIESSEN**  
 b. 20. 9. 17  
 d. (VER SCHULEMAN)

② 1476 **HELENE SAWATSKY**  
 b. 28. 3. 25 RUCKENAU, RUSSIA  
 d. 28. 1. 26

1477 **HEDWIG SAWATSKY**  
 b. 9. 8. 26 RUCKENAU, RUSSIA  
 (VERBANNHT)

148

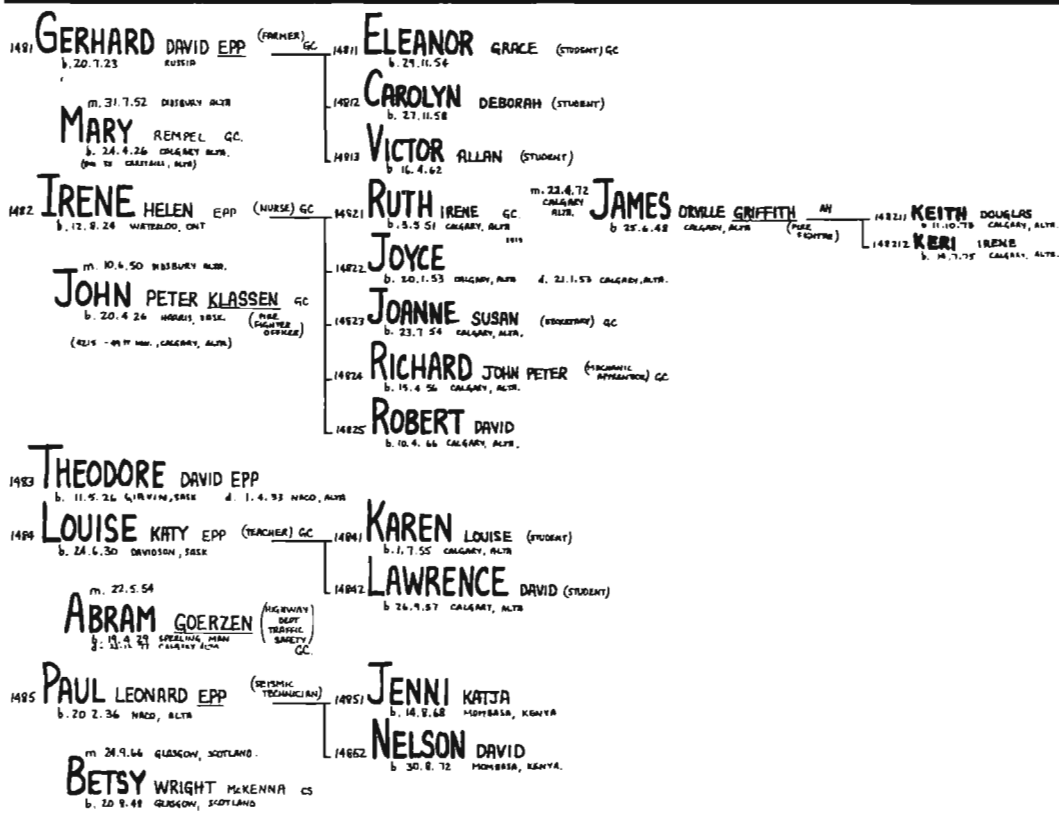
**DAVID C. EPP**

b. 5.5.1890  
d. 27.9.76 CLEARBANK, B.C.

m. 16.9.22  
RUSSIA

**KATHERINE UNRAU**

b. 20.2.1899



149 **ANNA EPP**

b. 1.8.1894 NEUHOF, RUSSIA

m. 15.7.42  
CLEARBROOK, B.C.

**HEINRICH DAVID EPP**

b. 20.2.1892 MICHELSDURG, RUSSIA  
d. 9.12.69 ABBOTSFORD, B.C.



Anna K. Epp in the Menno Home, Abbotsford, British Columbia, knitting bandages. Beside her stands the HEINRICH EPP chair.

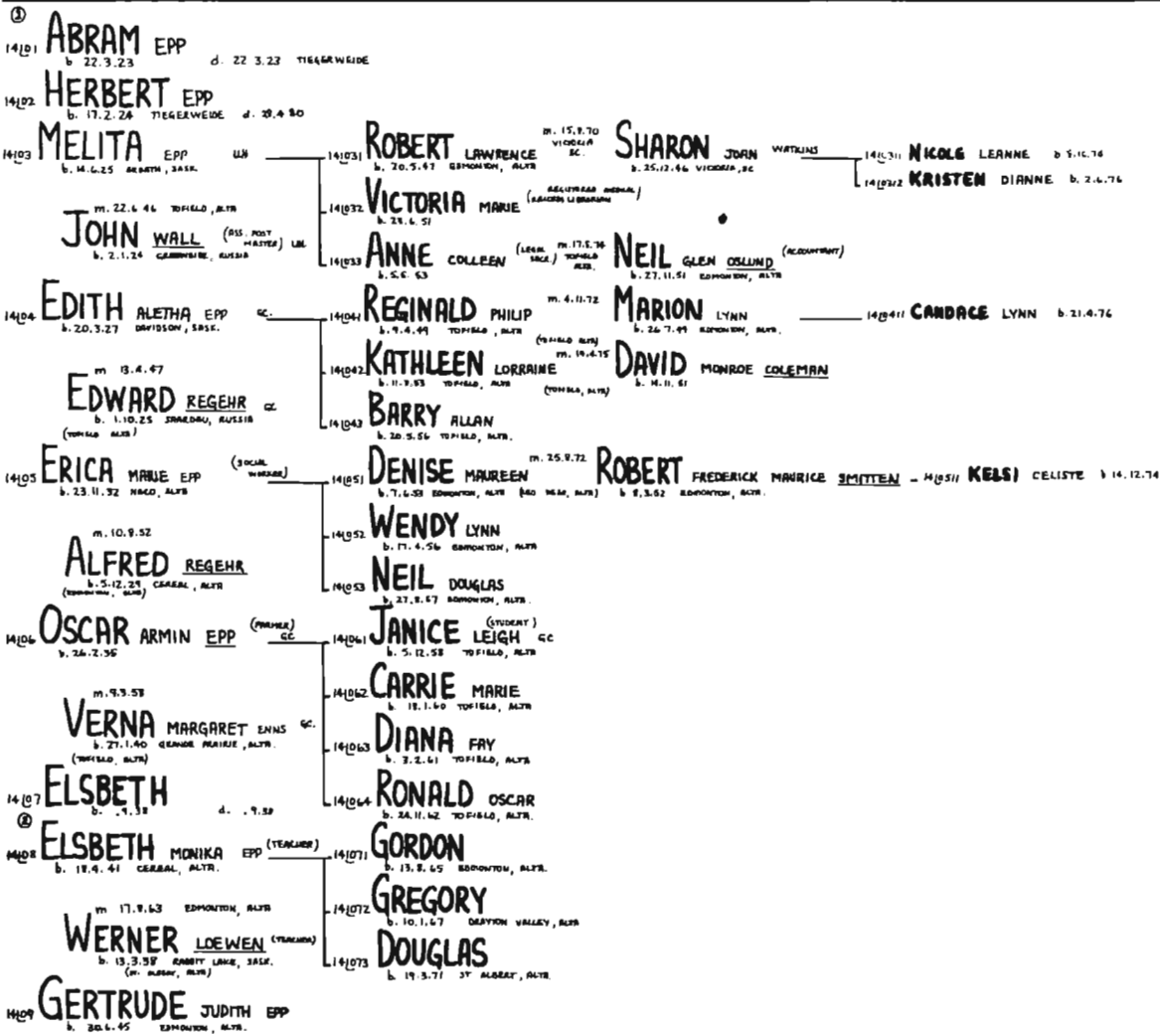


Anna K. Epp and Heinrich Epp with guests on their wedding day.

1410 **ABRAM EPP** (MINISTER-FARMER) GC  
 b. 1.9.1894 NEUNDF, RUSSIA  
 d. 4.5.71 EDMONTON, ALTA

m. 5.4.22 ①  
 m. 1.1.40 ②

**MARIECHEN THIESSEN** GC.  
 b. 8.9.1899 RUSIA d. 10.9.58 (in Canada) ALTA.  
**MARIECHEN ENNS KLASSEN**  
 b. 11.8.07 STEINFELD S. RUSSIA



Abram and Mariechen Epp and family in 1965.

1411 **GERHARD EPP**  
 b. 23.3.1896  
 d. 31.10.19

1412 **HELENE EPP** (SEAMSTRESS)  
b. 20.3.1898 NEUMHOF, RUSSIA

m. 30.8.21  
TIEGERWEIDE  
RUSSIA

**JOHANN FRANZ JANZEN** (BOOKKEEPER)  
b. 17.2.1896 CHIMSKA, RUSSIA

1411 **HILDEGARD** (BOOKKEEPER) JANZEN  
b. 26.6.22

m. 14111 **MARGARETE** (SEAMSTRESS)  
b. 10.8.49

m. 1412111 **JOHANA** (ELECTRICIAN) JOH. LELL  
b. 11.1.48

m. 1412121 **PAUL E.** (ELECTRICIAN) GALIJA WACH IYEWNA  
b. 29.12.79

m. **GEORG ADOLF DUNET** (SEAMAN)  
b. 20.9.32 USSR

1412 **MARIECHEN** JANZEN  
b. 17.6.24

1413 **IRENE** JANZEN  
b. 31.5.25

1414 **ANITA** JANZEN  
b. 20.7.27

1415 **JOHANN** JANZEN (MILLER)  
b. 27.7.29

m. 14151 **SERGEJ** JOH. (RUSSIAN)  
b. 3.4.61

m. 14152 **ALEXANDER** JOH. (RUSSIAN)  
b. 1.4.64

m. 1.5.60 **ERIKA** (ELECTRICIAN) HERM. MEISTER  
b. 16.9.51 USSR

1416 **HELMUT** JANZEN (CONSTRUCTION) (SPY, GERMANY)  
b. 30.6.32

m. 14161 **JANE** H. (RUSSIAN)  
b. 22.1.61

m. **LJUDMILA** (CONSTRUCTION) IWANOWNA  
b. 12.1.60 USSR



Seated on the left is Helene Janzen 1412 and Hildegard in front of her. Seated to the far right is Agathe Sawatzky 147 with daughters Agathe, Hedwig and Susanne, third from the right and in front of her.

151 JUSTINA EPP  
 b. 21. 9. 1871 KLEE FELD, RUSSIA  
 d. . 7. 36 CRANER, RUSSIA

m. 22. 1. 1891  
 ROSENORT,  
 MOLOTSCHINA

ABRAHAM A. HARDER (ELDER MINISTER FOUNDER OF HEBREW ORPHANAGE) MB.  
 b. 29. 9. 1846 HERSCHUM, RUSSIA  
 d. 19. 10. 41 OMSE, RUSSIA

1511 ANNA HARDER  
 b. . . 1891  
 d.

1512 ABRAHAM HARDER (MINISTER ELDER TEACHER) GC  
 b. 19. 7. 1893 ROSENORT, MOLOTSCHINA  
 d. 8. 5. 74 CLEARBROOK, BC  
 m. 12. 11. 17 SARITEL, RUSSIA  
 1 HELENE JANZEN (HOUSEWIFE) MARRIED GC  
 b. 27. 7. 1910 BRACHYNE, RUSSIA  
 d. 4. 5. 40 PRUSSIA, PRUSSIA, PRUSSIA  
 2 MARGARETE BARTEL (HOUSEWIFE) GC  
 b. 6. 7. 10 KLETTERDORF, W. PRUSSIA  
 d. 19. 9. 76 CLEARBROOK, BC

15127 HILDEGARD  
 b. 6. 8. 20 MUNTZE, RUSSIA  
 d. 3. 7. 31 GROSSEWISER, RUSSIA  
 15128 ERNST (MINISTER SELMA TEACHER) GC  
 b. 23. 1. 22 MUNTZE, RUSSIA  
 m. 23. 9. 46 HALLSBOND, KS  
 RUTH EWERT GC  
 b. 9. 12. 20 HALLSBOND, KS

15129 GERTRUDE RUTH (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 8. 11. 15 ANHOLD, PRUSSIA  
 15130 KARL EDUARD (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 8. 11. 15 ANHOLD, PRUSSIA  
 15131 RONALD (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 8. 11. 15 ANHOLD, PRUSSIA  
 15132 RICHARD ERIC (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 8. 11. 15 ANHOLD, PRUSSIA  
 15133 MARGARET LUISE (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 8. 11. 15 ANHOLD, PRUSSIA  
 15134 JOHN ROBERT (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 8. 11. 15 ANHOLD, PRUSSIA  
 15135 ERNST WIENS (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 8. 11. 15 ANHOLD, PRUSSIA

151221 NED LAKIN (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 12. 4. 17  
 151222 MARK EDWARD (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 3. 9. 13  
 151223 KARL DAVID (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 26. 3. 75

15136 ABRAHAM (TEACHER - MINISTER - CONCRETE INSPECTOR) GC  
 b. 2. 9. 23 MUNTZE, RUSSIA  
 m. 3. 1. 52 VANCOUVER, BC  
 ANITA REIMER  
 b. 16. 12. 24 BRACHYNE, MOLOTSCHINA

15137 HEINZ GEORG (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 21. 11. 53 VANCOUVER, BC  
 15138 RITA (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 21. 11. 53 VANCOUVER, BC  
 15139 VICTOR ALFRED (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 24. 10. 57 VANCOUVER, BC  
 1512411 MICHAEL JAMES (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 19. 5. 76 VANCOUVER, BC

15124 PETER ERICH (SALZHAM CONSTRUCTION WORKER) GC  
 b. 15. 11. 25 THIRAGREN, W. PRUSSIA  
 m. 5. 51 BRACHYNE, RUSSIA  
 EMMY NOHL (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 4. 1. 34 PRUSSIA, PRUSSIA

151291 KRIMHILDE HELENE (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 30. 9. 52 BRACHYNE, RUSSIA  
 151292 HEINZ PETER (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 4. 5. 54 BRACHYNE, RUSSIA  
 151293 WALTER JURGEN (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 30. 10. 57 BRACHYNE, RUSSIA  
 LINDA KELLY (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 8. 11. 15 ANHOLD, PRUSSIA

15128 EVA HEL. EL. (HOUSEWIFE) GC  
 b. 6. 5. 28 THIRAGREN, W. PRUSSIA  
 m. 22. 7. 64 LIESTEN, BARCEL  
 JAKOB REMPEL (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 26. 10. 36 OSTRE WISER

151251 MARTIN (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 7. 12. 64 VANCOUVER, BC  
 151252 MONIKA (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 13. 11. 67 VANCOUVER, BC

1513 KATHARINA HARDER  
 b. 4. 6. 1895  
 d.  
 m. 6. 6. 18  
 JAKOB PETER JANZEN (M. 1915) GC  
 b. 10. 6. 1893 (VON BANNINGEN)

15131 ABRAHAM (M. 1915) GC  
 b. . 3. 19 ANOVER, GERMANY  
 15132 FRIEDA (M. 1915) GC  
 b. . 30 THIRAGREN  
 15133 HANS (M. 1915) GC  
 b. . 21 JANZ, GERMANY  
 15134 PETER (M. 1915) GC  
 b. . 21 JANZ, GERMANY  
 15135 ANNI (M. 1915) GC  
 b. . 21 JANZ, GERMANY  
 15136 GERHARD (M. 1915) GC  
 b. . 21 JANZ, GERMANY  
 15137 LENI (M. 1915) GC  
 b. . 21 JANZ, GERMANY



Janzens 1513. L-r: Peter, Katharina with Gerhard, Abraham, Anni, Frieda, Jakob.

1514 JOHANNES HARDER  
b. 22.3.1897  
d. 22.9.64  
m. 28.5.22  
TINA REMPEL  
b. 21.8.1890

15141 HANS (TEACHER)  
b. 25.12.24  
m. 9.9.47  
LAURA TEICHROEB  
b. 16.4.24

15141 RONALD (PILOT)  
b. 4.7.48  
15142 RALPH (STUDENT)  
b. 21.9.49  
15143 SANDRA (STUDENT)  
b. 9.5.53

m. 7.9.74 KATH. BLACK (NURSE)

15142 ABI  
b. 9.11.26  
15143 HEDI  
b. 9.11.26

15144 FRED  
b. 23.12.27  
m. 27.12.52 div  
ANNE FRIESEN  
b. 9.9.51

15144 KENNY  
b. 8.3.54  
15142 DOUGLAS  
b. 41.7.55  
15143 DENNIS  
b. 21.7.55

15145 LILIE ANNCHEN (NURSE)  
b. 28.5.30  
m. 27.6.58  
ANTHONY McCCORD (TEACHER)  
b. 3.2.29

15144 GORDON  
b. 26.8.57  
15145 ANTHONY R.J.  
b. 19.12.62

15146 ROSIE MARY (TEACHER) MB  
b. 24.12.32  
m. 25.9.55  
GEORGE BRAUN (MINISTER) MB  
b. 20.12.27

15145 PATRICK DAVID  
b. 30.10.64  
151453 KATHLEEN JOAN  
b. 24.12.66

15147 DAVID HERMAN (DOCTOR)  
b. 17.1.33  
m. 8.8.56 div.  
LAVELLA EPP (NURSE)  
b. 12.3.24

15146 KAREN JOY  
b. 13.7.54  
151462 RICHARD PETER  
b. 12.1.59  
151463 STANLEY ROBERT  
b. 2.3.23

15148 BERTA NAOMI (TEACHER)  
b. 12.3.24  
m. 22.8.59 ABBOTSFORD, BC  
ALBERT DUECK (TEACHER)  
b. 10.8.34

15144 HEATHER  
b. 30.11.63  
151445 BRADLEY GEORGE  
b. 11.4.69

15147 LAVELLA EPP (NURSE)  
b. 12.3.24

151471 JEANNETTE  
b. 1.5.51  
151472 GLEN DAVID  
b. 24.2.57  
151473 DARYL JAMES  
b. 22.4.62

15148 ALBERT DUECK (TEACHER)  
b. 10.8.34

151474 NOEL ZARON  
b. 11.12.35  
151481 RAYMOND  
b. 16.7.51

15148 ALBERT DUECK (TEACHER)  
b. 10.8.34

151482 RENIE LYNN  
b. 1.1.51  
151483 ROXY LANCE  
b. 4.12.24

1515 JUSTINA HARDER MB  
b. 15.12.1898 CAMES, RUSSIA  
d. 15.12.79 CLEARBROOK, B.C.  
m. 2.6.24  
HEINRICH GERH. DUECK (FARMER MINISTER) MB  
b. 2.79

15151 WILLIAM CAREY MB  
b. 4.5.25 CHILWICK, MEXICO  
m. 17.10.44  
TINA WIEBE

15151 GILBERT NORMAN MB  
b. 13.1.50 CHILWICK, BC  
15152 LORAIN MB  
b. 3.10.51 CHILWICK, BC  
15153 PATRICIA K. MB  
b. 31.1.54 CHILWICK, BC

m. 11.4.13 WALTER KRAHN MB

15152 MARTHA  
b. 28.11.26 BERTALMAN d. 12.12.26  
15153 JOHN HENRY (MERCHANT)  
b. 9.3.33 GERRARD, BC  
m. 3.7.53  
FRIEDA PENNER MB  
b. 9.1.35 (DOWRY, BC)

15154 HEATHER JOY  
b. 23.2.57 CHILWICK, BC  
15155 DARLENE JUDITH MAY  
b. 17.5.58 CHILWICK, BC  
15156 KENNETH WILLIAM GRANT  
b. 2.11.65 CHILWICK, BC

15153 JOHN HENRY (MERCHANT)  
b. 9.3.33 GERRARD, BC

151531 ROGER HARLEY  
b. 14.10.56 VANCOUVER, BC  
151532 JACQUELINE FERN  
b. 1.4.64 VANCOUVER, BC  
151533 NOREEN GAIL  
b. 22.4.57 VANCOUVER, BC. d. 4.7.60  
151534 JAMES HENRY  
b. 24.9.63 NEW WESTMINSTER, BC

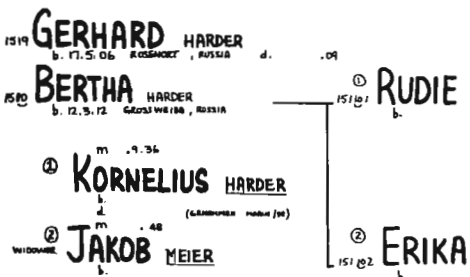
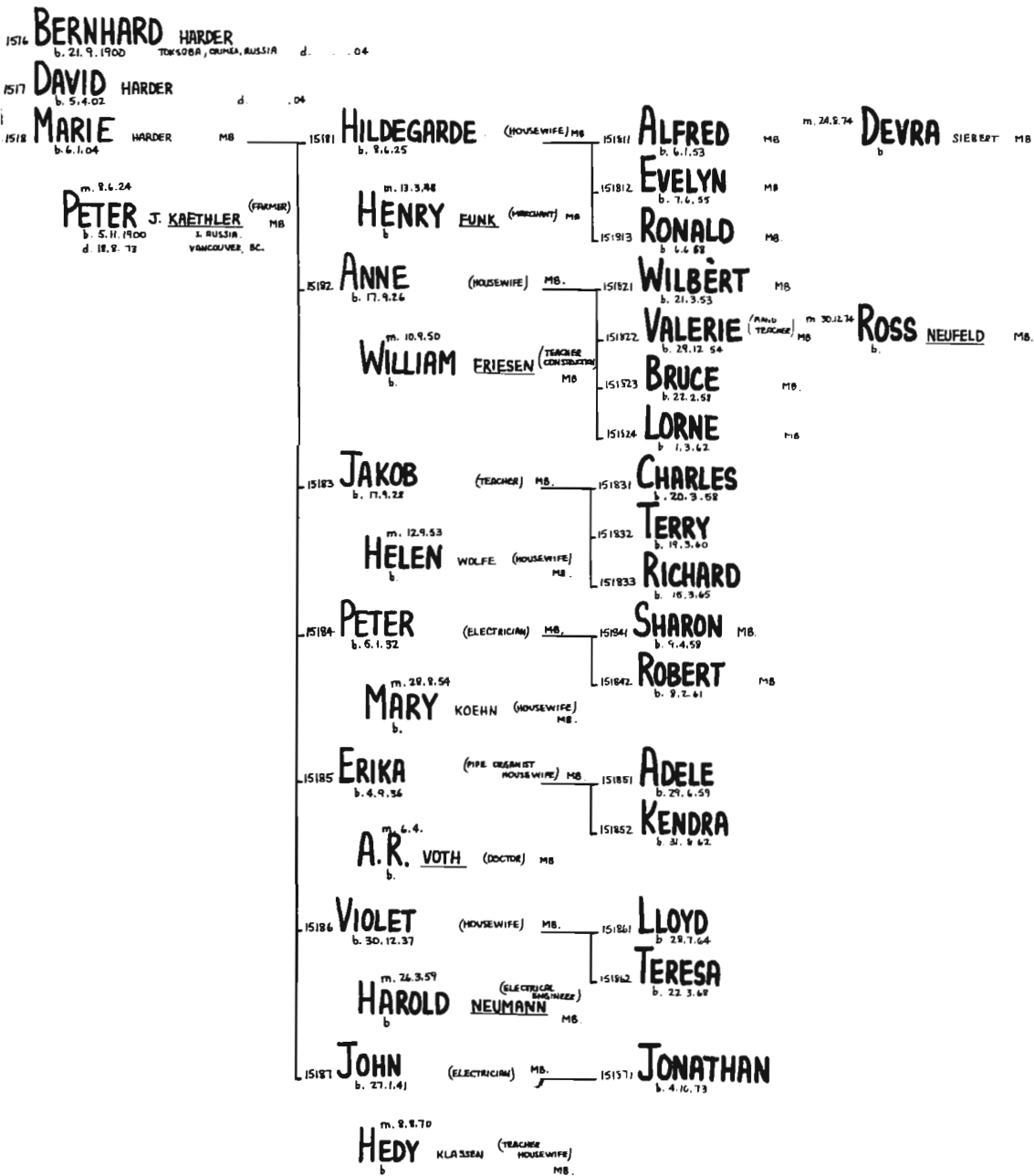
15153 JOHN HENRY (MERCHANT)  
b. 9.3.33 GERRARD, BC

151531 ROGER HARLEY  
b. 14.10.56 VANCOUVER, BC

15153 JOHN HENRY (MERCHANT)  
b. 9.3.33 GERRARD, BC

151531 ROGER HARLEY  
b. 14.10.56 VANCOUVER, BC





Bertha and Kornelius Harder.



The last family picture of Abraham and Justina Harder and their children and grandchildren on 13 June 1924 at the orphanage. It was five days after the entire family (the Jakob Janzens were home from the Crimea also) had celebrated the double wedding of sisters Justina and Marie and the night before the Johannes Harders and others would leave for Canada.



Johannes 1514 and Tina Harder with Berta in the center. Children, back, l-r: Fred, Rosie, Hans, Lilie, David.



Abraham 1511 and Helene Harder and children, l-r: Ernst, Eva, Abraham, Peter. Taken just prior to emigrating from Germany to Paraguay, November 1935.



Marie 1518 and Peter Kaethler and family. Back, l-r: Anne, Jakob, Peter, Hildegard. Front, l-r: Erika, John, Violet.

152 KATHARINA EPP  
 b. d. STEINBRUCH, CRIMEA

m

DAVID BOSCHMANN  
 b. d. STEINBRUCH, CRIMEA

1521 TINA BOSCHMANN m. GERHARD BERGMANN 1521 ERNA  
 b. d. (TINA) b. d. (GERM)  
 1522 DAVID BOSCHMANN m. LENA  
 b. d. (VERMANN) b.  
 1523 ABRAM BOSCHMANN WIDOW DUERKSEN  
 b. d. (ABRAM, U.S.A.)  
 1524 MARIECHEN BOSCHMANN  
 b. d. (MARIECHEN, U.S.A.)

153 <sup>2</sup> ANNA EPP (MISSIONARY NURSE) TEACHER MB  
b. 30.4.1977 KLEEFELD, TAURHUM, RUSSIA  
d. 5.9.15 NAKAR JURKOD, S. INDIA

153 16.9.05 HYDRABAD S. INDIA

DANIEL FR. BERGTHOLD (TEACHER MISSIONARY) MB  
b. 12.1.1976 PYATIGORSKY, STAROBYL, S. RUSSIA  
d. 28.10.99 MARIETTA, GA.

153 6.02. CATHERINE MANDLER b. 16.12.1976 (HOUSEWIFE) S. INDIA  
153 20.6.16 ANNA SUDERMAN b. 22.11.1976 (HOUSEWIFE) S. INDIA

1531 VIOLA CATHERINE (MISSIONARY TEACHER) NURSE MB  
b. 17.9.03 BEVELAN, KS  
m. 1.6.36 HILLSBORO, KS  
JOHN A. WIERE (MISSIONARY TEACHER) MB  
b. 30.3.1900 BANGHAM LAKE, MINN.  
d. 28.12.63 ALMA, MINN.  
(DIED IN: VIENNA, AUSTRIA)

15311 ESTHER (MISSIONARY SUPERVISOR) NURSE BA  
b. 5.7.28 OULSHAM, N. IRELAND  
15312 JOHN CLEMENT (TEACHER) UC  
b. 17.3.28 WYBORA, S. INDIA

15313 CAROL JANE (HOUSEWIFE) HUSBAND UC  
b. 9.1.37 LOS ANGELES, CA

15317 VIOLA RUTH (COMMUNITY ORGANIZER) UC  
b. 12.6.32 BANGOR, WALES  
15318 HERBERT HOOPER (OFFICIAL) FRIESEN  
b. 9.1.29 TUNIA, DE.

15314 IRENE KATHRYN (TEACHER) DONOVAN (TEACHER) LEE JONZEN (CAROL BASE COOK) BA  
b. 6.11.33 BANGOR, WALES  
b. 1.1.27 TUNIA, DE.

15315 DAVID ABRAHAM (OFFICIAL) ME  
b. 20.8.37 ANDREA, PAKISTAN, INDIA  
15316 PAUL DANIEL (UNIV. TEACHER) MS  
b. 20.8.37 ANDREA, PAKISTAN, INDIA

15319 LORMA LEE (TEACHER) KIEWER (HOUSEWIFE) ME  
b. 9.4.37 HEBURNIA  
15320 DONNA BETH (TEACHER) KIEWER (HOUSEWIFE) ME  
b. 22.2.37 FINEFIELD, DE.

15317 MARILYN SUSANNE (HOUSEWIFE) UD  
b. 18.8.43 BANGOR, WALES

15321 COLE PATRICK (DIRECTOR OF CAMP) UD  
b. 17.12.33 SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

15312 WENDELL JOHN (STUDENT) UC b. 17.6.37 USA  
15312 ROLAND JAMES (STUDENT) UC b. 23.7.59 KANSAS CITY, MO.  
15313 REBECCA CAROL (STUDENT) UC b. 1.1.47  
15314 EVELYN JUVANNE (STUDENT) UC b. 12.4.42  
15321 STANLEY KENT b. 10.7.57 USA  
15322 BRADLEY DEAN b. 6.5.59 JAWA, INDONESIA  
15323 DANIEL MARK b. 15.5.64 USA  
15324 RONALD HERBERT b. 4.1.66 USA  
15325 JULIE RUTH b. 7.9.61 KANSAS CITY, MO.  
15326 JACK DEAN b. 20.1.57 WILKINSON, VA.  
15327 JAMES KEITH b. 3.12.55 WILKINSON, VA.  
15328 JOHN FRANK b. 26.10.60 WILKINSON, VA.  
15329 DAVID PAUL b. 20.1.64 KANSAS CITY, MO.  
15330 ERIC MARK b. 16.6.65 PALM BEACH, FLA.  
15331 KRISTIN LEE b. 7.7.67 KANSAS CITY, MO.  
15332 KEITH DANIEL b. 5.4.62 USA  
15333 CATHERINE ANNE b. 5.6.62 USA  
15334 JESSICA SHANN b. 23.7.72 OHIO, USA  
15335 SUNJEEB PAUL b. 1.11.72 INDIA

1532 LYDIA ALVINA (HOUSEWIFE) PE  
b. 3.3.01 ANDREA, PAKISTAN, INDIA

15321 CHARLES DALLIBA (NO) MARPLE (NO) USA  
m. 1.4.47 HEBURNIA, CA.  
b. 7.11.11 SAN FRANCISCO, CA.

1533 BERTHA MARY (TEACHER) BERGTHOLD (HOUSEWIFE) CB  
b. 21.8.08 NAGARBHONGOL, INDIA

15331 BARBARA ANN (TEACHER) MCWILSON (HOUSEWIFE) CB  
b. 22.4.43 OKLAHOMA CITY, OK.

15332 WALTER BENT (HOUSEWIFE) STEWARD (HOUSEWIFE) CB  
b. 16.12.44 BATHON, MARSHLAND, CAN. C.

1534 HERBERT A. (COLLEGE TEACHER) IKENBERRY (HOUSEWIFE) CB  
b. 10.1.12 QUINCY, ILL.

1534 MARTHA ANNA (WIFE) BERGTHOLD (HOUSEWIFE) PA  
b. 16.10.09 NAGARBHONGOL, S. INDIA

15341 PHILLIP EDWARD (HOUSEWIFE) BA  
b. 22.1.45 ALBANY, GA.

15342 MARTHA SUE (HOUSEWIFE) STEWARD (HOUSEWIFE) BA  
b. 7.12.42 HARTFORD, VT.

15343 CHRISTIE SUE b. 2.4.73 HARTFORD, VT.

1534 EDWARD FULLMAN (SHELL OIL EMPLOYEE) PA  
b. 2.12.10 WASHINGTON, D.C.

15342 PAMELA JEAN (TEACHER) FA  
b. 12.1.45 ALBANY, GA.

15343 RICHARD DANIEL (AS NAVY COLLEGE STUDENT) BA  
b. 1.6.47 SAN FRANCISCO, CA.

15344 THOMAS MICHAEL b. 17.1.69 ALBANY, VT.

1535 HENRY D. BERGTHOLD (OVERSEAS ASSISTANT) BA  
b. 3.9.14 OULSHAM, N. IRELAND

15351 STEVEN DANIEL (TEACHER) BA  
b. 29.2.45 MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA.

15352 JOAN KEW (TEACHER) SECORD (TEACHER) BA  
b. 20.11.40 BUFFALO, NY.

1535 VIOLET EILEEN (WIFE) BERGTHOLD (SISTER) BA  
b. 21.4.15 STAMPA, CO.

15352 STANLEY DAVID (PRESBYTERIAN MINIST) BA  
b. 10.5.50 MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA.

1536 ABRAHAM BERGTHOLD (HOUSEWIFE) ME  
b. 5.9.15 NAGARBHONGOL, INDIA

15361 KAREN FRANCES (HOUSEWIFE) ME  
b. 4.9.54 LOS ANGELES, CA.

1537 SAMUEL GERHARDT (HOUSEWIFE) BERGTHOLD (HOUSEWIFE) ME  
b. 21.10.18 HYDRABAD CITY, INDIA

15371 PAUL DANIEL (HOUSEWIFE) ME  
b. 6.5.59 LOS ANGELES, CA.

1537 HELEN ALLEN (OFFICE PEER) ROSEWATER (HOUSEWIFE) ME  
b. 21.6.21 LOS ANGELES, CA.



In 1915. One of the last pictures of the Daniel Bergthold family before Anna's sudden death.



Justina 1515 and Heinrich Dueck and sons, l-r: William and John.

154 ABRAHAM EPP (TEACHER) m.  
 b. d. .43 (DEAD)

KATHARINA FRIESEN  
 b. d. SPRING 77/78?

MARIECHEN EPP (ENGINEER) (DEAD)

NJUTA EPP

KÄTHE EPP

MINNA EPP (DEAD)

m. (ENGINEER)

ABRAM EPP (DEAD)

m.

GERHARD EPP (DEAD)

m.

AGNES EPP

MAGDALENCHEN EPP

155 HELENA EPP  
b.

m.

① PETER BERGMANN  
b.

m.

