

VOGEL FAMILY

GERMANY—RUSSIA —KANSAS— NEBRASKA
TO OREGON

THE RUSSIAN PROMISE

Catherine the Great, Czarina of Russia had a vision to bring in hard-working German farmers and craftsman who would enrich her land with bountiful harvests. She also brought the builders. The Vogel family moved to Russia from Germany many generations ago.

They were promised free land, no taxes for 30 years, religious freedom, and exemption from military service.

Albert Vogel recalled, “It did not work that way. My dad told me how they lived in sod houses, made their own blocks out of mud and straw.”

The earliest settlers were also at the mercy of the Kirghiz tribes who had been ravaging the land of the lower Volga River basin for years.

Yet, each new generation hoped for a better way of life.

Letter from Albert Vogel to daughter, Virginia. 7 Sep 1987

JOHANN FRIEDRICH “FRED” BUXMANN,
DAUGHTER ANNA, SONS FRIEDRICH, PETER, AND PETER’S FAMILY

Anna
b.1894
Fred’s
daughter

Peter’s wife
Amalie (Traudt) Buxmann

Friedrich Buxmann
b. 1890 Wiesenmüller, Russia
(Fred’s son)

Peter Buxmann
b. 1877 Wiesenmüller, Russia
(Fred’s son)

Peter’s son,
Friedrich b. 1905

Peter’s son,
Peter b. 1900

Peter’s daughter
Emilie b. 1907

Fred Buxmann
b. 1850 Muller, Russia d. Russia



PETER BUXMANN FAMILY STAYED IN RUSSIA



Peter Buxmann

Amalia Buxmann

photo about 1929

To Heinrich Vogel, University Place NE

29 Mar 1923

Dear Brother in Law and Sister and your children,

How gladly I wish to greet you personally. Because it is impossible, we want to do it in the spirit. We find ourselves healthy and hope the same is true for you. and now we want to give thanks for the large package we received from you on 5 January . . . It was supremely timely that we got the package for the clothes we needed very badly. In the summer we have trousers from rags. Amalia had the children, their nightclothes cut up into trousers. It was using up everything . . .

With best greetings, I remain your Brother in Law and Brother, Peter Buxmann.

Georg Heinrich Vogel Family compiled by Marjorie Vogel and Marilynne Kinner. 1 Dec 2005 p. 19.

“This family disappeared in about 1929 and was not heard from. . . .” Information from Albert Vogel on photocopied picture to daughter Virginia.

A Buxmann family lived in this house
in Wiesenmüller, Russia

Albert recalled, “My mother’s family
did not come to the U.S. They wrote to
my parents and all the mail was
censored . . .”

“The last we heard from them was in
1929. We found out they were all sent
to Siberia, the men were loaded in
cattle cars and taken out of town a
ways and shot. The women were put
in work camps.”

“The family disappeared...until my
dad heard [what happened to them]
from a minister in Colorado.”

