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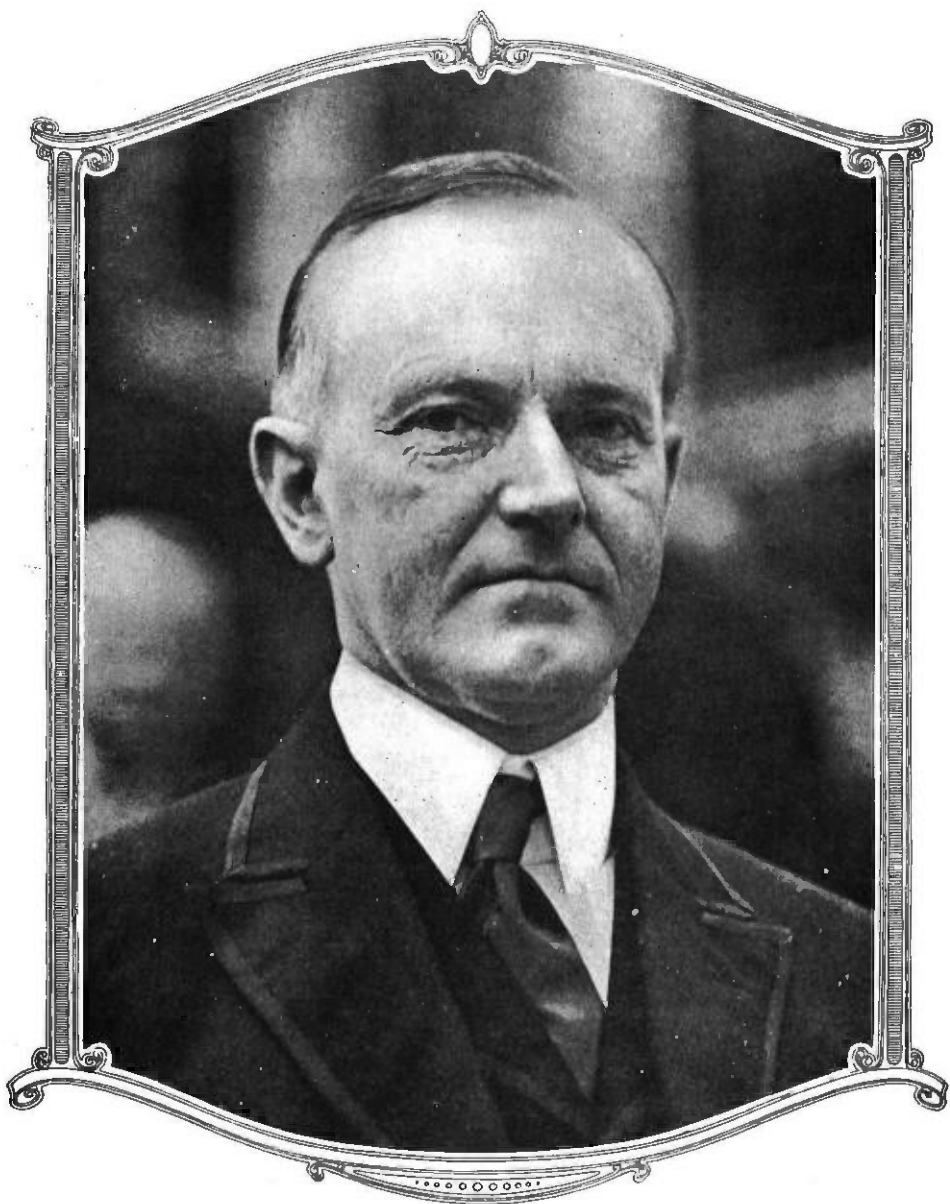
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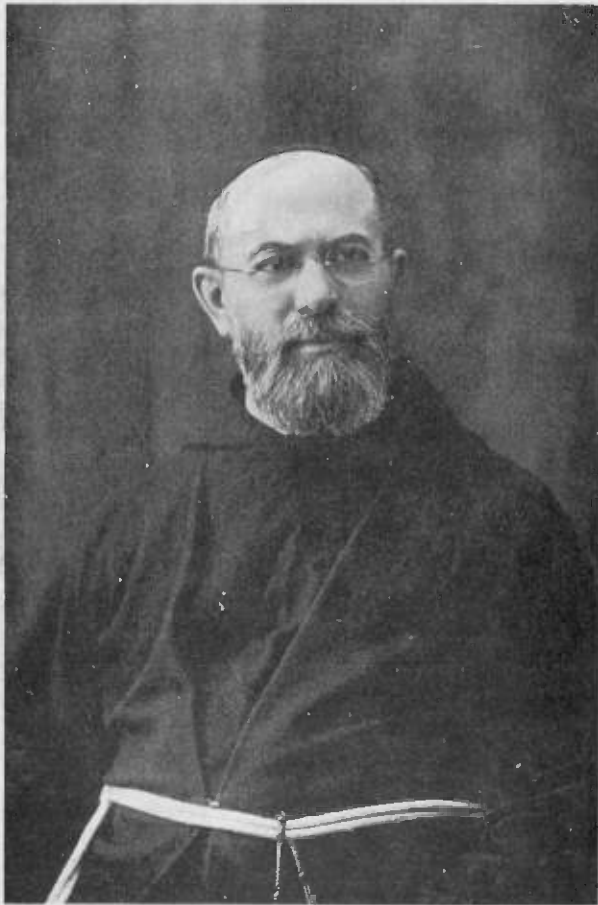
*To the memory of the men and women
whose heroic trials made fruitful the
barren prairies, this volume is dutifully
inscribed.*



Calvin Coolidge



RT. REV. FRANCIS J. TIEF, D.D.
Bishop of Concordia



REVEREND FR. HENRY KLUEPFEL, O. M. CAP.
Provincial of the Capuchin Fathers



St. Anthony's Hospital, Hays, Kansas

Catherine the Great Invites the German Colonists to Come and Settle the Semi-Arid Regions of Her Far-Flung Domain.

WHEN in 1762 Catherine the Great ascended the throne of the Czars as empress of all the Russias, her one great ambition was to make her reign the outstanding period of Russian history. Ambitious, energetic and competent, she was prepared to go to any lengths to realize her aim. Herself a German by birth, she clearly realized the inferiority of her semi-Asiatic subjects and at once set out to remedy it by the introduction of Western Civilization, following the example of her renowned predecessor, Peter the Great.

One of her most successful moves in this direction was the bringing in of foreign colonists to settle and develop the vast semi-arid districts of her wide-flung domain.

Her first invitation to outsiders was issued on December the fourth, 1762. Owing to various causes, however, this appeal met with practically no response. Undismayed by this first failure, she issued a much more detailed invitation on July the twenty-second of the following year.

This invitation, the so-called "manifest," was a good sized document setting forth the conditions, rights and privileges, under which settlers could enter her empire. Among other things it guaranteed to all foreigners forming colonies in hitherto unsettled districts of Russia, free exercise of religion, the right to build churches, bell towers, and schools, but no monasteries, to have priests, teachers, etc. Furthermore, all such colonists should for thirty years be free from all taxes, levies, and land service. For an indefinite time they were also to be exempt from military duty.

Fearing lest the second "manifest" should share the fate of the first, Catherine sent imperial commissaries to the various countries with instructions to extend her invitation far and wide among the masses. Thus in 1763 Captain J. G. von Kotzer, assisted by Messrs. Florentine and Psanu, all Germans by birth, was sent to Frankfort in order to induce as

many as possible of their countrymen to emigrate to Russia.

These gentlemen conducted an intensive campaign to secure settlers, offering free transportation, money to maintain them on the road, and many other inducements, not contained in the "manifest." The new country was pictured as a veritable paradise, where a life of ease and plenty would be the happy and inevitable lot of all who availed themselves of the golden opportunity.

Despite the grave obstacles thrown in their way by the various German principalities which strictly forbade the emigration of their subjects, Captain von Kotzer and his assistants were so successful that from 1763 to 1767 they induced some eight thousand families (about 25,000 persons), to emigrate from Hesse, Saxony, Alsace, Baden, Wuertemberg, Bavaria, Tyrol, Switzerland, and the Palatinate. Their success was due in no small measure



Peter Leiker (still living)
One of the Five Explorers of 1874

to the chaotic affairs in Germany consequent upon the Seven Years War which had just ended.

As rendezvous for the emigrants various centers, such as Rossiau near Dessau on the Elbe, Luebeck, Regensburg, Freiburg, etc., were designated. From these centers the colonists moved on to Luebeck—seldom to Danzig—where they embarked for Kronstadt on the Gulf of Finland.

From Kronstadt the various groups of colonists proceeded to Oranienbaum, where they were met and welcomed by Catherine. From Oranienbaum different routes were fol-

lowed to reach the lower Volga district. The most common route was to sail along the Neva, and down the Wolchow for some distance past Novgorod. Here the newcomers disembarked and began the wearisome journey overland to Torzhok on the Volga, where the majority were forced by circumstances to winter. Some, however, pushed on to Kostroma, but none could reach Nishni-Novgorod, where the government had prepared some kind of winter quarters for them. The sufferings entailed in all this travel can better be imagined than described.

JOURNEY DOWN VOLGA BEGINS

As soon as navigation opened in the spring the journey down the Volga continued till the ships docked at Saratov on the Lower Volga, the district set aside for the emigrants. This was a large expanse of land lying on both sides of the River. The district west of the River was known as the mountain side (*Bergseite*), and east of the River as the meadow side (*Wiesenseite*). The former was in the government of Saratov, and the latter in the government of Samara.

In all, about 104 colonies, 45 on the mountain side, and 59 on the meadow side, were founded. The homes of the settlers now in Ellis County were: Katharinestadt (popularly called Baronsk, because founded in 1765 by Baron de Beauregard), Boregard (founded 1766), Obermonjour (founded 1766), Zug (*Gattung*, founded 1767), Luzern (Roemler, founded 1767), Schoenchen (Paninskoje, founded 1767), Solothurn (Wittmann, founded 1767), all lying on the east bank of the Volga, north of Saratov; Rohleder (Raskaty, founded 1766), Graf (Krutogorowka, founded 1764), Herzog (Susly, founded 1764), Mariental (Pfannenstiel or Tonkoschurówka, founded 1766), Louis (Otrogowka, founded 1766), lying north and south of the great Karamann, which flows from the south into the Volga west of Katharinenstadt; Liebenthal (founded 1859 from the other colonies), south of the Great Karamann; Neuobermonjour (founded 1859), 10 verst south of Liebenthal. Marienburg (founded 1860), 68 verst north-

east of Liebenthal. All these colonies were on the meadow side. On the mountain side lay Kamenka (founded 1766), 110 verst southwest of Saratov, Pfeifer (Gniluska, founded 1766), 7 verst southwest of Kamenka, Rothamel (Pamnatnaja, founded 1767), about 25 verst northwest of Kamenka, Semenowka (founded 1766) 15 verst southwest of Pfeifer.

Since this is not the place to treat at length of the gradual rise and development of the Russian Settlements, let it suffice to say that



Peter Stecklein
One of the Five Explorers of 1874

from the very landing in Kronstadt the colonists were sadly disillusioned. To begin with, practically half of the immigrants were

artisans, having no knowledge of farming. These had been induced to leave their native lands by promises of plenty of opportunities to practice their various trades in the cities and towns of Russia. Once arrived in the Land of the Czars, however, all without exception were transported to the Lower Volga. This, the vaunted paradise of the commissaries, proved to be a vast expanse of wild, semi-arid steppe land which, as it then appeared, must have discouraged every one of the colonists. Moreover, the buildings which the government had promised to erect were nowhere to be seen, and the allowances of money advanced by Her Majesty proved sadly insufficient. To make matters worse, the colonists had arrived too late in the season to do any planting, with the inevitable result that the winter which soon overtook them, proved a time of dire need and bitter suffering in which death reaped a rich harvest.

With the advent of spring, however, the outlook became somewhat brighter. The land proved to be rich and well adapted for wheat raising. Nothing daunted by their sad plight, the colonists, both farmers and artisans, made a bold attempt to wrest a living from the stubborn soil.

Energy, industry and thrift, the national characteristics of the German people, were not wanting in the settlers on the Volga, and these, together with the fruitfulness of the soil, gradually overcame all difficulties. But before the colonists arrived at a stage of comparative prosperity, they had to pass through terrible hardships and sufferings. Thus, for the first ten years their crops were total failures, and to ward off starvation, they were forced to apply to the government for food; they had to fight for their lives in the murderous raids of the savage Kirghiz hordes which periodically swept through the colonies with fire and sword,

wiping out four of them completely, and retarding the development of many others; their members were thinned by disease and death



Anton Wasinger
One of the Five Explorers of 1874

which claimed many a victim in the early years. Added to all this there was the ever-growing irritation caused by almost continuous bickering between the colonists and the government concerning the repayment of the money advanced, the amount of subsidies, taxation, and a number of similar matters. In short, so fraught with disappointment, worry and suffering were those early years that one is compelled to admire the optimism and tenacity of purpose which enabled the colonists to go steadily forward in spite of their grievous trials.

By the middle of the nineteenth century, however, we find the colonists enjoying a measure of peace, prosperity, and happiness undreamed of in the early years of their sojourn in the realm of the Czars. But it was not to last.

AGITATION FOR EMIGRATION BEGINS

The privileges enjoyed by the settlers, especially their exemption from military service, together with their ever-increasing prosperity and their aloofness from the native population, aroused the resentment and jealousy of the Russians. The Empress Catherine, the

friend and protectress of the strangers, was now dead, and in her stead, men generally unfriendly to everything German, ruled the land. All this gave rise to numerous curtailments, growing in importance as the years passed, of favors enjoyed by the colonists. Unfortunately

some time, but when it was finally brought to the attention of the people it led to a meeting of some three thousand colonists at Herzog, in the spring of 1874, to discuss the question of emigration.

Though at first sight it may appear unpatriotic on the part of the colonists to resent the military law of 1874, the question takes on a new light when we call to mind that they were solemnly promised exemption from such service as an inducement to settle in Russia. Moreover, when we consider the length of service (six years), the religious discrimination which prevented any but orthodox Russians from rising to the rank of an officer, the poor treatment accorded the soldiers, and the fact that during the whole of their stay in the army, Catholics were unable to fulfill even their Easter duty, we can readily understand why the colonists should resist such an enactment.

The meeting at Herzog in the spring of 1874 resulted in the election of five delegates, who at the expense of their respective communities, were to visit America, to look for places suitable for settlement. The delegates chosen were: Balthasar Brungardt (Herzog), Peter Leiker (Obermonjour), Jacob Ritter (Luzern), Peter Stoëcklein (Zug), and Anton Wassinger (Schoenchen). Mr. Brungardt declining, his place was taken by Nicholas Schamne (Graf).

The delegates soon convened in Obermonjour whence they proceeded to Hamburg by way of Katharinenstadt, Saratov, Warsaw and Berlin. At Hamburg they were aided by a Mr. Weinberg, who persuaded them to proceed directly

to the United States. Arrived in Castle Garden, New York, they were befriended by a Mr. Joseph Koelble. While in New York they stayed with a Mr. Schneider for two days before going to Sutton, Clay County, Nebraska, traveling by way of Buffalo, Chicago, Omaha and Lincoln. At Sutton, they remained one day, examining the land. In all, their sojourn in America lasted ten days. Messrs. Leiker, Stoëcklein and Wassinger took about one pound of soil, some prairie grass, blue-stem (?) grass, and some paper money, and all took some literature descriptive of the land back to Russia. On their return to Russia they reported favorably of the land they had visited, and subsequently four of the five emigrated.

Toward the end of December, 1874, two other delegates, Joseph Exner of Obermonjour and Jacob Bissing of Katharinenstadt, were sent on a like mission. They came to Topeka and proceeded over the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad to Larned, in Pawnee County. They spent about a week in Kansas, and returning home, reported unfavorably of the new country, thus deterring quite a number from emigrating.

Anton Kaerberlein of Pfeifer and several others accompanied the five delegates mentioned above as far as New York. Here they separated, the former going to Arkansas. On his return to Russia, Mr. Kaerberlein reported that the land pleased him but not the custom of living on farms instead of in villages. This report induced several families to emigrate to Arkansas in 1874.

DISSATISFACTION BECOMES GENERAL

In November and December of 1874 the Russian government drafted the first soldiers from the colonies. This act precipitated matters. The movement in favor of emigration now became general.

On October 22, 1875, the families of Justus Bissing, Friedrich Karlin, Peter Karlin, Jacob Karlin, and Friedrich Koerner left Katharinenstadt for America. At Saratov they were

joined by Jacob Lang, Joseph Stremel, Michael Meder, and Mathias Urban of Kamenka, and Christopher Stegmann of Pfeifer. They left Saratov on October 23, and arrived in Berlin four days later.

Under the leadership of Nicholas Schamne, one of the delegates who had visited America in 1874, a second group of emigrants left the colonies on October 24. This group was made

up of families from various settlements. From Herzog came Andrew Billinger, Alois Dreiling, Anton Dreiling, Nicholas Dreiling, Nicholas Dreiling, John Goetz, John Kreutzer, Michael Rome, John Sander, Michael Storm, John Van der Dunk, Ignatius Vonfeld, and Ignatius Weigel. From Boregard came Jacob Arnholt. From Liebenthal came Joseph Fraun and Franz Weber, Jacob Beil, Peter Beil, Martin Goetz, Jacob Hermann, John Hermann, Peter Hermann, Adam Kreutzer, John Kreutzer, John Lechleiter, Michael Lechleiter, John Schaefer, John Peter Schaefer, Peter Schaefer, and Joseph Schoenberger. From Obermonjour were John Geist, John Jacob Geist and William Geist; from Marienthal Anton Hermann. From Neu-Obermonjour were Henry Bieker, John Bieker, John Joseph Bieker, Nicholas Bieker, Frank Waldschmidt, Philip Wolf and John Zimmermann. From Louis came Peter Quint. From Marienburg came Paul Dinges and from Graf, John Bollig.

This second party traveled to Bremen by way of Tambow, Koslow, Grjasi, Orel, Smolensk, Witebsk, Wershbolow, Eydtkuhnen and Berlin. At Bremen they were fortunate to meet the first who had been compelled to wait four days on a ship. On November 2, 1875, all took passage on the steamship "Ohio" of the North-German Lloyd. On Nov. 23, after a rough voyage of twenty-one days, they landed at Baltimore.

In Baltimore, according to one version, Mr. Schamne entered into an agreement with C. B.

Schmidt of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad. In his company they went to Topeka, where they arrived on Nov. 28. For a few days they all lived together, but later they rented houses in North Topeka, the men meanwhile seeking employment on the railroads, farms and so forth.

Under the direction of Mr. C. B. Schmidt they made their first trip in search of land, going as far west as Great Bend in Barton and Larned in Pawnee Counties. The high price of land, five dollars per acre, and the want of locations adapted to the establishment of colonies, prevented them from settling in this district.

Several other trips for suitable land proving equally fruitless, the newcomers decided to return to Russia. But about this time they met Mr. A. Roedelheimer, an agent of the Kansas Pacific Railroad, who spoke to them of some desirable land his railroad company had to offer. Later he made three trips with the men, going as far west as Hays and Ellis. The first land he showed them was near Hog Back, and was so disappointing that they once more decided to return home. Mr. Roedelheimer then showed them land near the present site of Catherine, and some along the Smoky Hill River, and finally that on which Victoria now stands. This land was cheap (\$2.00 to \$2.50 per acre), and well adapted for forming colonies, and the newcomers decided to settle on it.

FIRST COLONISTS ARRIVE AT HAYS

On February 21, 1876, fourteen of the families mentioned above arrived at Hays. The day following they moved to the present site of Liebenthal, section 21, township 16, range 18 west, in Rush County.

On March 1, 1876, the five families from Katharinenstadt (Bissing, the three Karlins, and Koerner), arrived at Hays, where they remained one month and seven days. Each morning they drove to their homesteads, where

Catherine now stands, and worked at constructing their homes. Their building operations completed, they moved into their new dwellings on the eighth of April, 1876.

Representatives of the Herzog contingent of immigrants had originally chosen land near Hog Back. This choice, however, did not satisfy the men who later inspected it, and they in turn chose section 1, township 14 south, range 17 west as the site of their colony.

On April 8, 1876, twenty-three families came to Victoria and erected their first dwellings on the east bank of the Victoria Creek, a little west of the present town.

Influenced, no doubt, by the glowing accounts of the colonists in America, a large group of settlers from the western side of the Volga left Saratov on June 23, 1876. Only three settlements, Pfeifer, Kamenka and Semenowka, were represented in this contingent. The names of the families coming from Pfeifer were: Andrew Desch, George Etzel, Anton Holzmeister, Gottlieb Jacobs, Mathew Jacobs, Michael Jacobs, Joseph Jacobs, George Schmidt, John Schmidt, Joseph Schmidt, Jacob Schoenfeld, John Breit, Valentine Schoenfeld, Peter Breit, and George Dome. From Kamenka came the families of John Meder, John Schlieter, and Matthias Vogel. From Semenowka were George Seitz and Casper Seitz.

The following day, June 24, the following left Katharinenstadt: John Karlin, Karl Koerner, Frederic Meis, Mrs. Meis, Andrew Schmidt, Jacob Schmidt, John Schmidt, Peter Schmidt, Mrs. Schueler, Mrs. A. Schuetz, Henry Staab, Karl Staab, August Walter, Frederic Walter, Jacob Walter and Jacob Welz.

On June 25 they overtook the first group and continued on together as far as Orel. Here the latter party left in advance of the former, but they met again at Eydtkuhnen. George Schmidt and John Meder here joined

the group from Katharinenstadt and went with them to New York by way of Hamburg. They reached Hays on July 26, and



First Catholic Church at Ellis, Kan.

Catherine the day following. The other party sailed from Bremen, and arrived at Topeka on July 23. From here most of them went to Hays on August 20 (or 23), and to Pfeifer the next day.

LARGEST EXPEDITION LEAVES SARATOV

The largest single expedition to leave Russia for America comprised 108 families, and started from Saratov on July 8. This party had some difficulty in obtaining passports, but after paying the government eighteen rubles per person and bestowing some gifts on the governor, all were permitted to depart.

At Duenaburg, they were joined by a large party of Mennonites, and traveled together as far as Eydtkuhnen, where they

separated. The Mennonites finally settled in Nebraska.

As a result of the poor treatment they received on the North-German Lloyd ships, the colonists in America advised their friends who contemplated emigration to take another route. Because of this, those colonists who later settled in Munjor, Schoenchen, and Liebenthal went to Hamburg and came to America on the Hamburg American Line. The others, to the number

of 1,454 souls, arranged for transportation to New York on the North-German Lloyd ship "Mosel," at 38 rubles a head.

from Obermonjour, Russia; Joseph Graf Sr., Martin Quint and Michael Quint of Louis, Russia; and Henry Gerber of Graf, Russia.



First church and belfry, Munjor

When the group aboard the Mosel arrived in New York they received various offers of transportation ranging from \$18 to \$22 a person. These offers were all refused. Finally an agreement was made to transport them for sixteen rubles per passenger. Besides the Mennonites who went to Nebraska, there were in this group the following, who also came to Kansas: Peter Braun, Peter Andrew Braun, Andrew Brungardt Sr., Balthasar Brungardt, Franz Brungardt Sr., Franz Brungardt, John Peter Brungardt, Peter Brungardt, Peter Brungardt, Alois Dening, Michael Dening, Andrew Dinkel, George Dinkel, John Peter Dinkel, Michael Dreiling Sr., Anton M. Dreiling, Franz M. Dreiling, Michael M. Dreiling, Peter M. Dreiling, John Dreiling, Elizabeth Dreiling, Paulina Dreiling, John Frank, Joseph Kapp, Adam Knoll, Michael Kuhn Sr., John Kuhn Sr., Andrew Kuhn, John Kuhn, Michael Kuhn, Michael Kuhn, Jr., Anton Mermis, Michael Pfeifer Sr., Adam Riedel, Martin Riedel, Michael Riedel, Peter Rome, Ignaz Sander, Frederic Schamber, Andrew Scheck Sr., Andrew Scheck, Michael Schmidtberger, John Vonfeld, John Wasinger, John Windholz, Michael Weigel, John Wittman, Peter Wittmann, Martin Yunker and Peter Yunker. All of these came from Herzog, Russia. There were also John Leiker, Anton Rupp, Caspar Rupp and Jacob Rupp

All of these with the exception of Peter Yunker who remained in Topeka till 1877, made their home in Herzog, arriving in Victoria on the third of August, 1876.