② 1935 WIDOWER JOHANN BERGMANN  
d. 2.12.21

① ABRAHAM (ECONOMIST)  
BERGMANN  
1551 b.

m. . . 34  
MARIA WARKENTIN  
b.

1552 SARA BERGMANN  
b. 11.1.12 EISENHUT, MOLOTSCHKA  
d. 13.12.79 ALMALIK, USSR/AFGHAN

1915 THEODOR BOSCHMANN  
b. 10.9.09 BLUMENFELD, MOLOTSCHKA  
(ALMA MATER, U.S.S.R.)

15521 OSWALD m.  
1916/151 b.

15522 NORA MARIA m.  
1916/152 b.

15523 SIGRID (HD) m.  
1916/153 b.

15524 HEDWIG m.  
1916/154 b.

15525 THEODOR m.  
1916/155 b.

15526 LIESEL m.  
1916/156 b.

15527 ARTHUR m.  
1916/157 b.

15528 IRENE b.  
1916/158 b.

15529 ALEXANDER (ENGINEER) (SASCHA)  
1916/159 b.

(MANJA)  
1553 MARIA BERGMANN  
b. 29.6.79 KAZAN, KAZAN PROVINCE, USSR

m. . . 36  
1914 FRANZ BOSCHMANN  
b. 7/8.2.08 BLUMENFELD, MOLOTSCHKA  
d. 5.44 GERMANY  
(FRAUEN, KAZAN PROVINCE, U.S.S.R.)

15531 EDITH m.  
1916/161 b.

15532 WERNER m.  
1916/162 b.

LUDMILLA

HEINRICH FRIESH

ARTUR (HD)

WOLDEMAR FEHDERAU

TANJA

ALEXANDER MUEHLSTEIN

SVETLANA

MOCKOW

NATASCHA

155211 ELENORE  
1916/1511 b.

155212 INA  
1916/1512 b.

155221 LENI  
1916/1521 b.

155222 JULI  
1916/1522 b.

155231 ALEXANDER  
1916/1531 b.

155232 EUGEN  
1916/1532 b.

155241 ALEXANDER (SASCHA)  
1916/1541 b.

155242 OLGA  
1916/1542 b.

155243 JULIE  
1916/1543 b.

155251 HEIDI  
1916/1551 b.

155252 VERONIKA  
1916/1552 b.

155261 KONSTANTIN  
1916/1561 b.

155271 ALEKSIT  
1916/1571 b.

155272  
1916/1572 b.

155311 INA  
1916/1611 b.

155312 WOLDI  
1916/1612 b.

155313 LENI  
1916/1613 b.

155314 ERNST  
1916/1614 b.

1554 PETRUS BERGMANN (VERSCHOLLEN)  
b.

1555 ALEXANDER BERGMANN (VERSCHOLLEN)  
b.

1556 GERHARD BERGMANN (YOUNG)  
b.

② 1557 VIKTOR BERGMANN (YOUNG)  
b.

1558 ERNST BERGMANN  
b.



Sara 152 and Theodor Boschmann.

161

**JOHANN EPP** (FARMER) MB  
b. 30.6.1870  
d. .46

m.

**EVA PENNER**  
b. 14.12.1870 CHATTYEA  
d.

1611 **MARIA EPP**

1612 **GERHARD EPP** (MINISTER) MB  
b. 24.9.1897  
d.

m. 30.9.21  
**MARIA WIENS**  
b. 19.3.02  
d. 8.3.75 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.  
(1 ANN WEDGE ST. ST. CATHARINES, ONT.)

1613 **MARY** (HOUSEWIFE) MB  
b. 1.11.22

m. 26.11.46 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.  
**ABE REMPEL** MB  
(18 CATHARINE ST. ST. CATHARINES, ONT.)

16121 **RUDY**  
b.  
16122 **RUTH**  
b.  
16123 **DAVID**  
b.  
16124 **LINDA**  
b.  
16125 **EDDY**  
b.  
16126 **TERRY**  
b.  
16127 **DANIEL**  
b.

m. **J. FRIESEN** — 16121: **RHONDA**  
16122: **TRICIA**

16122 **GEORGE** (ACCOUNTANT) GC  
b. 29.7.25

m. 12.9.55  
**ELVIRA DYCK**  
b.  
(4 HAYWOOD AVE., ST. CATHARINES)

16121 **PHILIP**  
b.  
16122 **BRENDA**  
b.

16123 **JOHN B.** (TEACHER) MB  
b. 9.12.26

m. 19.4.54  
**KATIE KONRAD** MB  
b.  
(ST. CATHARINE ST., WIND.)

16123 **KENNETH**  
b.  
16127 **WENDY**  
b.  
16123 **CHRISTINE**  
b.  
16124 **LOREEN**  
b.

16124 **DAVID** (SALESMAN)  
b. 7.3.29

m. 27.12.59  
**INGRID NEUFELD SCHAEFER**  
b.  
(69 VANDERLIND, WILSON, ONT.)

16124 **THERESA**  
b.  
16122 **DAVID WILLIAM**  
b.

16125 **HENRY** (TORONTO TRANSIT) UN  
b. 4.9.31

m. 14.2.63  
**MARGE PETERS**  
b.  
(61 TRAPNEY ST. WILSON, ONT.)

16125 **SHARON JOY**  
b.

16126 **ANN** (HOUSEWIFE, GRANGE HILLS) GC  
b. 10.6.34

m. 1.9.58  
**WILFRED SCHAEFER**  
b.  
(111 BALCON DE WINDERS, WIND.)

16126 **LEILANI**  
b.  
16126 **PAUL**  
b.  
16126 **CARL**  
b.

1613 **JOHANN EPP**  
b. 24.9.1897 d.

1614 **DAVID EPP**

1615 **HEINRICH EPP**

1616 **ANNA EPP**

162 GERHARD EPP (FARMER) GC m.  
 b. HEERHAGEN, UKRAINE  
 d. RUSSIA

① MARIA WIEBE  
 b. NEUKIRCH  
 d.

② SARAH MATTHIES  
 b. FORBACH  
 d.

① SUSIE EPP d. .27

1622 LIESE EPP d. .27

1623 MARIECHEN EPP m.  
 (with Marianne, J. & S.)

1624 GERHARD EPP (USSR)

1625 JOHANN EPP (HANS) (USSR)

① ANNA EPP m. SCHMIDT  
 (w. EICHMANN)

1627 JACOB EPP (USSR)

*In His compassion God asks only what any man who is sincere can offer: himself as he is, with all his failings, weaknesses, contradictions, sins, and those of his forefathers within him.*

*Rommund von Bissing*

163 HEINRICH EPP (FARMER) GC  
b. . . . 1914  
d. . . . 32 ROSSNOCY, RUSSIA

m. . . . 1917

HELENA PENNER  
b. . . . 1916  
d. . . . 56 KAZAKSTAN, RUSSIA

1631 LIESE EPP  
b. . . . 1918  
LEHNSAD, USSR.

1632 GERHARD EPP  
b. . . . 1900

(USSR) SUSIE KORNELSON  
b. . . .  
KOSONNET, RUSSIA

1633 HEINRICH EPP  
b. . . . 02

(USSR) JUSTINA REMPEL  
b. . . . 27

1634 PETER EPP  
b. . . . 06

(USSR) ANNA MARTEUS  
b. . . . 33

1635 MARIECHEN EPP  
b. . . . 09

(USSR) FRANZ KORNELSON  
b. . . . 31

1636 LENA EPP \_\_\_\_\_ 1636 SIEGFRIED  
b. . . . 11

(USSR) JACOB WITT  
b. . . . 34

1637 EVA EPP  
b. . . . 18

(USSR) b. . . . 37  
KRAVNOBA

1637 KLARA  
16372 NICOLAI  
16373 LENCHEN

1638 SUSIE EPP  
b. . . . 18

(USSR) b. . . . 33  
KORNELSON

1638 HANS  
b. . . . 54

1639 HANS EPP  
b. . . . 21

(USSR) OLGA MARTINOVA  
b. . . . 50

1639  
16392  
16393





Justina 164(1)/1653 and George Neufeld and family, 1956, Winkler, Manitoba. Back, l-r: Jake, Linda, John, Leonard. Front, l-r: Justina, Alvena, Arnie, George.

164 JUSTINA EPP (HOUSEWIFE) MB.  
 b. 27. 6. 1881 KLESPELLO, MOLOTSCHANA  
 d. 28. 1. 52 WINKLER, MAN.

m. . . 06 HEINRICH TOEWS MB.  
 KLESPELLO ALEXANDER WÜHL, MOLOTSCHANA.

m. 26. 10. 18 ABRAHAM H. FUNK (FARMER) MB.  
 GÄNDENHEIM WIDOWER ALEXANDER WÜHL, MOLOTSCHANA  
 d. 27. 6. 64 WINKLER, MAN.

1640 JUSTINA 1653  
 1683 b. 27. 6. 1881 KLESPELLO, MOLOTSCHANA, RUSSIA  
 m. 1. 10. 30 GEORGE W. NEUFELD  
 b. 23. 4. 07 HEINENBERG, POLSKA, POLSKA

1640 JOHN (R.C.A.F.) 16531  
 b. 7. 9. 31 HERRINGMAN, MAN. d. 9. 10. 61 ST. JOHN'S, A.S.T.

1640A HERBY 16532  
 b. 18. 9. 32 HERRINGMAN, MAN. d. 22. 8. 32

16401 JAKE (FARMER) MB. 16533  
 b. 20. 3. 24 HERRINGMAN, MAN. (SON OF HERRINGMAN, MAN.)

16404 LINDA (HOUSEWIFE) MB. 16534  
 b. 27. 2. 28 HERRINGMAN, MAN. (DOWNSIDE - 1917 EXEMPTION ALSO)

16407 LEONARD (TEACHER) 16535  
 b. 15. 10. 39 HERRINGMAN, MAN. (SON LEONARD, MAN.)

16404 ARNIE (TEACHER) 16536  
 b. 16. 6. 44 HERRINGMAN, MAN. (SON NORMAN, WINKLER, MAN.)

16407 ALVENA (TOYERS PHOTO) MB. 16537  
 b. 27. 11. 44 WINKLER, MAN. (SISTER NORMAN, WINKLER, MAN.)

m. 16. 9. 36 RUTH UNGER (HOUSEWIFE) MB.  
 HERRINGMAN WINKLER, MAN.

m. 21. 6. 57 GEORGE BUHLER (CITY BUS DRIVER) MB.  
 HERRINGMAN WINKLER, MAN.

m. 2. 12. 60 SHARON OLSEN (HOUSEWIFE) LU.  
 HERRINGMAN WINKLER, MAN.

m. 2. 12. 60 TRUDI ESTHER (TEACHER) MB.  
 HERRINGMAN WINKLER, MAN.

164011 RODNEY b. 14. 6. 57

164012 AUDREY b. 4. 5. 51

164013 TRAVIS b. 17. 12. 51

164014 DELMAR b. 14. 4. 59

164015 DWAYNE b. 12. 9. 51

164016 BEVAN b. 21. 1. 54

164017 CANDAC b. 11. 1. 61

164018 SHANNON b. 4. 10. 62

164019 RHONDA b. 27. 1. 64

164020 MATTHEW b. 21. 10. 71

164021 CHRISTIN b. 26. 1. 74

164022 MICHAEL DAVID b. 18. 4. 75 WINKLER, MAN.

165 <sup>1</sup>ELIZABETH EPP (HOUSEWIFE) MB m. JOHANN HEIDEBRECHT (FARMER) MB.  
 b. 29.7.08 KLEESFELD d. 11.5.22 BLUMSTEIN, POLJOTSCINA  
 b. 23.3.34 BLUMSTEIN, POLJOTSCINA  
 (C) LENA DYCK

1651 MARIECHEN HEIDEBRECHT MB  
 b. 29.7.08

1652 GERHARD HEIDEBRECHT (FARMER, LABORER) GC  
 b. 26.11.09 LINDENAU, POLJOTSCINA  
 d. 145 W.W.II

1651 ELVERA (HOUSEWIFE, DENTAL ASSIST, HOUSEWIFE) GC  
 b. 21.7.43 HALBTRAT, RUSSIA  
 (DUM - 1947 - LINDENAU, POLJOTSCINA, POLY)

WALTER GERALD FALK (PROVIN, TEACHER) MB  
 b. 12.12.1918  
 (DUM - 1947 - LINDENAU, POLJOTSCINA, POLY)

16511 MEGAN RAE b. 11.3.72 WINKLER, MAN

16522 LEONA HELEN (HOUSEWIFE, FARMER) MB  
 b. 9.1.52 STRABE, ALTA  
 (DUM - 1947 - BORNHORN, ALTA, TOWN ALTA)

KENNETH SCOTT SUTHER (DEBATTING) MB  
 b. 22.3.53 CLARESBURG, ALTA

165221 ROBERT DOUGLAS b. 30.7.75 BORNHORN, ALTA  
 165222 KENNETH DEKREN b. 30.6.75 BORNHORN, ALTA

TINA BALLAIL (HOUSEWIFE) GC  
 b. 3.3.11 BLUMSTEIN, POLJOTSCINA  
 m. 28.6.57 HOLLISMAN, MAN (BOOKBINDER, CAPTAIN)  
 BERNHARD P. HARDER GC  
 b. 30.12.1917 KLEESFELD, POLJOTSCINA  
 d. 22.4.76 COLLAPE, ALTA  
 (DUM - 1947 - COLLAPE, ALTA, TOWN ALTA)

1653 ELIZABETH HEIDEBRECHT (HOUSEWIFE) MB  
 b. 23.9.11 LINDENAU, POLJOTSCINA, RUSSIA

MORE DETAILS ON 1640 JUSTINA GENEALOGY

m. 1.11.30 GEORGE W. NEUFELD (FARMER) MB  
 b. 23.4.04 WOODBURN, MAN CANADA  
 (DUM - 1947 - WINKLER, MAN, ADA 130)

1654 JOHANN HEIDEBRECHT (MINISTER) MB  
 b. 1.13

16541 JOHANN (USIA)

16542 GERHARD (USSR)

16543 VICTOR (USSR)

16544 HEINRICH (USSR)

16545 LENA (USSR)

m. LYDIA (USIA) b. 1.12

1655 HEINRICH HEIDEBRECHT (FARMER) MB  
 b. 29.11.14 (W.W.II)

16551 IRENE b. 20.4.34

16552 ELSIE b. 10.12.90

m. ERNA b. 20.8.17

1656 HELEN HEIDEBRECHT (HOUSEWIFE) MB  
 b. 22.9.19 BLUMSTEIN, POLJOTSCINA

16561 GLENNA JOY (FARMER) MB  
 b. 13.7.43 SAKATON, SASK.  
 16562 LEROY N. (FARMER) MB  
 b. 16.4.46 SAKATON, SASK.

16563 IVAN DALE (FARMER) MB  
 b. 10.4.52 SAKATON, SASK.

m. 30.7.1 DOLNEY, SASK. JOSEPH R. WIDEMAN (FARMER) MB  
 b. 1.12.42 TOWFIELD, ALTA

m. 7.10.67 DOLNEY, SASK. MARTHA QUAPP (FARMER) MB  
 b. 12.10.45 COLLAPE, ALTA

m. 7.11.72 HEALING, SASK. HAZEL L. GRAHAM (TEACHER) MB  
 b. 14.6.52 HEALING, SASK.

165611 CHARMAINE FRYE b. 25.5.73 BORNHORN, ALTA

165612 SHARINA MARIE b. 25.7.74 BORNHORN, ALTA  
 165613 CARLA MAY b. 24.9.75 BORNHORN, ALTA

165614 REVA S. b. 1.2.75 SAKATON, SASK.  
 165615 CORWIN L. b. 23.4.76 SAKATON, SASK.



Helen and John Wiens and family. Back, l-r: Ivan, Glenna and LeRoy. Front: Helen and John.

171 HEINRICH EPP  
 b. . . 1875  
 d. . . 1976

172 KATHARINA EPP  
 b. . . 1876  
 d. . . 1991

173 HEINRICH J. EPP      m.      KATHARINA MARTIN JANZEN  
 b. 9.8.1878 ROSENROT, SARGOSHSKAZH OBLASTY, MELITOPOLSKAYA RAJON      b. 25.11.1891 ROSENROT, SARGOSHSKAZH OBLASTY, MELITOPOLSKAYA RAJON  
 d. 2.9.45 TSCHEKHOZE PLESKO, TSCHEKOSLOVAKAZH OBLASTY, MUKACHEVSKAYA RAJON      d. 16.1.85

1731 JACOB HEINRICH EPP  
 b. 02.13.4.22 ROSENROT, UKRAINA

1732 KATHARINA HEINRICH EPP (USA, PENNSYLVANIA, POLYMERIZATION, 191, 31)  
 b. 18.9.05 ROSENROT, SARGOSHSKAZH OBLASTY, GROSS-ROSENROT RAJON

1733 HEINRICH HEINRICH EPP  
 AGE 20 - RUSSIA

1734 MARTIN HEINRICH EPP  
 b. 25.4.01 ROSENROT, SARGOSHSKAZH OBLASTY, MELITOPOLSKAYA RAJON      d. 7.29.2.38 (MILITARY)

1735 HELENE HEINRICH EPP THIESSEN  
 b. 22.4.11 ROSENROT, SARGOSHSKAZH OBLASTY, MELITOPOLSKAYA RAJON      b. . .  
 d. 27.8.41 TSCHEKOSLOVAKAZH OBLASTY, BRNO RAJON      d. . .

1736 KORNELIUS HEINRICH EPP  
 b. 6.1.13 ROSENROT, SARGOSHSKAZH OBLASTY, MELITOPOLSKAYA RAJON      d. ? 18.2.38 (MILITARY)

1737 JOHANN HEINRICH EPP (BOOKKEEPER)      ELENORE JON. WOLDEMAR JON. SCHPIELMANN      EDUARD WOLDEMAR  
 b. 26.3.19 ROSENROT, SARGOSHSKAZH OBLASTY, MELITOPOLSKAYA RAJON      b. 27.1.49 TSCHEKOSLOVAKAZH OBLASTY, TSCHEKOSLOVAKAZH OBLASTY, BRNO RAJON      b. 25.7.49 PRAHA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA  
 (USA, PENNSYLVANIA, POLYMERIZATION, 191, 31)      (USA, PENNSYLVANIA, POLYMERIZATION, 191, 31)      b. 27.11.73 PRAHA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA

SARA JAKOB HOOG (R.N. - POLISH)  
 b. 21.1.19 GROSSROSENROT, SARGOSHSKAZH OBLASTY, TSCHEKOSLOVAKAZH RAJON  
 (USA, PENNSYLVANIA, POLYMERIZATION, 191, 31)

17372 HELENE JON. (WIFE)  
 b. 26.5.50 TSCHEKOSLOVAKAZH OBLASTY, TSCHEKOSLOVAKAZH OBLASTY, BRNO RAJON      (USA, PENNSYLVANIA, POLYMERIZATION, 191, 31)

17373 ELIESABETH JON. (CASHIER-EXAMINER)  
 b. 6.8.52 TSCHEKOSLOVAKAZH OBLASTY, TSCHEKOSLOVAKAZH OBLASTY, BRNO RAJON      (USA, PENNSYLVANIA, POLYMERIZATION, 191, 31)

17374 KATHERINE JON. (CASHIER)  
 b. 11.6.54 TSCHEKOSLOVAKAZH OBLASTY, TSCHEKOSLOVAKAZH OBLASTY, BRNO RAJON      (USA, PENNSYLVANIA, POLYMERIZATION, 191, 31)

17375 ALEXANDER JON. (LOCKSMITH)  
 b. 14.11.55 TSCHEKOSLOVAKAZH OBLASTY, MUKACHEVSKAYA RAJON      (USA, PENNSYLVANIA, POLYMERIZATION, 191, 31)

1738 MARIECHEN HEINRICH EPP  
 AGE 7000 - RUSSIA

174 JUSTINA EPP  
b. 5.9.1870 RUSSIA  
d. 12.2.45 BRAZIL

M. 1.5.1899

JOHANN W. BAERG (FARMER)  
b. 11.6.1871 RUSSIA  
d. 6.43 BRAZIL

1741 JACOB BAERG  
b. 26.3.1900 d. 14.6.19

1742 JOHANN BAERG  
b. 27.1.02  
m. 18.2.22  
AGATHE KLASSEN  
b. 15.4.02  
d. 18.9.58

17421 JOHANN  
b. 10.7.22  
17422 HELENA  
b. 11.10.24  
17423 GERHARD  
b. 13.10.27  
17424 ABRAM  
b. 13.10.29  
17425 WILLIE  
b. 4.3.32 (FARMER, TIMBER)  
17426 PETER  
b.

1743 TINA BAERG  
b. 29.12.03 d. .43  
m. 21.1.22  
HEINRICH JACOB SPERLING  
b. 29.7.1894

17431 LAURA  
b. 31.10.25  
17432 HEINRICH H.  
b. 29.10.27  
17433 ERNA  
b. 18.11.29  
17434 MARIECHEN  
b. 5.5.36

1744 WILLIE BAERG (MECHANIC - OPERATOR)  
b. 23.8.07  
m. 20.11.32  
MARIECHEN LOEPF  
b. 9.4.12

17441 NELLIE MARIETTA (HOUSEWIFE) m. 12.5.47  
b. 30.7.77  
17442 JOHN N. (FARM CONTRACTOR) m. 3.9.54  
b. 15.4.13  
17443 MARY EMILIE (HOUSEWIFE) m.  
b. 18.12.35  
17444 RITA ESTER (HOUSEWIFE) m.  
b. 27.5.37  
17445 WILLIE E. (HOUSEWIFE) m.  
b. 9.9.47  
C. L. HUNT (FARMER) m.  
LEONA (HOUSEWIFE) m. 3.9.54  
b. WIENS  
J. FAST (TRUCK DRIVER) m.  
b. 20.10.31  
J. TRIESEN (MONEY BUSINESS) m.  
b. 3.9.35  
LYNN (HOUSEWIFE) m.  
b. 20.10 CREGORY

174411 JOHNNIE  
174412 LEONA

1745 KORNELIUS BAERG  
b. 5.11.10  
m. 10.5.32  
GRETA DUECK  
b. 6.4.11

17451 RUDI  
b. 7.3.33  
17452 ANNA  
b. . . . 36  
17453 HANS  
b. . . . 37

1746 JUSTINA BAERG  
b. 30.9.14  
m. 23.4.35  
HEINRICH JON. DUECK  
b. 21.7.10

17461 MARTHA  
b. 14.1.35  
17462 IRENE  
b. 7.4.36  
17463 BERTA  
b. . . . 38  
17464 HEINRICH  
b. 12.6.39  
17465 JOHANN  
b. 25.11.48  
17466 MARIANA  
b. 25.11.49

1747 HEINRICH BAERG  
b. 7.9.18 CAINEA  
m. 27.4.39  
NETA KLASSEN  
b. 7.6.18  
m.  
ANNA WAKENTIN  
b. 3.4.26

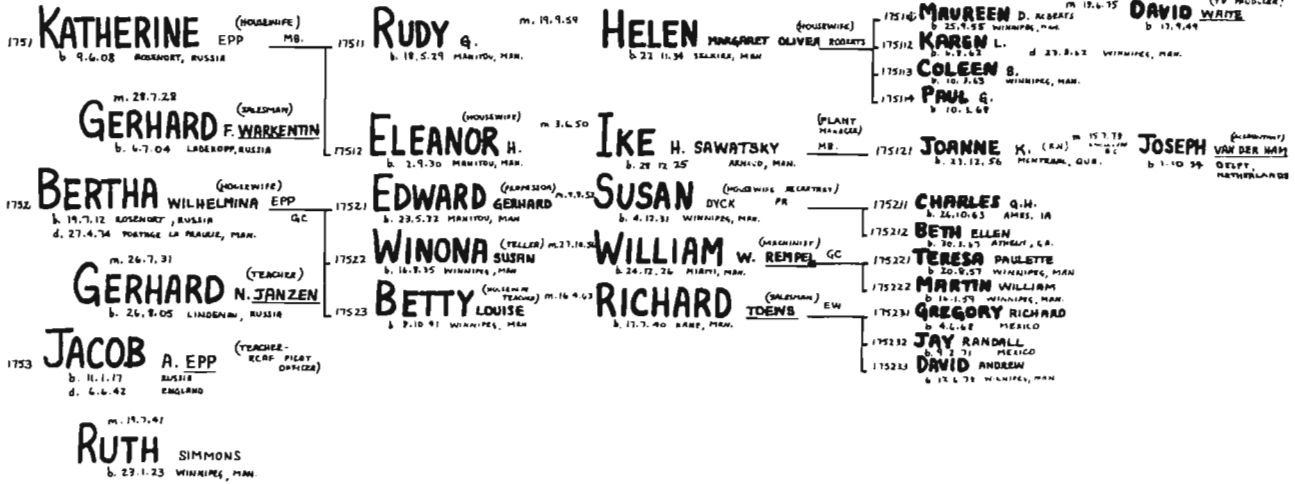
17471 HANS  
b. 30.6.40  
17472 HEINTZ ERICH  
b. 1.9.51 BRAZIL  
17473 HARTMUT  
b. 9.8.54 BRAZIL  
17474 MANFRED  
b. 10.6.61 BRAZIL  
17475 IVONE  
b. 20.03.64 BRAZIL

175 **JACOB J. EPP** (TEACHER AND PIONEER)  
 b. 9.9.1892 ROSENORT, RUSSIA  
 d. 14.5.69 CLEARBROOK, BC.

m. 18.5.07

**SUSANNA PRIES** (RN.)  
 b. 28.6.1887 CRIMER, RUSSIA

(TYPED NAME, 2100 JUNNIE CASSIDY, CLEARBROOK, B.C. VET (MS))



Justina 1761 and Herman Klassen with children, l-r: Maria, Jacob and Hilda in 1962.



Back, l-r: Lidia Baerg (1764), Margaret Goertzen 1765, Katharina Loewen 1763. Front, l-r: Alfred Loewen 17633, Heinrich Loewen (1763) and Jacob Baerg 1764.



Back, l-r: Lily and Margaret Goertzen 1765. Front, l-r: Katharina 1763 and Heinrich Loewen. The occasion was Heinrich's 53rd birthday.



Margaret Goertzen 1765 reunited with her husband David after 22 years. Here they are studying English together.

176 <sup>Ⓞ</sup> **KATHARINA EPP** (HOUSEWIFE) m.  
 b. 22.10.1884 ROSENDAF, RUSSIA  
 d. .24 LINDENAU, RUSSIA

**PETER BAERG** m.  
 b. RUSSIA  
 d. CRIMEA  
 Ⓞ WIDOW KATHARINA (WILHEM) BAERG

1761 <sup>Ⓞ</sup> **JUSTINA BAERG**  
 b. 27.9.05 LINDENAU, RUSSIA

m.  
**HERMAN KLASSEN**  
 b. 22.10.06 SPAT, CRIMEA

**HARDI**  
 b. 12.5.14 SPAT, CRIMEA d. 22.8.35

**HILDA R.**  
 b. 25.8.35 SPAT, CRIMEA

**JACOB**  
 b. 21.7.38 SPAT, CRIMEA

**MARIA**  
 b. 10.11.46 KAZAKHSTAN

**ELLI**  
 b. 29.9.36 BUDA-PENNA, CRIMEA

**VALENTINE**  
 b. 15.3.37 BUDU-DNIA, CRIMEA

**PETER**  
 b. 22.2.40 TCHONGRAV, CRIMEA

**WILHELM**  
 b. 25.9.41

**JOHN**  
 b. 13.6.43 GOODINGEN, GERMANY

**SUSANNE**  
 b. 29.2.44 STREINFELD, RUSSIA

**KAETHE**  
 b. 12.5.51 STREINFELD, RUSSIA

**ARTUR**  
 b. 9.7.53 STREINFELD, RUSSIA

**EDELGARDE**  
 b. 24.9.32 d. 1.8.34

**PIETA**  
 b. 22.10.35 d. 10.7.44

**ALFRED (CHAUFFEUR)**  
 b. 29.7.37

**VICTOR**  
 b. 14.6.41 d. 20.1.47

**WALTER**  
 b. 30.1.49 d. 3.2.47

**RUDY**  
 b.

**JACOB**  
 b.

m.  
**GENA C. KOCHEROW**  
 b. 17.9.40

m.  
**TANYA**  
 b. 27.8.48 MOSCOW

m.  
**PETER**  
 m. 25.1.75

m.  
**RICHARD KIEWER**  
 b. 14.6.36 O WYMYSCHEI

m.  
**HANS ABRAM WALL**  
 b. 29.3.35 N. HALDSTRAF, RUSSIA

m.  
**ANNE-MARIE**  
 b. 5.5.44 COUMBA, BRAZIL HEINRICH

m.  
**KATHARINA J. WIEBE**  
 b. 22.12.41 HALENDORF, RUSSIA

m.  
**ANNA W. PETERS**  
 b. 5.8.42 NEVENSTAF, RUSSIA

m.  
**HEINRICH J. WIEBE**  
 b. 20.4.44 N. HALDSTRAF, RUSSIA

m.  
**MARION**  
 b. 21.1.77

17612 **ANNA**  
 b. 12.5.44  
 176122 **ANATOLIP**  
 b. 6.12.44  
 176123 **SWETA**  
 b. 15.11.77  
 176131 **IGOR**  
 b. 24.11.32

176221 **REGINA**  
 b. 7.5.37 PILADRELLA, PARAGUAY  
 176222 **LINETTE**  
 b. 10.2.11 N. HALDSTRAF, PARAGUAY  
 176223 **DORIS**  
 b. 5.4.83 N. HALDSTRAF, PARAGUAY  
 176224 **ELFRIEDE**  
 b. 9.5.73 GIELEFFELD, GERMANY

176241 **MARLENE**  
 b. 15.3.44 ANNA, GERMANY  
 176242 **RENATE**  
 b. 6.4.82 DEYMELA, GERMANY  
 176243 **SUSANNE**  
 b. 5.9.32 LEMCO, GERMANY  
 176251 **DANIEL**  
 b. 26.6.75 LEMCO, GERMANY  
 176252 **THOMAS**  
 b. 11.6.75

1762 **PETER BAERG**  
 b. 22.1.07 LINDENAU, RUSSIA

m. 14.10.34  
**SUSANNA HILDEBRAND**  
 b. 3.2.13 TCHONGRAV, CRIMEA

1763 **KATHARINA BAERG**  
 b. 27.12.09

m.  
**HEINRICH JACOB LOEWEN**  
 b. 26.4.06  
 d. 25.1.77 DIMANBE, TADZSCHIKISTAN BISK

1764 **JACOB BAERG**  
 b. 9.3.11 LINDENAU, MOLOTSCHANA

m.  
**LIDIA STOLBOWA**

1765 **MARGARET BAERG**  
 b. 12.6.12

17651 **LILY** (EMPLOYED - TINT M. UTZER) m. 8.79  
 b. 1753 **VICTOR KURVER**  
 b. 18.11.23 LINDENAU, MOLOTSCHANA

m.  
**DAVID GOERTZEN**  
 b. CRIMEA

1766 **WILHELM BAERG**  
 b. 5.10.15

17661 **LIEDA** (WAITRESS) m.  
 b. RUSSIA

176611 **LARA**  
 b. . . . . 65  
 176612 **VICTOR**  
 b. . . . . 77

m.  
**EMILIE**  
 b. RUSSIA

1767 **HEINZ BAERG**  
 b. d. YOUNG.

1768 **MARIECHEN BAERG**  
 b. 1.4.19 d. .07.41 SMT, CRIMEA

177 **MARTIN EPP**  
 b. . . . 1886  
 d. . . . 1886

178 CORNELIUS EPP

b. 1889  
d. 1979 CHICAGO, IL.

179 JOHANN J. EPP (FARMER) GC

b. 12.1.1870 RUSVIA  
d. 19.4.76 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

m. 16.6.18

① ANNA WARKENTIN (HOUSEWIFE)

b. 27.5.1895  
d. 12.12.68

m. 26.7.69

(118) ② SUSANNA (DYCK) EPP (HOUSEWIFE) MB.

b. 8.3.1893  
d. 11.6.78 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

①  
1791 HANS EPP  
b. 3.15 d. .21

1792 KATIE EPP  
b. 10.20 d. .8.22

1793 HENRY EPP (ORDERLY) GC  
b. 27.9.22 RUSVIA

17931 KENNETH ROBERT (TRUCK DRIVER)  
b. 20.9.44 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

CHRISTIN DUARTE (HOUSEWIFE)  
b. .5.8.72

179311 CLINTON ROBERT DUARTE  
b. 4.12.74 d. 4.12.74

17932 NANCY JOAN (HOUSEWIFE)  
b. 29.4.28

ALBERT SHAFER  
b. .

m. 19.6.48  
AGNES THIESSEN (HOUSEWIFE)  
b. 6.11.22 RUSVIA  
(MARR. 1940, DIV. 1954)

1794 JOHANNA EPP  
b. .25  
d. 14.6.74 SAN DIEGO, CA.

m.  
BYRON GILBERT (MD)  
b. (701) CORNELLIA ONT., SAN DIEGO, CA.)



Johann 179 and Anna Epp with their children and grandchildren.

