

TO EMMA & CLARENCE FENNERMAN
LORENA & LESLEY MENEFEE
ESTHER DIECKMAN

FROM FRANK L. ENERIN

DATE SATURDAY APRIL 1ST 1989

RE THE ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS "DESTINATION AMERICA"

FOR MANY YEARS I'VE BEEN OBSESSED WITH THE NEED
OF PUTTING INTO WRITTEN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE
SOME OF THE THINGS I'VE BEEN AWARE OF WHICH
BROUN TOGETHER WILL GRAPHICALLY ILLUSTRATE OUR
EXCELLENT GERMAN/AMERICAN HERITAGE AS IT
DEVELOPED AND AS IT RESULTED FROM OUR
GRANDFATHER FAITZ AND GRANDMAMA MINNA IMMIGRATING
TO IOWA IN 1886.

HOWEVER I WAS ONLY PERSONALLY ACQUAINTED WITH
5 OF THE ORIGINAL 7 IN THE IMMIGRATION PARTY.
YOUNG FAITZ HAVING DIED SAME WEEK OF ARRIVAL
IN THE VALLEY, AND GRANDPA FAITZ DIED IN 1909,
9 YEARS BEFORE I WAS BORN. 1909

ANOTHER DISADVANTAGE WAS LIVING IN CLAIRSVILLE
FOR ONLY ABOUT 4 YEARS OUT OF MY 70, AND
OF THE OTHER 66 YEARS, 63 WERE SPENT LIVING
IN CHICAGO AND ITS SUBURBS.

I DID, THANKFULLY, HAVE THE ADVANTAGE OF GRANDMA'S
TOUCH FROM 1920-1947. HER LIVING WITH US
AFTER MY MOTHER'S DEATH, PROVIDED SOME DEFINITE
FIRST-HAND INSIGHT TO GRANDMA'S REMINABLE
(OVER)

(CONT.) SIMON'S CHARACTER WITH SHELL DEVELOPED IN THE
PRUSSIAN AURA OF THE 1800'S. AND HER
NEW WORLD LIFE PUT A POLISH ON HER WHAT?
I'M AFRAID, MOST OF US OVERLOOKED.

SO WHAT I'VE WRITTEN IS IN THIS SKETCH. IT'S GOOD
TO KEEP FOR WHATEVER USE YOU MAY FIND FOR IT.
IT'S ONLY A BEGINNING, BECAUSE FAMILY LIFE WAS
STATIC - QUITE THE OPPOSITE - AND WHAT'S
HAPPENING NOW SHOULD BE RECORDED WITH
DETAIL - FOR SUBSEQUENT FAMILIES ENLIGHTENMENT.

I'D APPRECIATE SOMETHING IN RETURN, IF YOU WISH.
NO PARTICULAR HURRY, IN SOME FUTURE LETTER
MAYBE:

- a) YOUR OBJECTIVE CRITIQUE, IF WHAT I'VE DONE
HONESTLY, FRANKLY, GOOD OR BAD, AND
- b) ANY CORRECTIONS SUCH AS DATES, NAMES,
LOCATIONS WHICH YOU MAY HAVE MORE ACCURATE
KNOWLEDGE OF, AND
- c) WHATEVER ADDITIONS (OR DELETIONS) YOU THINK
WOULD BE OF INTEREST, PLUS
- d) ANY COPIES OF EARLY FAITZ AND MINNA
PHOTOS YOU COULD MAKE FOR REVISION ^{INCLUSION}

THANKS FOR ALL THE GOOD MEMORIES WE
"WEIRING COUSINS" SHARE.

LOVE YOU ALL.

FRANK

DESTINATION AMERICA!

MY
APOLOGISTICS

"WE ALL CAME FROM SOMEWHERE ELSE" SO WROTE CHARLES KUHALT IN NOV. 1988 READER'S DIGEST. AND THIS WAS MOST CERTAINLY TRUE OF MY GRANDFATHER FRITZ WEJEXING'S IMMIGRATION TO IOWA IN 1886 FROM PRUSSIA/GERMANY. THIS HAS BEEN WRITTEN SO GRANDPA FRITZ'S GRAND-CHILDREN WILL KNOW OF THE EVENTS IN THE GROWTH OF THE WEJEXING TREE'S MAIN TRUNK. IT'S NOT EXHAUSTIVE AND PIECE-MEAL TREATMENT WILL BE EVIDENT.

* * *

"WHO ARE THE GERMANS? WHERE'D THEY COME FROM?"

4500 B.C. NEOLITHIC FARMERS - DANUBIAN PEASANTS - USING STONE IMPLEMENTS ADVANCED WESTWARD INTO EUROPE'S RHINELAND. FOLLOWED BY SUCCESSION OF BRONZE AGE CULTURES, THEN BY THE CELTS, AND BY GERMANS WHO'D MIGRATED SOUTH-WARD FROM THE DENMARK/COPENHAGEN AREA

113 B.C. ROMANS ENTERED RHINE VALLEY FOUND GERMAN CIMBRI AND TEUTONI TRIBES. GERMANS DEFEATED 5 ROMAN

101 B.C. ARMIES BUT LOST TO COMMANDER MARIUS IN 101 B.C.

58 B.C. JULIUS CAESAR ANNIHILATED THEM AT MULHAUSEN 58 B.C. SMALL REMNANT INCLUDING SUEBI CHIEF ESCAPED ACROSS RHINE. CAESAR SAID THEY WERE UNDISCIPLINED SAVAGES WHO WORSHIPPED SUN, MOON AND FIRE.

38 B.C. OCTAVIAN-AUGUSTUS LT. AGRIPPA SETTLED FRIENDLY UBII TRIBE ON RHINE WEST BANK. THIS WAS BEGINNING OF KÖLN, EARLIEST GERMAN CITY.

12 B.C. - ROMAN ARMIES BEGAN OFFENSIVE AGAINST WEST GERMANY. 9 A.D. REACHED ELBE RIVER 8 B.C. HELD UNTIL 9 A.D., VARUS AND HIS LEGIONS WERE DESTROYED. GERMAN OCCUPATION BY CAESAR AUGUSTUS ENDED.

- AD 260 - 476 WEST GERMANS TOOK ROMAN RHINELAND. EAST GERMANS, PUSHED BY HUNS, MOVED S.E. PAST ELBE. ROMAN EMPIRE ENDED IN WEST 476 AD.
- AD 500 - 900 MEDIEVAL GERMANY. TRIBAL CONFEDERATIONS GAVE WAY TO PEOPLE GROUPINGS - SAXONS, FRISIANS, THURINGIANS, BAVARIANS, ALEMANS (SWABIANS) AND THE FRANKS
- AD 680 - 814 FRANKS' CHARLES THE GREAT RULED GERMANY. BRIEF PERIOD OF UNITY. SAINT BONIFACE IN THURINGIA AND HESSE CUT DOWN SACRED GROVES, BAPTISED, FOUNDED CHURCHES
- AD 900 - 1500 GERMANY BY 10TH CENTURY DIVIDED INTO 5 DUCHIES - FRANCONIA, SAXONY, BAVARIA, SWABIA AND THURINGIA. BY 11TH CENT. A CENTRALIZED MONARCHY. PEACE, TOWNS GREW, EXTENSIVE LEARNING AND CHURCH BUILDING
- AD 1400 GERMANY ALMOST ANARCHY. PRINCELY TERRITORIES SUB-DIVIDED BY INHERITANCE INTO MASS OF TINY STATES EACH WITH COURT BORNE BY PEASANTRY. MONARCHY DECLINED. NO KING BY 15TH.
- AD 1500 TOWNS AND THEIR CULTURE GERMANY'S GREATEST MEDIEVAL ACCOMPLISHMENT. BURGHES CLASS AROSE FOR TRADE AND DEFENCE HANSEATIC GREATEST - LUBECK, HAMBURG, BREMEN AND COLOGNE
- AD 1500 - 1800 AGE OF PRINCELY STATES - MOSAIC OF AUSTRIA, BOHEMIA, SAXONY, BRANDENBURG, BAVARIA, HESSE, BRAUNSWICK-LÜNEBURG, PALATINATE
- AD 1517 REFORMATION AND REACTION. MARTIN LUTHER NAILED 95 THESES AGAINST INDULGENCES ON WITTENBERG CHURCH DOOR. PAPAL INFLUENCE RESISTED.
- AD 1525 PEASANT REVOLT BRUTALLY CRUSHED BY NOBILITY
- AD 1534 GUTTENBERG'S BIBLE PRODUCED USING MOVABLE TYPE. LUTHER'S PRINTED WORD WENT TO ALL GERMANY. EDUCATED PEOPLE BEGAN USING STANDARD "NEUHOGHEUTSCH". STILL IN USE TODAY.
- AD 1558 PEACE OF AUGSBURG ENDED REFORMATION
- AD 1618 - 1648 30 YEARS WAR SET OFF BY BOHEMIAN REVOLT AGAINST CATHOLIC HAPSBURGS. CAUSED LITTLE CHANGE BUT MUCH APPALLING MISERIES AND HARDSHIPS

AD 1648

PEACE OF WESTPHALIA ENDED 30 YRS. WAR. PRINCES RETAINED POWER OVER MOSAIC - 200 SECULAR STATES, 63 ECCLESIASTICAL STATES, AND THE INDEPENDENT LANDS OF 1000+ KNIGHTS. HATE, DISTRUST, YEARS OF STRUGGLE LASTED UNTIL GREAT MIGRATIONS. PROTESTANT GERMANY INCLUDING PRUSSIA LAY IN NORTH AND EAST

* * *

(EARLY 1700'S START OF WEAKENING GENEALOGIES)

AD 1648-1798

GERMANY UNDER PRINCES HAD PERIOD OF ORDER AT EXPENSE OF COMMON PEOPLE WHO HAD NO CONTROL IN AFFAIRS. PRINCES BUILT MAGNIFICENTLY ORNATE PALACES. 30 YEARS WAR CAUSED AGRICULTURE DEPRESSION, DEPLETION OF POPULATION. SERVILITY ON JUNKER ESTATES.

AD 1701

PRUSSIA TITLE AROSE WHEN BRANDENBURG HOHENZOLLERN MONARCHS DOMINATED ALL EAST AND WEST GERMANY. FREDERICH THE GREAT REALIZED PROSPEROUS PEASANTRY NEEDED FOR TAX INCOME AND ARMY. AT HIS DEATH IN 1786 PRUSSIA WAS STRONG STATE WITH STANDING ARMY, EFFICIENT CIVIL ADMINISTRATION, CONTROLLED TAXATION. ONLY STATE INTERESTS AND STANDING ARMY MATTERED.

AD 1786

AD 1750-1870

"GOLDEN AGE" AGR. REVOLUTION. POPULATION GREW, COAR FARMHOUSE, ROTATION OF FODDER CROPS. VILLAGES ENLARGED, DUAL-PURPOSE FARMHOUSES. STATE FOSTERING INDUSTRY. TRADE MERCANTILISM. SILESIAN IRON AND LINEN, DRESDEN LACE, MEISSEN PORCELAIN IN SAXONY. GLASS IN HANNOVER. IRON, COAL IN RUHR.

AD 1806-1813

PRUSSIA CRUSHED AT JENA BY NAPOLEON. RHINELANDS ABSORBED INTO FRANCE REDUCING NUMBER OF STATES. POPULAR UPRISING AT LEIPZIG 1813 DEFEATED FRENCH WHO LEFT BEHIND REVOLUTIONARY SEEDS.

AD 1818-1834

MODERN GERMANY. PRUSSIA ROSE TO POWER CREATED BY GERMAN CUSTOMS UNION - ZOLLVEREIN. NATIONALIZED 1818, BY 1829 EMERGED IN SMALLER STATES. SOUTH, CENTRAL STATES JOINED 1834. RAILROADS BUILT, INDUSTRY GREW, POLITICAL UNITY APPEARED.

* * *

(GRANDPA FRITZ CONSCRIPTED INTO PRUSSIAN ARMY)

1870'S

AD 1864-1870 PRUSSIA'S RISE UNDER CHANCELLOR BISMARCK FORWARDED BY A SERIES OF WARS. 1864 DENMARK CEDED SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN. AUSTRIA CEDED HANOVER. FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR 1870 SEALED GERMAN UNITY UNDER PRUSSIA. NAPOLEON III'S DEFEATED FRANCE CEDED ALSACE-LORRAINE. HOHENZOLLEARN WILLIAM I IN VERSAILLES PALACE HALL OF MIRRORS PROCLAIMED EMPEROR OF A UNITED AND TRIUMPHANT GERMANY

* * *

(GRANDPA FAITZ TAKES FAMILY TO AMERICA 1886)

AD 1871-1914 BETWEEN 1871 AND 1914 GERMANY TRANSFORMED FROM RURAL TO ONE OF WORLD'S GREATEST INDUSTRIAL POWERS. POPULATION GREW FROM 41 MILLION TO 67 MILLION. AGRICULTURE LAGGED. LIVESTOCK FARMING GREW. GERMANY 1879 INITIATED AGRICULTURAL PROTECTIONISM BENEFICIAL TO ESTATE OWNERS.

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THUMBNAIL HISTORY OF GERMAN EMIGRATION TO AMERICA

1660-1685 THIRTEEN GERMAN FAMILIES ARRIVED IN PENNSYLVANIA

1776 90 YEARS LATER 100,000 GERM. IMMIGRANTS AND DESCENDANTS LIVING IN 13 COLONIES, CHALLENGING ENGLISH NATURE OF COLONIES

1820-1977 MORE THAN 4,970,000 GERMANS CAME TO AMERICA. "DER VATERLAND" HAD MANY PROBLEMS. RAPID POPULATION GROWTH, POOR HARVESTS 1850'S, DISSATISFACTION UNDER CHANCELLOR BISMARCK. HEAVY AGR. IMPORTS FROM AMERICA AND RUSSIA, EXIT EMIGRATION FACILITATED BY EXPANDED RAILROADS. LOWERED TRANS-ATLANTIC FARES, MILITARY CONSCRIPTION...

1895 WHATEVER THE REASON LARGE NUMBERS KEPT LEAVING. EXODUS SLOWED AFTER

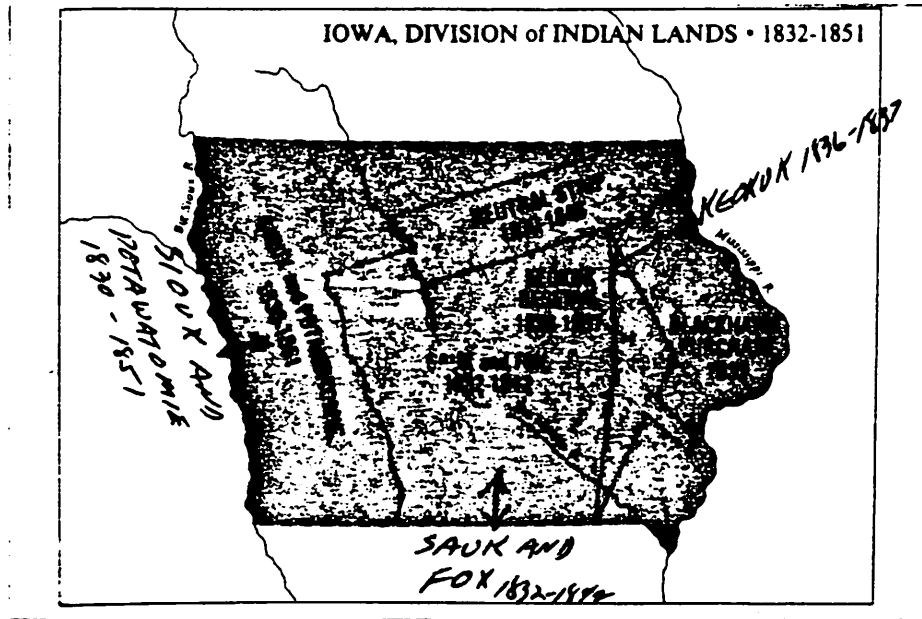
1895 * * *

1952 THEIR COMING PROVIDED AMERICA WITH MUCH TALENT AND LITTLE TROUBLE. GERMAN-AMERICAN ACHIEVEMENT CULMINATED WITH DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER ELECTED TO U.S. PRESIDENCY, AND AGAN IN 1956

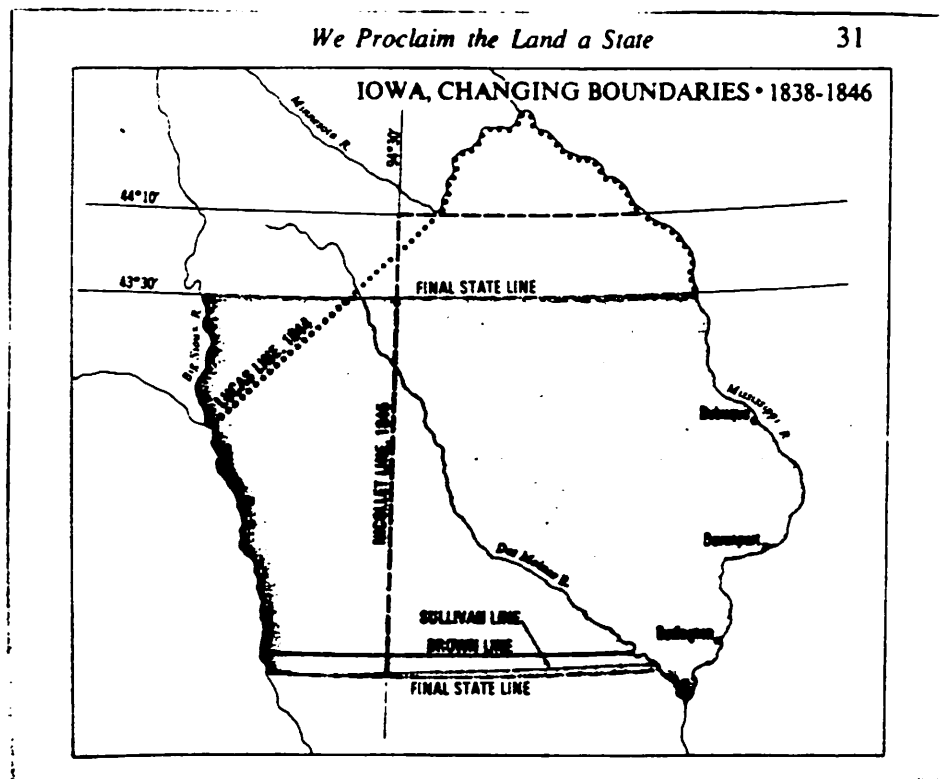
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NOW, A LOOK AT IOWA JUST PRIOR TO ARRIVAL OF SETTLERS

1832-1851 "HOW ABOUT THE INDIANS?" - BY 1851 IOWA WAS "UNPOSSESSED"
 NOTE THIS IOWA MAP SHOWING AREAS FORMERLY OCCUPIED BY INDIANS



