



Felchle Weingaertner History

Writing the ancient history of Ludwig and Elisabeth Felchle has been quite a challenge for me this past year. I have been consumed with the thought that this information must be factual and the basis for other histories to follow. I have learned how easy it is to infer and assume. I fully expect errors within this writing; it's inevitable. Please forgive the mistakes.

The enormity of this project coupled with the small amount of time allocated for it have made me absolutely dependent on the knowledge, reliability and research of other family members. Thanks to all of you. I especially thank Herb Poppke for investing the time in being my family history teacher; I truly appreciate your desire to pass on our heritage. I am also grateful to Elaine Morrison for her dedication to family genealogy. Aunt Emma (really my great aunt), with love and respect, I thank you for being such a wonderful storyteller; you have passed on wonderful family details to many of us.

There are a couple of items that bear explanation while you are reading this material. Whenever you see a question mark within parentheses (?), it means that there is still some question about that material. Also, I did not use the original German spellings of names and places incorporating the umlaut. Rather, I used the present-day German versions and the American versions. (For example, Felchle was originally Fälchle in old German spelling, but present-day German spelling would be Faelchle, and the American version is Felchle.)

I sincerely hope that you enjoy learning of our family heritage as much as I have.

Karen Black, writer/editor
Herb Poppke, editor

**Printed for the 9-Family Centennial Reunion
July 2 & 3, 1994**

Chapter 1 - Memories

Herb Poppke (Katharina's son), Pauline Purdy (Katharina's daughter), Emma Rund (Johannes's daughter), and Ida Shoopman (Jakob's daughter), are Felchle cousins who share many memories of their grandparents, Ludwig and Elisabeth Felchle. We have the wonderful opportunity to learn about our rich heritage through the eyes of grandchildren. Thank you, Herb, Pauline, Emma and Ida, for remembering and sharing with us.

Grandma Elisabeth most often wore a "tichle" (kerchief) on her head and a light-colored blouse with a long black skirt over her short, round figure. In her skirt pockets she kept pink peppermint candy (the ones with the Xs) for all children and grandchildren. Bernice (Augustadt) Winitisky, a neighbor to the Poppke family when they lived in Goodrich, ND, says she did not even mind the bit of black fuzz on the candy that Elisabeth gave her.

Grandpa Ludwig was a small, thin man with jet black hair and a black beard to match. He was considered a small but good farmer. He never owned a car. He could not read or write, but August Felchle (Johannes's son) said that Grandpa Ludwig knew a good part of the Bible by heart.

Elisabeth and Ludwig moved from Teplitz, Bessarabia, Russia, sometime after 1877, for religious reasons. Ludwig's family was persecuted for becoming part of the Baptist movement rather than complying with the official Evangelical Lutheran Church. In 1894 Ludwig, Elisabeth and their children (some with families), left Khutora Vakarskiye, Russia, where they had possibly been living for the past ten years. They arrived in New York on March 29, 1894, on the ship the *S.S. Havel*. On board were 12 Felchles, 19 Erfles and 15 Kramlich's.

In America, and in the Goodrich, North Dakota area in particular, Lud-

wig and Elisabeth began to make a home where values and dreams were passed to future generations. Farming was their valued lifestyle. They felt there wasn't enough land for them in Russia; they were hoping to find better land, better pay, and an easier way of life in America. Ludwig and Elisabeth's family realized they would have to work hard but were thankful they had a good work ethic.

Their religious freedoms were exercised. Revival meetings were often held for several weeks at a time in the Goodrich area. Most of the family hardly missed a meeting, even though horse-drawn buggies were the mode of transportation even during inclement weather. Grandchildren remember that Grandpa Ludwig always prayed before meals; no one touched his or her food before he said, "Amen."

As grandkids of today look forward to gifts from grandpa and grandma, so did Ludwig and Elisabeth's grandchildren look forward to receiving silver dollars on birthdays and "sechle" (little sacks) on Christmas. Inside the little sacks were peanuts, nuts, figs, dates and candy.

Grandchildren often associate certain foods with their grandparents. Most of Elisabeth's grandchildren probably remember her hot German potato salad that was both sour and sweet. Cheese "kuchen" was a favorite and was usually set on the spare bed to cool. Johnnycake or Johnnybread became a once-a-week tradition in nearly all of Elisabeth's children's homes. Her granddaughter, Emma, remembers the recipe that was mixed in a pan as big as their ovens: 3 cups flour, 2 cups corn meal, 2 cups sugar, butter and milk to make the dough right, 2 teaspoons baking powder and 1/2 teaspoon baking soda.

Ludwig died at the age of 72 in July of 1912. Emma Rund remembers the funeral. The casket was in his house. (This house would have been the corner house in Goodrich, southwest of the Baptist church.) Emma's mom, Magdalena, made her pass by the casket and look at Grandpa. When



Grandma Elisabeth with one of her grandchildren.

Emma saw the man's black beard, she knew it was really her grandpa in the casket.

After Ludwig's death, Grandma Elisabeth lived with her youngest daughter's family, the Theodore and Katharina Poppke family, in Goodrich, ND. Herb Poppke says his grandma was responsible for the raising of most of the Poppke kids. Herb also notes Grandma Elisabeth's independence; she bought her own sugar and other supplies while at the Poppke home.



*Ludwig and Elisabeth Felchle
with daughter, Katharina.*

Pauline Poppke Purdy recalls how dear Grandma was with the newborn babies. All the older grandchildren stood around with big eyes while Grandma Elisabeth prepared for the baby's bath. Pauline also remembers Grandma making "kinder brei" (homemade baby food) out of flour, sugar and milk. It was the Pablum or baby cereal of the day. Grandma Elisabeth would put the food in her mouth and then transfer it to the mouth of the baby. (The practice has good scientific basis; the saliva of the feeder helps in the digestion.)

Several cousins remember how the Poppke home became a mecca for visitors on Sundays after church. Grandma didn't like to go anywhere else after church to eat other than the Poppke home, because she had no teeth. Sitting by the kitchen window at Poppkes', Elisabeth would "brockel" (crumble) her bread into her coffee and then gum her food.

In 1914 Johannes (Ludwig and Elisabeth's oldest child), bought a Ford touring car with side curtains. He would pick up Elisabeth for church and later bring her back to the Poppke place. Emma (Johannes's daughter) laughed when she repeated Grandma's commands to Johannes: "Johannes, 'lahng sahm, lahng sahm!'" (John, go slow, go slow!)

Grandma Elisabeth was always available for family that needed her. Johannes became seriously ill with an enlarged heart and was hospitalized in Bismarck, ND for two months. Emma said she was around 12 years old when she was told that her dad was

simply exhausted from farm work and from attending the nightly revival meetings at church. His recovery was dependent on complete rest. Elisabeth came to cook and care for the grandchildren so Magdalena and her older sons could tend to the farm. Elisabeth stayed the entire two months until Johannes returned to his farm.

When I asked my great aunt Emma if Johannes or Ludwig ever talked about why they came to America, she simply and quickly said, "Dad and Grandma wanted land."

Our heritage interestingly unfolds as we discover how Ludwig and Elisabeth came from one land to another.



*Grandma Elisabeth with Johannes
and Magdalena Felchle.*

Chapter 2 - Teplitz

Elisabeth Weingaertner was born on August 24, 1845, in Teplitz, Bessarabia, Russia. Her father was Gottlieb Weingaertner, born September 29, 1811, in Plieningen, Stuttgart, Wuerttemberg. Her mother was Magdalena Kussmaul, born in March of 1815 in Rohrdorf, Nagold, Wuerttemberg. Gottlieb and Magdalena were married on October 22, 1835. Elisabeth had eight brothers and sisters.

Ludwig Felchle was born on May 13, 1840, in Teplitz, Bessarabia, Russia. His father was Georg Friedrich Felchle, born on February 24, 1806, in Obergroeningen, Wuerttemberg. His mother was Ursula Bahnmueller, born on January 10, 1810, in Undingen/Reutlingen, Wuerttemberg. George and Ursula were married on December 12, 1827. Ludwig had ten brothers and sisters.

Bessarabia, Ludwig and Elisabeth's first home, was a "melting pot" lying between Romania and the Ukraine. It was controlled by Turkey for many years until the Russians took control of the area in the early 1800s.

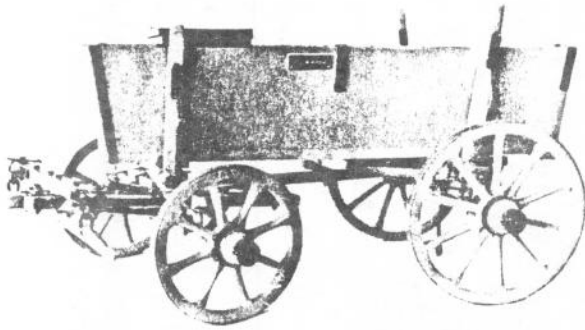
Teplitz, Bessarabia, was founded in 1817 by Germanic people mainly from Wuerttemberg. Teplitz was established by 98 families consisting of 487 people who were allotted 151 acres of land per family by the Russian government.

Romania controlled the area from the end of WWI until 1940. Then the USSR took over and divided Bessarabia; the northern section became part of Moldavia, while Teplitz and the southern section became part of the Ukraine. In 1940, as a result of a treaty between Germany and the USSR, the Germanic people of Bessarabia and other areas were moved westward, finally ending up in Germany in 1945. Since that time, Teplitz has been basically Ukrainian.

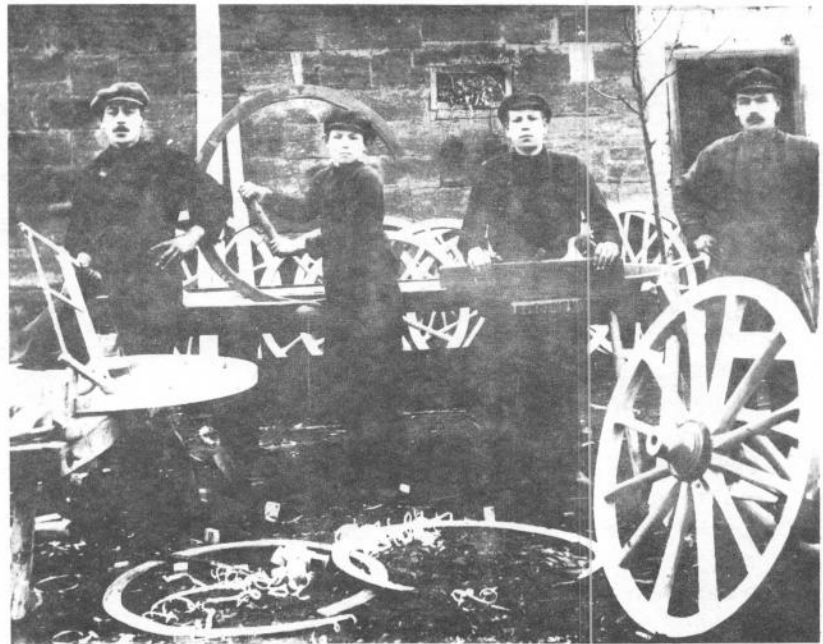
It is fairly safe to say that Ludwig and Elisabeth grew up knowing one another's families. Their hometown could have been described as a village of one long, main street with a few secondary streets. Most villages in Bessarabia resembled this type of layout because the land on both sides of the long village was farmed. It is

said that Ludwig was a grape grower in Russia. In Teplitz it was common for the farmers to specialize in some type of craft to supplement their farm incomes; carpentry was the craft Ludwig chose to pursue in addition to his farming.

Other than agriculture, a major industry of Teplitz was the "Wagon Works." The wagons of Teplitz were prized possessions and were produced through an operation that would be considered large-scale for that time period. In the article "Der Teplitzer Wagenbau" by Herbert Weiss which was published in the 1967 *Heimatkalendar Der Bessarabiendeutschen*, 4 smiths and 1 wagonmaker were employed by "Wagon Works" in 1847. In 1859 Teplitz sold 337 wagons, and by 1897 "Wagon Works" employed 46 smiths and 56 wagonmakers.



Teplitz prized wagon crafted at "Wagon Works," 1967 Heimatkalendar.



Der Meister mit seinen Lehrlingen und Gesellen vor der Werkstatt

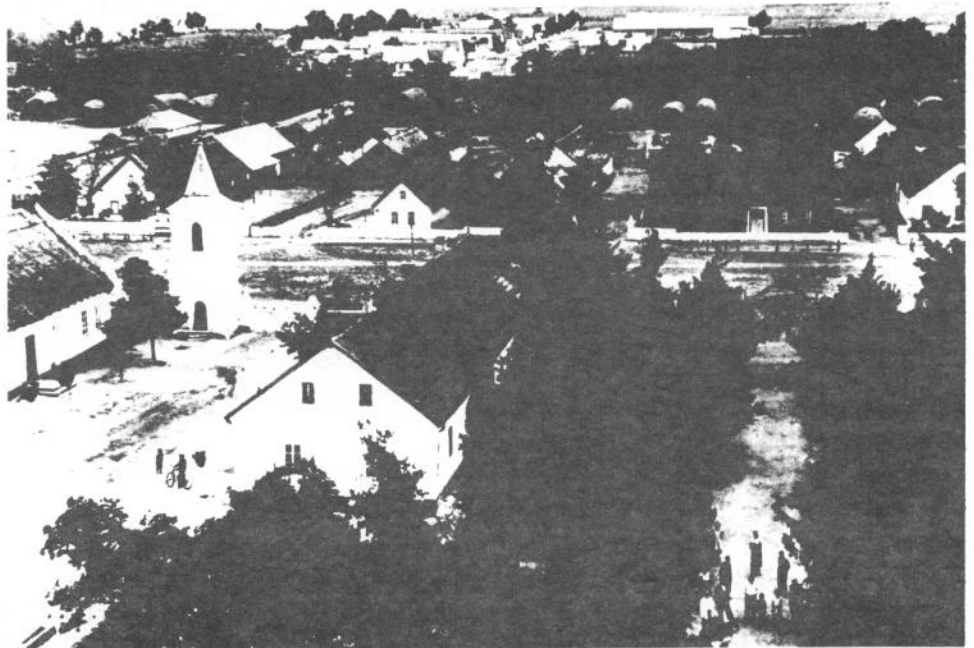
There was only one church in the community, the established Evangelical Lutheran Church, as well as only one school built in 1841(?).

Teplitz, Bessarabia, is located at 45 degrees 59 minutes N x 29 degrees 20 minutes E and is situated up against the south flank of the Kogilnik valley. In earlier times the east-flowing Kogilnik was a meandering stream. The stream has now been straightened and looks like a canal. The stream is north of the village, the railroad is north of the stream, and the highway is north of the railroad. North of the village is a broad, flat plain.

In early October of 1993, Herb Poppke visited the village of Teplitsa (Teplitz), Bessarabia. At that time 531 families consisting of 1480 people were living on the single, long street. There was nothing(?) left of the renowned "Wagon Works." A "House of Culture" has been built on the site of the old church, but the old church steps have been retained and refurbished as part of the "House of Culture." There is an old school building (NW of the old church) that houses a manual training shop. This shop is not now (1993) in use. The community built a new school (WSW of the old church) sometime after 1980(?). The old German cemetery (SSE of the old church) was destroyed in about 1960. A newer German cemetery was located SSE of the Ukrainian cemetery. The gravestones of this newer cemetery have been moved to a pile. No inscriptions seem to remain.

Today the "Selo" (village) of Teplitsa is in the country of Ukraine, Odessa Oblast (state), Arsiz Raion (county). The ZIP code is 272501.

The information for this chapter was compiled from *The Colony Teplitz* by Herbert Weiss, and the *Teplitzer Bildband* edited and published by the Bessarabien Heimatmuseum. Herb Poppke also supplied much of this information based on his trip to this area in 1993.



Dorfmitte mit Mittlerem Gäble (Mühlegäble)



"House of Culture" with the refurbished steps from the old church. Photo by Herb Poppke, 1993.



An old German cemetery that had been "trashed." Photo by Herb Poppke, 1993.