In the meantime, the party traveling by way of Hamburg-American Line arrived in New York, and a few days later came to Kansas. Included in the group were the founders of Munjor: Jacob Engel, John Berg, Franz Leiker, Henry Leiker, Jacob Leiker, Joseph Leiker, Joseph Leiker, Konrad Leiker, Michael Leiker, Nicholas Leiker, Peter Leiker from Obermonjour, Russia; John Dechant, John Herl, Henry Miller, Henry Ruder, Stanislaus Ruder, Joseph Schreibvogel, Anton Schumacher, George Schumacher, Henry Schumacher and Catherine Schumacher all of Wittmann, Russia; Nicholas Eberle, Peter Gross, Matthias Rohr, and Peter Rohr of Mariental; Anton Wasinger and Anton Wasinger Jr., of Schoenchen; Anton Schneider and Peter Stoecklein of Gattung; and John Goetz of Herzog. For several days these families remained in Herzog, and then moved to a place on Big Creek, north of the present site of Munjor. After staying here two months they removed to Section 25, in Wheatland Township, where Munjor now stands.

With the founders of Munjor came the following families who settled in Lieben-

thal: Henry Depperschmidt, Peter Depperschmidt, John Jacob Schoenthaler, Karl Herrglotz, Jacob Monsch, Joseph Monsch, Michael Schmidt, Simon Schoenthaler, Joseph Schuckmann, Frederic Werth, Jacob Werth, John Werth Sr., John Peter Werth, Karl Werth, Louis Werth and Jacob Zimmermann. These arrived at their new home on the eve of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, 1876. In September Adam Bieker, Frank Dreher, John Dreher, Konrad Dreher, Philip Dreher, Frederic Graf, Joseph Rumbach and Joseph Zimmermann came to Liebenthal from Obermonjour.

Rothamel on the Ilawla sent a small quota of emigrants who left Saratov on July 24, 1876. This group was made up of the following: John J. Basgall, his brother Joseph Basgall, Martin M. Appelhans, John J. Basgall, Elizabeth Basgall, her son Joseph Basgall, Martin Appelhans, John Basgall, son of John J. Basgall, and Alois Hartmann. All of these settled in Pfeifer.

On September 26, 1876, Jacob Staab, J. Jacob Staab, John Staab, Peter Staab, Raymond Staab and Peter Ubert of Katharinenstadt, arrived in Catherine.

The last group of emigrants to leave Russia in 1876 came from Obermonjour. They left Saratov on September 18-30, and arrived in New York aboard the "Gellert" of the Hamburg-American Line, about a

ine: Karl Karlin, Leonard Mittelmeier of Katharinenstadt; Jacob Meier, Henry Paul and Michael Peter of Louis; and John Giebeler of Obermonjour. The party also included Anton Befort, Konrad Befort, Michael Graf, Christian Hertl, John Klaus, John Krannawitter, Jacob John Leiker, and Jacob Pfannenstiel, all of whom came from Obermonjour, Russia, and made Munjor their home.

On August 6, 1877, the families of Joseph Giebeler of Obermonjour, and Friedrich Weilert of Katharinenstadt arrived in Catherine.

Johannes Kaeberlein, Jacob Kissner, Kaspar Kissner, Adam Stegmann, Matthew Stegmann, of Pfeifer, Russia, and John Ingenthron, Anton Stremel, Anton Stremel Jr., John Stremel, Michael Urban, Jacob Urban, Stephen Urban, George Urban, Mrs. Michael Urban, George Urban, and George and Jacob Burkart of Kamenka, Russia, arrived at Pfeifer, Kansas, on November 12, 1877. A few days before Christmas, the following families of Herzog, Russia, arrived at Herzog (Victoria, Kansas); Peter Linenberger, Joseph Schmidtberger and Peter Kuhn.

The year 1878 marked the waning of the immigration to Ellis County. On June 20, Andrew Bahl, Jacob Lang Sr., Peter Roth,



Sod house, typical home of early settlers

month later. On November 1, they arrived at Hays. This contingent was made up of the following families who settled in Cather-

Mrs. C. Schaefer, and her son George Schaefer of Kamenka, Russia, arrived in Kansas. All with the exception of the Lang

family, which remained in Herzog, went to Pfeifer.

On July 20, the following families came to Catherine from Katharinenstadt: Peter Leikam, Jacob Mueller, Jacob Mueller Jr., and Michael Weilert; on November 25, the following: Dorothea Beilmann, Jacob Dorzweiler, Anna Mittelmeier, and Heinrich Wolf, likewise former residents of Katharinenstadt.

Late in July, or early in August a small party from Obermonjour settled in Munjor. These were the families of Gerard Befort, Anton Dechant, Carl Dechant, Jacob Engel, Peter Klaus, John Pfannenstiel, Konrad Rupp and John Stoecklein. Two weeks later Anton Gabel arrived alone.

The last large group of immigrants to Ellis County left Herzog, Russia, on August 8, 1878, under the leadership of Joseph

Linenberger. It was made up of the following families: John Billinger, Anton Dening, Andrew Goetz, Henry Hausen, Peter Kuhn, Joseph Linenberger, John Pfeifer, Michael Vonfeld, Valentine Weigel and John Windholz, from Herzog, and John Ernst, Laurence Herrmann, Adam Ernst, Joseph Gassmann, Andrew Korbe and Peter Pfannenstiel of Mariental. Of these, the four last named, together with Anton Dening, settled in Munjor, and the others in Herzog.

After the departure of this group, emigration from the Volga colonies practically ceased. Though military service was disliked, it was not, as in the case of the Mennonites, a violence to conscience. As the years passed the colonists came to look upon conscription as a matter of course, and in addition, letters relating the hardships met with in the New World had given military service the appearance of a lesser evil.

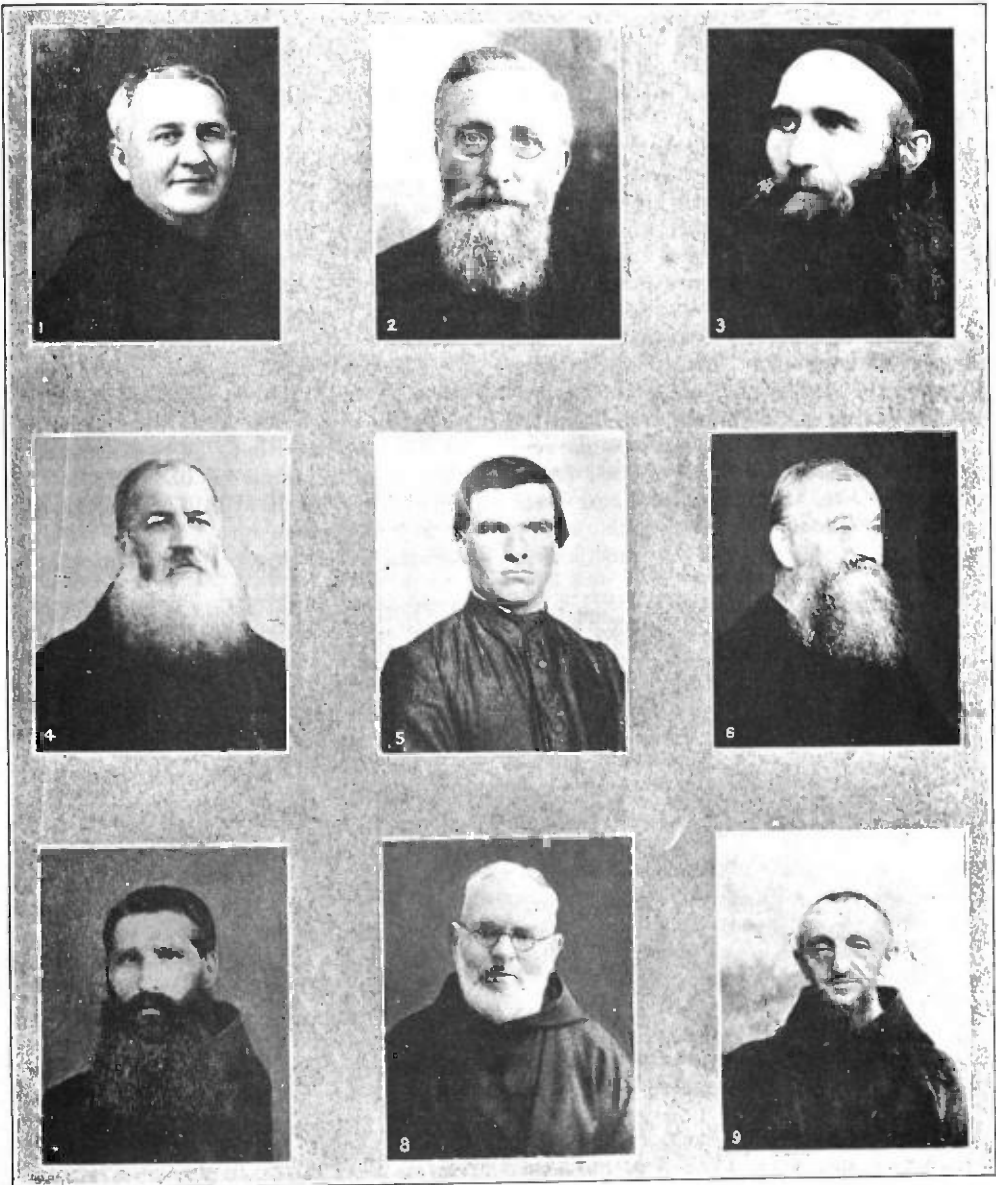
RELIGION

Though by no means a friend of the Catholic religion, Catherine the Great did not molest the Catholic colonists. Her commissaries had promised prospective settlers that they would always be supplied with ministers of their respective denominations, and this promise was faithfully kept. The people whose history we are writing were all Roman Catholics, and it is certain that even on their journey from Germany to Russia, priests accompanied them. Thus, for example, we read of a Father Corbinian, a Capuchin of Melniza, Bohemia, who in 1767 accompanied a group of emigrants from Kassimow to their new homes on the Volga, ministering to them in all their spiritual needs—baptizing infants, blessing marriages, administering the sacraments and burying the dead.

Once the colonies were founded, the first priests to minister to the spiritual needs of the newcomers were Franciscans and Capuchins. The nationality of these priests is

doubtful, but all could speak the German language fluently, and were greatly beloved by the people on account of their deep spirituality and unassuming character. They were sent by the government, and, as seems most likely, came from St. Petersburg, Riga, Rival, Libau and various other cities of the Baltic provinces, where they were probably doing missionary work at the time the Germans settled in Russia.

The Franciscans and Capuchins were soon followed by Dominicans and Trinitarians, all fervent priests, filled with love of God and zeal for the salvation of souls. Unfortunately for the colonists, these men soon died off, and in their stead the government sent Polish priests, entirely ignorant of the German language and out of sympathy with German customs and manners. Under their inefficient ministrations, the colonists lost much of their zeal for religion. Apparently conditions became so bad that the settlers complained to the government, demanding



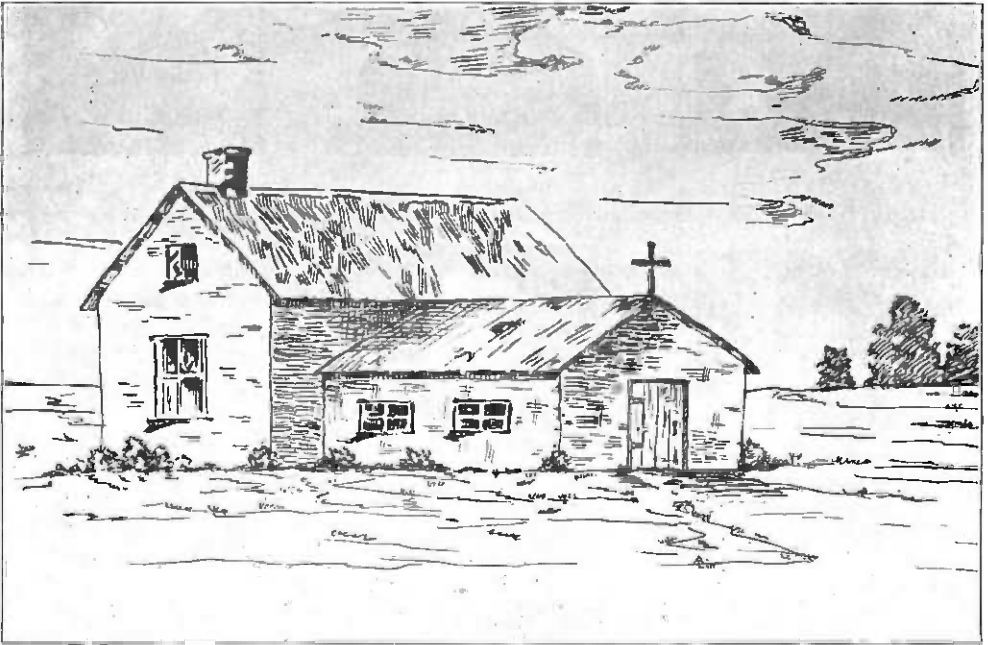
1. Rev. Julius Becker, O. M. Cap. Served more than 10 years in the settlements
2. Rev. Adolph Wibbert, first priest to minister to the settlers
3. Rev. Anastasius Mueller, O. M. Cap., first Capuchin pastor in Ellis County, 1678
4. Rev. Leo Egger, O. M. Cap., active in the settlements for many years. Now pastor at Munjor, Kansas
5. Rev. Val Sommereisen, first resident priest in Ellis County, 1876-1878
6. Rev. Emmeram Kausler, O. M. Cap., builder of churches (Schoenchen, Emmeram, Walker and Herndon)
7. Rev. Mathew Savelsberg, O. M. Cap., known for his zeal and energy
8. Rev. Jerome Mueller, O. M. Cap. He spent most of his time, since his ordination, in the settlements. Recently returned to Germany
9. Rev. Fr. Maurus, O. M. Cap. For many years assistant at Herzog

priests who could speak German. As a result of this appeal, ten Jesuits, well versed in German, were sent to the colonies on the Volga, in 1803, and the Polish priests recalled. The Jesuits remained until 1820, when they were banished. Under their guidance the colonies underwent a religious renaissance, the effects of which were to last for years to come. It was during this period that the foundations were laid of that lively faith, touching devotion, and whole-souled adherence to the Catholic Church which even to this day characterizes the people.

For some unexplained reason the Jesuits were forced to leave in the fall of 1820. Once more Polish Regulars, Dominicans, Carmelites, Trinitarians, Vincentians and Lazarists, took charge of the colonists. For some reason or other they ministered to their flocks in a very haphazard manner, and were gradually supplemented and supplanted by secular priests from the various Polish

When the colonists arrived in Ellis County, there was no Catholic Church on the Kansas Pacific Railroad west of Salina. To offset this want as much as possible, the settlers erected a large wooden cross in each village, about which the entire community gathered for devotions on Sundays and holidays. Usually these devotions consisted in the recital of the prayers for Mass, the rosary, and litanies, together with religious hymns. This custom which, with the exception of Schoenchen, was universal in the colonies, was faithfully maintained until 1879.

The first priest to visit the colonies was Rev. Adolf Wibbert, who said Mass for the newcomers for the first time about April, 1876. At the time, he was stationed at Salina. In March he had paid a visit to Fort Hays, where he said Mass occasionally, and had promised to visit the new settlements on his next trip. From this time,



First Church in Herzog (The Lean-To)

dioceses. After the erection of the diocese of Tiraspol in 1847, German secular clergy gradually replaced their Polish brethren.

until the advent of Rev. Valentine Sommer-eisen, he observed the following schedule: On the third Saturday of each month he

held divine services in the public school at Ellis; on Sunday, in one of the barracks of Fort Hays; on Monday, at Liebenthal, to which place the inhabitants of Schoenchen and Munjor came; on Tuesday, at Herzog; and on Wednesday, at Catherine. In August, 1876, Rev. Martin Kuhn, then rector of Epiphany Church, Leavenworth, paid the colonies a single visit.

In October, 1876, Rev. Valentine Sommer-eisen took up his residence at Hays and assumed the spiritual charge of the colonies. These he visited regularly once a month until May, 1878. He was the first priest to visit Pfeifer.

On Jan. 31, 1878, Rt. Rev. Louis M. Fink, O.S.B., of Leavenworth, in whose diocese the colonies then lay, together with Rev. Hyacinth Epp, O. M. Cap., at that time commissary of the Capuchins, who in 1873 had come to Pittsburgh, Pa., because of the "Kulturkampf" then at its height in Germany, visited Herzog: Bishop Fink had asked the Capuchins to take spiritual charge of the colonies, and after some hesitation—the number of Capuchins being small—Fr. Hyacinth accepted. May 11, 1878, Rev. Matthew Hau, O. M. Cap., and Rev. Anastasius Mueller, O. M. Cap., established themselves at Herzog. Father Matthew died about a month later, and was succeeded by Rev. Joseph Cal. Mayershofer, O. M. Cap. On Aug. 25, 1883, Bishop Fink entrusted to the Capuchin Fathers the spiritual care of all Catholics in Ellis County north of the Smoky Hill River. Three colonies south of the river, Pfeifer and Schoenchen in Ellis County and Liebenthal in Rush County, were at times in charge of the Capuchins, and at other times under the direction of the secular clergy. Of late years, however, the latter have taken permanent charge.

As remarked above, in the beginning services were held about a large cross erected at a convenient place in the village. With the advent of the priest, a private dwelling was used. Only later were churches of modest dimensions and equipment erected. At Herzog, the first church was a lean-to, built against the south side of Alois Dreiling's dwelling. It measured about 40x24 feet, and could accommodate but part of the congregation. At Munjor the first church was a frame building measuring 41x20 feet; in Schoenchen, the first house of God

was likewise built of wood, but was smaller than the Munjor edifice, measuring 30x18x9 feet. These are typical of all the earliest churches in the colonies. Only with the passing of the years and the expenditure of much labor and sacrifice were the magnificent churches built which today are the pride and the joy of the villages.

Humble and lowly though the churches were, the spirit of genuine devotion and true Christianity of a surety dwelt in them. The attendance at divine service on the part of the settlers may be said to be exemplary. Many attend several or all the Masses on Sundays and holidays, as well as the afternoon services, Vespers and Benediction. The services on Candlemas Day (February 2), the feast of St. Blasius (February 3), and during Holy Week, are always well attended. On the feast of St. Mark (April 25), the Rogation days (the three days before feast of the Ascension), and the feast of Corpus Christi, every man, woman and child takes part in the procession which even today makes quite a large circuit when the weather permits. Formerly, however, they were much longer. Thus, for example, in the early days the procession from Catherine, Munjor and Pfeifer terminated at Herzog, a distance of from eight to ten miles, and the Herzog procession wended its way to Munjor. While marching, the people prayed the rosary and litanies, while the choir sang German and Latin hymns in honor of the Holy Eucharist.

The conduct of the people during the divine services was always very devout. On entering a pew the usual salutation was, "Gelobt sei Jesus Christus" (Praised be Jesus Christ). To the present day one may occasionally see worshippers praying with outstretched arms in honor of the five wounds of the crucified Savior. Whenever a member of the community died, the villages gathered together for the "Todten Wacht," during which the rosary was prayed every hour. At Catherine it was customary on the occasion of a death to ring the church bell at evening. This drew all the people to church, where they prayed a rosary for the repose of the soul of their departed brother. This was repeated each evening till the funeral.

As a general rule, children are brought to church for baptism soon after birth. Formerly

only such names were given to them as could be found in duly approved "Legende der Heiligen" (Lives of the Saints). For girls, the name of the Blessed Virgin Mary was the general favorite, though St. Catherine, St. Margaret, St. Ann and St. Rose were frequently chosen as patron saints. For boys, the most common patrons were St. Joseph, St. John,

St. Michael, St. Anthony and St. Francis. Quite frequently double names were given, such as Mary-Anna, Anna-Catherine, Anna-Margaret, John-Jacob, John-Joseph, John-George, etc. (In everyday use these were usually contracted into one: Marian, Ammerkret, Hansjakob, Hansjoseph, and Hansjoerg.)

THE PEOPLE

The Empress Catherine permitted the settlers on the lower Volga to choose their own form of government, only demanding of them that they submit to the prevailing form of civil law. Their choice was a kind of communal government, each colony being ruled by a Mayor (Vorsteher), assisted by two or four Councilmen (Beisitzer) and a Secretary (Schreiber). The legislative body consisted of all the heads of families.

Since 1798, however, several colonies formed a circuit, the highest official of which was called the Obervorsteher. The Obervorsteher in turn were subject to the Comptoir in Saratov. The Comptoir was established March 17, 1766, and was made up of an Oberriechter (Supreme Judge) and two Mitglieder (Members), a Secretary, a Bookkeeper, a Translator, two Physicians and a Surveyor, all of whom were subject to the Protective Chancery (Tutel-Kanzlei) in St. Petersburg.

To some extent the immigrants to Ellis County introduced these institutions in their new homes. Thus, from April till the fall of 1876, Herzog had its Vorsteher, Town Crier (Buettel), and Gemeinde versammlung (Legislative Body), and originally, homesteads were sought with a view to distribution by lot as was customary in Russia. But when it was discovered that such a local government body possessed no authority in the United States, it fell into discard, and the settlers submitted their differences to the properly constituted authorities for settlement.

The communal life, however, remained, for when settling in America the first thought of

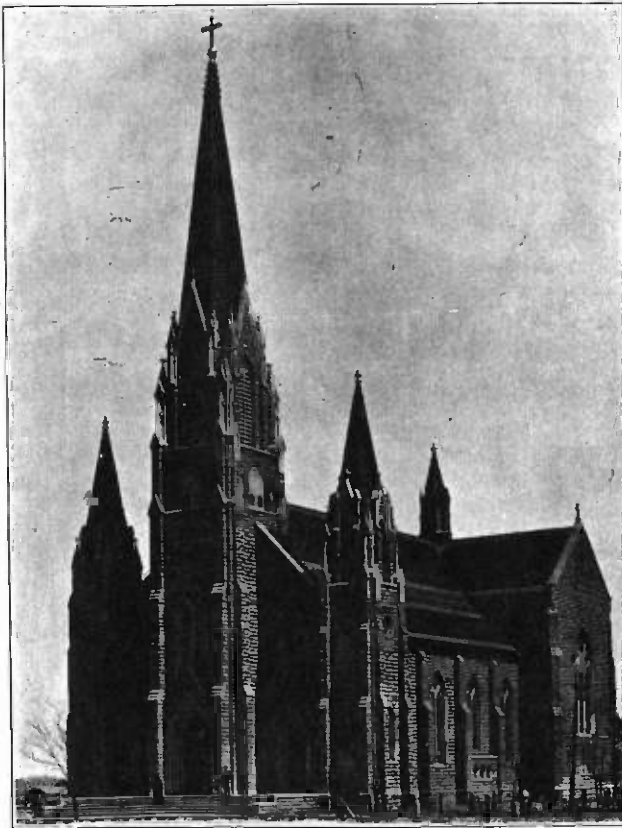
the newcomers was to find land suitable for farming, and in quantities large enough to permit the founding of colonies. Unlike in Russia, these colonies were united by no legal bond. Rather, a degree of rivalry existed between them which only the passing years have mollified. The communistic character of the settlements has served to unite the inhabitants more closely in social life and, especially in the early years, each village resembled one large family. Living as they did, secluded from practically all outside influence, the colonies gradually underwent a rather slow but healthy development, which permitted the settlers to retain the good they inherited, and at the same time adopt the advantages of their new country. On the other hand, this seclusion retarded the development of public spirit with the result that at the present day the villages, with the exception of Victoria, are still under township law. Of late years, however, a marked change has been brought about in this regard, and the future is bright with promise.

When they arrived in Ellis County the immigrants were for the most part very poor, having exhausted all their resources on their long journey. The families who came with any considerable sum of money were the exceptions. If in the course of time they bettered their condition, it is due solely to their industry, economy and perseverance in the face of trying difficulties. In 1876 Ellis County was still practically all a vast unbroken prairie. At Victoria, the newcomers found the present railroad station and one other house, with the ranch of an Englishman set down here and

there in the vast territory. Near Munjor there was also a dwelling.

To construct some kind of shelter for themselves on their newly acquired land first demanded the attention of the immigrants. In some instances, the first dwellings were rude board tents, which were replaced, as the season advanced, by sod houses or dugouts. Generally, however, the sod houses were built at once.

The walls were built of sod cut from the prairie. Trees and saplings gathered on the creek banks formed the rafters and supports for the roof which was made of plain boards covered with a layer of dirt several inches thick, firmly packed. The interior of the house usually contained two rooms—a small ante-room containing the fire-place and the cooking utensils, and a larger one which served as liv-



Church of the Holy Cross, Pfeifer, Ellis County, Kansas

Only a few of the settlers could enjoy the luxury of a two or three-room frame house in the early days. Later, though, as prosperity increased, houses of stone, which required labor rather than money, and of lumber, which required money, took the place of the dugout throughout the colonies. It may not be out of place here to give a brief description of the early sod house.

ing, dining, and bed room. In some cases the larger room had a wooden floor, though more often the bare earth had to serve this purpose.