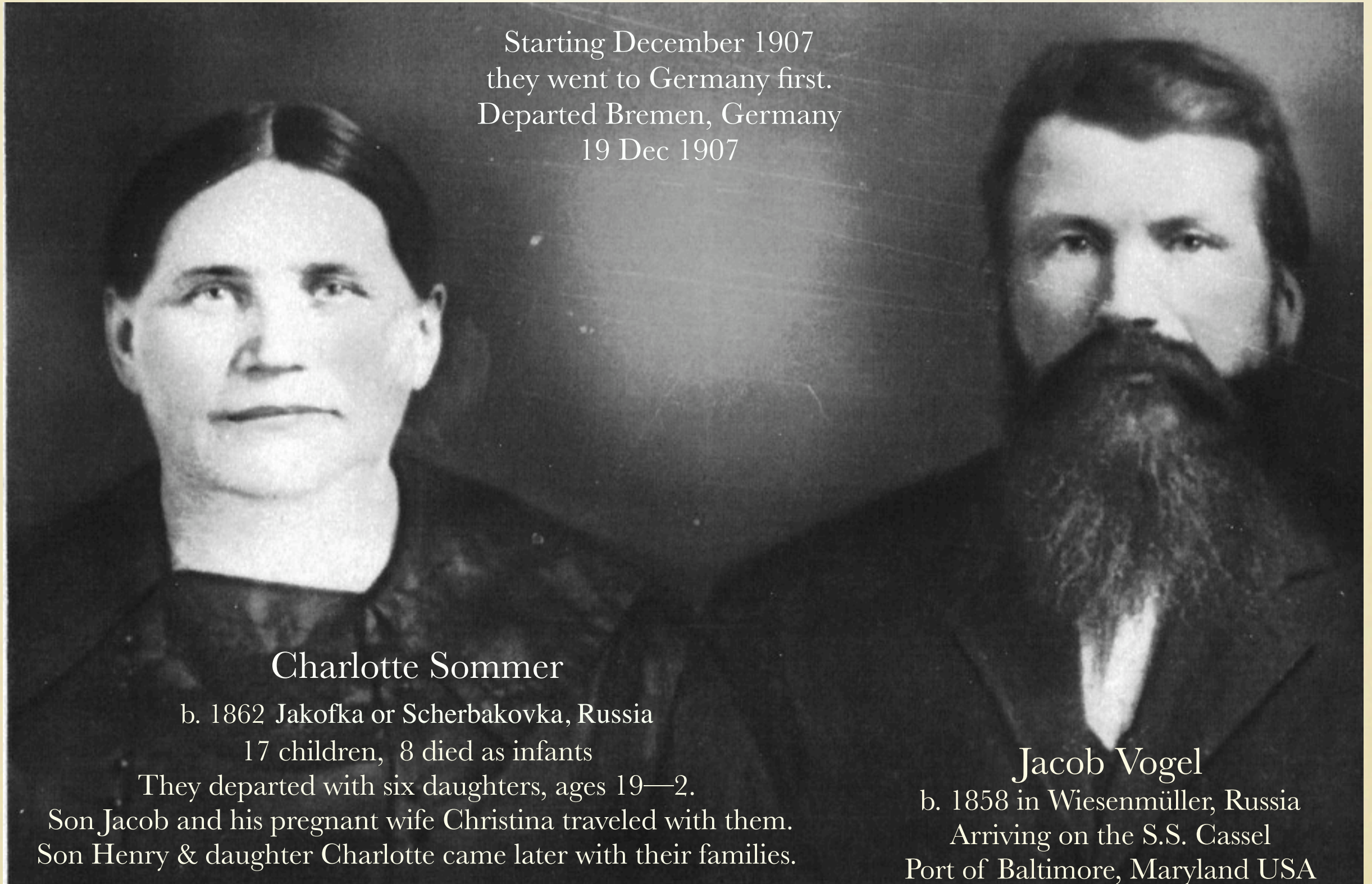
Letter from Albert Vogel to daughter, Virginia. 7 Sep 1987



William Wiest photo

JACOB & CHARLOTTE (SOMMER) VOGEL DID COME TO AMERICA JANUARY 1908

Starting December 1907
they went to Germany first.
Departed Bremen, Germany
19 Dec 1907



Charlotte Sommer

b. 1862 Jakofka or Scherbakovka, Russia

17 children, 8 died as infants

They departed with six daughters, ages 19—2.

Son Jacob and his pregnant wife Christina traveled with them.
Son Henry & daughter Charlotte came later with their families.