Family Group Sheet

Husband: Gottlieb Weingaertner

Born: 29-SEP-1811 in: Plieningen, Stuttgart, Wuerttemberg, Germ

Died: 03-JUL-1892 in: Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia

Ref: Stumpp p 479 Occupation:

Father: Johann Christoph Weingaertner

Mother: Elizabeth Hoegle

Wife: Magdalena Kussmaul

Married: 22-OCT-1835 in: Sarata, Bessarabia, SRussia

Born: MARCH, 1815 in: Rohrdorf, Nagold, Wuerttemberg, Germany

Died: 18-AUG-1866 in: Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia

Buried: in: SRussia

Ref: Stumpp P 350 Occupation:

Father:

Mother:

1	F	Magdalena Weingaertner sp. Gottlieb Reiser Born: 18-APR-1838	Died:	Born: 05-NOV-1836 Married: 12-DEC-1857 Died: 12-JUL-1899 Buried:	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
2	M	Daniel Weingaertner sp. Christine Reiser sp. Regine Reisser Born: 21-APR-1845	Died: 12-OCT-1907	Born: 17-JUN-1840 Married: 09-NOV-1861 Married: 10-NOV-1866 Died: 06-JAN-1928 Buried:	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
3	M	Gottlieb Weingaertner sp. Maria Agnes Boepple Born: 09-JAN-1845	Died: 09-JUN-1923	Born: 04-FEB-1843 Married: 26-NOV-1864 Died: 01-OCT-1917 Buried:	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia SRussia Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
4	F	Elisabeth Weingaertner sp. Ludwig Felchle Born: 13-MAY-1840	Died: 01-JUL-1912	Born: 24-AUG-1845 Married: 31-OCT-1863 Died: 08-JAN-1931 Buried: City Cemetery	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia Denhoff, Sheridan, ND Goodrich, Sheridan, ND
5	M	Heinrich Weingaertner sp. Unknown		Born: 31-DEC-1847 Married: Died: Buried:	SRussia
6	M	Friedrich Weingaertner sp. Elisabeth Schuh Born: 16-APR-1849	Died: 26-NOV-1931	Born: 07-JAN-1850 Married: 10-FEB-1872 Died: 28-JAN-1924 Buried:	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
7	M	Johannes Weingaertner sp. Elisabeth Hedrich Born: 28-SEP-1863	Died: 05-DEC-1923	Born: 11-MAY-1853 Married: 26-OCT-1880 Died: 18-FEB-1941 Buried:	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
8	M	Johann Georg Weingaertner sp. Unknown		Born: 23-APR-1856 Married: Died: Buried:	
9	M	Jakob Weingaertner sp. Wilhelmine Gross sp. Elisabeth Kraemer Born: 08-FEB-1863	Died:	Born: 24-AUG-1858 Married: Married: 14-MAY-1887 Died: 20-JAN-1887 Buried:	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia

Family Group Sheet

Husband: **Johann Christoph Weingaertner**

Born: 26-MAY-1784 in: Denkendorf, Esslingen, Wuerttemberg, German

Died: 10-NOV-1849 in: Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia

Ref: Stumpp p 479 Occupation:

Father:

Mother:

Wife: **Elizabeth Moegle**

Married: in:

Born: 1783 in: Plieningen, Stuttgart, Wuerttemberg, Germ

Died: 16-NOV-1818 in: Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia

Other: aka Moeple in:

Ref: Stumpp p 377 Occupation:

Father:

Mother:

1	M	Gottlieb Weingaertner	Born: 29-SEP-1811	Plieningen, Stuttgart, Wuerttemberg, Germ
		sp. Magdalena Kusmaul	Married: 22-OCT-1835	Sarata, Bessarabia, SRussia
		Born: MARCH, 1815	Died: 18-AUG-1866	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
			Buried:	
2	F	Christina Weingaertner	Born: 01-MAR-1814	Plieningen, Stuttgart, Wuerttemberg, Germ
		sp. Christoph Handel	Married:	
		Born: 25-JAN-1803	Died: 29-AUG-1868	SRussia
			Buried:	



Sign identifying Teplitz. Photo by Herb Poppke, 1993.

Family Group Sheet

Husband: **Georg Friedrich Felchle**

Born: 24-FEB-1806 in: Obergroeningen, Schw. Gmuend, Wuerttemberg
 Baptized: 1820 in: Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
 Died: 10-JUN-1856 in: Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
 Buried: in: SRussia
 Other: LDS microfilm in: #038932 (Teplitz church records) p 380
 Ref: Stumpp p 554 Occupation:
 Father: Johann Georg Felchle
 Mother: Barbara Katharina Schuster

Wife: **Ursula Bahnmueller**

Married: 12-DEC-1827 in: Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
 Born: 10-JAN-1810 in: Undingen/Reutlingen, Wuerttemberg, Germ
 Baptized: 1824 in: Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
 Died: 31-MAR-1857 in: Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
 Other: Stumpp p 212 in:
 Ref: Stumpp p 554 Occupation:
 Father:
 Mother:

1 M Christian Felchle sp. Elisabeth Scherible	Born: 01-JAN-1831 Married: Died: 07-JAN-1912 Buried:	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
2 M Friedrich Georg Felchle sp. Rosina Bauer Born: ABT 1837 Died:	Born: 24-JUL-1833 Married: Died: 14-FEB-1880 Buried:	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
3 F Katharina Felchle	Born: 08-MAY-1835 Died: 12-DEC-1857 Buried:	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
4 M Johannes Felchle sp. Katherine Bast Born: 2-SEP-1839 Died:	Born: 03-AUG-1837 Married: 22-OCT-1858 Died: Buried:	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
5 M Ludwig Felchle sp. Elisabeth Weingaertner Born: 24-AUG-1845 Died: 08-JAN-1931	Born: 13-MAY-1840 Married: 31-OCT-1863 Died: 01-JUL-1912 Buried: City Cemetery	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia Goodrich, Sheridan, ND Goodrich, Sheridan, ND
6 M John Georg Felchle	Born: 17-FEB-1843 Died: Buried:	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
7 F Barbara Felchle	Born: 12-APR-1845 Died: Buried:	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
8 F Johanna Marie Felchle	Born: 24-MAY-1847 Died: Buried:	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
9 M Heinrich Felchle sp. Margarethe Reinhardt Born: 22-OCT-1853 Died:	Born: 27-JAN-1850 Married: Died: Buried:	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
10 M Jacob Felchle sp. Barbara Haas	Born: 13-JAN-1852 Married: 14-NOV-1874 Died: Buried:	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
11 M Andreas Felchle sp. Johanna Anderst	Born: 12-FEB-1854 Married: 29-MAY-1881 Died: Buried:	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia

Family Group Sheet

Husband: Johann Georg Felchle

Born: 30-JAN-1775 in: Neckartailfingen, Nuertingen, Wuerttemberg
 Died: 29-NOV-1848 in: Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
 Other: Weiss p 14 in:
 Ref: Stumpp p 554 Occupation:
 Father:
 Mother:

Wife: Barbara Katharina Schuster

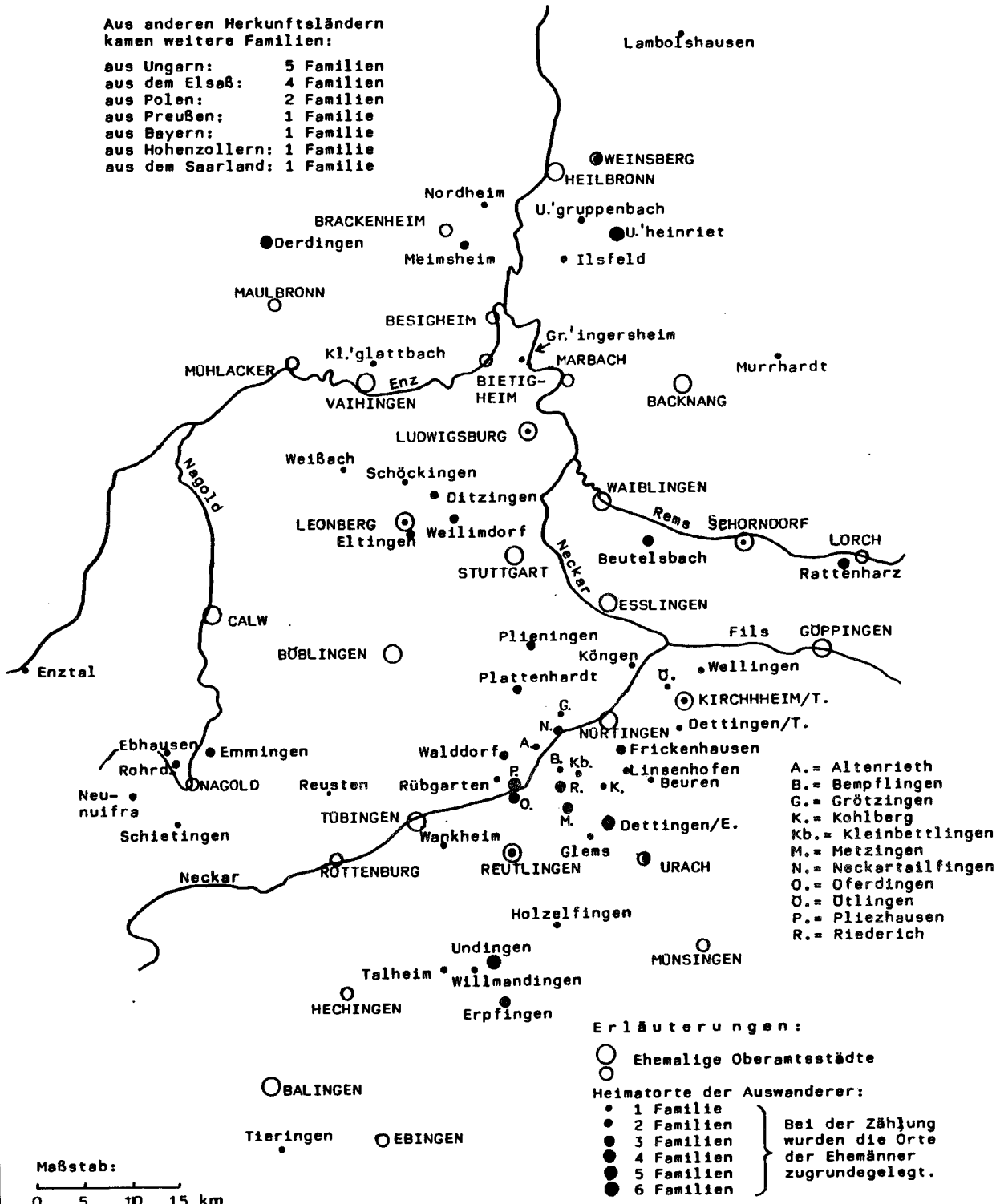
Married: ABT 1800 in: Germany
 Born: 21-MAY-1775 in: Neckartailfingen/Nuertingen Wuerttemberg
 Died: 22-NOV-1841 in: Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
 Other: Stumpp p 440 in:
 Ref: Stumpp p 554 Occupation:
 Father:
 Mother:

1	F	Christina Felchle	Born: 1804	Nuertingen, Wuerttemberg, Germany
			Died: 1823	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
			Buried:	
2	F	Katharina Felchle	Born: 1806	Nuertingen, Wuerttemberg, Germany
			Died: 1823	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
			Buried:	
3	M	Georg Friedrich Felchle	Born: 24-FEB-1806	Obergroeningen, Schw.Gmuend, Wuerttemberg
	sp.	Ursula Bahnmueller	Married: 12-DEC-1827	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
		Born: 10-JAN-1810	Died: 31-MAR-1857	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
			Died: 10-JUN-1856	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
			Buried:	SRussia
4	F	Johanna Friedericke Felchle	Born: 1814	Nuertingen, Wuerttemberg, Germany
			Died: 1855	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
			Buried:	

KARTE VON WÜRTTEMBERG: Herkunftsorte der Auswanderer

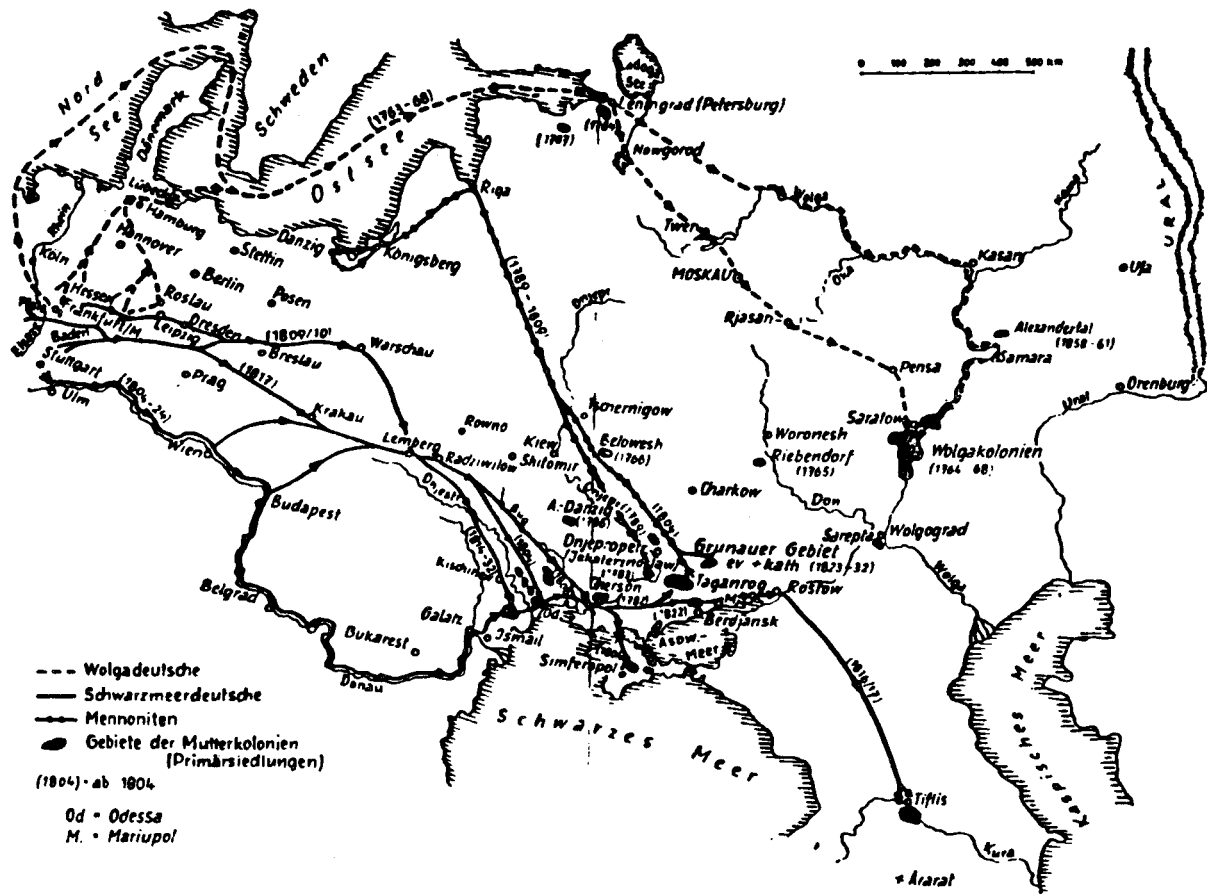
Aus anderen Herkunftsländern kamen weitere Familien:

- aus Ungarn: 5 Familien
- aus dem Elsaß: 4 Familien
- aus Polen: 2 Familien
- aus Preußen: 1 Familie
- aus Bayern: 1 Familie
- aus Hohenzollern: 1 Familie
- aus dem Saarland: 1 Familie