1838-1846 ALSO DURING THIS PERIOD IOWA'S CHANGING BOUNDARIES WERE FINALLY ESTABLISHED (SEE BELOW). IOWA A STATE - 1846



1838-1856 WITH THE INDIAN'S "UNPOSSESSED" AND 1846 STATEHOOD, IOWA'S 36,000,000 ACRES WERE OPENED AND DISPOSED OF THROUGH U.S. LAND OFFICES

1838 FIRST LAND OFFICES BURLINGTON AND DUBUQUE

1842 " " FAIRFIELD " MAHON

1843 DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS - STATE CAPITOL, IOWA CITY

1852 " (S) CHARITON, FORT DES MOINES, COUNCIL BLUFFS

1855 " FT. DODGE, SIOUX CITY, DECORAH

1856 " OPENED AT OSAGE

* * *

ABOUT 34% OF LAND SOLD FOR CASH AND 40% GIVEN AWAY AS MILITARY BOUNTIES (REWARDS) FOR VETERANS OF MAJOR WARS AND INDIAN SKIRMISHES (SEE DETAIL BELOW)

TABLE 4.1: Disposal of Iowa lands

	(%)
Cash sales	33.7
Military bounties	39.7
Agricultural college scrip locations	0.7
Homesteads	2.5
Timber claims	0.1
Miscellaneous	0.1
State grants:	
Swamp and saline lands	3.4
Educational grants	4.9
Internal and river improvements and public buildings	3.2
Railroad construction grants	11.7
	100.0

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1836 - 1846 ONE OF IOWA'S HISTORY MARVELS IS THE SPEED WITH WHICH IT WAS SETTLED:

1836 CENSUS	10,531
1838 "	22,859
1840 "	43,116
1844 "	75,150
1846 STATEHOOD	96,088

1850-1854 THE RATE OF IMMIGRATION INTO IOWA WAS QUITE HIGH. THE STATE 1850-1854 INCREASED ABOUT 100 PEOPLE PER DAY. THE MOVEMENT OF IOWA-BOUND COVERED WAGONS RESEMBLED THE GOLD RUSH. AT AN OVERNIGHT PEORIA ILLINOIS STOP IT WAS REPORTED THAT 1,743 WAGONS PASSED THROUGH THE PREVIOUS MONTH. RAILROADS ONLY CROSSED ILLINOIS, SO FERRIES WERE NECESSARY AT DUBUQUE, CLINTON AND BURLINGTON

1850-1910 GERMAN-BORN IN IOWA

YEAR	TOTAL FOREIGN-BORN	GERMAN-BORN	% OF TOTAL
1850	20,969	7,101	33.9
1860	106,077	35,842	33.8
1870	204,692	66,162	32.3
1880	261,650	88,268	33.7
* 1890	324,069	* 127,246	* 39.3
1900	305,920	123,162	40.3
1910	273,484	98,290	35.9

* 1886 WAS YEAR FRITZ WEJERKING'S FAMILY ARRIVED IN IOWA
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FOCUSING IN ON BUTLER COUNTY-CLARKSVILLE TOWN-AND
FREMONT TOWNSHIP'S "PLEASANT VALLEY"

DEC. 1850 JOSEPH HICKS CAME UP THE SHELL ROCK RIVER, BUILT A LOG CABIN JUST WEST OF CLARKSVILLE IN A WOODED AREA CALLED COON'S GROVE. JOHN HEERY FILED FIRST LAND PATENT 1850 FOR LAND SOUTH OF TOWN AT RIVER'S BEND BUT DIDN'T SETTLE UNTIL 1853. MANY MORE SETTLERS FOLLOWED.

JULY 1852 CLARK BROTHERS THOMAS, ARNER, JEREMIAH, AND SISTER JANE CAMPED FOR THE NIGHT AT WHERE THE OLD CEMETERY IS NOW LOCATED. THEY WERE PART OF A COMPANY OF 32 TRAVELING BY COVERED WAGON FROM NORTH-CENTRAL INDIANA. DELIGHTED WITH THE AREA THEY DECIDED TO STAY. IN 1853 ARNER CLARK BUILT A

1852-1856 LOG CABIN STORE AT CORNER OF PRESENT DAY MAIN AND GREEN STREETS. HE ALSO WAS POSTMASTER IN 1853. FIRST SCHOOL BUILT 1855 AND SISTER JANE CLARK TAUGHT THERE IN 1856

1853 TOWN OF CLARKSVILLE SURVEYED. COUNTY COURT HOUSE BUILT 1855-1858 BUT MOVED TO BUTLER CENTER IN 1860 AND MOVED AGAIN IN 1880 TO ALLISON. CLARKSVILLE FIRST MUNICIPAL ELECTION IN 1874.

1871 THE BURLINGTON, CEDAR RAPIDS AND NORTHERN RR (ROCK ISLAND) COMPLETED THROUGH CLARKSVILLE. 1879 SERVICE BEGAN ON THE DUBUQUE AND IOWA RR (CHgo. ST. WESTERN)

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NORTH OF CLARKSVILLE, ABOUT 5 MILES, IN FREMONT TOWNSHIP, WAS PLEASANT VALLEY (GERMAN "LIEBLICH TAL")

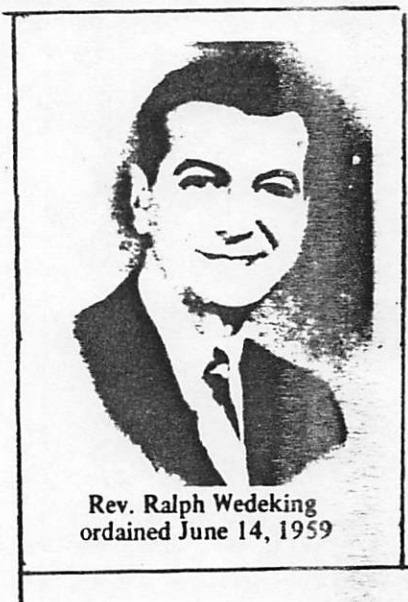
1868 IN 1868 THE FREDERICK BUCHHOLTZ FAMILY CAME FROM CLAYTON COUNTY (GUTTENBERG). THEY WERE AMONG THE FIRST OF A LARGE GROUP OF GERMAN FARMERS THAT FOLLOWED THE NEXT 15 YEARS. AN 1883 HISTORIAN CALLED PLEASANT VALLEY THE LARGEST FOREIGN SETTLEMENT IN BUTLER COUNTY.

1870 THESE SETTLERS IN 1870 MET FOR WORSHIP IN A LITTLE COUNTRY SCHOOL HOUSE. IN 1873 THE CONGREGATION WAS RECORDED IN BUTLER COUNTY RECORD AS "EVANGELISCHE LUTHERISCHE VIERTER GEMEINDE VON PLEASANT VALLEY". LATER THAT YEAR A PARSONAGE WAS BUILT. SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES BEGAN IN 1884. FIRST CHRISTMAS EVE PROGRAM 1885, CHURCH BUILDING ERECTED 1889 OTHER WEDDERINGS WERE SETTLED IN THE VALLEY PRIOR TO 1886. TO BE REVIEWED LATER ON.

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BUT FIRST SOME EARLY WEDEKING GENELOGICAL HISTORY

MY THANKS TO THE REV. RALPH WEDEKING, ONE OF THE VALLEY CONGREGATION'S SONS FOR HISTORICAL DETAIL HE FOUND WHEN HE STUDIED RECORDS OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AT HUSUM FARM VILLAGE, 8 MILES S.E. OF NIENBURG, HANOVER, GERMANY. RECORDS PRIOR TO 1700'S HAD BEEN DESTROYED IN A CHURCH FIRE.



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GENERATION 1 JOHANN GIDEON WEDEKING MARRIED CATHERINE D.

HAUSMAN EARLY 1700'S PARENTS OF

GENERATION 2 JOHANN DIETRICH WEDEKING (B 25-1743 D 12-18-1805) M CATHERINE

FRANKE (B 15-1737 D 11-3-1806) PARENTS OF

GENERATION 3 FRIEDERICH WEDEKING (B 13-1762 D?) MARRIED CATHERINE

DETTMER (B? D?) PARENTS OF "J. D. H. W."

GENERATION 4 JOHANN DIETRICH HEINRICH WEDEKING (B 2-4-1794 D?) M MARIE

KLEINSCHMIDT (B? D?) IN 9-29-1816 (FIRST MARRIAGE)

2ND. M. CATHERINA MARIA KROUSE (B 5-9-1799 D 12-10-1861) IN 1827

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GERMANY HISTORY ENDING, AMERICA HISTORY BEGINNING

"J. D. H." WEDEKING HAD AT LEAST 2 DAUGHTERS
AND 4 SONS

- NEXT PAGE -

JOHANN DIETRICH HEINRICH WERKING'S CHILDREN (CONTINUED)

GENERATION 5 DIETRICH FATHER OF FRITZ DID NOT COME TO AMERICA

WILHELM (B 8-1-30 D 4-11-91) CAME TO AMERICA BEFORE 1855

HENRY F (B 12-15-55 D 12-29-1915) " " " 1885

LOUIS (B 12-19-40 D 2-9-1938) " " " 1858

MARY (B 11-4-67 D 10-5-1913) " " 1886 WITH FRITZ

LOUISE (B 2-3-70 D 8-18-1947) " " " " "

GENERATION 6

FRITZ (GRANDPA) WERKING (BORN IN LIENSBAUS, GERM

9-26-1853 D 11-11-1909) MARRIED SOPHIA WILHELMINE

"MINA" HANNE (BORN IN SCHAESINGHAUSEN, GERM

5-2-1856 D 6-1-1937) 10-5-1877 PARENTS OF:

MARY (MARIE LETA) (B 10-1-1881 D 12-1-1915) M 8-28-1900

DIEDRICH DIECKMANN - PARENTS OF LOUIS, LORENA

(MENEFEE), LETA (SCHUTTE) AND HERMAN

MINNIE (B 9-27-1883 D 11-29-1912) M 12-29-1904 HERMAN

HOLLMAN PARENTS OF VALERIE (B 1-4-1910 D 1-8-1910)

AND EDNA (FENNEMAN)

FRITZ (B 7-7-1885 IN GERM) DIED 6-10-1886 FIRST WORK IN FL. VALLEY

BERTHA (B 11-20-1887 D 3-6-1978) M 7-6-1910 AUGUST SINARM

(B 7-20-1885 D 6-8-1954) PARENTS OF RUTH (HUFFMAN)

TWINS { OTTO LUIS HEINRICH (B 7-23-1893 D 8-27-1893)

EDWARD " " (" " D 9-13-1893)

GENERATION 7

WILLIAM HEINRICH LUIS (B 11-30-1895 D 10-30-1969) M 12-18-1915

HAZEL PEARL SPRINGER (B 10-30-1896 D 2-6-1970) PARENTS OF

WILLIAM JOHN (B 8-1-1916 D 1-13-1984) M 1937 LOUISE CAMPBELL

(B 12-18-1917) PARENTS OF FOUR DAUGHTERS: SANDRA (ROGERS)

(B 10-12-1939), TWINS (B 8-11-1942) JERI (JEWELL) AND JONI

(THOMPSON) AND JUDY (CARLSON) (B 8-4-1949)

-AND-

(NEXT PAGE)

GENERATION 8 FRANKY FREDERICK FRANCIS LYLE (B 7-27-1918) M 6-4-1940
 RUTH T FORDYCE (B 10-24-1917) PARENTS OF:
 PAUL WILLIAM (B-8-19-1941) M 12-19-1964 ANITA BENNETT
GENERATION 9 { PARENTS OF ROBERT (B 5-26-68) AND JAMES (B 8-14-70)
 DAVID FRANK (B 11-6-1942) M 6-15-1968 SUSAN LARSON
GENERATION 10 { (B-9-2-1948) PARENTS OF JOHN (B 7-12-1970) AND
 ANGELA JOY (B 9-14-1977)

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GENEALOGIES POSTED TO THIS DATE (1989)

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BACK TO MAY,
1886

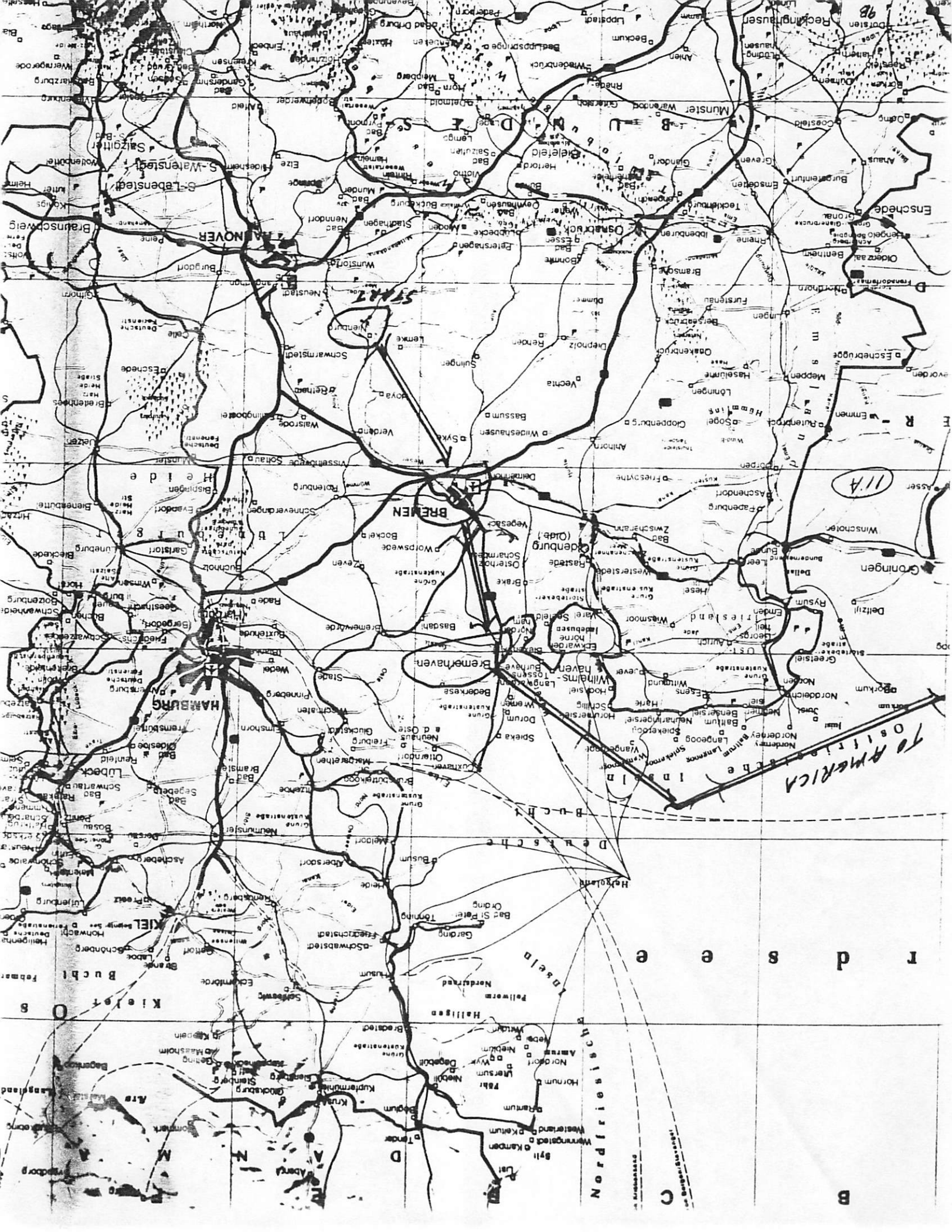
NOW LET'S GO BACK IN TIME TO EARLY MAY IN THE YEAR
 OF 1886. THE LOCATION IS IN GERMANY TO THE FARM
 VILLAGE OF HUSUM, ABOUT 8 MILES S.E. OF
 NIENBURG, HANOVER IN NORTH SAXONY. GRANDPA
 FAITZ AND GRANDMA MINNA HAVE FINISHED
 CLOSING UP THEIR HOME AND EVERYTHING THEY'RE
 TAKING WITH THEM TO AMERICA ARE CONTAINED
 IN 6 PIECES OF LUGGAGE (1 OF WHICH IS A LARGE
 STEAMER TRUNK). NOTE 3 MAPS I'VE ATTACHED
 TO HELP YOU TRACE THEIR ROUTE FROM HUSUM,
 THROUGH NIENBURG, THENCE TO BREMEN AND TO
 SEA-PORT BREMER-HAVEN.

* * *

BUT FIRST INTRODUCTIONS ARE IN ORDER

THE
EMIGRATION
PARTY

PLEASE SAY "HELLO" TO SIX OF THE SEVEN MAKING
 UP THE GROUP. NOT PICTURED ON THE FOLLOWING
 PAGE WAS YOUNG FAITZ, NOT QUITE A YEAR
 OLD, WHO'D PROBABLY WIGGLED AND SQUIRMED
 TOO MUCH.



Das internationale UTM-Netz der Zone 32 ist violett aufgedruckt. Die Gitterweite beträgt 10 km.

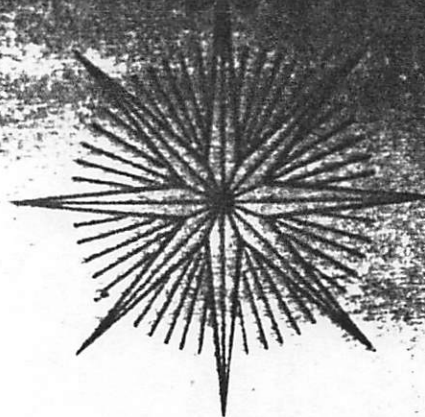
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1. HUSUM - FARM VILLAGE - EV. LUTN CHURCH
2. LINSBURG - GARDNER FRITZ'S BIRTHPLACE
3. SLESSINGHAUSEN - GARDNER MINA'S "
4. WESER RIVER.



TO AMERICA



ALL ABOARD FRITZ AND FAMILY LEFT HUSUM BY RAIL TRAVELING ALONG THE
EARLY MAY WESER RIVER. FIRST TO NIENBURG, THEN CONTINUING ON
1886 TO PORT OF BREMEN. HERE ON WED. MORNING MAY 12TH
1886 THEY BOARDED THE NORTH-GERMAN LLOYD STEAMSHIP

THE SHIP "LEIPZIG" POWERED BY A COMBINATION OF WIND-SAIL AND STEAM.
LAUNCHED IN 1869, SAW TRANSATLANTIC SERVICE WITH N.G. LLOYD
UNTIL 1894. THEN SOLD TO HAMBURG LINE AND FINALLY SCRAPED
IN 1895. (NOTE LINE DRAWING ON PASSENGER LIST FRONT PAGE).