Jacob Vogel

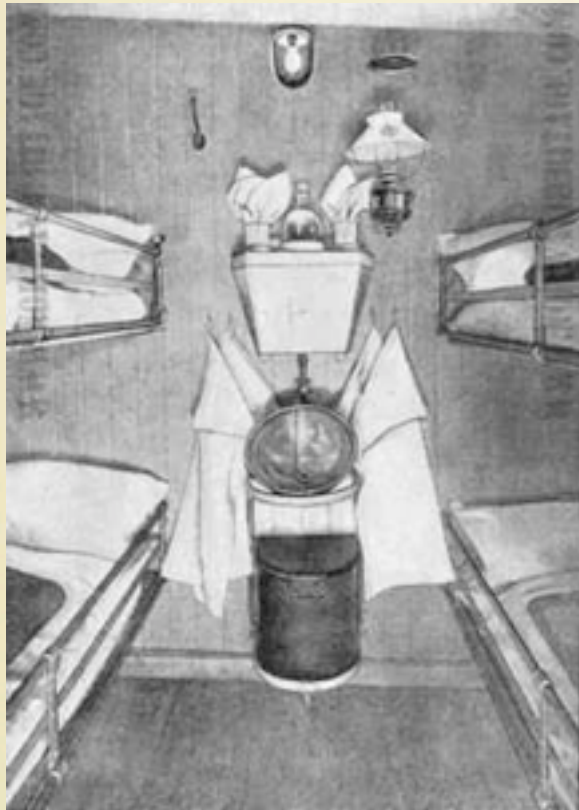
b. 1858 in Wiesenmüller, Russia

Arriving on the S.S. Cassel

Port of Baltimore, Maryland USA

COMING TO AMERICA VIA GERMANY

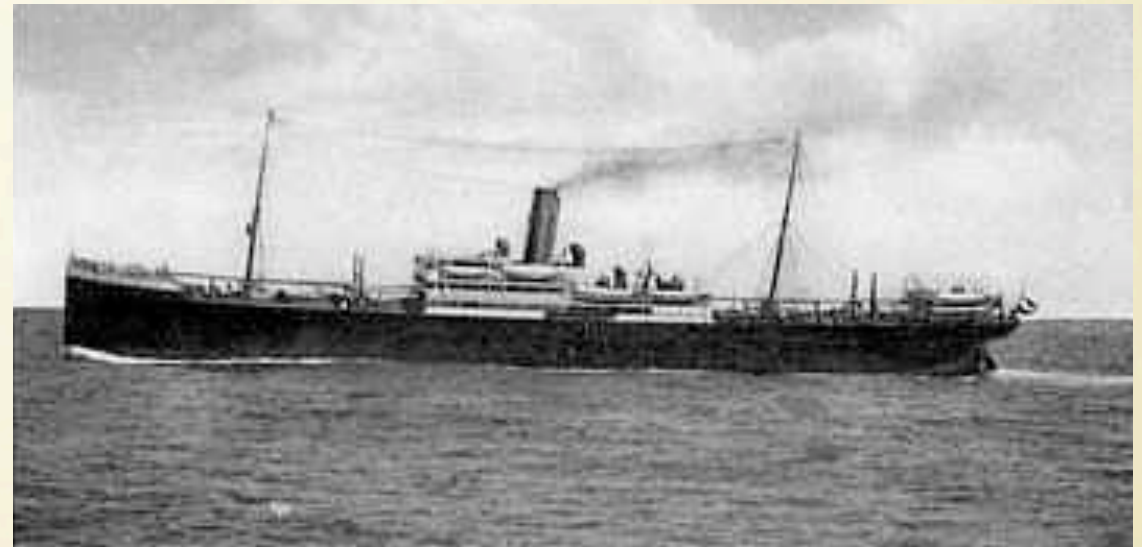
- Jacob & Charlotte Vogel with six daughters left Russia and went first to Bremen, Germany, December, 1907.



4 berth stateroom
for steerage passengers
(3rd class)

S.S. Cassel

These ships could carry about 1,600 steerage passengers. The best place to have a bunk was amidships, because the rocking of the boat was felt less there. The bunks had straw mattresses or mattresses stuffed with straw. Contemporary sources report that lice and fleas thrived in this environment.