The larger room contained the stove, which was used for baking and heating. This was of home construction, being built of sunbaked brick made of soil mixed with a goodly portion of straw. The stove was so constructed that almost anything combustible could be used as

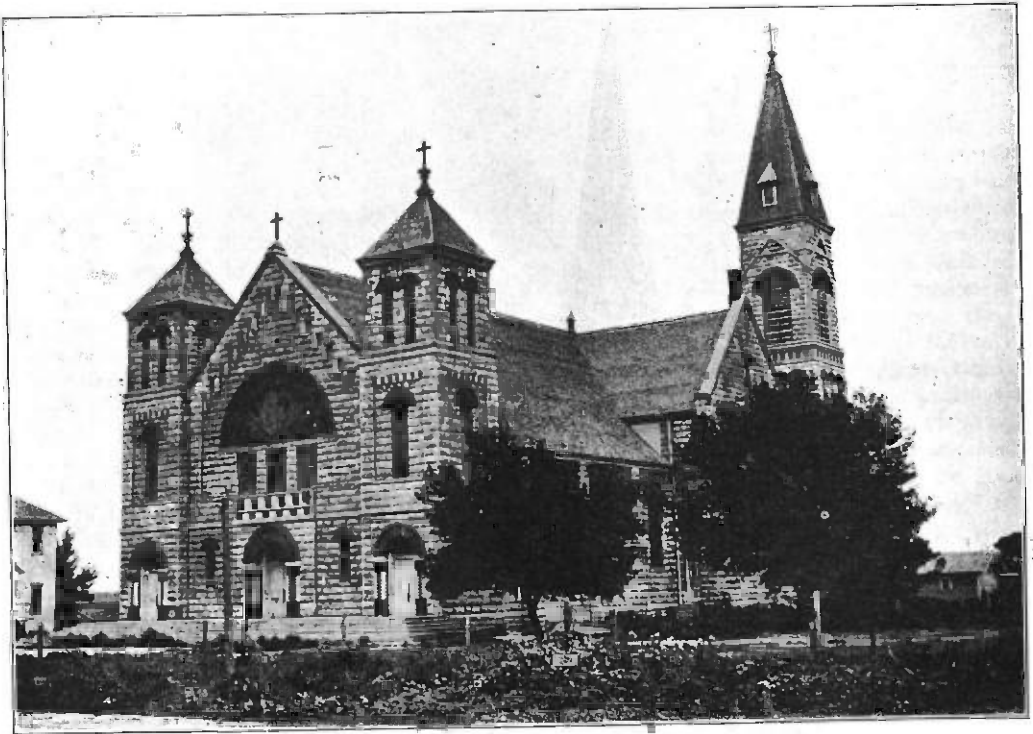
fuel. Straw, sunflowers and wood were used, and in the absence of these, "mist-holz" had to serve the purpose. This latter fuel was made by letting the accumulated manure of the barnyard heat and decompose to a certain degree, then spreading it out in a circular plot ten to twelve inches thick. After this, a number of horses were made to tramp around in it and thoroughly mix it. The mixing process completed, it was cut into blocks and dried in the sun. This fuel, when properly pre-

pared, produced intense heat and was very well adapted for use in the stoves.

with straw or hay, tables made of rough lumber, and benches from four to eight feet long, which took the place of chairs.

The interior walls were frequently white-washed and the entire house kept neat and clean, the women taking a special pride in having an attractive, well-kept home.

The clothing of the early settlers was very plain, most of it being made at home by hand, as they were unacquainted with sewing machines. Coming from a land of long, severe



St. Mary's Church, Ellis, Kansas

winters, they were prepared to meet similar conditions here. All brought with them heavy fur-lined overcoats, felt boots, and long topped boots, i. e., boots with shafts, into which the trousers were stuck. These latter were worn the year around. Especially peculiar were the large sheepskin coats, woven with the fur on the inside. The upper part to the waist was close-fitting, and the lower part was attached at the waist in folds after the manner of a skirt, causing it to spread below. As head-

pared, produced intense heat and was very well adapted for use in the stoves.

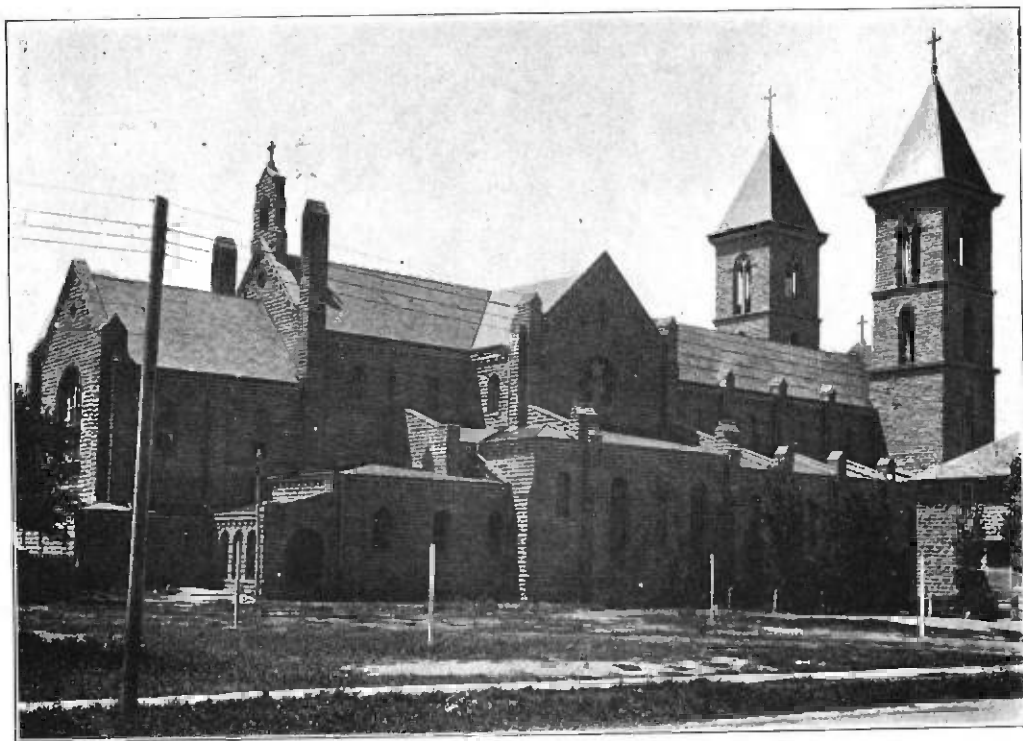
Cooking utensils were few and simple: a tripod, a few iron or copper kettles, and a small assortment of dishes being sufficient for the preparation of the meals, which consisted mostly of one course, except on feast days, when more elaborate meals were prepared.

Like everything else, the furniture of the house was of the simplest: wooden bedsteads, all home-made of plain boards, mattresses filled

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gear, the newcomer wore a cap (carduse), somewhat similar to the cap worn by the American boy today, but which at the time was somewhat of a novelty and attracted quite a bit of attention. The women and girls continued to dress as they did in Russia. They wore neither hats nor bonnets, but were contented with small, black shawls which they frequently embroidered with flower designs in colored silk. On their arrival in America, the men wore their hair long, i. e., from the crown to the

small quantities of seed—spring wheat, tobacco and watermelons. Spring wheat, which was successfully cultivated in Russia, did not thrive well here, and after a few experiments was discarded and only winter wheat sown. In the early days tobacco was extensively cultivated. At present it is still planted but only in small quantities. Watermelons thrive well, and are quite generally cultivated for home use. The cultivation of other vegetables, however, as well as of cattle, is carried on only on a very



St. Fidelis Church at Herzog (Victoria), Kansas

neck. This custom has gradually disappeared.

Though originally a large percentage of the immigrants who settled on the Volga were artisans, all were compelled by circumstances to devote themselves to agriculture. In addition to cereals, they also cultivated tobacco and raised cattle. Of those who later came to America, practically all were farmers, and as a general rule all remained true to their calling here in Ellis County.

Some few of the settlers brought with them

small scale. Maize and Kafir corn are raised as food for the cattle.

On their first arrival in Ellis County, lack of resources prevented the settlers from doing much farming, and in order to make a living they hired themselves out as laborers. The English colonists, who in 1873 founded Victoria, gave employment to a number, while the majority found work on the railroad. With the money they earned by their labor, they bought land and stock, and as conditions al-

lowed devoted themselves exclusively to the development of their farms, for them the most congenial kind of work.

Owing to their seclusion, the settlers in Russia retained their native tongue, German, and few ever acquired a thorough knowledge of the Russian language. The settlers in Ellis County still speak German, and even today there are but few children in the settlements who cannot speak it. This heritage is still fostered at home, and, to some extent, in the

number of peculiar customs which only the last few years have tended to root out. In part these customs were connected with the various ecclesiastical festivals. Thus, on Christmas Eve, a lady dressed in white, with a girdle of blue and face veiled, would appear in each house as the herald of the "Christ Kindlein" (Christ Child). The first sign of her approach was the tinkling of a small bell, followed by a knock at the door. Entering she saluted all with the greeting: "Gelobt sei Jesus Christus"



Interior of St. Joseph's Church, Hays, Kansas

parish schools. The spoken German closely resembles that spoken in the Palatinate and in Bavaria. Some varieties in the language of the different villages still remain, such as, e. g., the pronunciation of e as ä, â, ö, í, in such words as "Weizen," "Stehen," etc. One peculiarity is that words are still employed in a sense that has grown obsolete, as "bloede," in the sense of timid.

As a class, the people are very conservative, and for a long time clung tenaciously to a

(Praised be Jesus Christ). Next calling for the youngest child, she would recite some short prayer as evidence of diligence in this regard, and would then reward it with gifts. The older children were then summoned and not infrequently mildly chastised for various faults committed, after which they too received presents. Finally, a quantity of nuts were thrown into the air and as the children scrambled for them the white-robed herald departed.

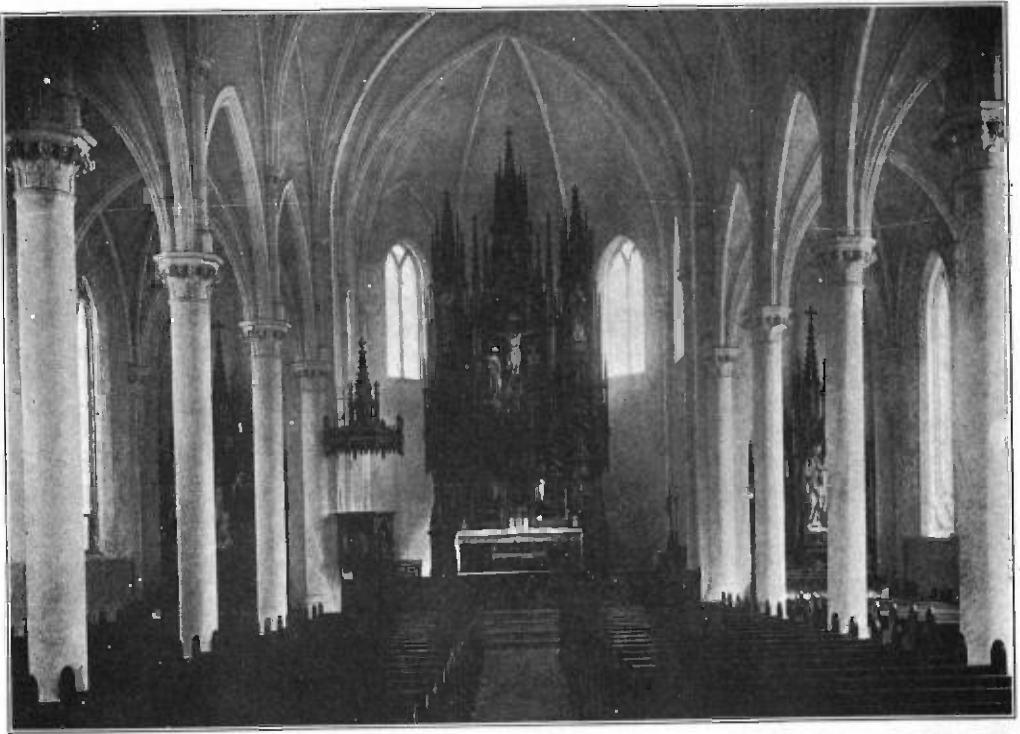
In Catherine it was customary for each child

to call upon his godparents on Christmas and Easter and offer them the greetings of the season. As a reward for his thoughtfulness he received a quantity of sweets which he carried away in a white cloth.

On New Year's Day the children called upon their relatives and friends and wished them a Happy New Year, always employing the same formula: "Ich wünsche Euch ein glückseliges Neujahr, langes Leben, Gesundheit, Friede und

they went from house to house collecting eggs as their reward for services rendered.

A great number of marriage customs prevailed in the colonies, differing considerably in the various villages. Thus, at Schoenchen and several of the other settlements, oral invitations to the wedding were served by two men deputed by the fathers of the bridal couple. These men carried canes to which a ribbon was attached, and walked through the colony



Interior of St. Joseph's Church at Liebenthal, Rush County, Kansas

Enigkeit, nach dem Tode die ewige Glückseligkeit." (I wish you a happy New Year, long life, health, peace and unity, and after death eternal happiness.) For this greeting the children were rewarded with sweets.

In Holy Week the Church bells are silent from Holy Thursday till Saturday. During this time it was customary for the altar boys to go through the village with wooden clappers to announce the time of divine service and of the Angelus. After Mass on Holy Saturday,

inviting the chosen guests, using for this purpose a special formula. At Catherine, however, written invitations were always sent out, and the oral form dispensed with.

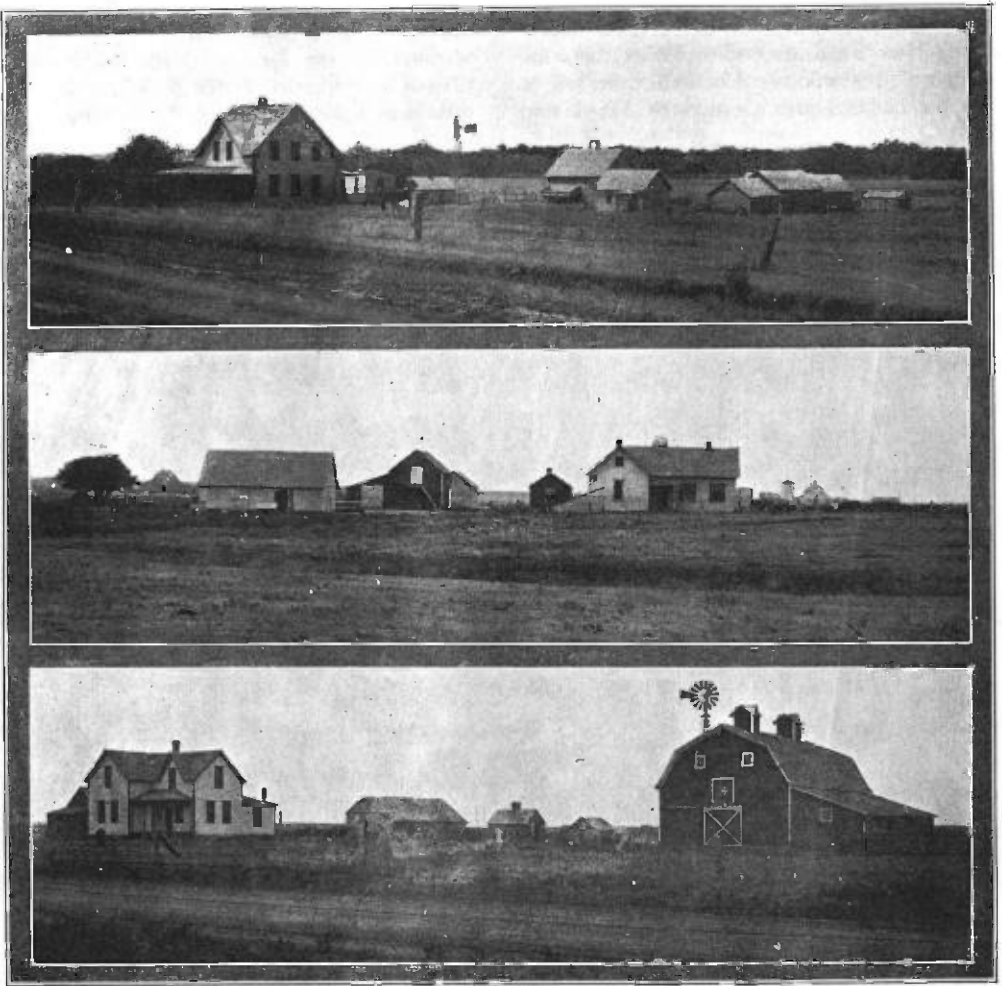
The evening before a wedding, known as polterabend (ratchet eve), was given over to music, dancing and general merry making. Before going to church on the wedding day the bridal couple knelt on a cloth spread on the floor, facing each other and with hands joined,

and received the blessing of their parents and of all the relatives present.

At the dinner which followed the wedding the bridal couple, though seated at table, did not partake of food with the guests, but later

dance presents were pinned to the bride's dress.

The settlers are great card players, frequently coming together on an afternoon or evening to play Durack, Kopflauer and Solo, all specific Russian games.



1. Farm of John A. Dreiling in Herzog Township
2. Farms of Christ Legleiter and Adam Herrman near Liebenthal
3. Farm of Paul Ruder in Lookout Township

on took their meal alone in another room. While at table, the bride was robbed of one shoe, which had to be redeemed with money by the best man. After the festive meal, dancing was begun by the young husband and wife and the marriage witnesses. During the

In Russia each settler received as his portion an area of land in keeping with the number of male members of his family, females being disregarded. A remnant of this custom is to be found in Ellis County today. Farms are generally divided among the boys of the family,

while a present in the manner of a dowry is the usual portion of the girls.

The status of woman is to all purposes that of a "Hausfrau," the home being the sphere of her activity. In the early days she also lent a hand in the harvest fields. The large family is proverbial among the settlers and from every standpoint their family life is pure, divorce and illegitimates being practically unknown.

The details given above portray but in part the character and activity of the settlers. Various interests, already in the early years, and even more so at present, drew many from the settlements to other towns. The largest contingent is at Hays, whose Catholic congregation

has several hundred German-Russian families among its members. A goodly number also moved to Ellis and Walker in Ellis County, and to Gorham in Russell County.

The nuclei of several new settlements have been formed by the erection of churches at Emmeram, Antonino, Hyacinth, Yocemento, Vincent, Severin and a number of other convenient points.

The story of the quiet and unassuming conquest of the one time desert by the German-Russian immigrants is one of the brightest pages of the history of Kansas. Great were the difficulties they had, and still have, to contend with; but they are being met as they come, by the never-failing courage of the settlers.

EDUCATION

In Russia during the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, the education of the common people was sadly neglected. Indeed, the colonists on the Lower Volga, together with the native Russian peasantry, were the victims of a deliberate policy on the part of the government to discourage, for political reasons, the education of the masses.

The German immigrants, however, refused to let their children be deprived of an education. Receiving no help from the government, they erected private schools in each of the colonies and attempted, as best they could, to instruct the children. Each village was forced to finance its own school. No money could be raised by taxation, and the people themselves were poor. All these causes worked together to prevent the schools from developing to any noticeable degree. A schoolmaster (Schulmeister), who at the same time was sacristan and choir director, presided over each village school, some of which contained as many as two and three hundred pupils. There was no division into grades, no standard textbooks, and, in fact, no system whatever. Conditions such as these readily account for the fact that numbers of the pioneers in Ellis County can neither read nor write.

After coming to the United States the immigrants attempted to educate their children. Private teachers, who taught in German only, were employed to conduct school in some private dwelling. Thus, at Herzog we find Peter Linenberger, who had studied at the seminary at Saratov, teaching first in the home of John Sander, and later in the home of Alois Dreiling. At Schoenchen, John Dreher taught in his own home, while at Catherine, Jacob Schmidt, who had been a schoolmaster in Katharinenstadt, Russia, instructed the children regularly for years.

These private schools were, however, but temporary makeshifts. The colonists soon learned that schools could be maintained by taxation, school districts were organized, public school teachers employed, and the English language taught.

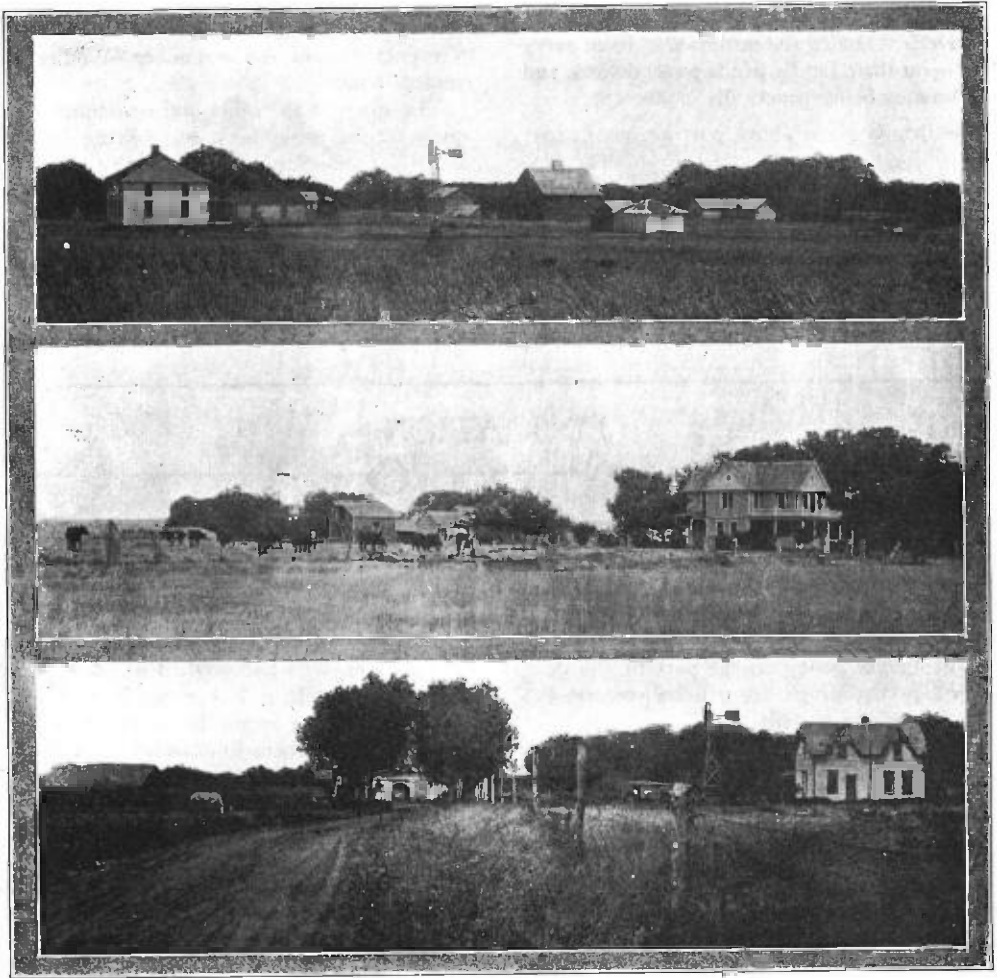
But it is with the parochial school that the history of the development of education in the colonies is most closely connected, and in these schools was the greatest progress made.

The first parochial school in Ellis County was opened at Victoria in September, 1879, by Sisters Agatha and Aurea of the Congregation of St. Agnes, who had come to Victoria for this purpose on August 29.

Until 1888, the church built by the Hon. Walter Maxwell served the double purpose of church and school. In that year Father Anselm Bayrau, O. M. Cap., built a large, four-room

large class rooms, was completed in July, 1898. by Father Gabriel Spaeth, O. C. Cap.

For years the first church in Munjor was used as a school on week days. The present



1. Farm of John Peter Braun in Herzog Township
2. Farm of Peter Roth in Freedom Township
3. Farm of Ambrose Staab in Catharine Township

school which measured 66x30x23 feet. Northeast of the school a convent was built for the Sisters who until this time had lived in an annex built to the church. The present commodious school building, which contains eight

stone schoolhouse was completed in September, 1893. It measures 74x36x37 feet, contains five class rooms, and cost about \$3,600.00.