**1710 ABRAHAM J. EPP** (CARPENTER) m. 4.1.25 WINKLER, MAN. **ANNA LOEWEN**  
 b. 11.9.1892 ROSENHUT, MOLDOVANA, RUSSIA d. 3.7.71 NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE, ONT.  
 b. 9.12.1892 HUNYU, MOLDOVANA, RUSSIA d. 24.4.80 VINELAND, ONTARIO

- 17101 **HELMUT ADOLF EPP** (IDENTIFIED BORNMAN RECORDS) m. 20.9.52 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.  
 b. 21.1.21 ST. BONIFACE, MAN.
- 17102 **AUDREY MARIE JONES** (CRIMMIE LORAYNA) m. 20.9.52 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.  
 b. 3.5.32 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.
- 17103 **RUDOLPH ADALBERT EPP** (TOOL INSPECTOR) m. 1.12.51 NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE, ONT.  
 b. 25.2.28 ST. BONIFACE, MAN.
- 17104 **IRMA NEUFELD** (283 MAIN ST. P.O. BOX 199, NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE, ONT.) m. 1.12.51 NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE, ONT.  
 b. 12.12.31 WARBURG, SILESIA
- 17105 **THEODORE ALFRED EPP** (SALES REP.) m. 15.9.52 ORILLIA, ONT.  
 b. 15.6.29 WINNIPEG, MAN.
- 17106 **DOROTHY JEAN ANNIS** (41 MAIN STREET ST. ST. CATHARINES, ONT. L&N BYO) m. 15.9.52 ORILLIA, ONT.  
 b. 9.3.34 ORILLIA, ONT.
- 17107 **LEONARD ALBERT EPP** (MOTOR) GC. m. 4.7.58 STEINBERG, MAN. (CITY HALL PHOTO)  
 b. 4.7.30 STEINBERG, MAN.
- 17108 **JUSTINA MARTHA BLOCH** (TEACHER - MAVOR) m. 4.7.58 STEINBERG, MAN. (CITY HALL PHOTO)  
 b. 4.1.31 STEINBERG, MAN.
- 17109 **HERBERT ARNOLD EPP** (TEACHER - MAVOR) m. 24.6.47 WATERLOO, ONT.  
 b. 31.8.34 WINNIPEG, MAN.
- 17110 **JANE ANN SNIDER** (TEACHER) (41 CHURCH ST. NIAGARA, ONT. HED 884) m. 24.6.47 WATERLOO, ONT.  
 b. 10.10.41 KITCHENER, ONT.
- 17111 **WERNER ARMIN EPP** (FRUIT CONTAINER) m. 24.7.57 BRILLHARDT, WA.  
 b. 13.12.36 WINNIPEG, MAN.
- 17112 **ANNETTA LORRAINE TAYLOR SEDORE** (100 HILL HOUSE, EC) m. 24.7.57 BRILLHARDT, WA.  
 b. 17.10.48 OXBOOM, SASK.
- 17113 **KATHLEEN ELAINE WILLIAM HUGHSON** (SEER) m. 6.10.73 TORONTO, ONT.  
 b. 21.9.53 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.
- 17114 **GRAHAM LEONARD** m. 6.10.73 TORONTO, ONT.  
 b. 28.5.54 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.
- 17115 **GERALD ALBERT** m. 6.10.73 TORONTO, ONT.  
 b. 18.3.51 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.
- 17116 **KENNETH BRIAN** m. 6.10.73 TORONTO, ONT.  
 b. 27.6.56 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.
- 17117 **JOHN EDWARD** m. 6.10.73 TORONTO, ONT.  
 b. 17.1.58 NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE, ONT.
- 17118 **EVELYN IRMA** m. 6.10.73 TORONTO, ONT.  
 b. 23.6.68 NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE, ONT.
- 17119 **DONNA CATHRYN** m. 6.10.73 TORONTO, ONT.  
 b. 22.7.66 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.
- 17120 **LINDA MARLENE** (SEER) m. 6.10.73 TORONTO, ONT.  
 b. 24.6.53 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.
- 17121 **RANDOLPH THEODORE** m. 6.10.73 TORONTO, ONT.  
 b. 9.12.54 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.
- 17122 **RICHARD HERBERT** m. 6.10.73 TORONTO, ONT.  
 b. 2.9.57 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.
- 17123 **MARIS LYNELLE** m. 6.10.73 TORONTO, ONT.  
 b. 20.10.63 ELKHART, IN.
- 17124 **NATHAN LEONARD** m. 6.10.73 TORONTO, ONT.  
 b. 2.11.65 ELKHART, IN.
- 17125 **DAVID CLIFFORD** m. 6.10.73 TORONTO, ONT.  
 b. 24.5.71 WATERLOO, ONT.
- 17126 **SARAH JANE** m. 6.10.73 TORONTO, ONT.  
 b. 14.8.73 WATERLOO, ONT.
- 17127 **JEAN LORRAINE (SEDORE)** m. 6.10.73 TORONTO, ONT.  
 b. 27.7.58 VANCOUVER, BC.
- 17128 **DIANE MAY** m. 6.10.73 TORONTO, ONT.  
 b. 4.9.60 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.
- 17129 **JANET DARLENE** m. 6.10.73 TORONTO, ONT.  
 b. 10.4.61 YELLOWKNIFE, NWYT.
- 17130 **EDWARD ALLAN** m. 6.10.73 TORONTO, ONT.  
 b. 24.10.65 KITCHENER, ONT.
- 17131 **GEOFFREY WILLIAM BARBLEY DOUGLAS** m. 6.10.73 TORONTO, ONT.  
 b. 13.9.17



Anna Epp (1710) with her sons, l-r: Helmut, Rudolph, Theodore, Leonard, Herbert and Wener in 1976.



**1711 MARIA EPP** (HOUSEWIFE) MB.  
 b. 27.12.1894 ROZDOLNY, PODOLEZSKAYA, RUSSIA

m. 22.8.17

**PETER KLIEWER** (FARMER) MB.  
 b. 6.5.1910 SCHONSEE, RUSSIA  
 d. 27.10.78 WINKLEBA, MAN.

(SEE EPP, WINKLEBA, MAN, 809 820)

|  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p><b>1711 KATHERINE KLIEWER</b> AL.<br/>                 b. 9.4.19 ROSCHORT, AUSTRIA.<br/>                 m. 18.9.43<br/> <b>FRANK LEPP</b> (FARMER)<br/>                 b. 30.4.21 TEREK, RUSSIA.</p>                          | <p><b>1711 LINDA KATHERINE</b> BA<br/>                 b. 28.5.45 WINNIPEG, MAN.<br/>                 m. 17.6.72<br/> <b>LORRAINE ANN</b> MO<br/>                 b. 25.2.44<br/>                 m. 24.7.76<br/> <b>LOUISE SHARON</b> MA<br/>                 b. 23.5.50 CAVELT CITY, MAN.<br/>                 (MARRIED) m. 16.2.74<br/> <b>RONALD FRANK</b> BA<br/>                 b. 4.7.53 CAVELT CITY, MAN.<br/>                 m. 14.8.77<br/> <b>RITA MARIE</b> ME.<br/>                 b. 4.8.54 MANITOBA, MAN.<br/>                 (SICK) m. 9.8.75<br/> <b>RHONDA</b> MA.<br/>                 b. 16.11.35 MANITOBA, MAN.</p> | <p><b>ED DERKSEN</b> (CO-OP MAN) SA<br/>                 b. 9.10.40 WINKLEBA, MAN.<br/>                 (FARMER)<br/> <b>ERIC BERGMAN</b> MO<br/>                 b. 22.1.48<br/>                 (CALCULATED FROM BIRTH)<br/> <b>LARRY HIATT</b> MA<br/>                 b. 2.7.53<br/>                 THIESSEN SA<br/> <b>MINNA</b><br/>                 b. 11.3.53<br/>                 (CALLEMAN) ME<br/> <b>ROBERT LETKEMAN</b><br/>                 b. 8.11.50<br/>                 (MARRIED)<br/> <b>DARREL SCHINDEL</b> MA<br/>                 b. 23.11.54<br/>                 (DRIVER) m. 2.6.73<br/> <b>JOANNE</b> PUNK MA.<br/>                 b. 8.4.53<br/>                 (MARRIED)<br/> <b>DEBORAH</b> LYNN REVEL<br/>                 b. 23.1.52<br/>                 (MARRIED)<br/> <b>WAYNE WILFARD SIEVEWRIGHT</b> SA.<br/>                 b. 4.4.47</p> | <p><b>1711 VALERIE ANGELA</b> SA<br/>                 b. 26.10.44 WINKLEBA, MAN.<br/> <b>DUANE EDWARD</b> SA<br/>                 b. 7.7.47 WINNIPEG, MAN.<br/> <b>CHRISTINE LYN</b> SA<br/>                 b. 4.12.55 CALGARY, ALTA.<br/> <b>BECKI LEA</b> SA<br/>                 b. 10.5.78<br/> <b>KAREN MICHELLE</b> SA<br/>                 b. 21.1.74<br/> <b>RICHARD ERIC</b> SA<br/>                 b. 1.11.75<br/> <b>JANICE LORRAINE</b> SA<br/>                 b. 7.5.77<br/> <b>TRINNA MARIE</b> SA<br/>                 b. 4.1.73<br/> <b>TERESA DAWN</b> SA<br/>                 b. 1.5.73<br/> <b>CAREY LYN</b> SA<br/>                 b. 2.11.77<br/> <b>PHILIP DAVID</b> SA<br/>                 b. 4.11.74<br/> <b>ALISA DEBORAH JOY</b> SA<br/>                 b. 16.9.71<br/> <b>JASON DEWAMOND NEVILLE</b> SA<br/>                 b. 3.10.68 WINNIPEG, MAN. d. 27.7.73 WINNIPEG, MAN.<br/> <b>LINDSAY KYLE</b> SA<br/>                 b. 19.6.72 WINNIPEG, MAN.<br/> <b>TRAVIS</b> SA<br/>                 b. 8.9.76 WINNIPEG, MAN.<br/> <b>VAUGHN</b> SA<br/>                 b. 24.7.71</p> |
| <p><b>1712 ELIZABETH KLIEWER</b> BA.<br/>                 b. 9.7.21 LINDENAU, RUSSIA.<br/>                 m. 15.10.44<br/> <b>JACOB R. FRIESEN</b> (SALESMAN)<br/>                 b. 24.10.19 HIRASCHAU, RUSSIA.</p>             | <p><b>1712 HAROLD JOHN</b> MA.<br/>                 b. 7.8.45 BRANDON, MAN.<br/>                 (NURSE) m. 18.5.74<br/> <b>RUDY VICTOR</b> MA.<br/>                 b. 20.1.47 BRANDON, MAN.<br/>                 m. 10.6.47<br/> <b>LORENA RUTH</b> SA.<br/>                 b. 22.8.48 BRANDON, MAN.</p>  | <p><b>1713 VICTOR KLIEWER</b> (CONSTRUCTION - FOREMAN) SA.<br/>                 b. 18.11.23 LINDENAU, PRUSSIA.<br/>                 m. 28.7.48 PIGEON LAKE, MAN.<br/> <b>KATHERINE PETERS</b> SA.<br/>                 b. 21.12.18 WIEHNEBROD, UENNER<br/>                 d. 2.7.78 WINNIPEG, MAN.<br/>                 m. 8.7.79 WINNIPEG, MAN.<br/> <b>LILY GOERTZEN</b> (CRAFTSMAN)<br/>                 b. 17.6.51</p>   | <p><b>1713 CHARLOTTE</b> (MARRIED)<br/>                 b. 12.9.49 BRANDON, MAN.<br/> <b>JAMES REINHARD</b> SA.<br/>                 b. 18.5.52 WINNIPEG, MAN.<br/>                 (NURSE)<br/> <b>MARJORIE DELORES</b> SA.<br/>                 b. 30.11.55 WINNIPEG, MAN.<br/>                 (CONSTRUCTION WORKER)<br/> <b>RICHARD</b> SA.<br/>                 b. 22.2.59 CARMAN, MAN.</p>   |
| <p><b>1714 WALT KLIEWER</b> (CRAFTSMAN)<br/>                 b. 4.10.25 ELM CREEK, MAN.<br/>                 m. 19.9.49 DIV.<br/> <b>GERTRUDE ANN</b> ME MASTER<br/>                 b. 1.1.25<br/>                 d. 22.1.74</p> | <p><b>1715 ARTHUR KLIEWER</b> (MINISTER) BA.<br/>                 b. 4.11.27 ELM CREEK, MAN.<br/>                 m. 20.10.62<br/> <b>FREDA HÜBSCHER</b> SA.<br/>                 b. 17.12.29 SWAN RIVER, MAN.</p>   | <p><b>1715 SHARLENE</b> SA.<br/>                 b. 9.10.63 REGINA, SASK.<br/> <b>CHERYL</b> SA.<br/>                 b. 17.9.64 REGINA, SASK.<br/> <b>LORELIE</b> SA.<br/>                 b. 17.9.64 REGINA, SASK.</p>  | <p><b>1716 MARIANNE KLIEWER</b> OC.<br/>                 b. 30.9.31 PAMPEYELLE, MAN.<br/>                 m. 11.7.70<br/> <b>BENJAMIN WIEBE</b> (NURSE)<br/>                 b. 18.4.34 MORRIS, MAN.<br/>                 d. 18.3.77 LOWA PARK, MAN.</p>   |



Maria 1711 and Peter Kliewer and family. Back, l-r: Victor, Elizabeth, Walt, Peter and Arthur. Front, l-r: Maria, Katherine and Marianne.

181 HEINRICH EPP

b. 23.9.1891  
d. 19.8.22

m.

SUSANNA WARKENTIN

b. 6.9.1881  
d. 9.10.31

1811 DAVID EPP, b. 1.4.04 KURUSHAN, MOLOTSCHNA  
m. 25.10.36  
LENA SAWATSKY b. 8.3.13 TIGERWEIDE, MOLOTSCHNA (v. u. s. s. r.)

1812 KATHARINA EPP b. 9.5.05 KURUSHAN, MOLOTSCHNA (v. u. s. s. r.)  
m. HEIN MATTHIES b. 6.4.04 TIGERWEIDE, MOLOTSCHNA (v. u. s. s. r.)

1813 HEINZ EPP b. 27.9.07 KURUSHAN, MOLOTSCHNA d. 11.12.59 SIBERIA  
m. MARIA MATTHIES b. 15.2.06 TIGERWEIDE, MOLOTSCHNA

1814 HANS EPP b. 1.04 KURUSHAN, MOLOTSCHNA d. 11.07.57 VEKHOLOJAN

1815 KOLJA EPP b. 11.08.11 KURUSHAN, MOLOTSCHNA d. 11.02.29

1816 KORNELIUS EPP b. 15.9.13 KURUSHAN, MOLOTSCHNA  
m. LYDIA (KURUSHAN, u. s. s. r.)

1817 MARIA EPP b. 24.12.15 KURUSHAN, MOLOTSCHNA (v. u. s. s. r.)  
m. AGATHA EPP (TELANTO GERHARD) b. 12.12.19 KURUSHAN, MOLOTSCHNA (v. u. s. s. r.)

1819 GERHARD EPP b. 11.4.21  
m. LINA b. 10.1.26 (GERH, u. s. s. r.)

1811 DAVID b. 2.4.38 TIGERWEIDE, URSIE  
m. 1.1.47 LJUDA WALJA

1812 HEINZ b. 1.4.42 TIGERWEIDE, URSIE

1812 IRENE b. 28.9.36 TIGERWEIDE  
m. 1922 ROBERT b. 1.1.39 BACHFELD, UNTERES SIBERIA d. 1.4.9 SIBERIA

1813 HEINZ b. 24.9.35 BACHFELD, UNTERES SIBERIA  
m. MARIA FISCHER b. 24.4.38

1816 LYDUSJA b. 4.4.60  
m. 24.10.64 SASCHA

18162 HARRI b. 21.8.48 JERGA, SIBERIA  
m. ERIKA

18163 HEINZ b. 9.5.50 JERGA, SIBERIA  
m. 23.6.73 LENA HARTNIK

18164 TOLJA b. 4.9.52  
m. 15.75 NADJA

1816 JASCH JANZEN TIGERWEIDE, RUSSIA d.

18191 HEINZ b. 24.2.60 TIGERWEIDE, SIBERIA  
m. 1971 WILMA

18192 HANS b. 14.9.56 ORSK, SIBERIA

18111 NATSCHA b. 1.1.42 SOKRANSKA, SIBERIA  
18112 SERJOSCHA b. 12.11 SOKRANSKA, SIBERIA  
18121 WOLDEMAR b. 15.5.47 SOKRANSKA, RUSSIA  
18122 HEINZ b. 20.4.26 SOKRANSKA, SIBERIA  
18123 NADJA b. 11.7.72 SOKRANSKA, SIBERIA

18131 ROBERT b. 5.11.11 KURUSHAN, SIBERIA  
18132 AGATHA b. 11.11.11 KURUSHAN, SIBERIA

18161 ALLA b. 23.10.66 SIBERIA

181621 ELVIERA b. 10.5.71  
181622 IRENE b. 24.11.73  
181631 EDUARD b. 12.74

181641 OLJA b.  
181642 TOLJA b.  
181643 ALEXANDER b.

181911 EDIK b. 19.72  
181912 OLJA b. 12.74



Agatha 1818 and her niece 18121 made a trip down the Dnieper in the USSR in spring of 1979. They were met by relatives in the harbor at Kiev. L-r: Irene Matthies 181, David Epp 1811, Woldemar 181121, Agatha, Gerhard Epp 1819. In the background is their ship SOWETSKAJA ROSSIA. 30 May 1979.



Kornelius Epp's visit to see his sisters in Eschwege, West Germany is over. The next day he must return to the USSR. L-r: Kornelius, Agatha, Katharina and Maria. 11 November 1979.

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**JUSTINA EPP**  
b. d. TIEGERWEIDE, MOLOTSCHINA

m.

**AARON THIESSEN**  
b. d. KHABAROVSK

**MARIA** THIESSEN m. **BORN**  
b. d. HAGENBERG, RUSSIA

**BÄRBEL** THIESSEN

**DAVID** THIESSEN

**BERNHARD** THIESSEN  
b. 21 4. 03

**JUSTINA** THIESSEN m. **PETER SAWATZKY**  
b. d. TIEGERWEIDE, RUSSIA

**KATHARINA** THIESSEN

**HANS** THIESSEN

**LIESE** THIESSEN

183 **BÄRBEL EPP**  
b. . . 1893 d. . . 70 ANGEN, TASHKENT

m.

**ABRAM SAWATZKY** (TEACHER)  
b. . . 1890 d.

1831 **DAVID** SAWATZKY  
b. . . 05 d. (WASSILJEFF)

1832 **ANNA** SAWATZKY  
b. d. 06 (ANGEN, TASHKENT, USSR)

1833 **BÄRBEL** SAWATZKY  
b. . . 12 (TEACHER)

m.  
**EMIL BLETSCH**  
b. 14 (ANGEN, TASHKENT, USSR)

1834 **MARIA** SAWATZKY  
b. 13 (LUBERAC, GERMAN)

1835 **ABRAM** SAWATZKY (TEACHER) **ARNOLD**  
b. . . 24 (TEACHER) b. 52

m.  
**KATJA** (TEACHER)  
b. 21 (ANGEN, USSR)

1836 **AGNES** SAWATZKY (EDUCATOR) **EDUARD**  
b. . . 27 b. 51

m.  
**EDUARD STEINFELD**  
b. 24 (MINE WAKAR) (FAMIL: ABB, U.S.S.R.)

184

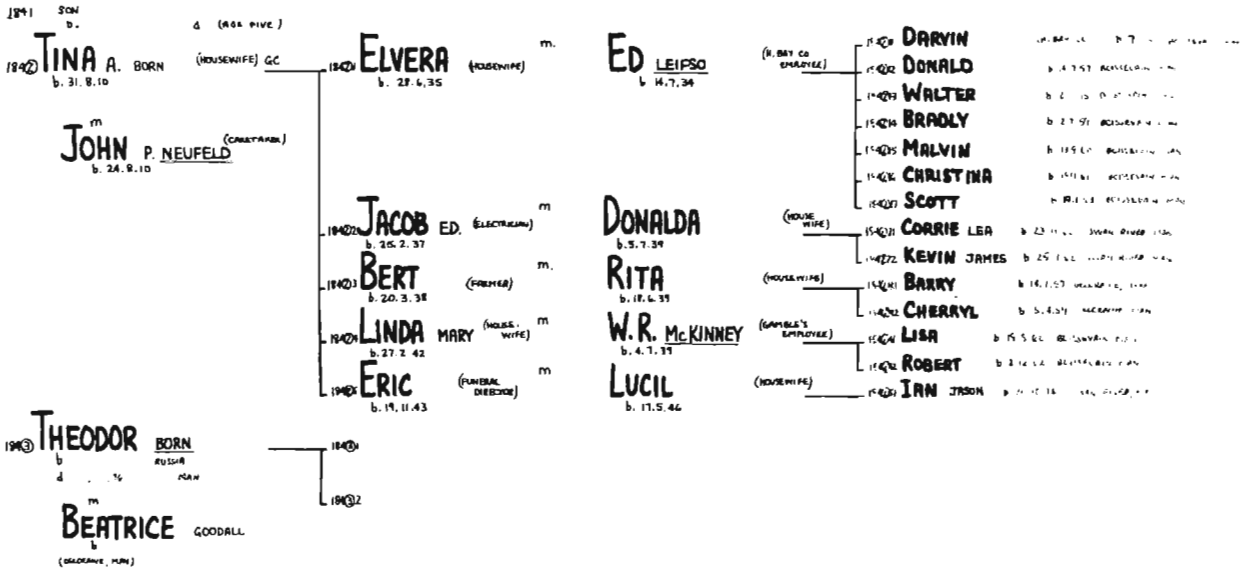
**MARIECHEN EPP**

b. 12.4.1887 RUSSIA  
d. 24.1.64 DELORAINNE, MAN.

m. 6.1.08

**JACOB P. BORN**

b. 15.9.1882 PUCHTIN, C. RUSSIA  
d. 11.7.64 DELORAINNE, MAN.



185

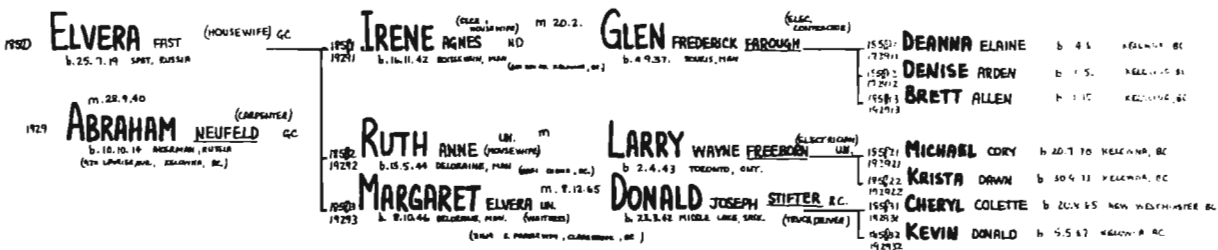
**KATHARINA EPP**

b. 26.1.1890 FISCHAU, MOLDAVIA  
d. 24.11.57 WHITEWATER, MAN.

m. 24.6.18

**JACOB JOH. EAST**

b. 4.8.1890 CRIMEA, RUSSIA  
d. 19.5.66 BOSSEYRIN, MAN.



186 AGATHA EPP  
 b. . . . 1892  
 d. 31. 8. 99

m.  
 m.

(U) ① JOHANN NEUFELD (WIDOWER)  
 b. 8. 2  
 d. . . . 14  
 ② HEINRICH WOELK  
 b. . . . 1882 FISCHAU, MOLOSCHEHA  
 d. 13. 4. 36

② DAVID WOELK  
 b. 19  
 m. ——— 1861  
 |  
 1862

JAKOB WOELK  
 b. 20  
 m. ——— 1862  
 |  
 1862

AGATHE WOELK  
 b. 22  
 m. ——— 1863  
 |  
 1863  
 SCHNEIDER

PETER WOELK  
 b. 12. 4. 24 FISCHAU, MOLOSCHEHA

LENA HARDER  
 b. . . .  
 d. 2. 1. 77  
 (MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN)

AGNES WOELK (RN) ——— 1865 JOHANN (REFUGEE)  
 b. . . . 27 b. . . . 50  
 | |  
 1862 | ERNST (MILWAUKEE)  
 b. . . . 53

JOHANN KIESZ  
 b. 27  
 (MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN)

HANS WOELK (EX CAVATOR) ——— 1866 ERNST  
 b. . . . 29 b. . . . 62  
 | |  
 1862 | IRENE  
 b. . . . 65  
 NINA (MILWAUKEE)

187 DAVID EPP  
 b. 23. 9. 1893 KURUSHAN, MOLOSCHEHA  
 d. 4. 4. 46 KAZAKHSTAN, USSR.

m.

ELIZABETH FAST  
 b. 17. 6. 1896  
 d. 2. 8. 46 KAZAKHSTAN, USSR.

*We live in the present, dream of the future, but learn eternal truths from the past.*

Unknown

191 GERHARD EPP  
b. 29.12.1915 LINDENAU, RUSSIA  
d. .26

m. 12.10.16

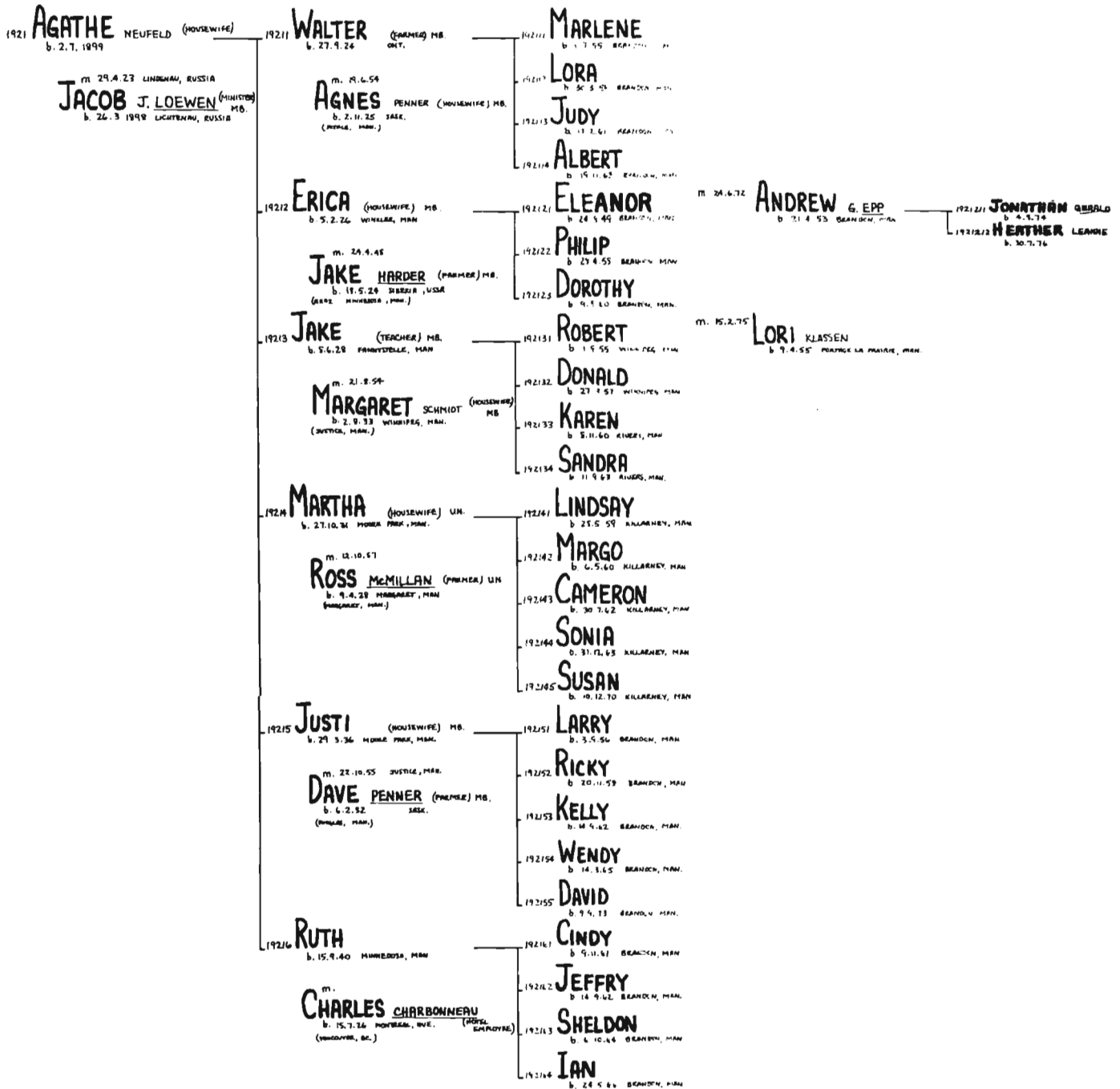
ELSA LANGERFELD  
b. 28.6.1892  
d. .20's

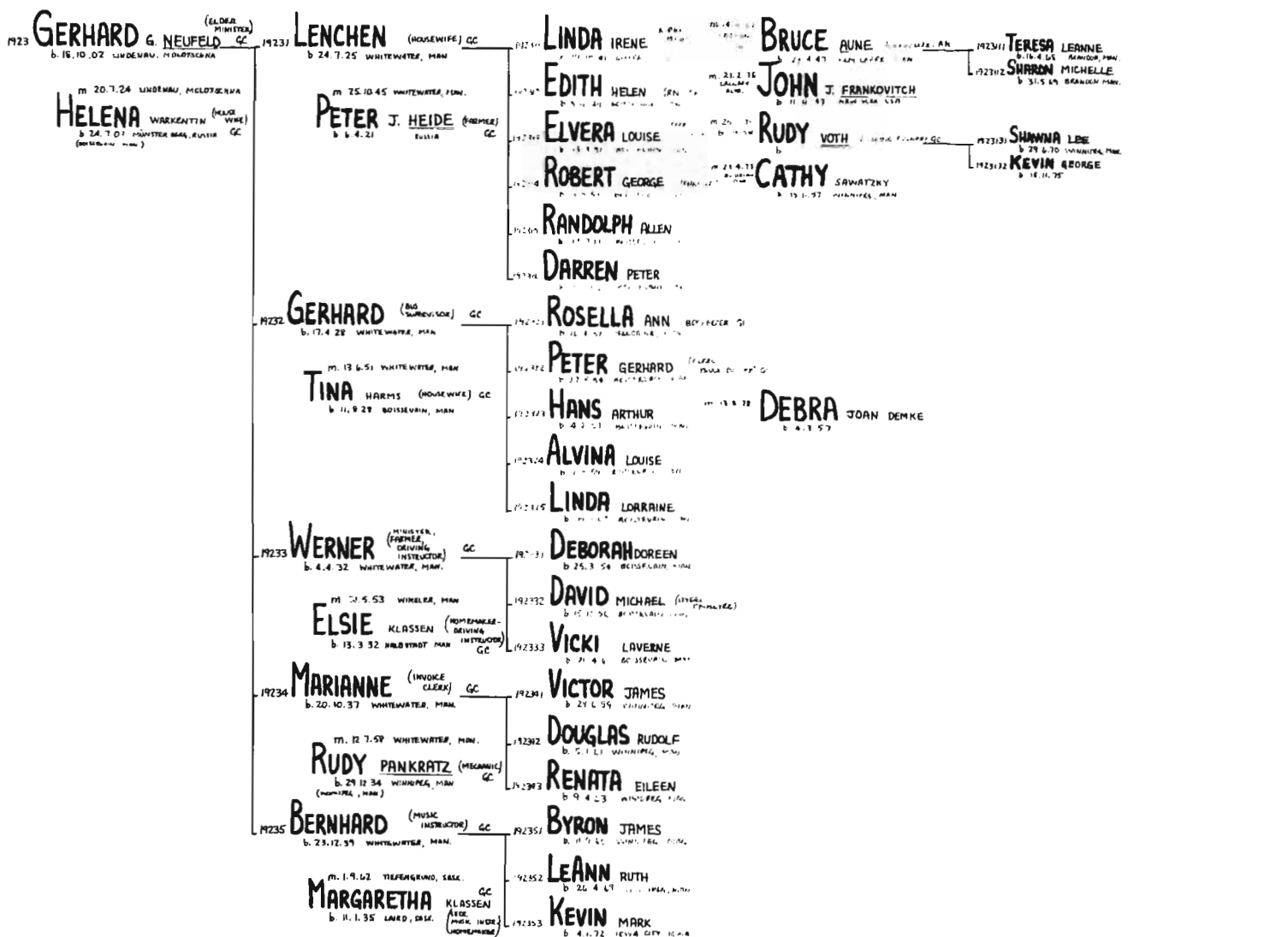
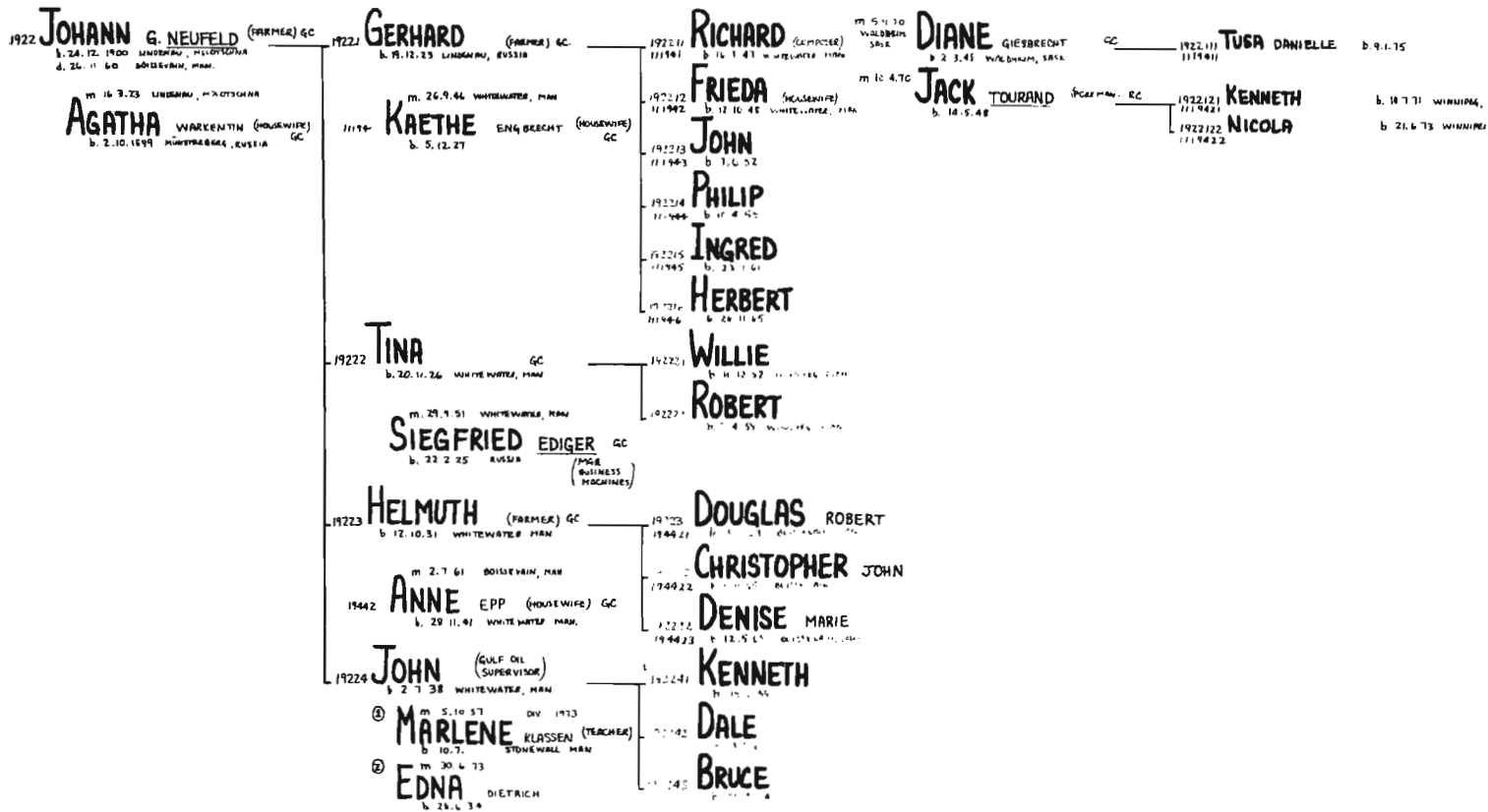
1911 SHURA (RUSSIA)  
b. 13.12.19  
1912 EUGEN (RUSSIA)  
b.

