

A young Mennonite family, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Hiebert, lived a half mile east of our farm. They were better educated than most of our neighbors, went to church regularly and spoke German. Our families became good friends and Mr. Hiebert was a trusted advisor and counselor to Father who was handicapped in not being able to speak English. He had three other dependable friends, Simon Kison, Andreas Janke and Daniel Kleinknecht. They visited each other often to discuss their mutual problems.

On November 15, 1903, our good friends the Hiebert's, sold their land to three new arrivals from Strasburg, Bessarabia, Russia. They were Wilhelm and Louise Frieske, Christof and Wilhelmine Frieske, Emanuel and Mathilda Ballo, with their families. Also a young man, Fred Lenz, a friend of the Christof Frieske family. Their children were about the same ages as ours and a good friendship was soon established. It pleased Father that they were interested in church matters, they all loved to sing and were a real asset to the services.

In 1904, conditions started to change for the better, one reason being that we had learned much about farming in the new country. It was Mother who had the most to worry about in feeding over 10 people three times a day with a limited supply of groceries. Also washing, ironing and mending was a full day's work every day. The kitchen was big and was also used as a dining room. It took many steps to set and clear the table and took real courage to face the mountain of dishes three times a day. While still small, Leontine and Emma were a great help to Mother and had little time to play during their younger years. They were the only girls in the family old enough to help, Anna who was born in this country was just two years old.



The Hoefel Farm-1909

After 1904, more friends and relatives from Basyrjamka and other villages arrived and stayed with our family until such time as they could get settled on their own land. While this made much extra work, especially when some overstayed, our parents considered this a service which they owed to others. Gradually this too came to an end and life became a little easier.

By 1912, steady progress was made on the farm and living conditions improved. As the younger boys became old enough to help with the work, it was decided that the older ones should look for other work. After twelve years of hard work the family was able to enjoy a little leisure.

Being interested in church work and not having traveled any great distance since coming to Washington, Father and Mother decided to attend the General Conference of the German Congregational churches, held in Kulm, North Dakota, in June 1912, also to visit friends and relatives living in the Dakotas. The trip was made by train and after a very enjoyable time they returned to Ritzville on Sunday, June 30, 1912. Upon their arrival Uncle Chris Rieker, husband of Mother's sister Magdalena, came to take them to their home on the farm in a Model T Ford touring car. About 5 miles west of Ritzville, on passing a farm house, a dog ran out and in trying to avoid a collision, the car turned over. Father was so badly injured that he never regained consciousness and died July 1, 1912. Mother was slightly injured and Mrs. Rieker had a broken rib.

Father was buried in the Zoar Church cemetery, 15 miles west of Ritzville, and his remains were later moved to the Ritzville Memorial cemetery. He was 48 years, 4 months and 9 days old at the time of his sudden death, which was only 10 years and 6 months after his arrival in the United States. His life was dedicated to the Christian way and his concern was to establish his family in a Christian community, and this he lived to see.

During his short residence in the United States he made many friends, he was always willing to promote good will and gave generously of his time and talents. He was proud to be a citizen of this country. He was a great admirer of Abraham Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt and believed in the philosophy of the Republican party.

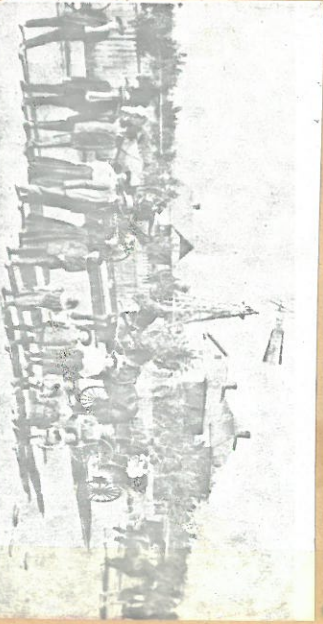
In his diary Father remarked this about their reason for leaving Russia for the United States: "Before leaving Basyrjamka we had most everything we needed in material things. We are making this change for the love of our children in the hope that a brighter future will be theirs." We haven't considered any hardship too great to bring this about. Let us not forget this and never cease to be grateful for this



1903 - Emil, Robert, Jake David, Fred



1903 - John, Emma, Anna, Leontina, Jake



1909 - Farm of Friedrich Hoefel



1909 - Home of Friedrich Hoefel

Just Thinking

Hamilton Wright Mobley  
(1845-1917)

While men sleep, the world sweeps silently onward under the watchful stars, in a flight which makes no sound and leaves no trace. When one stands on the shores of night, and looks off into that mighty sea of darkness in which a world lies engulfed, there is no thought but worship, and no speech but silence. And even as one waits, speechless and awestruck, the morning star touches the edge of the hills, and a new day breaks resplendent in the eastern sky.

Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Matthew 6:33



November 21, 1865 - January 22, 1952

The sudden death of Father was a heavy blow to Mother. It left her with the burden of raising and providing for a large family and of harvesting the crop which was ripening. However, with the help of the older children she managed to stay on the farm until the fall of 1916. After an auction sale of her personal property she rented the land to Emil and moved to Ritzville, Washington, where she purchased a house and lived there for the rest of her life.

She was privileged to have most of her children living near enough that she was able to visit them often and to be visited by them. Many pleasant and happy hours were spent in her home by the family and friends. It can be said that in raising such a large family Mother did not have an undue amount of worry over the behavior of the children. They lived and worked in unity and tried to make her life a pleasant one. However, during the depression years beginning in 1931, she worried a lot when she lost most of her land due to crop failures and her income became very limited.

In 1946, Mother had a light stroke from which she partially recovered and some time later she had a heavier stroke which affected her left side and she lost the use of her speech. She was never completely bedfast for any length of time, neither did she suffer much pain during her illness and was able to move about in a wheel chair most of the time. John lived with her and during her illness his presence made life much more pleasant for her and the family will always be grateful for his kindness to her. All the children did what they could to help along so that she was able to remain in her home, especially those who lived near her.

On January 22, 1952, she passed away in her home at the age of 86 years, 2 months and 1 day. During her lifetime she sacrificed much for her family. Let us always remember her as a kind and loving mother.

She was a member of the Philadelphia Congregational Church in Ritzville and of its Senior Aid. Beside her twelve children (Fred died in 1945 of a heart attack,) 14 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren, she left one sister, Christine Niederreiter, living in Germany.



Charles and  
Hilda-1936

ROBERT HOEFEL, born February 20, 1869, in Dennewitz, Russia, son of Friedrich and Theresia Hoefel. Attended school in Basyrjamka, Russia, to the age of 12 years.

Arrived with parents in Ritzville, Washington, December 2, 1901. Attended grade school in Adams County School District #51. In 1910 he worked for a few months in the Northern Pacific Railroad round house near Spokane, Washington. He worked for Father on the home farm and later farmed for himself. He is now retired.

Married MARY DEEG, February 14, 1911, daughter of John and Katherine Deeg, born September 15, 1891, in Dennewitz, Russia. She came with her family to Canada and from there to a farm 12 miles south of Odessa, Washington, later moved to American Falls, Idaho.

They farmed the home farm from 1923 until 1942, then retired to make their home in Odessa, Washington. They celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on February 19, 1961, in Odessa. For 20 years Robert was director of the Odessa Union Warehouse Company and 20 years director of the German Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He also served for 12 years as School Director, District #51. In 1960 they went on a conducted tour through Europe.

They are active members of the United Congregational Church in Odessa, Washington.

They have five children: Arthur Robert, Hilda Maria, Esther L. Vina, Paul Frederick and Harold.



Mother's home  
from 1916 to 1952



Arthur, Kathy and Esther-1960



Front-Charles, Marian  
and Richard  
Back-Hilda and Charles



Marian and Peter Lock-1959



Robert Hoefel family-1936

Their present address is Odessa. Seated-Mary, Harold and Robert Standing-Esther, Arthur, Hilda and Paul

Kathy and Alex  
Harper-1964



When our family arrived in Ritzville, December 2, 1901, it was a small town of about 850 residents, and was the county seat of Adams County, which had a population of about 4500.

Ritzville was named after Philip Ritz, one of the early settlers in the northern part of Adams County. The first council meeting was held December 10, 1888, under the laws of Washington Territory. N. H. Green was elected Mayor and F. J. Bellamy, clerk.

In 1889 the State of Washington joined the Union, and on July 14, 1890, Ritzville was incorporated under the laws of the State of Washington. Ritzville was a 4th class town. The first mayor was R. J. Neergaard.

In 1883 the Northern Pacific Railroad transcontinental line from the east to Seattle was completed and this too opened the Adams County territory and changed it rapidly from stock raising to wheat farming.

Adams County named in honor of President John Adams, was created on November 28, 1883. An area of 1905 square miles, (approximately) 1,212,800 acres, the 16th in size among the 39 Washington counties. It is slightly larger than the state of Rhode Island.

Agricultural settlements in Adams County had started in the late 1860's by cattlemen who established ranches on Cow and Crab Creeks. These early livestockmen favored the free public domain grass land of eastern Adams County where rainfall was sufficient to grow wild grass on rich wind deposited soils. Later farmers were to find these soils more profitable for growing wheat and other grains.

Also in 1883 two large groups of Volga Germans, (Rosenoffs, Thiels, Schaefers, Kanzlers, Bauers, Oestriches and others) who emigrated from Russia to Nebraska, arrived by wagon trains in Walla Walla and shortly after came to settle in the Ritzville territory.

A few years later a group of Mennonites under the leadership of Rev. Jacob R. Schrag, arrived and settled about 20 miles west of Ritzville, in the Schrag or Mennonite territory. After that another group of Mennonites, under the leadership of Cornelius Jantz, arrived and settled in the northwestern part of the county. These settlers were some of the pioneer wheat farmers and their children and grandchildren are still well known today.

The light Adams County soil, originally covered mostly with bunchgrass, had proven its ability to produce an extremely high quality of hard wheat with little moisture. Good crops were raised and Ritzville became known as "The Breadbasket of the World." About 100,000 acres were under cultivation by 1900. At first the settlers attempted to plow and crop their land every year as most of them had done in other places. However, they soon discovered that they must summerfallow part of their land every year to conserve moisture for better crops. Today the entire county and surrounding territory employ the summerfallow system.

An all time high wheat production record in Adams County was the year of 1946, when 10,863,000 bushels of wheat were delivered to the county warehouses. Adams County is now the third highest wheat producing county in the State of Washington, and the fifth highest in the United States. The 1963 State of Washington wheat production was over 67 million bushels.

Much of the western part of Adams County was covered with heavy sagebrush and an abundance of jackrabbits which at times ruined some of the wheat crops. Rabbit drives were held for sport and to reduce the large number of rabbits and now they are almost eliminated. The coyote population has also been reduced. Wild horses were available at reasonable prices and after a short training became useful farm animals.

Before the arrival of tractors, weeders and other modern machinery which changed the farming operations, heavy dust storms were very frequent. Many farmers in the southwest part of the county had to abandon their farms because they were unable to keep the seed in the ground when the topsoil blew off. However, with improved methods of farming, all the agricultural land is now in production again. Many weeds, such as Russian thistles, Chinese lettuce, mustard, etc., which were once a problem, can now be controlled by chemicals applied by air and weeding machines. Cheatgrass is still an uncontrolled weed to date.

A significant change and influence on Adams County came with the development of the Columbia Basin Project. About 68,455 acres of the over one million acres of the above mentioned irrigation project lie in the Othello area. While all of this land is still not under cultivation, large crops of potatoes, sugar beets, alfalfa, corn, beans, livestock and other produce are being raised. Most all crops are shipped to open markets while some are processed in local mills and factories. From a barren and unproductive land, in less than ten years, the Othello district produced in 1963 crops of 1,812,520 tons of potatoes, 241,068 tons of sugar beets, 49,958 tons of alfalfa. The city

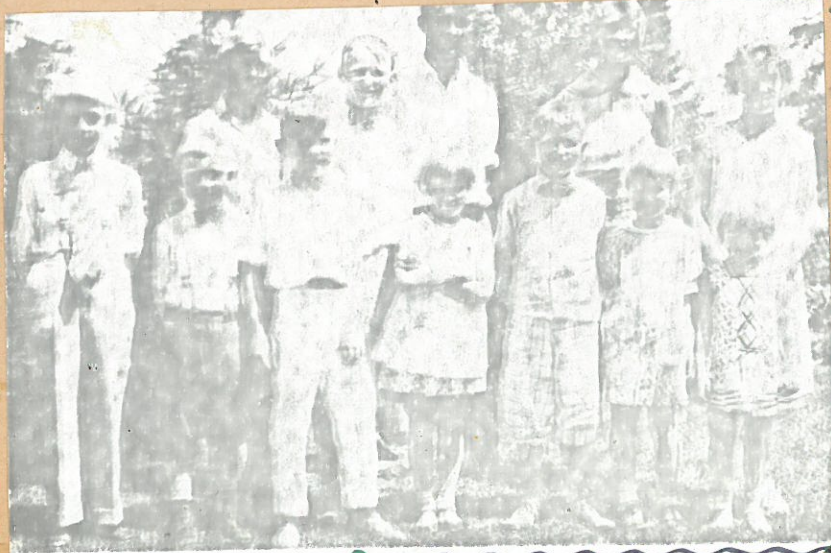
ESTHER ALVINA HOEFEL, born June 25, 1915, on the farm near Odessa, Washington. Attended grade school in Adams County School District #51 and Odessa High School. Worked three years in the office of the Palace Department Store in Spokane, Washington.

Married HUGH EDWARD MITCHELL, June 23, 1935, on the home farm. Divorced in 1949.

They have two children: RICHARD LEE, born September 24, 1940, in Seattle, Washington. Graduated from the University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, majored in Physics. Married CAROLYN LEE COOK, October 10, 1964.

DONALD RAY, born January 8, 1945, in Vancouver, Washington. Graduated from Berkeley Trade and Technical College, Berkeley, California, June 1963. Continued his studies in Business Administration at the University of California, Berkeley, California. Married LENNEA SMITH, October 25, 1964. See pictures page 82.

Esther's address: 1810 Berryman Street, Berkeley, California.



Cousins at family picnic in Clarkston, Washington 1930

no picture Robert

84  
1921

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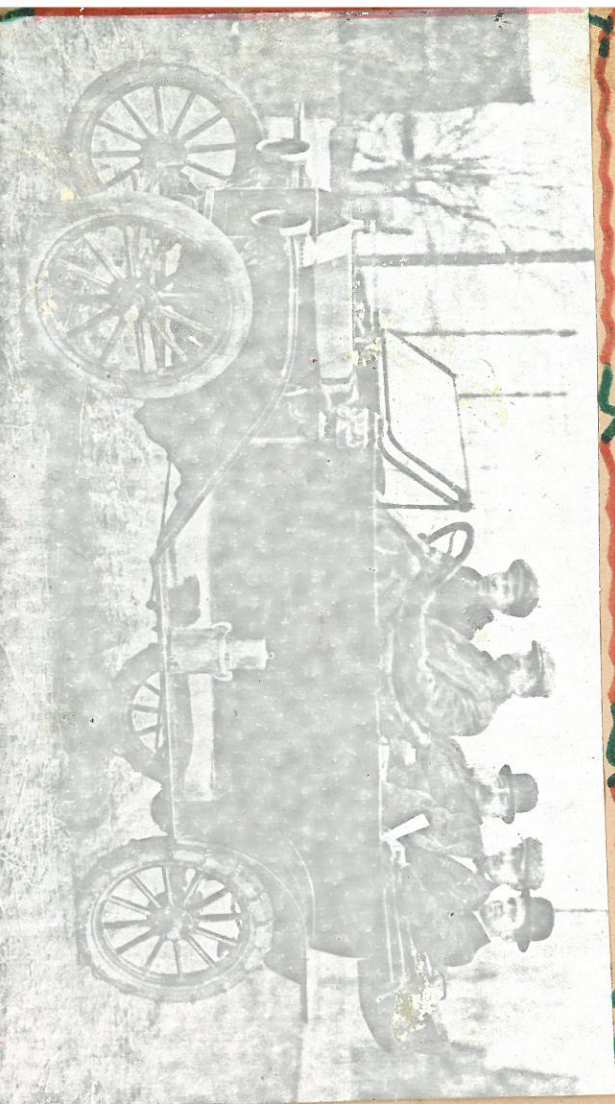
Sprinkling irrigation is now successfully used on dry land in several parts of the county, the water used is being pumped from wells.

An extensive cattle raising program is still carried out by the Jake Harder family, pioneer stock ranchers, located in the southeast part of the county.

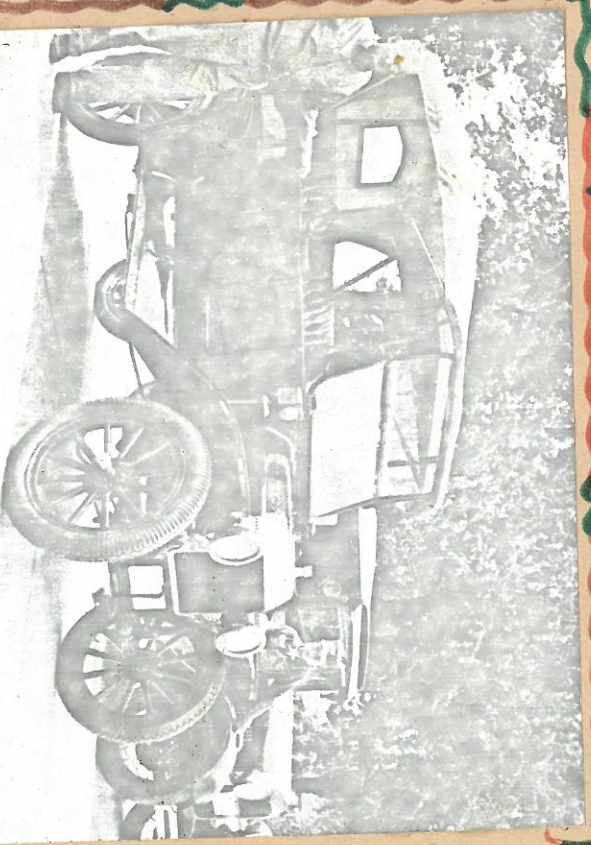
Our first telephone service came over the top wire of the barbed wire fence with the wire strung higher across gateways and roads. While this service had many interruptions, it served a valuable purpose for several years.