- **“Saloon, Cabin, and Steerage Aliens Must Be Completely Manifested”**
- Port of Departure for the United States: Bremen, Germany— December 19, 1907 on the S.S. Cassel; arrival January 4, 1908 in Port Baltimore, Maryland.
- Jacob is listed as age 49; Charlotte, 45; Anna, 19; Katharina, 16; Amelia, 14; Katherine Elizabeth, 11; Maria, 9; and Paulina, 2.
- Son Jacob Vogel 20, and his pregnant wife Christina 20 are also traveling with the family.
- Family members recalled the sea sickness and the lice.
- *Old postcard photo from Norway -Heritage: Hands Across the Sea www.norwayheritage.com*

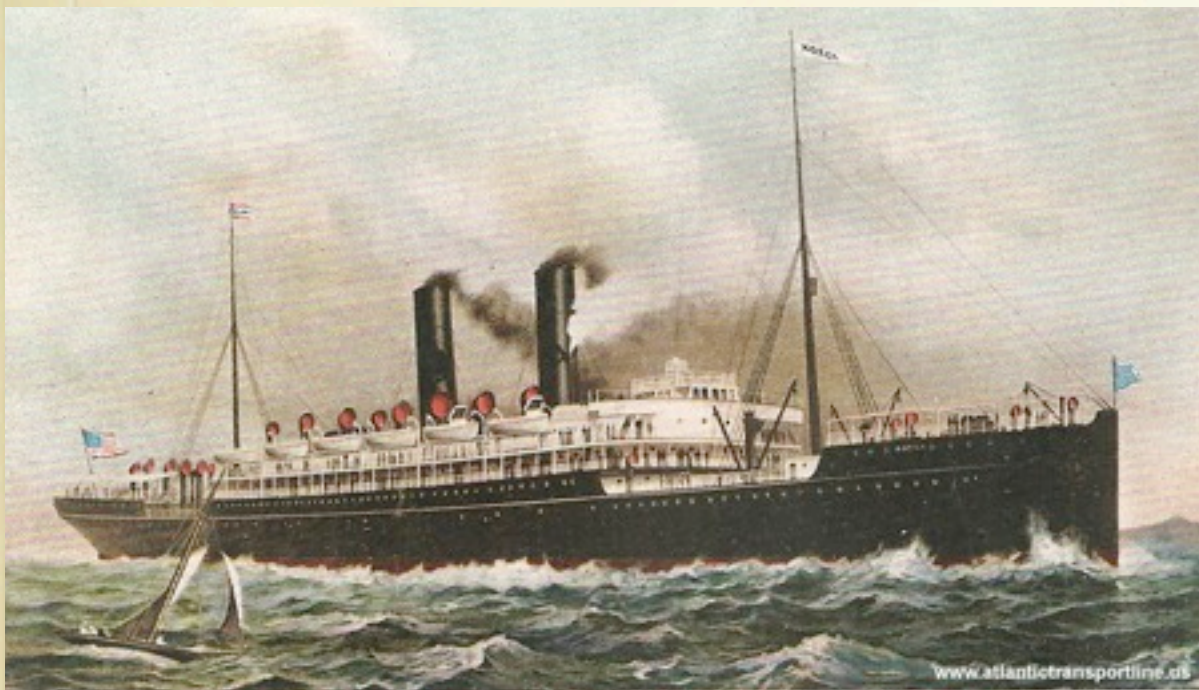
HENRY & MARY (BUXMANN) VOGEL BROUGHT THEIR FAMILY TO AMERICA



One infant son had died in Russia in 1904.

On 26 April 1908, they arrived at Ellis Island after 31 days journey that started in Russia, to Latvia, to the United States—with daughter Amelia 3 & baby son, Henry. They went directly to Russell, Kansas where his father and family had a house ready.