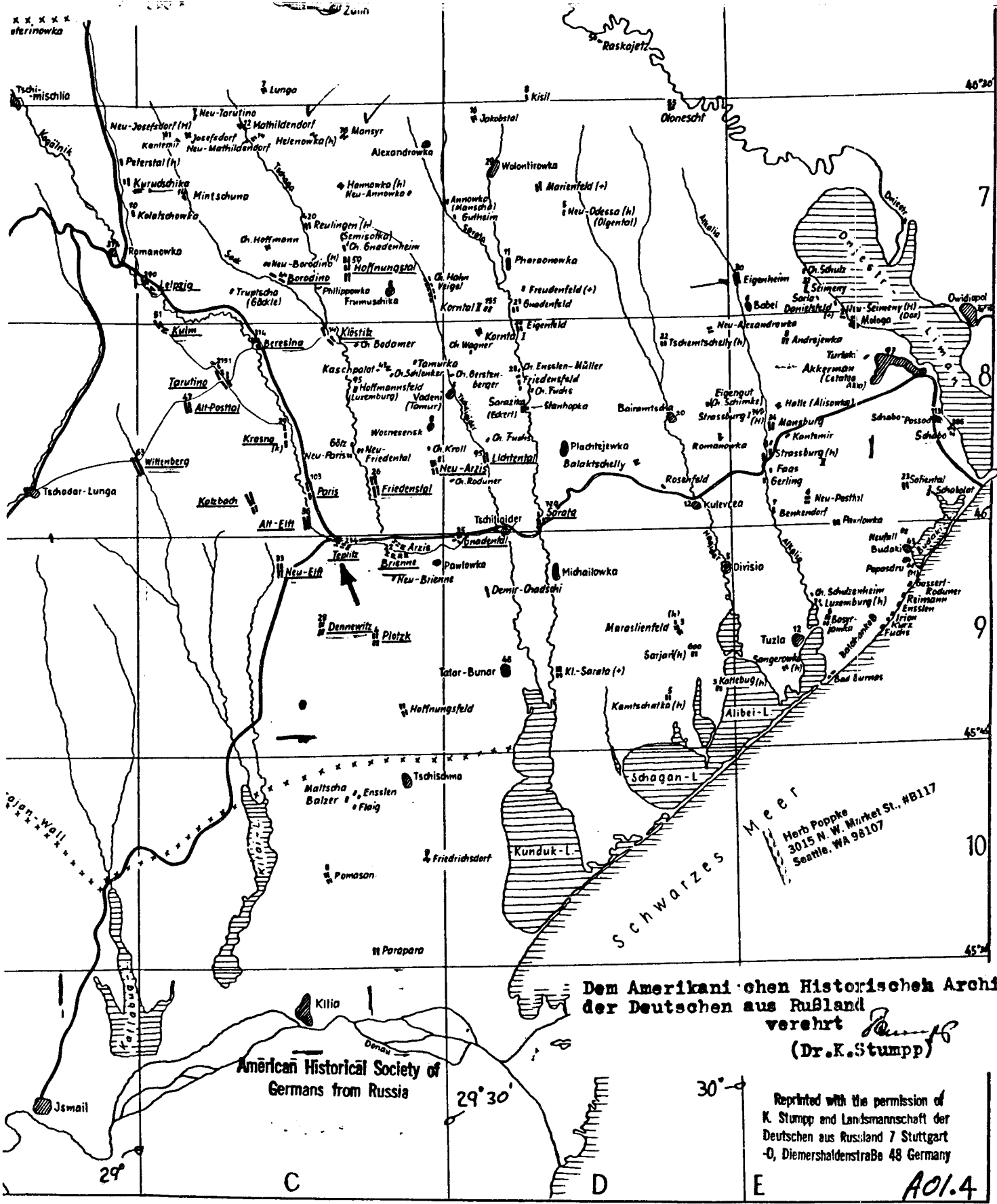
L. Dobler

Herkunftsländer, Wanderwege und Ansiedlungsgebiete der Wolga- und Schwarzmeerdeutschen in den Mutterkolonien (Primärsiedlungen) 1763 - 1861



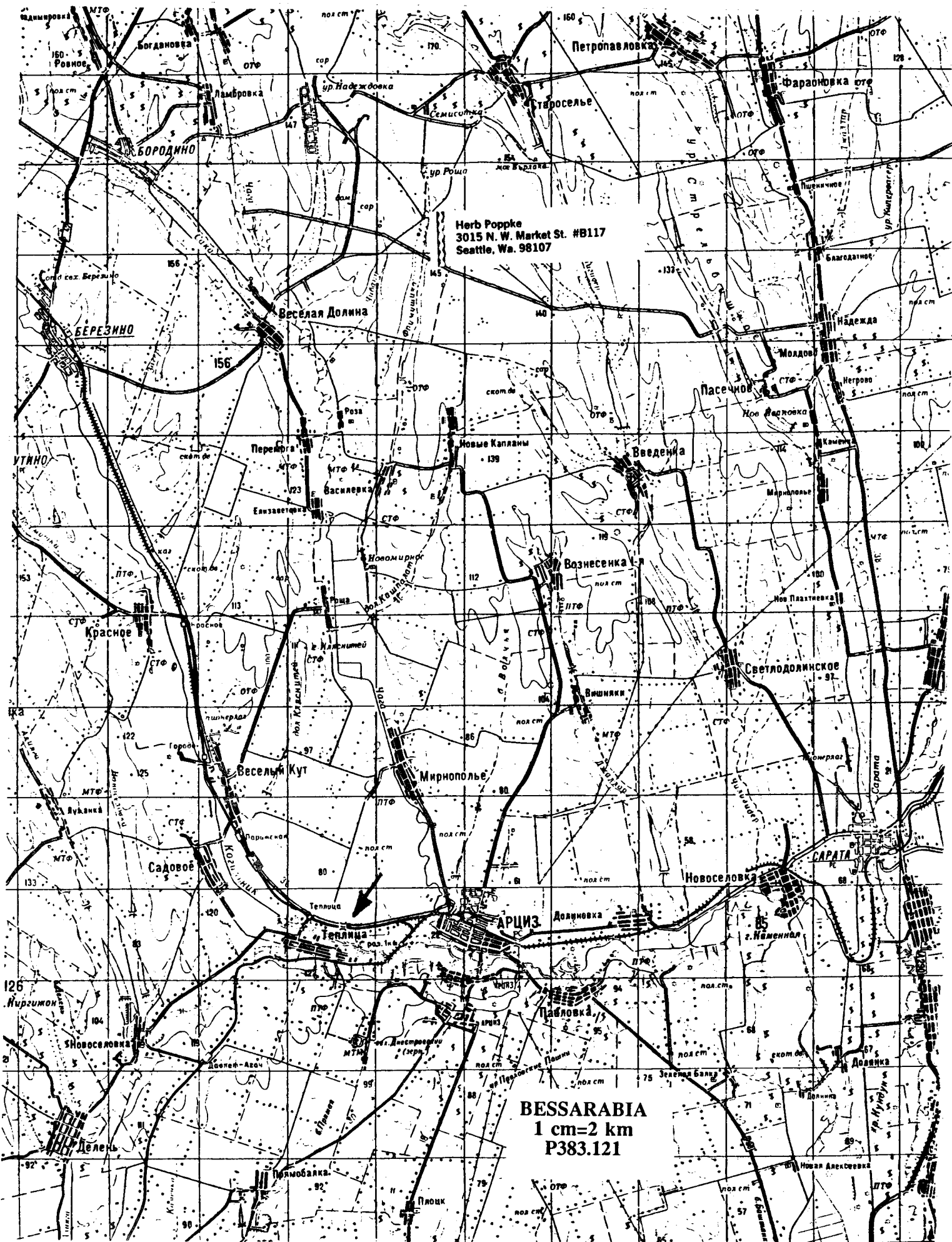
Land of Origin, Migration Routes, Original Settlements, and Mother Colonies of Germans in Russia 1763 – 1861

COURTESY OF DR. KARL STUMPP, A. H. S. G. R.



(aus Deutscher Osten).

BESSARABIA 1 cm=6.18 km

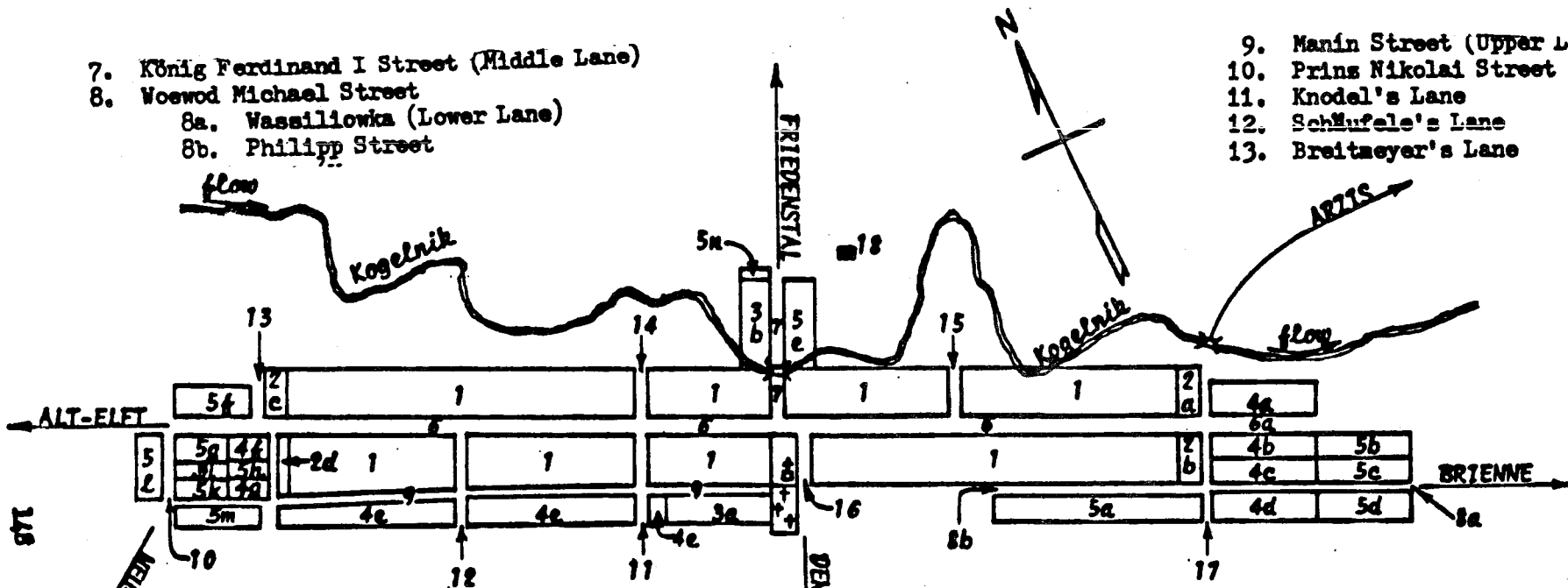


Herb Popcke
 3015 N. W. Market St. #B117
 Seattle, Wa. 98107

BESSARABIA
 1 cm = 2 km
 P383.121

7. König Ferdinand I Street (Middle Lane)
8. Woewod Michael Street
 - 8a. Wassilowka (Lower Lane)
 - 8b. Philipp Street

9. Manin Street (Upper Lane)
10. Prins Nikolai Street
11. Knodel's Lane
12. Schufale's Lane
13. Breitmeyer's Lane



DESIGNATION:

1. 100 yards which were measured out at the time of settlement.
2. 11 residences which were measured out in the early years of settlement.
 - 2a. 5 yards
 - 2b. 3 yards
 - 2c. 2 yards
 - 2d. 1 yard (in 1858.)
3. 20 residences which were measured out
 - 3a. 9 yards
 - 3b. 11 yards (in 1892.)
4. 100 farmyards which were measured out
 - 4a. 12 yards
 - 4b. 13 yards
 - 4c. 13 yards
 - 4d. 12 yards
 - 4e. 39 yards
 - 4f. 4 yards
 - 4g. 7 yards

5. 100 farmyards which were measured out in 1922.

- 5a. 20 yards
- 5b. 10 yards
- 5c. 10 yards
- 5d. 10 yards
- 5e. 12 yards
- 5f. 7 yards
- 5g. 5 yards
- 5h. 3 yards
- 5i. 2 yards
- 5j. 5 yards
- 5l. 10 yards
- 5m. 5 yards
- 5n. 1 yard

14. Gerber's Lane
15. Kolb's Lane
16. Mill Road
17. Schuh's Lane
18. Steam Mill

6. Carol II Street.
 - 6a. Martinstal

P320.4

1A
1A

Chapter 3 - The Baptist Religion

As stated earlier, Ludwig and Elisabeth and their family left Teplitz, Bessarabia, after 1877 for religious reasons.

In *The Colony Teplitz*, 1978, the English version of Herbert Weiss's *Geschichte Der Kolonie Teplitz*, 1931, we gain some insight as to what had happened to prompt the Felchles' move.

When discussing the history of several pastors of Teplitz, Bessarabia, Weiss mentions Pastor Theophil Meyer, a man who was described as knowing many words and having a powerful voice. At first this pastor seemed more accepted by the people of Teplitz and was having fewer problems than his predecessors. He did become troubled, though, with the spread of the Baptist movement.

Weiss states that, "Already in the 1870s, the Baptists, Georg Wagner and Karl Moser from Neu Freudenstal, Cherson, visited the village of Teplitz and held a meeting in the home of Konrad Schmauder. This meeting was attended by the Teplitzers Andreas Reiser, Ludwig Felchle, Philipp Handel and David Gaiser. When the mayor's office learned of it, it had both newcomers (Wagner and Moser) arrested and expelled.

In order to understand why the Baptist movement was considered an evil, one must understand that there was only one official church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church, that had been abiding by *official* customs, laws and rules for many years. Because there was little separation of church and state, the officials with the most authority were often from the church. The Baptist movement disagreed with the established church on several basic points. The Baptists believed in a personal relationship with God. They also believed that people should be baptized at an age when they understood what their actions meant. The Baptists did not recognize the established Church council but rather felt they could administer themselves through elected directors. Confession and other sacraments to a church clergy were not necessary because they believed that only God can forgive the sins of the repentant.

Shortly after Wagner and Moser were arrested and expelled from the village of Teplitz, Andreas Reiser, Ludwig Felchle, Philipp Handel, David Gaiser and Johannes Reiser wanted to go to Mologa to be baptized. When the senior or district mayor learned of this intent, he had them come to the district office where he tried, peacefully, to dissuade them from their thought of baptism. However, the Teplitzers answered that they had to obey God more than man. The heroes of faith were put in confinement for two days.

Another test of Ludwig's commitment to the Baptist movement came when he decided to thresh on an Apostle holiday of the official church. He was imprisoned by the senior mayor and was said to have cried out, "Go ahead, put us behind bars, our Lord God will, nevertheless, free us from you as he freed Peter from the chains."

Weiss explains in *The Colony Teplitz* that the secular and spiritual authorities had to engage in many a conflict with the extremely stubborn Baptists. A report of the Teplitz mayor, written to the district office on October 16, 1875, offers an accurate historical summary concerning the development of the Baptist movement in Teplitz. Following is the letter in its entirety:

"For some time and, especially, since the year 1866, a religious gathering under the name 'Stundisten' (Devotional-hour Brethren) arose among the inhabitants of the Evangelical Lutheran denomination of Teplitz. Their activity consists of meetings on Sundays and holidays and also, certain weekdays in a designated home to sing, pray and find edification in the Holy Scriptures under the guidance of so-called prayer elders whom they choose from their midst. This activity would be praiseworthy if they would be satisfied only with prayer. That, however, is by no means the case. As plain and uneducated people, they interpret the words of the Holy Scriptures for themselves according to their own belief and understanding and, therefore, fall into many mistakes and erroneous ideas. Thus, they consider themselves as the only true Christians and even consider themselves as

consecrated. However, they consider all others as people who have lapsed into sin and followers of the devil, and they not only do not want to be connected in any way with these sinners, but even oppose that which serves the common good. In that way, they cause disorder, disputes and scolding at the meetings of the congregation for which, of course, they prepare themselves at their meetings. In order to achieve more results in their undertakings, they try, in all ways, bribery with money being no exception, to entice supporters to their side so that they can attain a majority at the meetings of the congregation and, consequently, realize their plans unhindered. For some time, the rumor circulated in Teplitz that some families from the midst of the 'Devotional-hour Brethren' had the intention to secede from the Evangelical Lutheran Church and to go over to one of the most immoral sects, namely to the sect of the Anabaptists (the Baptist movement). With the intention to imitate the Baptists of the Cherson Province, the Teplitz settler, Andreas Reiser, brought to Teplitz some printed non-censored books in which the teaching and commandments of this sect are stated and distributed among his devotional-hour adherents. When the village government learned of these books, it was afraid that, when the Anabaptist movement once had taken root with its harmful effect on the common good, the latter would destroy the unity of the congregation and divide the population into two hostile camps and, therefore, seized 15 copies of these books at the residences of Andreas Reiser, Johannes Reiser, David Gaiser, Ludwig Felchle, and Philipp Handel. After the village government had looked through these books which were printed abroad in the German language, it established that the fundamental doctrine of the Baptists is as follows:

1. 'The Society of the Lord' consists only of true-believing Christians who, after they repent of their sins, have received the Holy Baptism while all others who have not consummated this Holy action are not Christians.