Before the arrival of cars, trucks and gravel covered roads, the roads in the fall of the year became so bad that there were times when the towns closed their businesses to help the farmers haul straw to fill the chuck holes in the roads to make them passable.

Of the many wonderful inventions during the past 50 years, which have raised the standard of our living, the arrival of the automobile and truck was a great benefit especially to the farmers. With them came better roads for transportation of their produce and set the whole country on wheels. Also, the improved farm tractors and implements greatly improved the farm operations, and have almost completely eliminated the work horses and mules and the common house fly.



1913 Model T Ford. Guy Allison, Chris Rieker the driver. Rear-Ed Hill, David Hoefel and J.C. Allison.



Walter and David W. Hoefel with 1914 Model T and 1928 Model A Ford.



1964-Walter Hoefel with modern tractor and weeder.

April 16, 1964 - 110 acres plowed in one day.

#### ADAMS COUNTY

By an act of the legislature, to create the County of Adams, James J. Bennett, George Sinclair Sr., and John L. Johnson were appointed to act as County Commissioners. They took their oath of office and proceeded to act with George Sinclair Sr. chosen as chairman. Samuel A. Wells was appointed County Auditor on the 19th day of December, 1883. On December 22, 1883, the following county officials were appointed: William McKay, Treasurer; Mrs. Christina Bennett, Superintendent; John B. Whittlesey, Sheriff; Theodore W. Hauschild, Surveyor; Edwin Garrico Assessor; James Edwards, Coroner.

On November 29, 1884, the Auditor reported that the General Election held November 4th for permanent location of the county seat, Ritzville received a majority of the votes cast and declared the county seat.

On the 16th day of June, 1884, it was estimated the taxable property in the County of Adams to be about \$167,000.00 and the amount to be raised for operation to be \$1169.00. A seven mill levy was approved by the Board of County Commissioners. The fee for assessing property for 44 days at \$5.00 per day was presented, plus \$10.00 for making the assessment rolls. The Board, feeling that too much time was being consumed, allowed Edwin Garrico money for 35 days and \$10.00 for assessment roll. County Surveyor was paid \$5.00 per day.

#### ADAMS COUNTY-Assessed Valuation for 1963

Value of Acreage	\$16,018,225.00
" " Improvements	2,188,845.00
" " City and Town Lots	726,300.00
" " Improvements	4,339,166.00
" " Personal Property	4,700,573.00
" " Transportation Co.	3,745,372.00
" " Communication Co.	469,048.00
" " Power and Light	1,613,023.00
Total Value of Taxable Property	33,800,552.00



Reference has been made to the emigration of the German people to Russia and some of them later to the United States, and to those who settled in the Inland Empire of the State of Washington.

For almost 65 years, our family life and history has been closely associated with them. In memory of these pioneers of the Inland Empire, a brief account of their past follows.

Mr. Harm H. Schlomer, of Spokane, Washington, has studied the history of the Russia Germans, has written his observations and given me permission to use some of his findings. Many of which I am quoting. This is greatly appreciated. Mr. Schlomer had his schooling in the secondary and college institutions of this state and earned his Ph.D. at Germany's Heidelberg University.

Mr. Schlomer writes: "This paper deals with a people whose tradition for two hundred years has been to pioneer the development of raw country as a way of life. Some of these people have put their energy and talents to work in the Inland Empire to build from raw nature an agricultural belt from west of Odessa, Warden and Lind through Ritzville and beyond Endicott and Colfax. They are the Russia Germans."

QUOTE - "Our interest in the study of Inland Empire Russia Germans is focused on First, the Volga Germans of Catherine II (1763) colonization period, Second, the Black Sea - Bessarabia Germans of the Alexander I, (1813) call to Russia, and Third, the Mennonites from the Mennonite colonies of South Russia. Ritzville and Odessa settlers appear to be nearly evenly divided between Volga German and Black Sea Bessarabia German extractions. Nearly all the Russia Germans of Endicott and Colfax came from the Volga settlements. The Mennonite settlement is limited to a very prosperous community around the Mennonite Church about twenty miles west of Ritzville."

In this paper the designation 'Russia Germans' is consistently used. This designation appears to be most correct. It is a careless usage of terms to refer to these people as "Russians" or to use any term that would imply identity with the native people of Russia. In the interest of accuracy we need to remember that the colonists are Germans, and that they struggled against odds to keep their culture and civilization unaffected by their domicile in Russia. All of the first colonists were located on the "Bergseite" or hilly side of the Volga. In 1765, villages were founded on the eastern shore or plain side, (Wiesenseite)."

"Peter the Great had worked to win German scholars, merchants and artisans as individuals to settle in Russian towns. He had not only sent agents to other countries to induce colonists to come to Russia, but in 1679 he personally brought in more than one thousand technicians and military scientists. Now the goal was to establish whole German settlements on the open land. So it was the obvious thing to do for Catherine II, herself a German, to turn to colonizing the Germans in a big way. Her manifesto of July 22, 1763, was the cornerstone of Russian colonization policy during her reign and in later times. In this document the colonists were promised the right to settle in any part of Russia, payment of traveling expenses, freedom of religion, freedom from taxes for thirty years, freedom from military service and internal self-government."

"Countless copies of the Czarina's (Catherine II) appeal were distributed in Germany. All of the ministers and representatives at the numerous courts of divided Germany spread a net of assembly points over the German 'Lander.' Through all kinds of lures and inducements the Russian agents sought to get emigrants. Numerous lies and tricks were practiced by the Russian agents in their attempts to gain larger numbers of colonists. The Germans were told that the country along the Volga was very much like the one in which they were living. They were told that the climate was extremely mild, the ground fertile, and the entire region a veritable paradise. In this way 25,000 people were enlisted for the colonization of the Volga region. The very quantitative attitude of the colonization policy and the way it was carried out by the emigration agents assured a collection of physically and morally incompetent and unfit persons among the competent farmers, doctors, students, artisans and craftsmen. All who reported were cooped up in mass transportation to the east. Considering that there were no improved roads whatsoever, the travel was by water, wagons, horses and the most primitive ways."

The German colonists were deceived the moment they set foot on Russian soil. In imagination the Germans saw a new paradise awaiting them at the end of the journey. What they found was a no-man's land. No sooner had colonies been established than nomadic raiders descended upon the settlers to steal, plunder, rob and burn, especially on the east side of the Volga, the plains side (Wiesenseite). The newly acquired land on the Volga was either very light and sandy in parts, or

Children: GARY NEIL, born October 19, 1946, Spokane, Washington  
BETH ANNE, born November 20, 1947, Spokane, Washington  
JULIE ANN, born December 14, 1950, Odessa, Washington

They are members of the Mennonite Church, Ritzville, Washington.

Present address: Route 1, Box 44, Odessa, Washington.

PAUL FREDERICK HOEFEL, born December 14, 1921, in Odessa, Washington. Attended grade school in Adams County School District #51, and graduated from Odessa High School in 1939. Attended Washington State College, Pullman, Washington, 1939-1940. Served in the Army Air Force during World War II. Graduated from Photographer's School at Lowry Air Force Base, Denver, Colorado and Army Engineers Drafting School at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Occupation: farming.

Married DORA M. SCHAFER, August 21, 1943, at Odessa, Washington, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Schafer, born January 19, 1923, at Odessa, Washington. Graduated from Odessa High School in 1940. Attended Kinman Business University, Spokane, Washington.



Paul, Gary, Julie, Beth and Dora-1961

8th 1921 Page 21

Robert



very rich. It gradually damned on the stolid Germans that they were to be used to tame the nomadic hordes (wild Mongolian tribes called Kalmucks, Bashkirs, Kirghis, etc.), and to cultivate the virgin soil.

For the first ten years the colonists harvested only subsistence crops. They experienced much of the same life as our American pioneers upon entering the uncharted west. The government was obliged to extend credit to supply seed which always came late, and to supply flour which for years was a sour moldy rye product. Debts mounted. Moreover, the men were not permitted to leave the village to look for work. The nomadic raiders often razed whole villages and carried men away into slavery. The immigrant had hoped to come to a land of freedom, actually he had gone from liberty into slavery. In this way the Volga colony was started.

The struggle of the Russia Germans to make progress was slow. The first cellar houses were dug out of the hillside called Semlenke or earth house. Then the colonists made their own bricks out of loam mixed with straw four inches thick, one foot wide and eighteen inches long. The homes were built out of these bricks. As the years unfolded the Russia Germans developed wood houses built of lumber, covered with straw first, then wood and tin. Apart from agriculture, the greatest industry on the Volga was the manufacture of grain into flour. The spinning and weaving industries were also developed on the "Bergseite", hilly side of the Volga. There were no bridges across the Volga. Crossings to the capitol, Saratov, were made by ship. In the winter the Volga would freeze over solidly so that the colonists could drive across it in sleds.

The years of change and progress in the Volga colonies were the result of constant hard work and sacrifice. The Russia Germans developed a materialistic measure of values superimposed upon strong emotional religious traditions. Success was measured by the land one possessed. At the same time the Russia German had an awareness of his past sorrows. Often when one touches upon the experience of his past sorrow, he becomes filled with emotion.

One hundred years after Catherine had called the Germans to the Volga, they had progressed to a level of farming leadership in Russia. Their villages were clean. The Germans had introduced water systems into their villages. Their farms were models of productivity to all the native Russians. They were prosperous." (End of quote)

Why then did the individual Russia German leave Russia? Victor Donis, presently of Ritzville, Washington, was a teacher in Russia and a successful business man in this country, relates that emigration was almost entirely due to economical conditions. In the Volga territory the lands were owned by the community and not by individuals. The Russians said "The women have no souls" so land was divided among the masculine souls of the colony. Every twelve years the land was redistributed among the increased number of masculine souls. Thus, with time the parcels of land became so small that subsistence on them became a problem. In 1816 there were 10.4 dessiatines per soul (dusch), but in 1941, only 3.2 dessiatines. The per capita reduction of land available to the colonists brought pressure for renewed emigration.

The first migration of Volga Russia Germans to the United States occurred in 1876. Landing in New York, they were taken in hand by land agents to homesteads in Wisconsin. But the old-world settlers found the woods and forests of the upper midwest completely unlike the Russian steppes, and soon most of them moved on to the prairies of Nebraska. There Lincoln, Nebraska, became an unofficial "clearing house" for practically all of the Russia Germans migrating to the United States.

Successive dry years discouraged the immigrants in Nebraska and by alternate covered wagon and rail transportation they began moving westward. They reached Baker, Oregon, at the height of its mining boom, continued to Walla Walla, Washington, and in 1883 the first of them settled on the unbroken prairie lands west of Ritzville, Washington.

Among the earliest Volga Germans who came west from Nebraska by covered wagons, since there were yet no railroads, to take up homesteads in the Ritzville area in 1884 were the Bauers, Rosenoffs, Thiels, Kochs, Reibers, Schafers, Oestreichs, Kanzlers and others. Some of the immigrants worked on the still expanding railroads. Others who came to the Ritzville territory shortly after were: Adler, Amen, Bastron, Becker, Benzel, Borgens, Braun, Helmbigner, Klehn, Kramer, Lenhart, Miller, Nauditt, Pfennig, Rehn, Rogel, Schafer, Schoessler, Wagner, Weber, Weizel, Wolsborn and others. Volga Germans who settled in the Endicott-LaCrosse territory were: Morasch, Fuchs, Schmick, Hegert, Mohn, Repp, Weitz, Kaiser, etc.

These people came from the Volga German colonies on the west side of the Volga, located in the state of Saratov, with the capitol Saratov,

HAROLD HOEFEL, born March 30, 1924, on the farm 12 miles south of Odessa, Washington. Attended grade school in Adams County School District #51 and graduated from Odessa High School in 1941. Attended Washington State College a year and a half before enlisting in Reserve Corps of the Army Air Force, November 1942. Graduated from Los Vegas Aerial Gunnery School in 1944. Graduated from Victorville, California Bombardier School in 1944. Served with 8th Air Force in England during World War II as a Bombardier-Navigator on B-24's. Discharged November 1945 with rank of 2nd Lieutenant. Occupation: farmer.

Married EMOGENE FRANCES STARKEL, December 30, 1949, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Starkel, Odessa, Washington, born May 15, 1930. Graduated from Odessa High School in 1948, attended Kinman Business University, Spokane, Washington. Worked for the Odessa Trading Company Odessa, Washington.

Children: PATRICIA SUE, born November 28, 1950, Odessa, Washington.  
KAREN JOY, born June 30, 1953, Odessa, Washington.

They are members of the United Congregational Church in Odessa, Washington.

Present address: Odessa, Washington.



Harold, Karen, Patricia and Emogene-1964

Robert P. Allen



also on the west side. The German colonies on the east side were located in the state of Samara with the capitol Samara. Names of the colonies and their population on the west side were: Saratov about 2500; Jagodnaja Poljana 8000; Norka 14,000; Huck 9000; Kolb 3500; Walter 6000; Frank 11,000; Messer 5000; Moor 5000; Grimm 10,000; Dietel 6000; Dönhof 8000; Stephan 6000; and many more. As the population in the colonies increased rapidly, additional land was allotted which was from ten to sixty miles away, and some of these new settlements carried the name of the mother colony, so there were Neu Messer, Neu Balzer, Neu Dönhof, Neu Norka, Neu Schilling, etc.

Colonies on the east side of the Volga were: Katharinenstadt 9000; Boara 5000; Basel 4000; Barataewka 4000; Orłowski 6000; Paulskoi 3000; Rosenheim 4000; Krasnojarsk 7900; Reinwald 5000; Stahl 4000; Warenburg 8000; Brunental 4000; Wiesemüller 5000; Names of Catholic colonies were: Saratov 4000; Martenfeld 2000; Semenowka 6000; Gebel 3000; Köhler 5000; Brabander 3600; Kamenka 5000; Pfeifer 4000; Rohleder 4000; Martental 7000; Otrogowka 4000, etc. Each of the Volga colonies also had a Russian name.

#### VOLGA RUSSIA GERMANS - 1764 - 1941

What has become of the Volga Germans in Russia? Victor Donis who still corresponds with relatives in Russia, relates that after the Revolution in 1917, the German settlements became known as the Volga German Republic. However, in 1941, when Hitler's army swept into Russia and approached the Volga region, this republic was dissolved by the Moscow government and the half million people were exiled to Siberia where they were distributed among the various new industrial cities that had grown up in the mining regions. Some were settled in the prairie belt and many east of the Caspian Sea in the Khasakstan district where new lands were opened for cultivation.

This was the end of the Volga German Republic as a unit. They had lived along the middle of the Volga territory for 187 years.

#### THE BLACK SEA BESSARABIA GERMANS

The second colonization policy and program was issued by Czar Alexander I of Russia, in his ukase of November 29, 1813, directed mostly to people in Germany and some who had emigrated to Poland. The call was to settle the Province of Bessarabia on the Black Sea. There is a more detailed description of this colonization in this book since our forefathers were part of this emigration.

The inducements offered by Russia to the immigrants were about the same as to the people on the Volga in July 22, 1763, with the exception that the Bessarabia settlers would receive 60 desiatines of land which they would own, could sell or buy more land. This set the second great German emigration in motion. It began in the fall of 1814 and continued until 1817. The areas settled by these people were called the Black Sea colonies.

About one hundred years after their arrival in Bessarabia, these colonists too made great progress, became prosperous and their population increased. The available farming land was limited and became expensive and their economic problems increased. They again needed more room for expansion.

Letters received from friends who had previously emigrated to America told about the wonderful new world and the great opportunities, and shortly many hundreds started to emigrate to the United States, settling in the Dakotas while others settled in the Inland Empire of the State of Washington.

Our family (Hoefel) came direct from Bessarabia to Ritzville, Washington, in 1901. A few years later the height of immigration reached its peak. All of the Black Sea Germans came from an agricultural territory and were again looking for land to cultivate. Many of them came to the State of Washington and helped to build a prosperous agricultural Inland Empire. Their sons and daughters became prominent in many walks of life - ministers, doctors, lawyers, teachers and some became active in politics.

Familiar names among the pioneer families of the Inland Empire who came from Bessarabia and settled in the Ritzville-Odesa area are: Bischoff, Braun, Frieske, Hoefel, Janke, Jasman, Jeske, Kappel, Juch, Raugust, Salo, Schimke, Schmauder, Gust, Wahl, Ferdner, Floether, Gross, Kagele, Kautz, Kison, Schulz, Sackmann, Sauer, Leib, Lobe, Maler, Suko, Ottmar, Rieker, Blum, Roloff, Schell, Stengel, Grams, Pflugrath, Becker, Fode, Klesz, Klein, Knodel, Schutz, Miller, Quast, Ochs, Oster, Stelzer, Stumpf, Stehr, Welsaar, Hille, Wenz, Hease, Hoffman, Kietke and others.