WIESENMÜLLER, RUSSIA TO LIBAU, LATVIA TO THE UNITED STATES—APRIL, 1908



- From Wiesenmüller, Russia to Latvia
- Left Libau, Latvia April 6, 1908 aboard S.S. Korea Arrived Ellis Island, April 26, 1908.
- Henry had \$20 in his pocket—5' 8" fresh complexion, blue eyes
- Mary 5'6" fresh complexion, brown eyes

S.S. Korea photos at sea and at the pier from The Atlantic Transport Line website:

www.atlantictransportline.us/ by Jonathan Kinghorn

Jacob Vogel's Family & his son
Henry Vogel & Family 1908 settled in Russell, Kansas



Anna

Katie

Mollie

Katherine

Henry Vogel

Mary

Jacob

Charlotte

Pauline

Mary Vogel
holding Baby Henry

Amelia



2008

Jacob Weigandt & Mary Vogel Weigandt.

Charlotte
Sommer
Vogel

Katie

Amelia

Emma

Mary

Henry & Fred

Vogel Family about 1915 — 2008 R Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

FAMILY

- The Vogel family in America included grandparents, Jacob and Charlotte, siblings, and their wives or husbands and everyone's children—much like it had been in Russia.
- Mary & Henry never discussed pregnancy with the children in the families.
- Mary would wear big dresses, so nobody knew that she was expecting and when a new baby arrived, everyone found out at the last minute.
- On April 22, 1917 — Pauline Vogel who was 9 [Henry's youngest sister] went running out of the house and over to the park down the street to tell everyone that her Aunt Mary Vogel had a baby named Martha!
- *From an old letter Martha Vogel sent telling the story of her birth as it had been passed down through the family.*
- *Martha also writes that long ago the Buxmann women in the Müller Colony washed their clothes on a rock in the Volga River, in Russia. Letter was sent to Martha's niece, Rosemary Meier.*

ROARING TWENTIES



Amelia, the oldest daughter, was the first to “bob” her hair.
Younger sisters Helene, Mollie, and Martha followed.

Henry & Mary Vogel & Family

- 1908 Vogels had settled first in Russell, Kansas
- 1909 Baby Henry died
- 1912 Moved to Lincoln, Nebraska
- Photo: Fred, Albert, Martha, and Mollie Vogel
- 1918 Spanish Flu Outbreak— Emma, 9-years-old, and Aunt Katie were the only two who did not get it. “They were kept very busy running up and down stairs taking care of everyone. Blessedly, no one died.” *Marilynne Kinner recalling her mother Emma’s life.*
- Henry was a master builder and constructed the Amen House in Lincoln, Nebraska (*an American Historical Society of Germans From Russia Historical Building.)
- Henry & Mary Vogel family had eight children.
- **Georg Heinrich Vogel Family* compiled by Marjorie Vogel and Marilynne Kinner. 1 Dec 2005 p. 19



The Henry Vogel Family in Lincoln, Nebraska



Amelia & Walter Schwab I

Emma

Mary

Fred

Albert

Martha

Henry

Mollie

Mary

Helene

about 1927-1928

HENRY VOGEL

- Loved, supported and encouraged his family;
- Master craftsman & builder;
- Enjoyed creating and constructing for his children and grandchildren— cradles, stepping stools, and book cases;
- Very generous— sharing his home with other family members until they found a home, then he helped them fix it up;
- Loaned his car to those who needed it;
- Thankful, attended church and said grace in German over family meals;
- “Enjoyed making Pfeffernüsse cookies, he put anise in them, and they were delicious!” *Recollections from granddaughter Rosemary Meier*



Helene's daughters, Linda & Rosemary Meier

MARY VOGEL

- Loved, cared for the children & husband; She and Henry bounced the babies on their knees and sang this song;
- Prepared the meals, including making her own bread, egg noodles for butter glaze soup, kraut kuchen, schnitz soup, grebble, pickles and relish;
- Cleaned the kitchen after meals doing dishes by hand;
- Sewed the girls' clothes. Maybe damaged her eyes, sewing so much over they years in poor lighting?
- Did clothes washing, drying, starching and ironing;
- Did the housecleaning & taught her daughters to sew, cook, & help with housework—on Saturday night, shoes were lined up and it was Helene's job to polish them all for the Sunday morning church service.
- Very organized, sang German hymns while she worked;
- Kept a small garden.