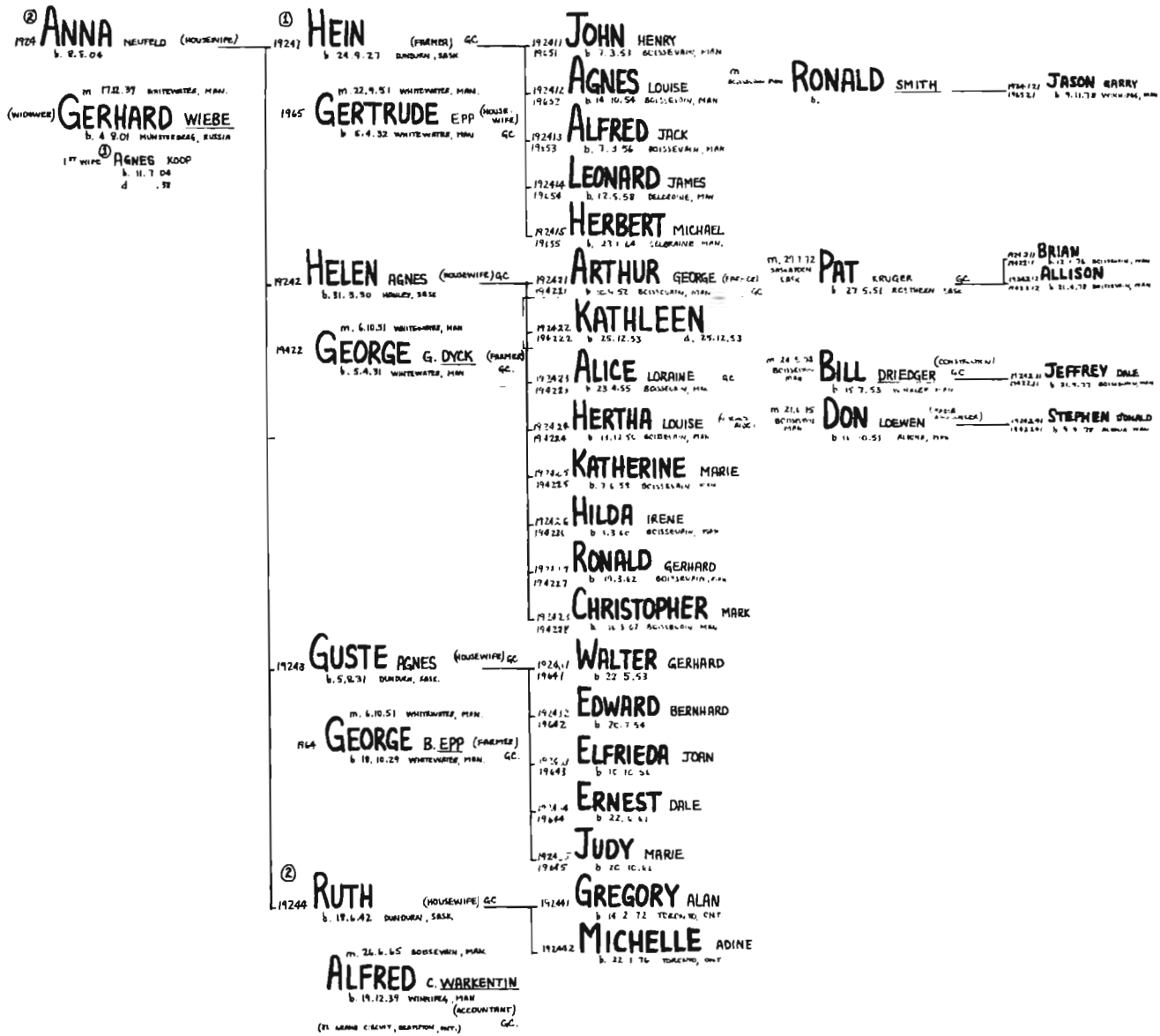
192 JUSTINA EPP  
b. 29.10.1917 LINDENAU, MOLOTSCHNA  
d. .5.64 BOISDEVAIN, HM.

m. 2.5.1898  
LINDENAU  
MOLOTSCHNA

GERHARD NEUFELD  
b. 17.5.1872 LINDENAU, MOLOTSCHNA  
d. 21.1.43 WHITEWATER, MAN.

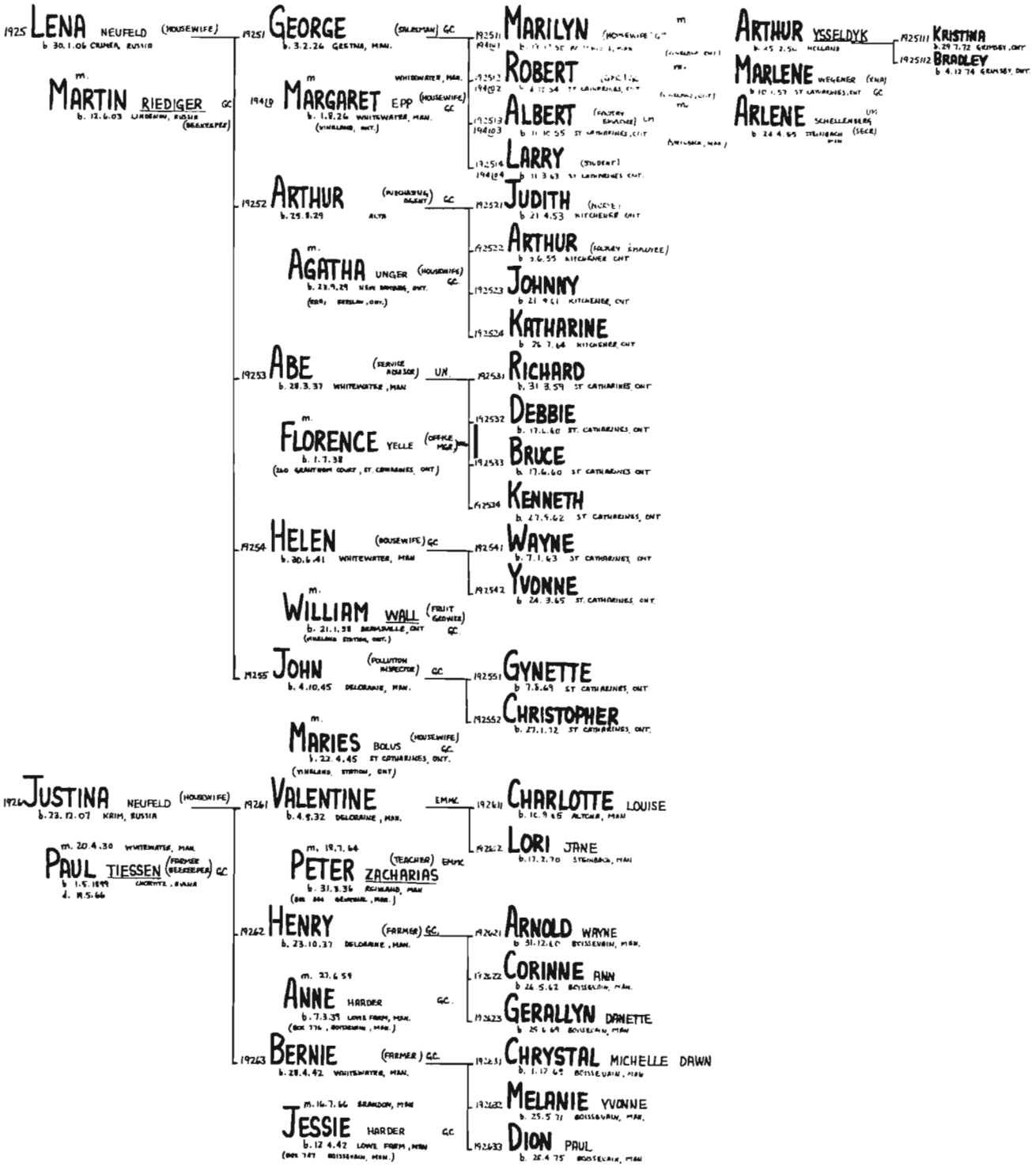


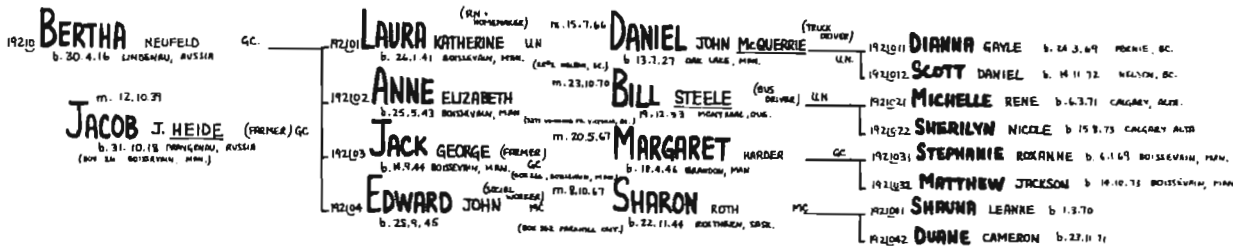
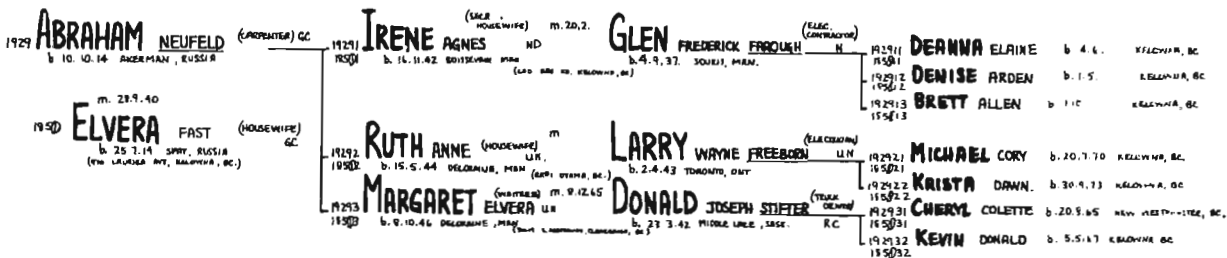
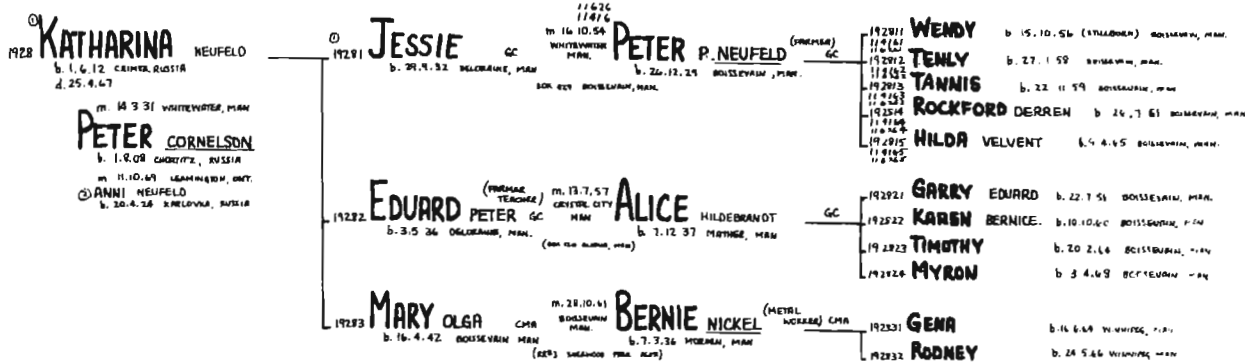
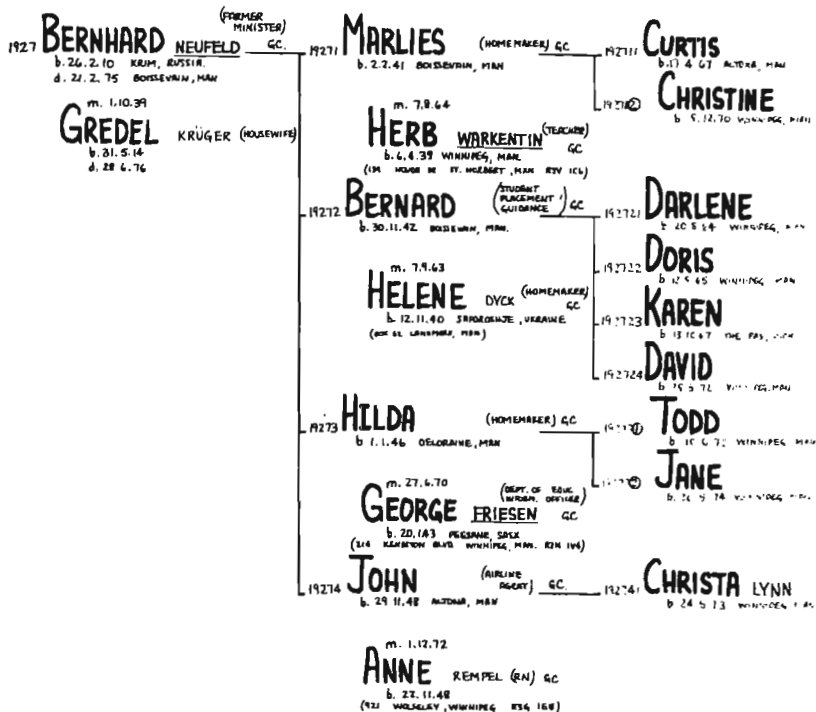


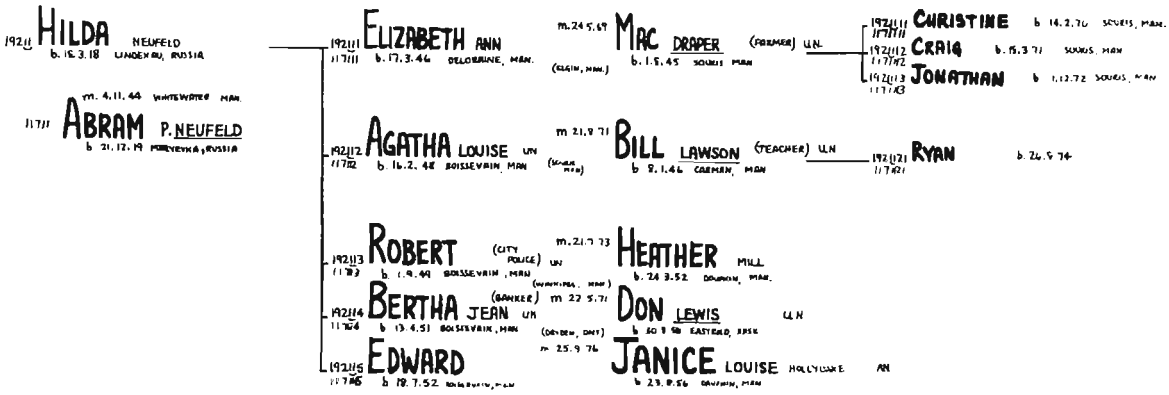


Justina and Gerhard Neufeld with their children in 1916. Back, l-r: Anna, Johann, Bernhard, Gerhard, Lena. Middle, l-r: Katharina, Agathe, Justina with Bertha, Gerhard with Abraham. Front: Justina.





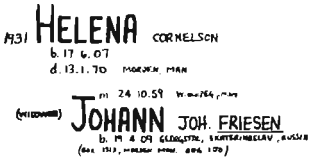




193 AGATHA EPP  
b. 28.7.1919 LINDENAU, RUSSIA  
d. 5.12.22 LICHTENAU, RUSSIA

m. 21.9.06  
RUSSIA

JACOB CORNELSON  
b. 28.10.1877  
d. 11.11.41 RUSSIA

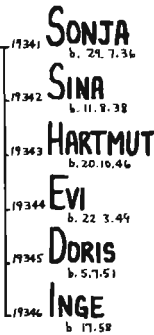


1932 ANNA CORNELSON  
b. 9.3.09 d. 18.09

1933 JAKOB CORNELSON  
b. 9.3.11 d. (WASSALEPP 4941)

1934 BERNHARD CORNELSON  
b. 12.9.13

m.  
ERNA MÜLLER  
b. 7.6.24 SCHWABE, GERMANY



1935 KORNELIUS CORNELSON  
b. 16.7.19 d. . .41 W. 264

194 JACOB EPP (FARMER + DEACON) GC. b. 27.2.1883 LINDSAY, RUSSIA d. 23.9.61 BOYSBURN, MAN.

m. 20.11.04 HALSBROT, RUSSIA

MARIA NEUFELD (HOUSEWIFE) GC. b. 13.9.1892 BEADFORD, RUSSIA d. 16.6.66 BOYSBURN, MAN.

1941 ELIZABETH EPP (HOUSEWIFE) b. 3.11.05 LINDSAY, RUSSIA.

19411 MARY (WIFE) LU b. 9.9.25 WHITEWATER, MAN. d. 22.5.77 ONT.

194111 KENNETH GLEN b. 5.10.67 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

m. 29.8.24 PETERBOROUGH, ONT. FRANZ PENNER (FORGER) b. 26.6.02 ORLANDO, RUSSIA GC. (overseas)

m. 27.11.45 WINDSOR, ONT. IVAN GLEN REID (CONVENTOR) LU b. 12.8.29 WINDSOR, ONT. d. 22.5.77

19412 HENRY (TRUCK DRIVER) GC. b. 19.2.28 WHITEWATER, MAN.

194121 BRENDA COLLEEN b. 6.1.59 KILLARNEY, MAN.

m. 14.4.58 WINDSOR, MAN. KATHRINE (HOME MAKER) NEUFELD b. 16.6 MIAMI, MAN.

194122 DEBBIE EILEEN b. 25.7.60 KILLARNEY, MAN.

194123 CHERRYL MARINE b. 22.9.61 KILLARNEY, MAN.

194124 DONNA GAIL b. 14.10.63 KILLARNEY, MAN.

19413 TINA (HOUSEWIFE) GC. b. 16.4.30 MOUNTAINLODE, MAN. d. 25.1.69 WINDSOR, ONT.

194131 MARLENE ELIZABETH (WIFE - HOUSEWIFE) b. 19.4.49 DELORAIN, MAN. m. 25.4.70 (WINDSOR, ONT.)

m. 25.4.70 (WINDSOR, ONT.) DICK YSSELDYK (PLUMBER ATTORNEY) b. 25.2.49 A. GERRARD, W. KILLARNEY

1941311 SCOTT ANDREW FRANK b. 1.7.74 GERRARD, ONT.

m. 28.10.48 WHITEWATER, MAN. FRANK F. DYCK GC. b. 23.10.20 KILBURNHAM, RUSSIA

194132 SHARON MARIE (EN) b. 2.10.51 KILLARNEY, MAN.

194133 DONALDA IRENE (HOUSEWIFE) b. 16.10.55 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

m. 24.11.73 (WINDSOR, ONT.) WALLACE CRAIG RICE (PLUMBER) b. 34.11.52 CANTON, ONT.

1941331 PAMELA DOROTHY b. 27.5.74 CANTON, ONT.

NETTE FROESE b.

194134 KATHERINE ELAINE GC. b. 20.3.60 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

19414 IRENE (HOUSEWIFE) GC. b. 9.7.33 WHITEWATER, MAN.

194141 MARILYN IRENE b. 3.3.59 KILLARNEY, MAN.

m. 30.10.59 NIAGARA, MAN. JACOB SAWATSKY (POST MAN) GC. b. 27.10.27 GERRARD, MAN.

194142 MYRNA ELIZ. ANN. b. 4.4.60 KILLARNEY, MAN.

194143 LORI LOUISE b. 7.7.62 KILLARNEY, MAN.

194144 DONALD JAMES b. 27.1.64 KILLARNEY, MAN.

194145 RANDALL MARK b. 2.3.67 STEINBERG, MAN.

19415 JACOB FRANK (DRIVER - SALESMAN) GC. b. 6.2.37 DELORAIN, MAN.

194151 RICHARD WAYNE b. 6.6.60 BARRON, MAN.

m. 13.6.59 MOREBEN, MAN. ANNE FRIESEN (HOUSEWIFE BAKER, BUS DRIVER) GC. b. 18.9.39 WINDSOR, MAN.

194152 DAVID ALLAN b. 10.3.62 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

194153 JACOB ROBERT FRANK b. 9.2.63 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

194154 TIMOTHY JOHN b. 29.6.64 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

194155 SUSAN LEE ANN b. 16.11.67 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

194156 GERALD NEIL b. 12.1.69 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

19416 ANNA LIESE (MERCHANT) AG. b. 14.3.42 MOUNTAINSIDE, MAN.

194161 JAMES RANDOLPH b. 23.9.62 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

m. 29.7.61 ST. CATHARINES. JOHN SAWATSKY (MERCHANT - FURRIER STORE) AG. b. 29.10.33 DORCHESTER CITY, MAN.

194162 DOUGLAS ALBERT b. 11.10.63 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

1942 **ANNIE** EPP (HOUSEWIFE) CC  
 b. 12.4.08 LINDSAY, MAN.  
 d. 1.2.61 BOISEVAIN, MAN.  
 m. 11.10.39 WHITEWATER, MAN.  
**GERHARD JACOB DYCK** (FARMER)  
 b. 11.12.04 BIRCHMOUNT, BOISEVAIN, MAN.  
 m. 8.6.57 ALBANY, MAN.  
**TINA** SIEMENS

19421 **JACOB**  
 b. 28.2.30 d. 12.8.50  
 19422 **GEORGE** G. (FARMER) CC  
 b. 5.4.31 WHITEWATER, MAN.

19420 **HELEN** AGNES WIEBE CC  
 m. 6.10.91 WHITEWATER, MAN.  
 b. 31.3.30 HAWLEY, SALES

19423 **PETER** G. (FARMER) CC  
 b. 23.2.33 WHITEWATER, MAN.  
 m. 15.10.55  
**ELSIE** HARMS GC  
 b. 10.7.31 WHITEWATER, MAN.

19424 **HENRY**  
 b. 3.5.36 d. .5.36  
 19425 **RUTH**  
 b. 12.6.38 d. 17.6.38  
 19426 **ERNIE** (TEACHER) UN.  
 b. 17.7.41 DELORANGE, MAN.  
 m. 11.8.62 WINNIPEG, MAN.  
**TINA** JANZEN (TEACHER) UN.  
 b. 20.10.41 WINNIPEG, MAN.

19427 **IRMA ANN**  
 b. 9.6.44  
 m. 12.8.72 BOISEVAIN, MAN.  
**ARNOLD HEIDBRECHT** (ELEPHANT RIDER) GC  
 b. 1.2.49 YORKFIELD, ALTA.  
 19428 **JOHN RICHARD** (FARMER) CC  
 b. 14.1.47 DELORANGE, MAN.  
 m. 6.8.72 MORDEY, MAN.  
**CONNIE** THIESSEN GC  
 b. 16.1.50 MUELLEN, MAN.

194221 **ARTHUR** (FARMER) m. 29.7.72  
 b. 10.11.92 BOISEVAIN, MAN.  
 194222 **KATHLEEN**  
 b. 25.12.53 d. 25.12.63

194223 **ALICE LORRINE** m. 24.3.74  
 b. 23.4.55 BOISEVAIN, MAN.  
 194224 **HERTHA LOUISE** (NURSE) m. 21.1.75  
 b. 13.12.56 BOISEVAIN, MAN.

194225 **CATHERINE** MARIE LAWRENCE PETERS  
 b. 7.6.59 BOISEVAIN, MAN.  
 194226 **HILDA** IRENE  
 b. 1.3.60 BOISEVAIN, MAN.  
 194227 **RONALD GERHARD**  
 b. 11.3.62 BOISEVAIN, MAN.

194228 **CHRISTOPHER** MARK  
 b. 16.8.67 BOISEVAIN, MAN.

194231 **JOYCE** RUTH  
 b. 13.10.36 BOISEVAIN, MAN.  
 194232 **ERNEST** JOHN  
 b. 17.7.57 BOISEVAIN, MAN.

194233 **EDWARD** GEORGE  
 b. 11.11.57 BOISEVAIN, MAN.  
 194234 **ROBERT** JAMES  
 b. 12.1.60 BOISEVAIN, MAN.

194235 **WALTER** PETER  
 b. 14.1.62 BOISEVAIN, MAN.  
 194236 **ERICA** MARIE  
 b. 29.5.66 BOISEVAIN, MAN.

194241 **DOROTHY** ANNA-MARIE  
 b. 8.5.63 WINNIPEG, MAN.

194242 **DEREK** NEIL  
 b. 25.8.68 WINNIPEG, MAN.

194243 **BARBARA** HELEN  
 b. 20.4.73 BOISEVAIN, MAN.  
 194244 **PETER** GERHARD JACOB  
 b. 25.5.76 BOISEVAIN, MAN.

194271 **DARYL** JOHN  
 b. 17.4.75 EDMONTON, ALTA.  
 194272 **JOEL** DAVID  
 b. 17.4.75 EDMONTON, ALTA.

194273 **ELTON** PAUL  
 b. 6.5.77  
 194280 **TAMMY**  
 b. 17.8.70 MORDEY, MAN.

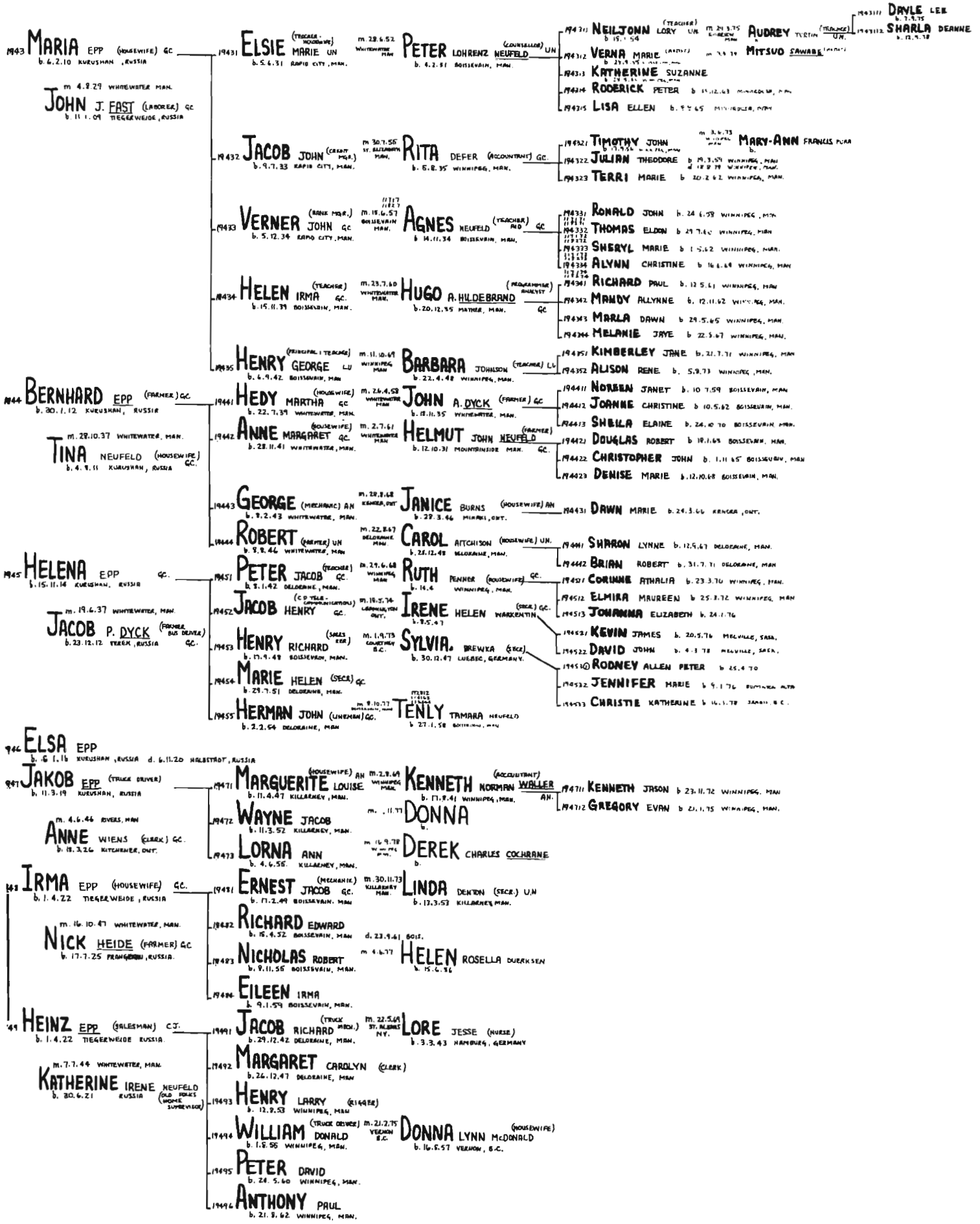
194282 **DEVON** RICHARD  
 b. 13.11.73 BOISEVAIN, MAN.  
 194283 **JASON** MICHAEL  
 b. 16.10.76

194211 **BRIAN**  
 b. 11.11.76  
 194212 **ALLISON**  
 b. 31.6.77

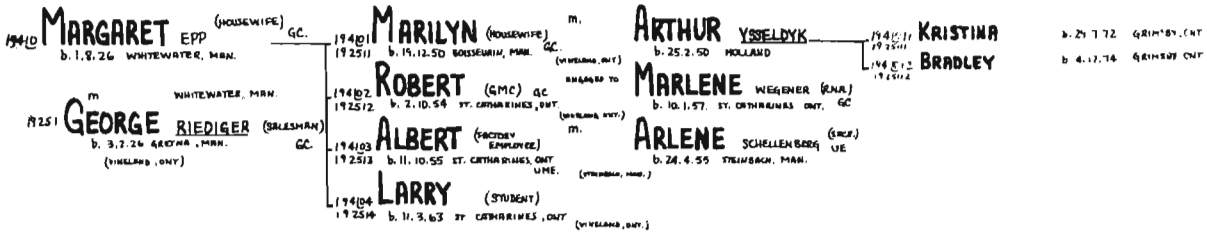
194213 **PATRICIA** KRUGER CC  
 b. 27.5.51 ALBANY, MAN.  
 194214 **BILL** DRIEDGER (CONSTRUCTION) CC  
 b. 15.7.33 WINNIPEG, MAN.

194215 **DON** LOEWEN (SALES REPRESENTATIVE)  
 b. 16.10.51 ALBANY, MAN.  
 194216 **STEPHEN** (MUSICIAN)  
 b. 1.9.58 ALBANY, MAN.

194217 **JEFFREY**  
 b. 1.1.53  
 194218 **DALE**  
 b. 1.1.53

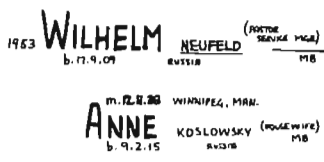
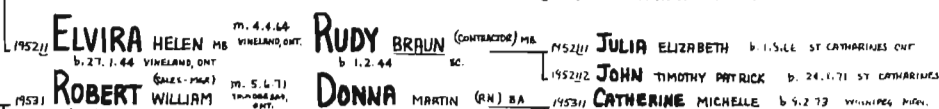
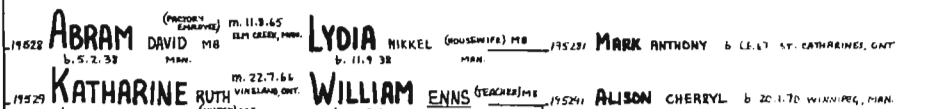
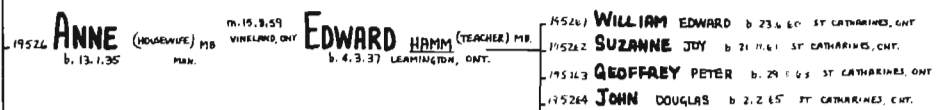
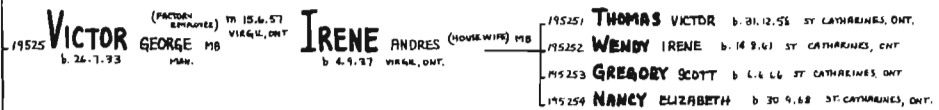
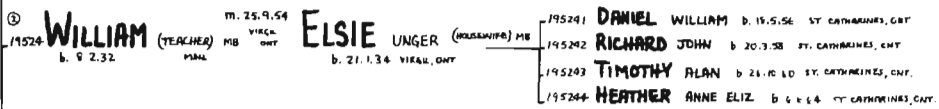
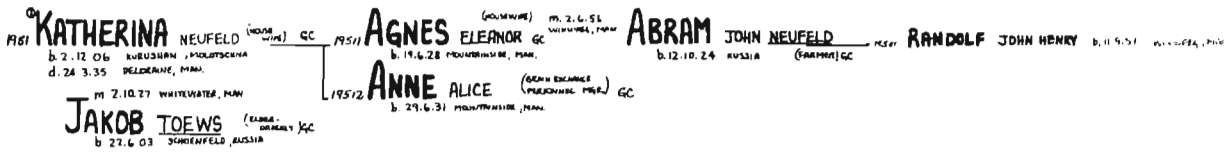


194311 DAYLE LEE  
 6.1.1915  
 194312 SHARLA DEANNE  
 6.12.1918



195 **ANNA EPP** MB. b. 20.3.1895 LINDENAU, MOLDOVACHINA. d. 24.11.63 WINNIPEG, MAN.

m. 30.10.04 **WILHELM G. NEUFELD** b. 4.8.1877 LINDENAU, MOLDOVACHINA. d. 16.10.71 WINNIPEG, MAN.