FRIEDRICH (FRED W.) HOEFEL born November 4, 1890, in Dennewitz, Russia, son of Friedrich and Theresia Hoefel. Died of a heart attack on June 27, 1945, in Ritzville, Washington, at the age of 55.

Attended school in Basyrjamka, Russia, until the age of 11. Arrived with parents in Ritzville, Washington, December 2, 1901. Attended grade school in Adams County School District #51. Graduated from business college in Spokane, Washington.

Married ALICE SHAW in Anchorage, Alaska, on October 14, 1917. Born January 8, 1890 in Wayzata, Minnesota, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Shaw.

Before the first World War, Fred was employed by the U. S. Government in Anchorage, after three years he returned to Seattle and later came to Ritzville. In 1921 Fred, John and David purchased the Ford Agency and business in Colton, Washington. Fred was manager and John mechanic. After three years the business was discontinued.

Fred and family moved to Clarkston, Washington, where he was a salesman for the Dodge dealer in Lewiston, Idaho. Later he became an insurance agent for the Business Men's Assurance Company of Kansas City Missouri. After Nine years he moved to Spokane and shortly after to Ritzville, where he devoted all of his time to the insurance business.

While in Ritzville, Fred was chairman of the County Finance Committee for the Third War Loan and was directing the Seventh War Loan at the time of his death.

President of the Ritzville Chamber of Commerce in 1938. Member of Ritzville Lions Club and Masonic Lodge of Colton, Washington. Fred and Alice were members of the Trinity Methodist Church of Ritzville, where Fred sang in the choir for many years.

His hobbies were fishing and hunting.

One son: Frederick Ronald Hoefel.



Fred in Alaska



Fred and Alice-1917

1941



These families came from 150 German villages located in Bessarabia, (Kreits Akkerman) - Borodino 2719, Krasna 3511, Beresina 2653, Klostitz 3212, Kulm 1711, Leipzig 2302, Friedenstal 2194, Dennewitz 554, Hoff-tungstal 1930, Mansburg 944, Neu-Postal 383, Sarata 2139, Gnadenal 210, Lichtenal 2067, Basyrjamka 386, and others.

### THE MENNONITES FROM THE MENNONITE COLONIES OF SOUTH RUSSIA

QUOTE

"In 1786 Danzig Lutherans founded the colony of Old-Danzig, near Elizabethgrad. In 1787 began the emigration of the Mennonites from Prussia which continued for three decades. In 1789, Mosephthal, Jam-burg and Pybalsk were founded. In 1803 Commissar Ziegler brought 2900 Germans to south Russia. In 1804, four hundred and two families ar-rived. In this way the colonies around Odessa, Russia, originated. The Mennonites constituted a third group of Germans who came by way of Russia to the Inland Empire. They settled primarily around the Mennonite Church area west of Ritzville.

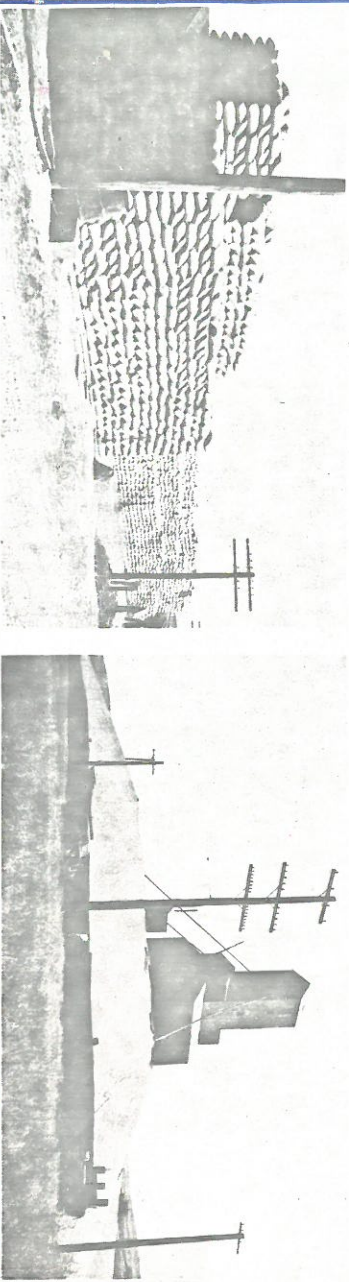
All Russia Mennonites trace their origin back to the commonwealth of the German Mennonite colonies which flourished in the Ukraine since the time of Empress Catherine the Great. In the 1870's Russia German Mennonites migrated to North Dakota, Kansas, Nebraska and Minnesota. The Mennonite communities in the United States are mostly of Swiss-German and South German origin. Mennonite history is determined not so much by a preconceived ideal of a perfect society, but by the inde-fatigable search for a form of social life according to the Bible. Their story is one of search and hope, not of rigid insistence upon the definite form of perfection, and thus permits a more general appli-cation because it is so deeply human. They live in reality.

The story of Mennonitism itself presents a colorful offshoot of the social and religious movement which, in the sixteenth century revolutionized the social fabric of Western civilization. The religi-ous communities of the Protestant "left-wing" became known as Ana-baptists. One of the outstanding leaders of the Evangelical Anabaptist movement in the Netherlands was Menno Simons. Menno's movement became the rallying point for Evangelical Anabaptists. Today this religious tradition carries the name of "Mennonite." Our Inland Empire community, about twenty miles west of Ritzville, was born of this tradition.

It is interesting to note that Mennonites have contributed much to the development of better wheat in the United States. The National Geographic Magazine in a story on Kansas, August 1937, states: "Until Mennonites settled here (Kansas) in 1873, little wheat was grown. From Russia, however, these immigrants brought a new variety-red winter grain so hard that millers at first had trouble grinding it." It was quite a natural move for the Mennonites to make when they settled on home-steads west of Ritzville. The flat rich ground resembled the terrain of the Ukraine areas from which they had come. Growing wheat had been traditionally one of their specialties.

Most of the Mennonites who settled in the Inland Empire, or more specific, west of Ritzville, came shortly before and after the year 1900. Prominent names among the Mennonite families are - Gerings, Schrag, Waltnier, Franz, Allert, Graber, Janzen, Jantz, Krebiel, Night-tingale, Dirks, Ensz, Welty, Steiner and others.

Because of the fact that upon their arrival in the United States, the Russia Germans felt no complete allegiance to either Germany or Russia, it was easy for them to break off all European political ties and develop a feeling of loyalty to the United States. In addition, their honesty, hospitality, law-abiding spirit and unusual thrift and industry have made them a definite asset to every community in which they have settled." (End of Quote)



Sacked and bulk wheat received at a warehouse.

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Frederick and Mary Lee-1965

FREDERICK RONALD HOEFEL, born September 16, 1921, in Clarkston, Washington, son of Fred W. and Alice Hoefel. Attended Clarkston and Ritzville grade schools and graduated from Ritzville High School in 1939 and from Eastern Washington College, Cheney, Washington, in 1943.

Married MARY LEE BELL June 18, 1944, at Newport, Washington, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Bell, born November 9, 1921 in Newport. Graduated from Newport High School in 1939 and from Eastern Washington College, Cheney, in 1943. She is teaching at the Shrine Hospital, Spokane.

During World War II, Fred was employed by the Civil Aeronautics Administration as Control Tower operator, stationed at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Las Vegas, Nevada, Oakland, Santa Barbara, Madera, California and Yakima, Washington.

Since 1946 he has been employed by the Spokane School system.

In 1959, he received his Master's Degree from Eastern Washington College of Education, Cheney, Washington

Present address: W. 232-34th ave., Spokane, Washington



One hundred twenty-five years had passed since the arrival of the German settlers in Bessarabia in 1814, and most all ties with the homeland were lost. They had become loyal and law-abiding Russian citizens. After the first world war in 1918, Bessarabia was annexed by Rumania and the German settlers in Bessarabia became citizens of Rumania.

In June 1940, Russia compelled Rumania to return Bessarabia and the German settlers again became citizens of Russia. It soon became apparent that they were no longer wanted in Russia because of their refusal to be assimilated into the Russian doctrine of communism.

The prospect of transferring all the German settlers to Siberia was being considered. However, Germany (Hitler) and Russia (Stalin) made an agreement that all who wanted to return to Germany could do so but that they must leave Russia immediately and Hitler agreed to absorb them into the German Reich. A commission was appointed to appraise and make a record of the properties which the settlers had to leave behind and for which the German government agreed to reimburse them later. A summons was posted that September 15, 1940, was the date set for the beginning of the deportation of over 90,000 people, which was to be carried out in the shortest time possible.

The emigration to Germany began in October 1940. The old men, women and children went by train to Reni, a port on the Danube in Russia. On October 10, the younger men with loaded wagons gathered for a roll call by a Russian officer and amid the ringing of church bells began the long trek to the border. In three days they arrived in Reni from where they crossed over into Rumania and spent several days in Galatz where they met several thousand of their people from different villages. There their possessions were loaded onto freight ships and arrived in Germany before the people. There also were left the horses and wagons. From Galatz the people went by ship on the Danube and later by train into Germany. On their arrival in Germany they were put up in large camps where food and shelter were provided by the German government.

In January 1941, the settlers received their German citizenship. They lived in camps until September 1941, when the resettling began. Some were placed on small farms in Poland while others settled in villages. For four years the new settlers worked hard to start a new life and progressed.

When the war between Germany and Russia started in 1941, many of the young men were drafted into the German military and police services, were crippled or lost their lives, while others were taken prisoners, never to return.

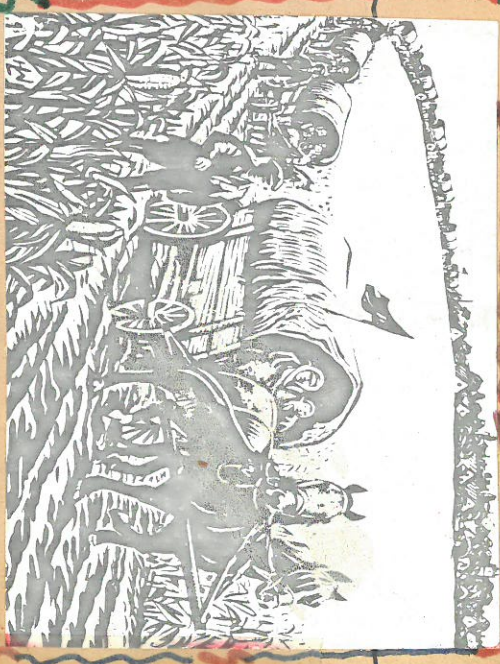
After the defeat of the German armies in Russia, the Bessarabian settlers, now mostly women, children and older men, fled to western Germany before the arrival of the Russian army. This took place during one of the coldest winters with very little transportation available. Families became separated, many froze or starved to death while others perished from sickness. Those who survived and reached west Germany were placed in overcrowded homes and in barns. There was a scarcity of food to the point of starvation. The majority of the refugees landed in the Württemberg territory in southern Germany. Some are still living in east Germany, the Russian Zone, a few came to the United States and Canada.

Several years ago the German government opened offices in Stuttgart to check the appraisals of the properties left in Russia and is paying its obligations to the resettled Bessarabians.

This was the end of the German people in Bessarabia who went to Russia over a century ago and changed a bleak and desolate territory into a prosperous and thriving land. They left behind 150 villages, their homes, churches and schools and their well developed farm lands.



Thanksgiving dinner at home of Emma and Albert Wolsborn.-1950



Edna and John after a hunting trip.



Philipians 4:8

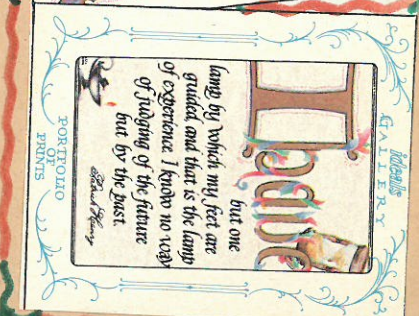
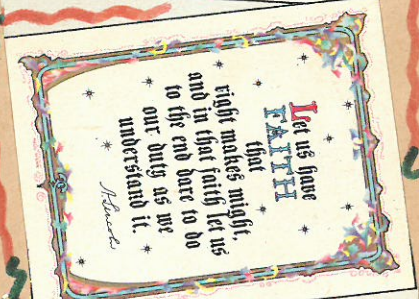
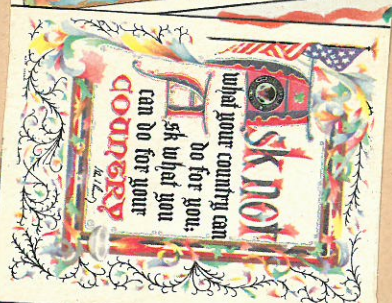
Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things, are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.



# OUR COUNTRY

As children of an immigrant family, we are grateful and proud to be citizens of the United States of America. We realize that there were many here before us who worked and sacrificed to make this great country possible. However, we wish to mention only a few great Americans who through their leadership, sacrifice, speeches and prayers are constantly reminding us of our wonderful heritage, the freedom which we have and also of our obligations.

It is with this feeling of admiration that we wish to embrace them as an example in our brief family album.



ALMIGHTY GOD: we make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy holy protection, that Thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government; and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States at large. And, finally, that Thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy and to demean ourselves with charity, humility and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without an humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation. Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen....

G. Washington



EMIL HOEFEL, born September 25, 1892, in Basyrjamka, Russia, son of Friedrich and Theresia Hoefel.

Attended German and Russian schools in Basyrjamka, to the age of 9 years, and grade school in Adams County School District No. 51. Attended Klman Business University in 1916 in Spokane, Washington.

He was inducted into the U. S. Army September 1917. Served as bugler with Field Artillery in France. Returned to the United States after the Armistice and received his discharge in 1919.

On leaving for military service he sold his farm equipment to Robert Hoefel and bought it again on his return. After harvest of 1923, Emil again sold his equipment to Robert, who continued to farm the home place.

Married ALMA MARTHA MORACH, November 20, 1919, at Ritzville, Washington, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Jakob Morach. Born February 13, 1897 in Princeton, Nebraska. Alma graduated from Ritzville High School in 1915 and attended Washington State College in Pullman for three years.

In 1923, Emil and family moved to Odessa, Washington, where he worked until 1925 when he started working for the Standard Oil Company. He was transferred to Washuena and then to Ritzville and in 1940 he was transferred to Spokane, Washington. He retired from the Standard Oil Company in 1957 after 32 years of service.

Emil and Alma are members of Lincoln Heights Congregational Church. Emil has been a member of the choir for 20 years and Alma was active in Women's Fellowship area work and now works with the young people.

His hobbies are fishing, gardening and wood working.

They have two children: Theodore and JoAnn.

Present address: East 3503 - 28th Avenue, Spokane, Washington.

Children: Mark Richard, born May 21, 1951, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Jena, born August 10, 1953, and Dale James, born March 5, 1956, in Spokane, Washington.

They are members of the First United Presbyterian Church of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Present address: 621 No. 20th, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.



Dave Hoefel gave me these books of their family history with his permission to incorporate it into the Ritzville High School history under those members of his family who have graduated. Roy Gilson



Geo. Washington

To Dr. Le Roy E. Gilson,

I asked him for copies of the Hoefel Family History and he very generously did so.

From David Hoefel, Ritzville, Wash.

May 28, 1966

Dave Hoefel - a fine gentleman

BEAUTIFUL HANDWRITING - Roy Gilson 1909



# CHURCH

Page 33

Congregationalism was carried to this land by colonizers seeking religious freedom. These early settlers wanted to be free to establish the kind of church and community life they desired. Other groups coming to America also wanted above all else to be free from interference. Under Congregational policy, each congregation is a self-contained unit. It has its own constitution and creed and is free to conduct its own affairs within the denomination. Each individual member has the right to work out his own spiritual destiny, under Christ, in his own way.

It was the Congregational denomination which provided much missionary assistance to the immigrants from the Black Sea and Volga territories in Russia and assisted them in building churches and in supplying German ministers. This help was greatly appreciated and believing in the Congregational creed, many became members of this denomination.

On March 2, 1904, a meeting was held by a number of settlers in our immediate district, with Rev. J. C. Schwabenland from Odessa, Washington, to organize a church. It was agreed to adopt the constitution of the Congregational denomination and call it the German Congregational Zoar Church. Services continued to be held in District 51 schoolhouse until 1907.

The following officers were elected:

Deacons - Friedrich Hoefel and Wilhelm Frieske  
Secretary - Friedrich Hoefel  
Treasurer - David Müller  
Sunday School Superintendent - Wilhelm Frieske  
Assistant Superintendent - Emanuel Salo

By March 4, 1907, several new members were added to the Zoar church organization and it was decided then to build a church. An acre of land for this purpose was purchased from Wilhelm Frieske for \$30.00, which was located on the NE corner of Section 9, Township 19, Range 33 E, and on which was also established a cemetery. An application was immediately made to the State for the incorporation of the church.

The cornerstone was laid on May 31, 1907. Building was begun at once and the church was dedicated on June 23, 1907. All labor was done by the church members.

In December 1909, an organ was purchased from Sears Roebuck & Co. for \$59.58, plus freight of \$12.00, which totaled \$61.58.

After Father's death in 1912, Robert took an active part in all church activities.

On January 4, 1921, Emil and Alma Hoefel became members and Emil was elected secretary.