2. Since the children cannot yet repent of their sins because they do not recognize and understand the latter, it is for-

bidden to baptize them before they have attained their full age and all are condemned to death and to eternal pain.

3. 'The Society of the Lord' administers itself through its elected director so the clergy and the Church Council will not be recognized.

4. The Sacrament of the Altar and the Confession will be abolished since only God alone can forgive the sins of the repentant.

From these briefly quoted points, it is clear that the Baptists reject all customs and rules of the hitherto existing church and, therefore, do not attend the divine service of the church. They administer the Holy Communion without the pastor. They do not baptize their infants before they are of age and, therefore, do not register them in the baptismal record.

Likewise, they also do not send the latter to the village schools and repudiate payment of taxes for the support of the schools, teachers, and pastors. They disturb public peace and regulation. In a word, if the administration doesn't promptly take the necessary steps to destroy the evils which have arisen through the spreading of the Baptist faith, big disturbances will arise in the congregation.

The village mayor will have great difficulty in keeping the baptismal records which, especially because of military duty, represent one of the most important documents. Moreover, the unity in civic and economic respect and also the domestic order which has already, to some extent, suffered much from the 'Stundisten' will be destroyed and hostility will arise between the existing parties so that the village government will no longer be able to administer the

common affairs. In that the village government encloses the 15 confiscated books, it asks the district office that it report about this to the higher authorities and to ask for orders for extermination of the Baptist movement and, at the same time, to ask whether the congregation has right to excommunicate by decree of the congregation those members who have gone over to the sect of the Baptists.

Mayor Balmer. Secretary Kludt."

The strict proceedings of the village authority succeeded in preventing the spread of Baptistism in Teplitz. The hostile attitude of the authorities didn't please the Teplitz Baptists and they moved away. Johannes and Andreas Reiser moved to the Cherson District and Ludwig Felchle eventually moved to America.

Chapter 4 - The Vakarskiye Connection

From 1877 to approximately 1891, it is unclear where Ludwig, Elisabeth and their family lived. We do know that Katharina (their youngest daughter) was born on August 10, 1891 in Vakarskiye, Odessa, Russia. Johannes Felchle married Magdalena Krein in Vakarskiye in 1892. Because of a 10-year lease description in several sources, we could infer that Ludwig and Elisabeth came to Vakarskiye in 1884 because they left for America in 1894.

Vakarskiye, today, is a village located in the Ukraine at about 90 km NW of Odessa and 22 km east of Kassel. A number of Vakarskiye families (Dockters, Erfles, Felchles, Kramlich, Kreins, and maybe others) immigrated to America from this village in 1894.

Two khutors (chutors) make up the colony of Vakarskiye and appear to be a half mile apart. A khutor is a small hamlet, usually on rented land. (Because khutors were on rented land, they may have been in existence only a short time.) Both of the Vakarskiye khutors are on the east side of the stream which flows toward the southwest. Vakarskiye is cut into two parts by an east-west road. In all probability, the newer NE part is Khutor #2 (where the Dockters and Kreins lived) while the older SW part is Khutor #1 (where the Erfles, Felchles and Kramlich lived.) Khutor #2 was Lutheran and Khutor #1 was Baptist. (The marriage of Johannes Felchle and Magdalena Krein was considered a mixed marriage.)

In the June 1991 issue of the *GRCA* (Glueckstal Colonies Research Association) *Newsletter*, Herb Poppke published an article that explains his search for where Ludwig and Elisabeth lived before they came to America. It also answers the question why Ludwig and Elisabeth took a train 140 km east of Teplitz to a western destination. They took this train because it was near Vakarskiye. While the men went to Teplitz, Bessarabia, to get their papers in order, the women and children were stashed in the Vakarskiye area until it was time to board the train.

Following is the article "The Vakarskiye Connection" by Herb Poppke published in the *GRCA Newsletter*.

itskiye Connection" by Herb Poppke published in the *GRCA Newsletter*.

"From my early years, I had heard the name Wagarskie, South Russia. How I located that place on a map is a long detective story involving finding clues in unlikely places and recalling comments from years ago to create the total picture. It also involved ordering maps from diverse sources, putting together my limited Russian and my somewhat better German to locate the village in the Odessa area. After many years, I now feel satisfied that Wagarske has been located.

Born in Goodrich, North Dakota to Theodore Poppke and Katharina Felchle, I knew about the ancestral village of the Felchle clan, Teplitz, Bessarabia. My father kept a little black book, in which he had written that his wife Katharina had been born in Wagarske, South Russia. Katharina's obituary gives her birth place as Wayarske, Russia.

Since 1973, when I became involved with the German Russian organizations, I have been trying to locate Wagarske. Family, relatives, and friends claim never to have heard of it. I could not find it on maps, or on lists of villages. I was at a dead end. I gave up, but only temporarily.

In 1985 Marilyn Fletcher of Lakewood, Colorado, gave me a clipping from the 27 March 1928 *Dakota Frei Presse*. The clipping was a letter my maternal uncle, Johannes Felchle, had written to Michael Decker in the North Caucasus. Johannes mentioned that a Joseph Fleck of Goodrich had lived in Wagarske Chutor.

This was confirmation that a place called Wagarske existed. I renewed my search. I concentrated my new search in the North Caucasus region rather than in Bessarabia. There were Felchles in the Caucasus, but I could find nothing about Wagarske.

The Bessarabian Heimatmuseum had no information. The Landsmannschaft der Deutschen aus Russland found Wakarskij Chutor listed on 'Ortsliste der UdSSR von Innenministerium Baden-Wuerttemberg.' The chutor was located in the Odessa area, but they had no additional information. I now shifted my search to the Odessa area.

I learned that Felchles had gone

to the area, but I could find no mention of Wakarskij Chutor. However, this bit of information about the Odessa locality did jog my memory as I recalled that my father had mentioned Odessa in connection with my mother. I had discounted this bit of information because I was so sure that Bessarabia was the proper location. However, it turned out that my father knew what he was talking about.

In the 3 November 1939 *Staats-Anzeiger* Johannes Felchle mentions Wakarske in connection with Fred Kramlich and Joseph Fleck. Neither the Kramlichs nor the Flecks were of help.

With the assistance of Mary Mills and Gerda Walker of Denver, I became aware of a book called *Die Deutschen Siedlungen in der Sowjetunion* by Georg Leibbrandt. This lists Wakarskij Chutor as being in the parish of Kassel and in the county of Tiraspol. Now I was closing in on the area, but I could not come up with a specific location.

There seemed to be a conspiracy of silence concerning Wakarskij Chutor. This led me to toy with another idea. My mother was much younger than her siblings, and her mother would have been quite old at the time of my mother's birth. Perhaps my mother was not my grandmother's daughter! Ida, the daughter of Jacob Felchle, my mother's brother, had written that there was a great difference between her father and his brothers. Jakob was the second youngest in the family. Could he too have been adopted? Ida never would explain what she had written but when I saw her in California she said that there had been some hard feelings between the brothers. Ida, and everyone else, had heard nothing about an adoption. So I put that idea to rest. Ida is about ten years older than I am and she had never heard of Wakarskij Chutor.

In 1986 Greg Dockter noticed the name Felchle in the book, *From Neudorf, Russia to the North Dakota Plains with Johann Dockter*. Greg was good enough to send me copies of several pages. And there it was! Johann Dockter writes that in Wakarskoe Chutor #1 were the families Erfle, Kramlich and Felchle from Bessarabia, also the Gramms from Kassel and people from other villages. The

Chutor was located on the Sawisky Farm. I must mention that at that time Greg was not aware of my interest in Wakarskoe Chutor.

Johann Dockter writes that a half mile from Chutor #1 the Neudorf people settled in Chutor #2. The landlord was Salvitzky. Dockters, Kreins and others lived there. They had 800 dessiatines of land (about 2160 acres), an area about 1 1/2 miles wide by 3 miles long.

From *Neudorf, Russia to the North Dakota Plains*, has the only extensive information about the village that I have. Johann mentions that Wakarskoe was near the railroad station Wessely Kut. The name Wessely Kut is fairly common. I think that the locality in question is east of Kassel in the vicinity of Micheltal and Chutor Welter. This railroad station was used quite frequently by the German Russians. I placed my bet that Wakarskoe was Neu-Sawitzke or at least in that area. Neu-Sawitzke is about 22 km SW of Wessely Kut and about 12 km from Klein Neudorf, and the name is close to Sawizky. (Spelling was fluid a century ago and varied by dialect.) I admit I was essentially guessing, but I did have information to support the guess.

In 1989 George Maser gave me an Austrian military map 48 47 Katarzy. Below the city of Nowo Pietrowskoje (Novo-Petrovka), in small print, is Sawickago. This is southwest of Wesielyi Kut. South of Wesielyi Kut the same Sawickago appears below Chutor Heimanskij. I noted the similarity to Sawizky, but nothing more came of the matter.

At the 1990 AHSGR convention in Sacramento, there were many maps of interest. These included Soviet military maps at a scale of 1 cm=0.5 km supplied to AHSGR by Brent Mai who had them copied from the Library of Congress, after consultation with JoAnn Kuhr of the AHSGR staff in Lincoln. Ron Neuman had several Soviet maps at a scale of 1 cm=0.25 km. The Soviet maps are very detailed and of great interest. Also, there was a roll of USA military maps at a scale of 1 cm=2.5 km. I copied 8 1/2x11 snippets of many of these maps of areas of interest to me and my friends. While I was cataloging and filing these 8 1/2x11 snippets, there, right in front of me, was Vakarskiye!

Conclusion: VAKARSKIYE (Wakarskij Chutor, Wakarskoe Chutor, Khutor Vakarskiye, Wagarske, Wayarske, Wakarske, Wagarsge) was located 22 km east of Kassel, 6 km southwest of

the railroad station Vessely Kut, 29 degrees 56 minutes east longitude, 47 degrees 4 minutes north latitude. There were 28 inhabitants in 1905. It was in the Parish of Kassel, county of Tiraspol, state of Odessa, Russia.

Chutor #1 is located on the Sawizky farm.

Chutor #2, land rented from Salvitzky, 800 dessiatine, or 2160 acres, 1 1/2 miles wide by 3 miles long.

It is shown on the USA Military map: Kishinev, NL-35-3, 1-AMS.

I believe that this Vakarskiye is the village where my mother was born. Additional information that reinforces this belief follows.

Johann Dockter writes that to the east of us was Drei-Brunnenal (Three Well Valley). I have been unable to locate this village. Map NL-35-3 shows a Tri-Krinitzky located 3.5 km east of Vakarskiye. The Drei and Tri both mean three.

Johann Dockter writes: 'The leases of our neighbors below us had expired. Most of them sold all their belongings and made ready to go to America. Some returned to their native villages. The Spring of 1894 saw our community break up. I drove Mother Felchle and some of her girls to Matzke. The menfolk had to go to Bessarabia to get their papers in order.'

The 'Mother Felchle' appears to be my maternal grandmother, Elisabeth Weingaertner, the wife of Ludwig Felchle. I have not been able to locate Matzke. On Stumpp's map, the Kutschurgan River, just west of Vessely Kut, is shown as the Matzka. There could be some connection. Map NL-35-3 shows a Matskuly located 6.5 km north of Vakarskiye, and this could be Matzke. Volume 16, no. 3, page 25 of the *Heritage Review* gives Matzke as a surname.

Johann Dockter writes that it is 50 miles from Neu-Saritsky to Wakarskoe, and that they made the trip in one day. However, I doubt they could have traveled that far by wagon. Even 50 kilometers would have been difficult. The Kishinev map NL-35-3 shows a village, Novoye-Zaritskoye, 50 km north of Vakarskiye. This location is about where I would expect Neu-Saritsky to be.

The SS Havel arrived in New York City on 29 March 1894 from Bremen. On board were 12 Felchles, 19 Erfles, and 25 Kramlich's. Possibly all came from Vakarskiye, and many of them settled near Goodrich, North Dakota.

In the book, *Memories of the Black Sea Germans*, by Joseph S. Height, Johannes Felchle writes, "... we left the old home in Teplitz, Bessarabia and all that the word implies, and boarded the train at Wesselyi Kut . . .'

When I read this in 1980, I could not understand why they would travel 140 km east to catch a train to a western destination. There is a railroad running through Teplitz and northwest through Paris, Bessarabia, and why not take the local train? Paris is now called Vessely Kut, but was it also called that in 1894? If they had boarded the train at Paris, would not Johannes Felchle have used the name Paris instead of Wesselyi Kut? Why not just get on the train at Teplitz? My conclusion was that the train through Teplitz did not exist in 1894 or was not running at that time. But why did they go all the way to Vessely Kut when there were closer train stations? Johannes makes no mention of Wakarske and the 140 km trip, but Johann Dockter's explanation makes everything clear: the families had remained in the Vakarskiye area.

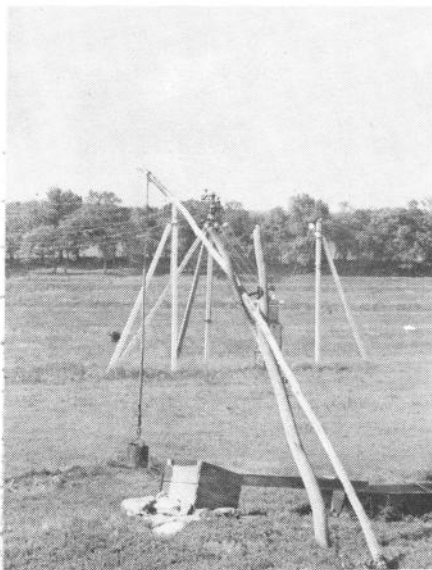
The Declaration of Intention of Jakob Miller states that he was born in Wagarsge in 1884. Jakob is the father of Lloyd Miller of Goodrich. Rosie Gries, the Goodrich Avon Lady of Johnny Carson fame, is a cousin of Jakob Miller. Rosie's people came from Klein-Neudorf, which is located about 9 km south of Vakarskiye. My maternal cousin, Katie Erfle, was married to John Miller, Jakob's brother. Both David Erfle and Johann Dockter married women whose maiden name was Fink. Further, my maternal uncle, Johannes Felchle, married Magdalena Krein. My maternal aunt, Anna Maria Felchle, married Ludwig Krein. Two of Art Krein's daughters married Kramlich's. My maternal cousin, Katie Mauch, married a Fleck. The Gramms, Dockters, and others mentioned here lived in the Goodrich area. All of these people have a Wakarske and/or a Goodrich connection.

Johann Dockter mentions that Chutors #1 and #2 were located in that same valley. He states that #1 is below #2, which likely means downstream. The contours shown on the map indicate a valley along the road from Vessely Kut to Novo-Petrovka, with the drainage in the southwesterly direction. Vakarskiye is located on this road about halfway between these two towns. I conclude that the build-

ings for the two chutors were located in the vicinity of the present Vakarskiye, and the land for Chutor #1 ran to the southwest and the land for Chutor #2 ran to the northeast. Johann Dockter mentioned that the land from Chutor #2 was about 3 miles long; this would make a total of about 10 km. The distance between Vessely Kut and Novo-Petrovka is about 11 km. If my speculation is correct, the land for these two Chutors took up the entire distance between these towns. The road from Novo-Petrovka east to Chutor Heimanskij seems to run on high ground, and I have ruled that area out, because of Johann Dockter's comment about Wakarskoe being located in a valley.