LEIPZIG'S "CAPTAIN" CARL THALGUTHORST, 4 OFFICERS, 4 MACHINISTS,
CREW A DOCTOR, A NURSE, A STEWARD AND A COOK. THESE 12
COLLECTIVELY WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR 4 FIRST CLASS
PASSENGERS AND 418 "ZWISCHENDERS" (2ND. DECK) PASSENGERS

DESTINATION FROM BREMEN THE LEIPZIG SAILED NORTH ON THE WESER RIVER
AMERICA TO BREMER-HAVEN. HERE WAS SAID "LEBEWOHL" (FAREWELL) TO
"DER VATERLAND", THENCE ONTO THE NORTH SEA, DOWN THE
ENGLISH CHANNEL TO THE ATLANTIC OCEAN. THEIR CROSSING
TOOK THEM TO MARYLAND, ENTERING CHESAPEAKE BAY, NORTH-
WARD PAST ANNAPOLIS, FINALLY DOCKING IN BALTIMORE HARBOR.
IT WAS NOW SAT. MAY 29TH, 1886 AFTER 17 DAYS ON THE
WATER. GRANDMA WEJENING, YEARS LATER, TOLD ME THAT IT
HAD BEEN A VERY ROUGH, FRIGHTFULLY STORMY PASSAGE, AND
THAT SHE'D RATHER DIE THAN DO IT AGAIN.

FIRST SIGHTS IN MY RESEARCHING I KNEW WHEN THE LEIPZIG SAILED, AND
IN AMERICA GRANDMA'D TOLD ME IT HAD TAKEN "SEVERAL" WEEKS.
WANTING MORE INFORMATION OF THEIR OFFICIAL ENTRY,
I ENLISTED HELP FROM THE MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.
THEY PROVIDED ME WITH A ROLL OF MICROFILM OF THE
BALTIMORE SUN'S FIRST 6 MONTHS OF 1886. LEIPZIG'S
ARRIVAL WASN'T MENTIONED BUT NEXT DEPARTURE
SAILING DATE WAS. WITH THIS APPROXIMATE DATA
I THEN WROTE TO WASHINGTON D.C.'S GENERAL



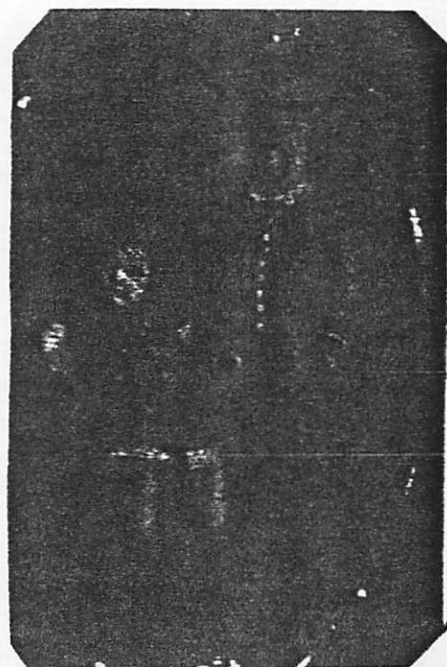
AGE 33
GRANDPA FRITZ WEDEKING



AGE 30
GRANDMA MINNA WEDEKING



GRANDPA'S TWO SISTERS
"AUNT MARY" "AUNT LOUISE"
AGE 18 AGE 16



DAUGHTERS
MINNA MARIA
AGE 2 AGE 4

Cajüts-Passagiere.

Fraulein Auguste Gatzemeyer.
Herr Louis Goldscheider.
Herr Consul William Köhler.
Frau Anna Goldberg.

Hannover.
Fürth.
Freiburg.
Warschau.

Officiere des Dampfers „Leipzig“

M. Kohlmann,	1. Officier.	A. Kreth,	1. Maschinist.
O. Palm,	2. Officier.	E. Bock,	2. Maschinist.
O. Dörsting,	3. Officier.	D. Kohlmann,	3. Maschinist.
O. Volger,	4. Officier.	G. Hohn,	4. Maschinist.

Dr. Haas, Arzt. E. Hemm, Proviant- und Zahlmeister.
G. Hensel, Obersteward. C. Grapengeter, Oberkoch.

General-Agenten des Norddeutschen Lloyd
in BALTIMORE:

A. Schumacher & Co., 5 South-Gay-St.

in CHICAGO, Ill.:

J. Wm. Eschenburg, No. 104 Fifth Ave.

D. „LEIPZIG“

Zwischendecks-Passagiere.

Anna Ludwig,	Bayern.	Leonhard Wolke m. Fam.,	Thüringen.	Carl Hagen,	Preussen.
Friedrich Daum,	Hessen.	Ingeborg Ries,	Preussen.	Sigmund Pistor,	Böhmen.
Marg. Fritsch,	Bayern.	Karen Jensen,	Amerika.	Elisabeth K. v. B.,	Bayern.
Agnes Polner,	"	Anna Lund u. F.,	Preussen.	Johann Kraus,	Preussen.
Marg. Waldmann,	"	Eline S. Hansen,	"	Edue M. Hanson,	Preussen.
Barbara Semmelmann,	Sachsen.	Anna Petersen,	"	Anna Mars,	"
Paul Sach,	Baden.	Anne Schmidt,	"	Augusta Beck,	"
Cath. Weininger,	Oldenburg.	Peter Petersen,	"	Juliane Zidonska,	Russland.
Hermann Kuhlmann,	Württemberg.	Peter J. Kay,	Dänemark.	Wilhelm K. m. Fam.,	Preussen.
Leonh. Meinhardt,	"	Rudolph Lade,	Preussen.	Emilie,	Bayern.
Rosina Mohl,	"	Ida Haase,	"	Michael W. v. B.,	Preussen.
Carl A. Mohl,	Preussen.	Helene Lange,	"	Georg Stöcker,	Preussen.
F. Redecker,	Oldenburg.	Emma Lange,	"	August G. J. v. B.,	Preussen.
Alarich Janssen,	"	Wilhelmine Engel,	"	Juliane v. B.,	Preussen.
Lina Kotter,	Lippe.	Anna Engel,	"	Julius Goldmann,	Preussen.
Ernst Frische,	Preussen.	Olaf M. Hattorik,	Norwegen.	Friedr. Isenhardt,	Bremen.
Carl Hartmann,	"	Peder J. Tveite,	"	Josef Benedikt m. F.,	Böhmen.
Behrend Reents,	"	Hr. E. Ellingsen,	Amerika.	Marie Karnol,	"
Ede Heidebrink,	"	Anna Gebelen v. Kd.,	Bayern.	Anna Lotter,	"
Fritz Ruckmann,	"	Caspar Petersen m. F.,	"	Eva Baumgartel,	"
Wilh. Kramer,	"	Ernst Harländer,	"	Magdal. Hammerschmied,	"
Aug. Rausack,	"	Lina Fries,	Preussen.	Eduard Lotter,	"
Jan Gies m. Fam.,	"	Emilie Schank,	"	Franz Lotter,	"
Peter M. Eyrebrak,	Norwegen.	Daniel Dorsch,	Bayern.	Theresia Hammer,	Sachsen.
Camilla Perrot,	Elsass.	Eva E. Schade,	Amerika.	Felix Asselt,	Amerika.
Johann Nossek,	Böhmen.	John Miller,	"	Johann Heiss,	Württemberg.
Johanne Nennaber,	Oldenburg.	Heinrich Wiedemann,	Preussen.	Catharine Lang,	"
Albertine Beyer,	Preussen.	Fanny Hartmann,	Württemberg.	Marie Glock,	"
Bertha Panten,	"	Catharina Schroder,	Preussen.	Friederike Heim,	Braunschweig.
Louise Rosin,	"	Fritz Müller m. F.,	Mecklenburg.	Heinr. Levers,	Oldenburg.
Anna Giese,	"	Paul Zimbal,	Preussen.	Jul. Mehl,	Böhmen.
Meta Wischmeyer,	Bremen.	Franz Demuth,	"	Mathilde Grimm,	Preussen.
Johanna Dröge,	Preussen.	Ida Klein,	"	Heinr. Heidtmann m. F.,	Sachsen.
Johann Kück,	"	Marianna Koszyiska,	"	Andreas Alt m. F.,	Bayern.
Johann Stelling,	"	Christiane Eike,	"	Carl Graßruck,	Oesterreich.
Gesche Schröder,	"	Wilhelm Eike,	"	Josef Losse,	Preussen.
Johann Vagts m. Fam.,	"	Theresia Jungkuz,	Bayern.	Cecilie Schulz,	"
Gustav Scholze,	"	Rosa Jungkuz,	"	Johanna Hirschfelder,	Amerika.
Anna Gerdes,	"	Pankraz Popp,	"	Carl Ernst,	Oesterreich.
Catharina Huslage,	"	Agnes Schön,	Preussen.	John Kober,	"
Moritz Zieske,	Sachsen.	Cal. Junga,	"	John Kemeta,	"
Arthur Zieske,	"	Albert Drews,	"	Samuel Adler,	"
MariaLjungberg u. Kd.,	Schweden.	Paulina Jaschop,	"		
Gottfried Person,	Dänemark.	August Martin m. F.,	"		
Wilhelmine Schinke,	Preussen.	Emilie Klatt,	"		
Wawrzyn Koslowsky,	Russland.	Theodor Segler,	"		
Carl Redmann,	Württemberg.	Kunigunde Wolf,	Bayern.		

D. „Leipzig“ — Zwischendecks-Passagiere.

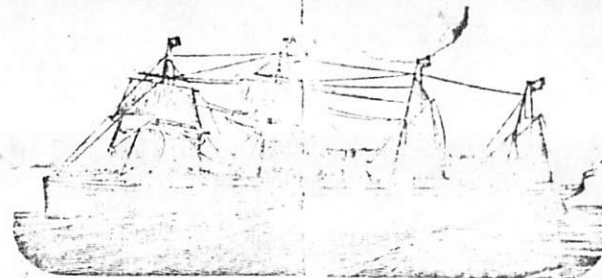
Joh. Rost,	Preussen.	Friedr. Meyer u. Fr.,	Preussen.	Franz Stépanek,	Böhmen.
Aug. Lehmann m. F.,	„	Julius Höhl,	„	Franz Pekarek m. F.,	„
Sophie Lustfeld,	„	Julianne Kranse,	„	Mathias Piwny m. F.,	„
Fritz Wedekind m. F.,	„	Eduard Grabowsky u. Fr.,	„	Johann Hoch,	„
Wilh. Duensing,	„	Gustav Stahl,	„	Anna Klip u. Kdr.,	„
Richard Erbe m. F.,	„	Wilhe. Badt,	„	Josef Womastek m. F.,	„
Friedrich Albrecht,	„	Rochel Wolkowski,	Russland.	Franz Wesely m. F.,	„
Ernst Hendel,	Sachsen.	Isaac Krasnopolska,	„	Anna Fida u. Kdr.,	„
Johanna Croon,	Preussen.	Franz Stejskal,	Böhmen.	Josef Troch,	„
Jantje-Schönemann,	„	Andreas Solderer,	„	Anna Rach,	„
Johann Schönemann,	„	Wenzl Dwofák u. Fr.,	„	Maria Rach,	„
Marie Hohner, Württemberg.	„	Carl Meissner,	„	Josefa Rach,	„
Martin von Riegen, Preussen.	„	Maria Sture,	„	Franziska Pycha,	„
Johann Meyer,	„	Franz Hackl m. F.,	„	Josefa Vopalecky,	„
Anna Meyer,	„	Johann Scharf m. F.,	„	Josef Caizl m. F., Oesterreich.	„
Bernard Egbers,	„	Franz Kadawy,	„	Johann Prosecky m. F.,	„
Christian Garthe,	„	Franz Wondra,	„	Maria Zipprich,	Baden.
Emilie Garthe,	„	Wilhe. Schwarzländer,	Bayern.		

Norddeutscher Lloyd, Bremen.



Passagier-Liste

Dampfers „LEIPZIG“



Capitain C. Thalenhorst.

Von

BREMEN nach BALTIMORE

am 12. Mai 1886.

BREMEN.

Carl Schünemann's Buchdruckerei.

FIRST SIGHTS SERVICE NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORD SERVICE.

(CONT.) A WEEK LATER THEY MAILED ME A 20" X 48" PHOTOSTAT OF THE SHIP'S MANIFEST (U.S. RECORD GROUP NO. 36 M-755 APR 5-29-1886 ROLL 41 LIST NO. 44 LINES NOS. 402-408.) READING AS FOLLOWS:

LINE NO.	NAME	AGE	CALLING	PLS OF BAGGAGE	INTENT
402	FRITZ WEDEKIND*	33	FARMER	6	INTEND PRO-
403	MINNA "	30			TRACTED SOJOURN
404	MARIA "	4			
405	MINNA "	2			
406	FRITZ "	9 MONTHS			
407	LOUISE "	16			
408	MARIA "	18			

} IN SHIP SPACE "B"

* NOTE SPELLING ERROR. SHOULD HAVE BEEN "G", NOT "D".

BALTIMORE, OBVIOUSLY, WASN'T NEW YORK OR ELLIS ISLAND.

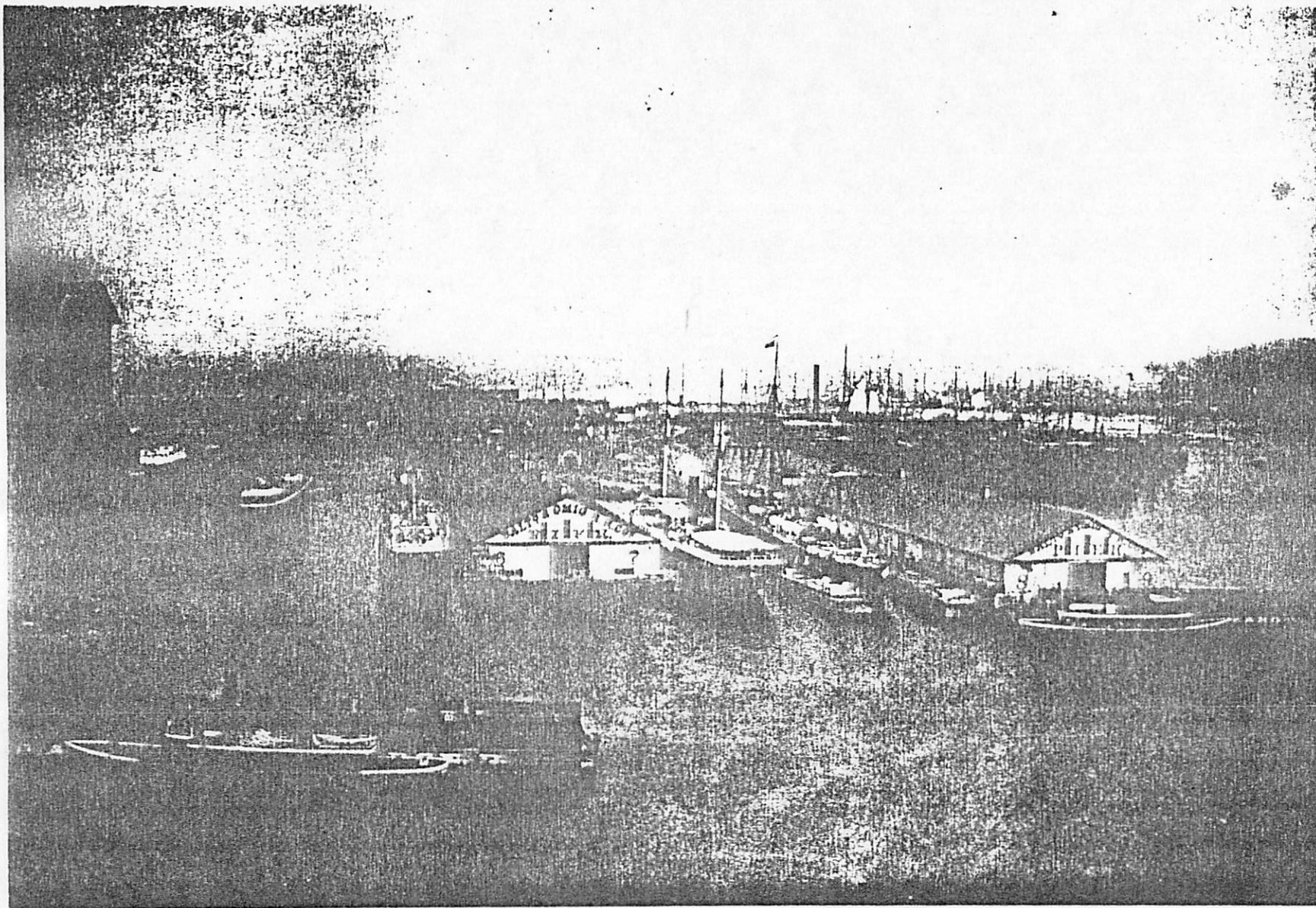
I'VE ATTACHED 3 PICTURES SHOWING WHAT THEY DID SEE:

FIRST GLIMPSES PICTURE NO. 1 THE B. & O. RAILROAD AND SHIP PIERS WITH TRANSATLANTIC SHIPS DOCKED

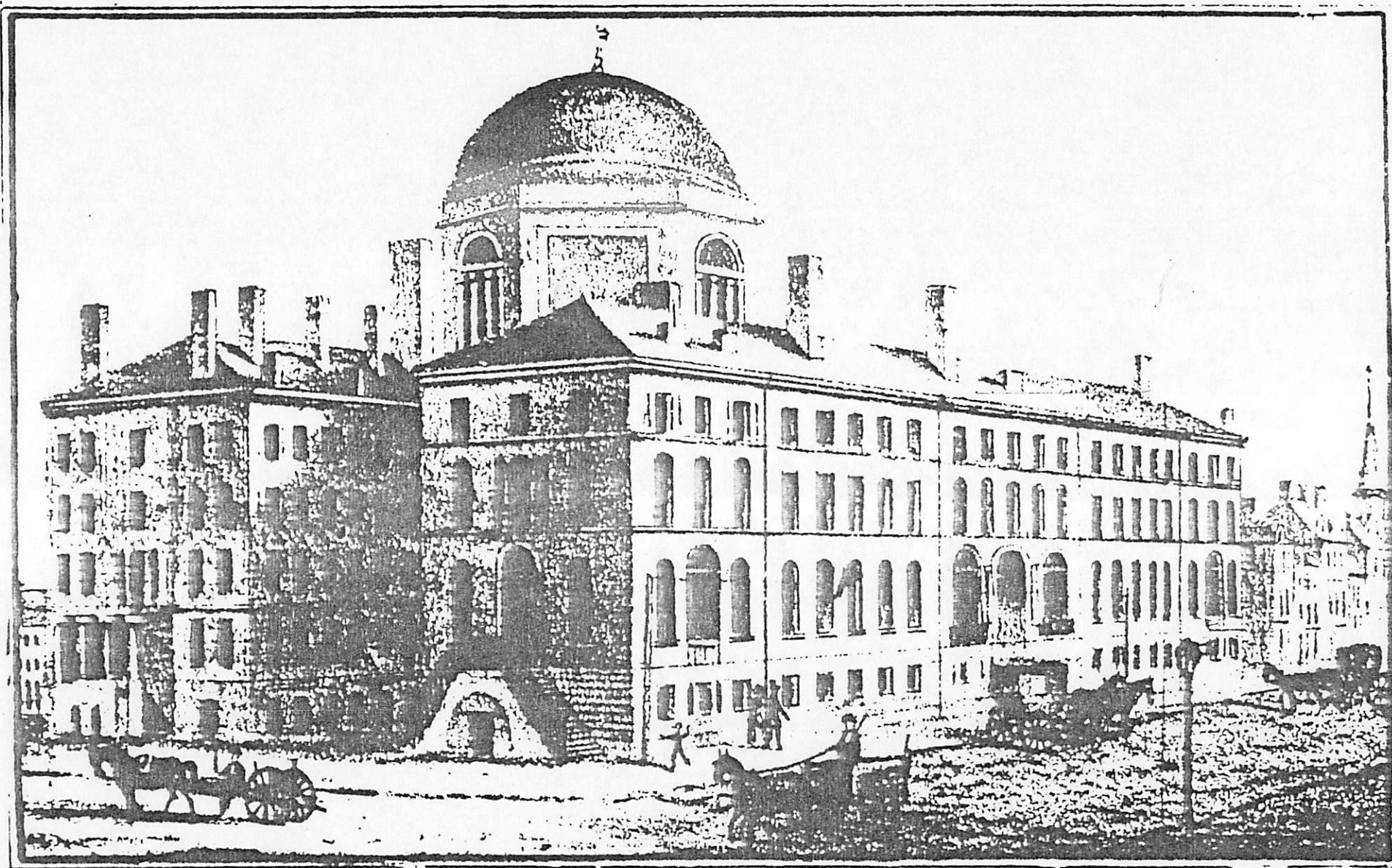
PICTURE NO. 2 THE EXCHANGE BUILDING WHERE IMMIGRANTS WERE PROCESSED ON SHORE. ERRECTED IN 1815 OF BRICK WITH A FIGURE OF DIANA ON THE ROOF SERVING AS A WEATHERVANE TO SHOW IF WIND WAS FAVORABLE FOR SHIP TRAFFIC. SOUTH WING WAS U.S. CUSTOMS HOUSE. TORN DOWN IN 1902.