At Catherine the first school was built in 1879. In 1902 the present four-room stone

structure was erected. At Pfeifer a large parochial school measuring 65x40 feet, two stories high, was built in 1897-98. Schoenchen and Liebenthal also have parochial schools conducted by Sisters.

The beginnings in the parochial schools were very humble. In the first years the curriculum embraced but reading, writing, arithmetic, religion and singing. Both German and English were employed, the former in the morning and the latter in the afternoon. In addition to the sisters, who taught daily, the pupils received religious instruction at stated-times from the pastor, who likewise conducted periodic examinations.

Due to a number of causes, progress was rather slow in the early days. Many of the older people were not very enthusiastic about education, attendance at school was irregular and intermittent, the children frequently being kept on the farms as long as possible in fall, and removed from school very early in spring; not accustomed to special assessments, the fee of fifty cents per month per child proved to be quite a burden to many parents; at home and on the village street the only language used was German, and as a result, the children made but little headway in English. Though they learned to read and write it, fluency in speech was lacking, a defect which to some extent is noticeable even today.

In the course of time, however, all these hindrances to progress were removed. Indifference and apathy have given way to a genuine eagerness for education, children are sent to school regularly, and the people willingly make many sacrifices to keep up their schools. Every parish school has been standardized, the curriculum extended so as to embrace all the branches required by the laws of the state, and

all the Sisters have teachers' certificates. The result of all this is easily seen in the graduates sent out by these schools. In every respect they are equal if not superior to the pupils of the public schools.

Nor has higher education been neglected in the colonies. The first attempt in this field was made by Rev. Lawrence Becker, O. M. Cap., who in 1893 opened an advanced course for boys at Hays. Owing to poor crops in the immediately succeeding years, however, this course was discontinued on May 14, 1895. The project was revived in 1906 when the Capuchins opened Hays Catholic College.

Of recent years quite a number of children of the colonies are attending various institutions of higher education. The young men attend chiefly: St. Mary's College, St. Mary's, Kas.; St. Benedict's College, Atchison, Kas.; St. Francis Solanus' College, Quincy, Ill.; St. Fidelis College, Herman, Pa.; St. Louis University, St. Louis, Mo., and Creighton University, Omaha, Neb., while the girls usually choose one of the following: Nazareth Academy, Concordia, Kas.; Mt. Carmel Academy, Wichita, Kas.; St. Scholastica's Academy, Atchison, Kas.

Progress in education has been especially pronounced during the past fifteen years. A number of parishes have introduced high schools, and the demand for higher education for boys especially has become so insistent that the Rt. Rev. Bishop Tief has found it necessary to sponsor the erection of a new college. The comprehensive plans for this undertaking, the consummation of educational progress in the colonies, contemplate the erection of a series of buildings costing about \$1,000,000.00. The administration building, a magnificent structure of brick and terra cotta, is now under construction.

THE GERMAN SETTLERS

INTIMATELY connected with the history of the German-Russians, who settled in Ellis County, Kansas, in 1876, is the story of some German families, mostly from the former Kingdom of Hanover, Germany, which had been annexed to Prussia by the iron policy of the Mighty Bismark.

These German families, not finding their status as "Muss-Preussen" to their liking, came to the United States, settling temporarily, principally in Ohio and Kentucky.

In the fall of 1876, Herman Robben, one of their number, then a young man, came to Kansas, and having heard of a German Catholic settlement in Ellis County, made his way there. He rode from Junction City, Kansas, to Victoria, Kansas, on horseback. He was the first man married in the new settlement. He was soon followed by his brothers, William and family, and George, a single man, Herman Shippers and Henry Tholen, whose home had been in Lancaster, Ohio.

In March, 1878, two brothers, Herman and Ulrich Behrens, came from Junction City, Ohio.

The families of John Baumrucker and Adam Wagner had already been established on Big Creek, in the southeastern portion of Ellis County, when the German-Russian settlements were formed; they joined the congregation at Victoria, as did all the Germans who settled in the eastern part of the country.

Clemens Griese, an Olbenburger, found his way from Covington, Kentucky, to Victoria, in 1878. A further arrival in that year was Herman Schulte and family, who came from McCunesville, Ohio.

Later arrivals at various dates were William Funke, Gerard Wellbrook, Herman Tholen, all

of Covington, Ky., Theodore Munk of Lima, Ohio, and William Schrant of Decatur, Illinois.

Mathew Robben, brother of Herman Robben, came in 1880, the Huser family from Covington, Ky., and the family of Henry Von Lintel from Ohio. William Heyl, a Pennsylvanian, came from Herman, Pa., in 1882.

These German families settled on land lying mostly between Walker and Victoria. They became affiliated with St. Fidelis Parish, Herzog, which had been organized by the German-Russians in 1876.

Their language was the "Plattdeutsch," which is not easily understood by the rest of the Germans. In manners, habits and customs, they differed greatly from the German-Russians, hence, although associated together in the same church, there was very little social intercourse between them. Inter-marriages for many years were thus prevented. This, however, has all changed now. It was inevitable that the smaller number would become merged in the larger. All distinctions, especially among the younger generation, have disappeared; marriages between them are of common occurrence, even the language of the more numerous element has been adopted by the Germans, who now use the dialect of the German-Russians almost exclusively.

The German people were thrifty and great workers; they were accustomed to diversified farming from the home land; they paid attention to the dairy industry. Hence, the financial depression, which swept the country in 1893 to 1897, found them in somewhat better circumstances than their German-Russian neighbors, who had staked their all on wheat farming alone. The two classes of people at this time have practically become one.

THE CAPUCHIN FATHERS

THE story of the settlements of Ellis County, Kansas, would be incomplete without mentioning the great labors performed by the spiritual guides and leaders of the people for 48 years.

It has been stated in the beginning of this volume that Rev. Fr. Hyacinth, O. M. Cap., who acceded to the request of the Rt. Rev. Bishop Fink to take over the spiritual direction of the newcomers, hesitated; and well he might

hesitate to send his men out into the so-called "American desert" to take charge of the people of whose manners, customs and dispositions he knew nothing.

Filled, however, with the spirit of their founder, St. Francis of Assisi, and burning with zeal for the salvation of souls, the Fathers of the Capuchin order undertook the work entrusted to them by Bishop Fink.

The first ones to reach the scene of so much of their future activity were Rev. Mathew Hau, O. M. Cap., and Rev. Anastasius Mueller, O. M. Cap., who arrived at Herzog May 15, 1878. The first named died June 25th and was succeeded July 15th by Rev. Joseph Cal. Mayershofer, O. M. Cap.

Unflinchingly, these men entered upon their work sharing the poverty and privations of their charges; they were not only spiritual advisers and guides, but performed the same services in temporal affairs. Their field was an extensive one, covering not only the six newly founded settlements, but also Hays and Ellis and other outlying missions. This necessitated much travel and many inconveniences, the difficulties of which we, of the automobile days, are prone to underestimate.

The salary, fixed by the Diocesan statutes, were supposed to be paid regularly, but owing to the poverty of their parishioners, this was seldom, if ever, fully collected in the early years.

In time, other fathers of the Capuchin order arrived and today all the Catholic churches in Ellis County, with the exception of two lying south of the Smoky Hill River, are under their jurisdiction.

Their mission was salvation of souls—to this end, they erected churches and schools—humble and poor, indeed, were these first buildings. With the coming of better times for the settlers, these were replaced by more pretentious structures, so that today Ellis County boasts some of the most magnificent church buildings in the State of Kansas.

Untiring and unceasing were the efforts of the Capuchin Fathers on behalf of the parochial school.

For 48 long years they have labored and built and if the descendants of the settlers of 1876 in Ellis County today present unbroken ranks of Catholic faith and solidarity, it is owing to the great work of the Capuchin Fathers.

LIEBENTHAL

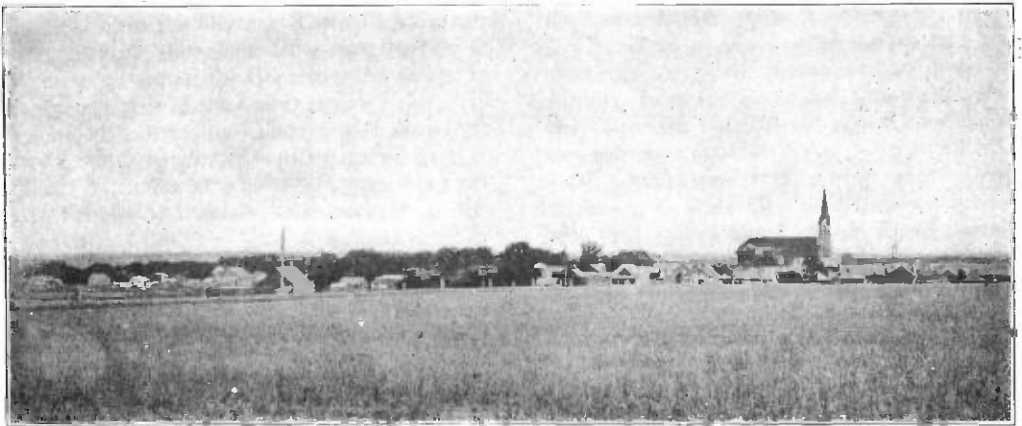
LIEBENTHAL, on Big Timber Creek, Rush County, Kansas, is the oldest of the settlements founded by the emigrants from the Lower Volga district of Russia. Its founders included the families of Jacob Herrmann, Peter Herrmann, John Schaefer, Martin Goetz, Peter Beil, Andrew Weber, Adam Krentzer of Liebenthal, Russia, and Henry Bieker, John Bieker, Frank Waldschmidt, John Joseph Bieker, Nicholas Bieker, William Bieker, Philip Wolf and John Zimmerman of Neu-Obermonjour, Russia.

These families were part of the large band of emigrants which left Saratov, Russia, on October 24, 1875. After spending the greater part of the winter in Topeka, they arrived at Hays on February 21, 1876. The following morning they moved to the present site of Liebenthal, Section 21, Township 16, Range 18 West, in Rush County. A certain Mr. Roedelheimer, a land agent, had directed them to this spot.

Starting to work at once, most of the newcomers had their simple sod houses completed before dark. That same night a bliz-



Rev. R. Stollenwerk, Pastor of Liebenthal for the past nineteen years



View of Liebenthal, Rush County, Kansas

ard swept over the country, adding additional hardships to the already trying lot of the newcomers, for they nearly lost what

little cattle they had brought with them.

A second group of emigrants arrived at Liebenthal on August 14, 1876. They were

all from Schoenchen, Russia, and had come to America in company with the founders of Munjor. This party was made up of the following families: Henry Depperschmidt,

Dreher, Frederic Graf, Joseph Rumbach and Joseph Zimmermann.

Scarcely had the third band of immigrants settled in Liebenthal, when a disagreement



Group of Immigrant Survivors, Liebenthal, Kansas

Peter Depperschmidt, John Jacob Schoenthaler, Karl Herrklotz, Helen Herrklotz, Jacob Munsch, Joseph Munsch, Michael Schmidt, Simon Schoenthaler, Joseph Schuckmann, Frederic Werth, Louis Werth and Jacob Zimmerman. In September they

arose among the inhabitants concerning the permanent site of the town. The tract of land in Section 21 on which the village was situated contained but forty acres, and was poorly supplied with water. These causes induced the members of the second group



Parsonage, Liebenthal, Kansas



Parochial School Building, Liebenthal, Kansas

were followed by a number of families from Neu-Obermonjour: Adam Bieker, Frank Dreher, John Dreher, Konrad Dreher, Philip

of settlers, those from Schoenchen, Russia, to come to an agreement with the founders to move the colony to the east half of Sec-

tion 16, which was better supplied with water. A number of families had already built their homes on the new location when



St. Joseph's Church, Liebenthal, Kansas

John Schaefer, apparently contrary to the agreement, deeded four acres of land in Section 21 to Rt. Rev. Louis Fink, O. S. B., Bishop of Leavenworth, on which a church was to be erected.

This action split the colony in two. The settlers from Neu-Obermonjour with the exception of the families of Henry Depperschmidt, Peter Depperschmidt and John Jacob Schoenthaler, removed to Ellis County, Section 28, Township 15 South, Range 18 West, and founded the town of Schoenchen. The others remained at Liebenthal and devoted all their energy to building a church on the land donated.

Building operations were begun in 1877 and the edifice was completed in October of the following year. The completed church measured 48x28 feet, with a sacristy of 15x15 feet on the west side, all of native stone. This first church was later used as a school.

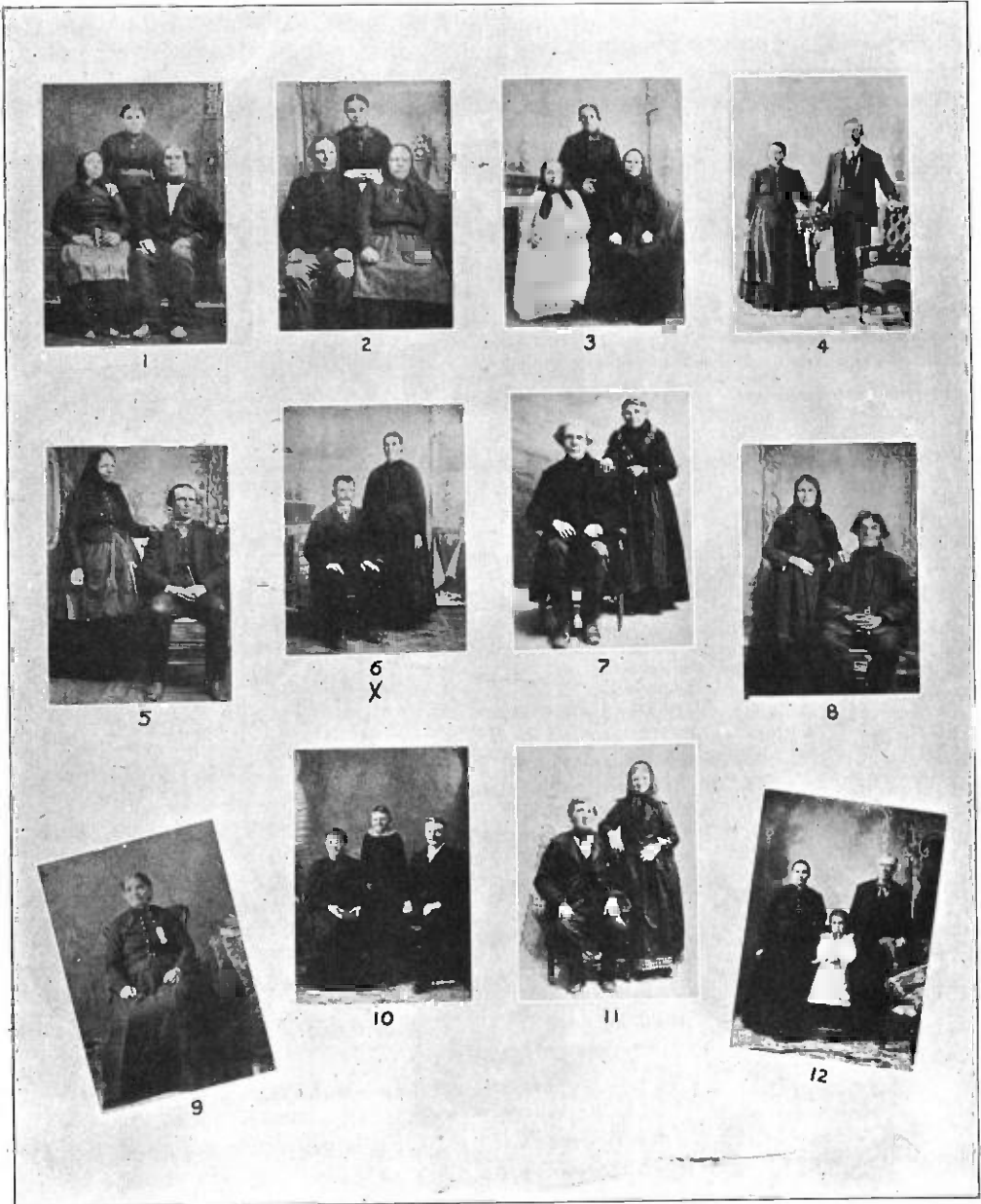
In the fall of 1889 a parish house was erected at a cost of about \$800.00, and in the year 1897 the first parochial school, measuring 60x30 feet, was built. In the fall of the same year the church was enlarged. The corner stone of the present imposing church was laid on Thanksgiving Day, 1902, and the dedication, by Rt. Rev. J. J. Hennessy, took place on May 28, 1905. V. Klutho of St. Louis designed the edifice, and Rev. R. Stollenwerk, the pastor, directed the building operations. The latter, who still watches over the spiritual welfare of the inhabitants, has, during the past twenty-seven years, built up a model parish.

The first priest to hold services was Rev. Adolf Wibbert, who visited the town in 1876. The following year Rev. Valentine Sommereisen said Mass there several times. In 1878 the Capuchin Fathers replaced Father Sommereisen, and remained in charge of the parish until 1884, when Rev. Joseph Hardes, a secular priest, was appointed resident pastor. Since then the secular clergy have labored there uninterruptedly. The following list contains the names of all the priests who have ministered to the spiritual needs of the inhabitants of the oldest German-Russian settlement in Kansas: Rev. Adolf Wibbert, 1876; Rev. Valentine Sommereisen, 1877; Rev. Anastas



George Suppes,
Killed in action in France

ius Mueller, O. M. Cap., 1878; Rev. James Muench, O. M. Cap., 1881; Rev. Andrew Eisenhut, O. M. Cap., 1883; Rev. Joseph



1. Johan Schaeffer, Christina Schaeffer
2. Philip Dreher and Wife
3. Philip Dreher, Marin Kath. Dreher, Dorothea Dreher
4. Philip Dreher, Marin Dreher

LIEBENTHAL DECEASED

5. John E. Herrman, Elizabeth Herrman
6. John Bollig, Margaretha Bollig
7. Peter Herrman, Anna Maria Herrman
8. Andreas Weber, Marin Kath. Weber

9. Anna Marg. Legleiter
10. John Herrman Jr., Theresia Herrman
11. John Kreutzer, Maria Cath. Kreutzer
12. Jacob Pfeifer, Elizabeth Pfeifer

#6 Howards - Mother's, Mother's Parents



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9

LIERENTHAL, DECEASED

- 1. Adam Pfeifer, Margaret Pfeifer
- 2. Sr. Victoria Kreutzer
- 3. Jacob Herrman, Barbara Herrman

- 4. Joseph Diehl, Agatha Diehl
- 5. Peter Depperschmidt
- 6. Henry Depperschmidt, Anna Cath. Depperschmidt

- 7. Jos. Schoenberger, Elizabeth Schoenberger
- 8. Catharina Depperschmidt
- 9. Adam Kreutzer, Elizabeth Kreutzer

Hardes, 1884; Rev. Ph. Brockard, 1885; Rev. W. Bitter, Nov., 1885; Rev. K. T. Withopf, 1887; Rev. Joseph B. Disselkamp, 1888; Rev. F. J. Hartmann, 1889; Rev. John M. Sklenar, 1891; Rev. A. J. Abel, 1893; Rev. B. Schroeder, 1895; Rev. Rudolf Stollenwerk, 1899.

Here we may note that the entire Lieben-

thal town site comprising twenty-seven acres in the northwest quarter, and thirteen acres in the northeast quarter of Section 21, was purchased by Jacob Herrmann, John Schaefer and Nicholas Bieker, as representatives of the settlers. These latter received deeds for their individual property from Jacob Herrmann.

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, LIEBENTHAL, KANSAS

- 1878—The first church, 28x48 feet, was built on ground donated by John Schaeffer.
- 1887—A steeple was built on this church under the administration of Rev. Father Bitter.
- 1889—Rev. Fr. Hartman erected the parish house, now the home of Conrad Schaeffer, cashier of the Liebenthal State Bank.
- 1890—Reverend Father Hartman built the first parochial school.
- 1895—Rev. Fr. Schroeder added a 20x30 addition to this school.
- 1901—February 22 Liebenthal celebrated the 25th anniversary of its foundation.
- 1902—November 22 the cornerstone of the new large church, 148x500, was laid by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Hennesy of Wichita, Kan.
- 1905—May 28, Church dedicated by Rt. Rev. Bishop Hennesy.
- 1910—A new large stone parish house was erected.
- 1917—The present nice school house was built at a cost of approximately \$25,000.00.
- 1917—The parish house and church destroyed by fire.
- 1918—The present parish house rebuilt at a cost of \$15,000.00.
- 1921—The present church was dedicated by the Rt. Rev. Aug. J. Schwertner, Bishop of Wichita.

List of families at Liebenthal, Kansas.

Amrein, Alex.	Herrman, Jacob M.
Brungardt, Fritz	Herrman, Mrs. Rosa
Brungardt, Jacob	Herrman, Fridolin
Brendel, John	Herrman, Frank
Beratz, Gottfried	Herrman, Heinrich
Depperschmidt, Frank	Herrman, Bernard
Depperschmidt, Andreas	Herrman, Jacob J.
Depperschmidt, Alex.	Herrman, Mrs.
Depperschmidt, Joseph	Margaretha
Diehl, Joseph	Herrman, Markus
Diehl, Jacob	Herrman, Lorenz
Dreher, Phillip	Herrman, Mrs. Catharina
Dreher, Frank	Herrman, John L.
Dreher, Benedictus	Herrman, Peter A.
Ebel, Heinrich	Herrman, Mrs. Anna
Herrman, Rosemary	Riedel, John
Herrman, Andreas	Herrman, Adolf
Enslinger, Peter	Herrman, Bonifacius
Herrman, John E.	Herrman, Alois
Enslinger, John Peter	Herrman, Leo
Herrman, John E.	Heronema, John
Herrman, Anton	Leiker, Alex
Herrman, Adam	Kreutzer, Adam
Herrman, George A.	Kreutzer, Joseph
Herrman, Frank	Kreutzer, Frank
Herrman, Martin J.	Kreutzer, Mrs.
Herrman, Adam	Margaretha
Herrman, Bartel	Kreutzer, Markus
Herrman, Martin E.	Kreutzer, John H.
Herrman, Peter P.	Kreutzer, Anton
Herrman, Mrs. Barbara	Kreutzer, Jacob
Herrman, Stephen	Knoll, Andreas
Herrman, Martin M.	Legleiter, Michael
Herrman, John Peter	Legleiter, John Peter
Herrman, Mrs. Elizabeth	Legleiter, Nicolaus
Herrman, Nikolaus	Legleiter, Clara

Legleiter, John
 Legleiter, Christ E.
 Legleiter, Christian
 Legleiter, Frank
 Legleiter, Joseph
 Munsch, Jacob
 Obholz, Joseph
 Pfeifer, Jacob
 Pfeifer, Alex.
 Pfeifer, George
 Pfeifer, Adam
 Ronda, Gottfried
 Ronda, John

Rohr, Wendelin
 Schaeffer, John C.
 Schaeffer, Stephan
 Schaeffer, Michael
 Schaeffer, Conrad
 Schaeffer, Mrs. Rosa
 Schmidt, John
 Schmidt, John Peter
 Schmidt, Stephan
 Schmidt, Mrs. Barbara
 Suppes, Adam
 Suppes, Joseph
 Suppes, Peter

Schoenthaler, Heinrich
 Schoenthaler, Alex.
 Schoenthaler, Jacob
 Schoenthaler, John
 Schoenthaler, Andreas
 Schuckman, John
 Schuckman, Anton

Schuckman, Louis
 Schuckman, Fred
 Werth, Ludig
 Windholz, John
 Weber, John
 Weber, Andreas

Liebenthal had sixty-five families in 1899. The last twenty-six years ninety-three families moved away to western parts of the state, namely to Spearville, Park, Ness City, Marienthal, Hays, Sitka, Wallace and other points.

CATHERINE

THE founders of Catherine were the first of all the German-Russians to leave the land of the Czars for far-off America. On October 22, 1875, the families of Justus Bissing, Friedrich Karlin, Peter Karlin, Jacob Karlin and Friedrich Koerner—in all, twenty-seven persons—left Katharinenstadt, the largest and most important of the German colonies on the Volga. At Saratov they were joined by several families from Pfeifer and Kamenka. In company with these they journeyed to Berlin, where they arrived on October the 27th.