I don't know if it is really possible to determine, a hundred years later, the actual location of the villages and their associated land. Perhaps Soviet military maps would be more authoritative in establishing the exact location. Going over there would be helpful, and most interesting."

On September 30, 1993, Herb Poppke, traveling with a driver and a translator, visited the village of Vakarskiye. There are a total of about 23 occupied yards (homes or farms) and a population of about 45-50 people. Many of the people are "Snow-Birds," living in one of the cities during the winter months. There are no children. There is no school or church. The people do no(?) farming but have a cow, other animals, and a large garden. Corn and grapes are common. The population is entirely Ukrainian (?)



Vakarskiye—there are many of these wells, some are equipped with electric pumps, photo by Herb Poppke, 1993.

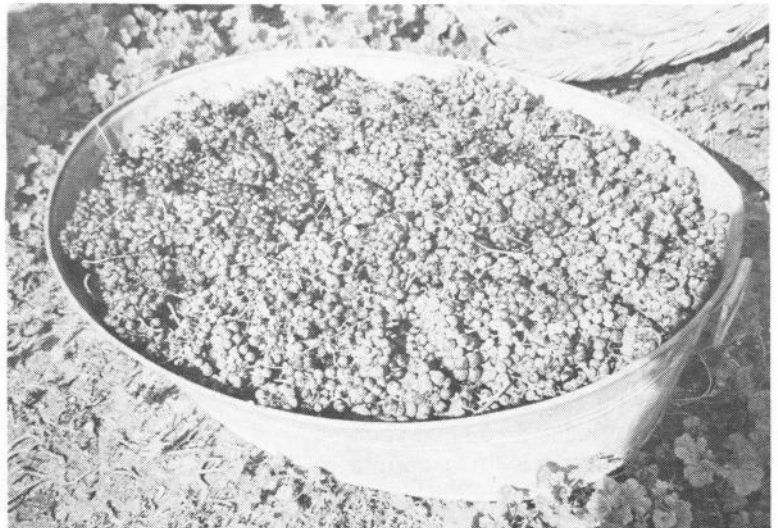


Vakarskiye, looking NW from hill on Tri-Krinitzky Road, note highway, photo by Herb Poppke, 1993.

The village is about 1 1/2(?) km long and lies in a shallow valley running in a SSW direction. Herb didn't see any stream. The village is up against the left, ESE, flank of the valley. The village consists of two khutors (hamlets). The older Khutor #1 is to the SSW, and the newer Khutor #2 is to the NNE. The Felchles and Erfles had lived in Khutor #1 and the Kreins and Dockters had lived in Khutor #2. The Felchles and Erfles were originally from Teplitz, Bessarabia, and the



Vakarskiye, looking north from hill on Tri-Krinitzky Road, note highway, photo by Herb Poppke, 1993.



Vakarskiye grapes, photo by Herb Poppke, 1993. Could Ludwig have grown grapes in Vakarskiye?

Kreins and Dockters were originally from Neudorf, Odessa.

Earlier, Herb had the notion that the land farmed by the German colonists lay along the valley. This might not be true. In addition to the valley, there are extensive fields on the plateau between Vakarskiye and Tri-Krinitzky. Also there is a large area on the opposite side of the highway from the village. Herb was unable to determine what lands were farmed by either Khutor.

Johann Dockter's description of the village as he saw it in 1890 is still appropriate today. Johann mentioned in the book, *From Neudorf, Russia, to the North Dakota Plains* that Khutora #2 consisted of 8 houses in a row that had been built by Germans who had moved away—many to America. It is easy to wonder who these Germans had been and what had happened to them. Herb Poppke said, "As I walked among the buildings, I could sense the presence of Elisabeth, Ludwig, Frederick, David, Magdalena, Daniel, Margaretha, Johann, and the many children scurrying about."

While visiting in Vakarskiye, Herb visited Ivan and Nadeshda Maglov. Ivan turned out to be very informative. He seemed to know much about the German colonies in the area. He mentioned that the correct name for Khutor #2 was Khutor Zheltie. Herb has been able to find the name "Zheltie" on only one map. It seems that most everyone and most maps just lump both Khutors under the name of Vakarskiye. Ivan also said that the name derives from the word "Vakari" which means something like "Cow-boy."

There is a Ukrainian cemetery on the opposite side of the highway. Ivan said there had been a church on the village side of the highway across from the cemetery. Nothing remains of the church, and Herb guesses that it

was a Ukrainian Church. Johann Dockter wrote that the people in Khutora #2 held school and church in a home, and the people in Khutor #1 held church in the school building. Khutor #2 was Lutheran, and Khutora #1 was Baptist; the two didn't mix very well.

Ivan said that the Germans were not allowed to be buried locally. They were buried 5 km SW at Novo-Petrovka. Herb states that he has the feeling that Vakarskiye was never a completely German village (?) Herb made a quick stop at the Novo-Petrovka cemetery and found an old gravestone made of concrete or stone; it was shaped similar to a cross.

Another couple whom Herb had visited were Nikolay and Alla Stupayenko. They took Herb, his driver and his translator to see a couple of old German houses. The first German house that Nikolay took the travelers to was Boris and Ludmilla Lashchyenko's, who had turned them away earlier in the day. It turns out that there was a legend that American farmers had built this village and then had gone back to America. They thought that Herb had come back to reclaim his old home! Nikolay explained to Boris and Ludmilla about the German colonists and what had actually happened. They were relieved to know that Herb meant them no harm.



Vakarskiye, on highway at NNE end of town, Nikolay Stupayenko's house is on the left, photo by Herb Poppke, 1993.



Vakarskiye, on highway at NNE end of town, photo by Herb Poppke, 1993.

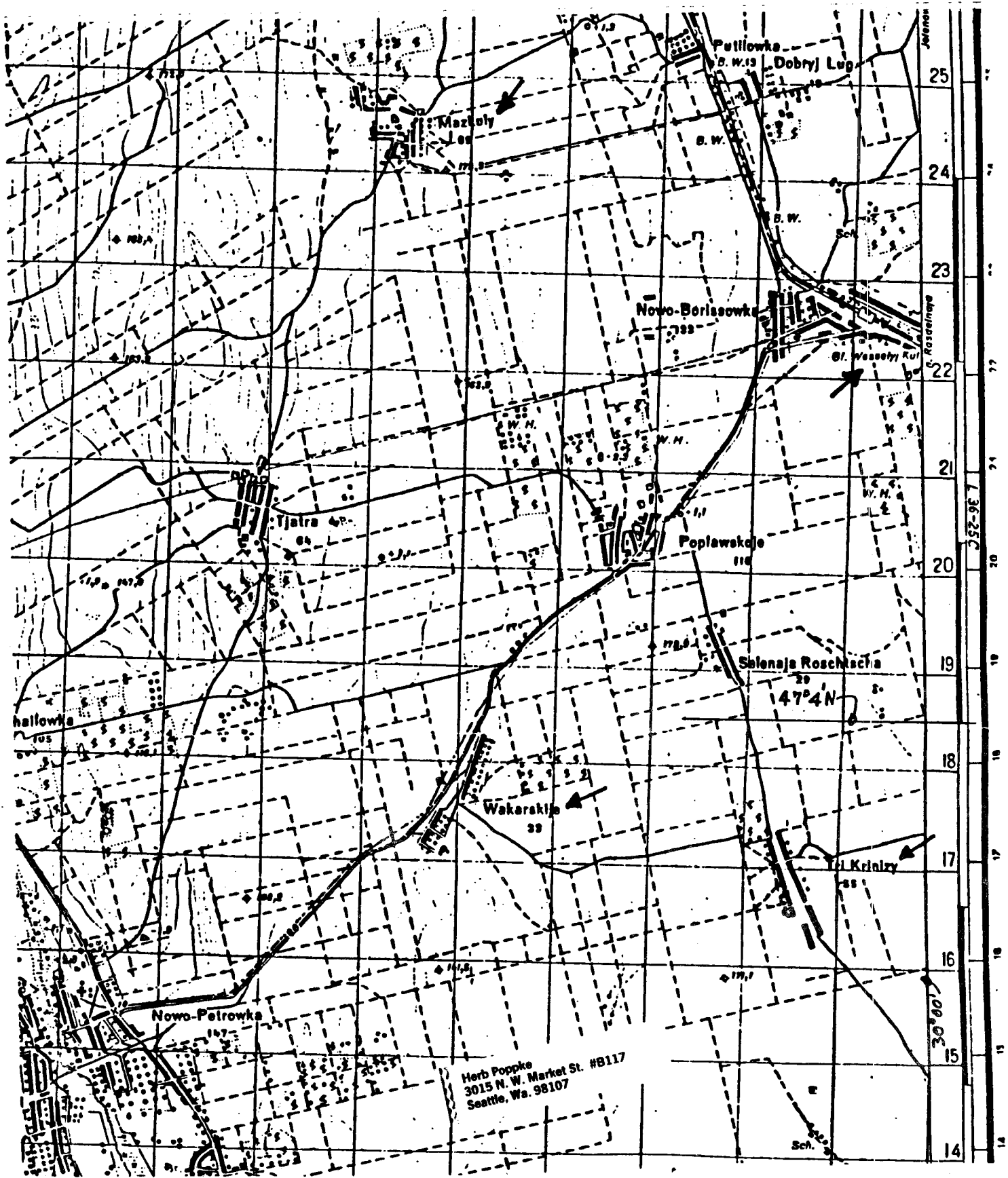
Nickolay showed them one other German house in Khutora #1; it was abandoned. There didn't seem to be any German houses in Khutor #2.

Herb comments, "The trip to Vakarskiye was an interesting experience, but I need to go back and do more digging."

Herb also encourages anyone in the vicinity of this old village to stop in and visit with the present residents. "Don't be surprised if you find yourself rubbing shoulders with a couple of ghosts."



Vakarskiye, old German house, photo by Herb Poppke, 1993.



L35-36-D, 1933; 1944, 1 cm = 0.5 km WAKARSKIJE P304.4

P304 is a German adaption of the Russian map (P300). (Grossolowu)

Lib. of Cong. G7010 ss50 G4; 47°3.5'N x 29°56' E.

H. Poppke 1992

Are the 2 sections of Wakarskije, Chutor #1 & Chutor #2?