PICTURE NO. 3 SPECIAL B. & O. IMMIGRANT TRAIN LOADING UP CARRYING IMMIGRANTS TO CHICAGO (AND ELSEWHERE).

TO CLARKSVILLE UPON ARRIVAL AT CHICAGO'S B. & O. (GRAND) CENTRAL STATION, THE FAMILY TRANSFERRED TO THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL TO WATERLOO IOWA. FINAL TRAIN CHANGE TO C.N.W. (OR M.I. OR C.G.W.) (EXACT ROUTING UNCERTAIN) TOOK THEM TO CLARKSVILLE.

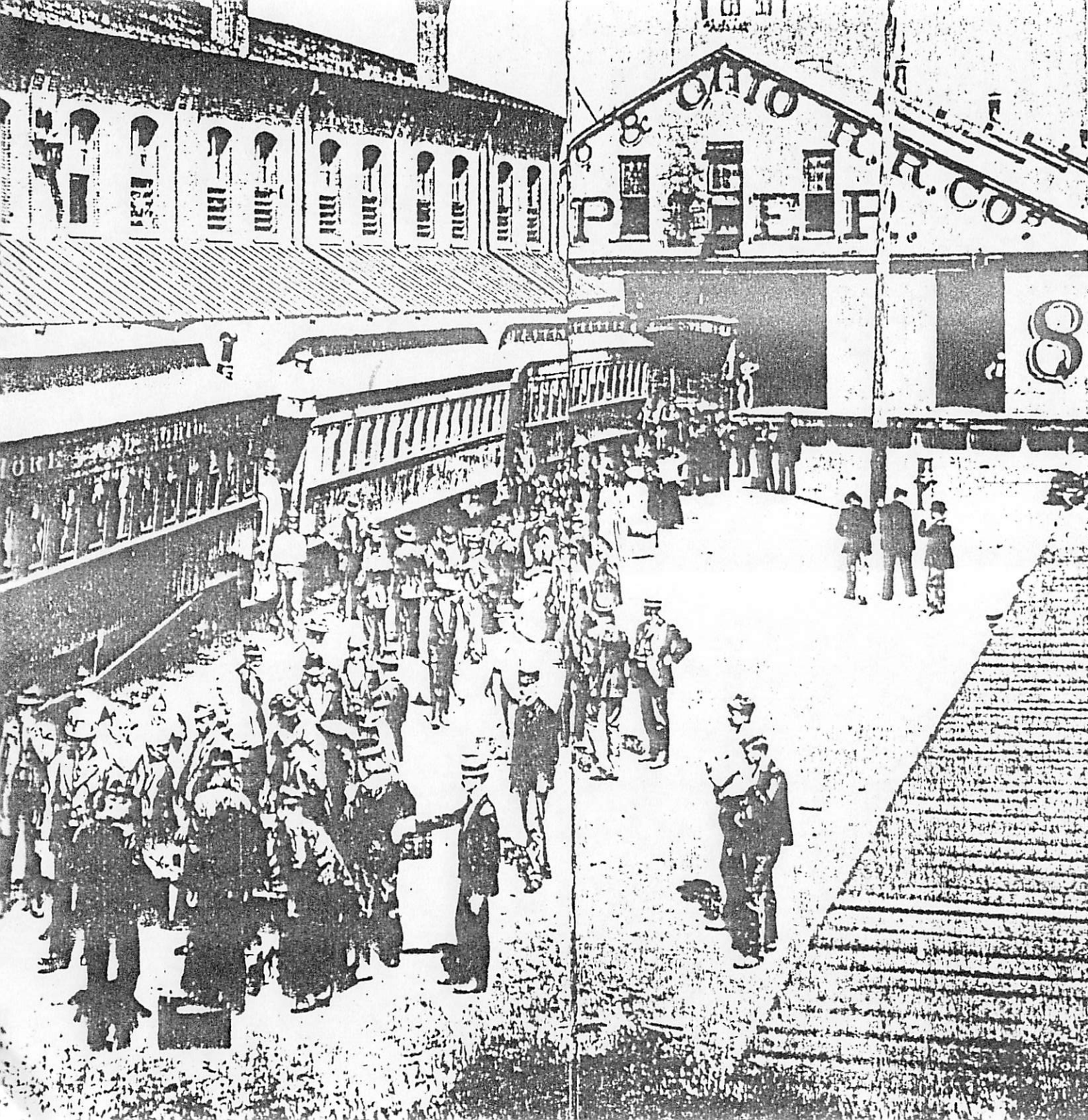


The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad piers and Locust Point about 1872. The piers, built in 1867, and the Grain Elevator (left), built in 1872, were part of a big modernizing program to attract new commerce. The Baltimore & Bremen Line and the Allan Line, whose ships are shown, were the first regular transatlantic passenger steamship lines to use Baltimore.



PICTURE 2)

EXCHANGE BUILDINGS.



6 THE WAY WEST

PICTURE 3)

An immigrant train at the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad pier, Locust Point, Maryland, in the 1880s. After the Civil War, special trains carried immigrants from the eastern seaboard to Chicago, St. Louis and other Mid-West cities.

CLAYTONVILLE WHEN GRANDPA FAITZ AND FAMILY STEPPED OFF THE TRAIN, THEY
AT LAST AND WERE GREETED BY UNCLE'S WILLIAM AND LUIS WHO'D
1886 LIVED IN CLAYTON COUNTY DURING THE CIVIL WAR
FAMILY (1860'S) AND WERE AMONG THE FIRST GERMANS IN
REUNIONS PLEASANT VALLEY. ANOTHER GREETER WAS FAITZ'S
YOUNGER BROTHER HENRY F. ("GROTA HEINRICH" - "BIG
HENRY") WHO'D BEEN HIS SPONSOR.

FAITZ GREETINGS COMPLETED, THE IMMIGRATION PARTY NOW
NICK-NAMED TRAVELED BY WAGON TO PLEASANT VALLEY AND TO
"TEPP FAITZ" THEIR NEW HOME ON THE "TEPP" FARM LOCATED
JUST A MILE NORTH OF THE CHURCH. GRANDPA
FAITZ EVENTUALLY WAS KNOWN AS "TEPP FAITZ"
SORROW "PLEASANT" VALLEY TURNED INTO "SORROW" FIRST WEEK
AFTER FAMILY'S ARRIVAL. REASON, YOUNG FAITZ
DIED ON JUNE 10, A THURSDAY, 1886 AND WAS BURIED
IN VALLEY CEMETERY, ONLY 11 MONS. 3 DAYS OLD. CAUSE
OF DEATH NOT KNOWN.

* * *

OTHER P.V. OTHER WEDERKINGS WERE RESIDING IN PLEASANT VALLEY
WEDERKINGS PRIOR TO 1886 AS CAN BE NOTED IN CHURCH RECORDS:
BEFORE JUNE MARRIAGES

<u>1886</u>	{ KAROLINE WEDERKING	TO HEINRICH HEINE	1-25-1878
	ALVINE "	" " WEFEL	1-30-1880
	LOUISE C. "	" HERMANN FRERICH'S	1-29-1884
	HEINRICH W. "	" ERNSTINE RUCHHOLZ	3-4-1885
	FRIEDRICH "	" AUGUSTE KRUGER	2-13-1886

* * *

1886/1889 ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE IS A PICTURE OF THE P.V.
GERMAN-COMMUNITY CHURCH TO WHICH THE FAITZ
WEDERKINGS CAME. THIS PHOTO WAS TAKEN ON SUN.
JUNE 30TH, 1889

1886/1889
(CONT.)



Pictured is a scene at the original dedication services of First Evangelical Church of Pleasant Valley in the year 1889.

IN THE ABOVE PHOTO GRANDPA FAITZ AGE 36, GRANDMA AGE 33, MARY AGE 8 AND MINNIE AGE 6 WERE TO BE FOUND. UNFORTUNATELY I NEVER KNEW WHERE THEY WERE IN THIS PICTURE.

* * *

1886/1898
VALLEY
LIFE

THE LIFE OF THE NEWCOMERS WASN'T ONE OF ISOLATION SUCH AS THAT OF THOSE SETTLING IN THE DAKOTAS. THERE WERE NEIGHBORS NEAR-BY AND MUCH FAMILY SUPPORT, AND PASTORAL HELP WHEN NEEDED. WE'VE NOTED AT LEAST 5 WEDDING MARRIAGES PRIOR TO 1886, AND ALSO THAT 11 WEDDING BABIES WERE BORN AND BAPTISED DURING THIS SAME PERIOD. LIVING WAS QUITE FULL AND VARIED. HORSE-POWERED FARMING KEPT THEM VERY BUSY. MOST OF THEIR EVERYDAY FOOD-STUFFS WERE RAISED ON THEIR FARM. NOTE ALSO THE FOLLOWING EVENTS IN THEIR LIVES:

JUNE 10, 1886 YOUNG FAITZ DIED. BURIAL IN P.V. CEMETERY
JULY 8, 1886 FIRST CITIZENSHIP PAPERS TAKEN OUT. BUTLER COUNTY COURT HOUSE
NOV. 20, 1887 DAUGHTER BEATHA L BORN. BAPTISED SEPT 30, 1888
NOV. 22, 1888 SISTER MARY, NOW 21, MARRIED LOUIS WEDERIKING (B11-962) (12-22-1919)
DEC 11, 1890 " LOUISE, " 20 " HEINRICH POPPE (B18-21-57) (9-1-1906)

1886-1898 VALLEY LIFE (CONTINUED)

OCT 7, 1891 FRITZ WEIDENING BECAME AMERICAN CITIZEN. B.C. DIST. COURT

JULY 23, 1893 { SON, OTTO LUIS HEINRICH BORN } TWINS. HAD HEALTH PROBLEMS
" EDWARD " " " }

AUG. 22, 1893 TWINS BAPTISED BY PASTOR A. KOHLER (SEE CERTIFICATE)

AUG. 27, 1893 TWIN OTTO DIED, AGE 1 MONTH 4 DAYS. REASON UNKNOWN

SEPT 13, 1893 " EDWARD " " 2 " 10 " " " "

NOV 30, 1895 { SON WILLIAM HEINRICH LUI BORN, BAPTISED 1-12-1896
BY PASTOR C. A. HELDBERG (SEE CERTIFICATE)

* * *

MEMBERSHIP GRANDPA FRITZ ALSO ACTIVE IN PLEASANT VALLEY CHURCH
FOLLOWING TAKEN FROM CHURCH RECORD BOOK
REQUIRED ONE MUST BE a) BAPTISED b) CONFIRMED
c) AND TAKE THE BIBLE AS GOD'S REVELATION
EVERY MEMBER IS REQUIRED TO SEND HIS CHILDREN TO
RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION AND TO HAVE THEM CONFIRMED
EVERY MEMBER OF VOTING AGE (21) IS OBLIGATED TO
ATTEND CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

RECORDED * YEARLY CONGREGATIONAL MEETING JAN. 2, 1889. VOTED TO
ACTIVITIES BUILD A CHURCH AND THAT EVERY MEMBER HAVE 2 LOADS
OF STONE BEFORE APRIL 1ST. THE BUILDING COMMITTEE:
FRITZ WEIDENING (AGE 35), FRITZ BUCHHOLZ AND HEINRICH BUCHHOLZ

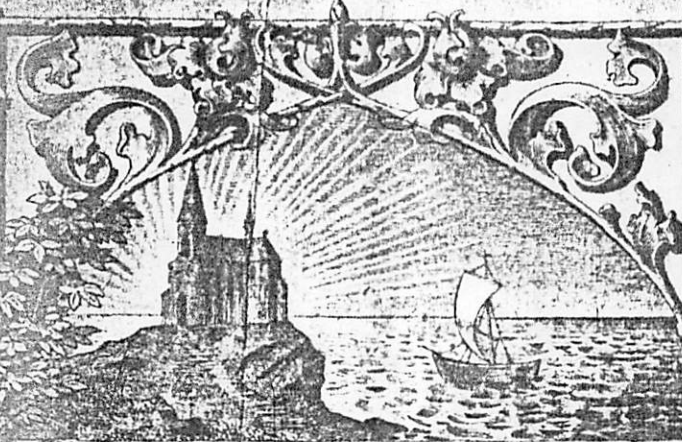
* CONG. MEETING FEB. 7, 1889

EVERY MEMBER WHO CAN'T WORK ONE DAY ON CHURCH MUST
PAY \$1. TO THE BUILDING COMMITTEE "RIGHT AWAY" SO
THEY CAN HIRE ANOTHER MAN IN HIS PLACE. THOSE
WHO HAVEN'T HAD 2 LOADS OF STONE BY APRIL 1ST MUST PAY
\$2. A LOAD.

* CONG. MEETING APRIL 7, 1889

AGREED TO BUILD 3 ROWS OF PEWS AND THE COMMITTEE
IS TO BUY THEM THE "CHEAPEST"

Meine Schafe hören meine Stimme Joh. 10, 27.



Keinen andern Grund kann Niemand
legen, außer dem, der gelegt ist, welcher ist
JESUS CHRISTUS.

1. Cor. 3, 11.

Otto, Louis, Heinrich, und
Edward, Louis, Heinrich,
geb. den 23^{ten} Juli 1893 in Butler Co., Iowa
Söhne des Fritz Wedeking
und s. E. Wilhelmine, geb. Kahne
sind am 22^{ten} Aug. 1893,
im Hause der Eltern,



Taufpaten waren:

Louis Wedeking
Heinrich Nühning

A. Köhler, P.

Siehe das ist Gottes Lamm, welches
der Welt Sünde trägt. Joh. 1, 29.



1. Joh. 3, 16.

I
II
III

Das Gesetz ist durch Moses
gegeben, die Gnade und
Wahrheit ist durch Jesus
Christum geworden, Joh. 1, 17.



No. 84

Otto

† 27. August 1893.



Verlag von Ernst Kaufmann 330 Pearl Street, NEW YORK.

Edward

† 19. September 1893.

† 19. September 1893.

Keinen andern Grund kann Niemand
legen, außer dem, der gelegt ist, welcher ist
JESUS CHRISTUS.

1. Cor. 3. 11.

Wilhelm, Heinrich, Lui,
geboren 30^{ten} Nov. 1895 in Butler Co., Ga.
Sohn des Fritz Wedeking
und s. Efr. Wilhelmine geb. Hehne,
ist am 12^{ten} Jan. 1896 in der
Kirche zu Pleasant Valley, Butler Co., Ga.



Gaustatten waren:

H. K. Wedeking, H. Poppe,
H. F. Wedeking, Lui Wedeking

C. A. Heldberg
Ev. P.



I
II
III
IV
V
VI
VII
VIII
IX
X
XI
XII

Das Gesetz ist durch Jesum
gegeben, die Gnade und
Wahrheit ist durch Jesum
Christum geworden. Joh.



Die
er

P.V. CHURCH * SPECIAL CONG. MEETING JUNE 9, 1889

(CONT) CHURCH DEDICATION TO BE JUNE 30, 1889. CHURCH TO BE INSURED FOR \$1,500. WINDOWS TO BE PAID FOR

* CONG. MEETING JULY 7, 1889.

EVERY CHURCH MEMBER IS OBLIGATED TO KEEP ORDER IN AND OUTSIDE THE CHURCH. PASTOR KAMPMEIER TO CLEAN CHURCH FOR \$6. A YEAR. FRITZ WEJERKING BUILDS THE FIRES FOR \$4. A YEAR

Rev. August Kampmeier
1883 - 1891



* CONG. MEETING JULY 16, 1890

AGREED TO HAVE A FREE WILL OFFERING TO BUY A BELL

* CONG. MEETING OCT. 5, 1890

EVERY MEMBER TO PAY 25¢ AT NEXT MEETING FOR COAL

* CONG. MEETING APRIL 3, 1892

FRITZ WEJERKING WILL BUILD FENCE FOR CONGREGATION TO TIE HORSES TO

* YEARLY CONG. MEETING JAN. 7, 1892. ITEM NO. 14

BUSINESS. FRITZ WEJERKING WILL BE CHURCH JANITOR AND CLEAN CHURCH FOR \$12. (YEAR)

* * *

NATIONAL
POLITICS

THERE WAS A STORG AND A CREAMERY SOUTH OF THE CHURCH, WHICH, WITHOUT DOUBT, PROVIDED AN

POLITICS ARENA FOR LOCAL POLITICIANS TO "CRACKER-
(CONT.) BARREL" MERITS OF PRESIDENTIAL ISSUES:

1884 GROVER CLEVELAND, DEM. N.Y., DEFEATED JAMES G. BLAINE, REP. MAINE
1888 BENJAMIN HARRISON, REP. IND., " GROVER CLEVELAND, DEM. N.Y.
1892 GROVER CLEVELAND, DEM. N.Y., " BENJAMIN HARRISON, REP. IND.
1896 WILLIAM MCKINLEY, REP. OHIO, " WILLIAM J. BRYAN, DEM. POP. NEBR

* * *

FRITZ LEAVES THEN CAME THE "SALE" (SEE ATTACHMENT) ON
THE VALLEY MONDAY, MARCH 28TH, '98 AT PUBLIC AUCTION
MARCH 28, 1898. AFTER 11 1/2 YEARS OF FARMING: 5 HORSES: 5 COWS:
2 HEIFERS: 6 CALVES; 40 HOGS; 100 CHICKENS; ETC,
ETC. TERMS ALL SUMS UNDER \$5. CASH: OVER \$5.
1 YEAR 8% APPROVED NOTES

* * *

WHEN IT WAS ALL OVER FRITZ AND FAMILY MOVE
TO CLARKSVILLE, ALMOST COINCIDING WITH THE NEW CENTURY

* * *

1900'S THE FOR THE FOLLOWING I'M DEEPLY INDEBTED TO RUDOLF
NEW CENTURY PAIRPKE AND HIS "YEARS AGO" COMMEMORATIVE
EDITION (1978) IN WHICH HE WROTE:
"CLARKSVILLE'S SYMBOLIC CHANGE TO THE NEW CENTURY
WAS THE GRADUAL REPLACEMENT OF PLANK SIDEWALKS
BY CEMENT OVER SEVERAL YEARS, PLUS 7 EVENTS
FIRST 3 YEARS OF 1900'S:

- 1) RURAL FREE DELIVERY 1900
- 2) THE BUILDING OF IMMANUEL CHURCH 1902
- 3) FILING THE PLAT OF KING'S ADDITION - 8 NORTH BLOCKS
- 4) THE ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANT, JAN. 14, 1903. SERVICE PROVIDED
EVERY EVENING 5PM TO 11PM AND WINTER MONTHS
5:30 AM TO 8 AM.
- 5) THE AUDITORIUM BUILDING - ORG. 5-22-1902 1ST LEAF. 1-22-1903

(CONT. ON NEXT PAGE)

SALE!