On December 28, 1926, a committee was appointed to purchase a piano, not to cost more than \$225.00.

On October 29, 1928, a special meeting was called by the Treasurer, George Stumpf. He reported that the church was without a minister and that about half of the members had moved away. It was decided to close the doors of the Zoar church for one year and if conditions should change, it would be opened again. It was also agreed to sell certain items at once, the piano, organ, light fixtures, etc., with the money received and all other church money in the treasury to be deposited in a bank in Odessa, Washington. Should the church be closed permanently after one year, all of the money received from the sale of all property was to be given to Missions.

The Zoar church did not reopen, and in 1936 the church building was taken down.

From the beginning of the organization of the church and to the end of his life, father was the leading and guiding spirit to promote the religious life in his community. He gave freely of his time and energy to this church. The Zoar church was also well known as the Hoefel church.

Ministers who served the Zoar Church

The Zoar Church did not have a large membership at any time and was dependent in sharing ministers with other churches. Rev. J. C. Schwabenland who organized the church served it only on certain occasions.



GERMAN CONGREGATIONAL ZOAR CHURCH

## THE CHURCH

The Church is God's community on earth. It has no legitimate life of its own—only the life which God gives to it. Its mission is the fulfillment of God's redemptive purpose for men. Both its life and its mission we see and know in Jesus Christ.



### Charter Members -

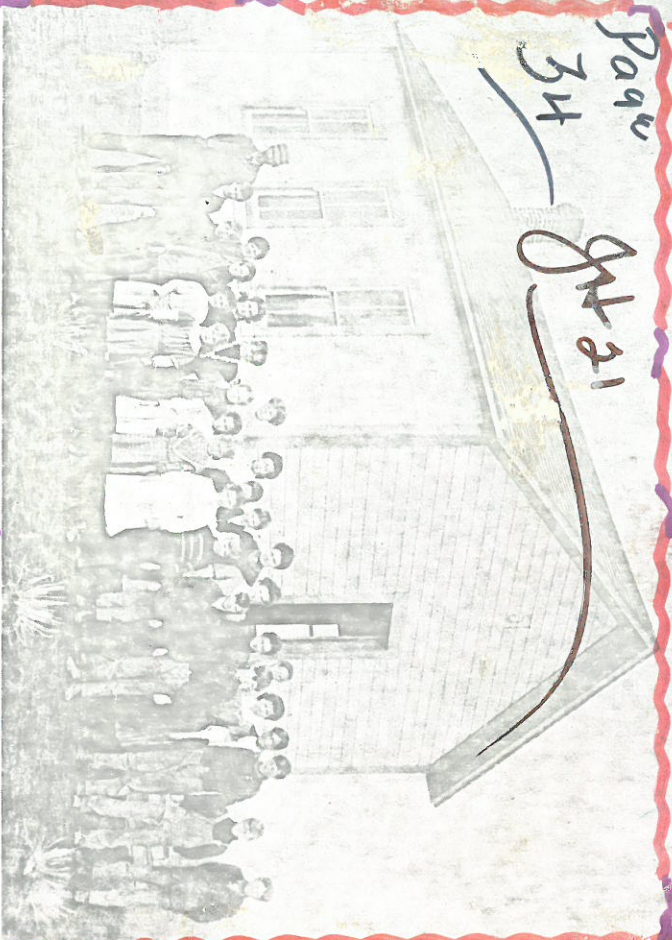
Friedrich and Theresia Hoefel  
Johann and Christina Weber  
Johann Sr. and Wilhelmina Sauer  
Christof and Wilhelmina Frieske  
Christian and Emilie Müller  
Johann Jr. and Lydia Sauer  
Emanuel and Mathilda Salo  
David and Rosina Sauer  
Wilhelm and Louise Frieske

### Ministers who served the church were

Rev. A. Fischer	1903-04
Rev. G. Rieker	1904-06
Rev. J. Hoffman	1907-08
Rev. P. Bettex	1909-10
Rev. A. Gettmann	1910-11
Rev. G. Keppler	1913-18
Rev. J. Sauer	1918
Rev. W. Aumann	1919-20
Rev. G. Keppler	1921-23
Rev. A. Franke	1923-24
Rev. A. Delabarre	1924-25
Rev. C. Schatz	1925-26
Rev. A. Delabarre	1927-28

Lebe wie du wen du stirbst,  
Wünschen wirst gelebt zu haben.





Front row - Ike Reiman, Carl Hoefel, Chris Hoefel, Bertha Frieske, Ella Triebwasser, Ruth Hoefel, Anna Hoefel, Matilda Frieske, Martha Lamb, Jessie C. Hinton (teacher), Garfield Reiman. Back Row - Bernard Triebwasser, Reinhold Frieske, Lester Lamb, Jake Hoefel, Eddie Triebwasser, Martha Frieske.

Adams County School District #51 - 1908  
 Joe Lamb, Director; Gus Frieske, Reinhold Frieske, Roy Lamb, Fred Miller, Emma Deeg, Emma Hoefel, Anna Hoefel, Sophia Miller, Martha Frieske, Mable Lamb, Martha Romple, Malitia Frieske, Minnie Romple, Martha Lamb, Don Romple, John Frieske, Jake Hoefel, Grace M. Engstrom, Teacher; Reinhold Kosanke, Leontina Hoefel, Ted Frieske, Lester Lamb, Samuel Kosanke, Emma Frieske, Daniel Frieske, Fred Deeg, John Hoefel, Simon Kosanke

We and the Miller's were very fortunate in having the District 51 schoolhouse so near our homes. It had opened in the fall of 1901 and in January 1902, shortly after our arrival, David, Robert, Fred, Emil and Leontine started to attend this school. It was located a half mile north of our home and two miles from the Millers. Later it was moved to within a fourth mile of our house. All of the Hoefel children except Edna, started school in this building.

No transportation was ever provided for the pupils, no matter how far they lived from the school. Some had to walk several miles across the fields which was especially hard for the younger children during the winter months. Twenty-five years later when most country schools became consolidated with the town schools, comfortable buses picked up the children practically at their doorsteps.

Most all rural schools were built on the same plan. The school room which took care of all the classes was entered from a vestibule where the coats were hung. Here were also kept the lunch pails and the water bucket with its long-handled dipper, and the wash basin with the community towel. In the winter the lunch pails were lined up against the wall behind the stove to keep the food from freezing or to thaw the food which froze on the way to school. The wood and coal heater which was in the main room had a steel jacket around it for heat circulation.

About 40 pupils made up the eight grades which one teacher taught, making from 35 to 40 classes a day. While the teacher was busy with the older students, others helped with the primary grades. The teacher was also the playground supervisor and took part in all the games. The only windows in the schoolhouse were along the north wall and from experience the baseball field was on the windowless side. The school yard was roughly a city block in size, fenced in on the corner of a wheat field. A small barn occupied one corner of the rectangle and the "His" and "Her" conveniences were in opposite corners along the back fence. The schoolhouse was usually kept in good repair by volunteer labor by the parents. Many schools had a bell and the most coveted favor was to ring it.

The teachers boarded out among the families of the pupils, usually nearest the schoolhouse. Later, before consolidation took place, some districts built teachers' cottages. The salary paid by District No. 51 in 1901, was \$50 a month, and was raised to \$120 by 1924. The school year lasted all the way from sixteen to thirty-two weeks. Many teachers were young and inexperienced and at times found it difficult to handle the big boys but they learned fast. Many of the women teachers married local men and became part of the community.

The early 1900's was the transition period for Adams County. The first generation were immigrants and spoke the language of their fatherland and brought the pattern of their living with them. The second generation, their children, adopted the American way of life and almost completely lost contact with their relatives and friends left behind, and the customs of the countries from which their parents had come. Over the years the school was probably the greatest single factor in

# SCHOOL





Left to right - Bervia Frieske, Ruth Hoefel, Ike Relman, Martha Lamb, Carl Hoefel, Martin Slate, Chris Hoefel, Ella Triebwasser, Anna Hoefel, Garfield Relman, Bernard Triebwasser, Jake Hoefel, Eddie Triebwasser and Reinhold Frieske.

After school had been in session for some weeks, an evening program was planned to which the parents and neighbors were invited. In preparation for it an eagle with spread wings was drawn on the blackboard and a curtain installed, as it was to be a variety program of singing, reciting and a short "western" skit to end the evening.

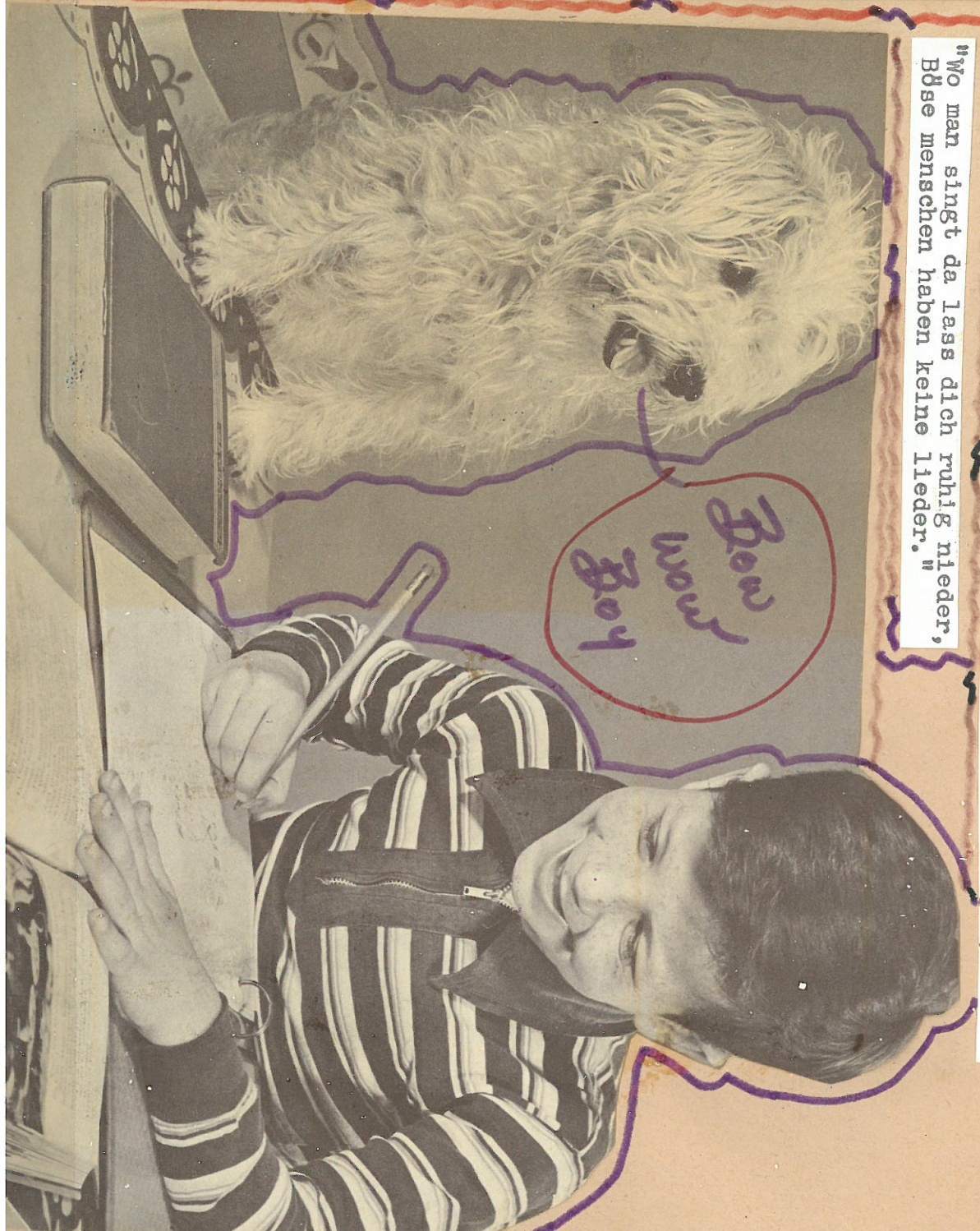
Being short of actors, Dave was given a part in this play. He was to say a few words near the end and fire a gun, no mention being made about the size of the gun. When his turn came he said the few words, pulled the trigger and fired the old 45 caliber pistol. In the small room it sounded like a cannon, it rattled all the windows and the stovepipe, the women screamed and the children cried and badly scared all of the audience and nearly wrecked the end of the play. After that his acting career was at an end.

bringing about this complete assimilation of so many people from so many different parts of the world.

As beginners in a new language, it was embarrassing at times for the older pupils to start at the bottom, learning to spell dog, cat, rat, etc., with the younger children, and when answering roll call to say "absent," when they were present, but we could tell when we were wrong on seeing the teacher smile or the other children laugh.

"Wo man singt da lass dich ruhig nieder,  
Böse menschen haben keine lieder."

Good  
woman  
Boy



When September Comes

Enola Chamberlin

It is September now, and school has started.  
The bells are gay, but I am heavy-hearted.  
For you, who were a babe but yesterday,  
Have gripped a pencil, started on your way  
To learn the things the world would have you know  
To pick, yourself, the path where you must go.

Now I no longer am your all in all,  
But just your starting point . . . the heart-high wall  
From which you leap to enter on your flight . . .  
God grant your skies be calm and blue and bright,  
I would not have you stay, the gift of years  
Is yours, but still I shed these foolish tears.



We harvested our first two crops, 1902 and 1903, with a McCormick 12-foot cut, push type header machine. This took six men, twelve horses, three wagons with header boxes to haul the grain from the header to be stacked for threshing. These two crops were custom threshed, that is, about 5¢ or 6¢ per bushel was paid to the man who furnished the threshing outfit.

After the arrival of the Frieske families we pooled our harvesting machinery, livestock and manpower to harvest more efficiently. This partnership purchased a 28 f.n. Gilbert Hunt "Pride of Washington" threshing machine, manufactured in Walla Walla, Washington, which was operated by horsepower. We now used 2 headers, 24 horses and 12 men and after the grain was cut and stacked we did our own threshing. After the grain was threshed it was put in sacks which were sewn shut by hand, each weighing about 130 to 140 pounds, piled near the straw stacks and later hauled to the farm or warehouse in town.



1904-Threshing operation using steam engine

Still later in 1906, we purchased a larger threshing machine, a 32 inch Gase operated by a Gase self-propelled steam engine. Straw was used to fire this engine. With this larger equipment we used a combination of three headers, nine wagons with boxes, which delivered the cut grain direct to the threshing machine, eliminating a number of operations and saving grain and time. To harvest in this manner 30 men and 46 head of horses were needed so the younger boys came in handy for driving the teams. One man was kept busy driving to town every day for repairs, food and supplies, and new men were constantly being hired as not many cared to work very long in the harvest field.



1906-One of first 20 foot cut, 33 head mule and horse combine.

In this last harvest operation two neighbors, David Miller and Samuel Triebwasser, added their equipment to make this operation possible. Every boy old enough to work was assigned a job. David was an oiler, assistant separator tender and sack sewer, Robert was an and steam engineer. Fred was usually the "all around handy man", Emil was separator tender of the large threshing machine, John was expert roustabout and Jake started with taking care of the strawstacks. However, each one performed many other jobs during the several harvest seasons before the arrival of the combine harvester.



1908-Ritzville, bread basket of the world.

During harvest time all hands slept on and around the grain and straw stacks. The men and horses were fed by the family whose grain was being cut. This was a very busy time for Mother and the two girls. To prepare the food for so many people with the minimum of equipment in a small kitchen and with no refrigeration, was a tremendous job. After to run to when something was forgotten, was a tremendous job. After the meals were eaten the dishes had to be washed which meant long hours of work for Leontina and Emma. Mother also had to bake the bread every day for around 30 people, which makes life seem very simple today.

Later, cook houses were used in which the food was prepared and which were marked near the threshing areas.



Leontine Hoefel, Anna Gering, Emil Hoefel and John Blum in front of our cook house.

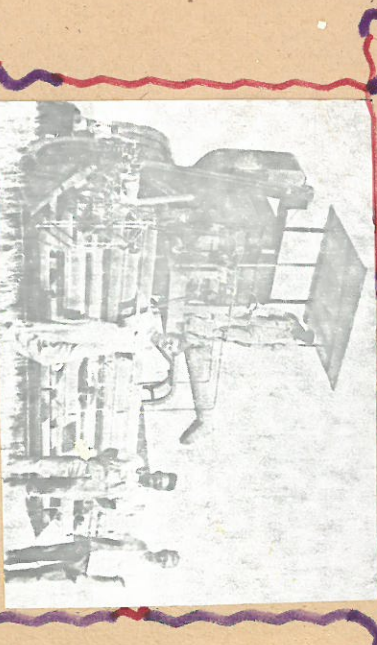


A threshing cook house stationed in the open field in which two cooks prepared and fed the threshing crew.

-Louise and Rebecca Miller



Left to right-Ben Sitton, Godfrey Sackman, William C. Allan, Eugene Hille, Wilmer Kiesz, Herb Haase, Walter Hoefel.