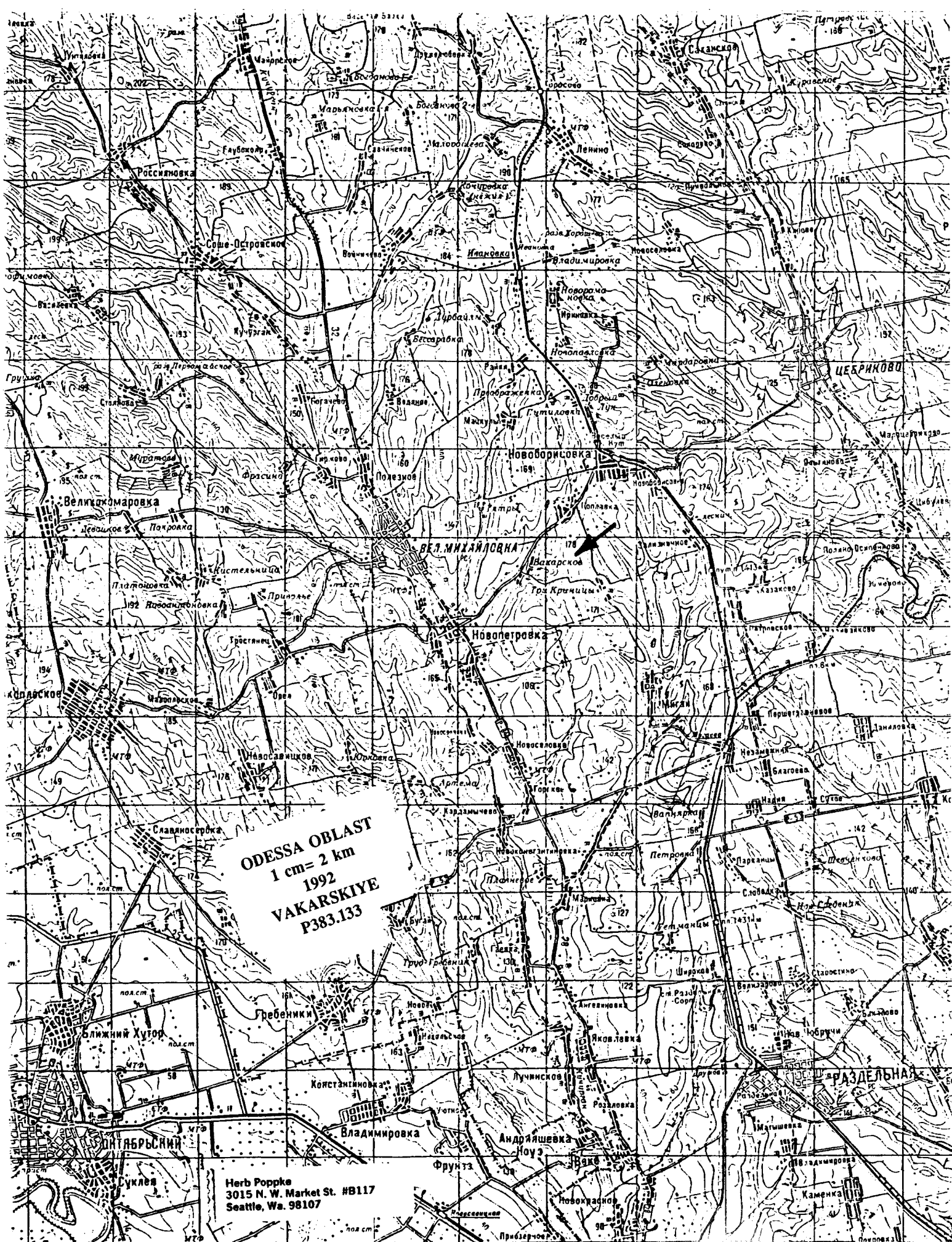
L-35-35-r, Russian, 1 c = 0.5 km

1929; 1933, X-250, G7000, s50, R8, 844505

Lib. of Cong. Note the 2 sections of Vakarskiye. (Grosooloyo) H. Poppke 1992

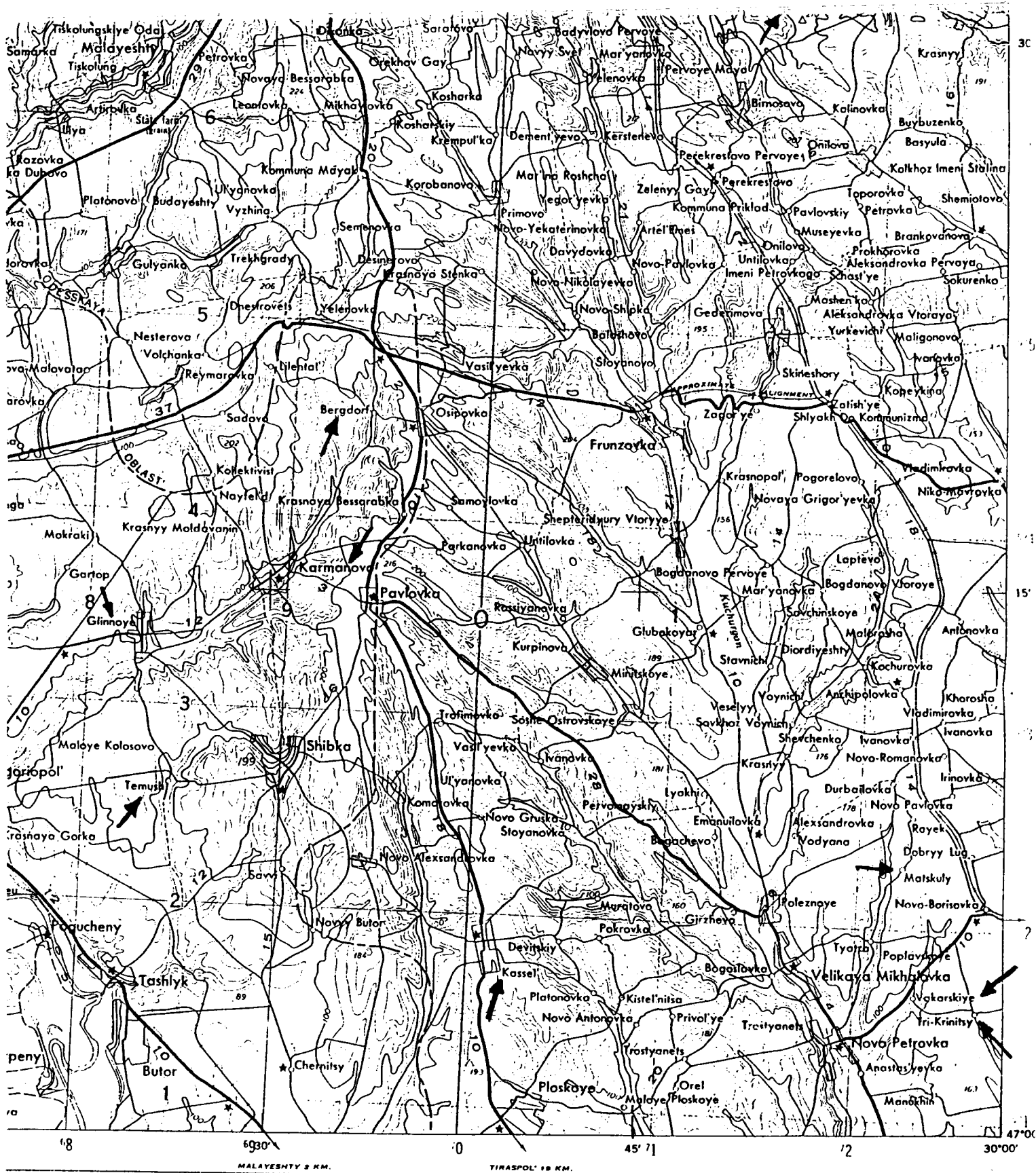
ВАКАРСКИЕ P300.4

Х. ВАКАРСКИЕ



ODESSA OBLAST
 1 cm = 2 km
 1992
 VAKARSKIYE
 P383.133

Herb Popke
 3015 N. W. Market St. #B117
 Seattle, Wa. 98107



P320.4

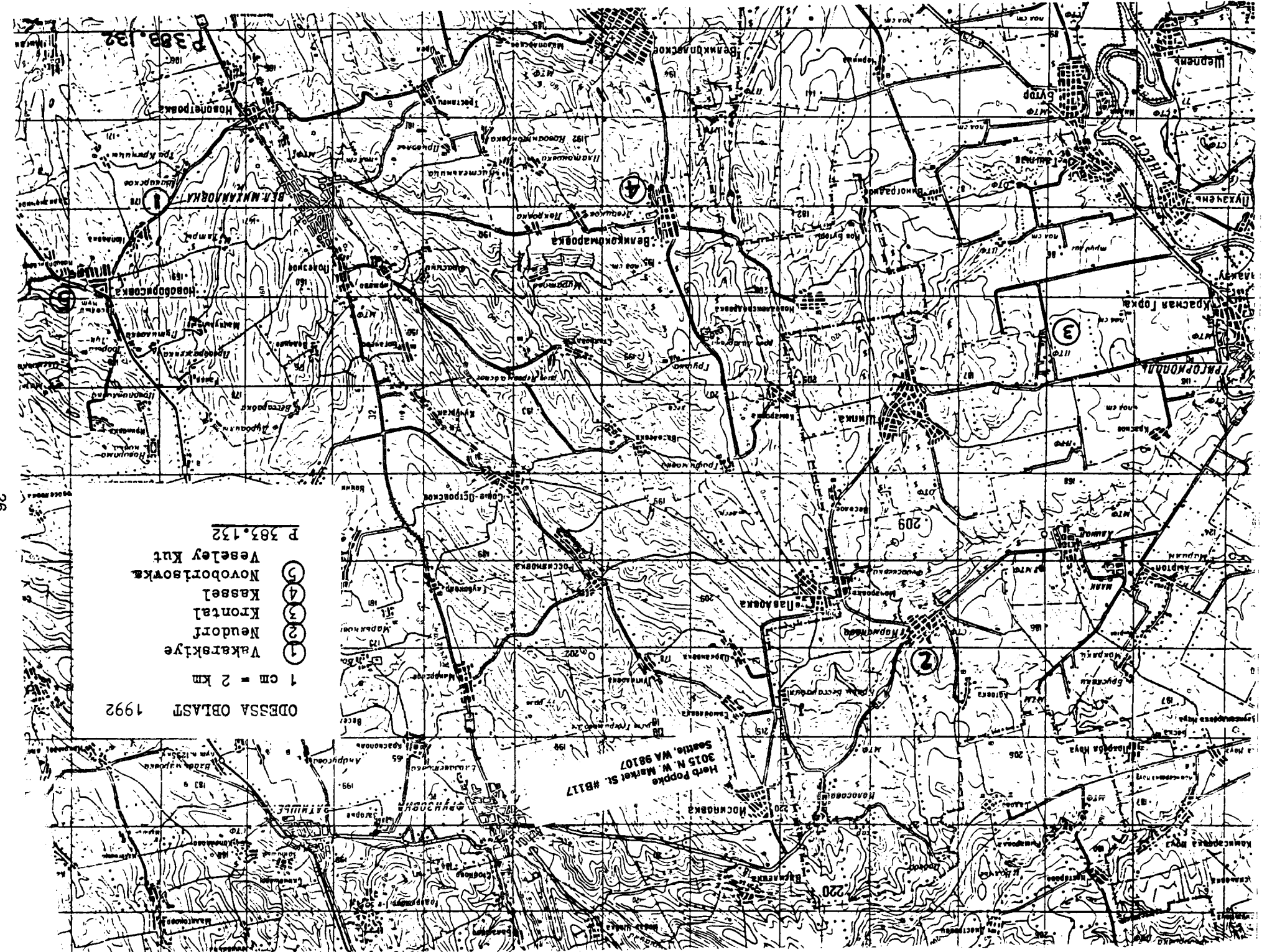
1961 USA Army Map Service. "Eastern Europe" - 1:250,000 - 1 cm = 2.5 km

NL-35-3, N-501, Kishinev, 1961 (See P277 & 278 for 1951 Edition)

Lib. of Cong., 1993, Herb Poppe P347.4

Temush - 47°9.7'N x 29°26.0' E - "Krontal (?)" - Gotthilf Fäichle 1895-1938 (?)

Vakarskiye - 47°3.5'N x 29°56.0' E - Katharina Fäichle 1891-1932 - Herb's mother



ODESSA OBLAST 1992

1 cm = 2 km

- 1 Vakar'skiye
- 2 Neudort
- 3 Krontal
- 4 Kassel
- 5 Novoborisovka

P 383.132

Herb Popple
 3015 N. W. Market St. #B117
 Seattle, WA 98107

Chapter 5 - Goodrich, North Dakota

Johann Dockter writes (in *From Neudorf, Russia to the North Dakota Plains*) That Vakarskiye was near the railroad station Wesseley Kut (Veseley Kut). Today (1994), a fairly large city named Vesely Kut is quite close to Vakarskiye. Vesely Kut is a busy railroad center with many grain elevators. Meaning "Happy Corner" or "Merry Corner," Veseley Kut is a common name. Paris, Bessarabia, is now called "Veseley Kut."

It does seem, though, that the 12 Felchles, 19 Erfles, 15 Kramlichs and possibly others, did board the train in the city of Vesely Kut in March of 1894 for Bremen, Germany. On March 29, 1894, they arrived in New York on the *S.S. Havel*. The Felchles, Erfles and Kramlichs who arrived had been recent residents of Vakarskiye(?).

It is important to note that Siona Felchle's name was not on the passenger list of the *S.S. Havel*. It was later discovered that she had married Johann Ahl earlier (possibly in Vakarskiye), and they came to America in 1890(?). They may have been the contact for all the other relatives still living in the old country.

The Felchle family continued their journey from New York by railway and arrived in Eureka, South Dakota, on April 4, 1894. (Eureka was at the end of the railroad and was considered a transportation center of the time.)

Ludwig, Johannes and possibly others went to work that summer for various farmers in the area. Six months later, on October 8, 1894, they left for Fessenden, North Dakota. After 10 days of travel, the Felchles joined David and Elizabeth Erfle, who lived 14 miles south of Fessenden. Johann Ahl and family were also there. Twenty-three people spent the entire winter in the sod house of David Erfle.

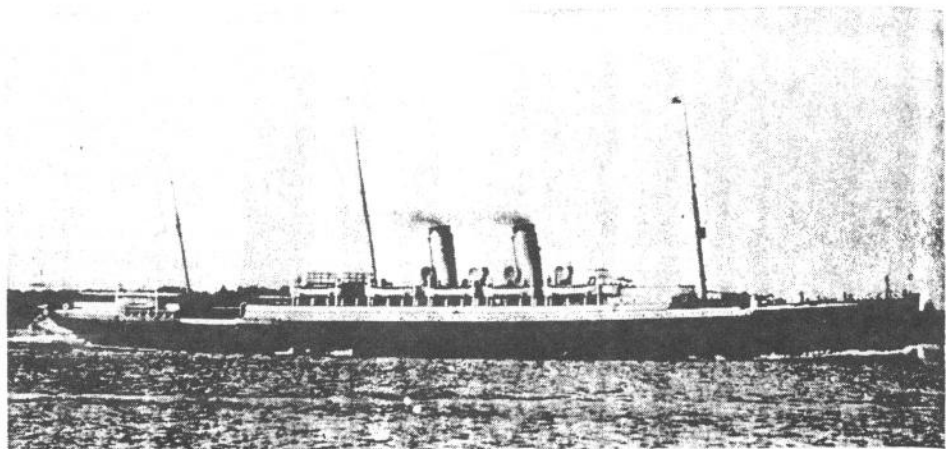
Ludwig and Johannes filed claims on homesteads southwest of Fessenden, North Dakota, in the spring of 1895. After farming in this area for five years, Ludwig and Johannes "proved up" the homestead, received the deed and then sold the land. In 1899 Ludwig, Johannes and Johann Mauch (married to Barbara Felchle) each bought a half-section of land in Goodrich or Denhoff townships in what is



Railroad station at Veseley Kut. Photo taken by Herb Poppke, 1993.



People at the Veseley Kut railroad station in 1993. Photo by Herb Poppke.



*S.S. HAVEL, 1890 North German Lloyd
Courtesy The Peabody Museum of Salem*

Published in "Ships of Our Ancestors" by Michael J. Anuta.

now Sheridan County.

These farms, southwest of Goodrich, are where the roots of our family were able to take hold and flourish. "The John (Johannes Felchle Story," originally published in the *McClusky Gazette* in 1930 and also published in "Memories of the Black Sea Germans" by Joseph Height, is a valuable historical document about our family's beginnings. While reading it, one can't help but gather appreciation for our heritage.

The John Felchle Story

b. 1866

Originally published in the
McClusky Gazette (1930)

As young ambitious people, we left the old home in Teplitz, Bessarabia, and all that the word implies, and boarded the train at Wesselyi Kut on March 1, 1894. A week later we embarked on the steamer that was to take us from Bremen to New York.

While on board ship, a terrific storm rocked the boat to such an extent that we all believed we would perish in the cold waves without seeing America. Almost everybody was seasick, but I managed to stay on my feet and help to wait on some who were sick. On the ninth day we landed in New York and thanked God that we were again able to enjoy the pleasure of having solid ground under our feet.

To our sorrow, we learned that two of the families in our party had not yet arrived. Karl Moser and Peter Heisler had left Bremen four days ahead of us, but nothing definite was known in New York regarding the steamer on which they crossed the ocean. One report was to the effect that the steamer had suffered irreparable damage and was drifting around at the mercy of the elements. Later we found that the storm had driven the boat off course to the south where it finally ran into a sandbank and was grounded there. When the supply of food was virtually exhausted, and the passengers were facing death from starvation, and hopes of being rescued were at the lowest ebb, a ship was sighted but it appears that the stranded vessel was not seen. Three shots had to be fired before the sighted steamer noticed the boat and changed course to come to its aid. When the steamer drew close, the joy of the stranded passengers knew no bounds. The distance they had drifted away from the regular course may be imagined when it is considered that their entire trip to New York took 32 days.

We had, of course, continued our journey from New York by railway and arrived hale and hearty in Eureka, S.D. on April 4, 1894, as

strangers in a strange land, as we thought. But to our great surprise I met there our old friend and comrade Henry Stein, who invited us to his house at once and of course we accepted the invitation. Our joy was somewhat dampened when we saw that Henry's wife was sick in bed but, undaunted, Henry at once got busy at the kitchen stove and brewed for us a cup of American coffee which was really delicious and a great change from the stuff that we had during the long trip.

A short while later, Wilhelm Moser appeared and wanted to greet his brother Karl, but we were obliged to convey to him the sad news about the vessel that was stranded off-course on a sandbank. Wilhelm then took us along to his farm which was located about 20 miles southwest of Eureka. Of course, we made the trip in a wagon, and it was bitter cold. The farmers had been at work seeding but the ground was again frozen solid. Well, well, I thought, that is surely a wonderful beginning in America—the seed in the ground, the ground frozen, and in April at that.

The next day a good acquaintance of mine from Russia came over from the vicinity of Bowdle, S.D. and took me along to his American-born neighbor, who hired me to work for him at \$18.00 per month. This man, Frank Wendling, was sowing wheat, and when my friend talked to him in English, of which I didn't understand a word, I just stood there with eyes and mouth open, realizing that I had run up against something really strange. I wondered if they really understood each other, but I was soon to learn that they did and that the conversation had not been in vain. Our friend Knecht certainly had accomplished something, for he turned to me and said, "Well, John, the deal is made."

My new boss then stepped down from the grain drill and I was expected to go ahead with the job of seeding wheat. Yes, that was easier said than done. As a greenhorn just arrived from Russia, I hadn't the slightest idea about American farm machinery, and it was lucky for me that the horses had more sense than I had.

At that time this country had a Democratic administration and everything was cheap. After six months I was able to acquire an old wagon for \$12.00, a yoke of oxen for \$57.00, a cow for \$23.00 and two little pigs. So I packed up and started out in our prairie schooner, which was really no schooner at all, for it had no top on it.

Prices in the Pioneer Days (1885-1895) In Eureka, So. Dakota

Flax	\$1.25 per bushel
Wheat45 per bushel
Barley25 per bushel
Potatoes25-.45 per sack
Flour	1.50 for 100 lbs.
Butter04 per lb.
Eggs	4-5 cts. a dozen
Buffalo bones	\$6-\$8 a ton
A team of oxen.	\$100.00
Chickens	two for .25
Hand plow	\$18.00
Harrow	7.00
Wagon	20.00
Land, quarter (1885)	3.75 an acre
Land, quarter (1900)	5.00 an acre
Land, quarter (1911)	22.00 an acre
Land, quarter (1916)	17.50 an acre
Land, quarter (1920)	16.00 an acre
Farm work (1885)	6.00-13.00 a month
Work for threshing rig	2.00 a day

We bade farewell to our friends at Eureka on October 8, 1894, and arrived in Fessenden, N.D., ten days later. All along the route we met good hospitable people, although they were all strangers and all Americans. David Erfle, my brother-in-law, lived 14 miles south of Fessenden and there, in a sod house, we took up our winter quarters. John J. Ahl and his family were there too; and so there were 23 persons crowded together in one "mansion." Before going to bed, we had to put our clothes under our pillows, or we might have had a hard time finding them the next morning.