I will offer at public auction at my farm 6 1-2 miles northeast of Clarksville
and 4 miles west of Plainfield, on

MONDAY, MAR. 28, '98
COMMENCING 10 O'CLOCK, SHARP.

5 Horses; 5 Cows; 2 Heifers; 6 Calves; 40 Pigs, including 10 sows with pig; 100 Chickens; 1 Deering binder; 1 Riding stirring plow; 1 Walking stirring plow; 1 Cultivator; 1 Drag; 1 Pulverizer; 1 Broadcast seeder; 1 Fanning mill; 1 Hayrake; 1 Mower; 1 Corn planter, with check rower; 1 Pair bob sleighs; 1 Lumber wagon; 1 Feed grinder; Several tons of tame hay in barn, Several cords of stove wood, 3 Milk cans; 50 Fence posts, Seed corn.

TERMS:--All sums under \$5, cash; all sums of \$5 or over one year's time at 8 per cent. on approved notes. All property must be settled for before being removed.

J. J. EICHAR, Auctioneer
BECK WAMSLEY, Clerk

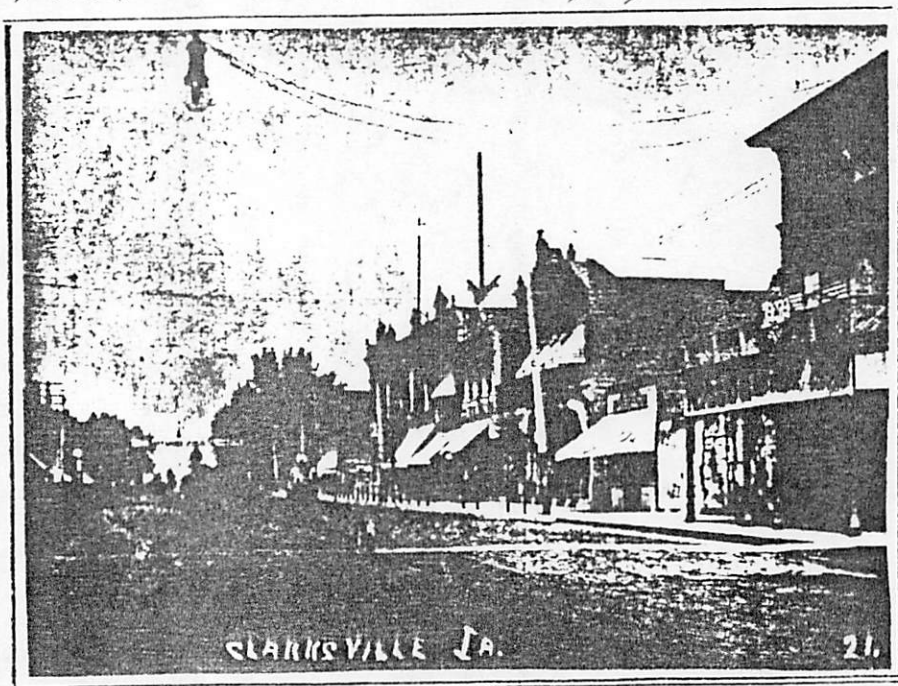
RITZ WEDEKING, SR.

EARLY 1900'S 6) A NEW SCHOOL TO REPLACE OLD COURT HOUSE. COMPLETED 9-28-1903
(CONT.) 7) THE OPENING OF CHGO. GREAT WESTERN'S GRAVEL PIT - 1903

* * *

1898-1909 FRITZ WEIDENKING'S MOVE TO CLARKSVILLE. DETAILS ALMOST UNKNOWN. HE DID HAVE A BUILDING ON THE EAST SIDE OF MAIN STREET, AND HE REMODELED THE STORE'S FRONT FACADE, AND FROM IT HE OPERATED THE "CITY MEAT MARKET". BEHIND HIS STORE WAS AN ICE-HOUSE TO PROVIDE REFRIGERATION. HIS SLAUGHTER HOUSE WAS SOUTH OF TOWN ON THE MILL RACE BANK. THE BUILDING'S SECOND FLOOR PROVIDED HIS FAMILY WITH LIVING QUARTERS.

CLARKSVILLE IOWA
MAIN STREET EAST-
SIDE LOOKING NORTH
SUMMER OF 1908
MEAT MARKET INDICATED BY ARROW



* * * * *

1902 THE IMMANUEL CHURCH BY 1900 SOME GERMAN'S HAD RETIRED TO CLARKSVILLE AND THERE WERE AT LEAST 6 GERMAN BUSINESS-MEN IN TOWN. IN JANUARY 1900 VALLEY PASTOR HELDERS HELD GERMAN SERVICES IN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SUNDAY AFTERNOONS. IN JULY REV. EWALD HART,

IMMANUEL
CHURCH
(CONT.)

HELDBERG'S SUCCESSOR, CONTINUED THESE SERVICES. LATER
THEY MOVED TO G.A.R. HALL. GROWING LARGER THEY
CHANGED TO OLD FELLOWS HALL. ON OCT. 15, 1901
THE IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL CONGREGATION WAS OR-
GANIZED. THEIR FIRST OFFICERS WERE:

FRITZ WEIDENING, SR. (AGE 48) - WHO RAN THE MEAT MARKET

DIEDRICH DIECKMANN - THE SHOE MAN

CARL SINRAM - A FARMER WEST OF TOWN

CARL SCHARFF - WITH ALFRED PRICE

HERMAN SCHMIDKE - LUMBER AND GRAIN DEALER

NOV. 1901

SEPT. 1902

THE CONGREGATION BOUGHT CHURCH PROPERTY. HENRY
WEINBERG BUILT THE CHURCH SPRING 1902. CORNERSTONE
LAIN 5-11-1902, CHURCH DEDICATED 9-21-1902. LADIES
OF CHURCH SERVED DINNER AND SUPPER TO OVER 600.

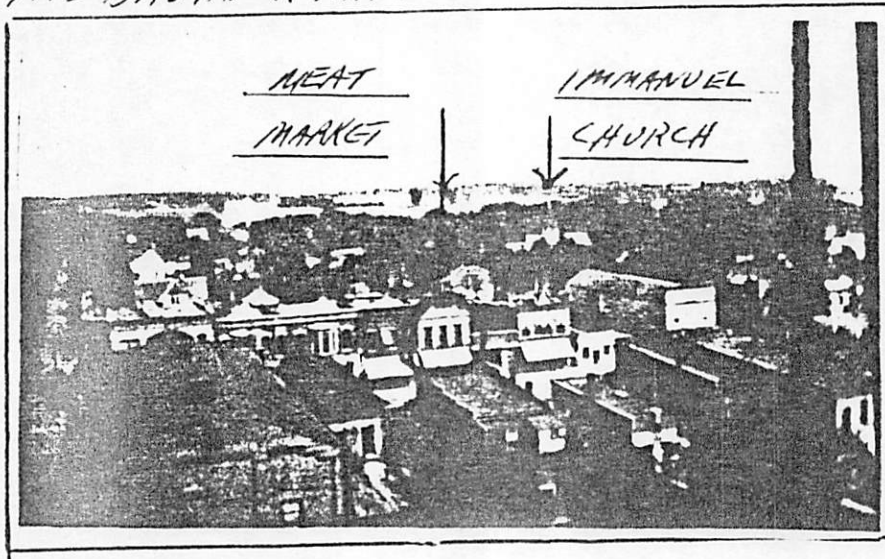
* * *

11-15-1901

IMMANUEL OFFICIAL CHURCH RECORDS SHOW THAT GRANDPA
FATZ'S FIRST GRAND-SON LOUIS DIECKMANN WAS FIRST TO

12-29-1904

BE BAPTISED 11-15-1901, AND THAT THE FIRST MARRIAGE
WAS HIS DAUGHTER MINNIE TO HERMAN KOLLMAN 12-29-1904



PICTURE TAKEN FROM WATERTOWER LOOKING EAST.

1898

5

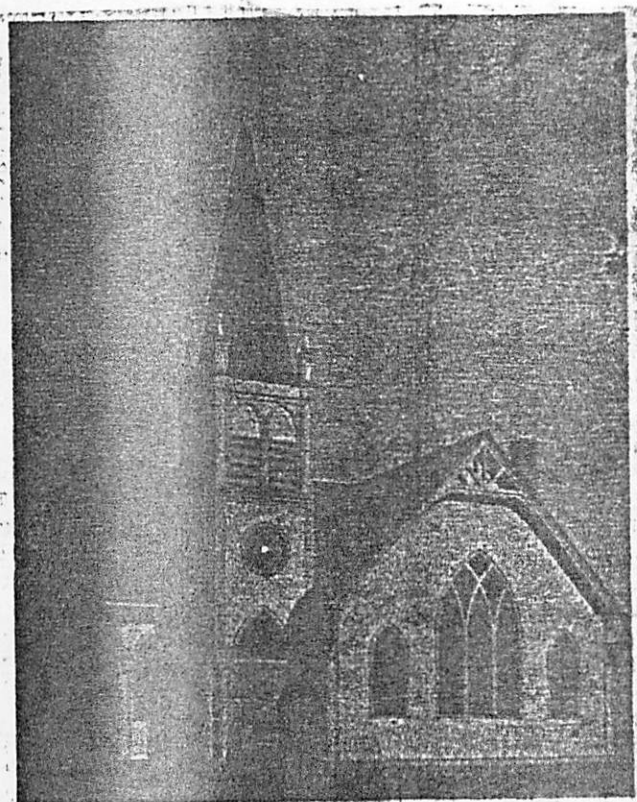
1902



BILLY AGE 3 - 1898 WHEN
FAMILY MOVED TO CLARKSVILLE



BILLY AGE 7 - 1902



IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL CHURCH

9-21-1902

YEAR OF 1902 SAW DEDICATION
OF CHURCH 9-21-1902

AND

ON 10-5-1902 GRANDPA
FRITZ AND GRANDMA MINNA
OBSERVED THEIR 25TH
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

THEY HAD BEEN MARRIED
10-5-1877 IN HUSUM,
GERMANY



IMMANUEL CHURCH
CONFIRMATION PICTURE

WILLIAM HENRY LOE
WEJERING - (c 1907)

AND

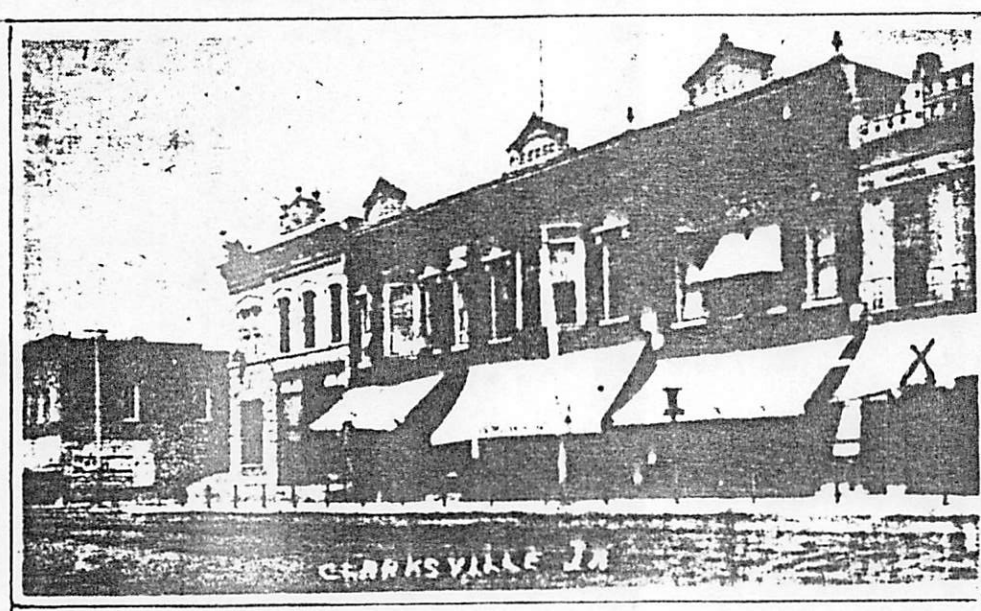
PASTOR ALBERT
MUECKE (1904-1909)

WM. H. WEJERING

* * *

MARCH 1904 FRITZ OPERATED THE CITY MEAT MARKET UNTIL HE RETIRED
IN MARCH 1905 AGE 54. HE LEASED THE STORE TO BERT
GREEN BUT CONTINUED TO LIVE UPSTAIRS. FOR NEXT SEVERAL
YEARS GRANDPA FRITZ WAS ONE OF THE INTERLOCKING-RAIL-
ROAD SWITCH OPERATORS WEST OF TOWN WHERE THE ROCK
ISLAND RAILROAD CROSSED THE GREAT WESTERN'S TRACKS.

NOV. 11, 1909 HIS HEALTH DECLINED AND HE DIED NOVEMBER 11, 1909
AGE 57 OF PLEURISY. BURIAL WAS IN THE PLEASANT
VALLEY CEMETERY FAMILY PLOT. AMERICA HAD BEEN
HIS HOME FOR 23 YEARS



GRANDMA'S STORE AT
EXTREME RIGHT SIDE OF
PICTURE. GRANDMA
STILL LIVING UPSTAIRS
(LIRCA 1910), NOTE
"F WED" VISIBLE
ON FACADE'S TOP

1909-1915

AFTER GRANDPA FRITZ DIED, MY FATHER, AGE 13, COMPLETED HIS SCHOOLING - 9TH GRADE - AND WENT TO WORK FOR ED MANIGAN, PUBLISHER OF THE CLARKSVILLE STAR. HE STILL LIVED AT HOME. FRITZ'S DAUGHTER BERTHA, NOW AGE 22, MARRIED AUGUST SYMMAN JULY 6, 1910 AND MOVED AWAY. BILLY WORKED AT THE STAR FOR 8 YEARS AS THE "DEVIL", UNTIL END OF 1915. IT WAS DURING THIS TIME HE MET A DUMONT LASS WHO WAS EMPLOYED AT CLARKSVILLE'S THEMONT HOTEL. SHE WAS AN ATTRACTIVE, TALL, BROWN-EYED 19 YEAR-OLD MISS WHOSE FIRST NAME MATCHED HER EYES - HAZEL PEARL SPRINGER. ONE THING LED TO ANOTHER AND NEXT THING YOU KNOW PASTOR COUNTERMINE

12-18-1915

OF THE U. B. CHURCH UNITED THEM IN MARRIAGE SAT. EVE. 7 P.M. DEC. 18, 1915

"DEVIL" A BENEDICT

**Another of The Star's Employees
at Hymen's Altar.**

The STAR "devil" has become a benedict. Not exactly the office devil now, but time was not long since when he performed in that functionary capacity. "Billy" is now a full fledged family man and just as old as he looks, which by the way is twenty-one by the calendar. On Saturday evening at 7:00 o'clock, December 18, 1915, in the United Brethern church in this place Mr. William Wedeking and Miss Hazel Springer of Dumont were united in marriage, Rev. J. L. Countermine officiating. Mr. Wedeking has been in the employ of the STAR almost continuously for the past seven years and has been a faithful employee. He was born and reared in Clarksville and has a universal acquaintance here. He has many warm friends who are offering him the best of congratulations. The bride is a stranger to most of the Clarksville people but is no doubt a worthy mate for the husband she has chosen. Some time in the near future they will take up housekeeping, but for the present Mrs. Wedeking will remain at her late home in Dumont to assist her mother whose health is poorly.