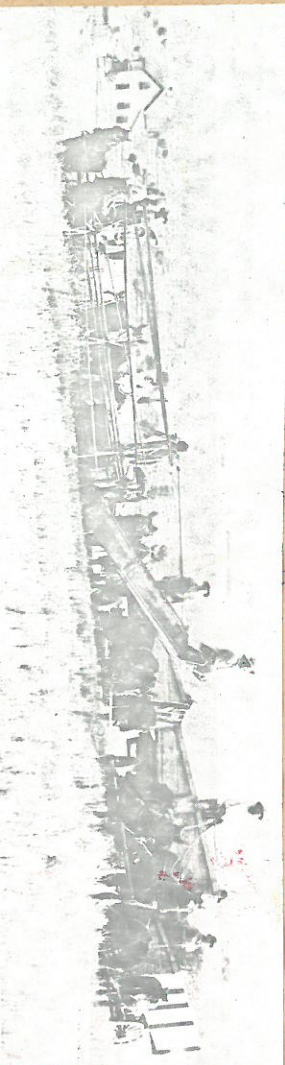


1961-Self propelled combine. Walter Hoefel on machine and Willy Niderreiter leaning on machine.



wagon about 8 x 20 feet with wooden sides four feet high, the upper part of the walls and the top being covered with canvas. The entrance was at one end and the kitchen at the opposite end with a long table through the center of the house. Two women did the cooking, a pretty hot job since the house was in the stubble field with no shade of any kind. Leontina was one of the cooks while cooking for our harvest crew. Once our cookhouse turned over on a steep slope which caused a lot of damage to the equipment. One night the cooks were rudely awakened when the cow, which accompanied the house, had in some way gotten underneath but couldn't get up when she wanted to come out. It must have felt like an earthquake had overtaken them.

With the arrival of the horse-drawn combine our long and friendly harvest partnership came to an end. For many years during our early farming days, one of the longest and most unpleasant jobs was the delivery of the wheat from the farm to the warehouse. The nearest receiving station was Odessa, Washington, twelve miles away, and it took from August to November to get the grain into the warehouse. The road had many steep grades and was full of chuck holes. We could haul only 25 sacks on a wagon pulled by four horses at one time and it took a full day to make a round trip.



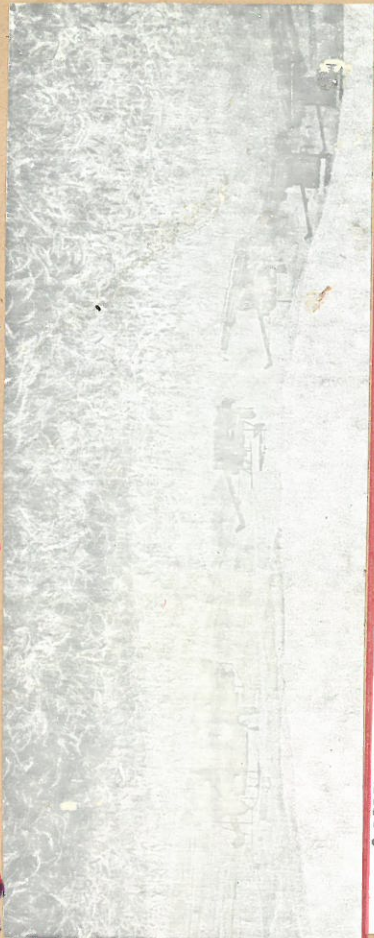
1910-Heading crew



1910-Seeding.



1924-Horse pulled, motor powered combine.



1964-Walter Hoefel with modern tractor.



Threshing crew. Front row-(2) Emil Hoefel, (3) Richard Blum. Middle row-(1) Fred Hoefel, (3) Ed Steffen, (4) Mr. Knodel, (5) John F. Hille, (6) John Hoefel. Back row-(5) Gotthilf Raugust.



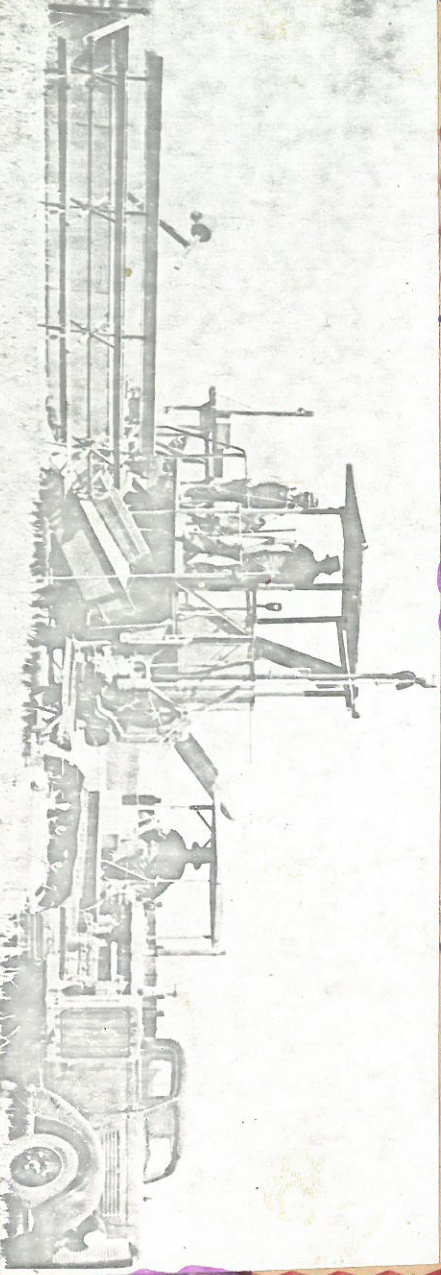
Family picnic in Clarkston, Washington-1930



Friends and relatives on fishing trip.

The longer men live,  
The more time there is to think,  
To think is to grow,  
And to grow is to live.

Dr. Edward J. Stiegitz



1926-Mechanized harvesting.



EMMA (HOEFEL) WOLSBORN, born June 17, 1896, in Basyrjamka, Russia, daughter of Friedrich and Theresia Hoefel. Arrived with parents in Ritzville, Washington, December 2, 1901. Attended grade school in Adams County School District No. 51.

Married Philip Schaffer in 1920. Divorced in 1940 after living in Portland, Oregon, for 20 years.

Married ALBERT WOLSBORN December 10, 1942, in Ritzville, son of Perry and Augusta Wolsborn, born December 24, 1889, near Ritzville. Lived near Marengo, Washington, for 30 years, retired and moved to Ritzville in 1953. Main crops were wheat and cattle.

Member of the Philadelphia Congregational Church of Ritzville, of the Men's Fellowship and Grace Chapter. Albert is also a Lion Club member of the Ho-n-Grow Garden Club. His favorite pastime is fishing.

Present address: 106 West 10th, Ritzville, Washington.

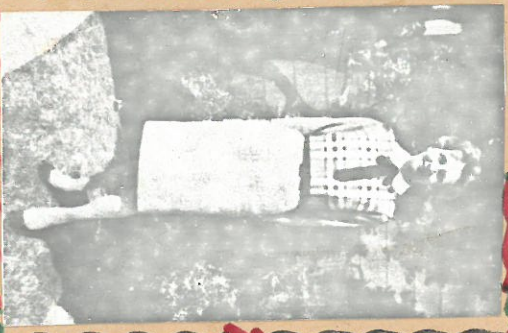
JOHN HOEFEL, born May 13, 1898, in Basyrjamka, Russia, son of Friedrich and Theresia Hoefel. Arrived with parents in Ritzville, Washington, December 2, 1901. Attended grade school in Adams County, School District No. 51.

Worked on the home farm until the age of 16. In 1916 he came to Ritzville and was employed as a mechanic for about 4 years by the Ritzville Motor Company. In 1920, David, Fred and John purchased the Ford Agency in Colton, Washington, where John served as mechanic. He returned to Ritzville after the closing of the business in 1923, and again worked for the Ritzville Motor Company, for a period of over 25 years.

Since 1955 he has been farming six miles northwest of Washtucna, Washington.

He is a member of the Philadelphia Congregational Church of Ritzville. In his younger years he played a lot of baseball and enjoyed hunting and fishing. He was Ritzville Fire Chief for 3 years.

Present address: Washtucna, Washington.



EDNA THERESIA HOEFEL, born December 21, 1912, on the home farm 16 miles west of Ritzville, Washington, daughter of Friedrich and Theresia Hoefel.

Attended Central Grade School and graduated from Ritzville High School in 1930. Attended Kinman Business University, Spokane, Washington.

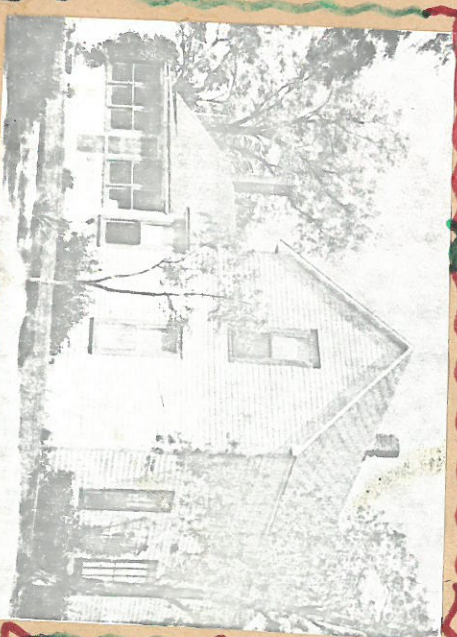
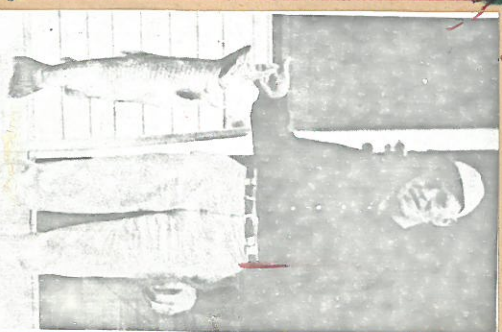
Moved to California in 1931 and worked for Commercial Credit Company for 5 months and returned to Ritzville. Worked for Richard B. Ott as secretary and at the court house in Ritzville. Worked for the Ritzville Flour Mill from 1935 to 1939. Moved again to California in 1939 and worked for Golden State Creamery for six months at Sacramento, and later in 1939 for the Standard Oil Company until 1944, during which time she was transferred to San Francisco. Worked for the Red Cross for a year at Burlingame, California. Started working for TWA - Trans World Airlines, at the San Francisco Airport in 1945 and in 1950 was transferred to Phoenix, Arizona, with TWA. In 1956 she was transferred to Fresno, California, then to Los Angeles and in 1957 to San Francisco with the reservation department. Has worked for TWA for 19 years.

Member of Philadelphia Congregational Church, Ritzville, Washington.

Present address: 961 Pine Street, Apt. 11, San Francisco, Calif.



Albert and Emma



Visiting after dinner at mother Hoefel's home in 1952



ANNA MARIA (HOEFEL) CLODIUS, born May 24, 1902, on the home farm 16 miles west of Ritzville, Washington, daughter of Friedrich and Theresa Hoefel.

Attended grade school in Adams County School District No. 51, and after moving to Ritzville in 1916 with the family, finished grade school and attended one year of high school in Ritzville.

Married CARL CHRISTOPHER CLODIUS on May 29, 1924, in Ritzville, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Clodius, born May 29, 1896, in Ritzville, Washington. Attended grade school and graduated from Ritzville High School in 1915. Attended Washington State College in Pullman for two years. Started to work for the Ritzville Trading Company in 1921. In 1937 he and his family moved to Colfax where he was in the grocery business. In 1941 they moved to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, where he again owned a grocery business. In 1957 he sold his business and retired.

They are members of the Presbyterian Church in Coeur d'Alene, where they are both active in the choir. Carl has been choir director and soloist. Anna has been active in church and community organizations. Carl's hobbies are music and fishing.

They have one son: Gerald Carl Clodius, born June 23, 1931.

Present address: 921 - 5th, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

CHRISTIAN (CHRIS) HOEFEL, born June 17, 1904, son of Friedrich and Theresa Hoefel, on the farm 16 miles west of Ritzville, Washington. He is a twin brother of Carl.

Attended grade school in Adams County School District No. 51. Worked with Emil Hoefel on the home farm until Emil moved to Odessa in 1923. In 1929 he moved to California and worked for Robert Weigum and 8 years for the Weltz Oil Company in Lodi, California, 15 years for Maco Gas Company in Lodi and 5 years for Pacific Avenue Bowl, Stockton, California, where he bowled a 300 perfect game in June, 1963.

Married Martha Thomas in 1941 and was divorced in 1960. They have one daughter, Dona LaRee, born May 28, 1943, in Lodi, California. Dona attended grade school and graduated from Lodi High School in 1961. Attended San Mateo Junior College. Married GARY LEE KEITH, March 3, 1965. Bor July 20, 1939, Jamestown, California.

Present address: 937 N. San Joaquin St., Stockton, California.



Coffee and cake at mother Hoefel's home.-1952



A gathering of Hoefel and Morach relatives, December 1960.

Front row: Dale Olesberg, Bobby Hoefel, Nancy Parish, Joe Olesberg, Ricky Hoefel, Mike Hoefel. Second row: Danny Parish, Ma Olesberg, Stevie Parish. Third row: JoAnn Olesberg, Elsie Hoefel, Rick Olesberg, Alma Hoefel, Harriet Parish, Elizabeth Guenzel, Lois Guenzel, Carl Guenzel, Dan Parish, Lydia Parish, Julia Morach, Walt Morach, Emil Hoefel and Stephen Hoefel.



Anna and Carl-1964



Dona-1961



In 1963-64, Dona was Grand Chaplin of California International Order of Rainbow Girls.



Visiting after dinner at Mother Hoefel's home in 1952







THE HOEFEL FAMILY TREE JANUARY 1, 1964  
GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT GRANDPARENTS

HANS GEORG HOEFEL --Bauer--  
Born August 27, 1692, Nufringen, Württemberg, Germany  
Died August 28, 1771, Gärtringen, Württemberg, Germany  
Married CATHARINA SCHMID in 1716  
Born in Nufringen, Württemberg, Germany  
Died, March 17, 1753

GREAT-GREAT-GREAT GRANDPARENTS

JOHANN GEORG HÖFEL --Ziegler--  
Born July 30, 1722 Gärtringen, Württemberg, Germany  
Died October 12, 1763 Gärtringen, Württemberg, Germany  
Married CHRISTINA BROSI  
Born 1723, in Beyhingen, Württemberg, Germany  
Died August 30, 1783, in Gärtringen, Württemberg, Germany

GREAT-GREAT GRANDPARENTS

JOHANN MICHAEL HÖFEL --Maurer--  
Born January 28, 1759, Gärtringen, Württemberg, Germany  
Married the second time to KATHARINA GEB. NONNEMACHERIN  
Born August 13, 1764  
Died May 15, 1800

GREAT GRANDPARENTS

ANDREAS HÖFEL --Kolontst--  
Born December 16, 1797, Bachelbronn (Baden)  
Married ELIZABETH STUCKE February 30, 1827,  
Maljaroslawetz, Bessarabia  
Born June 21, 1808, Grunbach, Polen

GRANDPARENTS

FRIEDRICH HÖFEL --Kolontst--  
Born February 14, 1832, Wittenberg, Bessarabia  
Died December 22, 1913, Dennewitz, Bessarabia  
Married KATHARINA MÜLLER January 27, 1855, in Fere-  
Champenoise, Bessarabia  
Born March 5, 1835, Wittenberg, Bessarabia  
Died February 2, 1907, in Dennewitz, Bessarabia

FATHER AND MOTHER

FRIEDRICH HÖFEL (Hoefel) --Farmer--  
Born February 22, 1864, Dennewitz, Bessarabia  
Died July 1, 1912, Ritzville, Washington  
Married THERESIA GUTSCHE February 14, 1886, in Fere-  
Champenoise, Bessarabia  
Born November 21, 1864, in Dennewitz, Bessarabia  
Died January 22, 1952, Ritzville, Washington

CHILDREN OF FRIEDRICH and THERESIA HOEFEL

DAVID HOEFEL, August 13, 1887, Dennewitz, Bessarabia  
ROBERT HOEFEL, February 20, 1889, Dennewitz, Bessarabia  
FRIEDRICH (Fred W.) HOEFEL, November 4, 1890, Dennewitz,  
Bessarabia. Died June 27, 1945, Ritzville, Washington  
EMIL HOEFEL, September 25, 1892, Basyrjamka, Bessarabia  
LEONTINE HOEFEL, June 21, 1894, Basyrjamka, Bessarabia  
EMMA HOEFEL, June 17, 1896, Basyrjamka, Bessarabia  
JOHANN HOEFEL (John), May 13, 1898, Basyrjamka, Bessarabia  
JAKOB HOEFEL (Jake), June 19, 1900, Basyrjamka, Bessarabia  
ANNA MARIA HOEFEL, May 24, 1902, Ritzville, Washington  
KARL HOEFEL (Carl), June 16, 1904, Ritzville, Washington  
CHRISTIAN HOEFEL (Chris) June 17, 1904, Ritzville, Washington  
RUTH ESTHER HOEFEL, November 5, 1905, Ritzville, Washington  
EDNA THERESIA HOEFEL, December 21, 1912, Ritzville, Washington

THE GUTSCHE FAMILY TREE January 1, 1964

GREAT GRANDPARENTS

KARL GUTSCHE  
Born June 5, 1808 in Preussen  
Married KAROLINE MANTAU in 1833, Arzis, Bessarabia  
Born June 3, 1817 in the Moldau