We kept the sod shack warm by burning straw, and our menu cards didn't show as many courses as they do today. Nevertheless, we had a bit of variety: bread and coffee, and coffee and bread. Oh yes, we also had meat occasionally when we managed to get a rabbit. But that did not happen very often, since the money to buy ammunition was generally lacking. Fortunately, I had a pig that weighed about 70 pounds, but then what was that for our brotherly tribe of 23 people!

I was making 50 cents a day loading wheat into railroad cars, and you can easily imagine that we had to do some pinching to get through the winter. At such wages we could not hold swell parties, but we pulled through, nevertheless.

In the spring of 1895 I filed a claim on a homestead 11 miles to the southwest of Fessenden and on it I built a sod shack. The walls of this edifice were soon built, but then came the question of the roof. That was not so easily answered, for there was no money to buy lumber and shingles. But where there's a will, there's a way. So I hitched my oxen to the wagon and drove 30 miles to the "woods" where we got some poles and brush. These were used as

rafters, stringers and supports for the sod which we laid on top of the brush. Then we added a coat of asphalt, the kind that is found just beneath the black soil, and we had a roof for very little money. Of course, it took a lot of time and labor, but when we moved into that lowly sod house and surveyed our prairie domain we felt as rich as if Uncle Sam had made us king of all North Dakota. My father had filed on a homestead adjoining ours.

Each of us had a pair of oxen and with them we broke the prairie to sow flax, but it was already rather late in the season when we finished, although we had only broken 13 acres each. You see, we had to wait until the neighbor had finished his work in order to be able to borrow his breaking plow. We seeded the flax right on top of the overturned sod; and left the rest up to the Lord.

We harvested 90 bushels of flax each, and it was worth 60 cents a bushel. Wheat brought from 35 to 40 cents a bushel. A hundred-pound bag of flour cost \$1.20, and shoes were \$1.25 a pair. Wages were \$1 a day for making hay, \$1.50 a day for work in the harvest fields, and \$3.00 for a man and team for threshing. Beef was dirt cheap, and butter could hardly be sold at all, but we did not have much of these products to sell.

After five years of homesteading, we made final proof on our land, received the patent deed, and sold it at \$10.00 an acre on the installment plan. Then my father, my brother-in-law John Mauch, and I bought a half-section each in what was then McLean, but now Sheridan county, from the Northern Pacific Railway Company at \$4.00 an acre on the ten-year payment plan at six per cent interest. The down-payment of \$125.00 was a big sum of money in those days, and we had to borrow it from a bank in Fessenden at a high rate of interest.

That was in the spring of 1899, and again we had to build everything new out of the same materials as before. The following fall we packed up all our belongings and moved to our new location. This time the move was not much of a hardship, for our entire equipment consisted of five horses, seven head of cattle, and a couple of dozen chickens.

Our barns were built of sod, even the roof. One night the coyotes got busy and scratched a hole through the roof and stole almost all of our chickens. We could have cried. The women were particularly downcast, for the chickens were quite a help to them in preparing our meals. However, we finally agreed that we could be glad that they did not eat us, for at that time these beasts often looked in

through the windows to see if we were asleep. Up to now we had no gun, for we didn't have the money to buy one. We considered ourselves lucky when we had enough money to buy our daily bread.

Going to town was a major event in those days, for we had to go either 30 miles to Bowdon, or to Harvey which was 40 miles. But during the second year after our move to this location, the Northern Pacific Railway began to extend its line westward. That was slow work because the country was quite rough and hilly, but it finally came along.

One fall morning, I think it was in 1902, I started out with a load of flax, with Bowdon as my destination. After travelling along about seven miles straight across the prairie, I saw two men in the distance, working on the open prairie exactly at the place where the town of Goodrich now stands. Coming closer to them, I recognized one of the men as Carl Tomey, the operator of the elevator at Harvey. I certainly was surprised to see what they were doing there when they said they were putting up scales to weigh flax which they intended to buy. When I wanted to know how soon they expected to be ready for business, they replied, "In about two hours." I said, "In that case, I can help you; I'll unload my flax right here." "Sure," was the answer.

That suited me fine, and I unhitched my horse and went to work. I asked Mr. Tomey how he intended doing business buying flax when he had no elevator. He replied that he did have an elevator "a real big one, the whole prairie right here." Well, we soon had the scales installed and I was the first man to bring a load of flax to the new town. I drove onto the new scales and unloaded in the "great elevator" by pulling out the endgate and letting the flax run on the ground. I got my money too, and if I remember right the price was \$1.50 a bushel.

I was happy and drove home, picturing a rosy future for ourselves and the territory in the light of the new event. But my wife was in a different frame of mind when she saw a team coming across the prairie about noon. Knowing well enough that I generally came home about ten o'clock in the evening from such a trip, she was naturally quite frightened. When I came closer and she was able to recognize our horses, she felt sure that something had gone wrong. Her first question was, "What happened to you?" I said, "Calm yourself, mother, we now have a new town and its name is "Wonderful." Then I explained to her what had happened, and our stock in the future rose about 75 points.

Work on the railroad progressed steadily and soon the freight train was able to come all the way to the town I had named "Wonderful" but which is now known as Goodrich. In the meantime Mr. Tomey had bought a great deal of flax, but his elevator was never filled. One day a great wind and rainstorm struck "his elevator" and the surrounding countryside, doing great damage to the flax and causing Mr. Tomey to suffer a heavy loss. But when the freight train arrived this hazard was eliminated, as he could now load the flax into the cars.

With the arrival of the new railroad, the farmers gained new hope and courage. My brother-in-law, John Mauch, and myself had often planned to go back to Wells county, but our father always restrained us by telling us there was a good prospect of a new town being built in the vicinity. His foresight was better than ours and today we are glad that we listened to him, and stayed.

In those days our post office was a little country store on John Wittmayer's farm, about nine miles north of what is now Goodrich. At that store many things that the farmers needed could be purchased, even flour and machinery.

While that was our address we had to work real hard, for the children were still small and for many years we had to have hired help. In time we got more land under cultivation and no longer needed to hire strangers. Some years we had as much as 1000 acres in crop, to which the Lord gave his blessing. We were able to buy 12 quarter sections of land in this vicinity at from \$4.00 to \$34.00. On four of these farms we had all the necessary buildings and we found "gold" on every quarter section—not on the surface but six inches under it. We did not have to borrow money, and, thank God, we have no debts on the land. Yet people say there is no money in farming; but I assert that the contrary is the truth. However, I maintain that diversification is necessary; alongside of small grain, one must also raise cattle and hogs. Out of the latter branch of farming we have made from \$1200.00 to \$1500.00 nearly every year.

Our family is a large one; we have raised seven sons and each one of them has two sisters. Each of our sons received a farm, except one who is working on a ship out of Vancouver, British Columbia.

We have weathered many a storm and have often heard it thunder, too. In 1923 a tornado struck our farm, demolishing a large new barn. We had to build a new one and do a lot of repairing on other buildings, even on the house. Fortunately, we received enough insurance to cover about one-half of the expenses.

We had paid a large sum of money for taxes in this country during those thirty years we have lived here, and even though we have no money to speak of, we're thankful that we have our home.

I am sorry to see that so many of our young people do not take to farming nowadays, but would rather go to the cities. But I can say that the best and most honest living can be made on the farm. Of course, all people cannot be on the farm; some people must also be in the cities. I lived in town for two winters, but could not stand it any longer and had to go back to the farm. However, I will soon be forced to abdicate, for the children are all grown up and naturally want to go their own way and live their own lives as they see fit. Nevertheless, when I think that I had my home there and labored there for thirty years, my heart bleeds when I think of leaving it at all. Therefore, I say to anybody who owns a farm: "Value it as you would a treasure, as a home sweet home where you can live in peace and quiet."

As stated earlier, this writing by Johannes (John) Felchle is a valuable family document and treasure. However, there are several shortcomings that need to be kept in mind in order to ensure the accuracy of our family's history. Sometimes the dates and times that John mentions do not agree with the fact that the Felchles arrived at New York on March 29, 1994. Also, John does not mention the *S.S. Havel*. John writes that they were young and ambitious people; there were also old people and some very young people in the party. John did not mention the fact that their party was a large "extended family" of 46 or more. While John writes that they left their homeland of Teplitz, Bessarabia, we know that they left Teplitz some years before and their last place of residence was Vakarskiye. John makes no mention of Russia (his place of birth and homeland), and he makes no mention of his home in Vakarskiye or the fact that the men went from Vakarskiye to Teplitz to get their papers in order.

In 1976 August Felchle (Johannes's son) also published a family history in the *Sheridan County Heritage '76* book commemorating the bicentennial. The article, entitled "The Felchle Family History," not only gives a brief glimpse into our family's past, but also gives a brief history of the town of

Goodrich. The article follows in its entirety:

The Felchle Family History As told by A.H. Felchle

"My grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Felchle, and my parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Felchle, left their beloved homeland of Romania in February, 1895 for an unknown land of "Milk and Honey" to the West side of the large blue water ocean; arriving at Aberdeen, South Dakota, thirty days later. Good homesteading land was very difficult to find in this area. After five months of farm and carpenter work in this vicinity the two families joined a large caravan of homestead seekers into North Dakota. This was a very slow journey northward after a two day stop and rest period at Jamestown, another two day rest at Carrington and the final stop at Fessenden, in Wells County. A new area west of Fessenden opened up Rusland Township, here they squatted and filed on the West half of section 23-148-72 and built their first sod homes.

These people had never owned an acre of land in their entire life. Now this would be home. The hard work of sod house building and small horse and cow barn completed by the end of August, I came into this world in that new home in Rusland Township on Sept. 18, 1895.

My sister Magdalena and my brother John were born in Romania. This sister passed away in 1907. John D. lives with his wife Emma, formerly Mauch, in retirement in Goodrich, North Dakota.

My wife, Ann, and I reside in full and contented retirement in Carrington. Fred B., Edward R., and Mrs. Jake Rund (Emma) all live in retirement in Goodrich, North Dakota. J.W. Felchle lives in Vancouver, B.C., and Jonathan lives in Redfield, S.D.

Four years of pioneering and long laboring days on these homesteads with no choice of expansion due to the heavy influx of homestead seekers. The two families sold their land and moved to another new area in Eastern McLean County, which was changed to Sheridan County in 1907. Grandfather Ludwig Felchle bought the south-half of Section 35-146-75, now Denhoff Township.

My father, John Felchle Sr., bought the north half of Section 1-145-75, now Sperry Township. School land section 36, and state land, section 31. Next door to these two farms offered

excellent opportunity for cattle and sheep ranches with its abundance of water and hay supply. New sod buildings were erected and a new and prosperous life began here in the spring of 1899.

The Davis Ranch, four miles north of us, the James Sperry Ranch, six miles south west of us, were our only and closest neighbors for two years.

The N.P.R.R. began to survey west of Sykeston the same year (1899) and Bowdon became our shopping center.

John Wittmeyer of Harvey filed on the SE quarter of Section 17-147-74, Boone Township and opened a U.S. Post Office in the spring of 1900 in anticipation of the railroad and new towns.

A small hamlet opened under the name of Dudley on the NW Quarter of Sec. 8-146-74 in the spring of 1900 but forfeited its name to the present Village of Goodrich which was named after the NPRR engineer in the spring of 1902. Joseph T. Wyard opened a U.S. Post Office in his homestead tar paper shack in Northern Fairview township in the late 1890's. Mail was delivered by pony express out of Harvey to Dudley, Wittmeyer and Wyard Post Officers.

The Mike Billigmeier Mercantile Store had its beginning in the new hamlet of Dudley, N.D., at the North Side of the railroad in the spring of 1901. The tar paper building, size 14x18, was moved from Dudley to the corner lot on Main Street of the New Goodrich in the spring of 1902, onto the present location now owned and operated by Arnold Unruh. My father, John Felchle Sr., and Daniel Beierle, Sr., moved the Billigmeier Store with a team of my father's horses and a team of Mr. Beierle's mules. The Billigmeier family remained on this location until the Unruhs assumed ownership.

Mr. Felchle also had the honor and distinction of unloading and selling the first load of flax in the new Village of Goodrich. He furnished one day of labor with a team of horses to help with the installation of the elevator platform scale for the Great Western Elevator Co., under the management of Jacob Levi, Sr. Flax purchased at this station was dumped on the ground before a small storage bin could be erected. This was about the middle of Sept. 1901. Two flax crops were hauled cross country to Harvey by my father in 1899 and 1900. Usually a three day round trip, the



This is Ludwig and Elisabeth's home in Goodrich. The house was located SW of the Baptist church. (L to R) John Mauch Jr., Johannes Felchle, Katharina Felchle, August Felchle, Elisabeth Weingaertner, Ludwig Felchle, John Martin Sr. (father of Reinhold Martin).

new buying station reduced the 60 miles to only 10."

Once again, this is a document our family appreciates, but there are several items that need to be clarified in order to ensure validity of our family's history. August writes that they left their beloved homeland of Romania in February of 1895. Their homeland was Russia (Teplitz, Bessarabia, Russia and Vakarskiye, Odessa, Russia), and they left in March of 1894. It seems that Johann Ahl and Siona Felchle had come to the USA around 1890, so there were relatives who had preceded them, and this place would therefore not be an "unknown land." There does not seem to be any proof concerning the statement about arriving at Aberdeen, South Dakota, thirty days after leaving their homeland. Also, August forgets to mention his wife (Ann Mauch), his mother (Magdalena Krein), and his grandmother (Elisabeth Weingaertner).

August Felchle also had the foresight to photograph his grandfather's farm on October 23, 1964. The farm of Ludwig and Elisabeth is located in Denhoff Township, SW of Goodrich, North Dakota. August supplied infor-

mation to accompany this photo in May of 1985. He recalls that the house and barn were built in 1905. The house was built by August Radtke. The other buildings were added later by Jacob Felchle, Ludwig's youngest son, who took over the farm after Ludwig and Elisabeth moved to town (Goodrich) sometime prior to 1911. The first buildings on this location were all of sod.

The original house was still occupied in 1964, and August noted that "It was the last farm home left for many miles around."

Today (1994), all that remains of this farmstead is the silo.

August's father's (Johannes) home was one mile southeast of his grandfather's place. He said they also lived in sod houses for 10 years.

Today (1994), all that remains of Johannes's farmstead is a windmill tower.



Ludwig Felchle's farm, Section 35, Denhoff Township.

Pioneer Dead.

Ludwig Felchle, a pioneer of this section of the country, passed away at his late home in this city last Monday morning. Mr. Felchle has been in feeble health for a number of years. He leaves a wife and a number of grown up sons and daughters to mourn his loss. The funeral was held in the Baptist church here Tuesday afternoon with Rev. Gruhn officiating.

Ludwig Felchle
13 May 1840-1 Jul. 1912
Goodrich Weekly Citizen
4 July 1912

"Grandma" Felchle of Denhoff Dies Thursday Night

"Grandma" Felchle died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Theo. Poppke in Denhoff last Thursday evening, Jan. 8.

Funeral services were held at the Poppke home and also at Goodrich Sunday afternoon. Interment was made in the Goodrich cemetery.

Mrs. Ludwig Felchle
(Elisabeth Weingartner)
24 Aug. 1845-8 Jan. 1931
Denhoff Voice, 16 Jan. 1931

DECLARATION OF INTENTION.

209
P 249

APR 1916 Vol. 1, P 20

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)
State of North)
TERRITORY OF DAKOTA,) ss.

County of Chittenden

Ludwig Felchle personally appeared before the subscriber,
the Clerk of the District Court of Chittenden County, Dakota Territory, being a Court of
Record, and made oath that he was born in Russia on or about the year
Eighteen Hundred and forty; that he emigrated to the United States
and landed at the Port of New York on or about the month of
April in the year Eighteen Hundred and ninety four
that it is bona fide his intention to become a Citizen of the United States, and to renounce
forever all allegiances and fidelity to any foreign Prince, Potentate, State or Sovereignty whatever, and
particularly to the Emperor of Russia whereof he is a subject, and that
he will support the Constitution and Government of the United States.