William H. Wedeking

Hazel P. Springer

Married

Saturday evening, December eighteenth

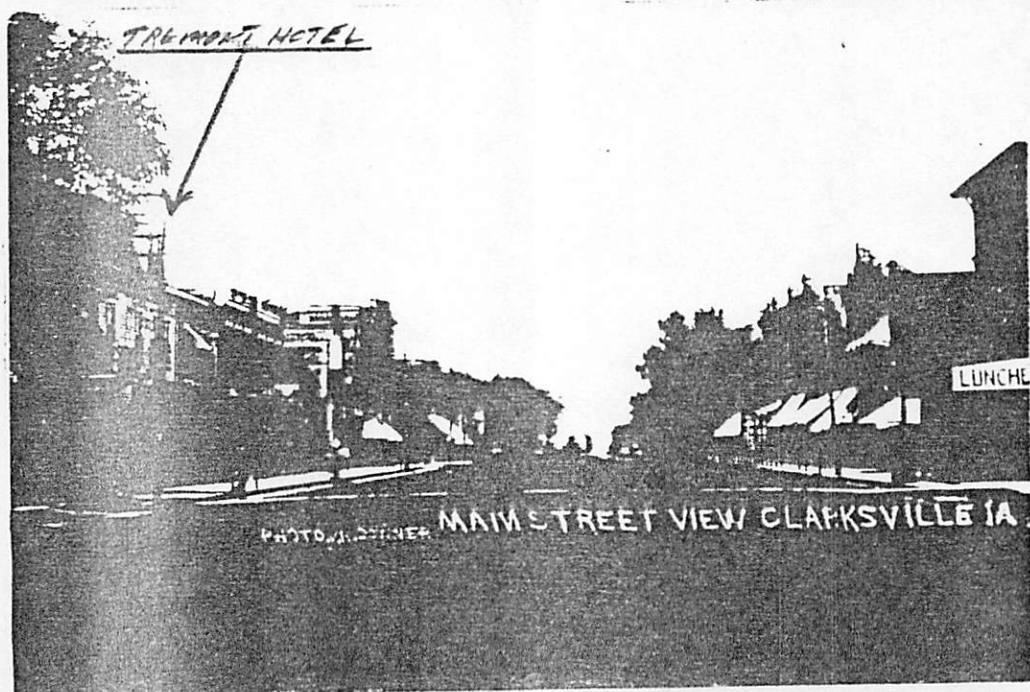
nineteen hundred and fifteen

Clarksville, Iowa

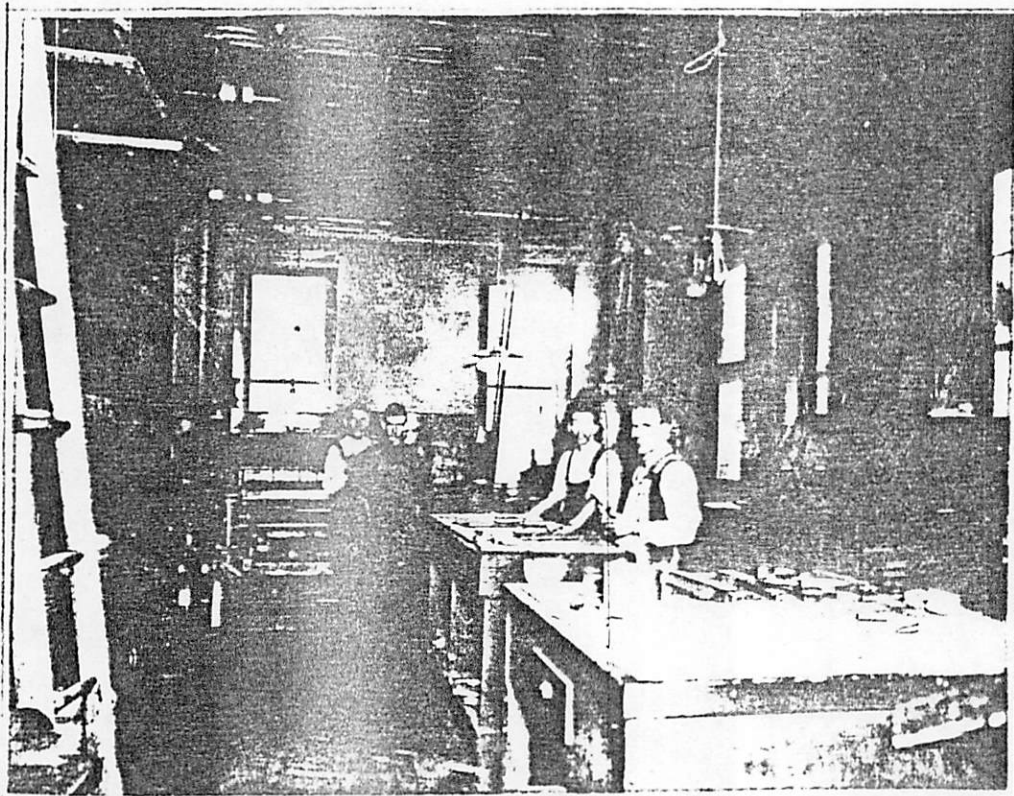
1915



PICTURE (c 1915) OF SISTERS
GLADYS (LEFT) AGE 16
AND
HAZEL (RIGHT) AGE 19
DAUGHTERS OF
JOHN AND FLORENCE SPRINGER
DUMONT, IOWA



VIEW OF CLARKSVILLE MAIN STREET (NORTH). TREMONT
HOTEL IS FIRST BUILDING ON LEFT HAND SIDE. HAZEL
SPRINGER WAS 1915 EMPLOYEE OF HOTEL WHEN SHE
MET AND MARRIED "BILLY" WEDEKING



CLARKSVILLE STAR
PRESSROOM (C. 1915)
AT TIME OF BILLY'S
MARRIAGE TO
HAZEL SPRINGER
HE'S AT EXTREME
LEFT IN PICTURE
IN FRONT OF PRESS

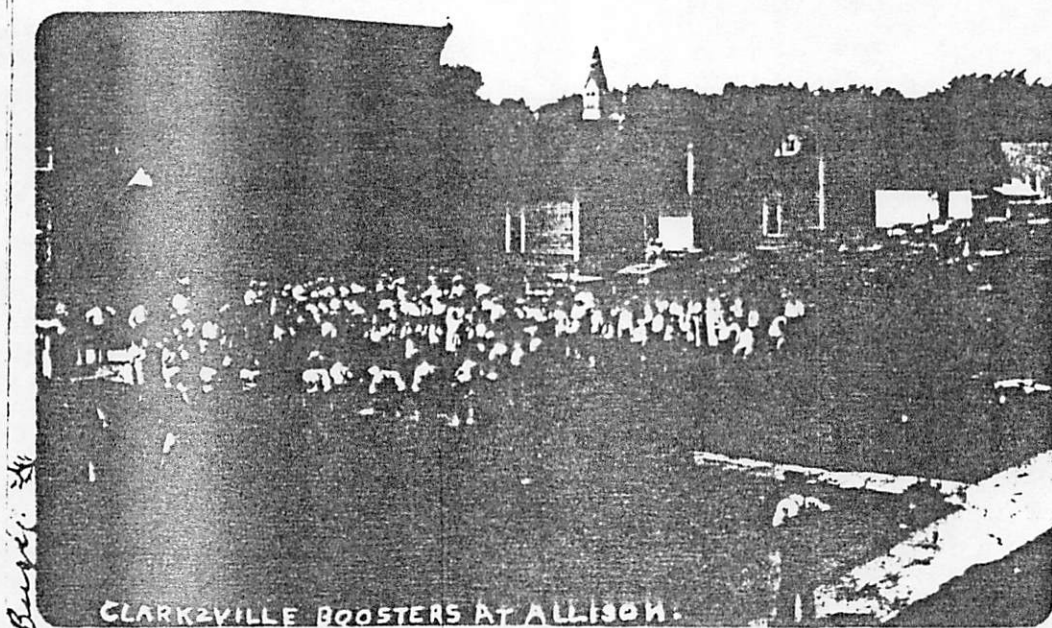
* * *

1916-1917 BILLY AND HAZEL WEDERKING DID "TAKE UP HOUSE-KEEPING" AS THE STAR'S ITEM SAID. MOTHER SPRINGER'S HEALTH EVIDENTLY IMPROVED SO THE NEWLY WEDS MOVED TO DENISON IOWA (ON HIGHWAY 30) IN CRAWFORD COUNTY WHERE HE WAS EMPLOYED BY THE NEWSPAPER.

AUG. 1, 1916 IT WAS IN DENISON THAT MY BROTHER WILLIAM JOHN WEDERKING WAS BORN AUGUST 1ST, TUESDAY, 1916.

POSTCARD
VOL. 8, 1916 ON THE NEXT PAGE ARE PHOTO-STATS OF BOTH SIDES OF A POST CARD SENT MY MOTHER BY "BILLY" NOV. 8, 1916. HE'D GONE TO THE BUTLER COUNTY SEAT IN ALLISON TO SEE ABOUT SIGNING UP IN THE U. S. ARMY. MESSAGE "BIG FIGHT ON" AND "WE WON'T FINISH THURSDAY" HAD TO DO WITH THE FIGHTING IN EUROPE'S WORLD WAR I. IT DID END IN 1918. BILLY WASN'T ENLISTED SO HE WANTED TO RETURN HOME.

NOV. 8
1916



Bushy

CLARKSVILLE BOOSTERS AT ALLISON.

"BILLY" NOW
20 YRS OLD

HAZEL'S 19.

YOUNG BILLY
3 MONTHS



NAME AND ADDRESS HERE

Mrs. Billy Headley
Allison,
Iowa

POST CARD

CORRESPONDENCE HERE

Dear Hazel & family
Big fight on
and I guess
that we won't
finish Thurs.
But I am homesick and
want to get back to Allison.
Billy W.

POST CARD BILLY W. SENT
HAZEL (WAS BILLY)
NOV. 7, 1916. HE'D GONE
TO JOIN THE U. S. ARMY
BUT WAS NOT ACCEPTED
(REASON NOT KNOWN)

"BIG FIGHT ON" AND "WE
WON'T FINISH THURS." HAD
REFERENCE TO THE RAGING
WORLD WAR I BATTLES IN
EUROPE. DIDN'T END
UNTIL NOV. 11, 1918

IF THE ARMY HAD TAKEN HIM
HE WOULD HAVE GONE OVER-
SEAS AND WOULD HAVE FOUGHT
AGAINST GERMANY, GERMANY
FRITZ'S ORIGINAL HOMELAND

8-1-1916
 9-25-1916



FIRST PICTURE OF WILLIAM
 JOHN WEDERKING. BORN AUG 1,
 1916. PICTURE TAKEN SEPT
 25TH. NOT QUITE 8 WKS OLD
 LIVING IN DENISON IOWA
 PAPOO PAPA'S 20 YRS OLD
 AND MAMA'S 19 " "

* * *

FOLLOWING YEAR, 1917
 FAMILY'S MOVED BACK TO
 CLARKSVILLE

FALL 1917 HAZEL TAKES YOUNG BILLY TO VISIT HER FOLKS IN DURMONT
 AT SAME TIME HER YOUNGER SISTER GLADY'S (MRS.
 EARL HOWARD) HAS HER SON, EARL JR., THERE
 FOR A VISIT.



← SAME
 DAY →

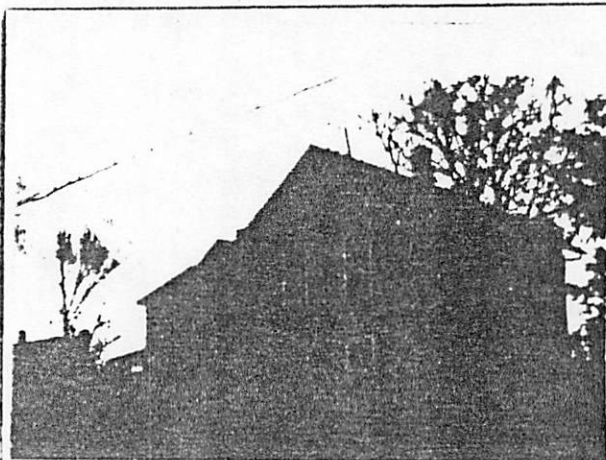


GRANDPA JOHN SPRINGER - AGE 59
 GRANDMA FLORENCE " - AGE 54
 (© FALL 1917)

GRANDPA JOHN WITH
 EARL JR, ON LEFT, AND
 BILLY, ON RIGHT. BOTH
 1 YEAR OLD +

1917-1918 FROM DENISON THEY MOVED BACK TO CLARKSVILLE TO THIS HOME ON EAST
 BACK IN GREEN STREET. NEXT-DOOR NEIGHBORS (EAST) WERE THE SWALVES!
 CLARKSVILLE JOE, HATTIE, DAUGHTERS MARIE AND BEILE

JULY 27 1918 IT WAS HERE I WAS BORN. MY
 BIRTH CERTIFICATE SHOWS MY NAME
 TO BE FRANCIS LYLE. (MY
 MOTHER CALLED ME "FRANKIE".
 MORE ON THIS LATER)



STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH		IOWA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	
1. PLACE OF BIRTH—		Registered No. <u>204</u> (Consecutive No.)	
County <u>Butler</u>	Township _____		
City or Village <u>Clarksville</u>	No. _____ Street _____		
(If birth occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME instead of street number)			
1a. RESIDENCE OF MOTHER: STATE _____		(If not same as place of birth)	
County _____	Township _____		
City or Village _____	No. _____ Street _____		
2. Full name of child. <u>FRANCIS LYLE WEDEKING</u>		{ If child is not yet named, make supplemental report, as directed	
3. Sex <u>Male</u>	If plural births _____	4. Twin, triplet, or other _____	5. Premature _____
6. Number, in order of birth <u>2</u>	Full term _____	7. Legitimate? <u>yes</u>	8. Date of birth <u>July 27, 1918</u> (Month, day, year)
9. Full name <u>William Henry Wedeking</u>		10. Full maiden name <u>Hazel Pearl Springer</u>	
11. Color or race <u>White</u>		12. Age at last birthday <u>22</u> (Yrs.)	
13. Birthplace (city or place) <u>Clarksville, Ia.</u> (State or country)		14. Birthplace (city or place) <u>Belmond, Ia.</u> (State or country)	
15. Trade, profession, or particular kind of work done, as spinner, sawyer, bookkeeper, etc. <u>Printer</u>		16. Trade, profession, or particular kind of work done, as housekeeper, typist, nurse, clerk, etc. <u>Housewife</u>	
17. Industry or business in which work was done, as silk mill, sawmill, bank, etc. _____		18. Industry or business in which work was done, as own home, lawyer's office, silk mill, etc. _____	
19. Date (month and year) last engaged in this work _____		20. Date (month and year) last engaged in this work _____	
21. Total time (years) spent in this work _____		22. Total time (years) spent in this work _____	
23. Number of children of this mother (At time of this birth and including this child) <u>2</u> (a) Born alive and now living <u>2</u> (b) Born alive but now dead _____ (c) Stillborn _____			
24. If stillborn, _____ months or weeks		25. Cause of stillbirth _____	
26. Character of delivery spontaneous _____ operative _____ If operative, give type of operation performed _____			
27. Was child asphyxiated? _____		28. At what period of pregnancy did patient first consult you? _____	
CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDING PHYSICIAN OR MIDWIFE			
I hereby certify that I attended the birth of this child, who was <u>alive</u> at <u>4 P.M.</u> on the date above stated. (Born alive or stillborn) _____ treated as prescribed by law.			
and further certify that this child's eyes _____ (Were or were not)			
{ When there was no attending physician or midwife then the father, householder, etc., should make this return. A stillborn child is one that neither breathes nor shows other evidence of life after birth.			
Given name added from a supplemental report. _____		Address <u>Clarksville, Ia.</u>	
(Month, day, year) <u>Aug. 2, 1918</u>		Geo. R. Dennis Registrar.	
Registrar. _____		_____	

1919



TWO PICTURES OF "F.L." (C 1919) OUTSIDE CLARKSVILLE HOME



(C 1919)
BABY FRANKIE AGE 1 YEAR
AND
BROTHER BILLY AGE 3
IN BACK YARD OF CLARKSVILLE
HOME. GRANDMA WEVERING
LIVED SEVERAL BLOCKS AWAY
OVER THE MEAT-MARKET
AND
KIDNIE-CORNER WEST ON GREEN
STREET LIVED AUNT BEATHA
AND UNCLE AUGUST SIN RAM

OTHER
FAMILY
RECOLLECTIONS

DURING THE COURSE OF WAITING THIS, I'D ASKED OTHER
FAMILY MEMBERS FOR THEIR MEMORIES. COUSIN LORENA
(DIECKMANN) MENEFEE'S RESPONSE IS BELOW. GRANDMA W.
NEVER DID GET A HANDLE ON CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH

March 20th 1988

Dear Frank & Ruth:-

Such a surprise to get your call - 'twas
good talking to you. Yes, we both have many
questions - too bad, we didn't ask them to be
answered before the older ones were gone.

Don't recall too much re: your mom - she
was tall and I know worked at the hotel
on the corner north of the school house block.
It was destroyed by fire same as the movie
house on the north end of that block. Do
recall walking in on her and grandma W.
one day when they were deciding what to have
as a vegetable for dinner - and neither one
could understand the other because there
was such a difference in the English and German
pronouncement of peas - in German it was
"afcar" or whatever spelling, they were both
right. Grandma W. However, I am real well
being understood and I always marvelled
at how she read both the Courier and those
German papers your dad would get her from
THE LIBRARY.

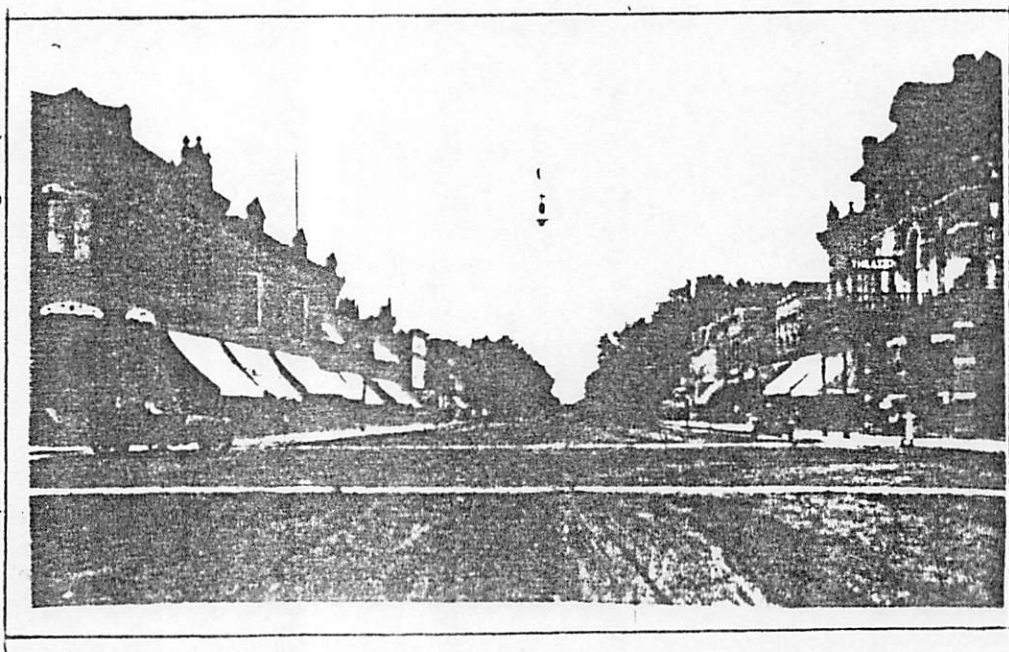
1918 EARLY MY DAD'S EARLY PROFESSION WAS THAT OF PRINTER. DURING THE FIRST
 1919 20 YEARS OF 1900'S THE AUTOMOBILE GRADUALLY CHANGED PEOPLE'S
 THE AUTO ACTIVITIES AND OWNING A CAR MARKED A TURNING POINT IN
 MECHANIC THEIR LIVES. WITH THE INCREASE IN CARS CAME A NEW PRO-
 FESSIO- THE AUTO MECHANIC. IT WAS DURING THIS 1ST
 (WORLD) WAR I PERIOD THAT BILLY TURNED FROM PRINTER'S WORK
 TO AUTOMOBILES' GAS AND OIL - NOTE 2 PICTURES BELOW:

My name is "Bill" as you all know
 I work for the C'ville Auto Supply
 To tell you of my troubles each day
 I shall now proceed to try.
 I pump the tank full of air each morn'
 I clean the bench each night.
 If the bunch gets a chance to give me a shock
 It's just my luck to "bite."
 I have to wash those big swell cars
 Believe me it's no fun,
 But take it from me, it's worth the while
 When you see them shine when you're done.
 When big, rich guys drive up their cars
 For greasing, I'm the guy.
 Don't you see that I am black with grease
 And that's the reason why.
 When anybody needs a hand
 At any little job,
 Like screwing nuts beneath a car
 Who does it? Why, I'm the slob!
 I have to sweep the joint out clean
 When I'm not changing tires,
 And everybody curses me
 For mislaid bolts and pliers.
 You've got to stand for lots of things
 When you're just starting in.
 Take a tip from me, don't balk at that
 Just do your best and grin.
 To-day I'm underneath the cars
 But a-climbing towards the top.
 To-morrow - well its just like this
 I'm going to own the shop.
 Yours Truly,
 "BILLY" WEDDING.