1954 **AGATHA** NEUFELD (HOUSEWIFE) MB  
 b. 6.9.11  
 m. 24.5.36 WHITEWATER, MAN.  
**CORNELIUS DEFEHR** (SEW) MB  
 b. 2.6.11

1954 **WILLIAM** CORNELIUS (SCHOOL LABORER) MB  
 b. 22.1.38  
 m. 5.9.61 KITCHENER, ONT.

1954 **MARLENE** SCHENKE (REAL ESTATE BROKER) MB  
 b. 14.10.40 WESPELAN, ONT.

1954 **IRENE** ANNE (HOUSEWIFE) MB  
 b. 3.11.40  
 m. 2.6.60 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1954 **FREDERICK** WALL (FED. GOVT. EMPLOYEE) MB  
 b. 12.11.37 LA SALLE, MAN.

1954 **ROCHELLE** JACQUELINE b. 17.9.66 MARK, PA

1954 **KRISTIN** BEBRA b. 21.12.69 TORONTO, ONT.

1954 **CARLA** LYNN b. 31.1.64 TORONTO, ONT.

1954 **LEANNA** CORINNE b. 21.12.47 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1954 **ANDREW** FREDERICK CORNELIUS b. 21.3.75 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1954 **ARTHUR** CORNELIUS (AUNT DORIS) UN  
 b. 14.5.48  
 m. 20.6.70 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1954 **PATRICIA** PAMELA (SEW HOUSEWIFE) UN  
 b. 18.12.51 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1954 **ARDYTH** GRAY b. 16.12.72 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1954 **EDWARD** ARTHUR C. b. 11.5.18

1955 **MARIA** NEUFELD (SALES CLERK) MB  
 b. 4.12.13

1956 **GERHARD** NEUFELD (VEIC. PRINCIPAL) MB  
 b. 2.2.16 LINDENAU, RUSSIA

m. 10.7.48 WINKLER, MAN.  
**HELENA** SAWATSKY (TEACHER) MB  
 b. 30.9.25 QUINCYVILLE, MAN.

1957 **ERNA** NEUFELD (HOMEMAKER) MB  
 b. 12.1.18 KUZUSHAN, RUSSIA

m. 6.4.40 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
**WILLIAM** DEFEHR (BUSINESS EXEC. ART. F&C) MB.  
 b. 25.5.13 MILEKOVDO

1957 **BERNHARD** NEUFELD (SEAS. CO. SUPERVISOR) MB  
 b. 5.8.20 KUZUSHAN, RUSSIA

m. 10.10.46 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
**MOLLY** WILLMS (HOUSEWIFE) MB  
 b. 21.1.27 LEAMINGTON, ONT.  
 (6 HOLLAND ST., LEAMINGTON, ONT.)

1956 **ANITA** LOUISE HELEN (K.A. TEACHER) MB  
 b. 5.5.50 WINKLER, MAN.

1956 **CAROLYN** MARGARET ANNE (RECEPTIONIST) MB  
 b. 4.3.56 WINKLER, MAN.

1956 **MADelyn** EDITH LENDRE (SECR.)  
 b. 19.3.57 WINKLER, MAN.

1957 **ELIZABETH** ERNA (HOUSE) MB  
 b. 26.1.49  
 m. 6.9.62 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1957 **ALBERT** WILLIAM (REAL ESTATE BROK. CONTRACTOR) MB  
 b. 20.9.43  
 m. 28.6.66 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1957 **ERNA** ANN (HOUSE) UN  
 b. 25.1.45 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1957 **RUTH** ESTHER (USE GUARD FOR PRISON ENTER) MB  
 b. 14.2.53 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1957 **RICHARD** BEN (STUDENT) MB  
 b. 10.4.48 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

1957 **DONALD** ALAN (STUDENT) MB  
 b. 30.3.51 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

1958 **WILLIAM** BRIAN (ENGINEERED HOMES) MB  
 b. 2.4.55 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

1958 **KENNETH** JOHN MB  
 b. 5.11.57 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

1958 **CHRISTOPHER** SCOTT MB  
 b. 21.9.66 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

1957 **HARRY** BERNARD WALL (EM) MB  
 b. 24.5.42 LA SALLE, MAN.

1957 **JULIA** JEANETTE BRAUN (SC. (HOUSE)) MB  
 b. 27.7.93 LEVIE PARK, MAN.

1957 **HAROLD** REDEKOP (CONTRACTOR) MB  
 b. 30.10.42 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1957 **DAVID** BARON SCHULZ (STUDENT) MB  
 b. 2.1.53 WINKLER, MAN.

1957 **ERNA** DRIEDGER (PUBLIC RELATIONS) BA.  
 b. 1.2.50 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

1957 **ELEANOR** KLASSEN (STUDENT) MB  
 b. 4.1.54 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1957 **CHRISTINE** RAE b. 7.9.63 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1957 **CAROLYN** ELIZ. b. 10.1.66 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1957 **STEPHEN** ALBERT b. 14.2.76

1957 **TANNIS** RUTH b. 25.2.69 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1957 **THOMAS** HAROLD b. 11.6.73 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1957 **BRENT** RICHARD b. 24.2.72 LEAMINGTON, ONT.

1959 **JOHANN** NEUFELD (LOCKE OWNER) MB  
 b. 10.10.22 RUSSIA

m. 24.1.57  
**HELEN** SHEDD (STYLIST) MB  
 b. 24.5.22 WINNIPEG, MAN.  
 (SISTER, MANITOBA)

1959 **JAKOB** ROBERT NEUFELD (GOVT. EMPLOYEE) UN  
 b. 2.1.26 WHITEWATER, MAN.

m. 2.6.51 WINNIPEG, MAN.  
**ELOISE** STILL (SECR.) UN  
 b. 3.1.27 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1959 **ALFRED** PETER NEUFELD (M.M. TELE. SUPERVISOR) MB.  
 b. 23.5.28 WHITEWATER, MAN.

m. 17.6.50 WINNIPEG, MAN.  
**ELSIE** FLATT (HOUSEWIFE) MB  
 b. 11.7.30 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1959 **HERBERT** NEUFELD (PRINCIPAL) MB.  
 b. 24.4.30 WHITEWATER, MAN.

m. 20.7.57 WINNIPEG, MAN.  
**THERESA** KELBERT (HOUSEWIFE) MB  
 b. 17.5.39 RUSSIA

1959 **GORDON** ROBERT (ECONOMIST) MB  
 b. 3.10.52 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1959 **KENNETH** WILLIAM (M. 28.5.77) MB  
 b. 3.10.52 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1959 **DONNA** ELOISE (RN) MB  
 b. 10.9.54 PT. WILLIAM, ONT.

1959 **RONALD** PHILIP (PSYCHIATRIST) MB  
 b. 2.6.53 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1959 **SANDRA** ANNE (STUDENT NURSE) MB.  
 b. 2.2.56 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1959 **NORMAN** PAUL MB  
 b. 9.3.60 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1959 **SHARON** MARLENE b. 1.4.65 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1959 **LOUISE** CARLA MB  
 b. 19.4.58 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1959 **HERBERT** MARTIN b. 21.8.61 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1959 **LAURA** ANNE b. 24.2.65 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1959 **LESLIE** MALCOLM m. 28.5.77



196

# BERNHARD EPP

b. 29.11.1886 LINDENAU, MOLOTSCHWA  
d. 17.7.60 BOISEVAIR, MAN.

m. 9.7.22  
TIEGERWEIDE  
MOLOTSCHWA

# GERTRUDE PENNER

b. 3.5.1900 TIBBERWISS, MOLOTSCHWA

1961 **ANNA EPP** GC  
b. 24.1.25 RITCHENER, ONT.

m. 16.10.49 WHITEWATER MAN.

**JOHANN WIENS** (FARMER) GC  
b. 1.5.20 FIDCARU, RUSSIA

19611 **ROBERT JOHN**  
b. 22.9.44 WINNIPEG, MAN.

19612 **KENNETH GEORGE** m. 23.7.77  
b. 23.4.58 WINNIPEG, MAN.

19613 **ALBERT DAVID**  
b. 31.5.55 WINNIPEG, MAN.

19614 **ARTHUR JAMES**  
b. 27.4.61 WINNIPEG, MAN.

19615 **JANET LOUISE**  
b. 11.6.68 WINNIPEG, MAN.

**MATHILDA MARGARET**  
b. 11.9.55  
ROTHMANN

1962 **BERNHARD EPP**  
b. 21.6.26

m. 16.10.49 VINELAND, ONT.

**ELSA WALL**  
b. 28.12.28  
(a. HOLLAND BRICK, VINELAND, ONT.)

19620 **MARVIN BERNHARD**  
b. 28.12.59 TORONTO, ONT.

19621 **LINDA ANN**  
b. 30.12.61 TORONTO, ONT.

1963 **HENRY EPP** (BAKER) GC.  
b. 19.2.29 WHITEWATER, MAN.

m. 18.4.59 PALMERLY, MAN.

**MARTHA SAWATZKY** GC  
b. 7.2.38 LAMA, MAN  
(LANTAN, MAN)

19630 **DELMAR BRIAN**  
b. 26.1.64 WINNIPEG, MAN.

19631 **CAROLYN ANNE**  
b. 11.6.66 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1964 **GEORGE EPP** (FARMER) GC  
b. 18.10.29 WHITEWATER, MAN.

m. 6.10.51 WHITEWATER MAN.

19243 **AUGUSTA WIEBE**  
b. 5.9.31 DUNDURN, SASK.  
(BOISEVAIR, MAN)

19641 **WALTER GEORGE**  
b. 22.5.53 BOISEVAIR, MAN.

19642 **EDWARD BERNARD** m. 16.10.76  
b. 20.7.59 BOISEVAIR, MAN. BOISEVAIR, MAN.

19643 **ELFRIEDA JOAN**  
b. 10.10.56 BOISEVAIR, MAN.

19644 **ERNEST DALE**  
b. 22.6.61 BOISEVAIR, MAN.

19645 **JUDY MARIE**  
b. 20.10.66 BOISEVAIR, MAN.

**NADENE ELAINE SMITH**  
b. 24.7.56

1965 **GERTRUDE EPP**  
b. 5.4.32 WHITEWATER, MAN.

m. 22.9.51 WHITEWATER MAN.

19241 **HENRY WIEBE** (FARMER) GC  
b. 24.4.27 DUNDURN, SASK.  
(BOISEVAIR, MAN)

19651 **JOHN HENRY**  
b. 7.3.53 BOISEVAIR, MAN.

19652 **AGNES LOUISE**  
b. 14.10.54 BOISEVAIR, MAN.

19653 **ALFRED JACK**  
b. 7.3.54 BOISEVAIR, MAN.

19654 **LEONARD JAMES**  
b. 12.5.59 DELORAIN, MAN.

19655 **HERBERT MICHAEL**  
b. 23.1.64 DELORAIN, MAN.

**RONALD SMITH**  
b. 19.11.21  
b. 11.11.25 WINNIPEG, MAN.

**JASON GARRY**  
b. 11.11.25 WINNIPEG, MAN.

1966 **JACOB EPP** (GEN. MGR. DATED)  
b. 9.3.34 WHITEWATER, MAN.

m. 9.7.55 WINNIPEG, MAN.

**TEENA HELEN HUEBNER**  
b. 4.5.36 WINNIPEG, MAN.  
(79 ONE CREEK, ONE 831 STEWART, MAN.)

19661 **LORENDA MARIE** m. 20.11.73  
b. 18.2.57 STEWART, MAN. STEWART, MAN.

19662 **KATHLEEN JOHANNE**  
b. 6.10.58

19663 **HANS BERNHARD**  
b. 22.6.62

19664 **TREENA LOUISE**  
b. 30.6.69.

**MORLEY ALVIN FRIT** (POOD LARVIE DEPT.)  
b. 12.12.54

1967 **MARIA KATHERINE EPP** (HOUSEWIFE)  
b. 28.5.36 WHITEWATER, MAN.

m. 30.5.59 WINNIPEG, MAN.

**JOHANN FRIESEN** SALESMAN  
b. 19.3.36 WINNIPEG, MAN.  
(ONE'S HOUSE AT THUNDER BAY, CA 1980)  
(RN - HOUSEWIFE)

19670 **PAMELA QWEN**  
b. 20.11.67 VENTURA, CA.

19672 **JEFFREY JOHN**  
b. 29.12.70 THUNDER BAY, CA.

1968 **SELMA MARGARET EPP**  
b. 2.7.38 WHITEWATER, MAN.

m. 29.1.66 WINNIPEG, MAN.

**HENRY KROEGER**  
b. 20.2.34

19681 **SANDRA DAWN**  
b. 22.11.66 WINNIPEG, MAN.

19682 **ANGELA GAIL**  
b. 17.7.69 WINNIPEG, MAN.

19683 **JODENE ALISON**  
b. 12.7.70 WINNIPEG, MAN.

197 KATHARINA EPP (HOUSEWIFE) GC.  
b. 18.12.1938 LINDENAU, RUSSIA  
d. 21.7.66

m. 2.2.13

GERHARD FAST (FARMER / LABORER) GC.  
b. 31.3.1938 WIERBENFELD, RUSSIA  
d. 18.6.74

1971 JOHN FAST  
b. 19.11.13 WIESENFELD, RUSSIA

m. 30.5.41  
KATHERINE KROEGER (HOUSEWIFE) GC.  
b. 20.1.20 MALARNOVI, RUSSIA

19711 MARY ANN (HOUSEWIFE) GC.  
b. 8.5.43 BOISSEvain, MAN

19712 ELIZABETH (HOUSEWIFE) GC.  
b. 26.11.45 BOISSEvain, MAN

19713 JOHN DAVID (TEACHER) GC.  
b. 16.12.46 BOISSEvain, MAN

19714 LINDA MAY (HOUSEWIFE) GC.  
b. 30.5.48 BOISSEvain, MAN

19715 BARBARA JOAN GC.  
b. 21.7.50 BOISSEvain, MAN

19716 RENATTA (STUDENT) GC.  
b. 30.11.52 BOISSEvain, MAN

19717 HENRY BERNARD (STUDENT) GC.  
b. 6.4.54 BOISSEvain, MAN

19721 GEORGE HENRY GC.  
b. 15.9.42 BOISSEvain, MAN

19722 JOHN ROBERT (MINISTER) GC.  
b. 12.1.44 BOISSEvain, MAN

19723 MARGARET VANETTA GC.  
b. 16.6.46 DELORAIN, MAN

19724 HELEN BARBARA (U OF M OFFICE) GC.  
b. 21.4.48 BOISSEvain, MAN

19725 KATHERINE ANN (HOUSE) GC.  
b. 14.3.54 BOISSEvain, MAN

ALBERT JOHN NICKEL (TEACHER) GC.  
b. 26.5.37 RUM COURGE, MAN

197121 DONALD GARY ENGBRECHT GC.  
b. 11.4.45 DELORAIN, MAN

BONNIE LORRAINE (HOUSEWIFE) GC.  
b. 5.6.46 BRANCOH, MAN

BOB JANZEN (LAWYER) GC.  
b. 24.8.47 VIKAR, ONT.

JOHN HOLDEN (CASHIER) GC.  
b. 7.11.50

JOHN BRENT MILLS (TEACHER) GC.  
b. 17.1.50 TORONTO, ONT.

SIEGRID (LAB TECH) GC.  
b. 6.5.41 DANZIG, GERMANY

ARLENE SETTE (HOUSEWIFE) GC.  
b. 4.10.46 HATTISON ISLAND, MAN

NUOI LE (BU) GC.  
b. 6.12.46 DIEN BAN, S-VIETNAM

197121 NAOMI LEAH b. 13.4.71 BRANCOH, MAN

197122 KURT DEBRICK b. 29.12.32 DEBRICK, MAN

197123 PAUL JASON b. 7.11.73

197221 MICHAEL JOHN b. 25.4.67 BRANCOH, MAN

197222 DOUGLAS GEORGE b. 24.11.65 BRANCOH, MAN

197223 MICHELLE ARLENE b. 22.5.71 STANIA, MAN

197231 JONATHAN PHU SON b. 26.7.48 ONT, S-VIETNAM

197232 ISAAC TIN PHAN b. 14.3.79 LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND

1972 GERHARD FAST (LABORER) GC.  
b. 15.12.16 WIERBENFELD, RUSSIA

m. 11.8.40  
ANNA MARIE ALBRECHT GC.  
b. 5.5.14 SZZAWA, RUSSIA

1973 BERNHARD FAST  
b. 2.4.19 TIEGERWEIDE, RUSSIA d. 14.11.21 TIEGERWEIDE

1974 JACOB FAST (APPLIANCE REPAIR) CM  
b. 29.2.20 TIEGERWEIDE, RUSSIA

m. 23.6.43  
TINA JANZEN (HOUSEWIFE) CM  
b. 11.5.21 RUSSIA

19741 LEONARD DAVID (LAWYER) MB  
b. 18.10.46 BOISSEvain, MAN

19742 HENRY VICTOR (DOCTOR) CM  
b. 12.4.48 BOISSEvain, MAN

19743 AGATHA GERTRUDE MB  
b. 12.2.50 BOISSEvain, MAN

19744 EDWARD ALAN (STUDENT) CM  
b. 23.12.54 BRANCOH, MAN

19741 MARY ANNE FIEDIGER MB  
b. 26.6.46 MOKRAH, MAN

19743 ALVIN A. DOERKSEN (TEACHER) MB  
b. 10.5.48 WINNIPEG, MAN

197411 RACHEL KATHERINA b. 21.12.13 LETSBERG, ALB

197431 SUSAN JANE MARIE b. 5.5.71 WINNIPEG, MAN

197432 ALISON DAWN b. 29.11.72 WINNIPEG, MAN

1975 CORNELIUS FAST (LABORER) GC  
b. 16.6.22 TIEGERWEIDE, RUSSIA

1976 BERNHARD FAST (ENGINEER)  
b. 6.4.24 TIEGERWEIDE, RUSSIA

m. 18.9.70  
MARY PATRICIA McINNIS  
b. 6.2.36 BRANCOH, ONT.

1977 ANNE FAST (HOMEMAKER)  
b. 6.4.26 WINKLER, MAN

m. 13.10.56  
DANNY HOLOWAY (MECHANICS INTERESTOR)  
b. 10.4.23 WINNIPEG, MAN

1978 KATE FAST (HOMEMAKER) UN  
b. 13.4.30 MOUNTAIN SIDE, MAN

m. 28.9.55  
GERALD ALLAN MAY (DR. VETERINARIAN, PROPRIETOR & TOWNSMAN OF BOISSEvain) UN  
b. 15.12.33 DUNEEA, MAN

19771 SHIRLEY ANN  
b. 14.1.59 WINNIPEG, MAN

19772 DEBORAH JUNE  
b. 31.12.60 WINNIPEG, MAN

19773 DANIEL GRANT  
b. 10.12.62 WINNIPEG, MAN

19781 STEVEN ERIC  
b. 14.5.56 BOISSEvain, MAN

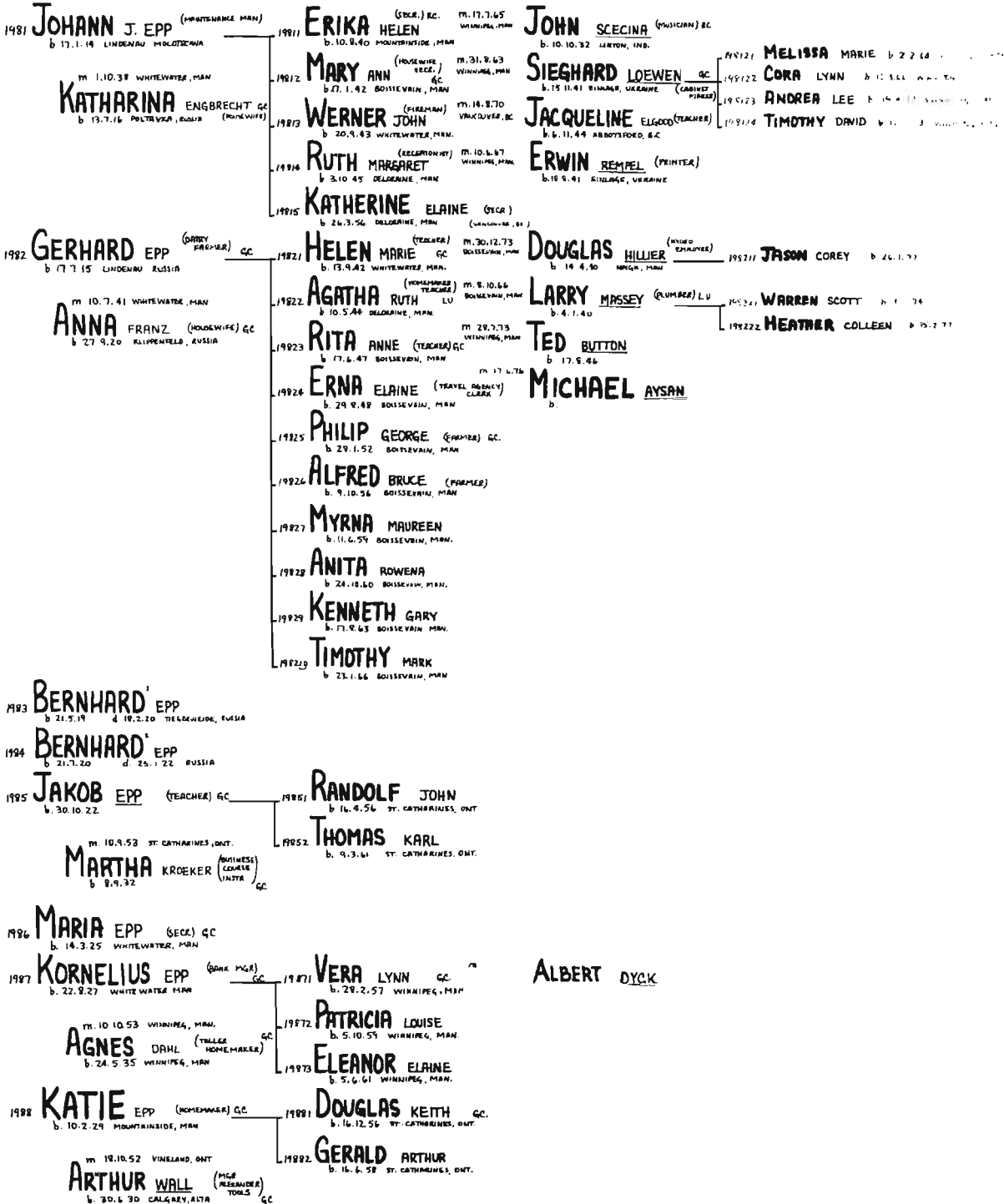
19782 JEFFREY ALLEN  
b. 6.9.57 BOISSEvain, MAN

19783 KENNETH DARREN  
b. 30.6.57 BOISSEvain, MAN

198 **JOHANN B. EPP**  
 b. 7.11.1892 LINDENAU, MOLDOVSKAYA  
 d. 3.2.72 VINELAND, ONT.

m. 14.6.14

**MARIA WARKENTIN**  
 b. 3.2.1895 LINDENAU, MOLDOVSKAYA



199 **DAVID EPP**  
 b. 7.11.1892 LINDENAU  
 d. (PRE-SCHOOLER)

1910 **MARIA EPP**  
 b. 4.2.1898 LINDENAU, MOLITSCHNA  
 d. 17.10.44 BOQUEIRÃO, MAMÁ, BRAZIL

m. 14.5.19  
 LINDENAU, RUSSIA

**DAVID ENNS**  
 b. 5.3.1894 BURAGAN, CALMERA  
 d. 4.2.39 CURITIBA, BRAZIL

19101 **RUDOLF ENNS** (OFFICE CLERK)  
 b. 15.3.21 RUSSIA  
 m. 15.5.48 BOQUEIRÃO, BRAZIL  
**KATI REMPEL** GC  
 b. 31.5.25

19102 **DAVID ENNS**  
 b. 25.6.25 RUSSIA d. 6.1.51 RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

19103 **ANNE LIESE** (HOUSEWIFE) GC  
 b. 22.4.33 BAKSLAU, ST. CATHERINES, ONT.  
 m. 10.9.55 ST. CATHERINES, ONT.  
**HENRY PANKRATZ** (LARGE)  
 GC  
 b. 3.1.30 CHADENFELD, MOLITSCHNA

191011 **MARIANE**  
 b. 2.1.49 BOQUEIRÃO, BRAZIL

191012 **VERA BERTOLENA**  
 b. 15.5.50

191013 **RUDOLFO ERNESTO**  
 b. 9.12.51 BOQUEIRÃO, BRAZIL

191014 **EGON ROBERT**  
 b. 14.5.51 BOQUEIRÃO, BRAZIL

**HARRY SCHARTNER**  
 b. 21.4.49

**EDELTRAUD** WALDOWITZ  
 b. 24.7.55

191031 **ELSIE MARIE**  
 b. 15.1.57 ST. CATHERINES, ONT.  
 m. 11.6.77

191032 **ROBERT HENRY**  
 b. 19.1.58 ST. CATHERINES, ONT.

191033 **TERESA SUSAN**  
 b. 24.1.66 ST. CATHERINES, ONT.

191034 **MICHAEL DAVID**  
 b. 9.12.47 ST. CATHERINES, ONT.

**FRANK KRAHN**  
 b. 17.1.53



Rudolf Enns and Kati Rempel.



Maria Enns with Anne Liese.

1101 JAKOB BOSCHMANN (FARMER) m.  
b. 6.1.1876 BEACTHAL, SACHSEN-ANHALT, GERMANY  
d. 2.2.37 (1937) (MOSCOW, U.S.S.R.)

EMILIE PETERS  
b. 7.10.1877 HALESTADT  
d. 21.5.62 U.S.S.R.

11011 LIESBETH BOSCHMANN  
b. 1.2.04 BEACTHAL, SACHSEN-ANHALT, GERMANY  
(EMILIE, WIFE OF AGNES)  
m. GERHARD REMPEL  
b. 9.2.42 U.S.S.R.  
11012 DANIEL BOSCHMANN  
b. 8.5.05 BEACTHAL, SACHSEN-ANHALT, GERMANY  
d. . . 13 BEACTHAL, SACHSEN-ANHALT, GERMANY

AGNES MB  
b. 3.36  
GERHARD  
b. 37  
(WIFE OF AGNES, UKRAINE)

OTTO MARKUS  
b. 4.8.28 Ovalsch  
CLARA NEMIROSKAYA  
b.

110111 MARINA  
b. 16.10.63  
110112 ARTUR  
b. 11.4.71  
110121 LIESEL  
b. 63  
110122 LENCHEN  
b. 69

11013 DAVID BOSCHMANN  
b. 7.10.06 BLUMENHET, MOLODZCHINA  
d. 6.11.13  
m. TINA ENNS  
b.

110131 ERNA  
b.  
110132 ANNIE  
b.  
110133 KAETHE  
b.  
110134 EDITH  
b. 37  
(WIFE OF ERNA, U.S.S.R.)

ALBERT KUHN  
b.  
KATAEF  
WILLIE KLASSEN  
MOCKOW

1101311 ARTUR  
b. 1.51  
1101312 NELLIE  
1101313  
1101314  
1101315  
1101316

11014 FRANZ BOSCHMANN  
b. 7/8.7.08 BLUMENHET, MOLODZCHINA  
d. 5.44  
m. MANJA BERGMANN  
b. 1893  
d. 1927 (MOSCOW, U.S.S.R.)

110141 WERNER (ALFONS)  
b. 41  
OSWALD  
b. 33  
NORA MARIA  
b. 32  
SIGRID (HEIDI)  
b. 32  
HEDWIG  
b. 40  
THEODOR  
b. 15.11.41  
LIESEL  
b. 47  
ARTHUR  
b. 90  
IRENE  
b. 52  
ALEXANDER (ENGINEER)  
b. 51

NATASCHA  
LUDMILLA  
HEINRICH FRIESEN  
ARTUR HORSTER  
WOLDEMAR FERDERAU  
TANJA  
ALEXANDER MUEHLSTEIN  
SVETLANA

1101411 INGE  
b. 1.71  
1101412 ANNIE  
b. 2.74  
1101413 INA  
b. 2.74  
1101414 WOLDI  
b. 1.71  
1101415 LENI  
b. 1.73

11015 THEODOR BOSCHMANN  
b. 10.9.09 BLUMENHET, MOLODZCHINA  
m. SARA BERGMANN  
b. 11.1.12 ROSENHET, MOLODZCHINA  
d. 25.12.79 ALMAATY, KAZAKHSTAN (ALMAATY, U.S.S.R.)

110151 ERNST  
b. 14  
ELENORE  
b. 1.21  
INA  
b. 1.21  
LENI  
b. 221  
JULIA  
b. 222  
ALEXANDER  
b. 231  
EUGEN  
b. 232  
ALEXANDER (SARINA)  
b. 241  
OLGA  
b. 242  
JULIE  
b. 243  
HEIDI  
b. 244  
VERONIKA  
b. 245  
KONSTANTIN  
b. 246  
ALEXESCHA  
b. 247  
ALEKSIS  
b. 248  
110157  
b. 90  
110158  
b. 52  
110159  
b. 51

1101511 ERNST  
b. 14  
1101512 ELENORE  
b. 1.21  
1101513 INA  
b. 1.21  
1101514 LENI  
b. 221  
1101515 JULIA  
b. 222  
1101516 ALEXANDER  
b. 231  
1101517 EUGEN  
b. 232  
1101518 ALEXANDER (SARINA)  
b. 241  
1101519 OLGA  
b. 242  
1101520 JULIE  
b. 243  
1101521 HEIDI  
b. 244  
1101522 VERONIKA  
b. 245  
1101523 KONSTANTIN  
b. 246  
1101524 ALEXESCHA  
b. 247  
1101525 ALEKSIS  
b. 248  
1101526  
1101527  
1101528  
1101529

11016 ANNA BOSCHMANN  
11017 MARIA BOSCHMANN  
(IN EMIGRATION)

110181 ELVIRA (KATJA)  
b. 42  
HANS  
b. 48  
(WIFE OF HANS, U.S.S.R.)

JACOB LOEWEN  
b.  
WILLIE  
SASCHA

1101811 WILLIE  
b. 1.71  
1101812 SASCHA  
b. 1.71

KATJA  
(WIFE OF DANIEL, U.S.S.R.)  
11019 HANS BOSCHMANN  
b. . . 15 (IN U.S.S.R.)  
11010 AGATTCHEN BOSCHMANN  
b. . . (IN EMIGRATION)  
11011 PHILIPP BOSCHMANN  
b. . . (MOSCOW, U.S.S.R.)



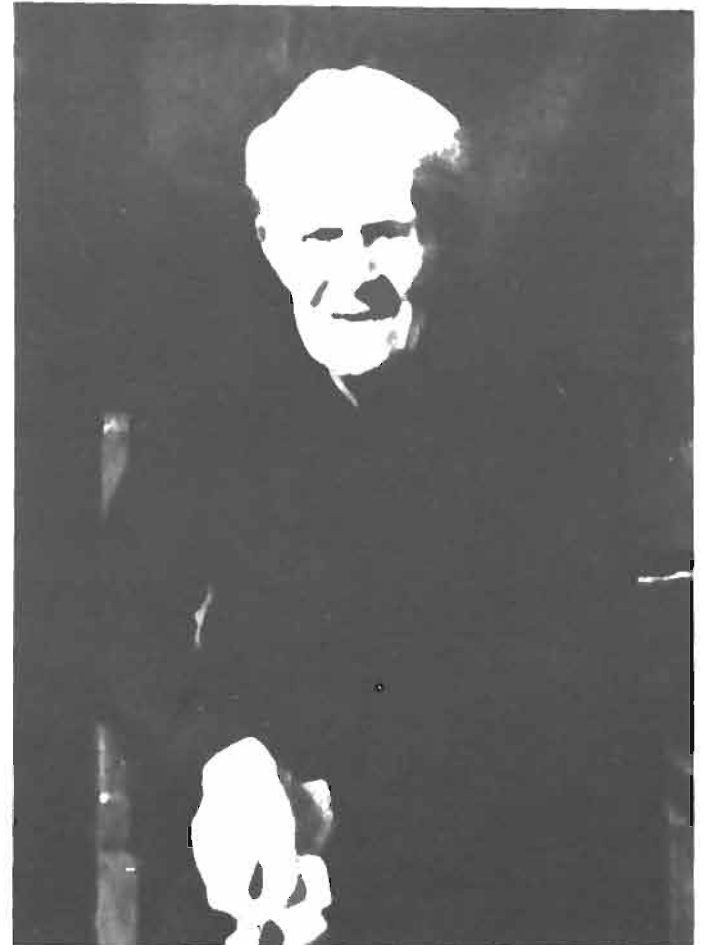
Liesbeth Rempel 11011 with grandson Artur Markus.



David and Tina Boschmann.



At Theodor Boschmanns 11015. Back, l-r: Arthur, Liesel. Middle, l-r: Sara Boschmann, teacher and family friend Philip Cornies, Theodor Boschmann 11015, Edith Boschmann 110141. Front, l-r: Irene and Alexander.