From Berlin this group proceeded to Bremen where they had to wait several days for a ship. During their stay in Bremen they were joined by a large contingent of emigrants from Herzog, Obermonjour, Marienthal, Boregard, Liebenthal and several other villages, who had left their home a little later than the party from Katharinenstadt:

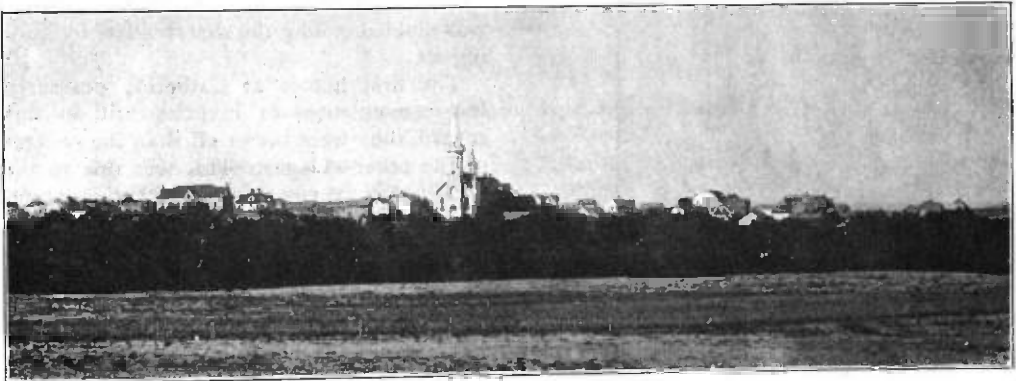
Together they took passage on the North-German Lloyd liner "Ohio," on November 2. Three weeks later, after a rough voyage, they arrived in Baltimore. From here they proceeded directly to Topeka, Kansas, where

At Hays the newcomers rented Krueger's store, in which they all lived for about five weeks. Each morning they drove to the site



**Rev. Fr. Alban Hammel,
O. M. Cap.,
Pastor St. Catherine
Church, Catherine,
Kans.**

where Catherine now stands, and worked on their new homes, hauling lumber and other necessary material from Hays. The houses finally completed, the entire group moved to the new village, named Catherine in honor



View of Catherine, Kansas

they arrived on November 28. They remained in Topeka until the end of February, 1876, when they went on to Hays, arriving at the latter city on the first of March.

of their former home in Russia, on the eighth of April, 1876.

The original number of settlers was augmented by the arrival, on July 27, 1876, of

the following families of Katharinenstadt: John Karlin, Karl Koerner, Friedrich Meis, Mrs. Meis (a widow), Andrew Schmidt, Jacob Schmidt, John Schmidt, Peter Schmidt, Mrs. Schueler (a widow), Mrs. A. Schuetz (a widow), Henry Staab, Karl Staab, August Walter, Friedrich Walter, Jacob Walter and Jacob Welz. This group comprised seventy-three persons, all of whom the glowing accounts of the new land had induced to emigrate.

On September 26, 1876, the following families arrived: Jacob Staab, Jacob J. Staab, John Staab, Peter Staab, Raymond Staab and Peter Ubert. Sometime in November they were followed by Karl Karlin, Leonard Mittelmeier, Jacob Meier, Henry Paul, Michael Peters, and John Giebler. In August, 1877, the families of Joseph Giebler and Friedrich Weilert arrived, and in July, 1878, the families of Peter Leikam, Jacob Mueller, Jacob Mueller Jr., and Michael Weilert. The last of the early settlers arrived in November, 1878. They were: Jacob Dorzweiler, Henry Wolf, Dorothea Beilman and Anna Mittelmeier.



Catherine, Ellis County, Kansas
St. Catherine's Church

Catherine is located on Section 16-13-17, a section which belonged to the Kansas school commission. It was purchased by

four of the settlers, each buying a quarter, at a price of three dollars per acre. Each resident contributed to the purchase price, receiving in return one or more shares. Shares ranged from six to thirty-eight acres. Five acres of meadow land entitled the buyer to one town lot. In 1880 the four original purchasers transferred their holdings to the shareholders.

In April, 1893, a charter for the "St. Catherine Town and Grazing Company" was obtained. The capital stock of the new company was valued at \$7,040.00—128 shares at \$55.00 per share. No property could be sold except upon a two-thirds vote of the stockholders. No individual could hold more than ten shares. Additional regulations were: Tax dues were to be raised by the collection of a pasturage fee; cutting the timber along the creek was prohibited; any shareholder could sell or rent his share, but to prevent undesirables from coming in, the right to dwell in the village was made dependent upon a two-thirds vote of the shareholders (a kind of exclusion law). In 1897 the directors of the company issued deeds of ownership for the town lots.

Although the St. Catherine Company fared better than a similar corporation in Munjor, it still had its difficulties. Finally on the second of February, 1908, upon a petition signed by two-thirds of the shareholders, the land known as "grazing land" was divided among the shareholders by casting lots.

The first homes at Catherine possessed few conveniences or luxuries, still in this regard, they were better off than the settlers of the other villages. This was due to the fact that they came from Katharinenstadt, which was the market place for all the nearby Volga colonies. Here they came in contact with people of greater wealth and more refinement than the others, with the result that their standard of living was higher, and their general appearance, dress, and home comforts of a superior quality.

Long after founding Catherine they adhered to the custom prevailing in Russia of living in towns and driving to the farm in the morning and returning at nightfall. All stock was kept in town, one section being

set aside for grazing purposes. While this custom was socially an advantage, it retarded the material development of the community, and Catherine before long, became the poorest of the new settlements. However, when once the people fully realized the impracticability and wastefulness of this custom, it was discarded.

One other result of the system spoken of above was to lay great stress upon the appearance of the town. This fact gave Catherine the reputation of being the best ordered, cleanest, and most prosperous look-

leader and director of the choir and performed all the services that were required of the schulmeister in the old country, such as teaching, holding devotions, etc. He was a person revered, respected and universally loved.

Divine services were held in the school house erected in 1879. For thirteen years this was used for that purpose until the completion of the present church building, which was dedicated on the sixth day of October, 1892, by the Rt. Rev. John J. Hennessy, Bishop of Wichita.



Group of Immigrant Survivors, Catherine, Kansas

ing of the German-Russian towns. The houses were mostly built of stone quarried from the Steinberg in the immediate vicinity, which could be had for the bare cost of quarrying and hauling.

Spiritually the settlers of Catherine fared about the same as their brethren of Herzog and Munjor. In the absence of a priest they held devotions in the open air, gathering around the cross. The devotions were conducted by Jacob Schmidt, popularly known as "Der Schulmeister" (the schoolmaster), who had for many years occupied that position in Russia. Mr. Schmidt was also the

As regards education, the people of Catherine followed the general custom of sending the children to the public school—the only kind to be had in the beginning. However, a few months of the year, after the close of the regular school term, were devoted to religious instruction, an assessment of so much per child being levied against the parents to pay the teacher.

One of the most successful of all the teachers who labored at Catherine is William Grabbe, who, now a veteran in his chosen calling, is still teaching in the public school.

The old school building, erected in 1897, having become too small, a new four-roomed structure of stone was built in 1902, and entrusted to the Sisters of St. Agnes, who had taken charge of the old school.

The Capuchin Fathers have spiritual charge of the parish. The following is the list of all the priests who have labored in the village:

Yr.	Catherine.
1876	Rev. Adolf Wibbert.
1877	(Aug.) Rev. Val. Sommereisen.
1878	Rev. Matthew Hau, O. M. Cap. Rev. Jos. Cal. Mayershofer, O. M. Cap.
1879	" " " "
1880	" " " "
1881	Rev. Anthony Berger, O. M. Cap.
1882	Rev. James Muench, O. M. Cap.



- | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. Sr. Stella (Amelia Schmidt) | 8. Sr. Clementia (Mathilda Schueler) | 13. Sr. Mathilda (Philippa Meis) |
| 2. Sr. Scholastien (Cath. Walter) | 9. Sr. Cyrilla. This Sister does not belong to Ellis Co. She is from Wisconsin. | 14. Sr. Protase (Christina Leikam) |
| 3. Sr. Solana (Adelaide Wolf) | 10. Sr. Paulina (Angela Meis) | 15. Sr. Adelinde (Agnes Koerner) |
| 4. Sr. Alexandra (Agnes Schueler) | 11. Laura Karlin | 16. Sr. Alexia (Anna Schueler) |
| 5. Sr. Annette (Sophie Karlin) | 12. Sr. Fidelis (Cecilia Karlin) | 17-18. Twins |
| 6. Sr. Bertilla (Pauline Schueler) | | 17. Sr. Paulita (Rose Staab) |
| 7. Sr. Martina (Mathilda Walter) | | 18. Sr. Carlita (Mary Staab) |
| | | 19. Sr. Ethelbert (Ida Schuetz) |



CATHERINE DECEASED

- 1-2. Jacob and Anna Staab
- 3-4. Friedrich and Maria Karlin
- 5-6. John and Catharine Schmidt
- 7-8. John Jacob and Anna Maria Staab
- 9-10. John and Elizabeth Staab
- 11-12. Peter and Dorothea Leikam
- 13-14. Heinrich and Anna Wolf
- 15-16. Andrew and Emilia Schmidt

- 17-18. Mr. and Mrs. August Walter
- 19-20. Michael and Anna Maria Weilert
- 21-22. Carl Meis and Anna Katherina Meis
- 23-24. Carl and Elizabeth Karlin
- 25-26. Jacob and Anna Karlin
- 27. Friedrich Koerner
- 28. Paul Koerner

- 29. Jacob Schmidt
- 30. Heinrich Staab
- 31. Jacob Walter
- 32. Peter Meis
- 34. Anna Maria Schmidt
- 35. Agnes Schueler
- 36. Anna Maria Schuetz
- 37. Carl Meis

1883	(Jul.)	Rev. Anastasius Mueller,	O. M. Cap.	1902	(Aug.)	Rev. Jerome Mueller,	O. M. Cap.
1884		"	"	1903		"	"
1885	(Aug.)	Rev. Martin Muelders,	O. M. Cap.	1904		"	"
1886	(Aug.)	Rev. Matthew Savelsberg,	O. M. Cap.	1905		"	"
1887		"	"	1906	(Aug.)	Rev. Joseph Trageser,	O. M. Cap.
1888		"	"	1907	(Aug.)	Rev. Alphons Hillenbrand,	O. M. Cap.
1889		"	"	1908	(Aug.)	Rev. James Steppe,	O. M. Cap.
1890	(Mar.)	Rev. Martin Muelders,	O. M. Cap.	1909	(Aug.)	Rev. Matthew Savelsberg,	O. M. Cap.
1891		"	"	1910		"	"
1892	(Dec.)	Rev. Chilian Lutz,	O. M. Cap.	1911		Fr. Emmeram Kausler,	O. M. Cap.
1893	(Aug.)	Rev. Emmeram Kausler,	O. M. Cap.	1912		Fr. Edward Heyl,	O. M. Cap.
1894		"	"	1913	(Feb.)	Fr. Jerome Mueller.	
1895		"	"	1914	(Aug.)	Fr. Severin,	O. M. Cap.
1896	(Aug.)	Rev. Joseph Trageser,	O. M. Cap.	1916	(July)	Fr. Michael Neff,	O. M. Cap.
1897		"	"	1917	(Sept.)	Fr. Basil,	O. M. Cap.
1898		"	"	1921	(July)	Fr. Andrew,	O. M. Cap.
1899		"	"	1924	(July)	Fr. Alban,	O. M. Cap.
1900	(Aug.)	Rev. Jerome Mueller,	O. M. Cap.	1926		
1901		"	"				

HERZOG (Victoria)

THE largest and most important of the German-Russian colonies in Ellis County is Herzog, which its founders located in the southeast quarter of Section 1, Township 14, South of Range 17. This was one-half of a mile north of the English colony of Victoria, which, through the instrumentality of the Kansas Pacific Railroad, had been founded a number of years prior to the arrival of the German-Russians. In the course of time, the new settlement absorbed the old, though the name of the latter remained. In 1913 the name of the German-Russian settlement was changed from Herzog to Victoria

The founders of Herzog were: Andrew Billinger, Alois Dreiling, Anton Dreiling, Nicholas Dreiling, Leonard Hammerschmidt, Jacob Hammerschmidt, John Goetz, John Kreutzer, Michael Rome, John Sander, Michael Storm, John Van der Dunk, Ignatius Vonfeld, Ignatius Weigel, Jacob Arnold, Joseph Braun, Frank Weber, John Geist, Jacob Geist, William Geist, Anton

arrived in Baltimore, Md., on November 23. From Baltimore they traveled west to To-



Rev. Fr. Cassian Hartel, O. M. Cap.,
Pastor St. Fidelis Church,
Herzog (Victoria)



Herzog (now City of Victoria), Ellis County, Kansas

Hermann and Peter Quint. All these left Saratov, Russia, in company with numerous other emigrants, on October 24, 1875, and

peka, where they stayed throughout the winter. On the eighth day of April, 1876, they came to Victoria and erected their first

dwellings on the east bank of Victoria Creek, a little west of the present town.

So favorable did the original settlers find



Sister Agatha, C. S. A.
The first Sister to arrive in Ellis
County, August 29, 1879

Russia. The result was that on August 3, 1876, a group of 286 persons, mostly of Herzog, Russia, arrived. From this time on, until the beginning of the World War, immigration to Herzog never really ceased, though no more large groups arrived in the colony.

Herzog's first inhabitants were all of the peasant class. Agriculture was the one business they thoroughly understood. Taking advantage of the liberal homestead laws, each head of a family secured eighty acres of government land. Those who had the means, bought additional land, at a reasonable price and on easy terms, from the Kansas Pacific Railroad.

The early days in Herzog were much the same as in the other colonies. The people were poor, and at first suffered want in many things. They built their humble sod houses, erected a large cross about which they gathered for services, and tilled what land they could.



Group of Immigrant Survivors, Herzog (Victoria), Kansas

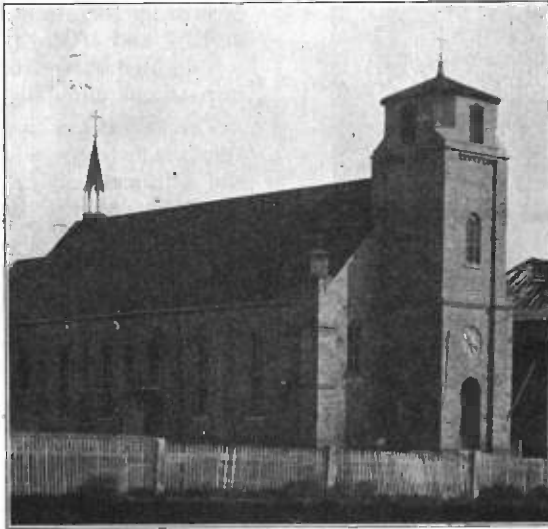
conditions in their new home, that they sent most enthusiastic reports of the land of their adoption to their relatives and friends in

Divine services were first held at Herzog in the dwelling of A. Dreiling, but the floor proving unequal to the weight, a frame

church was built adjoining the house, the south wall of the dwelling serving as north wall of the church. This structure was about 40x24 feet, and could accommodate but part of the congregation. Hon. Walter C. Maxwell, a Catholic Englishman then living south of Victoria, undertook to build a stone church for the settlers on Section 1, north of the present dwellings. In June, 1877, he had collected \$700, the total sum subscribed was \$1,500, and the only condition attached was that the settlers haul the necessary stone. In August, 1877, plans and specifications had been completed by Henry

of construction was about \$8,000, \$1,875 of which Father Anthony Schuermann collected in England and Westphalia on occasion of a visit to Rome in 1884.

The plans for the present church were completed as early as December, 1905, by John T. Comes, of Pittsburgh, Pa. In 1908, these were revised and modified by Jos. Marshall, of Topeka. Building operations began November, 1908, the cornerstone was laid October 4, 1909, by Rt. Rev. J. F. Cunningham, and the structure was completed in 1911. The total length of the building is 220 feet, the breadth 73 feet, in the transept



Third Church, Herzog (Victoria), Kansas

Bergsland who also received the contract. This church, which measured 60x30x16 feet, soon proving to be too small, the Kansas Pacific Railroad Company, at the solicitation of Rev. Hyacinth Epp, O. M. Cap., donated ten acres in the northwest quarter of Section 7 for a church and school, June 9, 1879. Rev. A. Schuermann, O. M. Cap., altered the original design of Rev. Jos. C. Mayershofer, O. M. Cap., and superintended the building of the new church, which measured 168x46x35, and had a seating capacity of 600. The cornerstone was laid on June 1, 1880; consecration by Rt. Rev. L. M. Fink took place on October 19, 1884. The cash cost

107 feet. The towers are 141 feet high.

The complete and highly efficient educational system now enjoyed by the children sprang from a very humble beginning. School district No. 7, the Herzog district, was organized probably as early as 1877, but was without a school. The first public school in the colony was the home of Alois Dreiling, where a certain Mr. Rowe taught. Mr. Peter Linnenberger, who had studied in the seminary at Saratov, taught private school, first in the home of John Sander, and later in Alois Dreiling's home.

August 29, 1879, Sisters Agatha and Aurea of the Congregation of St. Agnes, of Fond

du Lac, Wisconsin, came to Herzog and opened a parochial school. The church built by Hon. W. C. Maxwell served the double



St. Fidelis Church, Herzog (Victoria), Kans.

on Monday morning they were returned. At this period the church had no pews. For a time the Sisters dwelt in Alois Dreiling's home. Later they moved to an annex which had been built to the church in 1878.

In 1888, Rev. Anselm Bayerau, O. M. Cap., built a new school (at present, the Sister's convent), which measured 66x30x23 feet, and contained four large class rooms. At the same time a Sister's house was erected (now the residence of John Schmidtberger). These two new buildings satisfied the needs of the growing community for about ten years. The present school, a commodious, substantial structure, was erected by Rev. Gabriel Spaeth, O. M. Cap., in 1897 and 1898. It contains eight large, well-lighted class rooms, but has neither furnace nor plumbing.

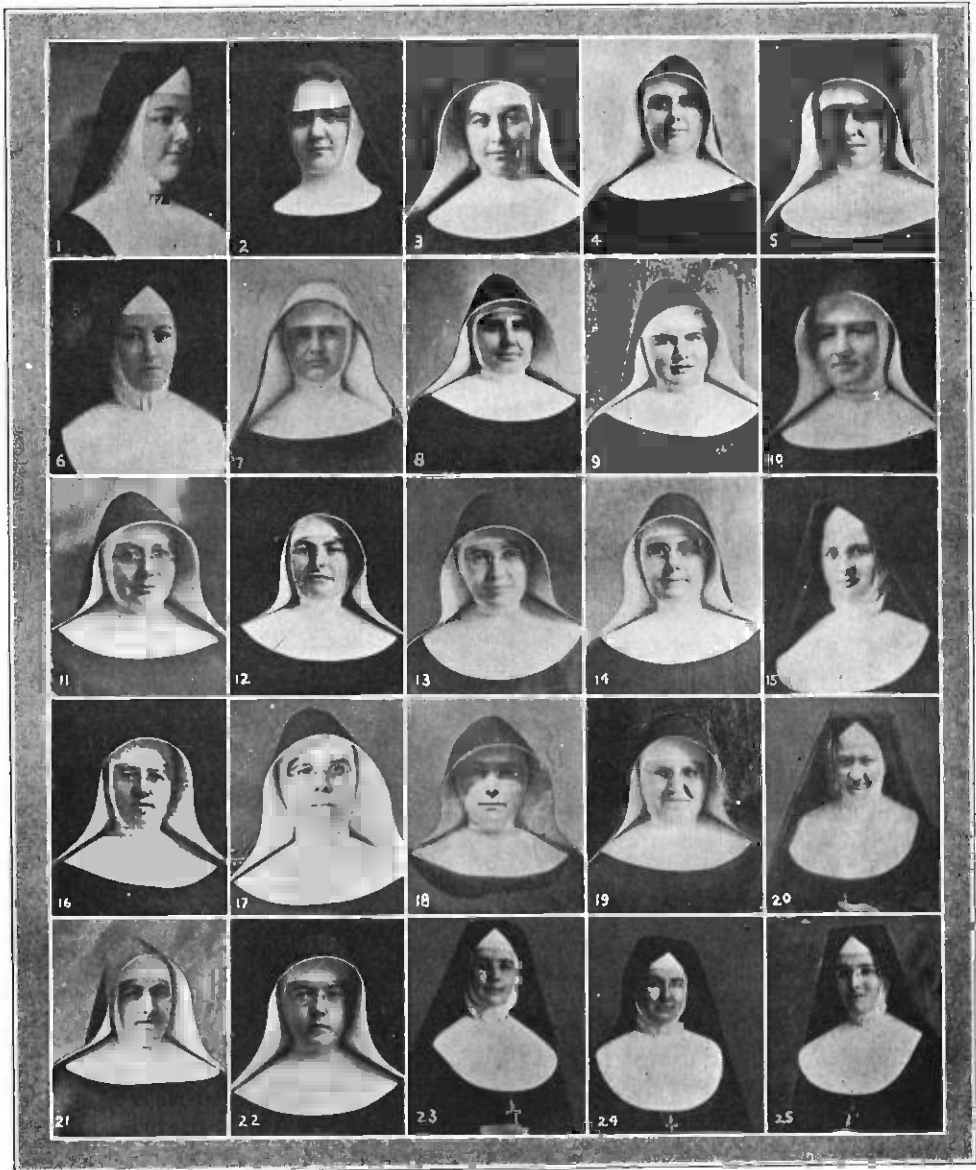
The curriculum was, in the beginning, a very modest one, religion, reading, writing, and arithmetic claiming practically all the attention. As in the other colonies, learning



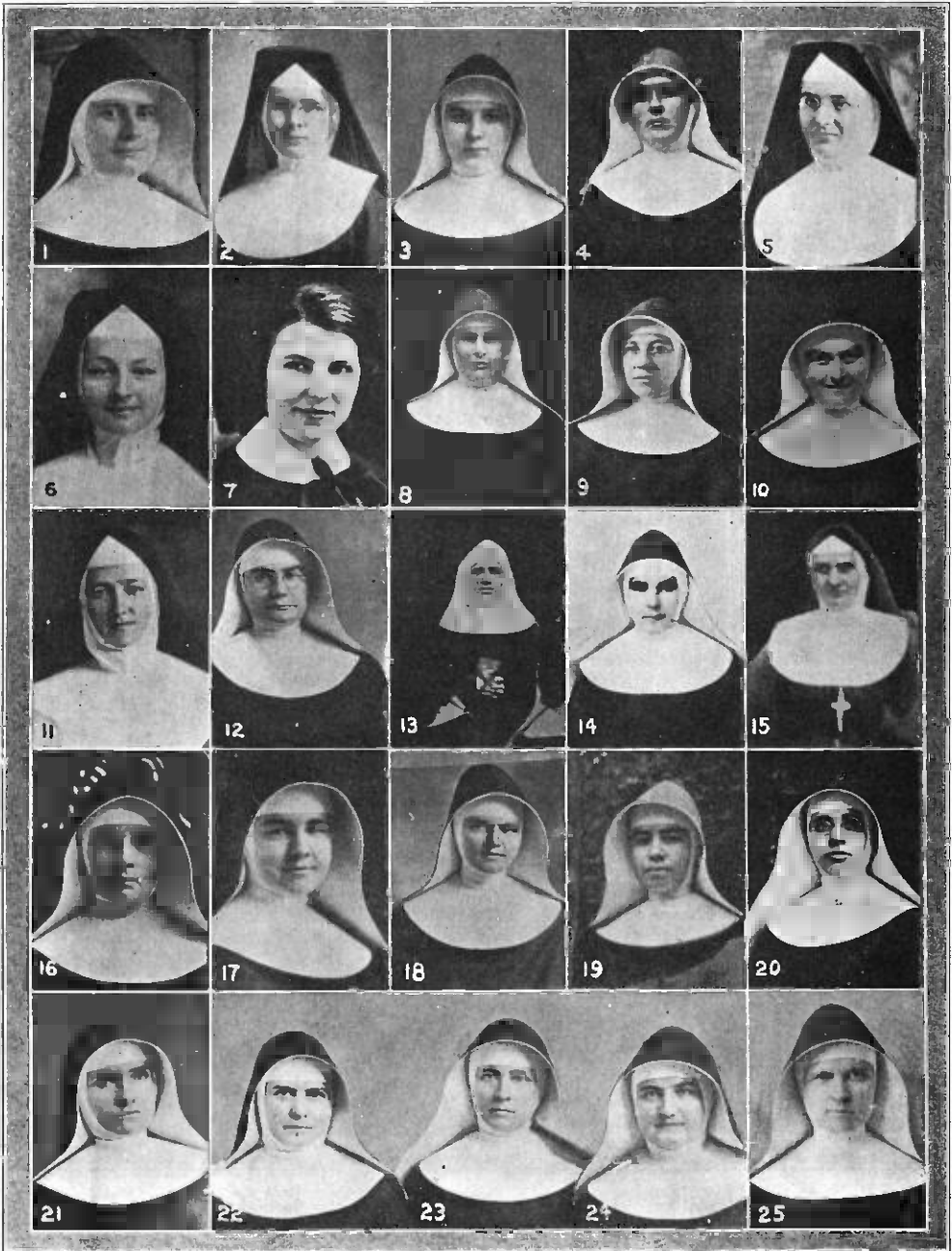
- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Sr. Marietta (Margaret Dreiling) | 4. Sr. Annabel (Dreiling) | 7. Sr. Virgila (Lidwina Kuhn) |
| 2. Sr. Georgine (Rose Sander) | 5. Sr. Felicia (Appolonis Wasinger) | 8. Sr. Verda (Ida Goetz) |
| 3. Sr. Consolata (Mary Wasinger) | 6. Sr. Ventura (Lizzie Berens) | |

purpose of church and school, a movable partition dividing off the sanctuary. The school benches were removed each Friday, and stacked up outside by the children, and

was imparted in both English and German, the mornings being reserved for German, and the afternoons for English. The causes which hampered educational advancement in



- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Sr. Baptista (Clara Pfeifer) | 11. Sr. Flavia (Margaret Kippes) | 18. Sr. Victorine (Elizabeth Scheck) |
| 3. Sr. Emeline (Celestine Dreiling) | 12. Sr. Hedwig (Barbara Braun) | 19. Sister Liberata (Ross Schumacher) |
| 4. Sr. Basilia (Amalia Kuhn) | 13. Sr. Felicitas (Cecilia Dreiling) | 20. Sr. Dominica (Graf) |
| 5. Sr. Florine (Sander) | 14. Sr. Kilian (Catharine Weigel) | 21. Sr. Susan (Wellbrook) |
| 6. Sr. Rose De Lima (Brungardt) | 15. Sr. Benedict (Brungardt) | 22. Sr. Agnes (Thecla Von Lintel) |
| 7. Sr. Anselm (Philomen Kuhn) | 16. Sr. Lioba (Mary Von Lintel) | 23. Sr. Vincentia (Rose Pfeifer) |
| 8. Sr. Alhina (Kuhn) | 17. Sr. Felicitas (dec.) (Catharine Dreiling) | 24. Sr. Theodore (Berta Pfeifer) |
| 9. Sr. Pancratia (Mary Von Feldt) | | 25. Sr. Odilla (Mary Pfeifer) |
| 10. Sr. Viola (Rose Goetz) | | |



- | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Sr. Thecla (Sander) | 8. Sr. Hiltrudes (Dreiling) | 17. Sr. Almeda (Albina Kuhn) |
| 2. Scheck Walker | 9. Sr. Ludmilla (Schutte) | 18. Sr. Angelita (Felicitas Dreiling) |
| 3. Sr. Firmina (Margaret Vonfeldt) | 10. Sr. Herman Joseph (Weigel) | 19. Sr. Lambertine (Agnes Carber) |
| 4. Sr. M. Terentia (Bertha Linnenberger) | 11. Sr. Amelia (Catharine Lang) | 20. Sr. Marine (Anna Margaret Goetz) |
| 5. Sr. M. Conrad (Brungardt) | 12. Sr. Libaria (Basilia Lang) | 21. Sr. Anna (Catharine Von Feldt) |
| 6. Sr. Frederica (Catharine Brungardt) | 13. Sr. Albina (dec.) (Kuhn) | 22. Sr. Hilda (Veronica Quint) |
| 7. Sr. M. Celine | 14. Sr. Dorothy (Cath. Vonfeldt) | 23. Sr. Cosma (Margaret Quint) |
| | 15. Sr. Edward (Brungardt) | 24. Sr. Josepha (Rose Quint) |
| | 16. Sr. Jerome (Goetz) | 25. Sr. Sophia (Anna Berens) |

the other colonies—failure of the children to attend school regularly, the difficulties arising from the bilingual system, and the opposition of the parents—were also met with in Herzog, and were removed only with the passing of the years.

At present, in addition to the grade school attended by four or five hundred pupils, Victoria has a beautiful, modern high school, completed in 1922, and staffed with Sisters of St. Agnes, all qualified teachers. This school is fully accredited, and its graduates are admitted to any institution of higher learning in the State of Kansas.

The first priest to minister to the inhabitants of Herzog was Rev. Adolf Wibbert, who visited them several times in 1876. In October, 1876, he was accompanied by Rev. Valentine Sommereisen, who watched over this flock until May, 1878, when the Capuchin Fathers took charge of the parish. The following is the complete list of all the pastors of Herzog:

- 1876 Rev. Adolf Wibbert.
 (Oct.) Rev. Valentine Sommereisen.
 1878 (May) Rev. Matthew Hau, O. M. Cap.
 (Jul.) Rev. Jos. Cal. Meyershofer, O. M. Cap.
 1881 (Sep.) Rev. Anthony Schuermann, O. M. Cap.
 1885 (Aug.) Rev. James Muench, O. M. Cap.
 1887 (Aug.) Rev. Anselm Bayerau, O. M. Cap.
 1889 (Aug.) Rev. Gabriel Spaeth, O. M. Cap.
 1891 (Oct.) Rev. Matthew Savelsberg, O. M. Cap.
 1894 (Aug.) Rev. Gabriel Spaeth, O. M. Cap.
 1900 (Aug.) Rev. Leo Egger, O. M. Cap.
 1903 (Jun.) Rev. Chilian Lutz, O. M. Cap.
 1906 (Aug.) Rev. Jerome Mueller, O. M. Cap.
 1912 Rev. Leo Egger, O. M. Cap.
 1915 Rev. Jerome Mueller, O. M. Cap.
 1918 Rev. Fr. Henry, O. M. Cap.
 1921 Rev. Fr. Placidus, O. M. Cap.
 1923 Rev. Fr. Cassian, O. M. Cap.

Herzog has never ceased growing. The few sod houses of 1876 have grown into a good-sized town of about 280 families, numbering about 1,665 souls. In 1913 it became an incorporated city, and within the last decade a complete water and electric system has been installed.

LIST OF FAMILIES ST. FIDELIS CHURCH, HERZOG (VICTORIA)

Arnhold, John F.	Brungardt, John A.	Dinkel, George	Dreiling, Alphonse P. A.
Anderson, Dr. Bert	Brungardt, John F.	Dinkel, Michael	Dreiling, Jacob F.
Bellendir, Adam	Brungardt, John J.	Dinkel, Wendelin J.	Dreiling, Joseph M.
Billinger, John	Brungardt, Jos. A.	Dinkel, John J.	Dreiling, John A.
Billinger, John A.	Brungardt, Mrs. Monica	Dreiling, Alex A.	Dreiling, John F.
Billinger, Joseph J.	Brungardt, Miss	Dreiling, Alex J.	Dreiling, John K.
Billinger, Louis	Margaret C.	Dreiling, Alphonse	Dreiling, John M., Sr.
Billinger, Peter J.	Brungardt, Miss Catharine	Dreiling, Alphonse D.	Dreiling, John M., Jr.
Bollig, John	Brungardt, Michael B.	Dreiling, Alphonse A.	Dreiling, John N.
Braun, Andrew A.	Brungardt, John	Dreiling, Andrew J.	Dreiling, John P. A.
Braun, Elizabeth, Mrs.	Brungardt, Mrs. Catharine	Dreiling, Anton D.	Dreiling, John S.
Braun, John Peter	Brungardt, Peter P.	Dreiling, Anton F.	Dreiling, Michael A.
Braun, Joseph J.	Brungardt, Richard J.	Dreiling, Anton M.	Dreiling, Michael P.
Braun, Joseph P.	Brungardt, Otto	Dreiling, Balthasar P.	Dreiling, Nickolaus
Braun, Nick J.	Brungardt, Eugene F.	Dreiling, Mrs. Catharine	Dreiling, Peter N.
Braun, Raymund	Dinkel, Andrew	A.	Dreiling, Peter A.
Braun, Lorenz	Dinkel, Clemens	Dreiling, Dionysius	Dreiling, Peter M.
Brungardt, Andrew A.	Dinkel, Frank M.	Dreiling, Frank A.	Dreiling, Peter N.
Brungardt, Michael A.	Dinkel, Jos. J.	Dreiling, John A.	Dreiling, Peter P. A.
Brungardt, Anton P.	Dinkel, John P.	Dreiling, Peter A.	Dreiling, Peter S.
Brungardt, Francis	Dinkel, John Peter, Sr.	Dreiling, Peter P. M.	Dreiling, Nickolas P.
Brungardt, Frank B.	Dinkel, George G.	Dreiling, Herman	Falkenstein, George

Geist, Adam	Kuhn, Anton M.	Quint, Mrs. Margaret	Sander, Andrew A.
Geist, James	Kuhn, August	Riedel, Balthasar	Sander, Andrew M.
Geist, John Jacob	Kuhn, Balthasar	Riedel, Andrew	Sander, Jos. A.
Geist, John P.	Kuhn, Frank	Robben, John M.	Sander, John
Geist, Mrs. Magdalen	Kuhn, Frank J.	Robben, Anthony	Sander, John P.
Geist, Mrs. Mary	Kuhn, Mrs. Gertrude	Rohleder, Peter	Sander, Joseph N.
Geist, Nikolaus	Kuhn, John B.	Rohleder, Nick	Sander, Joseph
Geist, Wendelin	Kuhn, John C.	Rome, Frank	Sander, Joseph J.
Goetz, Andrew	Kuhn, John M.	Rome, John M.	Sander, Peter
Goetz, Andrew M.	Kuhn, Joseph J.	Rome, Joseph M.	Sander, Peter J.
Goetz, Jacob	Kuhn, Margaret, Mrs.	Rome, Michael	Sander, Peter M.
Goetz, John A.	Kuhn, Michael	Rome, Michael M.	Sander, Peter P.
Goetz, Joseph	Kuhn, Michael D.	Rome, Peter P.	Sander, Raymund
Goetz, Leonard	Kuhn, Michael M.	Roth, Joseph J.	Sander, Severinus
Goetz, Peter P.	Kuhn, Nick K.	Roth, Joseph P.	Sander, Frank C.
Goetz, John P.	Kuhn, Nick	Rupp, John	Tholen, Theodore
Graf, Alexander	Kuhn, Peter M.	Schamne, Gottfried	Toepfer, Victor
Graf, Andrew	Lang, Adam	Scheek, Miss Francis	Vonfeld, Andrew A.
Graf, Anton	Lang, Anton	Scheek, Frank	Vonfeld, Frank A.
Graf, Fidelis	Lang, Bernard	Scheek, Joseph P.	Vonfeld, Joseph
Graf, Joseph	Lang, Jacob	Scheek, Peter V.	Vonfeld, Andrew J.
Graf, Peter	Lang, John J.	Schmidberger, Alphonse	Vonfeld, Mrs. Catharine
Graf, Peter J.	Lang, Simon	Schmidberger, August	Wagner, Adam
Gerstner, John C.	Lauber, Peter	Schmidberger, Frank M.	Wagner, Anton
Hammerschmidt, Clemens	Leiker, Miss Anna	Schmidberger, John	Wasinger, Mrs. Catharine
Hammerschmidt, John L.	Leiker, Jacob P.	Schmidberger, Joseph	Wasinger, Joseph J.
Hammerschmidt, Leonard	Leiker, Pius	Schmidberger, Michael M.	Wasinger, Jno. N.
Hammerschmidt,	Linenberger, Bonevent	Schmidberger, Michael J.	Wasinger, Peter N.
Leonard E.	Linenberger, Jos. J.	Schulte, Bernard	Wasinger, Raymund
Hammerschmidt,	Linenberger, Peter J.	Schulte, Herman	Weber, Frank J.
Magdalena	Lienenberger, Mrs. Nick	Schulte, Bonevant	Weber, Joseph A.
Hammerschmidt, Otto	Lintel, Christian	Schulte, John	Weber, Jacob
Hauser, Alois	Lintel, Herman	Schulte, Mrs. Elizabeth	Weber, Jerome
Haas, Frank	Lintel, Mrs. Thecla	Schumacher, Mrs. Anna	Weber, John A.
Helwig, Joseph	Meier, Joseph A.	Maria	Weber, Jacob A.
Heili, John	Meis, Joseph	Schumacher, Henry A.	Weigel, Alphonse
Herrman, Anton	Mermis, Peter	Schumacher, Carl	Weigel, Andrew J.
Herrman, Fred	Nei, Michael	Schumacher, Mrs. Henry	Weigel, Frank M.
Hoffman, Conrad	Paul, Jacob	Stang, Clemens	Weigel, John S.
Hoffman, Peter	Paul, Peter	Stang, Joseph	Weigel, John J.
Kinderknecht, Jos.	Pfeifer, Adam M.	Stang, William	Weigel, Joseph
Kippes, Caspar	Pfeifer, Anton J.	Storm, John Peter	Weigel, Joseph C.
Kippes, Peter C.	Pfeifer, Mrs. Catharina	Schipper, Frank	Weigel, Jos. V.
Klaus, Andrew	Pfeifer, John J.	Schipper, Herman	Weigel, Mrs. Margaret
Kreutzer, Fidelis	Pfeifer, Michael J.	Sander, Adam	Weigel, Mrs. Anna
Kreutzer, John	Quint, Mrs. Catharine	Sander, Alex J.	Younger, Mrs. Anna
Kreutzer, John J.	Quint, John	Sander, Alois	Barbara
Kuhn, Anthony	Quint, Peter H.	Sander, Andrew	Younger, Andrew

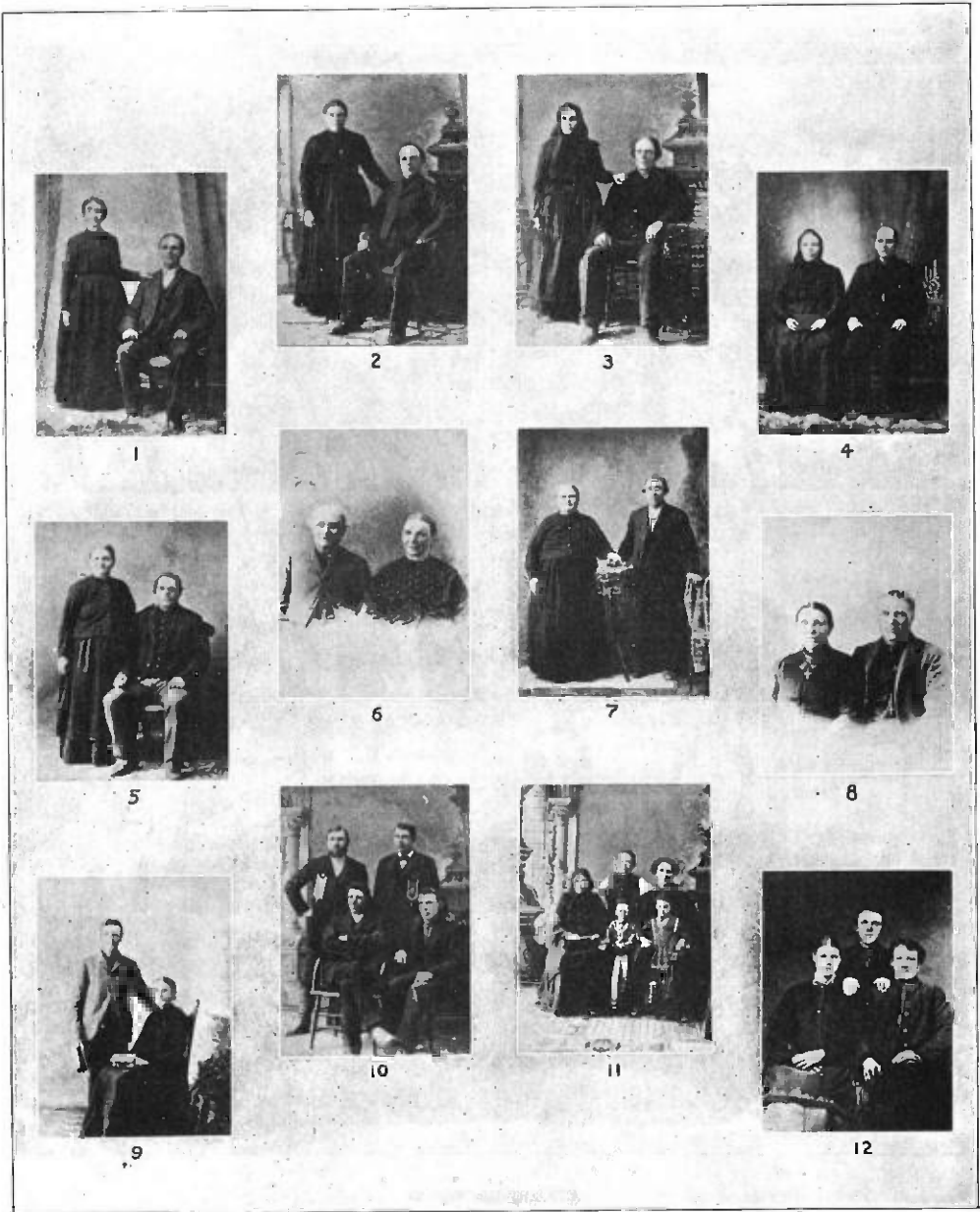


HERZOG DECEASED

- 1-2. Joseph and Arna Maria Graf
- 3-4. Anton and Josepha Weber
- 5-6. Henry and Anna Kath. Schumacher
- 7-8. Joseph and Margeretha Linenberger and daughter Gertrude
- 9-10. Adam Riedel, Anna M. Riedel
- 11-12. John K. Dreiling and Catharina Dreiling

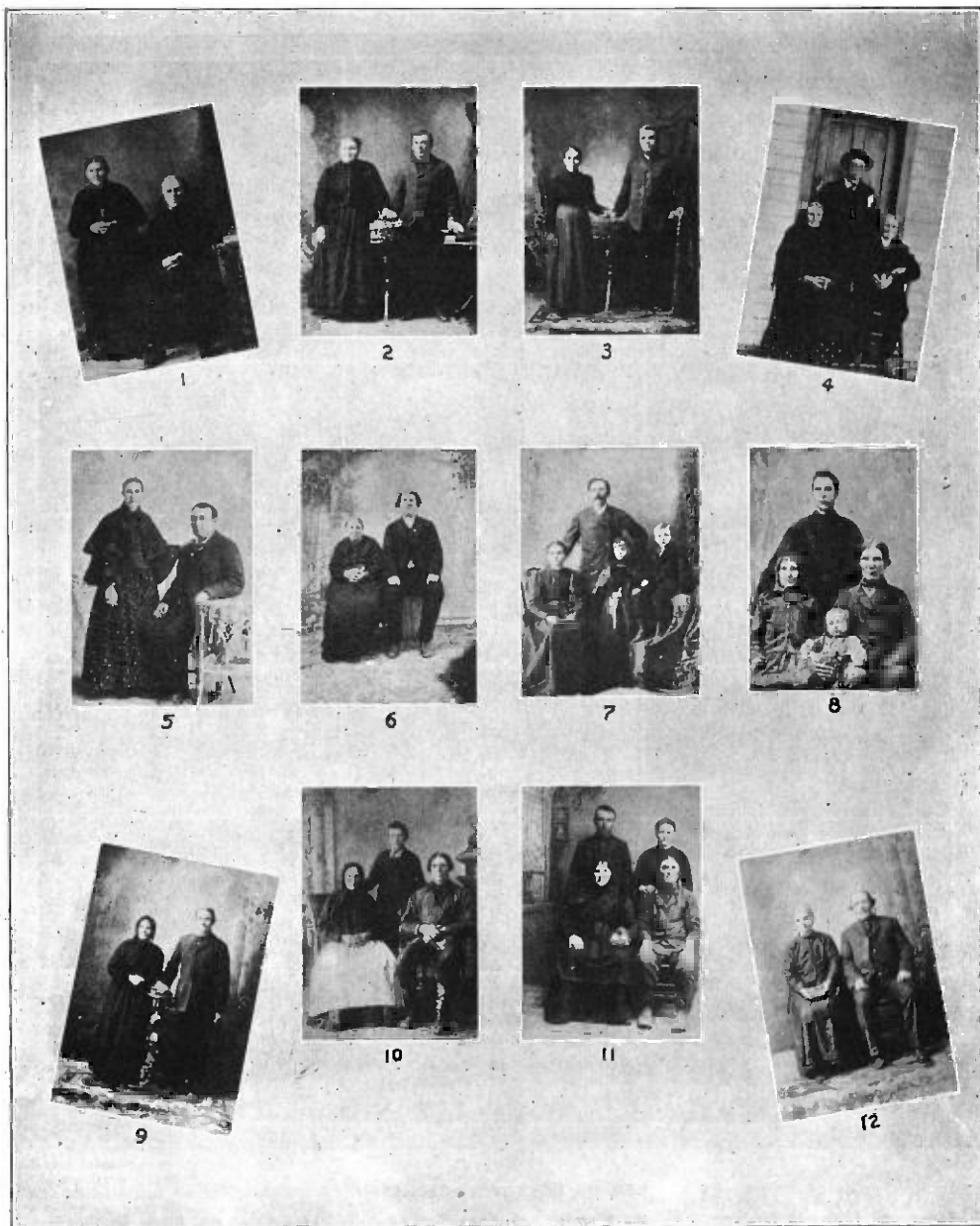
- 13-14. Anton Mermis, Elizabeth Mermis
- 15-16. Jacob Lang, Susanna Lang
- 17-18. Nicholas Dreiling, Catharina Dreiling
- 19. Anton A. Dreiling
- 20. Susanna Kuhn
- 21. Maria Kuhn
- 22. Anna Maria Brungardt
- 23. Michael Riedel

- 24. Brigitta Weber nee Kreutzer
- 25. Margaret Quint
- 26. Rosa Brungardt
- 27. Barbara Brungardt
- 28. Elizabeth Leiker
- 29. Andreas Vonfeld
- 30. Catharina Dreiling



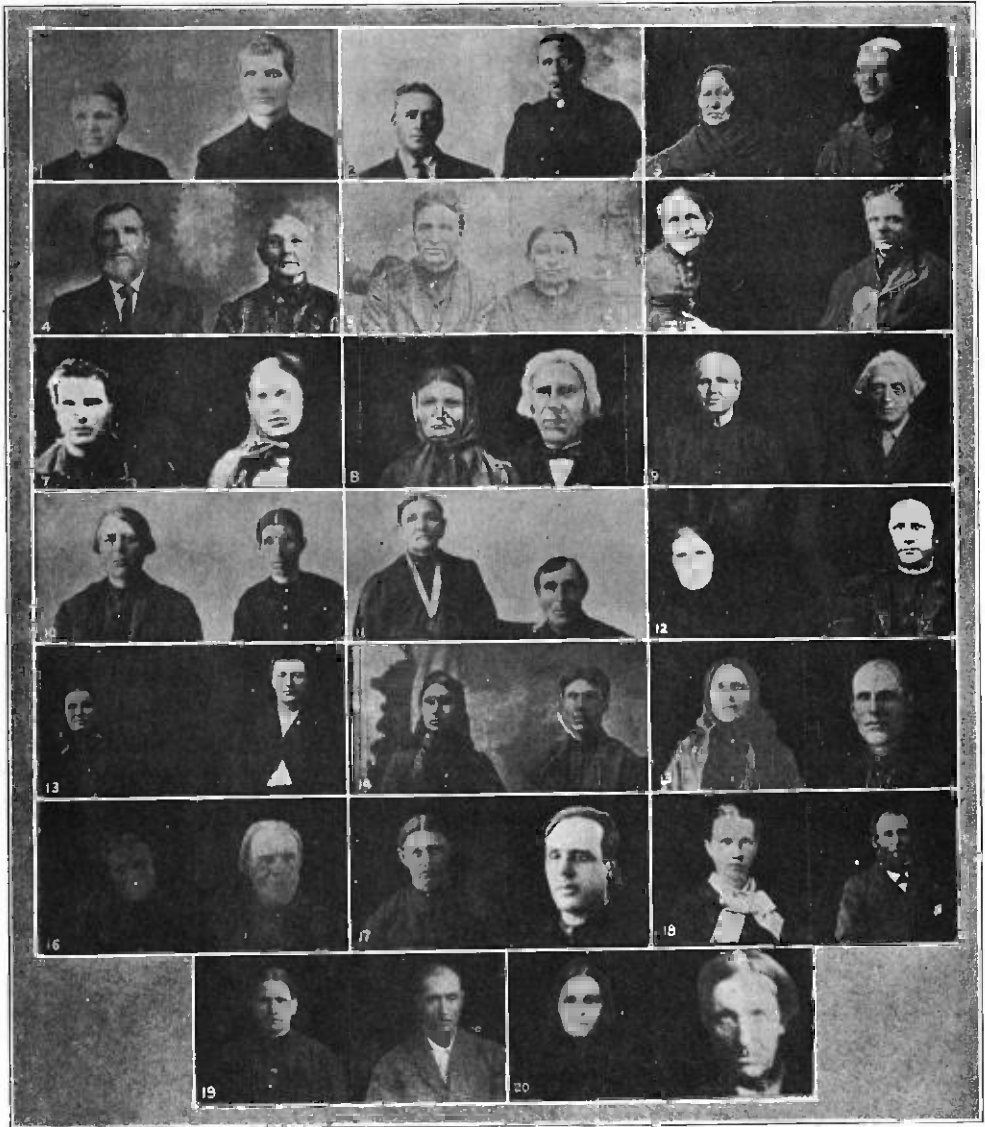
HERZOG DECEASED

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Peter A. Braun, Katherina Marg. Braun | 6. Valentin Weigel, Margareth Weigel | 10. Adolf, Mike and Fiua Leiker, Peter A. Dreiling |
| 2. Adam Sander, Elizabeth Sander | 7. Ignaz Weigel, Elizabeth Weigel | 11. Franz M. Dreiling, Maria Anna Dreiling |
| 3. Ignaz Sander, Margareth Sander | 8. Balthasar Brungardt, Catharine Brungardt | 12. Andreas Linenberger, Margareth Linenberger, Peter A. Braun (atanding) |
| 4. Johan Peter Braun, Anna Martha Braun | 9. Peter Brungardt, Barbara Brungardt | |
| 5. Peter Brungardt, Catharine Brungardt | | |