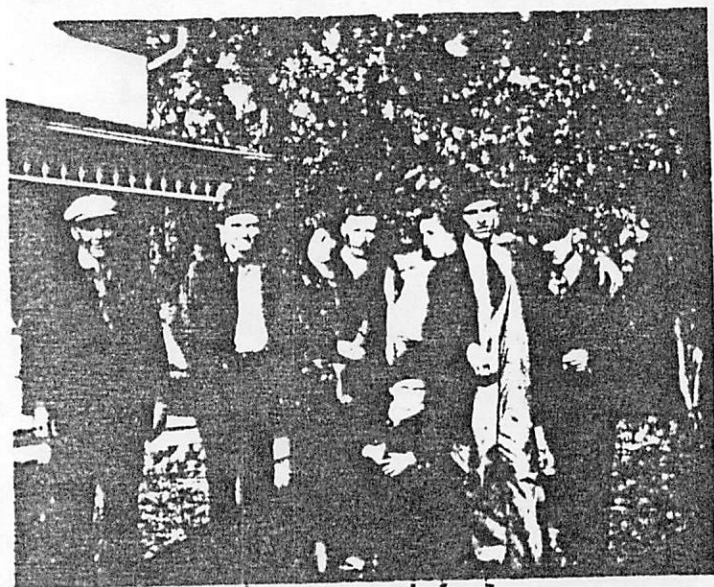
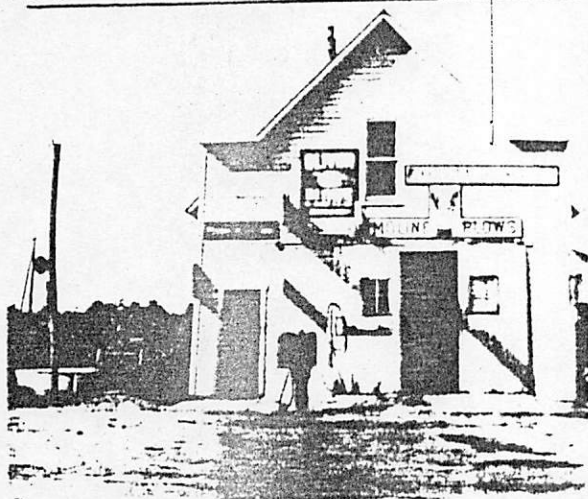
HERE'S A POEM "BILLY" COMPOSED
 ABOUT HIS NEW PROFESSION.
 HIS PICTURE WAS TAKEN IN THE
 CLARKSVILLE AUTO SUPPLY.
 HE'S HOLDING TOOLS OF THE
 TRADE IN HIS HANDS. NOTE
 ALSO THAT HE NOW SAYS HIS
 NAME IS "BILL"

LOOKING SOUTH ON
 MAIN STREET. TWO
 TOURING CARS ARE
 SEEN ON THE ROAD-
 WAY. NOTE TOO,
 OVERHEAD ELEC-
 TRIC STREET LIGHTS
 AT CROSSING



1919-1920 WORKING IN THE CLARKSVILLE GARAGE, BILL GOT TO KNOW AUTO-
MOVED TO MOTIVE SUPPLY SALESMAN. HE BECAME FRIENDS IN PARTICULAR
BERKLEY WITH FRED McVEIGH WHO'D MARRIED A CLARKSVILLE GIRL,
IOWA LUNA SPAFFORD). WHILE MAKING HIS CALLS FRED NOTED
A GARAGE IN BERKLEY IOWA (BOONE COUNTY 45 MI. NW
OF DES MOINES), REEDED A GOOD MECHANIC. HE TOLD
OWNER OSCAR JOHNSON ABOUT BILL AND HE WAS HIRED.
SO NEXT MOVE WAS TO BERKLEY - POPULATION 100.

OSCAR JOHNSON'S - BERKLEY, IA



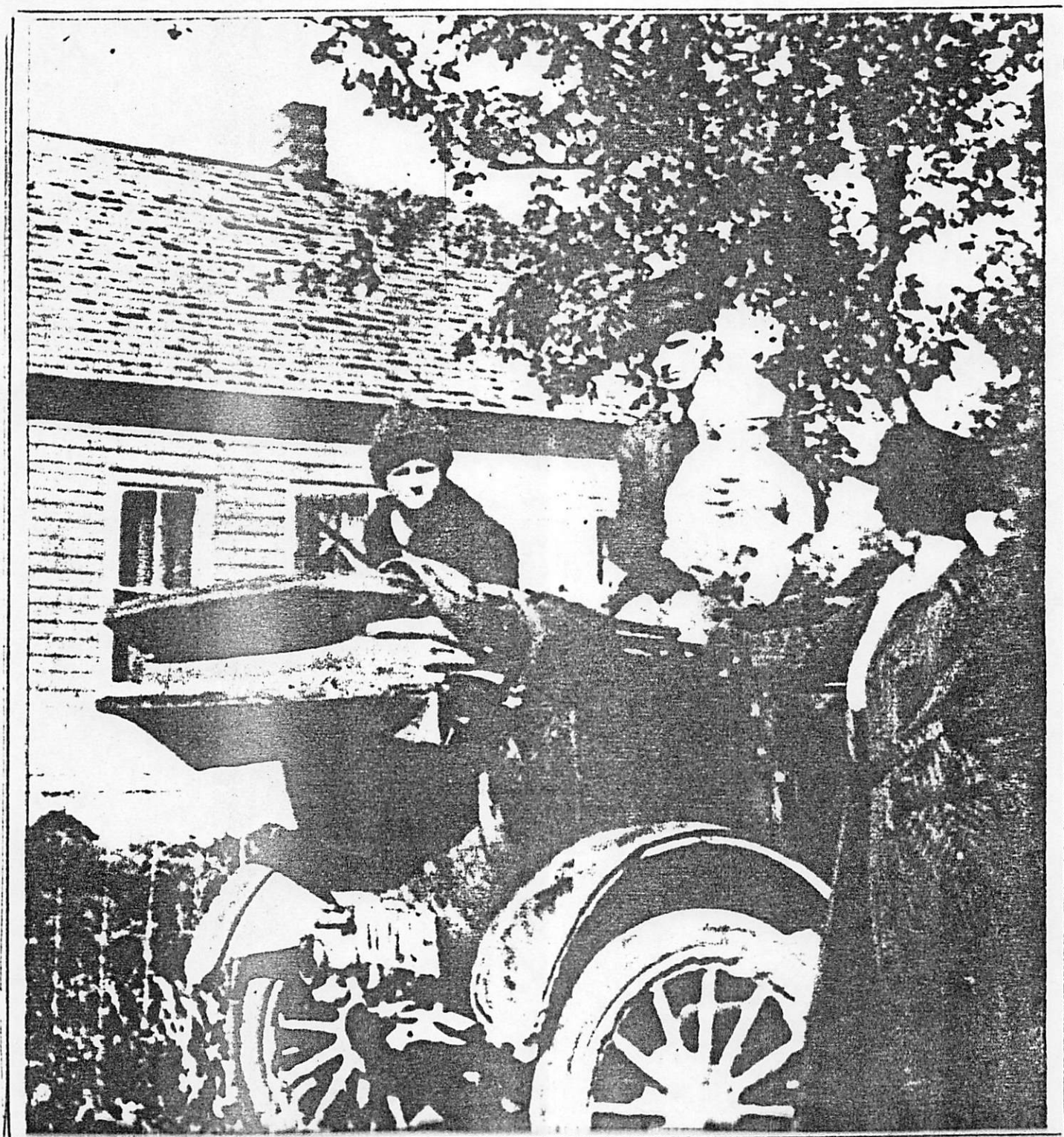
TRANSITION COMPLETED, LUNA TOOK
ABOVE PHOTO AT JOHNSON'S HOME

1. OSCAR JOHNSON
2. FRED McVEIGH
3. YOUNG BILLY
4. HAZEL (CAMERA SHY BECAUSE
EXPECTING NUMBER 3)
5. BILL W. (IN BIB OVERALLS)
(6*) ON REVERSE SIDE OF PHOTO WAS
PENCILLED "FRANKIE WAS ASLEEP"



OUR FIRST BERKLEY HOME (© 1919) ACROSS
32ND ROAD FROM METHODIST CHURCH

THIS IS THE ONLY BILL WEIKING AND FAMILY PICTURE, TAKEN OUT-
SIDE OUR FIRST BEARLEY HOME BY LUVA KIRVEIGH, EARLY FALL
LATER 1919. MY DAD'S SITTING ON BACK OF FRONT SEAT. HE'S 23 AND
THAT I'M 1 YR OLD. BILLY AGE 3 IS ON BACK SEAT, MOM'S ALREADY
DAY ALIT-SHE'S 22. OUR FIRST FORD MODEL 'T' TOURING
(FALL 1919) CAR (ALBANY PREVIOUSLY DRIVEN) WITH TOP DOWN



FEB 6, 1920 FIRST OF FEBRUARY HAZEL RECEIVED WORD HER FOLKS WERE ILL. BUNDLING UP BILLY AND ME SHE TOOK NEXT TRAIN TO DUMONT TO BE WITH THEM. SHE ALSO WAS NEARING TERM ON HER PREGNANCY. MY DAD RECEIVED A TELEGRAM ASKING HE COME AT ONCE BECAUSE OF A SERIOUS ILLNESS. SEVERE SNOW STORM BLOWING, ROADS WERE IMPASSABLE, SO HE TOOK NEXT TRAIN THINKING IT WAS HAZEL'S DAD, JOHN, WHO'D TAKEN A TURN FOR THE WORSE. HOWEVER, WHEN HE GOT OFF THE TRAIN HE WAS TOLD IT WAS HAZEL, WHO'D DIED 1:30AM THAT MORNING. SHE'D ALSO GONE INTO LABOR AND THE BABY, A BOY, HAD DIED AT SAME TIME.

HAZEL'S OBITUARY SLIP

Name Hazel P. Springer
 When Born Oct 30, 1896
 Where Born Belmont, N.J.
 When Died Feb 6, 1920 1:30 AM
 When Married Dec 18, 1915
 Where Married Belmont, N.J.
 To Whom W. H. Volckering
 How Many Children Three
 Funeral Arrangements Buried in Dumont, N.J. Feb 7, 1920
 What Preacher Rev. J. W. Upton
 Belong to Lodge U. B. Chapter
 Belong to Church U. B. Chapter
 What Cemetery Dumont, N.J.

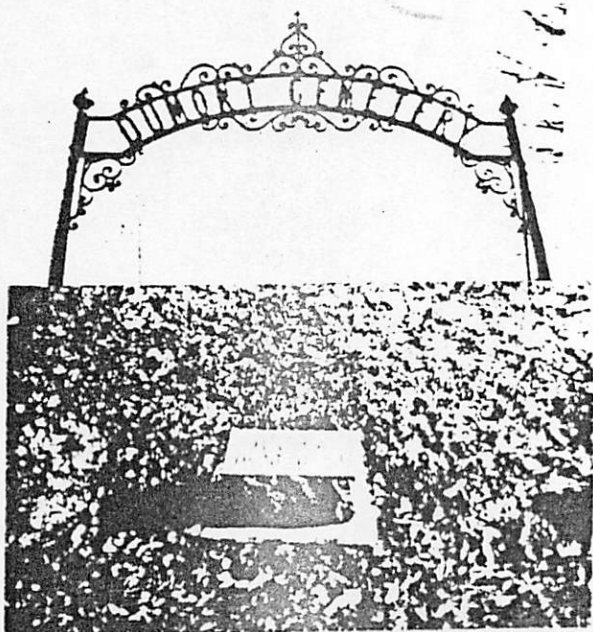
BECAUSE OF THE VIRULENCY OF THE "FLU", BEING EPIDEMIC IN POST W.W. I. YEARS, THE FUNERAL SERVICE WAS HELD NEXT DAY IN SPRINGER'S SNOW COVERED FRONT YARD. BURIAL WAS IN THE SPRINGER FAMILY PLOT DUMONT CEMETERY

SIMPLE HEADSTONE
"HAZEL 1896-1920"

* * *

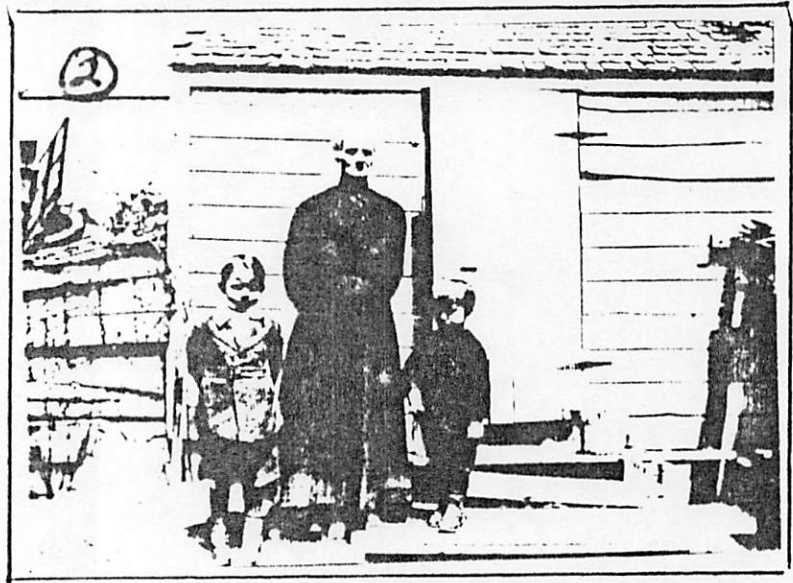
SHE WAS 23 YRS. OLD
SON BILLY 3 1/2 " "
" FRANKIE 1 1/2 " "

(DEAD BABY BOY ALSO BURIED WITH HIS MOTHER)



"HAZEL"

1896 1920



PICT. 1 AUNT MARION SPRINGER - ALLISON IA
FALL 1939

PICTURES 2-5 BERKLEY IA 1921-1922

NO. 2 BACK OF FIRST HOME. NOTE OUR
HI-BUTTONED SHOES

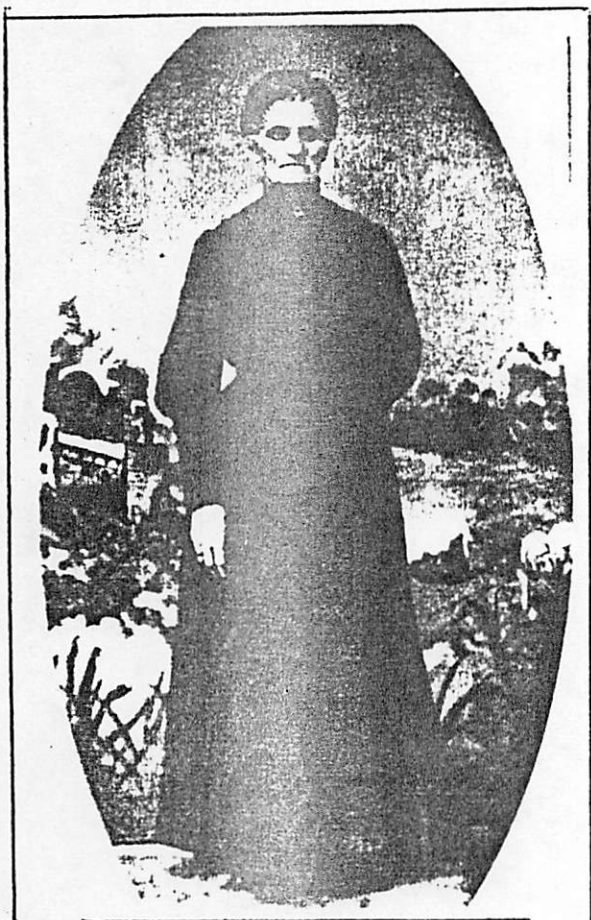
NO. 3 FRONT YARD FIRST HOME. NOTE OUR
30X3 1/2 FORD MODEL T TIRE SWING

NO. 4 BACK OF 2ND HOME. OUR CAT'S TRY-
ING TO GET FREE OF BILLY

NO. 5 IN FRONT OF 2ND HOME. ACROSS
FROM LUMBER YARD



1920 ON LIFE FOR "BERKLEY BILL" AND SONS HAD TO GO ON. AUNT
WIDOWER MARION SPRINGER (HAZEL'S BROTHER FRANK'S WIFE) TOOK
BERKLEY BILL BILLY AND AIE UNTIL THINGS SETTLED DOWN. MY DAD FELT
 * BEST FOR ALL WAS TO PLACE HIS SONS IN EITHER ODD-
AUNT MARION FELLOWS ORPHANAGE OR THE LUTHERAN ONE IN WAVERLY.
 * BROTHER-IN-LAW "UNCLE DICK" DIECKMANN SAID, "NO, I'VE
GRANDMA W. A BETTER SUGGESTION. YOUR MOTHER, GRANDMA WEDE-
COMES TO KING'S LIVING ALONE IN CLARKSVILLE. WHY NOT HAVE HER
STAY COME TO BERKLEY AND TAKE OVER?" AND THIS SHE DID
 * IN 1920 AT AGE 64 BECOMING SURROGATE MOTHER TO
 THESE TWO YOUNGSTERS. SO FOR NEXT 17 YEARS 1920-1937
 "GRANDMA" (GRÜSSMUTTER) RAISED A SECOND FAMILY.



BILLY AGE 4 FRANKIE AGE 2
BERKLEY IOWA SUMMER 1920

GRANDMA MINNA WEDEKING AGE 64 AND HER TWO GRANDSON'S

1920-1923 THE FOUR OF US LIVED IN BENKLEY UNTIL 1923. WE'D
GRANDMA W. MOVED INTO A LARGER HOUSE ACROSS FROM THE
MISS S LUMBER YARD. GRANDMA WEDENING WAS KEPT
CLARKSVILLE QUITE BUSY "KEEPING HOUSE" WHICH INCLUDED
BILLY STARTING SCHOOL IN 1921 AND ME IN 1922.
THE SCHOOL HAD ONE ROOM AND MISS ROOT WAS OUR
TEACHER.

BUT GRANDMA WAS LONELY HAVING BEEN UPROOTED
INTO A DIFFERENT ENVIRONMENT. SHE'D SPENT
THE FIRST 30 YEARS OF HER LIFE 1856-1886 IN
GERMANY AND THE NEXT 34 1886-1920 IN AMERICA
AMONG HER GERMAN-SPEAKING FAMILY AND FRIENDS.
NOW AT AGE 64 SHE TERRIBLY MISSED CLARKSVILLE.

VISITS BY NOW DAD'S FIRST FORD "T" TOURING CAR HAD
TO BEEN REPLACED WITH A FORD "T" 2-DOOR 5 SEAT
CLARKSVILLE SEDAN WHICH WE CALLED OUR "STAGE-COACH". FROM
TIME-TO-TIME WE'D DRIVE TO CLARKSVILLE AND STAY
A LONG WEEKEND WITH FAMILY. WINTERS WERE NOT
DRIVEABLE. IN LATE 1922 GRANDMA TOOK A TRAIN TO
CLARKSVILLE WITH BILLY AND ME ALONG. IT WAS THE
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS AND WE WERE AT AUNT BERTHA'S.

