

*Marleta Grissom*

WARREN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
504 North Buxton, Apt. 7  
Indianola, Iowa 50125

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JULY 1982 NEWSLETTER  
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ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Warren County Fair starts July 25; ends July 29. The Special Events Committee which will be managing our booth busy making plans. Members of this committee are Peg Hutchison, Twilla Dillard, Susan Van Essen, Willa Jean Grissom, Cheryl Ledlie, Barb Rasko. Please volunteer a couple of hours or more as an attendant!!!

Pauline Baxendale, Louise Pilmer, Charlotte Rice and Mary Smart served as attendants at the I.G.S. Library Saturday, July 10th. Thanks!

We are looking forward eagerly to our September meeting when our speaker will be Mr. Ed McConnell, Head Archivist for the State of Iowa. He also served as a member of the Vital Statistics Task Force.

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We are indebted to the Clark County, Washington Genealogical Society for the following items of interest:

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA LIBRARY (from AMERICANA MAGAZINE)

The Fred J. Reynolds Historical and Genealogical Department of the Fort Wayne, Indiana Public Library will mark its twentieth anniversary by moving into a new wing with expanded research facilities. Founded in January, 1961, by Fred J. Reynolds, Fort Wayne's head librarian at the time, the department is now second only to the Mormon Library in Salt Lake City in the extent of its holdings . . . the collection now contains 116,000 books, more than 6,000 periodicals, and 30,734 rolls of microfilm. The highlights of the collection include a micro-filmed set of North Carolina records arranged by county; a copy of the Draper collection of information about the Old Northwest frontier, the region surrounding the Great Lakes; the Baldwin Collection of western Pennsylvania and eastern Ohio data; and abstracts of local documents for West Virginia and Tennessee. Located at 900 Webster Street, the Library is open to the public from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays.

FREE CANADIAN RESEARCH PAMPHLET: "The French-Canadian Connection" a research pamphlet is free from the Genealogy and Local History Dept. of the Springfield City Library, 220 State Street, Springfield, MA 01103. Send a SASE (55¢ postage on a 9 x 12 manila envelope). The pamphlet contains 10 pages of information which the library now has on their large collections of French-Canadian materials.

NEWSPAPER GENEALOGICAL COLUMNS - queries in these columns are printed free. If you would like a copy of the column in which your query appears include a SASE with your request.

Betty Smith Davis  
"Life Line"  
P. O. Box 1389  
Humble, TX 77338

Mary Gooddard  
"We the People"  
P. O. Box 25125  
Oklahoma City, OK  
73125

Dolly Tavares Wimer  
"For those Who Question"  
P. O. Box 159  
Kountze, TX 77625

Marleta Childs  
"Kinsearching"  
2308 Grace St.  
Ft. Worth, TX 76111

Mildred Steltzner  
"Hunting for Ancestors"  
4037 Tanglewood Trail  
Chesapeake, VA 23320

Carolyn Erickson  
"Kissin Kuzzins"  
1614 Redbud St.  
Nacogdoches, TX 75961

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YOU KNOW YOU ARE GETTING OLD WHEN everything hurts and what doesn't hurt, doesn't work.

DES MOINES IOWA BRANCH GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY  
3301 Ashworth Road, West Des Moines, Iowa

BRANCH LIBRARIAN, Mrs. Patricia L. Hailey  
1100 63rd, Des Moines, Iowa 50311, 'phone 255-6503

The Salt Lake City Genealogical Library is the largest genealogical library in the world. Seventy microfilm crews working throughout the world are adding to the collections daily. Branch libraries are established to provide church members access to the main library collection of Temple Index Bureau cards; microfilm and library services. Copies of selected books, microfilm pages, pedigree charts and family group sheets may be sent by mail. Branch libraries are also open to non-members interested in genealogical research. ALL branch library books and film must be used in the library.

No smoking on premises. No food or beverages in the library. No fee except rental on films ordered.

HOURS	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	SATURDAY
	11:30-3:30	7:00-9:30	11:30-3:30	7:00-9:30	10:00-2:30
	a.m. p.m.	p.m. p.m.	a.m. p.m.	p.m. p.m.	a.m. p.m.

FRIDAY: Reserved for group tours or research to be scheduled through the branch librarian.

MICROFILM: Filmed card catalog of main Genealogical Society library, from which microfilm may be ordered. Holdings by locality, surnames, registers, selected subjects. Some frequently used films on indefinite loan. Patron may use any film in library unless in use by one who ordered it. List of microfilm posted on bulletin board.

BOOKS: Research method books of most areas; atlases, gazeteers, some maps.

RENTAL FEES \$2.00 plus 25¢ postage per film for two weeks. Renewals 25¢ per week.