Emilie Boschmann.

1102 DANIEL BOSCHMANN  
b. 1879 (FARMER)

m.

① AGATHE EDIGER  
b. 21. 9. 1874  
d. 19 SUVOROVKA

m.

② LYDIA PETERS (WIDOW)  
BOSCHMANN  
b. 12. 2. 1875 BERTHAL  
d. 6. 1. 74 U.S.S.R.

① MARIECHEN BOSCHMANN  
b. 12. 3. 09  
m.  
b. d. 52 FEDEARU  
GERTRUDE  
110212  
110213  
110214  
110215 ANNI

110211 MARIANNE  
110212 HEINZ  
110213 IRENE

11022 HEINZ BOSCHMANN  
b. 26. 9. 10  
m. MARTHA DUECK  
BRUNO  
110222  
ERNST  
110223  
DANIEL  
110224  
LUISE  
110225  
ELFRIEDA  
110226  
110227  
110229 d. (in 1940s)  
110229

LJUBA — 110241 INA  
b. 1. 75

11023 NIKOLAI BOSCHMANN  
b. 11. 7. 12  
m. 1. 5. 56 HERTA (WIDOW) HAMM  
AGATHE BOSCHMANN  
b. 7. 7. 18  
m. 35 PETER HEIDEBRECHT (MD)  
IRMA HAMM  
110231  
HEINZ  
110232  
AGATCHEN  
110233  
HARRY (MD)  
110241  
LORE  
110242  
KORNELIUS  
110244

11025 DANIEL BOSCHMANN  
b. 18. 1. 19 (VEH SCHULLEN)  
② LYDIA BOSCHMANN  
b. 14. 9. 22 CAUGASIS  
m. 9 49 JOH. DIRKS  
NIKOLAI  
110261  
VICTOR  
110262  
MARIA  
110263



Relatives at the Heinz and Martha Boschmann home. Front, l-r: Katharina Boschmann, Martha's father with greatgrandchild, Heinz and Martha Boschmann and grandchild. Middle, l-r: a daughter-in-law, Selma Bergmann Neufeld 11051, Mrs. Friesen, unidentified, daughter-in-law Lore, daughter Elfrieda (sideways), son Walfried with wife Erika and two daughters (one standing in front of Daniel and one on wife's arm). Back, l-r: Daniel 110224 with brother Ernest's son on his shoulder, son Ernest 110223. Far right in back are two of Selma's sons 11051.

11027 **ALFRED** BOSCHMANN (CARPENTER) CAUCASUS  
 b. 3.9.24  
 m. **KATHARINA** NEUFELD (HOLAN, V.I.S.R.)  
 b. .26  
 110271 **ARTHUR** 54  
 110272 **WILLIE** 55  
 110273 **ALFRED** 57  
 110274 **MARGARETA** 60  
 110275 **NIKOLAI** 63  
 110276 **ILSE** 64  
 110277 **MARIA** 72  
 110278 **HEINRICH** 74 (LIT. INTERV.)  
 11028 **ILSE** BOSCHMANN CAUCASUS  
 b. .27  
 m. 31.5.49 **GERHARD** UNRUH  
 b. .26  
 110281 **SOPHIE** 20  
 110282 **KOLJA** 52  
 110283 **LENI** 54  
 11029 **DANIEL** BOSCHMANN (YOUNG)



Alfred 11027 and Katharina Boschmann and their three oldest children, Alfred, Arthur and Willie taken c. 1958.

1103 **DAVID** BOSCHMANN (LEHRER MÜSTRASCHULE) m. 5.31  
 b. .1893 KÖNIGSBERG (RUSSLAND)  
**LYDIA** PETERS (cf 1102②)  
 b. 12.2.1895 BERGTHAL, SCHÖNFELDER VOLOST  
 d. 6.1.74 U.S.S.R.

11031 **MARIECHEN** (MD) BOSCHMANN (MIMI) (POLAND, WIZASCHINA, U.S.S.R.)  
 b. 29.9.10  
 11032 **SOPHIA** (SONJA) BOSCHMANN CAUCASUS  
 b. 10.3.14  
 m. **HEINRICH** (DENTIST) PETERS (POLAND, WIZASCHINA, U.S.S.R.)  
 b. .12  
 11033 **HANS** BOSCHMANN LEIPZIG, GERMANY  
 b. 10/11  
 11034 **ANNA** BOSCHMANN CAUCASUS  
 b. .17  
 m. **JOHANN** PETERS WIDOWER  
 b. .07 LAMORONE, MOLDAVIA  
 11035 **ELIESABETH** BOSCHMANN (YOUNG)  
 b. .17  
 11036 **DAVID** BOSCHMANN (YOUNG)  
 b. .17  
 11037 (DAUGHTER) (YOUNG)

**GERTRUDE** — 110321 **HEINRICH** 64  
 — 110322 **IRENE**  
 — 110323  
 — 110324  
 — 110325 **LILI**  
 ELLA ?  
**KOLJA** HEIDEBRECHT — 110341 **KAETHE** 11.70  
**IRENE** MUELLER — 110342 **OLGA**  
 b. 9.9.51 — 110343 **EDGAR** 11.75



Back, l-r: Johann Peters 11034, Lydia Peters Boschmann (1102), Mariechen Boschmann 11031, Anna Peters 11034. In front are Valy and Lili Peters.



1104 JOHANN BOSCHMANN  
b. d. (VERSCHOLLEN)

MARIA WIENS  
b. ZAGAROVKA

11041 HEINRICH BOSCHMANN

11042 MARIECHEN BOSCHMANN

11043 TINA BOSCHMANN m. (BRUNNEN, WEST GERMANY) FUNK

11044 HANS BOSCHMANN

11045 SUSA BOSCHMANN

1105 <sup>0</sup>KATHARINA BOSCHMANN  
b. d.

JOH. BERGMANN  
b. ROSENORT, MOLDOVINA  
 d. m. © 1ST HELENA EPP BERGMANN

11051 SELMA (SARA) BERGMANN

11052 ANNA BERGMANN (TRUDENBERG)

11053 FRIDA BERGMANN d. ca 1970 ——— LOTTE 110531 b.

m. b.  
BISHOP

11054 LYDIA BERGMANN

11055 HANS BERGMANN d. (VERSCHOLLEN - W.W.I.)

11056 ERNST BERGMANN ——— MARIANNE 110561  
VICTOR 110562  
LYDIA 110563



Liesbeth Rempel 11011 with a friend in her home in West Germany.

1106 JUSTINA BOSCHMANN <sup>m.</sup>HEINRICH DUECK <sup>b.</sup>  
ROSENDRI, POLYTSERNA

1106/ LIESE  
HANS  
TINA  
HEINRICH  
EMILIE  
JUSTINA  
LENA  
DANIEL  
MARIECHEN  
JAKOB



At the funeral of Justina Dueck 1106. Unfortunately the surviving members of her family have not been identified.

1111 <sup>0</sup> JUSTINE EPP  
 b. 31.12.1895  
 d. 19.7.1972

m. 22.2.  
 MUELLER

JOHANN JACOB NEUFELD (TEACHER)  
 b. 9.2.  
 d. .14  
 m. 26.3.13 (FC) AGATHA EPP  
 b. 1892 d. 31.5.48  
 HEINRICH WOLSK  
 b. 1887 d. 11.5.51

11111 MARTIN JOHAN NEUFELD GC 11111 LOREEN EDITH  
 b. 18.8.07 KURUKHANI, HUNGARY b. 2.10.55 VANCOUVER, B.C. (She only 5'10" tall VANCOUVER, B.C.)

m. 2.9.50 VANCOUVER B.C.  
 SUSIE WALL GC  
 b. 17.1.15 WILKINSON, ONTARIO

11112 ANNA NEUFELD (HOUSE) MS b. 8.1.10  
 m. 7.11.37  
 NIKOLAI WIENS MS b. 16.9.12 (POLSKA, POLAND)  
 111121 ELVIRA b. 14.1.18  
 111122 GERTRUDA b. 4.1.31  
 111123 JAKOB b. 20.6.47

m. 41 JAKOB FRIESEN b. 15.7.37  
 m. 59 WIKTOR DERKSEN b. 12.9.40  
 m. 66 ANNA b. 30.12.46  
 111211 KOLJA b. 7.2.62  
 111212 KATJA b. 20.3.63  
 111213 ANNA URINA b. 13.10.73  
 111221 EDI b. 26.4.42  
 111231 OLJA b. 13.1.47  
 111232 HEINRICH b. 17.4.70  
 111233 AUDA b. 29.5.74

1112 KORNELIUS EPP  
 b. 26.12.1887  
 d. 6.3.1892

1113 MARTIN EPP  
 b. 9.7.1889  
 d. 9.7.1889

1114 MARIECHEN EPP  
 b. 30.7.1890  
 d. 19.9.1899



Martin Neufeld and Susie Wall.

1115 JOHANNES EPP (FARMER) GC  
 b. 8.3.1892 NIEDERKORFTZ, RUSSIA  
 d. 7.6.85 KITCHENER, ONT.

m. 18.21  
 RUSSIA

ANNA FRIESEN (HOUSEWIFE) GC  
 b. 23.3.1899 BUSHYSTEIN, RUSSIA  
 d. 29.8.62 KITCHENER, ONT.

11151 LENA EPP (HOUSE) GC b. 30.6.22 KOSNAT, RUSSIA  
 m. 21.8.47 WATERLOO, ONT.  
 JOHN JACOB EPP (FARMER) GC b. 2.11.11 SARKIS, RUSSIA  
 d. 16.5.65 WINDWARD, ONT.  
 111511 AGNES ELIZ. b. 9.10.44  
 111512 MARTIN JOHN b. 1.10.55

11152 ANNA EPP (GENERAL) b. 4.10.73 KURUKHANI, RUSSIA  
 m. 17.10.42 KITCHENER-WATERLOO, ONT.  
 RUDY SZOZDA (MERCHANT) b. 20.6.77  
 111521 MARIE ANN b. 11.4.44  
 111522 MARGARET ROSE b. 27.3.48  
 111523 JOHN RUDY b. 25.1.52

11153 TINA EPP (HOUSEWIFE) GC b. 27.10.24 WINDWARD, ONT.  
 m. 9.3.46 WATERLOO, ONT.  
 HENRY PERCIVAL BERGEN GC b. 18.8.16 RUSSIA  
 111531 KATHERINE VERA b. 6.2.47 WINDWARD, ONT.  
 111532 ELIZABETH ANN b. 6.5.49  
 111533 HELENE ERMA b. 9.7.52  
 111534 HENRIETTA JOYCE b. 12.5.51

m. 19.5.18 WATERLOO, ONT.  
 TOM HAWKINS b. 5.11  
 1115311 MARIE-ANN b. 5.11

m. 20.8.66 WINDWARD, ONT. / div.  
 GARY LAWRENCE ORSULAK b. 25.5.43 WINDWARD, ONT.  
 11153111 WENDY ELAINE b. 27.12.74  
 11153112 DAVID GARY b. 25.1.76  
 m. 6.11.71 WINDWARD, ONT.  
 ROBERT CAMPBELL CLARKSON b. 28.1.45 WINDWARD, ONT.  
 111531111 ANGELA DAWN b. 12.3.74  
 111531112 KAREN ELIZABETH b. 9.9.76  
 LAWRENCE GLOWASKI b. 20.1.54

11154 **JUSTINA EPP**  
 b. 27.6.26 REECON, ONT.  
 m. 11.4.45  
**ANTHONY WOLSKÉ**  
 b. 15.10.15

11155 **LIESE EPP** (born 11-06-1894) EL.  
 b. 18.12.28 REECON, ONT.  
 m. 27.9.49  
**GORDON JOHN ZIEGLER** EL.  
 b. 29.3.23  
 d. 21.1.70 KITCHENER, ONT.

11156 **JOHN EPP** (born 11-11-1900)  
 b. 29.1.30 REECON, ONT.  
 m. 23.2.52 KITCHENER, ONT.  
**ROMA HUMPHRY** (born 11-11-1900)  
 b. 25.12.27 ROYALTON, ONT.  
 (=ROMA, ONT.)

11157 **MARIE EPP**  
 b. 25.3.31  
 m. 30.9.50 KITCHENER, ONT.  
**EDWIN LOUIS WALTHER**  
 b. 20.1.23 KITCHENER, ONT.  
 (m. 11-26-1947 WATKINSON, ONT. 1952-1964)

11158 **SUSIE EPP**  
 b. 17.5.32 REECON, ONT.  
 m. 20.10.56  
**STANLEY JOHN GROSS**  
 b. 24.11.27 KITCHENER, ONT.

11159 **ERMA EPP**  
 b. 26.7.33 REECON, ONT.  
 m. 24.9.55  
**DOUGLAS DONALD KING** (DEACON, COVENTRY)  
 b. 21.9.29 KITCHENER, ONT.

11160 **FRIEDA EPP**  
 b. 19.7.34 REECON, ONT.  
 m. 29.9.56  
**RALPH EMIL HOEFT**  
 b. 4.4.30 KITCHENER, ONT.  
 (m. 11-26-1952 KITCHENER, ONT. 1954-1972)

11161 **AGNES EPP**  
 b. 10.10.35 REECON, ONT.  
 m. 21.5.55 DU MANS 62  
**ROBERT SCHMIDT** (born 11-11-1900)  
 b. 5.7.24 M.E. HOPE TOWNSHIP

11162 **FRED ROSE**  
 m. 4.4.44

11163 **JACOB EPP**  
 b. 21.12.36 REECON, ONT.  
 d. 31.5.31 REECON, ONT.

111541 **FRANK ANTHONY**  
 b. 20.7.46  
 m. 18.3.68  
**CONNIE NEWMAN** (A.M.)

111542 **JOAN JUSTINA**  
 b. 11.8.47  
 m. 15.7.61  
**RONALD LEE**  
 GUELPH, ONT.

111543 **MARIAN HOPE**  
 b. 11.9.49  
 m. 1.4.67  
**JOHN GWYNN**

111551 **RUTH ELLEN**  
 b. 9.7.50 KITCHENER, ONT.  
 m. 28.6.75  
**DENNIS WILLFANG**  
 KITCHENER, ONT.

111552 **DENNIS HERBERT**  
 b. 14.6.52 KITCHENER, ONT.

111553 **GORDON ROSS**  
 b. 2.7.53 KITCHENER - WESTERDALE, ONT.

111554 **PETER LLOYD**  
 b. 7.7.54 KITCHENER - WATKINSON, ONT.

111561 **JUDY FRANCES**  
 b. 27.9.52

111562 **JACQUELINE ROMA**  
 b. 8.12.54

111563 **TERESA NADINE**  
 b. 6.11.61

111571 **JANET ROMA MARIE**  
 b. 28.3.53

111581 **KATHLEEN SUSANNE**  
 b. 17.10.61

111591 **BRADLEY DOUGLAS**  
 b. 7.5.59

111592 **RICHARD LOUIS**  
 b. 22.3.61

111593 **BARBARA-ANN ELIZ.**  
 b. 26.4.64.

111594 **SUSAN LORRAINE**  
 b. 30.7.57

111595 **ELSIE LYNN**  
 b. 27.9.59

111596 **RALPH WARREN**  
 b. 25.10.67

111597 **DAVID CONRAD**  
 b. 26.5.62

111598 **JOYCE ANN**  
 b. 6.11.65

Below: On the day of their mother's funeral the Johannes Epp 1115 children gathered at her home in Kitchener, Ontario. Together with their spouses (with one exception) they appear chronologically oldest to youngest beginning at the right hand side.



1116 SUSANNA EPP (HOMEMAKER) GC.  
 b. 30.8.1896 KURUSIBN, RUSSIA  
 d. 5.2.72 COALDALE, ALTA.

m. 5.9.18  
 RUSSIA

ABR. J. WILLMS (FARMER) GC.  
 b. 7.12.1893 PETERSHAGEN, RUSSIA  
 d. 10.2.76

11161 JACOB WILLMS (FARMER) GC.  
 b. 11.7.19 PETERSHAGEN, RUSSIA  
 m. 23.11.48 COALDALE ALTA  
 MARY KLASSEN (HOMEMAKER)  
 b. 23.9.25 SIBERIA  
 (COALDALE ALTA)

111611 JOHN ERNEST (FARMER) GC.  
 b. 1.9.49 COALDALE, ALTA.  
 111612 FREDERICK JAMES (FARMER) GC.  
 b. 3.5.50 COALDALE, ALTA.  
 111613 HENRY ARNOLD  
 b. 29.4.52 COALDALE, ALTA.  
 111614 DAVID ALVIN (WILDER)  
 b. 23.5.54 COALDALE ALTA  
 111615 SHARON RUTH  
 b. 2.5.56 CALGARY, ALTA.  
 111616 HILDA JANE  
 b. 3.12.58 COALDALE, ALTA.  
 111617 KATHLEEN MARG.  
 b. 29.10.62 COALDALE, ALTA.  
 111618 WILBERT ALLEN  
 b. 14.6.68 BROCKLET, ALTA  
 111619 LAWRENCE EUGENE  
 b. 1.10.68 EDMONTON, ALTA.

ESTHER WIEBE (FARMER) GC.  
 m. 27.12.68 OTTAWA  
 MARGARET J. QIESBRECHT GC.  
 b. 25.12.52 SWIFT CURRENT, SASK.  
 111611 MICHAEL JOHN  
 111612 SHANNON YVONNE  
 111613 HEATHER NOELLE  
 111614 CINDY JOHANNE  
 111615 CANDICE ELAINE

11162 ABRAM WILLMS (PROFESSOR) GC.  
 b. 3.4.21 LADEKOPF, POLYTSCHNA  
 OTTAWA  
 m. 11.8.45 DONCASTER ENGLAND  
 MARGARET TAYLOR (LIBRARIAN) AH  
 b. 14.11.22 LINCOLN, ENGLAND  
 (OTTAWA)

111621 JOHN (LAWYER)  
 b. 30.4.46 DONCASTER ENGL.  
 111622 SUSAN (RESEARCHER)  
 b. 24.4.50 TORONTO, ONT.  
 111623 THOMAS  
 b. 25.5.52 OTTAWA, ONT. d. 20.10.73 OTTAWA ONT  
 111624 ALAN (BOOK MESSENGER)  
 b. 9.11.54 OTTAWA ONT  
 111625 MARION (STUDENT) AH  
 b. 28.12.57 OTTAWA, ONT

m. 27.12.67 OTTAWA  
 3-4  
 1778 E. JOELL  
 ADÈLE PILON (STUDENT)  
 b. 18.12.67 LETHBRIDGE, ALTA.

11163 SUSAN WILLMS (ADMNISTRATOR) GC.  
 b. 7.1.23 LADEKOPF, RUSSIA  
 11164 HELEN WILLMS (PROFESSOR) GC.  
 b. 15.5.25 LADEKOPF, RUSSIA

11165 MARY WILLMS (RN) GC.  
 b. 2.6.27 GLENMOUTH SASK (MONT. ALTA)  
 11166 HENRY WILLMS  
 b. 1.1.29 GLENMOUTH SASK d. 12.9.43 COALDALE ALTA

111650 CAROL JEAN  
 b. 16.12.67 PHULE CREEK, SASK.

11167 ANNIE WILLMS (HOMEMAKER)  
 b. 23.12.30 CHANLEY, ALTA  
 m. 12.7.61 COALDALE ALTA  
 GEORGE WARKENTIN (TEACHING) (HOMEMAKER)  
 b. 11.7.33 WINNIPEG, MAN (CHENAY, BC)

111671 VIOLET ANNE  
 b. 10.2.64 WINNIPEG, MAN  
 111672 LILLIAN RUTH  
 b. 7.6.66 VANCOUVER, BC  
 111673 SHARON ROSE  
 b. 29.8.68 SHERBROOKE, QC  
 111674 LYNETTE HEATHER  
 b. 25.10.70 BURGESS FARM HOUSE, BC

11168 MARGARET WILLMS (RN) GC.  
 b. 21.6.33 COALDALE, ALTA.

111680 EMILY HELEN  
 b. 22.4.72 HOUSTON, MAN.

11169 DAVID WILLMS (FARMER)  
 b. 17.5.35 COALDALE ALTA  
 m. 28.12.64  
 ELFRIEDE KLASSEN (HOMEMAKER)  
 b. 28.9.36 COALDALE ALTA (BOW ISLAND, ALTA)

111691 CARLA DAWN  
 b. 28.1.67 BOW ISLAND, ALTA.  
 111692 LAUREN PAUL  
 b. 14.10.69 BOW ISLAND, ALTA  
 111693 MARTIN DAVID  
 b. 29.1.73 BOW ISLAND, ALTA

111610 JOHANNA TINA WILLMS (TEACHER) (HOMEMAKER)  
 b. 7.3.38 COALDALE, ALTA  
 m. 29.6.68 COALDALE, ALTA  
 R. C. MCKENZIE (AGRONOMIST)  
 b. 7.2.33 SASKATON, SASK (BROOKS, ALTA)

1116101 GLENN ANDREW  
 b. 28.3.69 EDMONTON, ALTA  
 1116102 PAULINE RUTH  
 b. 4.7.70 CALGARY, ALTA.  
 1116103 GREGORY JOHN  
 b. 1.9.74 BEAVER, ALTA.

111611 MARTHA ELIZ WILLMS (HOMEMAKER)  
 b. 3.1.40 COALDALE, ALTA  
 m. 1.12.62 COALDALE, ALTA  
 WILLIAM KLASSEN (FARMER)  
 b. 30.12.31 OTTAWA, ONT (COALDALE ALTA)

1116111 SUSAN ELIZ.  
 b. 12.9.63 COALDALE ALTA.  
 1116112 MARG LOUISE  
 b. 17.4.65 COALDALE, ALTA.  
 1116113 DAVID WILLIAM  
 b. 30.1.71 CALGARY, ALTA.  
 1116114 DANIEL EDWARD  
 b. 16.6.71 CALGARY, ALTA

1117 ANNA EPP  
 b. 4. 12. 1898  
 d. . . . . 99

1118 JAKOB EPP MB  
 b. 26. 4. 1906 PISCHAU, MOLOTSCHEWA  
 d. 19. 10. 68 KARGANDA, SIBIRIA, URSS

m. . . . 25

①

ANNA GOERTZEN  
 b. . . . . 97  
 d. 21. 5. 45

m. 1. 9. 45

②

LIESE (GOERTZEN) REGEHR MB.  
 b. 11. 6. 09 d. 27. 11. 79

①  
 11181 LIESE EPP  
 b. 22. 9. 26

m. . . . 49

HEINRICH TOEWS  
 b. 9. 3. 25

11181 DAVID  
 b. 5. 1. 51

111812 LIESE (MILGARDIN)  
 b. 2. 8. 52

111813 HEINRICH  
 b. 2. 2. 54

111814 JACOB  
 b. 19. 5. 55

111815 ADINA  
 b. 25. 3. 57

111816 LENI  
 b. 15. 12. 59

111817 KATJA  
 b. . . . . 59

111818 WILLI  
 b. 7. 7. 65

111819 ANNI  
 b. . . . . 50

111820 LENI (MARI WENZEL)  
 b. 14. 10. 51

111821 TINA  
 b. 22. 7. 53

111822 HEINRICH  
 b. 27. 8. 55

111823 JOHANN  
 b. 22. 3. 57

111824 JAKOB  
 b. 10. 9. 59

111825 GREDEL  
 b. 16. 1. 61

111826 KORNELIUS  
 b. . . . . 64

111827 ANNIE  
 b. 10. 11. 59

111828 JAKOB  
 b. 5. 5. 54

111829 ABRAMKA  
 b. 5. 9. 57

111830 LIENA  
 b. 3. 4. 57

111831 LIESE  
 b. 13. 12. 60

111832 HEINRICH  
 b. 7. 9. 62

111833 BERNIE  
 b. 12. 12. 64

111834 TINA  
 b. 12. 2. 69

111835 LENI  
 b. 9. 4. 68

111836 JOHANN  
 b. 26. 12. 69

111837  
 b. . . . . 71

11192 TINA EPP  
 b. 7. 5. 29

m. 2. 7. 49

HEINRICH DERKSEN (MARI WENZEL)  
 b. 22. 1. 26

111921 ANNI  
 b. . . . . 50

111922 LENI (MARI WENZEL)  
 b. 14. 10. 51

111923 TINA  
 b. 22. 7. 53

111924 HEINRICH  
 b. 27. 8. 55

111925 JOHANN  
 b. 22. 3. 57

111926 JAKOB  
 b. 10. 9. 59

111927 GREDEL  
 b. 16. 1. 61

111928 KORNELIUS  
 b. . . . . 64

111929 ANNIE  
 b. 10. 11. 59

111930 JAKOB  
 b. 5. 5. 54

111931 ABRAMKA  
 b. 5. 9. 57

111932 LIENA  
 b. 3. 4. 57

111933 LIESE  
 b. 13. 12. 60

111934 HEINRICH  
 b. 7. 9. 62

111935 BERNIE  
 b. 12. 12. 64

111936 TINA  
 b. 12. 2. 69

111937 LENI  
 b. 9. 4. 68

111938 JOHANN  
 b. 26. 12. 69

111939  
 b. . . . . 71

11193 LIENA EPP  
 b. 22. 8. 32

m. . . . 29

ABR. GÜNTHER  
 b. 16. 2. 30

111931 ANNIE  
 b. 10. 11. 59

111932 JAKOB  
 b. 5. 5. 54

111933 ABRAMKA  
 b. 5. 9. 57

111934 LIENA  
 b. 3. 4. 57

111935 LIESE  
 b. 13. 12. 60

111936 HEINRICH  
 b. 7. 9. 62

111937 BERNIE  
 b. 12. 12. 64

111938 TINA  
 b. 12. 2. 69

111939 LENI  
 b. 9. 4. 68

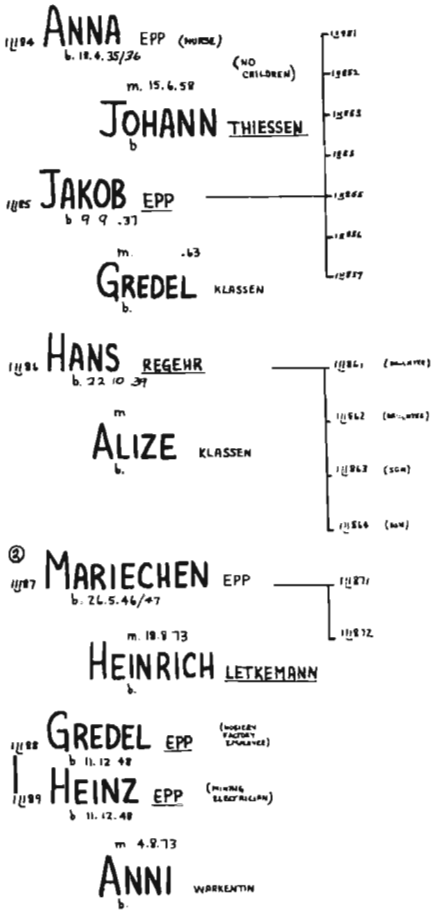
111940 JOHANN  
 b. 26. 12. 69

111941  
 b. . . . . 71

m KATJA SCHELLENBERG 111811 IRA

m LEO EPP

W. P. JANZEN 111821 VICTOR  
 111832  
 111833  
 111834



The Jakob Epp 1118 family in 1963. Back, l-r: Johann Thiessen, Jakob Epp, Heinrich Derksen, Hans Regehr. Middle, l-r: Abram Guenther, Anna Thiessen, Mariechen Epp, Tina Derksen, Gredel Epp, Alize Regehr, Heinrich Toews. Front, l-r: Liena Guenther, Liese Epp, Jakob Epp, Liese Toews.



Tina Krueger 1119 with her children and grandchildren. Back, l-r: Heinrich and Mariechen Rempel, Susa and Hardi Baergen, unknown. Middle, l-r: Greta Krueger, Tina Krueger, unknown, unknown, unknown, Olga and Hans Krueger. The grandchildren are not identified.

1119 **TINA EPP**  
b. 13. 4. 02

GC

m. .20

**HANS KRUEGER**  
b. 19. 3. 1900 PETERSHAGEN, MOLOTZCHINA  
d. 12. 2. 42 (DIED IN BRITAIN)

11191 **GRETA** KRUEGER  
d. (H WIFE)

11192 **GRETA** KRUEGER (CONSTRUCTION WORKER) GC  
b. 21. 7. 21 d. 21. 2. 76

11193 **HANS** KRUEGER (MINE WORKER)  
b. 14. 6. 25

m. **OLGA** KLEIN (HOUSEWIFE)  
b. 21. 7. 25

111931 **LIESCHEN**  
b. 19. 10. 51

111932 **LENCHEN**  
b. 24. 7. 54

111933 **TINCHEN**  
b. 9. 3. 57

111934 **ANNI**  
b. 4. 1. 60

111935 **IRA**  
b. 1. 10. 61

111936 **HANSCHEN**  
b. 28. 3. 65

111937 } TWO SONS ONE STILLBORN  
AND THE OTHER DIED 16 DAYS  
AFTER BIRTH  
111938 }

11194 **GERHARD** KRUEGER  
d. (H WIFE)

11195 **SUSA** KRUEGER (HOUSEWIFE)  
b. 24. 10. 33

m. **HARDI** BÄRGEN (FACTORY EMPLOYEE)  
b. 19. 10. 32

111941 **EDI**  
b. 16. 3. 58

111952 **GERHARD**  
b. 27. 11. 57

111953 **LORI**  
b. 27. 7. 63

111954 **...**  
b. 26. 11. 72

11196 **MARIECHEN** KRUEGER (HOUSE WIFE)  
b. 25. 9. 35

m. **HEINRICH** REMPEL (MASON)  
b. 20. 6. 35

111961 **ANNI**  
b. 28. 5. 62

111962 **TINCHEN**  
b. 19. 6. 65

111963 **RITA**  
b. 19. 7. 70



1110 HEINRICH EPP (MINISTER, ELDER, FARMER) GC. b. 9.2.04 FISCHAU, MOLOTECHNA d. 13.4.58 MT. LENMAN, B.C.

M. 11.5.24 SUYOLONKA CAUCASUS

ANNA ENNS (HOMEMAKER) GC. b. 24.10.02 TRILMA #3, TERREB d. 15.12.58 CLEARBROOK, B.C.

11101 HENRY EPP (MINISTER) GC. b. 23.3.25 WINKLER, MAN m. 26.8.50 KITCHENER-WATERLOO, ONT MARY REIMER (HOMEMAKER) GC b. 31.3.28 DAVLE KAVOVA, UFA, USSR

111011 DAUGHTERS b. 22.2.52 d. 22.2.52 KITCHENER-WATERLOO, ONT 111012 ESTHER IRENE (EN) GC m. 26.12.55 b. 25.2.54 ASUNCION, PARAGUAY 111013 ANNELI MAELENE GC m. 16.7.77 b. 26.5.55 ASUNCION, PARAGUAY 111014 MARY ELEANOR m. 7.5.77 b. 1.7.57 KITCHENER-WATERLOO, ONT 111015 HENRY JOHN b. 27.3.59 KITCHENER-WATERLOO, ONT 111016 ROBERT PAUL b. 27.11.60 KITCHENER-WATERLOO, ONT

FRED KAETHLER MC b. 19.8.53 FREEMAN, PITCAIRN 111017 NORMAN PETER b. 25.1.77 ST. LAWRENCE, ONT LAWRENCE BRAUL GC b. 23.2.58 CALGARY, ALTA. KENNETH PENNER GC (MILITARY MEMBER) b. 18.5.55 111018 ANDREW JOHN b. 2.7.79 ST. LAWRENCE, ONT

11102 BRUNO EPP (MINISTER) GC. b. 29.9.27 LENA, MAN m. 20.8.52 EISENHAIN, SASK ELIZABETH JANTZEN GC b. 24.10.29 LARG, SASK (HOMEMAKER)

111021 VERNON HENRY GC b. 13.6.53 ROSTHEAN, SASK 111022 RUTH MARGARET GC b. 16.2.56 VOLENDAM, PARAGUAY 111023 RODNEY JOHN GC b. 29.11.56 VOLENDAM, PARAGUAY 111024 LYNETTE ANNE b. 22.10.59 NEULAND, PARAGUAY 111025 KARIN ELAINE b. 8.10.61 NEULAND, PARAGUAY 111026 LORAN RICHARD b. 29.5.65 OULLEWICK, B.C.

11103 FRANK EPP (FEDERAL ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE) GC. b. 26.5.29 LENA, MAN m. 27.6.53 LEAMINGTON, ONT HELEN DICK (HOMEMAKER SECRETARY) GC b. 28.1.30 PELLE, ISLAND, LEAMINGTON, ONT (AL. CRAMERMAN OF WATERLOO, ONT)

111031 MARIANNE LOUISE b. 12.4.54 ALTONA, MAN 111032 ESTHER RUTH EPP b. 17.5.55 ALTONA, MAN 111033 MARLENE GAY b. 5.9.58 WINNIPEG, MAN 111034 ALBERT GHANDI b. 26.11.65 d. 26.11.65 WINNIPEG, MAN

m. 27.8.77 WATERLOO, ONT TOM COLEMAN 111035 CONRAD THEODORE b. 21.11.50 MONTREAL, QUE. DANIEL J. TIESSEN b. 15.4.63 LEAMINGTON, ONT

11104 ANNA EPP (HOMEMAKER) GC. b. 9.1.31 LENA, MAN m. 28.12.61 ABBOTSFORD, BC ADOLF ENS (TEACHER) GC b. 13.12.33 REINLAND, MAN (ST. LAWRENCE ST. W. WILFRED, MAN. #311 119)

111041 MARTIN GEORGE b. 4.12.62 NEWTON, KS. 111042 JONATHAN ADOLF b. 15.4.64 NEWTON, KS. 111043 ANITA HELEN b. 27.10.65 NEWTON, KS.

11105 MENNO EPP (PASTOR) GC. b. 11.4.32 LENA, MAN m. 24.7.57 WARSCHTEL, SASK IRMA WIENS (HOMEMAKER TEACHER) GC b. 6.7.33 ROSEBOW, SASK (2ND UNIT PL. NW. CALABRY T2H 444)

111050 BEVERLY ANN b. 5.10.61 NEW WEST MINISTER, BC. 111051 CHARLENE BETH b. 5.10.61 NEW WEST MINISTER, BC. 111052 DARRELL PETER b. 9.4.65 NEW WEST MINISTER, BC.