Witness my hand
David Harrison Ludwig Felchle

Subscribed and sworn to this 23 day of March 1896

PETITION: Vol 2, P 412 L. M. Anderson
Clerk.

By _____ Deputy

Note that Ludwig signed with an "X"

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

State of North
TERRITORY OF DAKOTA.

NP 1986

Vol. 1, Page 248

21

SN.

INTENTION No. 248

County of *Wells*

John Felchle

personally appeared before the subscriber,

the Clerk of the District Court of *Wells*

and County, *Dakota Territory*, being a Court of

Record, and made oath that he was born in *Russia*

on or about the year

Eighteen Hundred and *sixty six*

; that he emigrated to the United States

and landed at the Port of *New York*

on or about the month of

April

in the year Eighteen Hundred and *ninety four*

that it is bona fide his intention to become a Citizen of the United States, and to renounce

forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign Prince, Potentate, State or Sovereignty whatever, and

particularly to the *Empire of Russia*

whereof he is a subject, and that

he will support the Constitution and Government of the United States.

John Felchle

Subscribed and sworn to this *23*

day of *March* 18*86*

PETITION: Vol. 2, P. 459

L. M. Anderson

Clerk.

By

Deputy.

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA,)
County of Wells.)

NO 1986 Vol. 2 P 412
DISTRICT COURT,
September Term, 1897

In the matter of the application of Ludwig Felckle to become a citizen of the United States, Johan March and Emil Nobel being severally sworn, do depose and say, each for himself, that he is well acquainted with the abornamed Ludwig Felckle, that he has resided within the limits and under the jurisdiction of the United States for five years last past, and for one year last past within the State of North Dakota; and that during the same period he has behaved himself as a man of good moral character, attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States, and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the same.

Johan March
Emil Nobel
Subscribed and sworn to in open court, this 12 day of Sept 1897
G.A. Bauer Clerk.

INTENTIONS: Vol. 1, p. 249

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA,)
County of Wells.)

DISTRICT COURT,
Ludwig Felckle

161

do swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States of America, and that I do absolutely and entirely Renounce and Abjure forever, all Allegiance and Fidelity to every Foreign Power, Prince, Potentate, State and Sovereignty whatever; and particularly to Emperor of Russia whose subject I was. And further that I have never borne any hereditary title, or been of any of the degrees of Nobility of the country whereof I have been a subject, and that I have resided within the United States for five years last past, and in the State of North Dakota, for one year last past.

Ludwig Felckle
Subscribed and sworn to in open Court, this 12 day of Sept 1897
G.A. Bauer Clerk.

NO 1986 Vol. 2 P 412

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA,)
County of Wells.)

DISTRICT COURT,

And now to-wit: At a term of said Court now being held at Presidents N. Court, in and for the County of Wells, in said State upon the foregoing oath and affidavits, and upon further proof having been made by the production of a certificate that the said Ludwig Felckle on the 23 day of March A. D. 1896 did before the Clerk of District Court Hills Co. N. Dak. the same being a Court of Record, having common law jurisdiction, make the requisite declaration of his intention to become a citizen of the United States, and to renounce all other allegiance, as required by the laws of the United States.

It is Ordered by the Court, That the said Ludwig Felckle be, and he is hereby admitted to be, A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES.

By the Court: S.L. Garjail Judge.

INTENTIONS: Vol. 1, p. 249

A true Record, Attest: G.A. Bauer Clerk.

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA, }
County of Wells.

DISTRICT COURT,

NP 1176 Vol 2 P 459

Term, 1900

In the matter of the application of John Felchle to become a citizen of the United States, G. F. Schuchter and Alex Miller being severally sworn, do depose and say, each for himself, that he is well acquainted with the above named John Felchle, that he has resided within the limits and under the jurisdiction of the United States for five years last past, and for one year last past within the State of North Dakota; and that during the same period he has behaved himself as a man of good moral character, attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States, and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the same,

G. F. Schuchter
Alex Miller

Subscribed and sworn to in open court, this 16th day of July 1900

G. A. Brauer Clerk.

JOHANNES SE., BORN 1866, INTENTIONS # 248 NP, Vol. 1, P 248

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA, }
County of Wells.

DISTRICT COURT,

I, John Felchle

5A

do swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States of America, and that I do absolutely and entirely Renounce and Abjure forever all Allegiance and Fidelity to every Foreign Power, Prince, Potentate, State and Sovereignty whatever; and particularly to Czar of Russia whose subject I was. And further that I have never borne any hereditary title, or been of any of the degrees of Nobility of the country whereof I have been a subject, and that I have resided within the United States for five years last past, and in the State of North Dakota, for one year last past.

John Felchle

Subscribed and sworn to in open Court, this 16 day of July 1900

G. A. Brauer Clerk.

NP 1176 Vol. 2 P 459

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA, }
County of Wells.

DISTRICT COURT,

And now to-wit: At a term of said Court now being held at Fessenden, in and for the County of Wells, in said State upon the foregoing oath and affidavits, and upon further proof having been made by the production of a certificate that the said John Felchle on the 23 day of Mar A. D. 1897 did before the Clerk of District Court Miss. Co. N. Dak. the same being a Court of Record, having common law jurisdiction, make the requisite declaration of his intention to become a citizen of the United States, and to renounce all other allegiance, as required by the laws of the United States.

It is Ordered by the Court, That the said John Felchle be, and he is hereby admitted to be, A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES.

By the Court:

S. J. Campbell Judge.

JOHANNES SE., BORN 1866; Vol. 1, P. 248 INTENTIONS # 248 NP. A true Record, Attest:

G. A. Brauer Clerk.

Final Receiver's Receipt No. 4559

[DUPLICATE.]

Application No. 8751

Instrument

HOMESTEAD.

No. 6/11

Receiver's Office, Bismarck, N. D., March 23 1891/90

Received of Ludwig Felschle the sum of Four

Dollars cents, being the balance of payment required by law for the entry of

11574 784 72 794 and 8914 794

of Section 26, in Township 148 N., of Range 72 W., containing 160 acres, under Section 2291 of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

\$ 7.12 John Satterlund Receiver.

\$ 1.80 Testimony Fee Received. Number of written words 535. Rate per 100 words, 15 cents.

I certify that the above Instrument was filed for record the 4 day of April A. D. 1891/90 at 9 o'clock A. M., and recorded in Receiver's Receipt Book, No. 11, page

Peter J. Myhre Register of Deeds.

By Deputy.

Final Receiver's Receipt No. 4558

[DUPLICATE.]

Application No. 8750

Instrument

HOMESTEAD.

No. 6/8

Receiver's Office, Bismarck, N. D., March 23 1891/90

Received of John Felschle the sum of Four

Dollars cents, being the balance of payment required by law for the entry of

894

of Section 26, in Township 148 N., of Range 72 W., containing 160 acres, under Section 2291 of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

\$ 4.00 John Satterlund Receiver.

\$ 1.80 Testimony Fee Received. Number of written words 535. Rate per 100 words, 15 cents.

I certify that the above Instrument was filed for record the 4 day of April A. D. 1891/90 at 9 o'clock A. M., and recorded in Receiver's Receipt Record No. 11, page

Peter J. Myhre Register of Deeds.

By Deputy.

Book 2 of Rec. Receipts Page 129

Duplicate
Final Receiver's Receipt No. 4230

[DUPLICATE]

Application No. 8078

Instrument

HOMESTEAD.

No. 3750

Receiver's Office, Bismarck, N. D., *Sept 23* 1899

Received of *David Erfle* the sum of *Four*

Dollars

cents, being the balance of payment required by law for the entry of

587

Section 10 of the Revised Statutes of the United States
Section 2291 of the Revised Statutes of the United States

\$ 42⁰⁰

\$ 20 Testimony Fee Received. Number of written words 765. Rate per 100 words, 15 cents.

I certify that the above Instrument was filed for record the *1st* day of *Nov* A. D. 1899, at *9* o'clock *A.* M., and Recorded in Receiver's Receipt Record No. 11, page

Peter J. Myhre

Register of Deeds.

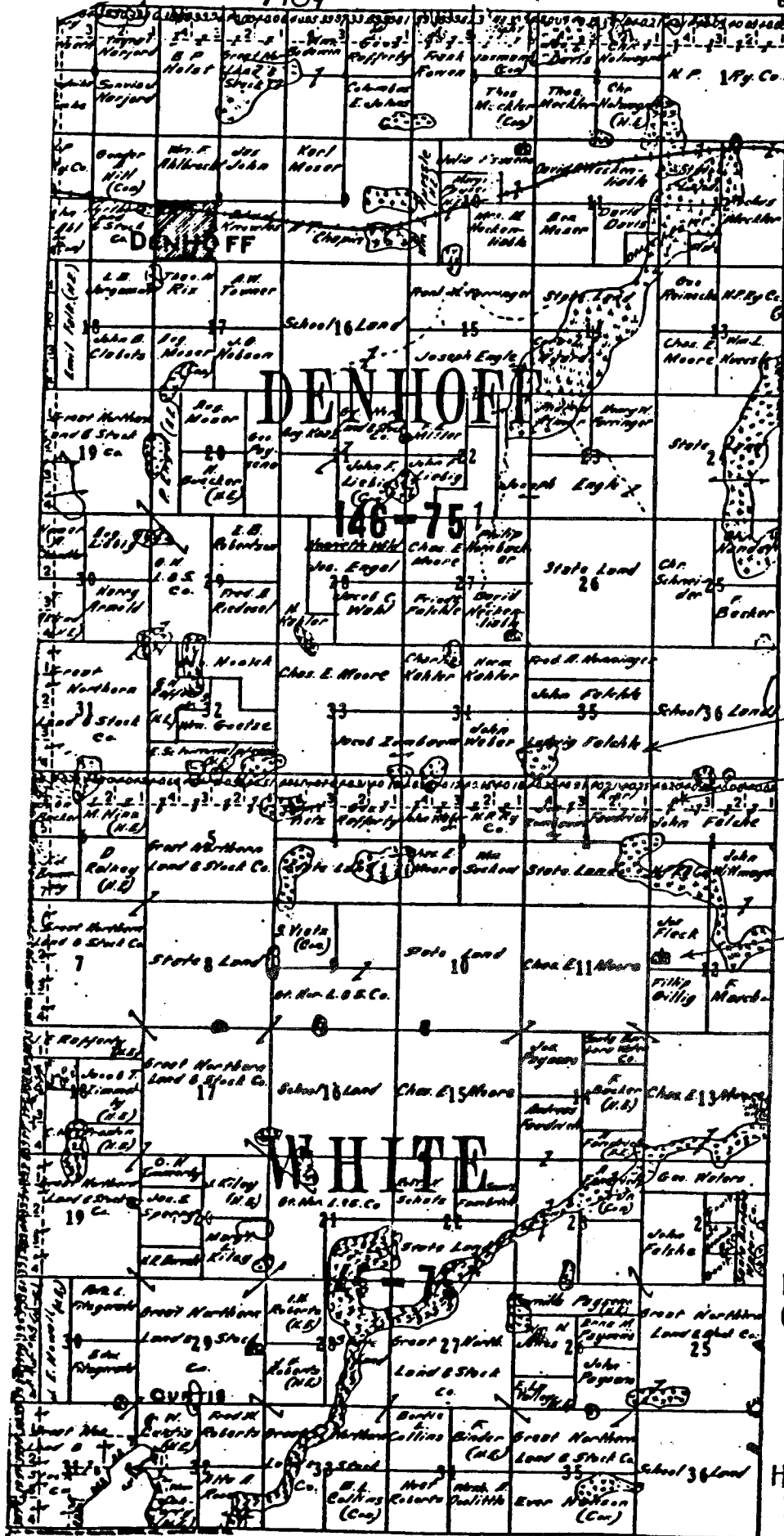
2 of Rec. Rec. Page 95

By

Deputy.

1909 TOWNSHIP PLAT

6



LUDWIG
FELCHLE
JOHANNES
FELCHLE

SCHOOL

FROM
CLIFFORD
FELCHLE
1993

H. POPPKE
1993

Family Group Sheet

Husband: Ludwig Felchle

Born: 13-MAY-1840 in: Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
 Baptized: 17-APR-1876 in: Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
 Died: 01-JUL-1912 in: Goodrich, Sheridan, ND
 Buried: City Cemetery in: Goodrich, Sheridan, ND
 Ref: Herb Poppke Occupation: Farmer
 Father: Georg Friedrich Felchle
 Mother: Ursula Bahnmueller

Wife: Elisabeth Weingaertner

Married: 31-OCT-1863 in: Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
 Marr. Ceremony? Y/N: Y
 Born: 24-AUG-1845 in: Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia
 Baptized: 31-MAY-1881 in: Friedenstal, Bessarabia, SRussia
 Died: 08-JAN-1931 in: Denhoff, Sheridan, ND
 Buried: City Cemetery in: Goodrich, Sheridan, ND
 Ref: Herb Poppke Occupation: Housewife
 Father: Gottlieb Weingaertner
 Mother: Magdalena Kussmaul

1	M	Johannes Felchle sp. Magdalena Krein Born: 16-JAN-1868	Died: 20-NOV-1952	Born: 05-DEC-1866 Married: 30-JAN-1891 Died: 13-SEP-1952 Buried: City Cemetery	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia Vikarskiye, Tiraspol, Odessa, SRussia Goodrich, Sheridan, ND Goodrich, Sheridan, ND
2	F	Elizabeth Felchle sp. David Erfle Born: 29-NOV-1867	Died: 29-APR-1939	Born: 14-NOV-1868 Married: 8-Mar-1887 Died: 26-AUG-1947 Buried:	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia SRussia ND ND
3	F	Siona Felchle sp. John Ahl Born: 1868	Died:	Born: 12-Mar-1871 Married: 10-Apr-1889 Died: 5-Dec-1906 Buried:	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia ND ND
4	F	Barbara Felchle sp. Johann J Mauch Born: 15-AUG-1873	Died: 21-AUG-1949	Born: 08-SEP-1873 Married: 17-MAY-1895 Died: 08-JUL-1930 Buried: City Cemetery	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia Wells County, ND Goodrich, Sheridan, ND Goodrich, Sheridan, ND
5	F	Anna Maria Felchle sp. Ludwig Krein Born: 25-JAN-1871	Died: 04-JAN-1949	Born: 01-MAR-1879 Married: 29-DEC-1901 Died: 14-NOV-1947 Buried: City Cemetery	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia ND Goodrich, Sheridan, ND
6	M	Friedrich Felchle sp. Christina Engel Born: 29-AUG-1886 sp. Margaret Hieb Korus	Died: 03-NOV-1920	Born: 13-Apr-1883 Married: 15-JAN-1905 Married: Died: 28-Mar-1947 Buried: City Cemetery	Teplitz, Akkerman, Bessarabia, SRussia ND Goodrich, Sheridan, ND
7	F	Magdalena Felchle sp. Philip Mauch Born: 13-AUG-1884	Died: 17-MAY-1944	Born: 1-Mar-1885 Married: 10-NOV-1905 Died: 1-Mar-1967 Buried: Crystal Sp. Cem	SRussia; location unknown Park Ridge, Cook, IL Benton Harbor, Berrien, MI
8	M	Jakob Felchle sp. Katherine Schneider Born: 5-Feb-1890 sp. Lydia Haas Born: 10-Nov-1901	Died: 11-Nov-1919 Died: 4-Jul-1929	Born: 15-Aug-1887 Married: 18-NOV-1906 Married: 8-Jul-1920 Died: 13-JAN-1933 Buried: City Cemetery	SRussia; location unknown ND Rural Denhoff, Sheridan, ND Goodrich, Sheridan, ND
9	F	Katharina Felchle sp. Theodore Poppke Born: 04-AUG-1887	Died: 19-APR-1962	Born: 10-AUG-1891 Married: 01-OCT-1911 Died: 07-FEB-1932 Buried: City Cemetery	Vakarskiye, Tiraspol, Odessa, SRussia Goodrich, Sheridan, ND Denhoff, Sheridan, ND Goodrich, Sheridan, ND