ASSISTANCE Librarians do not do actual research for individuals. They do help patron do his own research; send difficult questions to researchers at the main library, assist in selecting and ordering microfilm or materials to be copied, refer to local record sources; refer to G.S. accredited researchers.

PREPARATION It is advisable to organize on pedigree charts and family group sheets, material from home, family and other sources if desiring advice. Special help is given beginners in organizing material and getting started.

SUPPLIES T I B (Temple Index Bureau) request forms, LDS entry forms; limited supply of pedigree, family group sheets and other genealogical forms.

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The following three pages are from the diary of an early immigrant from Germany. It will be concluded in the next newsletter.

## DIARY OF MICHAEL FRIEDRICH RADKE

Michael Friedrich Radke,  
a son of the owner Christian Friedrich Radke, in Kyowsthal near the  
Battlement, old Stettin in Kingdom Prussia, Germany, Europe.

I was born in the year 1812, on Jan. 7 in Kyowsthal. From 1806 to 1815, many bloody battles were fought against the French, all of Germany was inundated by the French who had penetrated into Russia. There God came to our help and said, "Up to here and not further," and God beat this evil enemy with great coldness and hunger and the rest of the enemy saw themselves forced to retreat and so drove the German people, with renewed strength and God's help and assistance this great emperor Napoleon, with all of his power, out of Germany and to Paris in France. Our Prussian King at the same time was Friedrich Wilhelm Rex the 3rd King of Prussia, who had to live through all these times of need and battle and in 1840 left this earthly life and went into his eternal home, in his place his son the Crown Prince started the government of the King and he is now the 4th King of Prussia, he is also called Friedrich Wilhelm.

So in these years of war I was born, my father was a farmer who had to suffer many losses through this war for the entire village where my father lived was burned down by the French in 1812, so my parents and all the inhabitants of the village were burnt down. After the war my father rebuilt but sold the farm and built again a house in Friedrichwilhelmsthal near Golnow, and so I learned to be a farmer like my father.

In the year 1828 my father died there, and since I was still too young in order to take over his business my mother sold the farm, and I learned how to become a distiller and I was stationed on the properties of noblemen and at Yonkes (Junker?), and I also served in the Fortress of old Stettin as a soldier with the 2nd infantry Regiment, 2nd Company as Sergeant.

After the year 1834 I left the military and I had to work for myself, my mother and 4 brothers and sisters, as head distiller and had to take care of their livelihood because I was the oldest among my brothers and sisters, and so I had to take my father's role and had to take care of them, I have done what is a child's duty towards his elders and brothers and sisters.

In 1836 I traveled to Berlin, which is the capital of Prussia 20 miles from Stettin, where after a short stay I got a job with Baron von der Rieben as head distiller, 1 1/2 miles from Berlin in Giesendorf.

The first of October 1837 I married the farmer's daughter, Caroline Wilhelmine Bate, from Giesendorf--she was the daughter of the farmer Martin Bate from Sieten between Berlin and Potsdam, she was born on the 27th of March, 1811 in Sieten. She had worked for her parents on the farm. On the 16th of January, 1838 I came to the estate of Dalem also 1 1/2 miles from Berlin, where I also worked as head distiller.

In the year 1839 the 17th of July, in the morning at 3 o'clock a son was born to us, who received in Holy baptism in the Evangelical Church the name Friedrich Wilhelm. In 1840 on October 22 we left Dalem and went to Charlottenburg 1/2 mile away from Berlin. On the first of April 1841 I was employed in the royal Thiergarten (that is a park) as overseer and I took care of the gardening, that is of the flower beds near the goldfish pond and the Floraplats, the same year in August 18, 1841, in the morning at 8 o'clock a daughter was born to us in Charlottenburg who, in holy baptism in the Evangelical Church received the name Caroline, Emilie, Auguste.

In 1843, 13th of September in the morning at 2 o'clock a son was born who in the Evangelical (or a Protestant church) in baptism received the name Hermann Albert Rudolf.

In 1845, August 22 in Charlottenburg a daughter was born who in holy baptism received the name Loise, Therese, Amalie. She died on the 4th of February 1846. Her earthly life was 5 months and 13 days.

During my lifetime I had to fight through severe trials. I worked day and night and walked in many places, spent many a sleepless night, the money I earned there was scarcely enough to feed my family and at the same time I saw thousands immigrate to different parts of the world, to America and Australia. When thinking about it more closely I realized that nothing more was the fault of all these immigrations than that which existed, namely the poverty which progressed with gigantic steps, and so within me too rose the thought to immigrate!