11106 MARTIN EPP (PRINCIPAL TEACHER) b. 29.9.33 LENA, MAN m. 14.9.55 KELDWINA, BC BARBARA VOGHT (HOMEMAKER DOCTOR) b. 13.12.35 ROSEBOW, SASK

111061 GERALD ALAN b. 1.11.56 BURNS LAKE, BC. 111062 RONALD MARTIN b. 4.12.57 BURNS LAKE, BC. 111063 BRENDA LYNN m. 1.4.78 b. 14.11.58 BURNS LAKE, BC. 111064 WENDY MAE b. 26.9.63 BURNABY, BC.

WILLIAM MARTINSON b.

11107 GEORGE EPP (SOCIAL WORKER) b. 25.7.36 LENA, MAN m. 4.6.60 HANEY, BC DORIS TURNBULL (HOMEMAKER SECRETARY) b. 17.11.34 ROMA DUNN b. 7.9.51 ST. JOHN'S, Nfld

111071 GWEN CAROLYN HELEN b. 31.7.61 HANEY, BC. 111072 BLAIR MURVIN b. 28.7.62 HANEY, BC. 111073 BRENT WARREN b. 26.7.62 HANEY, BC.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>11108 SUSAN EPP (HOMEMAKER) GC.<br/>b. 1.12.37 LEIA, MAN.<br/>m. 26.9.60 ABBOTSFORD, BC.<br/>WERNER FROESE (MINISTER) GC.<br/>b. 1.7.38</p>  | <p>111081 MICHAEL JAMES<br/>b. 30.11.61 WINNIPEG, MAN.<br/>111082 KENNETH LOREN<br/>b. 5.9.63 CHILLIWACK, BC.<br/>111083 LEWIS<br/>b. 22.8.68 D'ORSELY, ALTA</p>  |
| <p>11109 LYDIA EPP (HOMEMAKER (CAMP KITCHEN MGR)) GC.<br/>b. 21.12.38 WINKLER, MAN.<br/>m. 25.6.60 ABBOTSFORD, BC.<br/>LESLIE FRIESEN (CAMP MANAGER) GC.<br/>b. 20.9.36 ROTHERM, SASK.</p>                  | <p>111091 SHERRY DAWN<br/>b. 17.5.61 CHILLIWACK, BC.<br/>111092 RODERICK LEE<br/>b. 12.6.62 CHILLIWACK, BC.<br/>111093 CRAIG ERROL<br/>b. 21.7.66 ABBOTSFORD, BC.<br/>111094 DWAYNE KENT<br/>b. 16.9.70 ABBOTSFORD, BC.</p> |
| <p>11109 LINDA EPP (HOMEMAKER) GC.<br/>b. 5.4.40 WINKLER, MAN.<br/>m. 26.9.60 ABBOTSFORD, BC.<br/>VICTOR SAWATSKY (TEACHER) GC.<br/>b. 17.9.39 USSR</p>   | <p>111091 ROLAND GLEN H.<br/>b. 21.9.61 VANCOUVER, BC.<br/>111092 REGINALD KEITH<br/>b. 6.4.64 VANCOUVER, BC.<br/>111093 RAMONA LEE<br/>b. 29.2.68 ALTONA, MAN.</p>   |
| <p>11109 ALVIN EPP (C.C.W. (GROUP HOME OPERATOR)) AFF. U.K.<br/>b. 9.9.41 WINKLER, MAN.<br/>m. 29.9.64 CHILLIWACK, BC.<br/>MARGARET GOERTZEN (HOMM. - WALKER) AFF. U.K.<br/>b. 21.2.44 BRANVILLE, NCTR.</p> | <p>111091 KEVIN JAMES<br/>b. 14.9.65 OLIVER, BC.<br/>111092 BLAYNE MARK<br/>b. 9.4.67 OLIVER, BC.</p>   |
| <p>11109 VIOLA EPP (HOMEMAKER) EM.<br/>b. 31.1.45 WINKLER, MAN.<br/>m. 1.7.67 WINNIPEG, MAN.<br/>EDWARD RONALD LOEWEN (DOCTOR) GC.<br/>b. 7.5.44 STEINBACH, MAN.</p>  | <p>111091 MATTHEW<br/>b. 9.4.63 WINNIPEG, MAN.<br/>111092 RONALD JAMES<br/>b. 19.5.71 WINNIPEG, MAN.</p>  |
| <p>11109 RUDI EPP (CONSTRUCTION WORKER) GC.<br/>b. 1.3.48 CHILLIWACK, BC.<br/>m. 27.6.70 ALBERROVE, BC.<br/>MONIKA BRAUN (SECRETARY) GC.<br/>b. 5.11.50 USSR</p>  | <p>111091 DAVID MARK<br/>b. 16.9.75<br/>111092 STEPHEN KARL<br/>b. 19.6.77 ALBERROVE, BC.</p>   |



The Heinrich 11110 and Anna Epp children and grandchildren at a reunion in August 1975 at Camp Squeah, B.C. The children and their respective spouses are in rows two and three from the front in chronological order from the left. Grandchildren seated on the floor, l-r: Loran, Jonathan, Anita, Darrell, Wendy, Ramona, Lewis, Kenneth, Craig, Dwayne, Blayne, Kevin, Matthew. Back, l-r: Henry John, Robert, Mary Eleanor, Anneli, Ruth, Rodney, Marianne, Roderick, Marlene, Michael. Second row from back, l-r: Esther Irene, Karin, Lynette, Esther Ruth, Gerald, Charlene, Beverly, Ronald, Brenda, Martin, Sherry, Roland, Vernon, Reginald.

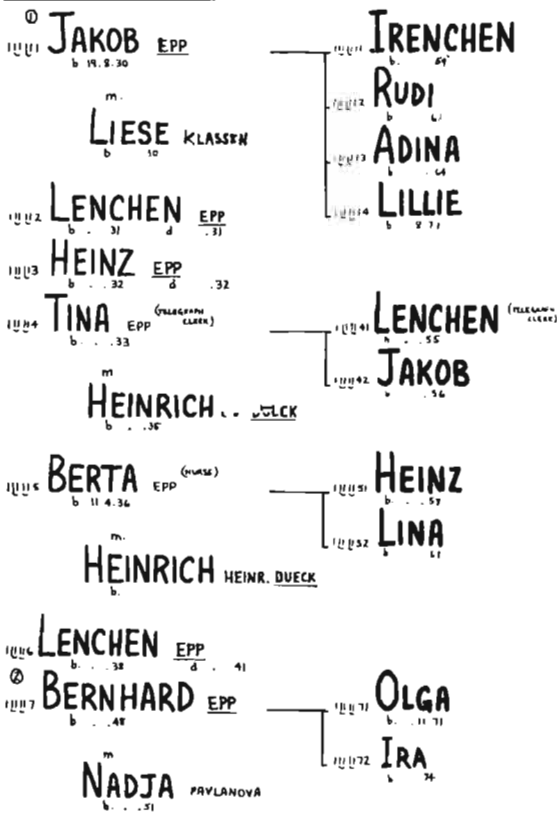


The Bernhard Epp family in October 1975.

IIII BERNHARD EPP (PITHAN/DEACON) M.B. b. 7.6.06  
M. 10.11.29  
 MALAN THOMAS KA  
 CAUCASUS

ⓐ TINA GOERTZEN b. 29.5.01 d. 20.2.42

ⓑ TINA HUEBERT (HORNHOLZ) M.B. b. 12.7.12



11112 **DAVID EPP** (FARMER) GC  
 b. 29.5.08  
 RUSSIA

m. 25.10.31  
 GEUNTHAL  
 MAN.

**MARGARET WIENS** (HOMEMAKER) GC  
 b. 24.10.11  
 RUSSIA

11121 **DAVID JACOB EPP** (BUSINESSMAN) GC  
 b. 17.11.32 GEUNTHAL, MAN.  
 m. 13.6.54 GEUNTHAL, MAN.  
**SARA LOEWEN** (HOMEMAKER) GC  
 b. 20.5.34 GEUNTHAL, MAN.

11122 **HENRY EPP** (BUSINESSMAN) LU  
 b. 10.9.35 WINNIPEG, MAN.  
 m. 2.11.63 STEINBACH, MAN.  
**GERRY MAY** (HOUSEWIFE) LU.  
 b. 25.5.43 STEINBACH, MAN.  
 (194 PRESENT CARE BEDFORDS, BC.)

11123 **HELEN EPP** (HOUSEWIFE) GC  
 b. 5.10.38 WINNIPEG, MAN.  
 m. 14.6.59  
**WERNER WARKENTIN** (FARMER) GC  
 b. 10.10.36 WINNIPEG, MAN.  
 (M. 75 OF WIN. MAN.)

11124 **MARGARET EPP** (HOUSEWIFE) GC  
 b. 16.10.42 WINNIPEG, MAN.  
 m. 11.7.65 GEUNTHAL, MAN.  
**JOHN BLATZ** (RESTAURANT OPERATOR) GC  
 b. 24.9.35 STEINBACH, MAN.  
 (STEINBACH, MAN.)

11125 **MARY EPP** (HOUSEWIFE) BA  
 b. 16.10.42 WINNIPEG, MAN.  
 m. 24.6.66 GEUNTHAL, MAN.  
**ERNIE FALK** (BUSINESSMAN) BA  
 b. 10.9.43  
 (5971 BONDIE LANE, RANLUOOPS, BC V2C 5H4)

11126 **WERNER EPP** (TEACHER) GC  
 b. 24.2.48  
 m. 12.6.71 WINNIPEG, MAN.  
**ANNE REMPEL** (CATERER) GC  
 b. 30.10.48 PRINCEALTY, SOUTH, A  
 (2044, 407 757, 4075, 4076, 4077, 4078, 4079, 4080, 4081, 4082)

11131 **KENNETH DAVID EPP** (TRUCK DRIVER) GC  
 b. 9.7.55 STEINBACH, MAN.  
 m. 23.9.75  
**BEVERLY ANNE NEUFELD** (CLEANER) GC  
 b. 29.4.57 WINNIPEG, MAN.

11132 **DONALD GEORGE EPP**  
 b. 1.8.57 WINNIPEG, MAN.  
 m. 9.78  
**BRENDA PETERS**

11133 **HOWARD JOHN EPP**  
 b. 29.4.57 STEINBACH, MAN.

11134 **BONNIE LYNN EPP**  
 b. 6.10.65

11135 **COLIN CAMERON EPP**  
 b. 23.6.67

11136 **BRIAN GARY EPP**  
 b. 31.10.60 ST PIERRE, MAN.  
 b. 4.4.63 STEINBACH, MAN.

11137 **ALBERT KAREN EPP**  
 b. 27.2.68 STEINBACH, MAN.  
 b. 13.2.70 STEINBACH, MAN.

11138 **JOANN JOHNNY EPP**  
 b. 20.6.66 STEINBACH, MAN.  
 b. 24.9.67 STEINBACH, MAN.

11139 **JENNIFER SHANNON EPP**  
 b. 29.8.67 STEINBACH, MAN.  
 b. 14.6.68 VANCOUVER, BC.

11140 **RICHARD PAMELA DIANE EPP**  
 b. 5.11.69 VANCOUVER, BC.  
 b. 2.5.71 WINNIPEG, MAN.



David 11112 and Margaret Epp with children and grandchildren, Christmas 1976. Back, l-r: John Blatz, Gary Warkentin, Brian Warkentin, Donald, David, Sara, Howard, Beverly and Kenneth Epp, Anne and Werner Epp and Ernie Falk. Middle, l-r: JoAnn and Johnny Blatz, Bonnie Epp and Sharon Falk. Front, l-r: Margaret Blatz, Jennifer Blatz, Werner, Albert, Helen and Karen Warkentin, Margaret and David Epp, Cameron, Geraldine, Colin and Henry Epp, Richard and Mary Falk.

11113<sup>1</sup> GERHARD EPP (BOOKKEEPER) m. 17.6.34  
 b. 18.5.10 RUSSIA  
 d. . . . 43 U.S.E.A.

AGANETA BAERG (HOMEMAKER)  
 b. 23.9.14 GNADENHEIM, RUSSIA

2 GERHARD ENNIS (CHIEF POWER WORKER) m. 2.11.56  
 b. 16.1.12 SENGHEIMLET, RUSSIA.

111131 SON  
 b. . . . . d. . . . .

111132 HEINRICH EPP (M. MARY FLORENCE WOLFORD)  
 b. 12.8.34 WILHELM, RUSSIA  
 m. 2.9.58 H. BAYLEFORD, SASK.

1111321 GORDON HENRY  
 b. 13.3.59 H. BAYLEFORD, SASK.

1111322 DAVID MURRAY  
 b. 25.8.65 LEYBMINSTER, SASK.

1111323 KEVIN JOHN  
 b. 11.1.68 LEYBMINSTER, SASK.

1111324 SUSAN JEANNINE  
 b. 10.12.68 LEYBMINSTER, SASK.

111133 HERTA EPP (HOMEMAKER)  
 b. 30.11.37 WILHELM, RUSSIA  
 m. 26.4.59 CORONAL, ALTA

1111331 JAKE JANZEN (FARMER SALES)  
 b. 7.10.34 DITZEWICK, RUSSIA

1111332 ROBERT ABRAM  
 b. 2.2.60 CORONAL, ALTA

1111333 PETER GEORGE  
 b. 26.5.61 CORONAL, ALTA

1111334 LINDA ELAINE  
 b. 20.9.63 CORONAL, ALTA

1111335 TIMOTHY WILLIAM  
 b. 3.4.66 CORONAL, ALTA

111134 GERHARD EPP (REPAIRER STATION)  
 b. 9.3.40 WILHELM, RUSSIA  
 m. 19.6.65 LETHBRIDGE, ALTA

1111341 SHERRIE LEE GRACE  
 b. 24.5.70 LETHBRIDGE, ALTA

1111342 DOUGLAS SCOTT  
 b. 8.4.73 LETHBRIDGE, ALTA

111135 BRIGITTE M. EPP (NURSE HOMEMAKER)  
 b. 6.7.49 BERLIN, GERMANY  
 m. 22.9.70 CORONAL, ALTA

1111351 SANDY ELAINE  
 b. 13.7.71 REGINA, SASK.

1111352 STEVEN CHARLES  
 b. 14.6.75 MOOSE JAW, SASK.

1111353 WOLFGANG WIEBE (ENGINEER)  
 b. 10.2.44 DITZEWICK



The Gerhard Epp 11113 children's first photo in Canada with cousin Erma Epp 11159, Kitchener, Ontario on the left. Further, l-r: Herta with Brigitte, Heinrich and Gerhard.

11114 MARGARET EPP (HOUSEWIFE) GC  
b. 1.6.11 RUSSIA

m. 31.7.32  
BRAZIL

JACOB J. ROGALSKY (CARETAKER) GC  
b. 2.9.1900 RUSSIA

(BOX 113 VIRGIL, ONT.)

11111 PETER ROGALSKY (A.M. OF CAN. EMPLOYEE) GC  
b. 1.6.33 BRAZIL  
m. 4.5.57 MANITOBA  
LEONA UNGER (HOUSEWIFE) GC  
b. 10.9.35 MAN. (ST. CATHARINES BR. ST. CATHARINES, ONT. 12M 8M5)

11111 DAVID PETER  
b. 9.4.58 KENORA, ONT.  
11112 ALBERT JOHN  
b. 12.9.60 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

11112 MARIECHEN ROGALSKY  
b. 25.12.34 BRAZIL d. 7.1.36 BRAZIL

11113 JOHN J. ROGALSKY (SELF EMPLOYED) BRAZIL  
m. .99  
111131 JOHN PAULA  
b. 20.4.68 WINNIPEG, MAN.  
111132 SUSAN LINDA  
b. 4.1.62 WINNIPEG, MAN.

(BOX 113 VIRGIL, ONT.)

11114 HERMANN D. ROGALSKY UN  
b. 4.4.38 BRAZIL (ONT. MINISTER OF TREAS. & GOVERN. EMPLOYEE)

111141 RODNEY HERMANN  
b. 3.5.63 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

m. 13.10.62 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.  
RETA M. MOLNAR (HOUSEWIFE) UN.  
b. 10.4.35 MAN. (MRS CAMPBELL, MRS. DUNLOP, ONT. 17M 2Y8)

111142 LORI LYNN  
b. 27.3.65 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

111143 WENDY MARIE  
b. 20.12.66 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

111144 PATRICIA ANN  
b. 16.12.70 HAMILTON, ONT.

11115 LOUISE ROGALSKY (HOUSEWIFE) GC  
b. 31.12.39 BRAZIL

111151 DEBBRA ANN  
b. 7.1.60 NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE, ONT.

m. 4.10.58 NIAGARA, ONT.  
DAN WIEBE (SHIPPER) GC.  
b. 22.9.34 ALABAMA

111152 MARGARET LOUISE  
b. 13.12.61 ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

11116 MARY ROGALSKY (HOUSEWIFE) GC  
b. 7.2.42 BRAZIL

m. 21.6.74 OTTAWA, ONT.  
JOHN F. RIDINGTON (SALES REP.) UN.  
b. 29.5.30 B.C. (MRS. CATHERINE DUNF. KANATA REC. 125)

11115 MARTIN EPP  
b. 9.8.12  
d. 22.11.16



David Epp 11112 visits the Rogalskys at Virgil.

## Appendix

### About HEINRICH EPP's Siblings and Ancestors

#### Introduction

The purpose of this limited research was first of all to establish as firmly as possible our EPP roots in Prussia. This was done by looking at all EPP records that I became aware of. As more accounts came to my attention it became increasingly more exciting and also more imperative to note the interrelationships of the various EPP lineages in Canada and other countries.

What became evident very soon was that when several accounts with conflicting data on the same family were available great care needed to be taken in evaluating the sources before deciding which might be the most accurate and so become the one to be accepted as most reliable. Questions continually kept in mind were: Who is the source of this information, these names, these dates? How was the person providing information related to the persons about whom he was reporting? From where did the recorder get the information? At what point in time was the data recorded? Which is the older source, i.e. closer to the person under study?

With the accumulation of materials it became necessary to determine as well as possible which family "line" might include our ancestors, because genealogical sources list innumerable Epps living in Prussia during the late 18, 19 and 20th centuries. Karl-Heinz Ludwig in *Zur Besiedlung des Weichsel-deltas durch die Mennoniten* (Nr. 57, Marburg/Lahn, 1961) already in 1776 lists 45 Epp family heads in 31 villages in West Prussia alone.

Since Danzig is the most specific address given for the place of origin of our HEINRICH EPP's family it seemed logical that one should search among Danzig records and Epp genealogies that relate to that area. It is for this reason that the pedigree chart of Peter

Epp b. c. 1690 Petershagen and married to Anna Claassen is enclosed in this book as a fold-in insert. Parts of this large family are found in the Danzig Mennonite church records. It is the only one of several Epp lineages that have come to my attention which readily accommodates the oral tradition of the three brothers emigrating to Russia, a story referred to later. This Peter Epp lineage also includes the family of David Epp (P32 on enclosed pedigree chart) b. 1750 referred to by Abram H. Epp on one of his charts as a brother of HEINRICH's father. Thus, it is quite possible that this is the extended family of HEINRICH EPP.

The repetition of given names is an important feature of Prussian-Russian Mennonite tradition. In this extended Peter Epp family one finds most of the names of the men of our HEINRICH EPP house. Peter, Heinrich, Cornelius, David, Gerhard, Abraham, Johann and Jacob occur quite frequently. One must, however, note that Bernhard and Martin are missing, while Wilhelm and Thomas, strange to our HEINRICH clan, occur on the Peter chart. The only Epp genealogy where the name Martin has been observed is the H. D. Epp genealogy (3P in the Bibliography under unpublished genealogies). Bernhard is found more frequently.

Because of the repetition of names, a numbering system was indispensable. To avoid confusion between the numbers on the Peter chart and those of our HEINRICH EPP genealogy, the letter P was assigned to the first Peter (b. 1690) instead of the usual number 1. His oldest child carries the number P1, his second child P2, etc. His grandchildren continue the same system of numbering used for our HEINRICH EPP genealogy.

## HEINRICH's Siblings

Three lists of HEINRICH's siblings are available as recorded by the oldest and youngest member in a family of 12 children. Jacob H. Epp<sup>1</sup> and Abram H. Epp<sup>2</sup>, grandsons of Johann b. 1808.<sup>3</sup> The latter, according to these records, is the oldest brother of our HEINRICH EPP b. 1811. The lists read as follows:

### List 1

Joh. Joh. Epp b. 10.6.1808 Blumstein, Molotschna  
d. 23.2.1866 Petershagen  
Kornelius Epp d. 1896 Lichtfelde at age 75  
Gerhard Epp d. 1894 Rueckenau, age 68  
Peter Epp, d. 1887 Petershagen, age 70  
Frau Joh. Mirausche d. 1878 Ladekop, age 58  
Tante Teuchröwsche d. Blumstein, age 60  
Tante Kornelius Wallsche d. 1880 Liebenau, age 56  
Tante H. Langemannsche d. 1876 Margenau, age 56  
Heinrich Epp d. 1873<sup>4</sup> Klefeld, age 54  
Jakob Epp d. 1870 Rosenort, age 50

The whereabouts of some of the descendants of Johann, Cornelius, Gerhard and Mrs. (Epp) Walde Langemann are known today though no extensive investigations have been made in this respect. Two of Johann's descendants have already been noted above. According to their records, there are many more both in Canada and the USA.<sup>5</sup>

Cornelius, minister at Lichtfelde, Molotschna had a daughter Anna from the first of his reported three marriages; she married a Franz Klassen. Well known to the larger American Mennonite brotherhood are

several of the Franz and Anna (Epp) Klassen grandchildren (or Cornelius Epp greatgrandchildren), including: the late Heinrich F. Klassen, Winnipeg, former editor of the *Mennonitische Rundschau*, the late C. F. Klassen, named Cornelius "zu Ehren des Urgrossvaters Pred. Cornelius Epp, Lichtfelde"<sup>6</sup> (in honor of greatgrandfather Cornelius Epp), and Elfriede Klassen (Mrs. Peter) Dyck, MCC, Akron, Pennsylvania.

### List 2

Joh. J. Epp  
Cornelius J. Epp  
Heinrich J. Epp  
Peter J. Epp  
Gerhard J. Epp  
Schwester I Ber. Wall  
II Peter Lageman  
Schwester Joh. Mierau  
Schwester Heinrich Teichr...

### List 3

Johann J. Epp  
Cornelius J. Epp  
(Jakob J. Epp)  
Schwester Frau  
Ber. Wall I  
Peter Langemann II  
Heinrich Joh. Epp  
Gerhard J. Epp  
Schwester Fr.  
Johann Mierau  
Schwester Frau Hein-  
rich Teuchrews

Gerhard descendants include grandchildren, Johann Epp, minister 1932-76 in Fernheim, Paraguay, and his sister, Anna (Epp) Ratzlaff, Clearbrook, British Columbia. At least two others are found in Ontario, namely Anna Hildebrand, Campden, and her brother Gerhard G. Hildebrand, St. Catharines.<sup>7</sup>

The Mrs. Cornelius Wall<sup>8</sup> and Mrs. H. Langemann of list 1 are assumed to be one and the same person by lists 2 and 3. That this is in fact so has been confirmed by Abram Walde,<sup>9</sup> whose greatgrandfather Bernhard Walde (d. 1852) married an Anna Epp in

<sup>1</sup>List one is found on pages 42 and 66 in an unpublished "Regiester [sic] Buch! von 1840 geboren, gestorben, und begraben. Bis 1890 geboren, gestorben, und begraben. von Grosseletern, und Kinder, und Geschwister, Onkels, und Tantens. abgeschrieben, und zugeschrieben (von Vaters Buch) fuer uns Jakob u. Elisabeth Epp auf Vineland am den 10 Februar 1934 Jahr geschrieben." Jacob Jac. Epp, the author of the above note, and greatgrandson of Johann Epp b. 1808, lives in Vineland, Ontario.

<sup>2</sup>Lists 2 and 3 have been compiled by Abram H. Epp (1882- ? ) and are now in the possession of his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Frieda (Henry A.) Epp, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. Both these lists record one or more children for all members except for (Jacob J. Epp), Mrs. Joh. Mierau and Mrs. Heinrich Teuchrews.

<sup>3</sup>A family tree of the Johann line has been prepared by Abram H. Epp, grandson of Johann Epp b. 1808, and is found in numerous homes of Johann's descendants. Three other records have been made available by greatgrandchildren of Johann Epp b. 1808: Anna (Epp) Entz, Newton, Kansas, recorded by Joh. Joh. Epp b. 1836, the son of Johann b. 1808; Jacob J. Epp, Vineland, Ontario, recorded by himself and his father, Jacob Heinrich Epp b. 1863, a grandson of Johann b. 1808; Neta (Epp) Wiens, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan recorded by herself and her husband, B. J. Wiens.

<sup>4</sup>The Heinrich Epp in these lists is known to be our HEINRICH by several of both the HEINRICH and Johann Epp descendants. Both, descendants of HEINRICH as well as of Johann, know of their relationship as third cousins. The death date of HEINRICH in list 1 is probably not right for according to Abraham A. Harder (151) in his *Aufzeichnungen* at Grossweide it is 28 August 1863. One has the impression that the death dates as well as the ages at the time of death in list 1 are estimates or approximations only as one has tried to recollect.

<sup>5</sup>At least two known descendants of Johann b. 1808 have married into the HEINRICH house, namely Eliesabeth Epp (1218) and Katharina Boese (17).

<sup>6</sup>"Nachruf, C. F. Klassen zum Andenken," *Mennonitische Rundschau*, by H. F. Klassen, No. 17, 97 *Jahrgang*, 24 April 1974.

<sup>7</sup>The information received is noted in the Bibliography under unpublished genealogies as Pedigree Chart of Gerhard Epp.

<sup>8</sup>The Walls had a son Cornelius but here it should probably read Bernhard as in lists 2 and 3.

<sup>9</sup>Kindersley, Saskatchewan. Letter, Abram Walde to Anna Epp Ens, May 1977, Walde file.





Cornelius and Mrs. Epp with daughter Anna who later married Franz F. Klassen.



Anna (Epp) and Franz F. Klassen, Lichtfelde, Molotschna.

1835. Through some error in a *Kanzelei* (office) they received the name Wall. Later it was changed to Walde again. After Bernhard Walde's death Anna (Epp) Walde in 1857 married Abraham Langemann.<sup>10</sup> Unfortunately, no record has been found of the birthdate or other particulars of Anna (Epp) Walde Langemann.

Further to the siblings of HEINRICH one notes that Jacob is not found at all in list 2 and is put in parenthesis in list 3. This may suggest that the compiler wasn't sure that he actually existed. However, list 1 recalls Jacob's death date and death place which would suggest that a Jacob be included. Similarly, Peter is missing in list 3 but found in lists 1 and 2 with three of his children included in list 2 and he therefore can also not be omitted.

Thus, we may conclude that HEINRICH had five brothers: Johann, Cornelius, Gerhard, Peter and Jacob and three sisters: Anna, and two whose names have as yet not been discovered. However, none of the descendants of Peter and Jacob nor of Mrs. Johann Mierau and Mrs. Heinrich Teich/Teuchreuw have been located.

Because of the lack of birthdates the chronological order of HEINRICH's siblings remains unresolved. Some mathematical figuring using the data in list 1 presents problems and can only be seen as an attempt

on the recorder's part to recollect.

#### HEINRICH's Parents

Who might be the parents of HEINRICH and his siblings? Several claims have been made.

1. The J. or Joh. after the names of the male members in the lists suggests that the father of HEINRICH and his siblings must have been a Johann, consistent with the custom of that day that the oldest son be named after the father or grandfather and the Russian custom that sons use the initial of their father's name. However, the inconsistencies among the three lists are serious enough to indicate that both compilers engaged in a considerable amount of conjecture. Until further and more substantial evidence becomes available that the father was actually a Johann the J. cannot be taken as final.

2. According to Jacob J. Epp 175, three Epp brothers emigrated from Germany to the Ekaterinoslav Gouvernement about 1783. Two of these remained in the Old Colony and the third, Cornelius, went to the Molotschna and settled in the village of Lichtfelde. HEINRICH was a descendant (i.e. a son) of this Cornelius.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>10</sup>Jacob (1858-1939) and Peter (1860-1905) are listed as Langemann sons by both Abram Walde and Abram H. Epp. Some of the Langemann descendants live at Coaldale, Alberta.

<sup>11</sup>Letter, Jacob J. Epp 175 to Anna Epp Ens, 4 April 1962, personal file.  
To his nephew Helmut Epp 171Q1 Jacob Epp 175 wrote that the three brothers from Danzig were Heinrich, Peter and Cornelius. Letter, Helmut Epp 171Q1 to Anna Epp Ens, 1 June 1975, Jacob Epp 17 file-1.

3. David C. Epp 148, cousin of Jacob J. Epp 175, agreed "that three brothers went to Russia from Danzig but said that one stayed in Chortitz and two went to Molotschna, rather than two and one. He wasn't sure but he thought it was Heinrich and Cornelius that went on to Molotschna."<sup>12</sup>

In his memoirs, written ten years before his death in 1976, David C. Epp 148, begins his story with "Heinr. Epp born 17?? emigrated to Russia from Germany at the beginning of the 19th century settling in Rosenort, Taurien, S. Russia. Occupation—farmer." This was based on a 1935 account by his sister Anna K. Epp 149.<sup>13</sup> According to the context of the article this Heinrich Epp, b. 17?? is considered by David C. and Anna K. Epp to be the father of HEINRICH.

Who then is the father<sup>14</sup> of our HEINRICH, b. 1811? Was it Johann, Cornelius, or Heinrich?

In summary the following factors need to be considered as one attempts to establish who the father of HEINRICH, our EPP forefather who emigrated from Prussia to Russia, might be:

1. the oral tradition saying that three brothers emigrated from Prussia to Russia, one or two remained in the Old Colony, one or two went on to the Molotschna. HEINRICH is the son of the one that went to the Molotschna.
2. the suggested emigration dates:
  - about 1783 by Jacob J. Epp 175;
  - at the beginning of the 19th century by David C. Epp 148 and Anna K. Epp 149;

—1804 by Neta Wiens and Abram H. Epp, descendants of Johann b. 1808.<sup>15</sup>

3. the places given where HEINRICH's father is thought to have settled:

- from Germany to the Old Colony to Lichtfelde, Molotschna by Jacob J. Epp 175;
- from Germany to Rosenort, Taurien, S. Russia by David C. Epp 148 and Anna K. Epp 149;
- from Danzig to the Molotschna by Abram H. Epp;
- from Danzig to Blumstein, Molotschna by Neta (B. J.) Wiens.

What does the evidence support?

From rather remote sources<sup>16</sup> and as drawn on the enclosed pedigree chart we learn of a Heinrich Epp P23 (his Epp number on the chart)<sup>17</sup> b. 9 January 1757, Stadtgebiet bei Danzig, Prussia, who with his first wife, Anna Penner (1757-179?) and three sons, Peter P231, Gerhard P233 and Heinrich p235 and one daughter, Catharina, emigrated to the Old Colony, Russia 14 June 1795 and settled in Rosenthal. In 1806 he was elected minister of the Chortitzer *Gemeinde*. His son Heinrich P235, b. 1784 at Hochzeit bei Danzig, was later found in the Molotschna Colony in the village of Altonau.<sup>18</sup> Two of this Heinrich's children are Johann b. 1807 and Anna b. 6 June 1813, Altonau.<sup>19</sup>

Could the three brothers above, Peter, Gerhard and Heinrich, be the three brothers referred to by Jacob J. Epp 175 and David C. Epp 148?<sup>20</sup> Johann b.

<sup>12</sup>Letter, Helmut Epp to Anna Epp Ens, 6 July 1975, Jacob Epp 17 file—1.

<sup>13</sup>Anna K. Epp's article was printed in *Mitteilungen des Sippenverbandes Danziger Mennoniten-Familien Epp-Kauenhowen-Zimmermann*, Göttingen, 4 (1938), pp. 163-172.

<sup>14</sup>Nowhere is a name even suggested for the mother and therefore concentration from hereon is entirely on the father.

<sup>15</sup>Letter, Neta Wiens to Anna Epp Ens, 25 May 1975: "Meines Urgrossvaters Eltern sind anno 1804 von Danzig nach Russland ausgewandert nach Blumstein, Molotschna." Neta is a greatgranddaughter of Johann b. 1808. Abram H. Epp, grandson of Johann b. 1808 wrote above his lists 2 and 3 respectively: "Mein Urgrossvater Johann Epp aus Deutschland Danzig nach Russland ano 1804 nach Molotschnaja." "Unser Urgrossvater und UR.Urgrossvater Johann Epp aus Danzig Deutschland ausgewandert und nach Russland eingewandert 1804. Sein Bruder David Epp war schon ano 1790 nach Russland eingewandert in der Collonie Chortitz [sic]."

<sup>16</sup>J. K. Lehn, "Die Epp in Russland" in *Mitteilungen* 2 (1936), p. 34. Also Kurt Kauenhowen, "Auswanderer aus unserm engeren Sippenkreis," 6 (1937). Available also at CMCA are handwritten (Gothic script) notes on looseleaf sheets, copied by the late Abram A. Vogt, *Stammbücher der Sammlung Vogt*, formerly Steinbach, Manitoba. The source for these notes is not known.

<sup>17</sup>His father Peter Epp P2, *Ältester* 1780-1789 and since 1758 *Lehrer der Gemeinde*, was born 23 January 1725 in Petershagen bei Tiegenhof, Prussia. According to Mannhardt in Hermann Epp, "Die des Namens Epp" in *Mitteilungen*, 1 (1936), p. 8, the first Epp name recorded in the Danzig church records in 1725 was that of this Peter Epp P2. He lived in Neunhuben bei Danzig later and then *im Stadtgebiet* where the *flämisch* church of Danzig was located.