HERZOG DECEASED

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Johannes Wasinger | 5. John Goetz, Elizabeth Goetz | 9. Johannes Geist, Catharina Geist |
| 2. Michael Schmidtberger,
Catharina Schmidberger | 6. Andrew Scheck, Catharine
Scheck | 10. Adam Knoll, Catharina Knoll |
| 3. Michael Kulm, Margaretha Kulm | 7. Fred Arnhold, Anna M. Arnhold | 11. Johannes Goetz, Anna Goetz |
| 4. Johannes Goetz, Anna Marg.
Goetz | 8. Michael Storm, Elizabeth Storm | 12. Johannes Peter Dinkel, Catharina
Dinkel |



HERZOG (VICTORIA) DECEASED

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Peter and Elizabeth Dreiling | 7. Michael and Anna Rome | 13. Anton and Maria Dreiling |
| 2. Peter and Anna Maria Linenberger | 8. Anton and Anna Schumacher | 14. John and Barbara Kuhn |
| 3. Michael and Theresia Pfeifer | 9. Andreas and Magdalena Brungardt | 15. Andreas and Catharina Sander |
| 4. Mr. and Mrs. William Robben | 10. John and Susanna Pfeifer | 17. Andreas and Christina Riedel |
| 5. Franz and Eva Brungardt | 11. Peter and Margaretha Quint | 18. Mr. and Mrs. Herman Berens |
| 6. Nickolaus and Margareth Dreiling | 12. Peter and Gertrude Kuhn | 19. John and Katharina Linenberger |
| | | 20. Anton and Anna Maria Dreiling |

Grande Pfeifer Parents



HERZOG (VICTORIA) DECEASED

- 1-2. Johannes and Catharina Goetz
- 3-4. Johannes and Anna Sander
- 5. Barbara Sander
- 6-7. Michael and Barbara Dreiling
- 8-9. Anton and Maria Eliz. Dreiling

- 10. Christina Schamber
- 11. John Peter Yunker
- 12. Anna Eliz. Sander
- 13. Walburga Robben
- 14. Magdalena Riedel

- 15. Stanislaus Wasinger
- 16. Johannes Wasinger
- 17. John Jacob Schumacher
- 18. Michael Dreiling, Sr.
- 19. Alois Denning

MUNJOR

THE founders of Munjor, Kansas, located on the fertile west side bottom land of Big Creek, came from the town of Obermonjour, Government of Samara, Russia, in the summer of 1876. They formed part of the largest expedition of emigrants to forsake the empire of the Czars in search of greater freedom and opportunities in the United States. Together with numerous inhabitants of Herzog, Wittman, Marienthal, Schoenchen and Gattung, they left Saratov on the eighth of July, 1876. At Eydkuhnen the party separated, the emigrants from Herzog deciding to go to America by way of Bremen, in a ship of the North-German Lloyd line, and the others choosing Hamburg as the place of embarkation.

The party traveling by way of Hamburg arrived in New York late in July and immediately turned their faces westward, reaching Herzog (Victoria) a few days later. After remaining in Herzog several days, they moved to a place on Big Creek some miles north of the present site of Munjor. Here they stayed about two months, after which they changed to Section 25, Town-

Leiker, Joseph Leiker, Konrad Leiker, Michael Leiker, Nicholas Leiker, Peter Leiker, all of Obermunjour, Russia; John



Sister Rosa, C. S. A.
For many years a teacher at Munjor

Dechant, John Herl, Henry Miller, Henry Ruder, Stanislaus Ruder, Joseph Schreibvo-



View of Munjor, Kansas

ship 14, Range 17, where the town now stands.

The pioneers of Munjor were: Jacob Engel, John Berg, Franz Leiker, Henry

gel, Anton Schumacher, Henry Schumacher, George Schumacher, Catherine Schumacher, all of Wittman, Russia; Nicholas Eberle, Peter Gross, Mathias Rohr. Peter Rohr, of

Marienthal; Anton Wasinger and Anton Wasinger, Jr., of Schoenchen; Anton Schneider and Peter Stoecklein of Gattung.



St. Francis Church at Munjor,
Kansas

In addition to these, the following families arrived in 1878: Gerhard Befort, Anton Dechant, Carl Dechant, Jacob Engel, Peter Klaus, John Pfannenstiel, Konrad Rupp, John Stoecklein, and Anton Gabel.

The very year of their arrival the settlers purchased Section 25, and organized the Munjor Land Company, which in 1882 was superseded by an incorporated organization, the Munjor Town and Grazing Company. This latter company was formed at the suggestion of John Schlyer of Hays, who for many years was the chief adviser and benefactor of the newcomers.

Part of the section was surveyed for a town site, and each lot holder became a member of the company, which started business with a capital stock of \$10,000—200 shares at \$50.00 per share. Among other things, the charter provided that the company have a board of directors made up of five members, a president, a vice-president, a secretary, and a treasurer, all to be chosen from the members of the company; that no portion of the land holdings could be

burdened with debt, transferred, or sold without the consent of two-thirds of the shareholders. The by-laws provided for quarterly meetings, and an annual election of directors.

Unfortunately for the peace of the new settlement, the settlers were incapable of properly handling the affairs of such a corporation, and the result was a long series of recriminations and quarrels which split the town into two factions. After a futile attempt to settle matters in the courts, the two contending parties came to an agreement, the Munjor Town and Grazing Company was dissolved and peace and harmony restored, to the relief and joy of all concerned.

But this is anticipating events. When the settlers arrived at their destination, their first care was to construct some kind of a shelter no matter how humble. Like their fellow-countrymen in the other settlements, they were poor, and for building material had to use whatever their new surroundings offered. From the sod of the prairie, the sapling, and the trees of the nearby creek, they constructed their rude but comfortable hungalows.

Next to home and family, the object of greatest concern to the settler was the house of God, and thus in Munjor we find the people, immediately after completing their own houses, casting about for means to build a suitable church. As early as 1877 they succeeded in erecting a small frame church measuring about 41 by 20 feet. Here, in the beginning, Mass was said once a month by Rev. Fr. Wibbert and Rev. Fr. Valentine Sommereisen. In 1878 the Capuchin Fathers took charge of the parish and Mass was said more frequently. The following list contains the names of all the priests who have labored in Munjor:

1877	Rev. Valentine Sommereisen.
1878	Rev. Anastasius Mueller, O. M. Cap.
1879	" " "
1880	" " "
1881	Rev. James Muench, O. M. Cap.
1882	" " "
1883	(Mar.) Rev. Andrew Eisenhut, O. M. Cap.
1884	(Apr.) Rev. James Muench, O. M. Cap.
1884	(Oct.) Rev. Francis K. Strobel, O. M. Cap.
1885	" " "

1886 (Jan.) Rev. Martin Muelders, O. M. Cap.
 (Aug.) Rev. Matthew Savelsberg, O. M. Cap.
 1887 " " "
 1888 " " "
 1889 " " "
 1890 (Jan.) Rev. Martin Muelders, O. M. Cap.
 1891 (Jun.) Rev. Matthew Savelsberg, O. M. Cap.
 (Nov.) Rev. Albert Andlauer, O. M. Cap.
 1892 " " "
 1893 " " "
 1894 (Sep.) Rev. Hilary Maier, O. M. Cap.
 1895 " " "
 1896 (Sep.) Rev. Nicholas Deinlein, O. M. Cap.

1917 Rev. Paul, O. M. Cap.
 1918 Rev. Leo Egger, O. M. Cap.
 1919 " " "
 1920 Rev. Fr. Angelus, O. M. Cap.
 1921 to present time Rev. Leo Egger, O. M. Cap.

The church built in 1877 soon proved too small, and in a few years sixteen feet were added to it. The cornerstone of the present stone edifice was laid on Passion Sunday, 1889, and the dedication took place in 1890, on Trinity Sunday, the ceremony being performed by Very Rev. Fr. Francis Wolf, O.



Group of Survivors of Immigrants of Munjor, Kansas

1897 (Aug.) Rev. Leo Egger, O. M. Cap.
 1898 " " "
 1899 " " "
 1900 (Aug.) Rev. Chilian Lutz, O. M. Cap.
 1901 " " "
 1902 " " "
 1903 (Jun.) Rev. Leo Egger, O. M. Cap.
 1904 " " "
 1905 (Aug.) Rev. Raphael Schwarz, O. M. Cap.
 1906 (Aug.) Rev. Emmeram Kausler, O. M. Cap.
 1907 " " "
 1908 " " "
 1909 (Aug.) Rev. Herman Jos. Peters, O. M. Cap.
 1914 Rev. Mathew Savelsberg, O. M. Cap.
 1915 Rev. Paul, O. M. Cap.
 1916 " " "

M. Cap. Owing to the steady increase of the congregation the building was later enlarged.

Education had to contend with serious difficulties in Munjor: The people were so poor that they were compelled to make their children work on the farm when they should have been in the class room; the older people did not appreciate the value and necessity of a sound education; and finally, the bilingual system divided the school day into one-half German and one-half English, with the result that the children made but slow



- | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Sr. Maria Philippi (Dreke) | 5. Sr. Hedwig (Toepfer) | 10. Sr. Agneta (Margaret Kuhn) |
| 2. Sr. Florian (Germaine Pfannenstiel) | 6. Sr. Rosaria (Erbert) | 11. Sr. M. Augustine (Basgall) |
| 3. Sr. Agnese (Mary Grabbe) | 7. Sr. M. Silveria (Boos) | 12. Sr. Sabinus (Roth) |
| 4. Sr. Laurinda (Elizabeth Pfannenstiel) | 8. (Erbert) | 13. Sr. Ligori (Roth) |
| | 9. (Weber) | |

progress in mastering the language of their adopted country.

Of late years, however, a decided change for the better has taken place. Children now attend school regularly, and are encouraged to study by their parents. Quite a number of Munjor youths and maidens have attended schools of higher learning, and their example does much to bring education into good repute.

The school building now in use is a stone structure designed by Justus Bissing of Catherine. It measures 74x36x37 feet, and contains four large class rooms. It is attended by about 200 pupils divided into eight grades. The Sisters of St. Agnes are in charge.

List of Families, St. Francis Church, Munjor, Kansas

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Beforet, Anton, Casper, | Hertel, Alex Sr. |
| Conrad A., Mrs. Joseph, | Hertel, Christian |
| Fidelis, Jacob | Klaus, Alex W., Fidelis, |
| Binder, Mrs. Sebastian | John W., John Sr. |
| Dechant, Anton A. | Korber, Felix, Mrs. |
| Doerfler, Conrad, Albert | Elizabeth |
| Engel, Joseph | Kuhn, Andrew, Fred |
| Gabel, Anton | Leiker, Andrew, Alex B., |
| Grabbe, Peter | Alex M., August, Cas- |
| Graf, Franz, Alex, Mrs. | par, Frank, Henry |
| Michael | Leiker, Jacob E., Jacob, |
| Gross, Anastasius, Peter | John, Pius, John S., |
| P., Martin | John B., Mrs. Carl, |
| Herl, Hieronimus, Hiero- | Michaici Nicolaus, Peter |
| nimus Jr., Joseph, An- | S., Peter D., Peter M. |
| ton | M., Sebastian, Ray- |
| Hertel, Alex Jr. | mund, Romuald |

Meier, Mrs. Andrew	Miller, Joseph, Jacob	Schumacher, Alex, Anton.	Unrein, August, Joseph
Pfannenstiel, Adam, Alex,	Riedel, Peter, John	Jacob, John, George.	D., Wendelin, Frank
John M., Mrs. Barbara,	Rohr, Joseph, Peter,	Hieronimus, Nick,	Urban, George
Michael, Fidelis, Jacob,	Mathias	Joseph	Wasinger, Clemens
John Sr., Joseph B.,	Ruder, John A., Henry,	Stoecklein, Christof,	Yunker, Peter P., Mrs.
Nick J., Joseph J.,	Alex	Cornelius, Jacob Sr.,	Barbara
Peter A., Mat., Martin,	Rupp, John, Peter	Jacob Jr., John S., Carl	Goetz, John F.
Nick, Peter, Philip		J., Mrs. John P.	



MUNJOR DECEASED

- | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1-2. Heinrich and Catharina Leiker | 15-16. Henry and Dorothea Ruder | 21-32. Conrad and Eva Rupp |
| 3-4. Peter and Catharina Klaus | 17-18. George and Maria Anna Sauer | 33-34. John and Maria Klaus |
| 5-6. Joseph and Catharina Gassman | 19-20. Mr. and Mrs. Anton Pfannenstiel, Sr. | 35. Mrs. Boos |
| 7. Catharina Schumacher | 21. Anna Margaretha Sauer | 36-37. Carl and Catharine Dechant |
| 8-9. Gerhard and Elizabeth Befort | 22-23. Joseph D. and Anna E. Leiker | 38. Nickolaus Wasinger |
| 10-11. Gerhard and Catharine Stecklein | 24-25. Jacob J. and Margaret Leiker | 39. Conrad Doerfler |
| 12-13. Martin and Anna Maria Leiker | 26-27. Henry and Anna Maria Miller | 40. John Grabbe |
| 14. Mrs. Maria Ruder (Vipcent) | 28. Elizabeth Doerfler (wife of Conrad) | 41. Stanislaus Ruder |
| | | 42. Mrs. John K. Leiker |
| | | 43. Jacob Herl |

SCHOENCHEN

ELEVEN miles south of Hays on the main highway between Hays and La-Crosse, on the south bank of the Smoky Hill River lies the little town of Schoenchen, one of the six original colonies founded by the German-Russian emigrants from the Lower Volga district in Russia.

The founders of this colony located in Ellis County on the southwest quarter of Section 28, Township 15 South, Range 18 West, were originally members of the Liebenthal settlement in Rush County, Section 21, Township 16, Range 18 West.

This latter colony was founded February 22, 1876, by fourteen families, among whom were Henry Bieker, John Bieker, John Joseph Bieker, Nicklas Bieker, William Bieker, Frank Waldschmidt, Philip Wolf and John Zimmerman, all of Neu-Obermonjour, Russia. On August 14, 1876, the following families from Schoenchen, Russia, arrived at Liebenthal: Henry Depperschmidt, Peter Depperschmidt, John Jacob Schoenthaler, Karl Herrglotz, Helen Herrglotz, Jacob Monsch, Joseph

Zimmermann. In September, 1876, a third group of settlers arrived at Liebenthal from Neu-Obermonjour. In this party were: Adam Bieker, Frank Dreher, John Dreher, Konrad



St. Anthony's Church, Schoenchen, Kansas



Town of Schoenchen, Kansas

Monsch, Michael Schmidt, Simon Schoenthaler, Joseph Schuckmann, Frederic Werth, Jacob Werth, John Werth, Sr., John Peter Werth, Karl Werth, Louis Werth, and Jacob

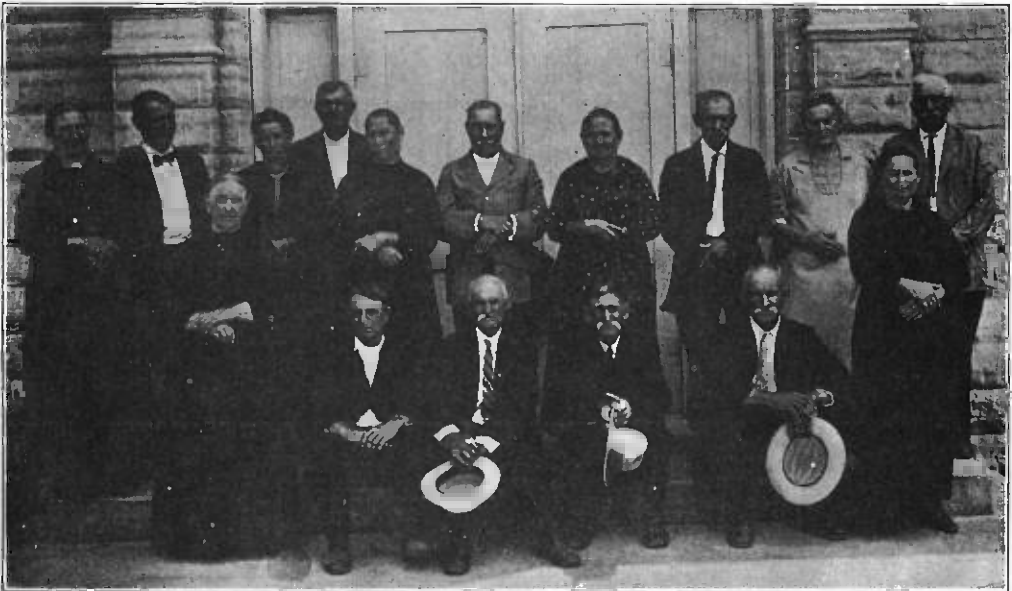
Dreher, Philip Dreher, Frederic Graf, Joseph Rumbach and Joseph Zimmermann.

Some time after the arrival of this third group, trouble arose concerning the permanent

location of the town. The second group of immigrants had made an agreement with the founders of the colony to move it from Section 21 to the east half of Section 16, Rush County. This site was larger, more elevated, and better supplied with water. Some few had already built houses on the new location when the difficulty arose. Section 16 was school land, and the settlers could not pay for it in full. Hence they could secure no patent, and on this account could deed no land for the erection of a church. In the meantime, John Schaefer of Liebhenthal, in seeming violation of the agreement, donated

Originally the town was called San Antonio, but this name was unsatisfactory. As noted above, the founders were partly from Schoenchen, Russia, and partly from Neu-Obermonjour, Russia. Both factions wished to have the honor of naming the new town after their native city. An open rupture was prevented only when both made some concessions. It was agreed to name the village Schoenchen, and dedicate the church to St. Anthony, who was the church patron of Neu-Obermonjour.

Schoenchen is exceptional in this that it was the only one of the colonies in which the large



Group of Immigrant Survivors of Schoenchen, Kansas

four acres of land in Section 21 for the erection of a church. This change in affairs induced the settlers in Liebhenthal to remain where they were, that is, on Section 21. This decision angered those who had built dwellings on Section 16, and in April-May, 1877 they removed their new houses to the present site of Schoenchen, thus laying the foundations of a new town. Those who moved from Liebhenthal were: the settlers from Neu-Obermonjour of the first group; all of the second group excepting Henry Depperschmidt, Peter Depperschmidt and John Jacob Schoenthaler; and all of the third group excepting Philip Dreher.

village cross was not used as a gathering place for religious exercises. Before the advent of Rev. Valentine Sommereisen toward the end of 1877, the people fulfilled their religious obligations by going to Hays whenever Mass was said there. From probably October, 1877, till sometime in 1879, Mass was said at intervals at Schoenchen, a private dwelling serving as a church. The first church was begun in 1879. It was of stone, and was designed to be 30x18x15 feet. The walls were already completed, when in the spring of 1880 a heavy rain caused the foundation to settle, cracking the walls so badly that the structure was abandoned. In its

stead, a frame church, 30x18x9 feet was erected in the fall of 1881. In 1885 Rev. Joseph Harges had stone hauled for a new church. His successor, Rev. Philip Brockard, had already built the foundation when a heavy rain did so much damage that the project was abandoned. The present church is of stone, and is the work of Rev. Emmeram Kausler, O. M. Cap., who designed and supervised the construction of it. The cornerstone was laid April 18, 1900, and the church dedicated June 13, 1911.

Rev. Valentine Sommereisen, the first priest to tend to the spiritual needs of the inhabitants of Schoenchen, was succeeded by a number of Capuchin Fathers. In April, 1884, the parish was placed in charge of the secular clergy, who remained till May, 1899, when the Capuchins returned. The secular clergy again replaced the Friars in May, 1906, and since then have had uninterrupted charge. In the following list are found the names of all the priests who have ministered to the people of Schoenchen:

Yr.	
1876
1877	Rev. Val. Sommereisen.
1878	Rev. Anastasius Mueller, O. M. Cap.
1879	" " "
1880	" " "
1881	(Sep.) Rev. James Muench, O. M. Cap.
1882	" " "
1883	(Apr.) Rev. Andrew Eisenhuf, O. M. Cap.
1884	(Apr.) Rev. Joseph Harges.
1885	Rev. Ph. Brockard.
	(Nov.) Rev. W. Bitter.
1886	" " "
1887	(Aug.) Rev. K. T. Withopf.
1888	(Dec.) Rev. Jos. B. Disselkamp.
1889	(Sep.) Rev. F. J. Hartmann.
1890	" " "
1891	(Dec.) Rev. John M. Sklenar.
1892	" " "
1893	(Nov.) Rev. A. J. Abel.
1894	" " "
1895	(Aug.) Rev. B. Schroeder.
1896	" " "
1897	" " "
1898	" " "
1899	(May*) Rev. Richard Dei, O. M. Cap.
	(Sep.*) Rev. Emmeram Kausler, O. M. Cap.
	(Dec.*) Rev. Richard Dei, O. M. Cap.
1900	(Feb.*) Rev. Emmeram Kausler, O. M. Cap.
1901	(Jul.) Rev. Michael Neff, O. M. Cap.
1902	" " "
1903	(Aug.) Rev. Theodose Mullan, O. M. Cap.
1904	(Aug.) Rev. Michael Neff, O. M. Cap.
1905	" " "

1906	(May) Rev. Chas. Menig.
1907	" " "
1908	" " "
1909	" " "
1910	Fr. William Wenzel.
1916 to present time	Fr. Peter Hoeller.

Once provision had been made for divine services, the people of Schoenchen turned their attention to the educational needs of their children. A beginning in this field was made by John Dreher, who taught school in his own home. Reading, writing, catechism and singing made up the curriculum. All branches were taught in German, as the teacher himself knew practically no English.

Before long, however, a school district was organized, and a public school, still extant, was built and maintained. In 1916 a beautiful stone parochial school, measuring 64x32 feet, two stories high, was erected and placed in charge of the Sisters of St. Joseph. At present, about 135 pupils attend classes regularly. In March, 1926, the electors of the Schoenchen school district voted bonds for the erection and equipment of a \$25,000 high school.