DEC 30, 1922 IT WAS SATURDAY DEC. 30TH AND EV. PASTOR W.A.
KOLH CAME OVER (CHURCH WAS ONLY A BLOCK AWAY)
AND BAPTISED BILLY, NOW AGE 6 1/2, AND ME
4 1/2 YRS OLD. FOR SOME REASON, AND I'LL NEVER
KNOW WHY, AUNT BERTHA HAD MY NAME PUT
ON THE BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE AS "FRANKY
FRIEDERICK WEDENING", WHERE-AS MY LEGAL
BIRTH CERTIFICATE NAME WAS "FRANCIS. LYLE."
I NOW HAVE AS MY SURNAME "FRANKY FRIED-
ERICK FRANCIS LYLE". (I USUALLY USE "F. L.")

Journal of Baptist

This **CERTIFIES** that
Franky Frederick Wedeking
son of: Mr. W. M. Wedeking and
Mrs. W. M. Wedeking, (deceased), was
born in Clarksville, Ia. on July 27, 1912
was by me

BAPTIZED

in the A. F. Sinsam home Clarksville, Ia. on the
Thirtieth day of December

In the Year of Our Lord One Thousand
Nine Hundred and twenty-two

Mrs. Anna Sinsam

Mrs. A. F. Sinsam

W. A. Koch

W. T.

1924-EARLY WE MOVED FROM BEAKLEY TO POONE, IOWA EARLY 1924. BILL WAS EMPLOYED BY THE C.N.W. R.R. AS A "CALL BOY" AT THEIR ROUND-HOUSE.

1924-LATE THIS WAS ONLY TEMPORARY, SO NEXT MOVE TOOK US BACK "HOME" TO CLARKSVILLE. DURING THIS

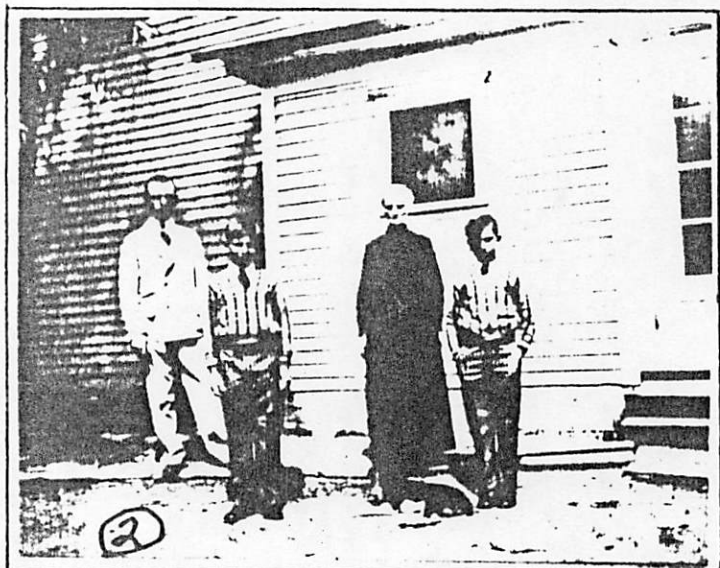
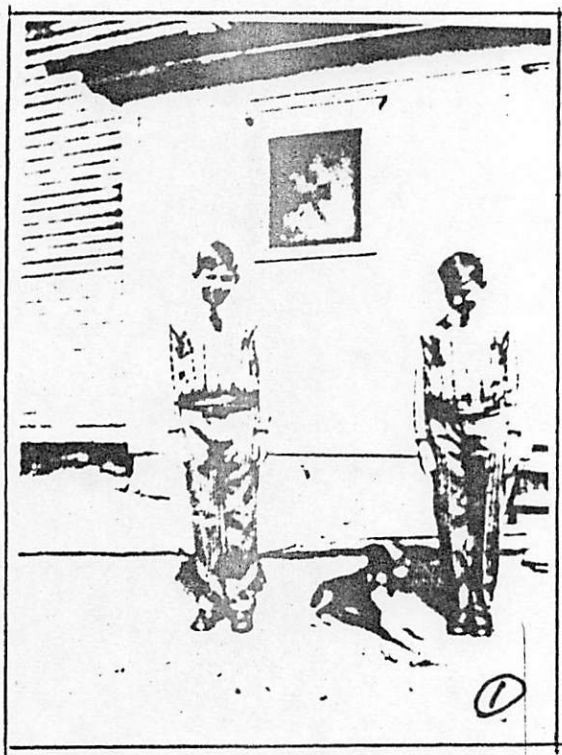
1924-1925 TIME MY FATHER FOUND EMPLOYMENT IN WATERLOO AS A LINOTYPE OPERATOR. THERE-UPON WE MOVED, AGAIN, TO WATERLOO'S WEST-SIDE WHERE WE BOYS WENT TO EDISON SCHOOL.



THIS PICTURE TAKEN IN CLARKSVILLE JUST PRIOR TO MOVING TO WATERLOO. MY FATHER SET HIS BOX-CAMERA ON A CHAIR AND BY MEANS OF HOLDING A STRING ATTACHED TO THE SHUTTER HAD PULLED IT WITH HIS RIGHT HAND THIS GETTING OUR PICTURE. BILLY, AGE 9, IS WATCHING THE ACTION, AND I, AGE 7, AM MORE INTERESTED IN THE TOURING CAR PASSING OUR HOUSE.

* * *
THEN WE MOVED TO WATERLOO
* * *

1926-1932 WE LIVED ON WEST SIDE A YEAR THEN MOVED TO WATERLOO'S EAST SIDE. FIRST TO 420 LOGAN AVE, THEN 228 CLAY, THEN 208 WALNUT-- FIRST HOUSE EAST OF ALLOTT SCHOOL. HERE MY BROTHER AND I FINISHED GRADE SCHOOL, AND JR. HIGH. ALL THIS TIME GRANDMA'S STILL "KEEPING HOUSE"

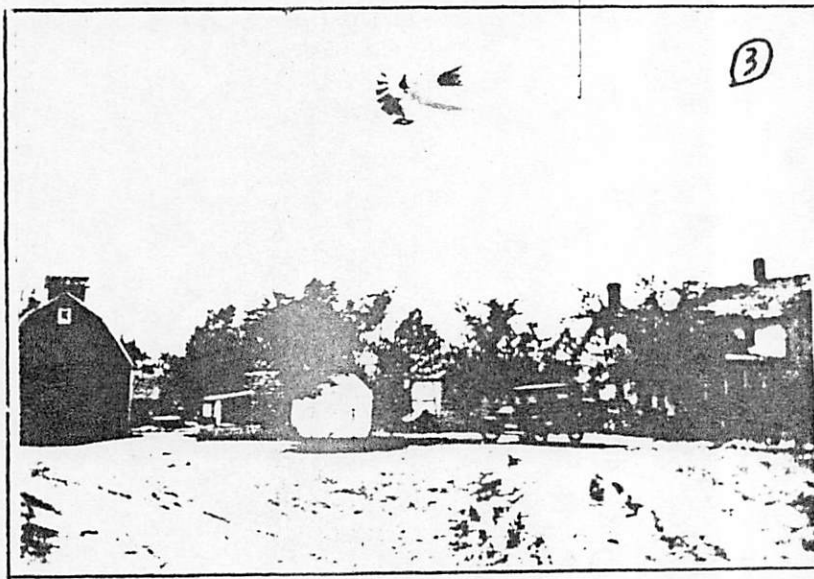


SOME 1928 & 1929 SNAPSHOTS

1928

PICT. 1 & 2, TAKEN ON UNCLE
HERMAN & AUNT MINNIE
KOLLMAN'S FARM. OUR DOG
"BOOTS" LYING ON GROUND.

PICT. 3 KOLLMAN'S FARM-YARD
AS SEEN FROM ENTRANCE ROAD.
I SPENT A GOOD MANY SUMMER
VACATIONS HERE. COUSIN EDNA
WAS MY "BIG SISTER".



PICT. 4. IT'S NOW 1929
WE'RE AT UNCLE DICK AND
AUNT MARY'S CLARKSVILLE HOME.
GRANDMA'S 73 YRS OLD,
DAD'S 33, BILLY'S 13, IN
J.R. HIGH, AND I'M 16, JUST
FINISHED ALCOTT SCHOOL'S
7TH GRADE.



(DEPRESSION STARTED LATE
1929 EARLY 1930)

1933-1935 WATERLOO NEXT AND FINAL MOVE FOR THE FOUR OF US WAS TO 923 WALNUT. GRANDMA WENDEKING AT 77 STILL "KEEPING HOUSE." DAUGHTER "AUNT MARY" AND "UNCLE DICK" DIECKMAN NOW LIVING ACROSS RIVER ON JEFFERSON ST. IN WEST WATERLOO. GRANDMA WALKS TO THEIR HOUSE OCCASIONALLY. HER SISTER-IN-LAW "AUNT LOUISE" POPPE'S ALSO LIVING IN WATERLOO.

1935 BROTHER BILL FINISHED HIGH SCHOOL IN 1934 AND I IN 1935. GRANDMA CAME TO MY GRADUATION AT E.W.H.S. SHE'S 79 YRS OLD NOW. NOW ALL 3 OF US FELLOWS ARE WORKING FULL-TIME - DAD AT CHAMBERLAINS AS A MECHANIC, BILL AS LATHE OPERATOR AT JOHN DEERE'S, AND I'M A WHOLESALE HARDWARE CLERK AT CUTLER HARDWARE. MONEY CRUNCH EASED, SO GRANDMAGET MY DAD BOUGHT GRANDMA A BRAND-NEW AN ELECTRIC "PELLA-MAID" ELECTRIC WASHING MACHINE, WASHER AND AND BROTHER BILL AND I GOT HER HER FLAT-IRON FIRST ELECTRIC FLAT IRON. UP 'TIL NOW SHE'D BEEN USING STOVE-TOP HEATED SHIR-IRONS ALL HER LIFE.

DAD'S STILL DRIVING MODEL "T" FORD. I THINK IT WAS A 1927, HENRY FORD'S LAST 4-CYLINDER. JUNE 1, 1937 GRANDMA DIED. AGE 81 GRANDMA WENDEKING WAS WITH US UNTIL JUNE 15, 1937 STILL KEEPING HOUSE, WHEN DEATH CAME TO HER RATHER SUDDENLY IN OUR 923 WALNUT HOME. FUNERAL SERVICE HELD IN CLARKSVILLE IMMANUEL CHURCH AND BURIAL IN PLEASANT VALLEY CEMETERY BESIDE GRANDPA FAITZ, TWINS OTTO AND EDWARD, AND YOUNG FAITZ. AMERICA HAD BEEN HER NEW HOME FOR 51 YEARS AND 2 DAYS.

WATERLOO - 923 WALNUT

1936 - LAST PICTURES OF GRANDMA
AND HER TWO BOYS



WITH
FRANKIE



WITH FRANKIE & BILLY

WHEN GRANDMA WEDERIKS SAW US TOGETHER IN THIS PICTURE
SHE SAID "YOU GET BIGGER AND I GET SMALLER"

IN SIZE, YES, IN OUR HEARTS, NEVER!

- + AFTER JUNE 1ST 1937, NOW WITHOUT GRANDMA, WE
FELLOWS WENT OUR SEVERAL WAYS:
- * BROTHER BILL MARRIED LOUISE CAMPBELL, MOVED TO
MINNEAPOLIS, RAISED 4 DAUGHTERS
- * I MOVED TO CHICAGO, ATTENDED) WOODY BIBLE
INSTITUTE, MARRIED RUTH FORDYCE WHOM I'D KNOWN
FROM HIGH-SCHOOL DAYS. PARENTS OF 2 SONS
- * DAD, NOW 41, NEVER REMARRIED. WENT TO WORK
FOR THE REINBECK IOWA COURIER, THEN MOVED TO
CHICAGO IN 1942 CONTINUING AS A PAINTER UNTIL
HIS DEATH IN 1969 AGE 74. AT HIS REQUEST
HE WAS BURIED IN CLARKSVILLE LAMWOOD
CEMETERY. * * *

SOME BEFORE WRITING "FINI", I MUST TOUCH BRIEFLY ON
SPRINGER MY GRANDPA JOHN AND GRANDMA FLORENCE SPRINGER.
HISTORY PARENTS OF MY MOTHER HAZEL PEARL SPRINGER
(A. MR. M.C. SPRINGER IN 1881 ENTERED IN THE WASH.
D.C. LIBRARY OF CONGRESS A GENEALOGICAL BOOK
"HISTORY OF THE SPRINGER FAMILY". IN IT HIS CHART
NO. 2 TRACES THEM BACK TO LANDGRAVE OF THURINGIA
(B 1042, D 1178) WHO'D BEEN GIVEN NAME OF "THE
SPRINGER" YEAR 1089.)

DAVID & SALLY FROM FRANKLIN COUNTY HISTORICAL RECORDS (IOWA)
MY GREAT, GRAM DAVID SPRINGER (B DUTCHES COUNTY N.Y. 11-17-1797) M SALLY
GRANDPARENTS WADDELL (B JASPER COUNTY ILL 11-14-1811). IN 1832 LIVING
IN GALENA ILL. PARENTS OF:

FRANCIS & MARIA FRANCIS MATHIAS SPRINGER (B JASPER COUNTY 7-9-1826) M MARIA
MY GREAT F. GREEN (B JO DAVIESS COUNTY ILL 8-14-1836 D 1885 BURIED
GRANDPARENTS IN HAMPTON (A CEMETERY) 12-18-1854 IN SHULSBURG, ILL. HE
CAME TO FRANKLIN COUNTY IN COVERED WAGON IN
SPRING 1855. PREVIOUSLY LIVED IN LINN, BUCHANAN IOWA
COUNTIES AND GALENA PRIOR TO SHULSBURG. PARENTS OF

JOHN AND JOHN G. SPRINGER (B 1-24-1858 D 2-3-1925) M FLORENCE
FLORENCE GREEN (B 4-5-1863 D 1-31-1923) PARENTS OF 4 SONS: HUGH,
MY ART, LEO AND FRANK, AND 3 DAUGHTERS, BLANCHE
GRANDPARENTS (HELT), HAZEL (WEJENING) AND GLADYS (HOWARD).
* ACCORDING TO BUTLER COUNTY RECORDS, GRAMMA'S
DEATH RESULT OF "MITRAL INSUFFICIENCY" -- HEART
TRouble -- IN 1923. MY MOTHER'S CONCERN
FOR HER MOM WAS NOTED AS EARLY AS
DECEMBER 1915.

* * *

HAZEL AND HAZEL PEARL SPRINGER (B 10-30-1896 D 2-6-1920) M
WILLIAM WILLIAM H. WEJENING (B 11-30-1895 D 10-30-1969) 12-18-1915

IN CLOSING
1989

IT'S MY HOPE THAT YOU, MY READERS, WILL VISIT SEVERAL "HAUNTED" AREAS IN BUTLER COUNTY, AND AT THE SAME TIME VISUALIZE IN YOUR MIND'S EYE THE 2ND HALF OF THE 1800'S, SANS: T.V., RADIO, TELEPHONE, ELECTRIC LIGHTS, MOVIES, INDOOR PLUMBING, AUTOMOBILES, AIRPLANES, COMPUTERS, ETC. ETC. SUGGESTED SPOTS*:

* PLEASANT VALLEY CHURCH AND CEMETERY

LOT 44 "FATER" FRITZ AND "MUTTER" MINNA WEDEKING
YOUNG FRITZ, TWINS OTTO AND EDWARD

LOT 43 SISTER MARY AND LOUIS WEDEKING

LOT 27 " LOUISE " HENRY POPPE

* IMMANUEL CHURCH CLARKSVILLE AND LYNNWOOD CEMETERY

LOT N1 DAUGHTER MARY AND D. DIECKMAN

LOT N2 " BEATHA AND AUGUST SINIRAM

LOT K10 SON WILLIAM H. WEDEKING

* SOUTH VILMAR CHURCH AND CEMETERY (NORTH OF ALLISON)

LOT 40 DAUGHTER MINNIE AND HERMAN KOLLMAN
AND BABY VALEDA

* DUMONT CEMETERY

LOT B9 "FATHER" JOHN AND "MOTHER" FLORENCE SPRINGER
SON HUGH AND DAUGHTER HAZEL (WEDEKING)
* * *

"FINI"

IT'S NOW TIME TO SAY "FINI" AND TO CLOSE THE COVER. TIME, SPACE, OPPORTUNITY, FAMILY BRANCH COMPLEXITIES ETC. CONSPIRE AGAINST MY KEEPING ON. MANY, MANY ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS, IDEAS, MEMORIES - LOTS A GOOD THINGS, AND YES, SOME NOT SO GOOD KEEP PILING INTO MY MIND.

I THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO LOOK OVER MY SHOULDER AT OUR WEDEKING'S SAGA, AND THERE-BY GETTING TO KNOW THEM A BIT BETTER.
(NEXT PAGE)

FINI
(CONT.)

IT IS ALSO MY HOPE THAT YOU WHO ARE OF WEIDENING
DESCENT CAN CONCLUDE THAT WE'VE A FINE
GERMAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE, AND I WILL SAY
"THANKS" GRANDPA AND GRANDMA FOR COMING TO
THIS OUR GREAT COUNTRY - THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

* * *

1989

F.L. WEIDENING DES PLAINES ILLINOIS

POST SCRIPT

FOLLOWING INSCRIPTION TAKEN FROM A LYNNWOOD CEMETERY
HEADSTONE - CHISELED IN GRANITE ALMOST A CENTURY AGO (1893)

"THE GRASSY MOUND THE BREEZE KISS
BUT HIDES A HUMAN CHRYSLIS
THE COFFINED FORMS THAT LIE BELOW
IN FAIRER VESTURE YET SHALL GLOW
SURE AS THE SUN AND DEW AND RAIN
SHALL WAKEN EARTH TO LIFE AGAIN
SO SURE SHALL THE GRAVE YIELD HER DEAD
BY GUARDIAN ANGELS GENTLY LED:
AND WE SHALL FIND THEM IN THE FOLD
WHOSE GATES ARE PEARL AND STREETS ARE GOLD."

* * *

MY THANKS TO MY FAMILY FOR THEIR INPUT OF PICTURES AND LETTERS, AND FOR
VALUED HELPS FROM FRIENDS AND SOURCES: RUDOLF PRIETKE YEARS
AGO, REV RALPH WEIDENING GENEALOGIES, CLARKSVILLE STAR-ITEMS,
PLEASANT VALLEY CHURCH RECORDS, MARYLAND HIST. SOC., FRANKLIN COUNTY
HIST. RECS., WASH. D.C. NAT'L ARCHIVES, BUTLER COUNTY HIST. SOC.,
DES PLAINES ILL REF. LIBRARY, NORTH-GERMAN-LLOYD LINE, AND
GERMAN TRAVEL BUREAU