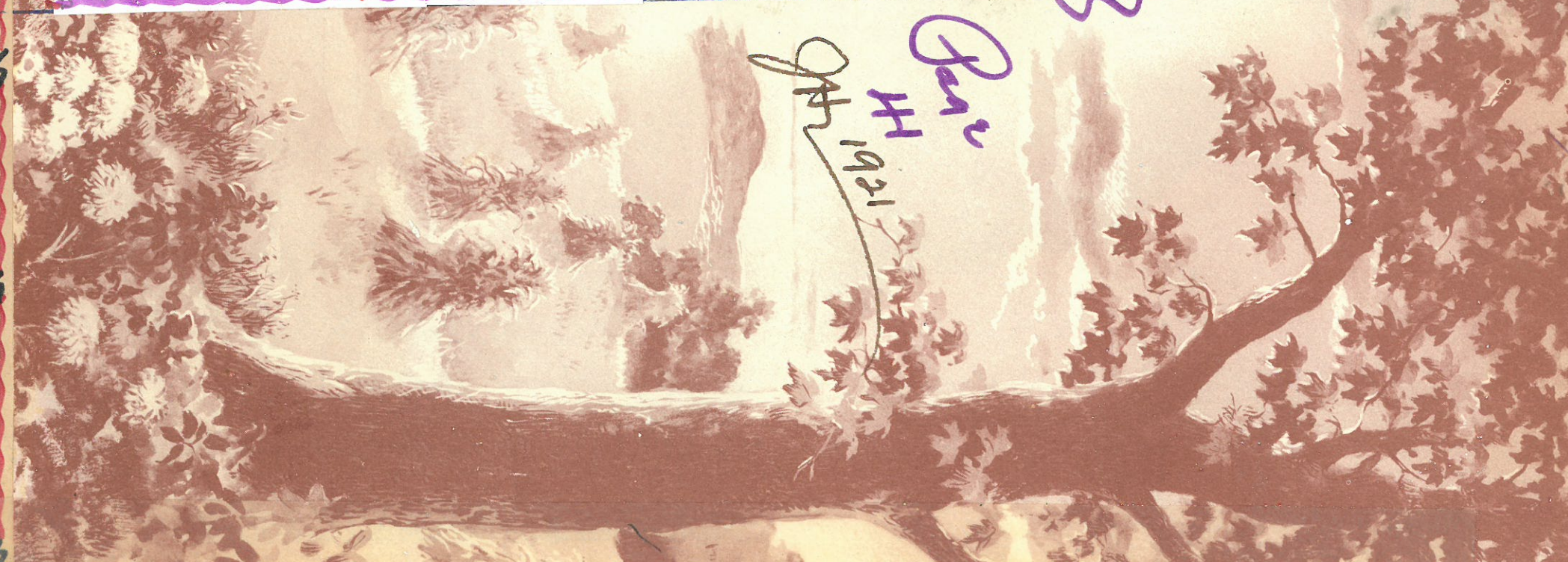
GREAT GRANDPARENTS (Parents of Magdalena Koth)

WILHEM KOTH  
Born October 9, 1807, in Kussla, Poland  
Married ANNA MARIA BELZ November 11, 1831, Tarutino  
Bessarabia  
Born in 1814 on way from Poland

February 15, 1951

Representative David Hoefel of Ritzville is co-sponsor of a bill introduced in the legislature establishing a state prison farm which he hopes would be located in Adams county. The state supreme court has affirmed the death penalty imposed on 22-year-old Wayne Odell of Steptoe for the shotgun murder of Harold (Slim) Rogers of Winona early in the morning of December 24, 1949.

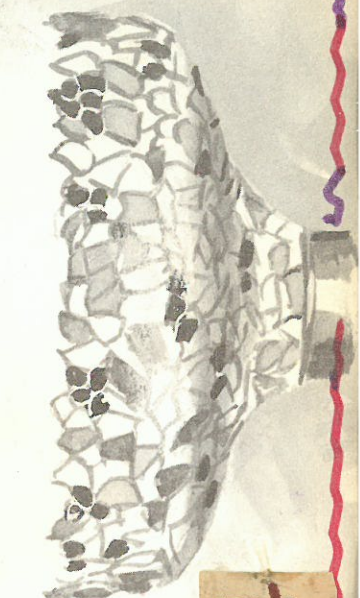
A Shorthorn bull entered by E. B. Goude and son of Hooper won the grand championship for Shorthorns at the annual Red Bluff, Calif., bull sale last week.



Jan 1921



# Mr. and Mrs. Jake Hoefel 1911 Feted for Silver Anniversary 62



## Family Reunions

Clara M. Bode

God must love family reunions, and tenderly smiles when He sees families meeting together, honoring good family trees.

Grandmas and grandpas and uncles, aunts and nieces galore, Nephews, and look at the cousins! Bet there's a dozen or more!

Here they come, toting their baskets of chicken and cookies and pies, Sandwiches, jellies and pickles, each basket a pleasing surprise.

While spreading their goodies on tables they secretly taste this and that, Discussing the newest of methods... a cake mixed in four minutes flat!

At last it's all ready. "Come, get it!" they yell to their nearly-starved men. They pause for a short table blessing, thanking God for reunion again.

And then, how they really go to it! One helping? No, usually three! The food disappears just like magic, and soon all are full as can be.

The tables are cleared away quickly, the leftovers all put away. The big folks just sit around talking, the little ones rush off to play.

The womenfolk talk about canning, the latest in jams and preserves, And finally get up to fashions... What's best? The new lines or curves?

Relatives and friends gathered Sunday afternoon at the Philadelphia Congregational church to honor Mr. and Mrs. Jake Hoefel who were observing their 25th wedding anniversary.

The Hoefels were married on October 9, 1937, by the Rev. H. Nuetzmann, pastor of the church at that time.

About 75 persons from Portland, Olympia, Spokane, Richland, Lind, Connell, Washitona, Odessa, Ritzville, and Coeur d'Alene, Ida., were present. The younger guests entertained with piano numbers, songs and a recitation.

The Rev. Herbert Haemmelmann spoke on marriage pledges, based on 1 Corinthians 13.

A history of the honored couple was read and presented to them in an anniversary book. A money gift from the group was presented to the Hoefels in a silver chest.

Mrs. Hoefel wore a white orchid on her beige brocade dress and the honored groom had a white carnation in his lapel.

A buffet supper was served by the hosts, and, afterwards a three-tiered cake was cut and served by Mrs. W. C. Moon and Mrs. Carl Clodius.

Hosts were Mr. and Mrs. Ben Senater, Mrs. Moon, Mr. and

Mrs. Albert Wolsborn, Mr. and Mrs. Clodius, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hoefel and Mr. and Mrs. David Hoefel.



Family reunion in Mother's home.-1938



The Hoefel cousins-1938



Page 42

Jan 1921

They touch upon crochet and knitting, how difficult parts are connected, Then all about babies, the new ones, and those that will soon be expected.

Some fellows start off to play horseshoes and finally throw a few "ringers." Some get ahold of a bat and ball and throw what the youngsters call "stingers."

The older men sit around talking, discussing the weather and heat... The chances for corn and the barley, the timothy, oats and the wheat.

They talk about tractors and trailers, 'bout pickers and harrows and such, And finally get up to taxes, and prove that they're costing too much.

Then someone calls out, "Here's the ice cream!" No need for a second loud call... Soon all of them gather together for ice cream, the best treat of all.

My goodness! It's time to get going... Just look at the fast-setting sun! Got to round up all the family, there's plenty of chores to be done.

Got all the children and baskets? This way to the old battered "bus"! Hope that this time we'll get started without too much sputter and fuss.

The car's getting old now, so I reckon the tired old engine needs tunin'... God smiles as the "bus" get's agoin', and blesses this family reunion.

Ray Gibson

Negative of beans  
green

INCOMP

Jan 13-2 Royal Ransom  
members-left  
Lena Snyder-Bird 18  
I like the Rd-21-on  
Brazil Dags-Ritzville  
Trading Co Bldg in back  
ground-They're not the  
strong-They have eat



Mother's daughters and daughters in law.-1938



Christmas eve at Mother's home-1938



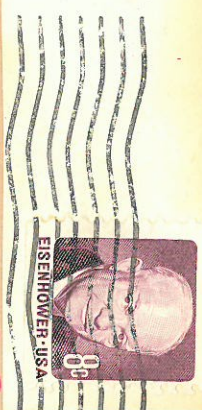
844 844 1921

Mr. & Mrs. Jake Hoefel  
209 West 6th  
Ritzville, Wash. 99169

Dear Roy:

Ritzville, Washington.  
September 19 1971

RITZVILLE, WA  
SEP 19 1971  
8:00 AM  
99169



What a pleasant surprise I received the other day when the mailman came. You will never know how much I appreciated the package. In reading all the material that you send me, it brought back all kinds of memories. I had forgotten quite a few incidents that you mentioned in your writeup. We were very sorry when the word was said that you could not be present at our banquet. We had hoped that you would come to our little reunion party at our house for the 1921 class. After writing several letters to our class I managed to get 12 members back, and there should have been a few more. I just can't imagine a member living right here in town, not coming to our reunion. I suppose you find this kind in every class. It was surprising how many of our class did not know each other. Not seeing them for 50 years did make a big change in several members.

It seems that now that I am retired, I managed to be more busy than ever before. I can get involved in more non-paying projects, and I enjoy every minute. I do like our Lions Club and spend lots of time for the club. I also enjoy the Masonic Lodge. We have such a poor turnout, that I always have to fill in, which keeps me up in the works.

Thanks again for all the work that you did for me and the Ritzville High School.

Sent him a copy of  
RIT-modesto lion's  
club-50 year brochure  
Sincerely  
Jake

Which I am an honorary member  
R.G. Benson



48  
Q1

# LESLIE JOHNSON

*Deceased*

21

SIGNATURE
BIRTH DAY
BIRTH PLACE
FATHER
MOTHER



88 1921-82

Deceased

The Morning

Sara Henderson Hoy

These hands are shaped like God's and so  
Let them be careful what they do.  
Let them be quick to lift the weak,  
Let them be kind as they are strong.  
Let them defend the silent meek  
Against the many-languaged wrong.

These hands are shaped like God's. Be sure  
They bear the mark of no man's pain  
Who asked for their help to make secure  
His little roof . . . and asked in vain.

These hands are shaped like God's. Take care  
They catch the sparrow hurled from air.

Lest God look down from heaven and see  
What things are wrought beneath the sun  
By us, His images, and be  
Ashamed of what His hands have done.

"The Morning," copyright © 1961 by New York  
Herald Tribune, Inc., from a booklet on the  
hands by Sara Henderson Hoy, copyright by  
Herald Tribune, Inc., and New York City, Inc.

In the image of God created he him.  
Genesis 1:27





68  
1921  
P1

# BEATA JUST

Deceased 1-22-61 Age 51-Tacoma

21

SIGNATURE	
BIRTH DAY	1903
BIRTH PLACE	
FATHER	Rei Oscar Just Lutheran Minister Died 1941
MOTHER	Lelara Just Pullman
Sister	Esther (Sis) Pullman 1921 See Highland Dr Died 1-20-62 1921 Age 58
Sister	William (Bro) Wendt 1921 Emhorst Apt
Sister	Amanda (Sis) 1925 Railroad Wash Mrs Max 3505 W. Providence
Sister	Emma (Sis) Berger 1928 Spokane

## Funeral Set for Miss Just

Funeral services for Miss Beata Just, former Ritzville resident, will be held at 11 a.m. today (Thursday) at the chapel of the Danekas Funeral Home with Rev. Albert Wagner and two ministers from out-of-town officiating.

Interment will be at the Lutheran cemetery. Pallbearers will include Jake Hoefel, Milton Schwisow, Fred Schwisow, Lester Sielaff, Edward Thom and Herbert Moeller.

Miss Just, 59, died Sunday in Tacoma where she had lived a number of years. She was graduated from Ritzville high school and lived here from 1916 to 1928 during the time her father, Rev. O. T. Just, was pastor of the Lutheran church. Miss Just taught school. Her father was buried here in 1941.



B81921-82

Deceased Dec 1-22-1961-Dacoma-Cas 59



*Spencer*

BLESSED





# EVANGELINE JUST

Mrs. Yes. De here

Puffman, Wash

And she was there for at 50th Reunion 1941

21

SIGNATURE	Puffman
BIRTH DAY	
BIRTH PLACE	
Ref. FATHER	Oscar T. Just Dec 1941 Puffman
MOTHER	Lara Just
	Beata (Dec 121 61 - Dec 22 1921)
	Bro - William - Menatkes - Wash - Dec 1921
	Sis - Amanda - Edinburg - Apr 1925
	Sis - Emma - Berger - Spokane 1928
	2505 W. Providence

## Funeral Set for Miss Just

Funeral services for Miss Beta Just, former Ritzville resident, will be held at 11 a.m. today (Thursday) at the chapel of the Danekas Funeral Home with Rev. Albert Wagner and two ministers from out-of-town officiating.

Interment will be at the Lutheran cemetery. Pallbearers will include Jake Hoefel, Milton Schwisow, Fred Schwisow, Lester Sielaff, Edward Thom and Herbert Moeller.

Miss Just, 59, died Sunday in Tacoma where she had lived a number of years. She was graduated from Ritzville high school and lived here from 1916 to 1928 during the time her father, Rev. O. T. Just, was pastor of the Lutheran church.

Miss Just taught school. Her father was buried here in 1941.

6th sister







1911  
 71  
 WILLIAM O. JUST

Wife - Lyda  
 Son - Fraser  
 Da. Linda

died Jan 20, 1962

21

age 58

SIGNATURE	<u>died in Seattle - 1-20-1962</u>
BIRTH DAY	<u>901 Highland Dr. Wenatchee, Wash</u>
BIRTH PLACE	<u>Dickinson, N. Dak.</u>
FATHER	<u>Rev. Oscar T. Just</u> <u>Suffered</u> <u>Minister - died 1911</u>
MOTHER	<u>Idara</u> <u>Just. Pullman</u> <u>in Tacoma</u>
	<u>Sis. Beata (dec) 11/16</u> <u>1921</u>
	<u>Evangelina</u> <u>Pullman, Wn</u> <u>1925</u>
	<u>Emma</u> <u>(Miss Max - 2505 - North</u> <u>Spokane, Wn</u> <u>1928</u>
	<u>Sis. Amanda</u> <u>Edwards - Apt. 1</u> <u>Pullman - Wn</u> <u>1925</u>

William Just  
 Dies Recently  
 After Attack

William O. Just, 58, Seattle, son of a Lutheran minister who served in Ritzville, died Saturday, January 20, of a heart attack in Seattle.

Just was Highline schools instructor in string instruments and concert master of the Highline Philharmonic Symphony orchestra.

Just was born at Dickinson, N. D. His father, the late Rev. Otto T. Just, was pastor of the Lutheran church from 1915 to 1928.

Just was graduated cum laude from Washington State university in 1925.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Gladys Just, Wenatchee; a daughter, Miss Linda Just, a student at the University of Indiana; a son, Fraser Just, Wenatchee Valley junior college; Just's mother, Mrs. Clara Just, Pullman; and sisters, Miss Evangelina Just, Richland, Ore., and Mrs. Max Berger, Seattle.

Services were held Thursday at the Wenatchee Episcopal church.



Ms 1921 J 2

Decade D-1 Jan 20-1962 in Seattle - aged 58

## Easter Needs

Pearl Carter Phillips

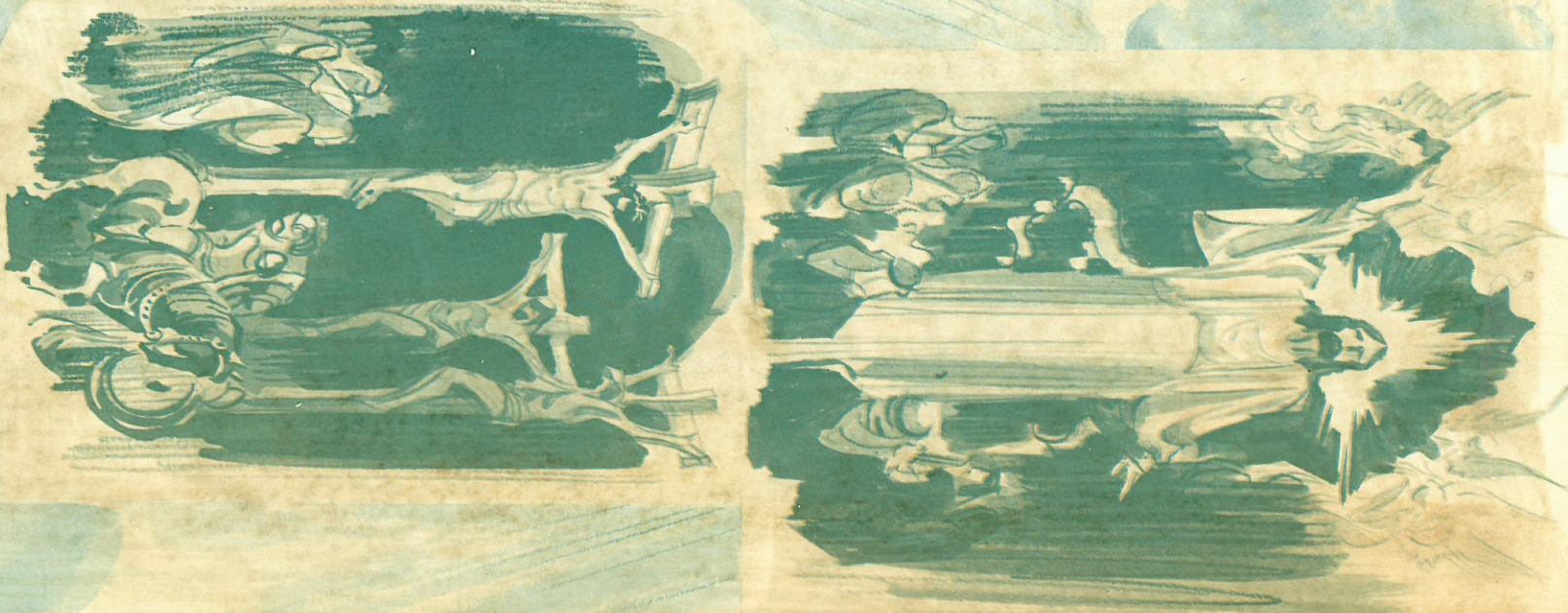
This spring we need the faith that Jesus taught  
More surely now than in the ages past;  
We need His strength to meet the fierce onslaught  
Of madmen who have set the world aghast.