<sup>18</sup>According to Benjamin Heinrich Unruh, "Revisions—Listen 27.10.1808, Molotschna" in *Die Niederlaendisch-niederdeutschen Hintergründe der mennonitischen Ostwanderungen im 16., 18., und 19. Jahrhundert* (Karlsruhe: Selbstverlag, 1955), p. 317, Heinrich (Fam. 9) arrived in Altonau, Molotschna 1 May 1808 at age 25 with wife Anna age 22 and son Johann age 1. This is confirmed by Karl Stumpff in *Die Auswanderung aus Deutschland nach Russland in den Jahren 1763 bis 1862*, p. 176, who lists Heinrich Epp as born 1783, farmer from Danzig in 1808 went to Altona, Taurien with son Johann born 1807. According to Unruh, Heinrich's *Wirtschaft* consisted of: "1 Wag, 1 Pfl, 3 Pfd, 5 Rd, 50 K Sch, 12 FH," i.e. one wagon, one plow, three horses, five cattle, fifty sheep and 12 loads of hay. Abram A. Vogt records that this Heinrich Epp emigrated with his parents from Hochzeit, Neunhuben bei Danzig to Russia on 14 June 1795 and lived in Chortitz and Rosental. He married and moved to Molotschna, Altona.

<sup>19</sup>Unruh, p. 334.

<sup>20</sup>They report Heinrich, Peter and Cornelius. Actually, Cornelius P234 died at age four in 1887. It could be that Jacob J. Epp 175 and David C. Epp 148 were not sure about the names and that Cornelius, assumed to be one of the older brothers of HEINRICH, sounded more right.

Das ist die 6. Familie Kayser von einem Altona in Russland  
Russland Blumstein in dem 1857 das Petershagen g. g. Russland  
 das dem Altona  
 Mein G. Mattar Johann Epp ist geboren den 1808 den 10. Juni in Altona  
 den 1829 den 9. Mai ist er mit der Susana Kroeker aus Münsterberg in  
 dem Hof, dem geboren, in für ein Linba Muller ist geboren  
 den 1809 den 23. December. - in Münsterberg

The first part of the family register of Johann Epp b. 1808 in Altona as recorded by his son Johann b. 1836.

1807 could then be the older brother of our HEINRICH.<sup>21</sup> Anna b. 1813, could be the sister of HEINRICH who married first Bernhard Walde and then Langemann.<sup>22</sup>

The account of Johann Epp b. 1808 recorded by his oldest son Johann Epp b. 1836 begins as follows "This is the family register of my dear parents and brothers and sisters *Russia Blumstein* who in 1857 moved to *Petershagen Russia*. According to the old calendar. My dear father Johann Epp was born 1808 the 10th of June in Altona. In 1829 the 9th of May he entered marriage with *Susana Kroeker* from *Muensterberg*, and she, the dear mother was born in 1809 the 23rd of December in *Muensterberg*. . . ." This is the only reference to Altona<sup>23</sup> in any of the four known Johann Epp b. 1808 available records. The fact that it is the record of the oldest son gives it greater credibility than the accounts of his grandchildren or great-grandchildren have. It does give support to the suggestion that the father of HEINRICH might well be Heinrich Epp P235 b. 11 June 1784.

If one could prove that Anna (Epp) Walde/Langemann was born 6 June 1813, then this lineage would be confirmed as HEINRICH's ancestry. However, to date no such information has been found for her

among the Walde and Langemann descendants.

In an introduction to a published letter written by the father of Heinrich Epp P235 (namely Heinrich Epp P23) 9 April 1802 from Neuenberg, Chortitza Colony, Russia to Herr Johann Cauenhoven "in Alt-schotland in die blanke Voegel" (Prussia), Franz Harder comments that Heinrich Epp is the ancestor of numerous descendants living in Canada and other Mennonite settlements today.<sup>24</sup> To date, while other Canadian Epps trace their ancestry to David P33 and Peter P35, to Cornelius P238 and Johann P2311, there are none who to our knowledge trace theirs to Heinrich P235. It is possible that our extended family of HEINRICH and his brothers and sisters are the descendants referred to by Harder. But more conclusive evidence is needed.

What importance does one give to the tradition of the three brothers? It is important to note that this oral tradition is known not only to descendants of HEINRICH and his brother Johann but also to descendants of one Peter Epp, whom we assume to be the brother of HEINRICH's father, i.e. HEINRICH's uncle. Heinrich D. Epp b. 1899 of Clearbrook, British Columbia traces his ancestry to this Peter Epp who it is claimed, came to Chortitza in 1789.<sup>25</sup>

<sup>21</sup>As already noted the Heinrich Epp family P235 arrived in Altona on 1 May 1808 with a one-year old son Johann. But the birthdate of Johann, known to be HEINRICH's brother, is 10 June 1808. A possible explanation for this discrepancy is that very soon after the family's arrival in Altona son Johann b. 1807 may have died and the second child, also a son b. 10.6.1808 was again named Johann. This was frequent practice especially if the name was that of the parent or grandparent. See the House of Peter 12 story where the name Peter was given to five sons.

<sup>22</sup>Abram Walde identifies the second husband as Abraham Langemann, Jacob J. Epp as H. Langemann, and Abram H. Epp as Peter. The Langemanns had a son Peter and that is how the error may have slipped in. Walde's information, coming from the direct descendants, should probably be regarded as authoritative here.

<sup>23</sup>Anna (Epp) Entz, Newton, Kansas suggests that Altona, Prussia is meant. This, however, does not support any of the suggested emigration dates for this family, namely 1783, 1795 or 1804. Furthermore, all other place names in this document are assumed to pertain to the Molotschna Colony.

<sup>24</sup>Franz Harder, "Ein Epp-Brief vom Jahre 1802 aus Russland" in *Mitteilungen*, 4 (1937), pp. 106-109.

<sup>25</sup>This is found in a 2 June 1916 Russian document No. 5063, issued by the Ministry of Internal Affairs through the office of the Chortitza Volost, to confirm the birthdate and Dutch and Mennonite faith origins of H. D. Epp's father, David Jacob Epp. The document is stamped and signed by the Volost secretary Jacob Klassen and Peter Loewen for the Oberschulze of the Chortitza Volost.

Heinrich D. Epp's father b. 1858 "referred to this Peter Epp and that his brother had gone to the Molotschna, but that the name of that brother was never mentioned. His cousin, Aganetha Bergen, in Clearbrook knows about this . . . also."<sup>26</sup> If these Peter descendants had the birthdate, etc. of their forefather Peter we would know whether this brother Peter of our HEINRICH's father was/is the Peter listed on the pedigree chart as P221. And then we would know whether Heinrich P235 is indeed our HEINRICH's father. To date, however, these data are missing. Again, the evidence seems so near and yet so far.<sup>27</sup>

The question then remains whether one should look for the three brothers elsewhere, for example, among the children of Heinrich Epp P1. But the little information recorded on these Heinrich P14, Peter P15 and Cornelius P16 gives scant hope, though the names are right. One other thing in its favor is the fact that Cornelius emigrated from Prussia to Russia in 1804.<sup>28</sup> The birthdate given for Peter (the brother of the one who went to the Molotschna) by his descendants is c. 1780. Peter P15 is documented to have been born 25 July 1776. Too far out? And surely, if the Heinrich Epp P1 family were our HEINRICH's family, someone among HEINRICH's grandsons would have been named after Uncle Thomas! He appears to be the only one of the P1 family whose descendants did not emigrate from Prussia to Russia.

Or one may look at the family of Peter Epp P22 who in 1795 came to Russia with his wife Maria (nee Penner) and children: Peter, Catharina, Cornelius and Anna. Son Heinrich, however, was born in Russia and therefore the story of the three brothers does not fit as well. No information has been found on this family beyond what is on the pedigree chart.

Finally, one must also consider the family of Cornelius P3. Together with the Nikolaus Reimer family P24, Cornelius P3, at age 76, emigrated from Prussia to the Molotschna Colony 23 August 1804 where he died a little over a year later. Some of his children had moved to Russia earlier.

Not mentioned heretofore is that Abram H. Epp on one of his two charts listing HEINRICH's siblings, draws in a straight line with HEINRICH two other Epps, one of them being the son of Cornelius P3, and underneath notes their spouses and some of their children. The two Epps are:

Heinrich<sup>29</sup> m. 24.11.1818 1. Margaretha Dueck  
Molotschna 2. Maria Dyck

David<sup>30</sup> m. 1. Helene Kroeker  
Chortitza 2. Anna Barkmann<sup>1</sup>

Almost one would be led to conclude that these two Epps must be brothers of HEINRICH's father and one would thus know quite definitely where to look further but several observations immediately render such a conclusion rather doubtful. There is no Johann in this family. Nor is there a Heinrich to fill the three brothers tradition. Both David P33 and Peter P-35 are said to have emigrated from Prussia to the Old Colony in 1789 and 1790 resp., and their Canadian descendants, especially David's,<sup>31</sup> have been well documented. Furthermore, these Peter P35 descendants represent a different lineage than the descendants of Peter 3P who also know the three brothers tradition. However, the fact that to date there is no more information on Cornelius P31 suggests that a remote possibility of HEINRICH's ancestry fitting in here still remains. Again, further research is necessary.

That exhausts the possibilities of this large Peter Epp family from Prussia. There is then a final possibility that the extended family of HEINRICH and his brothers and sisters does not belong to this large Prussian family at all but that we must look outside of it. To date, however, no other possibilities have been discovered among the sources at our disposal.

Perhaps the printing of this bit of research will uncover further Canadian/American Epp records or even such of Walde/Langemann, Mierau and Teichroew families, that might bring confirmation of our Prussia Epp ancestry.<sup>32</sup> Or must we look to records in the Ukraine, Poland or Germany to discover whether our EPP forefather that came to Russia was a Johann, Cornelius or Heinrich?

Anna Epp Ens  
31 May 1980

<sup>26</sup>Letter, Bruno Epp 111102 to Anna Epp Ens, 14 June 1978, H. D. Epp file.

<sup>27</sup>See again also the introduction to this appendix.

<sup>28</sup>Regarding this P1 family Helmut Epp 17101 observed in notes to Anna Epp Ens June 1975 that on p. 238, B. H. Unruh mentions a Peter Claassen b. 1749, widower of Sara Epp who d. 11.10.1779. Claassen was from Hochzeit and settled in Molotschna in 1804. Maria, p. 347, married a Jacob Claassen (Johann on pedigree chart) from Neumünsterberg and also arrived in the Molotschna in 1804. Sara's brothers Heinrich, Peter and Cornelius would have been ages 30, 28 and 25, respectively in 1804. Could they have come with their sister Sara or Maria? Why would Unruh then not list them as well? Moreover, the Cornelius listed in Unruh, p. 304, as emigrating with his wife and having gone to Chortitza would appear to be Cornelius P16.

<sup>29</sup>This is the ancestry of the family in Epp Family Record listed under published Epp genealogies in the Bibliography.

<sup>30</sup>Listed also are sufficient names of spouses and children to confirm that this is the P32 lineage. See again footnote 15 where in connection with the lists of HEINRICH's siblings, Abram H. Epp claims David as the brother of HEINRICH's father.

<sup>31</sup>See the various genealogies relating to David P32.

<sup>32</sup>When more evidence appears all sources would need to be checked for any new relationships that may be detected or whatever confirmation of the present data may be contained.

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#### Other

Henry Albrecht

Robin Carter  
Anna Derksen  
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Fieguth, Hans Otto. *Familienbuch Wiebe Behrends Epp Froese Jansson Regier. Mennonitische Geschlechter aus dem Weichsel-Nogat-Delta.* Selbstverlag, 1979.  
Kauenhowen, Kurt, ed. *Die Mitteilungen des Sippenverbandes Danziger Mennoniten-Familien Epp-Kauenhowen-Zimmermann.* Goettingen, 1935-42.  
Quiring, Mrs. Aaron. *Individual Family Trees/Registers, all Henderson, Nebraska, 1963:*  
Heinrich G. Epp and Katharina (Buller) Epp  
Heinrich P. Epp and Margaretha (Wall) Epp  
Johann P. Epp and Cornelia (Franz) Epp  
Kornelius P. Epp and Aganetha (Schierling) Epp  
Peter P. Epp and Katharina (Wall) Epp

## Unpublished

This annotated list of unpublished EPP genealogies includes several related to HEINRICH's family (i.e. siblings and father), several that grow out of the enclosed Pedigree Chart of Peter Epp and Anna Claassen as indicated with the EPP number from the chart, as well as other unrelated EPP genealogies. Three of them also begin with a Peter Epp and are therefore designated 2P, 3P and 4P. This designation is applied to every record that relates to these Peter genealogies. The genealogies are listed alphabetically by compilers.

Compiler unknown. *Familienverzeichnis von Schoenhorst (RUSSLAND)*. Begins with Jacob Epp 1823-1886, m. 1844 Helena Klassen. Parents: Peter Epp (3P) and Helena Klassen/Goossen.

Ens, Anna. Pedigree Chart of David Epp (1319). Begins with Cornelius Epp, Brodnack, Bernard Epp 1761-1846, Schoensee, and others. One page, drawn from Heubuden-Marienburg Church Records.

Pedigree Chart of Gerhard Epp. Begins with Gerhard Epp 1829?-1911 (brother to HEINRICH) and Aganetha Guenther. Four pages, compiled from various sources.

Pedigree Chart of H. D. Epp. Begins with Peter Epp (3P) b. c. 1780 and Maria ? b. 1776, emigrated to Chortitza 1789. Drawn from several sources.

Pedigree Chart of Peter Epp. Begins with Peter Epp (2P) 1712-1775 East Prussia, m. Aganetha Hiebert 1727-1817. Three pages, compiled from various sources.

Pedigree Chart of Anne Marie Epp Hedrich. Begins with Wilhelm Epp 1830 Tiegenhof-1910 Tiegenhof, and Marie Kauenhowen 1842-1903 Tiegenhof. One page drawn from several sources.

Epp, Abram H. Begins with one Johann Epp suggested to be HEINRICH's father. Two charts of 2-3 pages each.

Epp Family Tree. Begins with John Epp b. 1808 (HEINRICH's brother), m. Agatha Isaak, Susa Kroeker and Maria Wiebe. Chart.

Epp, Amanda J. The Biography of Johann J. Epp. Begins with Joh. F. Epp 1883-1951, Henderson, Nebraska. Parents given also. Research paper 1960. Location: Bethel College Historical Library and Archives, North Newton, Kansas.

Epp, Ernie. Chart beginning with Susanna Epp (P351) 1780-1842, David Epp (P352) 1790-1827, and Anna Epp (P353) 1794- ? . Drawn from information in a notebook belonging to Mrs. D. J. Epp, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Epp, Gerald J. The Epp Family. Begins with Cornelius Epp (belongs to 2P) 1780-1846, m. Gertrude Enns 1783-1842.

Epp, Hans P. *Familienchronik*. Begins with David (P33) 1750-1802. Compiled from old records with additions.

*Geschlechtsregister* of Helmut Epp, Winnipeg. Begins with David Epp (P33) 1750-1802.

Epp, Heinrich (P23|166). 1725-1944 *Meine Ahnen und deren folgende Generationen*. Begins with Heinrich Epp (P23) b. 1756 Stadtgebiet Danzig.

Epp, Henry. Epp Family Tree 1712-1948. (Is connected with a David Klassen tree.) Location: Bethel College Historical Library and Archives, North Newton, Kansas.

Epp, Jacob H. *Regiesther Buch! von 1840*. . . Begins with Heinrich J. Epp b. 1836 (son of Johann Epp b. 1808). On p. 66 lists the siblings of HEINRICH. Handwritten notes.

Epp, Johann. *Verzeichnis von mein u. meiner Familien Geburtszeit (bis zum 15 Januar 1880)*. Three different records of Johann Epp (son of Johann b. 1808) b. 1836 and Maria Huebner b. 1839.

Epp, Johann J. *Familien Register von meine I. Eltern u. Geschwister Russland Blumstein u. Ano 1857 nach Petershagen gezogen Russland*. Begins with Johann Epp b. 1808 Altona, d. 1866 Petershagen, m. Susana Kroeker, Muensterberg. Long two-page Gothic record.

Epp, Lottie. Kornelius Epp-Rosenthal Line. Begins with Cornelius Epp (P238) 1796-1872. Research paper, 1978.

Epp, Nick. Begins with Bernhard Epp b. 1797 Tiegenhof, Russia, d. 1864 Wernersdorf, Taurien. Married three times, the third time to Sara Boldt in 1829.

Epp, Paul & Lillian. Family Register of Gerhard and Katharina Epp 1864-1977. Begins with Gerhard Epp 1864-1919, m. Katharina Janzen 1868-1944.

Epp, Peter. Begins with Peter Epp (4P) 1781- ? , Pletzendorff, Amt Tiegenhoff, m. 1803 Helene Klassen 1784- ? . 2 records. One is 26 notebook pages of handwritten Gothic script, the other 2 pages (also available in Latin script).

Epp, Ruth. A Genealogy and Family History of Elizabeth Jantzen Epp (P33) descendant). Research paper 1976.

Ohrendorff, Doug. Pedigree Chart of Doug Ohrendorff. Begins with Peter Epp (3P) who emigrated to Chortitza 1789.

Sawatzky, Johann. Begins with Kornelius Epp (2P11) b. 1780 Schoensee, m. Gertrude Enns, b. 1783 Neumuensterbergerfeld, Prussia. Six handwritten pages.

Sawatzky, Margarete. Begins with Jacob Epp 1804-1844, m. 1831 Helena Siemens 1810-1851.

Thieszen, Carl D. Biography of Rev. John F. Epp (1883-1951). Research paper 1955. Location: Bethel College Historical Library and Archives, North Newton, Kansas.

Walde, Abram. Begins with Bernhard Walde d. 1852 and Anna Epp (sister to HEINRICH). One page of typewritten notes.

Wiens, Neta and B.J. Begins with Johann Epp b. 1808 Blumstein, Molotschna. Two looseleaf sides of Latin script.

Most of these unpublished records (or information about their location) are available at CMCA, Winnipeg, Manitoba.



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*But most of us are on the move, planting ourselves in a plot for a few years, then yanking up and moving on. We live in spaces instead of places. . . . We can't root in them because they're also someone else's and we may soon need to move along.*

*Don Kraybill*









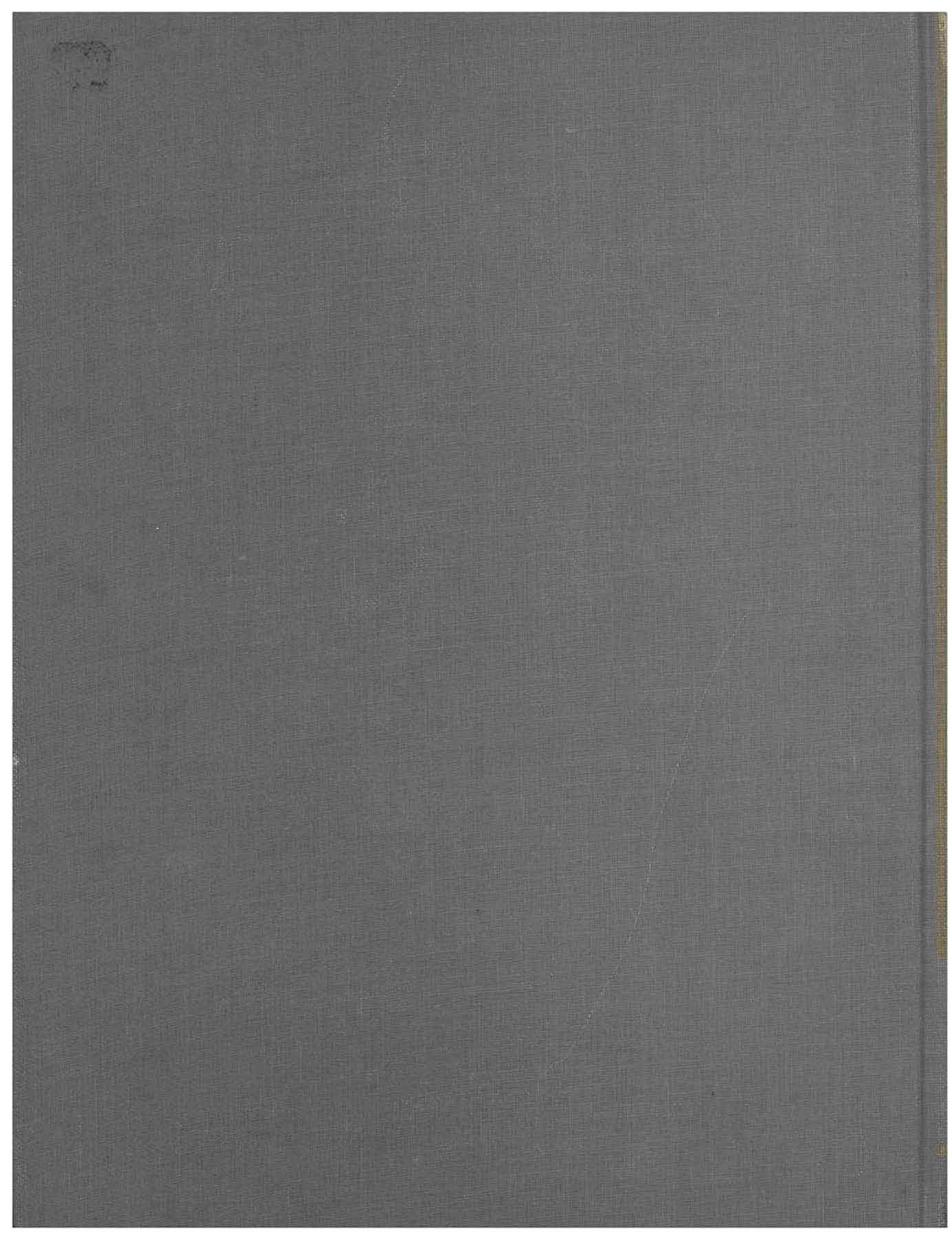
|                   | Rosenort |               |               |         |           |           |               |              |            |         |           |              |            |                |                   |            |            |            |           |          |        |     |  |
|-------------------|----------|---------------|---------------|---------|-----------|-----------|---------------|--------------|------------|---------|-----------|--------------|------------|----------------|-------------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|----------|--------|-----|--|
| Alexanderthal     | 35       | Alexanderthal |               |         |           |           |               |              |            |         |           |              |            |                |                   |            |            |            |           |          |        |     |  |
| Alexanderwohl     | 22       | 24            | Alexanderwohl |         |           |           |               |              |            |         |           |              |            |                |                   |            |            |            |           |          |        |     |  |
| Altonau           | 14       | 49            | 36            | Altonau |           |           |               |              |            |         |           |              |            |                |                   |            |            |            |           |          |        |     |  |
| Blumenort         | 2        | 36            | 23            | 12      | Blumenort |           |               |              |            |         |           |              |            |                |                   |            |            |            |           |          |        |     |  |
| Blumstein         | 11       | 45            | 33            | 6       | 9         | Blumstein |               |              |            |         |           |              |            |                |                   |            |            |            |           |          |        |     |  |
| Conteniusfeld     | 40       | 12            | 22            | 54      | 42        | 51        | Conteniusfeld |              |            |         |           |              |            |                |                   |            |            |            |           |          |        |     |  |
| Elisabetthal      | 34       | 2             | 22            | 46      | 34        | 43        | 13            | Elisabetthal |            |         |           |              |            |                |                   |            |            |            |           |          |        |     |  |
| Felsenthal        | 41       | 30            | 20            | 55      | 43        | 52        | 21            | 31           | Felsenthal |         |           |              |            |                |                   |            |            |            |           |          |        |     |  |
| Fischau           | 8        | 44            | 27            | 14      | 8         | 7         | 47            | 42           | 46         | Fischau |           |              |            |                |                   |            |            |            |           |          |        |     |  |
| Franzthal         | 53       | 19            | 37            | 65      | 53        | 62        | 14            | 19           | 35         | 59      | Franzthal |              |            |                |                   |            |            |            |           |          |        |     |  |
| Friedensdorf      | 26       | 22            | 5             | 40      | 28        | 37        | 17            | 20           | 18         | 31      | 31        | Friedensdorf |            |                |                   |            |            |            |           |          |        |     |  |
| Fuerstenau        | 25       | 42            | 18            | 40      | 27        | 34        | 34            | 40           | 17         | 26      | 14        | 15           | Fuerstenau |                |                   |            |            |            |           |          |        |     |  |
| Fuerstenwerder    | 19       | 24            | 3             | 33      | 21        | 25        | 25            | 22           | 23         | 24      | 37        | 7            | 19         | Fuerstenwerder |                   |            |            |            |           |          |        |     |  |
| Gemeindeschaferei | 3        | 34            | 18            | 18      | 5         | 14        | 37            | 33           | 38         | 10      | 49        | 23           | 21         | 15             | Gemeindeschaferei |            |            |            |           |          |        |     |  |
| Gnadenfeld        | 35       | 10            | 20            | 49      | 37        | 46        | 5             | 11           | 20         | 41      | 18        | 13           | 37         | 19             | 31                | Gnadenfeld |            |            |           |          |        |     |  |
| Gnadenheim        | 24       | 25            | 2             | 38      | 26        | 35        | 20            | 23           | 18         | 26      | 34        | 2            | 14         | 5              | 20                | 20         | Gnadenheim |            |           |          |        |     |  |
| Grossweide        | 49       | 17            | 33            | 63      | 50        | 59        | 10            | 17           | 31         | 55      | 4         | 27           | 44         | 33             | 45                | 14         | 30         | Grossweide |           |          |        |     |  |
| Halbstadt         | 17       | 46            | 21            | 24      | 17        | 17        | 45            | 45           | 33         | 10      | 58        | 25           | 16         | 24             | 14                | 40         | 23         | 54         | Halbstadt |          |        |     |  |
| Ladekopp          | 21       | 44            | 20            | 31      | 20        | 25        | 46            | 43           | 26         | 17      | 59        | 26           | 9          | 21             | 17                | 41         | 24         | 54         | 7         | Ladekopp |        |     |  |
| Landskrone        | 29       | 21            | 7             | 43      | 31        | 40        | 14            | 20           | 15         | 34      | 28        | 3            | 17         | 10             | 26                | 11         | 5          | 24         | 28        | 29       | Landsk |     |  |
| Lichtenau         | 11       | 45            | 33            | 9       | 9         | 2         | 51            | 44           | 51         | 5       | 62        | 36           | 31         | 29             | 13                | 45         | 34         | 58         | 15        | 29       | 39     | Lic |  |
| Lichtfelde        | 17       | 19            | 14            | 30      | 17        | 26        | 25            | 17           | 34         | 26      | 36        | 16           | 32         | 16             | 16                | 20         | 17         | 34         | 28        | 27       | 18     | 26  |  |
| Liebenau          | 38       | 34            | 14            | 49      | 37        | 46        | 29            | 34           | 8          | 35      | 42        | 11           | 9          | 17             | 32                | 24         | 11         | 38         | 25        | 18       | 14     | 45  |  |
| Lindenau          | 9        | 44            | 30            | 12      | 8         | 6         | 47            | 43           | 50         | 2       | 59        | 32           | 28         | 25             | 10                | 42         | 30         | 55         | 12        | 19       | 35     | 3   |  |
| Margenau          | 21       | 18            | 6             | 35      | 23        | 32        | 19            | 16           | 24         | 28      | 31        | 6            | 24         | 6              | 18                | 14         | 6          | 27         | 27        | 26       | 8      | 31  |  |
| Mariantal         | 41       | 5             | 29            | 53      | 41        | 50        | 13            | 7            | 33         | 49      | 14        | 19           | 47         | 29             | 39                | 13         | 30         | 12         | 52        | 50       | 23     | 50  |  |
| Muensterberg      | 13       | 47            | 34            | 3       | 11        | 3         | 53            | 45           | 54         | 10      | 64        | 39           | 37         | 31             | 17                | 48         | 37         | 61         | 20        | 27       | 42     | 5   |  |
| Muntau            | 15       | 44            | 21            | 22      | 15        | 15        | 45            | 43           | 35         | 8       | 58        | 25           | 18         | 20             | 13                | 39         | 21         | 52         | 2         | 9        | 28     | 13  |  |
| Neukirch          | 20       | 16            | 15            | 33      | 20        | 29        | 22            | 14           | 31         | 29      | 33        | 13           | 35         | 19             | 19                | 16         | 16         | 31         | 31        | 30       | 16     | 29  |  |
| Ohrloff           | 6        | 40            | 27            | 9       | 4         | 5         | 46            | 38           | 47         | 9       | 57        | 32           | 30         | 24             | 9                 | 41         | 29         | 54         | 18        | 25       | 35     | 5   |  |
| Pastva            | 54       | 22            | 41            | 68      | 56        | 65        | 15            | 23           | 34         | 60      | 5         | 31           | 47         | 42             | 50                | 19         | 35         | 5          | 59        | 62       | 29     | 65  |  |
| Petershagen       | 18       | 42            | 20            | 28      | 18        | 22        | 46            | 43           | 28         | 14      | 57        | 26           | 12         | 18             | 13                | 39         | 23         | 52         | 4         | 3        | 29     | 18  |  |
| Pordenau          | 40       | 3             | 28            | 52      | 40        | 49        | 13            | 6            | 32         | 48      | 15        | 26           | 47         | 28             | 38                | 12         | 28         | 14         | 50        | 49       | 26     | 49  |  |
| Prangenu          | 23       | 11            | 15            | 35      | 23        | 32        | 20            | 11           | 31         | 31      | 30        | 48           | 38         | 13             | 21                | 15         | 16         | 28         | 33        | 33       | 17     | 32  |  |
| Rudnerweide       | 45       | 12            | 31            | 59      | 47        | 56        | 10            | 13           | 31         | 53      | 6         | 25           | 39         | 31             | 43                | 11         | 31         | 5          | 51        | 52       | 22     | 56  |  |
| Rueckenau         | 15       | 25            | 7             | 29      | 17        | 26        | 25            | 23           | 26         | 21      | 38        | 11           | 25         | 4              | 11                | 20         | 9          | 34         | 21        | 21       | 14     | 25  |  |
| Schardau          | 38       | 2             | 26            | 51      | 38        | 47        | 13            | 4            | 31         | 47      | 17        | 24           | 44         | 26             | 37                | 11         | 27         | 15         | 49        | 47       | 21     | 44  |  |
| Schoenau          | 10       | 44            | 26            | 17      | 10        | 10        | 46            | 42           | 40         | 3       | 59        | 32           | 23         | 25             | 10                | 40         | 20         | 55         | 7         | 14       | 34     | 8   |  |
| Schoensee         | 34       | 34            | 13            | 45      | 32        | 39        | 30            | 33           | 11         | 31      | 44        | 12           | 5          | 14             | 31                | 24         | 11         | 37         | 21        | 14       | 13     | 37  |  |
| Sparrau           | 42       | 14            | 21            | 57      | 44        | 53        | 2             | 16           | 23         | 49      | 11        | 20           | 34         | 27             | 39                | 7          | 22         | 8          | 48        | 48       | 17     | 49  |  |
| Steinbach         | 32       | 5             | 21            | 44      | 32        | 41        | 16            | 2            | 31         | 40      | 21        | 19           | 39         | 24             | 30                | 11         | 21         | 20         | 42        | 41       | 19     | 41  |  |
| Tiege             | 4        | 38            | 25            | 10      | 2         | 7         | 44            | 36           | 45         | 11      | 56        | 30           | 25         | 22             | 7                 | 39         | 27         | 20         | 18        | 25       | 33     | 7   |  |
| Tiegenhagen       | 12       | 45            | 24            | 19      | 13        | 13        | 47            | 43           | 37         | 6       | 61        | 31           | 21         | 21             | 11                | 40         | 26         | 54         | 4         | 11       | 31     | 11  |  |
| Tiegerweide       | 11       | 29            | 11            | 25      | 13        | 22        | 29            | 27           | 30         | 17      | 41        | 15           | 20         | 8              | 8                 | 24         | 13         | 38         | 17        | 17       | 18     | 21  |  |
| Waldheim          | 36       | 18            | 14            | 50      | 38        | 47        | 10            | 19           | 12         | 41      | 23        | 13           | 24         | 17             | 33                | 9          | 12         | 19         | 35        | 36       | 7      | 46  |  |
| Wernersdorf       | 36       | 30            | 14            | 50      | 38        | 47        | 25            | 30           | 5          | 38      | 39        | 12           | 11         | 17             | 33                | 21         | 12         | 35         | 27        | 20       | 10     | 42  |  |
| Yushanlee         | 9        | 28            | 17            | 21      | 9         | 18        | 35            | 26           | 36         | 17      | 44        | 21           | 29         | 14             | 7                 | 39         | 19         | 42         | 21        | 25       | 24     | 18  |  |

## MOLOTSCHNA VILLAGES DISTANCE GUIDE

Adapted and converted to the nearest kilometer from "Alphabetische Übersicht über die Entfernung der Kolonien des Molotschnaer Mennoniten-Bezirks 1846" in Franz Isaak, *Die Molotschnaer Mennoniten*, Halbstadt, Taurien, Kommissionsverlag und Druck von H. J. Braun, 1908.

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| 21 | 41 7 27 45 7 16 24 Ohrloff   |
| 39 | 44 60 33 18 67 57 36 59 Pastva   |
| 28 | 21 17 27 50 25 6 30 23 61 Petershagen  |
| 22 | 35 48 23 1 51 49 19 43 19 49 Pordenau  |
| 6  | 27 31 10 18 34 32 3 27 34 33 17 Prangenau  |
| 29 | 35 53 25 7 58 51 26 50 10 52 9 24 Rudnerweide                                    |
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| 28 | 31 53 21 13 55 48 25 48 13 48 13 22 8 27 13 51 32 Sparrau                        |
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| 9  | 30 18 15 32 20 20 12 13 48 20 32 14 38 10 30 17 29 37 24 11 18 8 31 31 Yushanlee |



# Pedigree Chart of Peter Epp and Anna Claassen

## Appendix Insert for The House of Heinrich

The Story of Heinrich Epp (1811-1863) Rosenort, Molotschna and His Descendants

Compiled and Edited by Anna Epp Ens