- *From Marilynne Haase Kinner's memories of her grandmother Mary Vogel and Rosemary Meier's conversations with her mom Helene Vogel.*

Children's Song —German

Hoppe, hoppe, Reiter

Hoppe, hoppe, Reiter,
Wenn er fällt, dann schreit er.
Fällt er in die Hecken,
Tut er sich erschrecken.
Fällt er in den Sumpf
Macht der Reiter plumps!

Hoppe, hoppe, Reiter,
Wenn er fällt, dann schreit er.
Fällt er auf die Steine,
Tun ihm weh die Beine.
Fällt er in den Sumpf
Macht der Reiter plumps!

Hoppe, hoppe, Reiter
Wenn er fällt, dann schreit er
Fällt er in den Graben
Fressen ihn die Raben
Fällt er in den Sumpf
Macht der Reiter plumps!

Children's Song —English

Hop, Hop, Rider

Hop, hop, rider,
If he falls, he will be crying.
If he falls into the hedges,
He will get frightened.
If he falls into the mud,
The rider falls with a splash!

Hop, hop, rider,
If he falls, he will be crying.
If he falls on the stone,
His leg will be hurt.
If he falls into the mud,
The rider falls with a splash!

Hop, hop, rider
If he falls he will be crying.
If he falls into the ditch,
He will be eaten by the ravens.
If he falls into the mud,
The rider falls with a splash!

Song from Rosemary Meier's memories of her Vogel grandparents

1930s VOGEL CHILDREN GROW UP & MARRY

How to Preserve a Husband

First, be careful in selection. Take only such varieties as have been reared in good families and had good moral training.

When once selected, let the past remain forever settled and give the entire thought to the future.

Some insist on keeping him in a pickle. Others prefer hot water.

It is not generally known that even poor varieties may be made sweet, tender and good by garnishing them with patience, smiles and affection.

They should be wrapped in a mantle of charity and kept warm with a steady fire of devotion. Thus treated, they will keep for years as good as when first selected.

Sometimes they improve with age.

Recipe found handwritten by Emma during the 1920s or early 1930s when she worked as a maid for a family in Nebraska



Emma Vogel & John Haase
Prior to Wedding June 9, 1935

MOVE TO PORTLAND, OREGON

- 1937 the Vogel family moved to Portland, Oregon
- The Vogels became members of the German Congregational Evangelical Brethren Church where the services were in German.
- The older children were marrying and starting families of their own. Now Henry and Mary had even more children to love.
- 1941 Emma & her husband, John Haase and family moved to Portland from Nebraska and stayed with Henry & Mary in Portland, until they found a home.
- “We used to laugh about the way Grandpa Vogel drove his car—it was a gear shift and he would gun it and start out in high.” *Marilynne Kinner recalled.*
- *Photo was taken on the porch of the Vogel home at 4067 N. Haight Avenue in Portland, Oregon 1941.*



John Haase
Marilynne and John

Vogel Family 1942



Amelia

Mollie

Fred

Albert

Emma

Mary

Helene

Henry

Mary

Martha



Left to right - Marilynne Haase, John Haase, Joanne Haase, Virginia Vogel, Alana Vogel, Linda Meier, Fred Schwab, Mary Schwab - Ken Haase is sitting on Grandpa Vogel's lap.

Kids & Grandkids



Linda Meier with Parents Helene (Vogel) Meier and Ed Meier.

MARY & HENRY VOGEL



Mary & Henry at the Meier home



50th Golden Wedding Anniversary, April 28, 1953

~Ende~