This spring we need the courage Jesus showed  
While dying on the cross for others' shame;  
We need His wisdom on this war-torn road,  
And true compassion for the ones to blame.

This spring, above all others, we should see  
The need for more united brotherhood;  
We need to map the course in harmony,  
And work to salvage all there is of good.

This spring when blossoms tell of life renewed,  
We need an understanding gratitude.

*Our sincere thanks to the author  
whose address we were unable to locate.*





# DANIEL KEMBEL=21

## Adams County

## May Organize

## Port District

RITZVILLE, Wash. — A county-wide committee has been named here to look into the possibility of forming a port district.

The action came after Herb West and W. D. Ray of Walla Walla addressed a luncheon meeting here. West is executive vice president of the Inland Empire Waterways Association and Ray is president of the Port of Walla Walla.

Lester Snyder, Washlona, chairman for the meeting, said the Pomona Grange and Adams County Wheat Growers Association have voiced interest and the Othello Chamber of Commerce also has named a committee to investigate.

Formation of a port district would require a vote of the people, after which the county commissioners would prepare a comprehensive plan of port-area development, which would then have to be approved at a public hearing.

A tax levy of not more than 2 mills is permitted.

The port district would be created as a part of the county, using the same auditor and treasurer. Commissioners would be elected from the same districts as county commissioners are.

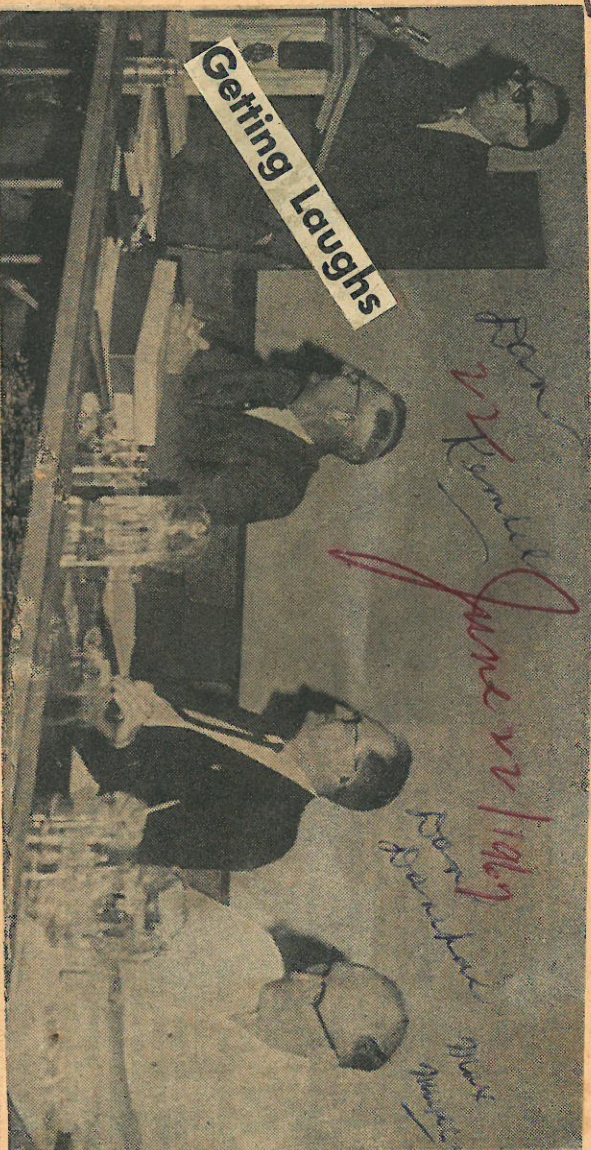
On the county-wide committee are: W. B. Reese and alternate Don Leary, Othello; J. D. Urquhart and alternate Delbert Pence, Lind; Dan Kembel and alternate Stan Telecky, Ritzville; Les Snyder and alternate Floyd Cameron, Washlona; and Ronald Watkins and alternate Jim Clinesmith, Benge.

## Johnson Retires, Memories Stirred

C. Raymond Johnson retired the first of this year after 43 years of service with Fidelity Savings and Loan association of Spokane.

The event called to mind for Dan Kembel the fact that C. R. Johnson was born near Ritzville. He was the son of Adams county pioneers, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Johnson who homesteaded the place now farmed by Kembel.

The Johnson family moved from the county when their son C. Raymond was still only two years of age. Other holdings they acquired are now operated by John Freese.



Speaker John Bauer, at podium, and Dan Kembel, seated next to the speaker, vied for hearty laughter of wheatmen and wives at Ritzville Warehouse Co. annual meeting Saturday at Legion hall. Bauer came from grainmen's convention.

## Warehouse Has Profit

Ritzville Warehouse Co. officers reported net operating margins of \$140,810.18 for the past year at the producer co-op's annual meeting at the American Legion hall Saturday afternoon.

They handed stockholders checks totalling about \$142,000, picking up the 1964-'65 series of certificates of indebtedness amounting to about \$108,000 and paying the 20 per cent of current patronage dividends required by law.

More urgently than ever manager Don Danekas urged producers members to clean augurs of rodent pellets and bird droppings. First-load contamination has resulted in severe mandatory burning of contents of any bin in which such adulteration is discovered.

**SALMONELLA** outbreaks among humans, traced to such sources, have resulted in authority for the U. S. Food and Drug administration to order destruction of the entire contents of a contaminated bin.

Danekas described any neglect by a producer as the best way to sabotage their own firm. The grain firm's largest bin holds 150,000 bushels, representing when full a value of up to a quarter million dollars.

The day after an employee of the FDA condemns such a bin this firm is broke, manager Danekas said.

Formerly adulterated grain could be sold as livestock feed, but where food and drug administration officers discover the rodent pellets or bird droppings this recourse is no longer possible for the grain merchant.

"If your wife won't let you use the family vacuum cleaner to clean out the combine and grain augur, call on us, and we'll loan you one," Danekas said. He described the elevator's worst nightmare as that of opening the tailgate of a truck and having a whole colony of mice in a nest fall out and into the elevator pit.

"LET YOUR AUGUR run for a while and get the mice out," he cautioned.

President Dan Kembel introduced to his fellow stockholders manager R. K. "John" Bauer of North Pacific Grain Growers, Portland. The former Pendleton

tion in Spokane. He is manager of North Pacific Grain Growers, Portland. Others at table are warehouse firm manager Don Danekas, and at right, secretary Max O. Meyer.

—Journal-Times photo

ger described growth of the co-op-owned firm he manages since the 1930's.

As the export market arm for 50 farmer-owned country elevator firms the Portland-based firm exercises the required voice in the world market place. He said North Pacific now handles about 25 per cent of exported white wheat.

Looking at the harvest just around the corner Bauer told of recently flying over the wheat areas in the Northwest. Last year's harvest was about 135 million bushels. Current estimates are for a 1967 crop of 170 million and what could turn out to be 180 million bushels.

With 35 or 40 million bushels more, market for white wheat might not be too good, the grain buyer said. This could mean operating on a market perhaps 10 cents off the current local level, or \$1.39 to \$1.40.

On the other hand, Bauer said, there could be a real good market. Much will depend on the U. S. Department of Agriculture announcement of marketings for India.

**BAUER TOLD** his audience of wheat farmers they are the boss of his concern. In a highly speculative market North Pacific sometimes makes a profit, sometimes loses. "I'm working for about 25,000 different bosses out here in the Northwest," he said. And he professed to like it tremendously.

Stockholders re-elected president Kembel and Roy Koch to three-year terms on the board of directors. Other candidates whose names were placed in nomination for directorships were Leonard Ferderer, Don Heinemann, Ted Manke and Delroy Schwisow. Everett Hille headed the nominating committee and gave its report.

Manager Danekas explained rates charged for seed treating in some detail. He said Ritzville

Warehouse will not handle the new rust-resistant strain, Moro, but will custom clean it. Several growers will be selling the new variety privately. Their deliveries will largely be to the Ritzville Warehouse facilities at Ralston.

The seed will be trucked to Ritzville for treating on a custom basis. Growers who will have Moro include Vitell Meyer

Homer Evans, Richard Telecky, Joris Walli and Julius and Charlie Buch.

During a board meeting following the annual meeting all officers were re-elected. They are Daniel M. Kembel, president; Roy Koch, vice president; Max O. Meyer, secretary, and Donald D. Danekas, treasurer.

## Birthday Party Surprises Woman

Mrs. Frank Marshall was surprised with a birthday party Monday afternoon at her home. Hostesses to the party were Mrs. Fred Kramer and Mrs. Dave Salo.

Guests were Mrs. Dave Sauer, Mrs. John Selcho, Mrs. Emil Gust, Mrs. Dan Kembel, Mrs. Joe Gering, Mrs. Ann Stengel, Mrs. Esther Kosanke, Lola Snee and Mrs. Frank Heimburger. Unable to attend were Mrs. Bob Marshall and Mrs. Karl Damme of Odessa.

The afternoon was spent visiting and refreshments were served by the hostesses.



John W. 39  
Violet 1939  
Schick



DK-1921 (P)

Marion Violet Schaefer-39

Day of course was here at 5041 Reshion 5/29/11

SIGNATURE	
BIRTH DAY	Ritzville
BIRTH PLACE	
FATHER	Henry Kember-
MOTHER	Bro. Mabel {Ri M. Mary Thom. 1933 Edna {Ritzville - 1931
	1926

# Seniors Plan Center

Ritzville senior citizens took another step forward Sunday afternoon towards their goal of establishing a senior citizens center in the community.

A group of 36 persons — most of them in their golden years — met in the city hall to outline plans and form an organization to establish such a center in space in the Gritman building formerly occupied by Pacific Northwest Bell telephone company.

Mrs. George Freese served as temporary chairman of the meeting and along with her husband and Mrs. Loyd R. Haight explained the objectives. She informed the crowd that a lease — rent free for three years — had been secured on the Gritman building. She also pointed out that under OAO — a federal agency — some matching funds were available for a period

tion of a center for the aging. Mrs. Haight is on the governor's council for the aging for the State of Washington.

Judge Freese explained to the crowd that it would be necessary to incorporate as a non-profit corporation, the actual mechanics of which, he said, would be performed by attorney Edward G. Cross without charge. Filing fees were promised by the judge.

Following this information and considerable debate of questions, the assemblage elected a board of directors. They included the late Mr. David Hoefel (who was alive and participating at Sunday's gathering and who became deceased on Tuesday of this week), William Rosenoff, Mrs. Freese, Dan Kenbel, the Rev. Ernest Sprenger, Mrs. Dick Kavanagh, Lenny Foulkes, Mrs. Haight, Mrs. John Ott, Calvin Moesle, the Rev. Harrie Walther, Mrs. Ted Wall-

sandt and Mrs. Tom Underwood. An organizational meeting of the directors named the late Mr. Hoefel president, Mrs. Kavanagh vice president, Mrs. Wellsandt treasurer and Mrs. Underwood secretary.

The group then named their future center the H. E. Gritman Senior Citizens Center, and formed two committees.

A "furniture evaluation and acceptance" committee to accept tax-free gifts to furnish the quarters consists of Mrs. Haight, Mrs. Henry Borgens and Mrs. Arthur Ott. A committee of oversee remodeling — with promised aid from the Ritzville Lions club — consists of Mrs. Freese, Mrs. Haight, Mrs. John Ott and Mrs. Underwood.

Next organizational and discussion meeting of the Gritman Seniors will be held March 31 at the home of Mrs. John Ott at 7:30



# AK Aaron Kiehn

Married Florence Dehnel

Deceased 6-1-68

Photo

21

## Funeral Rites Held Here Tuesday from Chapel for Aaron Kiehn

Aaron Alton Kiehn, a former Ritzville resident, died suddenly in Portland Friday.

Funeral services for the 65-year-old man were Tuesday at 2 p.m. from the chapel of the Danekas Funeral home with the Rev. F. J. Ahrendt of Spokane officiating. Burial was at the Lutheran cemetery in Ritzville.

Kiehn is survived by his wife Florence at the home in Walla Walla. The couple was in Portland and planning to move into an apartment there at the time of Kiehn's death.

He is also survived by two sons, Michael of Portland and Orville of Fairbanks, Alaska. Other survivors include a sister, Mrs. F. W. Swank, of Hayden Lake, Ida., and two brothers, Everett of Ritzville and Edwin of Pullman. He had three grandsons.

Kiehn was born on August 4, 1902 in Ritzville where he attended grade and high schools. He was in the graduating class of 1921.

When Alvin was in Walla Walla in May 1963

visited him at his store, Florence

Walla Walla, Wash.

After graduation he attended WSU in 1922 and 1923, where he was a member of Theta Chi fraternity.

In 1924 and 1925 he was employed by the Old National Bank in Ritzville and in the latter year he married Florence Dehnel. The couple moved to Los Angeles where Kiehn was a teller for Farmers Merchant National bank, a position which he held for eight years.

In 1933 the couple moved back to Ritzville and Aaron joined his father, Henry Kiehn, and his brother Everett in the Table Supply grocery store. During the years after he moved back to Ritzville he was active in the chamber of commerce and the Jaycees.

In 1948 he moved to Walla Walla where he owned and operated the Green Park grocery. He was also active in the chamber of commerce there. He retired in 1967, and he and his wife had traveled up to about three weeks ago.

Pallbearers at the funeral were Jeff Kiehn, Fred Benzel, W. Walters Miller, Donald Kiehn, Kermit Wellandt and Lester Plannekuchen.

Honorary pallbearers were Floyd Thiel, Carl Kiehn, John Wellandt, William Wellandt, Walter Rosenoff, Lynn Rassmussen and Alvin Maier.

SIGNATURE	Aaron Alton Kiehn	
BIRTH DAY	Aug 4-1902	D. 6-1-68
BIRTH PLACE	Ritzville	
FATHER	Hess	
MOTHER	Mrs. Forest Duane RND	
	Sis - Emma	Lacordia Ave, Ida - 1921
	Bro Everett	Ritzville 1926
	Edwin	married Shirley Ott - 34 1938
	Harry	married Lois Himselberg 1941 146
	Carol	married Arthur Schuh 149
	Joann	married Terrence - 19 53
	Vernon	US 563-25188-46 and 2D-Recon. 7th Div 57
		ATE 139 NYC



AK 1921- 32

Deceased- Dec. 6-1-68. in Portland, Ore age 66

# Therefore,

**1** ~ since we are surrounded  
by so great a cloud of witnesses,  
let us also lay aside every weight,  
and sin which clings so closely,  
and let us run with perseverance  
the race that is set before us, ~ ~  
**2** ~ looking to Jesus the pioneer  
and perfecter of our faith, who for the  
joy that was set before him endured  
the cross, despising the shame, and is  
seated at the right hand of the throne  
of God.

Hebrews 12:1, 2  
Standard Revised Version

Marker for Aaron's father  
in The Tomb Supply Co. Inc  
Ritzville - 1915-16 - Reg 8.13



# ELMA KIEHN

0. Mrs. Forest Swank - board of execs, Ida 1950  
Did not return for 50th Reunion Sept. 11

## 21

### Services Held for Mrs. Kiehn Here Thursday

Funeral services for Mrs. Henry Kiehn, a resident of Ritzville for 68 years, were held Thursday at the Zion Congregational church with Rev. R. W. Rieger officiating.

Mrs. Kiehn died Tuesday, April 25, of heart failure after a three-weeks' illness. She was 79.

Interment was at the Ritzville Memorial cemetery. Pallbearers were Elmer Schoesler, Walter Schoesler, Maynard Galbreath, Robert Danekas, Robert Ott and Donald Kiehn. Honorary pallbearers included J. P. Koch, George Freese, Henry Amen, Mike Thiel, Henry Kalkwart, Con Pfennig, Emil Wellandt, John Wellandt, C. A. Schwerin and John Ott.

Alice Elizabeth Koch was born to Mr. and Mrs. John H. Koch on September 5, 1881, at Culbertson, Neb. The family lived in Culbertson five years before moving to Portland, Ore., where they lived six years.

On June 13, 1901, she was married to Mr. Kiehn in Ritzville. He managed the grocery department of the Ritzville Trading company for a number of years before going into the grocery business for himself.

Mr. Kiehn preceded his wife in death in 1947.

She was a member of the Zion Congregational church.

Surviving are three sons, Everett H. Kiehn and Edwin F. Kiehn, both of Ritzville, and Aaron A. Kiehn of Walla Walla; a daughter, Elma Kiehn of Coeur d'Alene, Ida.; nine grandchildren; and four great-grand children.

Henry Kiehn reports the sale of three automobiles this week: A 1915 model Overland to Henry Amen, Jr.; a Reo to L. D. Emerson and a Ford to Mrs. Jacob D. Bauer. Auto 21 1915

### Funeral Today for Mrs. Kiehn

Funeral services for Mrs. Henry Kiehn, a long-time resident of Ritzville, will be held today (Thursday) at 2 p.m. at the Zion Congregational church.