To bring my children as long as they were still with me, and not in different places, to a place where they would find work and bread, as long as they would work hard and be frugal, where each of them could prepare for himself a happy and calm future. In Germany the poor man over against the rich man is like a despised creature or like a scarcely noticed creeping worm, who must wind and creep along in the dust in order not to be stepped on to death, and so it is also with the poor people, he must adjust himself and bend himself under the rich who nevertheless scarcely seems to notice him! The poor man a slaver for the rich one, once the poor man has completed his day's work, what did he earn for his sour sweat?  $7\frac{1}{2}$  to 10 silver groschen after American money 20 cents of American money, of that the poor man is suppose to live with his family, he's supposed to pay his rent and to pay his royal taxes. If this doesn't happen punctually and at a certain time all that he owns is taken away from him by officials of the law so that the gentlemen who already have enough will get what is theirs. If one appears before a law court or before an official or before a police officer so this has to happen anytime in a bent position and with a bare head.

What will become of the poor children? How many of them have to beg for their daily bread in front of people's doors? Parents who still are able to send their children to school have to pay, up until they are 14 years old, the school money for books, clothing, food and drink and after school is over what is one to do with the children? To learn a profession to be treated like dogs to suffer hunger and thirst and to survive and even if they survive the difficult and miserable years of apprenticeship what do they have? When they become journeymen they go to beg their bread in strange places before the doors of other people. And even if they get work, what do they earn as journeymen per week, the highest income per week is 1 Thaler, according to American money 62 cents. And in addition to that they have to starve and suffer - or are the children to go into service and to work an entire year? For nothing more than 6, 12 or 16 Thaler?

In order to speak in particular about the boys, once they reach their 20th year, and are healthy, they must become soldiers, and serve for 3 years, and now suffering starts, during exercises and maneuvers they have to suffer hunger and thirst, and have also to be cold. Every 5 days in order to keep them alive they get one black loaf of bread, every 10 days 25 silver groschen. After 3 years of service a soldier is released from his regiment and he is up to his 32nd year among the first to be called to the landwehr. Annually 2 Sundays he has to go for sharp-shooting and for 2 and 3 Sundays he has to go for

meetings of his regiment, every 2 years he has to go for 14 days to 4 weeks for exercises and maneuvers and from his 32nd year on up to his 40th he is with the 2nd regiment or 2nd level of troops, and after the 40th he stays to be a member of the landsturm. (That is like civil defense.)

During the times of war the landwehr of the first troops has to go to battle with the regiments that have just been drafted. The 2nd level of troops and the landsturm have to be on the fortresses, and so one is a soldier as long as one lives, and a tortured creature.

I was tired of this life, and therefore I decided to leave Germany with my wife and to look for a better life, in another part of the world, namely America, so on the 23rd of February 1848 we traveled from Charlottenburg to Berlin, 1/2 German mile to Berlin. Our last residence was with a farmer Ziehe, Krume Strase No. 13 in Charlottenburg near Berlin, Kingdom of Prussia, Europe.

Leaving was painful. I left there my youngest sister Frederike 21 years old and unmarried. The 26th of February 1848 our trip went by railway from Berlin 54 German miles to Bremen where we stayed at the inn 3 Lions, on the 1st of March from Bremen to Bremerhaven 7 German miles away from Bremen where we came into the 3 mast sail ship, called Johanis. In France a revolution had broken out but in Germany everything was calm.

On the 5th of March 1848 we left Germany's ground, and went with God's help, and under the leadership of the ship's captain von Fritzen and sailed into the North Sea, which was 75 German miles up to the English Channel, we were 226 immigrants, we had good wind and at 8 o'clock in the morning we saw the towers and the chalk cliffs of England, but a wind blowing in the wrong direction drove us back again into the sea, where on the 8th until the 13th we had to fight against a storm, thunder, lightning, hail, and rain and the waves towered like high mountains before us, and deep abysses opened between them, during this time my wife, my oldest son and several others on the ship became seasick, my other children and I stayed healthy.

On the 13th early in the morning again we had good wind and we came to the coast of England, where we saw the towers and the chalk cliffs, and now we sailed into the German Canal which is between England and France and which leads into the ocean or into the Atlantic Sea, at the right side we had England where we saw the city of Dover and several villages, at the left side in a far distance was France where we saw the city of Galle, on the 14th we saw big whales, this the sailors thought meant a strong wind or storm.

(From the 15th of March through April 28th 1848 he wrote daily of the weather and of everything he saw in the way of fish, whales, other ships, etc. On the 28th Of March 1848 they anchored at Baltimore.)

April 29 Early in the morning at 4 o'clock everybody had to be washed and dressed, afterwards we went for a small distance in front of the city of Baltimore, there we had to be in quarantine, at a quarter past 9 the ship's officers and a doctor came who looked us over so nobody would be sick, and since they had nothing to object to, the anchor was raised, the sails were put up and we approached the city of Baltimore. When we had landed a new official came and checked all the things we brought along, whether there was anything that was taxable, afterwards we went to the Darmstaetter Gasthoff, (that is, the Darmstaet Inn) in the Peint, there we stayed until the first of May.