Interment will be at the Ritzville cemetery. Rev. R. W. Rieger will officiate at the services.

Mrs. Kiehn died Tuesday morning after a lingering illness. She was 79.

Danekas Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. A complete obituary will be published in next week's Journal-Times.

SIGNATURE	
BIRTH DAY	
BIRTH PLACE	
FATHER	Martha June 13-1901 DIED 1947
MOTHER	Henry 1915 DIED Apr 25-1941
	Alice Elizabeth (Koch) Kiehn 1881-1918
	Bro. Aaron DIED 6-1-1918 R118
	Everett RITZVILLE 1926
	Edwin 508 Drake Fulman 1939
	Mrs. Arthur Behn 1949
	board Mohler 1949
	board Maclachlan 1953
	board RITZVILLE 1953
	Vernon 1951
	board Harry 1956

Mother



Mr. D. 1921



# FRED C. KOCH



1 Fred & Koch - 21  
 2 Judge & Co. Freese 16  
 3 Ray Jane Kas - 32  
 at open house Ritzville  
 at high school  
 7/23/10  
 He also returned  
 for his 50th Re-  
 union - 5/29/01

SIGNATURE

Fred C. Koch  
 3145 Lorne St.  
 Olympia, Wash. 98501

BIRTH DAY

BIRTH PLACE

FATHER Henry M Koch Born 1880

MOTHER

Bro. Eugene Menden Ritzville 1921

55- Frieda Menden Ritzville 1930

Denae Ritzville 1931

Bro. Lavine Ritzville 1927

Calvin Ritzville 1939

Bro. Walter Ritzville 1933

Jan. 20, 1974

Dr. Leroy Gilson  
 209 Downey Ave.  
 Modesto, Calif. 95354

Dear Dr. Gilson:

I am a member of the  
 class of 1921, RHS.

Fred Koch Dies Here  
 on Wednesday Morning

Fred Koch, a resident of the  
 Ritzville area for several years,  
 passed away Wednesday morn-  
 ing at the Adams County Me-  
 morial hospital. 1/15/74  
 Funeral services will be an-  
 nounced by Danekas and Dun-  
 can funeral home.

I wonder if your records on  
 RHS alums would show the names of our  
 grads who have published a book, either  
 novel or non-fiction.

I know we have some Phd's on  
 our grad roster who have had to meet  
 the requirements of this degree by  
 publishing. What I'm mostly interested  
 in is the names of those publishing  
 a standard book-length work other than  
 that required to obtain his or her  
 doctorate.

Any information you can give me  
 on this point will be appreciated.

## George Koch Services Held

Funeral services for George J.  
 Koch, 90 and a long time resi-  
 dent of Adams county, were  
 were held Saturday afternoon at  
 the Danekas funeral home with  
 the Rev. Donald Beake officiat-  
 ing.  
 Interment was in the Ritzville  
 cemetery. His home was in Lind.  
 Mr. Koch died last Thursday  
 at Adams County Memorial hos-  
 pital after an illness of about 10  
 months.

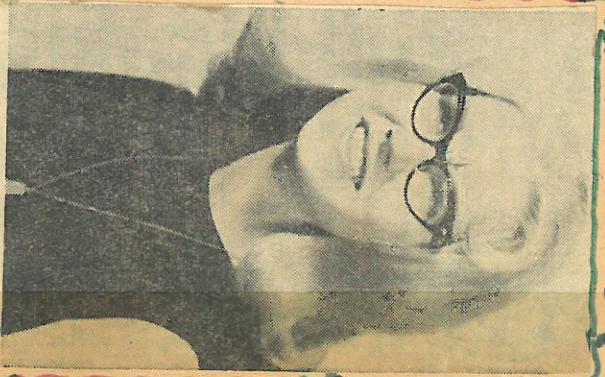
He was born at Kolb, Russia,  
 on November 24, 1888. The fami-  
 ly came to America in 1886  
 when Mr. Koch was 18 years old.  
 They lived first in Nebraska  
 for one year and then moved  
 west to homestead.

This was in Bauer's coulee  
 between Ritzville and Lind.  
 Molly Hartwig and Mr. Koch  
 were married in Ritzville on  
 June 6, 1895 and to them were  
 born seven children. Of these  
 George, Henry and Molly Koch  
 Becker preceded him in death.  
 His wife passed away in 1908.

Surviving are one son, Robert  
 Koch of Marengo; three daugh-  
 ters, Mrs. Amelia McMartin of  
 Willows, Calif., and Mrs. Mary  
 Nelson and Mrs. Pauline Rush-  
 meier, both of Lind; 17 grand-  
 children and 23 great grand-  
 children; two brothers, Henry  
 Koch and Jacob Koch, both of  
 Prineville, Ore., and two sisters,  
 Mrs. Pauline Gipson of Portland,  
 Ore., and Mrs. Martha Murray  
 of Chula Vista, Calif.

Fred Koch 21 film  
 Dec 1921 16  
 John Rouse 20  
 at 1910 Reunion  
 5/23/10 - negative

yes - 5ns to Barbara



LAUREL MARIE KOCH

## Laurel Koch Is Engaged

Mr. and Mrs. Carl W. Koch of  
 Hatton, formerly of Ritzville, have  
 announced the engagement of their  
 daughter Laurel Marie to Mr. Earl  
 McCall, son of Mr. and Mrs.  
 Maurice W. McCall of Mesa.  
 Miss Koch, granddaughter of the  
 late Mr. and Mrs. Fred Koch, is  
 attending Modern Business college  
 in Kennewick. Her fiance attends  
 Columbia Basin College.  
 No wedding date has been set.

With best regards,

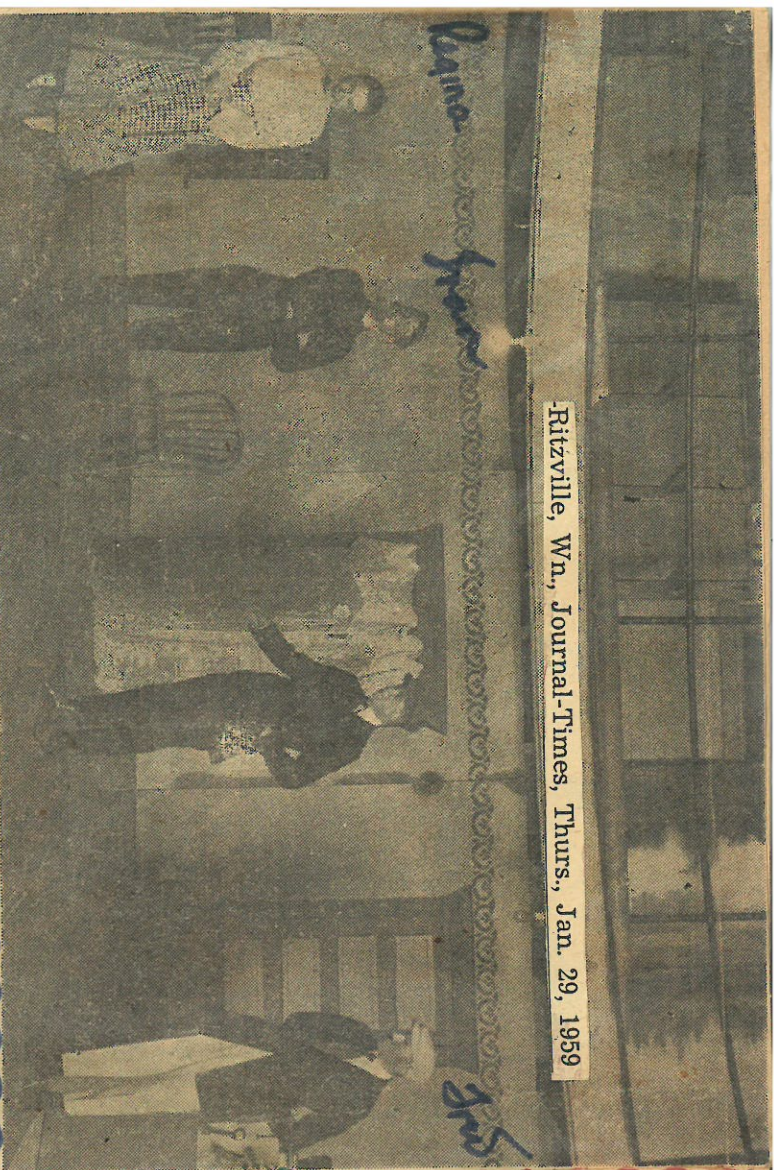
Fred

21

Fred C Koch  
 3145 Lorne Street  
 Olympia, Wash. 98501



Ritzville, Wn., Journal-Times, Thurs., Jan. 29, 1959



## KNOW THESE PEOPLE?

Lavine Thaut, custodian at the high school, ran across this picture recently while cleaning out a closet. Now the question is, "Who are these people?" A caption attached to the bottom of the photograph lists the lady at the left as "R. Cooper," the three men as "I. McCollum" and "L. Johnson" and "F. Koch" from left to right. The caption also says the play (or what ever it was) was entitled "Jeremiah and the Secret Service" given December 10, 1921 for the benefit of "Wheat." Miss Willian was director and Fred Koch, manager. It also was noted the performance was presented by "Staff of 1921." The picture indicates the scene is the "old" gym under what is now part of the art room, a store room and commercial subjects room.

# Henry Kochs Note 60th Anniversary 81st Birthdays Here Saturday Night

A family reunion, 60th wedding anniversary and 81st birthday were all celebrated when the Henry M. Koch family joined together last Saturday evening at the Whisperin' Palms restaurant.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry M. Koch, long-time residents of Ritzville, were honored with a dinner on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary as well as both of their 81st birthdays.

Attending the banquet were 29 persons, including special guests. Among those present were the Koch's three sons and their wives, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Koch of Wenatchee, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Koch of Olympia, and Mrs. and Mrs. Calvin E. Koch of Seattle.

ALSO ATTENDING were the couples three daughters, Dena, Ritzville; Frieda Welsh, Tacoma; Erika Ineichen and her husband, Fred, of Seattle.

Among the grandchildren present were Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Koch's children, Karen, Eric, Kristine, Lorene and Michael; Mrs. Frieda Welsh's son, David and wife, Georgia of Tacoma; Mr. and Mrs. Fred Koch's daughter, Carmen and husband, Richard Brown of Portland, Ore.; Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ineichen's daughters, Sylvia and Valerie; and Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Koch's daughter, Linda.

Two grandchildren and their wives were unable to attend. They were Gerald, son of Mr.

and Mrs. Eugene Koch, and his wife, Ann of Wenatchee, and Rodney, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Koch, and his wife, Neavada, who are homesteading near Anchorage, Alaska.

Of the Koch's six great-grandchildren, the four present were Kenneth, 7, Russell, 6, and Thomas, 3, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Koch; and their great-granddaughter, Rebecca, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Brown.

Two other great-grandchildren, Kirt, 4, and Kyle, 3, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Koch, were not able to be present.

Special guests at the head table were Rev. and Mrs. Albert F. Wagner and Mrs. Henry Wiebe. Rev. Wagner addressed a brief anniversary message to the honored couple while Mrs. Wiebe gave a reading and then presented Mr. and Mrs. Koch with a ceramic family-tree plate that she had handcrafted.

TO ENTERTAIN the group, Calvin sang two songs, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds," and "The Lord's Prayer." He was accompanied on the accordion by Eugene.

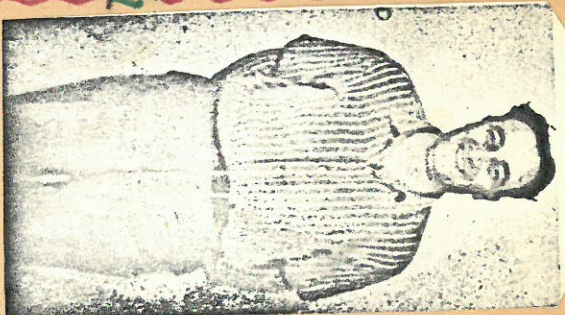
Granddaughters Linda, and Karen sang "Beautiful Savior" for Mr. and Mrs. Koch. Later Eugene played many of the favorite songs and folk tunes of the family.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry M. Koch were both born in Kolb, Russia, where they were married on January 31, 1901. They came directly to Ritzville in July, 1907, and have lived in and on farms near Ritzville continuously since then.

One son, Walter, died in a Japanese prison camp following his capture on Corregidor early in World War II.

While the Koch's 60th wedding anniversary falls on next January 31, Mr. Koch's birthday was October 20, and Mrs. Koch's birthday was on August 24, and it was decided to combine all events at this time

Fred Koch



## Victor Donis Funeral to Be at 2 p.m. Today

Funeral services for Victor Donis will be at 2 o'clock this afternoon at the Danekas Funeral chapel.

He died during an auto accident last Friday afternoon about 1:30 between Ralston and Lind. He was on one of his accustomed Friday visiting days and is believed to have suffered a heart attack while driving.

The car he was driving hit a bridge abutment at a speed considerably greater than the elderly man was accustomed to drive. Dr. Randall E. Davis of Spokane performed an autopsy. He reported a heart attack may already have set in before the accident occurred.

He was born December 23, 1884 in the Volga region of Russia. As a young man there he taught the Russian language in the German colony of which he was a member. He came to this country in 1907 and first worked for farmers in the Ritzville area. His trip from Germany was made with Henry M. Koch, still living, and still a Ritzville resident.

Later the immigrant worked for the White River Lumber Co., shoveling coal to unload railroad cars. He next worked at a lumber yard at Ralston for a few years.

He enlisted June 3, 1918 in Spokane and served as a private in the 42nd Company, 166th Depot brigade. He was discharged February 20, 1919. On Armistice day he was at a U. S. port, ready to ship out for service in the war in Europe.

The Rev. Beryl Melcher will conduct the funeral service.

Honorary pall bearers will be Carl Heinemann, Dan Kembel, Lyman Haight, Robert Newland, Max Meyer, Ervin Ziemer, Roy Koch, Harry Art, Es Shelman, Frank Heinbigner, Fred C. Koch, Ted Wellandt, Vic Rogel, L. E. Thiel, Jake Eckhardt, Dave Weber, George Freese, J. P. Koch, Leslie Schragg, David Hoefel, Charles Schwerin and Dr. George B. Fast. Milton Sackmann will sing, accompanied by Mrs. Orville Moeller. The body will be cremated and the ashes placed in Riverside mausoleum in Spokane.

Returning from service he operated a grain elevator at Penewa for a time. He moved from there to Marcellus to operate a lumber yard.

At Marcellus he became interested with Henry Cordes in the operation of the Marcellus general store. In the same community he also operated a cooperative grain warehouse and elevator, the same one still in operation there. In 1920 he came to Ritzville to manage the Ritzville Warehouse Co., and continued in that job until his retirement from business in 1946.

Donis took the occasion of his retirement to do extensive traveling. His trips included visits to South America and two complete round-the-world trips. An unusually well-read man, he kept learning all his life. In addition to German, English and Russian, which he spoke fluently, he mastered a working knowledge of several other languages which helped him in his travels.

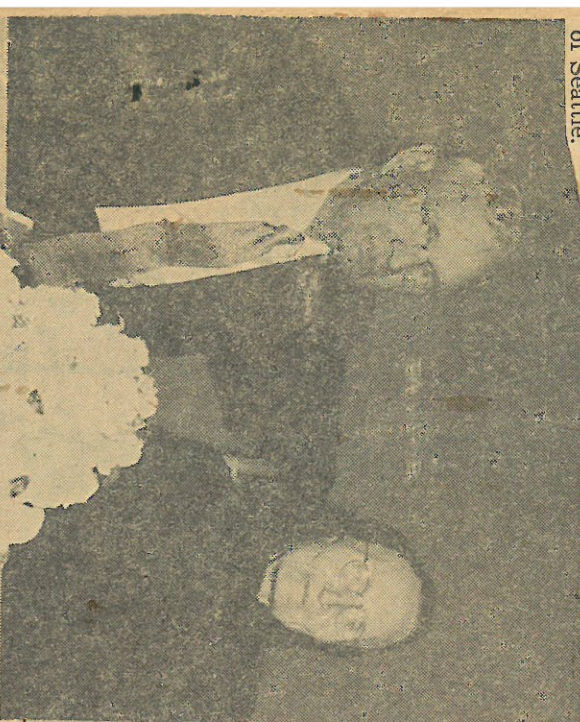
His home at 306 East Fourth avenue was a popular mecca for friends from not only this community, but from all over the nation. People of German background came to him for counsel which he gave freely and almost daily. **ODSIN-44-29**

Through the years he served for about 20 years as choir director of Zion Congregational church. Though he never joined any church, he gave generously to several local churches.

Surviving are six cousins, Mrs. Emily Danekas of Ritzville, Mrs. Othelia Egbers of Spokane, Mrs. Hanna Sturgeon of Orofino, Ida; David Koch of Portland, Arthur B. Koch of Spokane and Ted Koch, last known to have lived at St. Petersburg, Fla.

## ANNIVERSARY NOTED

Mr. and Mrs. Henry M. Koch, residents of the Ritzville community since 1907, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with a group of friends and relatives Saturday evening at a dinner. Because of unpredictable weather conditions, the Kochs decided to celebrate the occasion this month rather than on the anniversary date, January 31.



Fred C Koch  
3145 Lorne Street  
Olympia, Wash. 98501

New Open House

5/24/71

Fred's 50