*List of Families, St. Anthony's Church,
Schoenchen, Kansas*

Bieker, Frank, Theobald.	Ruder, Paul, Leo
Carl, Alex, Fred. Conrad, Mrs. Elizabeth	Rudel, Mat
Befort, Frank	Ruebel, Joseph
Boos, Gerhard	Soemen, Charles
Dinges, Carl, Joseph.	Schmidt, Alex
Paul P., Albert, Peter	Tauscher, Fred
Dreher, John C., Mrs.	Unrein, Peter, John
Conrad, Paul, Martin,	Wasinger, Alois C., Anton D.
Joseph, Conrad,	Werth, Alex E., Mrs.
Mathew	Alois, Anton, Alex B.,
Denk, Fred	Carl, Mrs. Fred, Henry,
Graf, John, Mrs. Ferdinand	Jacob, Wendelin, Albert F., John J., Felix,
John F. Foster, adopted son of Mrs. Graf.	Nick R., Nick, Theobald W., Wendelin,
Gottschalk, Louis, Henry.	Theobald N., Albert J.,
William, William Jr.	Fidelis, John, Alois,
Gross, Mrs. Catherine	Alois, Thomas, Nikodemus
Hertel, Phillip	Windholz, Mathias,
Herglotz, Mrs. Alex	Andrew
Krannewitter, Raymond	Wolf, Phillip, Peter
Klaus, George	Zimmermann, Alex, Anastasius, Benjamin.
Muntsch, Mrs. Jacob,	Nikodemus, Nick B.
Anton, Alex, George	Gabriel, Jacob and
Pfeifer, Adam, Jacob,	Frank
Frank	
Rupp, Benedict	



SCHOENCHEN DECEASED

1-2. Jacob and Maria Barbara
Werth
3-4. George and Bernardine Gott-
schalk
5-6. Conrad and Elizabeth Drober
7-8. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wald-
schmidt

9-10. Fred and Lucia Werth
11-12. Mr. and Mrs. Adam Bieker
13-14. John Joseph and Maria Anna
Bieker
15-16. Mr. and Mrs. Nick Ernst
17. Alois Werth

18. John Peter Werth
19. John Gross
20. Elizabeth Bieker
21. Anna Margaretha Werth
22. Johannes Werth

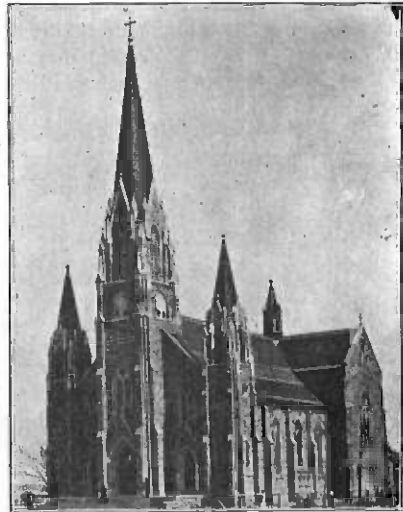
PFEIFER

THE town of Pfeifer is located ten miles south of Victoria on the south bank of the Smoky Hill River. The inhabitants of this town are for the greater part descendants of the German-Russians who emigrated here from the towns of Pfeifer, Kamenka, Semenoka and Rothamel in Russia.

Among the founders of the colony are numbered some of the very first of the Germans to leave Russia. They were the following men and their families: Joseph Stremel, Michael Meder, and Mathias Urban of Kamenka, and Christ Stegman of Pfeifer, Russia. They left their homes in October, 1875. At Saratov they were joined by the party of Justus Bissing and the others from Katharinenstadt, and at Bremen they united with a still larger group of emigrants from Herzog and other towns. With these they took passage on the "Ohio," a ship of the North-German Lloyd line, sailing from Bremen on the second of November, and arriving at Baltimore on the twenty-third of the same month. Soon after they came to Topeka. Joseph Stremel afterwards left Topeka and remained in Herzog, Kansas, until 1877, when

and assisted in the founding of the colony of Pfeifer.

The large group just mentioned left Saratov in the middle of June, 1876. It included: An-



Holy Cross Church, Pfeifer, Kansas



View of Pfeifer, Ellis County, Kansas

he removed to Pfeifer. The other three remained in Topeka until later in the year when a larger contingent from the west side of the Volga arrived. Then they accompanied them

drew Desch, George Etzel, Anton Holzmeister, Gottlieb Jacobs, Joseph Jacobs, Matthew Jacobs, Michael Jacobs, George Schmidt, John Schmidt, Joseph Schmidt, Jacob Schoenfeld, all

of Pfeifer, Russia, and John Meder and John Schlieter of Kamenka. The party also contained a large number of other families, but only the thirteen mentioned came immediately to Pfeifer and assisted in the founding of the place.

After their long journey from Russia the party arrived in Topeka on the twenty-third of July, and about a month later they came to Hays. Here the party separated, the thirteen mentioned in the list going to the site chosen for the colony of Pfeifer. Here they immediately set to work to erect such buildings as their means would allow.

of the cost proportionate to the amount of land held by each. Trouble soon arose from the fact that some of the landholders were not able to pay for their shares. Others, too, objected to the location of the town, so finally, in 1884, the colony moved bodily to the northwest quarter of Section 36, which is the present site of the town. This quarter had been obtained by John Schlieter on the homestead plan. He divided the land into shares 44 feet wide and running the full length of the quarter. For every share he gave a deed of ownership to the purchaser on receipt of the purchase money.

The subsequent history of the town resembles



Group of Surviving Immigrants, Pfeifer, Kansas

During the following three years other settlers came in several groups so that when the period of mass emigration ended about 1878, the colony numbered 41 families, making a total of 171 souls.

Like the settlers of some of the other colonies, the people had some difficulties as to the location and naming of their town. The original site chosen by the first founders was in Section 25-14-17 of Freedom Township. The section had been railroad land, and was to be paid for in eleven annual installments. It was divided into shares so as to make the burden

so closely that of some of the other colonies that it is hardly necessary to follow it up in detail. The beginnings in every line were humble, and the good fortune of one year was often more than wiped out by successive failures of the following ones. But through all the hard times the people, with their characteristic perseverance, succeeded in making ends meet and now have as reward for their labors a comfortable but unpretentious little town surrounded by the fertile fields and farms from which they have wrested a livelihood.

Even more gratifying than the material pros-



PFEIFER DECEASED

- 1-2. John George and Anna Maria Urban
- 3-4. John and Anna Schlieter
- 5-6. Michael and Catharine Meder
- 7-8. John and Elizabeth Basgall
- 11-12. Peter and Barbara Roth
- 13-14. Mr. and Mrs. John Breit

- 15-16. Mr. and Mrs. S. Urban
- 17-18. Mr. and Mrs. John Basgall
- 19-20. Gottlieb and Anna Maria Jacob
- 21. Marianna Roth
- 22. Peter Jacob
- 23-24. Mr. and Mrs. George A. Urban

- 25-26. Andreas and Anna Maria Jacob
- 27-28. Joseph and Barbara Stroemel
- 29. Mrs. Andreas Urban
- 31. John Peter Breit
- 32. Michael Roth
- 33. John Basgall

perity of the village is the progress that has been made in the line of religion and education. Like in the other settlements it was impossible to obtain a priest immediately to attend to the spiritual needs of the people. A regularly organized school, too, was entirely out of the question in the early time of pioneering. But education was not long neglected—the settlers saw clearly the necessity of training the mind and soul as well as the bodies of their children and lost little time in making provisions for this training. The parochial school at Pfeifer at present is a credit to the town and the results obtained there show that the efforts of the educators have not been in vain.

The first priest to attend the colony was the Rev. Father Sommereisen, who ministered there during the latter part of the year 1876 until the place was taken over by the Capuchins

of the St. Augustine Province. In 1883 the secular priests of the diocese took charge. With the exception of one year they continued the work until 1892. In this year the Capuchins again took the place and labored in the mission until 1906, when Father Peter Burkhart, a secular priest, was made resident pastor. For twenty years he filled the post and was succeeded by the Rev. Father Weber who is now the pastor of the town.

The parish church, dedicated to the Holy Cross, was built in 1917-1918, and is a most artistic example of the gothic style of architecture. It was built under the able direction of the Rev. Father Burkhart. It stands and will stand for years, a lasting monument to the strong and lively faith of the people whose generosity and self-denial have made its erection possible.

HAYS

HAYS, the county seat of Ellis County, Kansas, today the pride of the western part of the State; an educational center, a city of churches and schools and a prosperous law-abiding citizenship, had in the year 1876, the time of the German-Russian



Rev. Fr. Thomas Petri,
O. M. Cap.,
Pastor St. Joseph's Church,
Hays, Kans.

settlers, just emerged from the heyday times of the cowboy, the Texas cattlemen and the frontiersmen.

With its incorporation as a municipality, in 1869, the element of law and order became predominant and the frontier tough gradually vanished from the scene.

The necessity to seek work to support his family, while his crops were growing, forced many of the settlers to leave the wife and children on the farm while they found work in the cities. Hays, being nearby, naturally became the first destination. Thus, gradually a number of them became permanent residents.

In 1876, the Catholic population of Hays consisted of a few scattered families whose spiritual needs were taken care of by priests occasionally coming from Solomon City and Salina.

With the advent of the new element the church membership increased rapidly. Bishop Louis M. Fink of Leavenworth, in whose diocese Hays then lay, appointed Rev. Fr. Valentin Sommereisen, an Alsatian by birth,

resident priest. His field embraced not only Hays but also the six newly founded settlements. On the first Sunday in advent, 1876, he organized St. Joseph's parish. Services were held in one of the barracks in Fort Hays on the fourth Sunday of each month. The public school building was also used for that purpose at various times.

In 1878 the Capuchin Fathers of the Pennsylvania Province, at the request of Rt. Rev. Bishop Fink, assumed spiritual charge of all the Catholics in Ellis County, Kansas, residing between the Saline and Smoky Hill rivers. The first Capuchin Fathers to arrive in Ellis County were Rev. Fr. Mathew Hau and Rev. Fr. Anastasius Mueller. The church was administered from Herzog (Victoria) where the first hospice of the Capuchins was located. Rev. Fr. Anastasius held services in the court house and the barracks at the fort.

During his administration Fr. Sommereisen had purchased from Martin Allen lots 1, 3, 5 and 7 in Block 18, for church purposes, and on these lots a frame church building 42 ft. by 22 ft. was erected in 1879.



George Schaefer,
A pioneer residing now
in Chicago, Ill.

In 1880 the first sisters of St. Agnes came to Hays. Their first visit seems to have been short as they came for the purpose of assisting the pastor in instructing the "First Communion Class."

On the third day of January, 1881, Ven. Sisters Seraphina and Adriana, C. S. A., came to Hays to take charge of the parochial school. A two-story frame house was built which served as residence for the sisters and school-house.

In 1884 a frame school building was erected. The church building, in the meantime, had become too small, therefore preparations for the building of a new edifice were made.

The erection of this building was commenced in the spring of 1886. On August 15 of that year the cornerstone was laid. The building was completed by Christmas day, 1886. On March 6, 1887, it was dedicated by Rev. Fr. Anastasius, O. M. Cap. The dimensions of the same were 72x32x21 with a sacristy 26x16 two stories high. On September 4, 1887, it was consecrated.

In August, 1893, the residence of the priest at Hays was made a hospice of the Capuchin Fathers, Rev. Fr. Martin, O. M. Cap., becoming the first Superior September 1, 1893.

In October, 1893, Rev. Fr. Lawrence, O. M. Cap., opened an advanced course of study for young boys at Hays, which was attended by twenty boys. Owing to crop failures in the succeeding years, this course was abandoned.

In 1893 the parish had 306 communicants. On January 25, 1897, Rev. Fr. Val Sommereisen, who had lived in retirement on a farm northeast of Hays, for many years, died and was buried in the Catholic cemetery here.

The number of parishioners had in the meantime increased so that the church erected in 1886 was filled to capacity and the necessity for a larger church building became apparent.

Before, however, undertaking this, Rev. Fr. Emmeran, O. M. Cap., pastor at Hays in 1897-99 erected a residence for the priests, a commodious two story building of native magnesia limestone.

On the 19th of June the Rev. Fr. Fidelis Meier, O. M. Cap, a son of the parish, celebrated his first Holy Mass. As this was the first celebration of this nature it attracted wide attention.

In 1899 the parish census showed 113 families.

On August 10, 1899, Rev. Fr. Mark Haas, O. M. Cap., became pastor of St. Joseph's church at Hays, who proceeded to have plans

and specifications made for a new church building. Joseph Marshal of Topeka, an architect of note, made the plans. The spirit of sacrifice and cooperation displayed by the people of Hays enabled the pastor to complete the building in a comparatively short time. The beginning was made in June, 1901. On November 28 of the same year the cornerstone was laid, and on June 12, 1904, it was dedicated. The membership had by that time increased to 186 families.

The project of an advanced course of study for boys which had been abandoned in the early nineties, was revived and carried out by the Capuchin Fathers. Rev. Fr. Cassian, O. M. Cap, on his arrival in Hays, in August 11, 1906, undertook the erection of a college building large enough to accommodate seventy-five to one hundred students. The cornerstone of the new building was laid June 23, 1907. Great interest in the undertaking was manifested by the Catholic population of Ellis County, who gathered in large numbers at Hays for the event. After some unavoidable delay the building was completed and dedicated September 14, 1908. Rev. Fr. Henry Kluepfel, O. M. Cap., opened the school as its first director the same month. The school provided a commercial course of three years and a classical course of six years. From its opening day, it enjoyed good attendance. Its graduates are



Andrew Schaefer,
Chicago, Ill.

numbered by the hundreds and many occupy positions of trust and responsibility in the professional and commercial life of their respective communities.

The growth of St. Joseph's parish in the meanwhile continued. In 1911 the census showed 239 families. The parochial school facilities soon became lamentably inadequate and new quarters, to house the young ones who in ever increasing numbers sought admission, became imperative. Rev. Fr. Paul, O. M. Cap., pastor of Hays, July 12, 1913, commenced the erection of an eight-room two-story brick building. It was completed and opened for school in September, 1914.

In July, 1915, the Hays hospice was raised to the dignity of a guardianate, Rev. Fr.

families of about 2,500 souls; 678 children are enrolled on the parochial school books, while sixty-two young ladies attended the Hays Catholic Girls' High School last year. The question of adequate housing for all these children is an acute one and awaits solution.

The following priests served as pastors at Hays since 1876: Rev. Fr. Sommereisen, 1876-1878; Rev. Fr. Anastasius, O. M. Cap., 1878-1885; Rev. Fr. Martin, O. M. Cap., 9-1-1885. to 12-29-1885; Rev. Fr. Anastasius, 1885-1888; Rev. Fr. Anthony Berger, 1888-



St. Joseph's Church and Monastery, St. Joseph's College on the left, and St. Anthony's Hospital in the back, Hays, Kans.

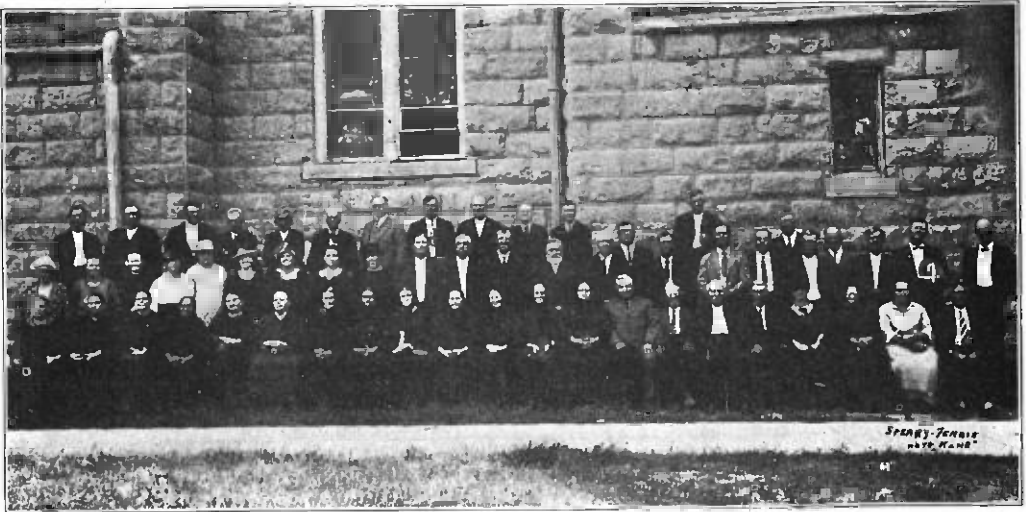
Dominic Schuster, O. M. Cap., becoming the first guardian.

The need of a hospital, located in a place easily accessible to the people of western Kansas had long been felt. In 1915, one of the largest private residences of Hays, which had been used as the Sisters of St. Agnes home for some years, was converted into a hospital. It was some years later replaced by the present St. Anthony's Hospital, a model institution, its equipment and furnishings representing the best. At this writing St. Joseph's parish at Hays has become the largest congregation in the diocese of Concordia. It numbers 500

1891; Rev. Fr. Martin; Rev. Fr. Emmeram, O. M. Cap., 1897-1899; Rev. Fr. Mark Haas, O. M. Cap., 1899-1903; Rev. Fr. Richard Dei, O. M. Cap., 1903-1906; Rev. Fr. Cassian, O. M. Cap., 1906-1909; Rev. Fr. Charles, 1909-1912; Rev. Fr. Anthony Burghardt, O. M. Cap., 1912-1913; Rev. Fr. Paul, O. M. Cap., 1913-1914; Rev. Fr. Jerome Mueller, O. M. Cap., 1914-1915; Rev. Fr. Dominic Schuster, 1915-1917; Rev. Fr. Anselm Mueller, O. M. Cap., 1917-1919; Rev. Fr. Ignatius Weisbruch, O. M. Cap., 1919-1921; Rev. Fr. Bernardine, O. M. Cap., 1921-1922, and Rev. Fr. Thomas Petri, O. M. Cap., 1922 to present time.

*List of Families, St. Joseph's Church,
Hays, Kansas*

Aich, Mrs. John	Bell, Leonard	Brock, J. T.	Dinges, Nicodemus
Aich, Steve	Bird, John S.	Brull, Jacob	Dorney, Wm.
Aich, Joseph	Beeby, Fred	Brull, Thos.	Dome, John
Alexander, Hector	Bemison, Mrs. Ethel	Brull, Jacob G.	Doerfler, Alexander
Arnhold, Anton	Balthasar, Arthur	Brull, Gabriel	Doerfler, Joe
Arnhold, Nicholas	Betthausen, Dr. Jos. R.	Bollig, Frank	Doerfler, Joe
Arnhold, Jacob, Sr.	Beiker, Alois	Boos, Joseph	Poerfler, Paul
Arnhold, F. W.	Bieker, John J.	Bunker, G. F.	Des Marteau, A. W.
Arnhold, Jacob F.	Bieker, Nicodemus	Baumstimler, John M.	Drees, Paul
Arnhold, Wendelin	Bieker, Wendelin	Brown, John J.	Drees, Rich M.
Augustine, Michael	Bieker, Leo	Binder, Roy	Dreiling, B. M.
Augustine, Joseph	Binder, Joseph	Brown, L. L.	Dreiling, Frank F.
Bahl, Joseph	Billinger, Mike	Dortland, Theo. R.	Dreiling, Frank D.
Ballman, Anton	Bissing, Mrs. Sarah	Dorzweiler, Melchoir	Dreiling, Alex P. A.
		Callahan, David	Denning, James
		Copp, John	Dreiling, Margaret



Group of Survivors of 1876-77-78 Immigrants now living in Hays, Kansas

Baier, Henry E.	Bissing, Alex E.	Colahan, James	Dreiling, Frank J.
Baier, John W.	Bissing, Justus, Jr.	Clennan, Martin	Dreiling, Peter
Beyer, Raymond	Bissing, Mrs. Catharine	Dean, Catharine and Cecelia	Dreiling, Edmund J.
Basgall, Jos. B.	Bissing, Jacob	Dechant, Carl	Dreiling, Aquiline H.
Basgall, Peter A.	Bissing, Frank A.	Dechant, Joe C.	Dreiling, Alois J.
Basgall, John A.	Bissing, Alex J.	Dechant, John	Dreiling, Adolph A.
Basgall, Geo. A.	Bissing, Robert	Dechant, Henry	Dreher, Nick
Basgall, Martin A.	Bissing, Francis A.	Dechant, Anton	Dreher, Jos. P.
Basgall, Jacob J.	Bittel, Philip	Delva, Leo	Eberle, John K.
Beilman, Peter	Bittel, Alois	Denning, Nick.	Eberle, Balthasar
Beilman, John	Burtcher, Carolina	Denning, Mrs. Anna	Eberle, John M.
Beilman, Jos. A.	Burgardt, Ignatz	Denning, J. M.	Eberle, Joseph
Befort, Ludwig	Burgardt, Jacob	Denning, Peter	Eberle, Wm.
Befort, Andrew	Burgardt, John	Denning, Anthony	Eberle, Albert
Befort, John	Brungardt, Anton	Desch, John	Engel, Alois
Befort, August	Brungardt, Catherine	Dinges, Christina	Engel, Jacob
Befort, Michael	Brungardt, A. P.	Dinges, M. P.	Engel, Carl A.
Renton, Geo.			Ernst, John

Feltis, N. J.
 Fenoughty, F. D.
 Frank, John J.
 Frank, Andrew
 Frank, Mrs. Jacob
 Frank, John M.
 Frank, Jos. S.
 Frank, Mathew
 Fisher, Peter
 Gassman, N. P.

Ingenthronc, Jos.
 Ingenthronc, Dora
 Getty, Joseph
 Giebler, Nicolaus
 Giebler, Joe
 Gaus, Mrs. Anna
 Geist, Francis
 Glassman, Anton
 Glassman, Florian
 Goetz, Adam

Gross, F. R.
 Gross, John P.
 Greenewald, Pancraz
 Haffameier, Michael
 Haffameier, Fred
 Haffameier, Clarence J.
 Hennerich, Dr. Otto A.
 Herrman, Henry F.
 Herman, Dr. A. A.
 Herman, Nick A.

Karlin, Albert
 Karlin, Frank E.
 Karlin, John J.
 Karlin, Edmund
 Keberlein, John
 Keberline, Jos.
 Karlin, Wm.
 Karlin, John
 Kerlin, John
 Kinderknecht, Anton



1. Sr. M. Angelina, C. S. A. (Catharine Drees)
 2. Sr. M. Mark, C. S. A. (Elizabeth Bahl)
 3. Catechist Cordelia (Bahl)

4. Sr. Leona (Dinges)
 5. Sr. Martina (Engel)
 6. Sr. Appolonia (Schoefer)
 7. Sr. M. Anarda, C. S. A. (Mary Karlin)

8. Sr. M. Cecilia (Weisner)
 9. Sr. M. Amalia (Weisner)
 10. Sr. M. Lilliosa (Weisner)

Gerstner, Lawrence
 Gallagher, James
 Gerstner, Peter
 Gerstner, Jacob J.
 Gerstner, Jos. P.
 Hertlein, Chas. A.
 Heronime, Peter
 Heronime, Nick
 Holzmeister, Peter
 Hoff, Frank
 Holzmeister, Martin
 Huser, Ben

Goetz, Michael, Jr.
 Goetz, Adam A.
 Goetz, Ray J.
 Goetz, Jos. P.
 Goetz, Pauline
 Graff, John
 Gottschalk, Geo. J.
 Gottschalk, P. V.
 Gross, J. B.
 Gross, Martin, Sr.
 Gross, Catherine
 Gross, Martin, Jr.

Herman, Peter A.
 Hauser, Howard V.
 Hauser, Louis A.
 Haas, Clemens
 Haas, Frank
 Herklotz, Sylvester
 Herl, Anton A.
 Hertel, Joe
 Hertel, Wm.
 Hertlein, Henry
 Karlin, Fred
 Karlin, Pete

Kindernecht, Leo
 Kissner, Jacob
 Kissner, Peter
 Kissner, Alex
 Kissner, Geo.
 Keiner, Andrew
 Keiner, John
 King, Asa A.
 Kitchen, Geo.
 Klaus, John
 Klaus, Peter
 Klaus, Raumond

- Klug, G. J.
 Karlin, John K.
 Knoll, Mrs. John
 Knoll, John Jr.
 Keough, Mrs. Margaret
 Koerner, Alois J., Jr.
 Koerner, Fred, Jr.
 Koll, Leo E.
 Korbe, Jos. D.
 Korbe, Joseph
 Korbe, Simon
 Korbe, Andrew F.
 Korbe, Alois
 Korbe, Jacob
 Kroner, Anton G.
 Kreuzer, A. F.
 Kramer, Joseph
 Kuhn, B. M.
 Kuhn, Adolf
 Kurfuss, Mary
 Jacobs, Anton
 Jacobs, Frank S.
 Jacobs, John
 Jacobs, Mrs. Peter
 Jacobs, Philip
 Jacobs, Philip M.
 Jacobs, Mike. Sr.
 Jacobs, Jos. G.
 Jacobs, Peter J.
 Jacobs, Mike F.
 Jacobs, Casper
 Jacobs, Jos. A.
 Jamison, Dr. Chas. A.
 Jordan, Mrs. Mary
 Junker, Balthasar
 Junker, Jacob
 Junker, John F.
 Lattigan, Mrs. Alex
 Lattigan, John
 Lattigan, Simon
 Lattigan, Jos.
 Lang, Michael
 Lang, Wm.
 Leahy, Mrs. Mary
 Leiker, Anastas
 Leiker, Carl
 Leiker, Peter F.
 Leiker, Alois J.
 Leiker, Alois
 Leiker, John L.
 Leiker, Isidore
 Leiker, John K.
 Leiker, Jacob
 Leiker, Henry P.
 Leiker, Isidore A.
 Leiker, Aquilinus
 Leikam, Mrs. Ida
 Leinmiller, Barney
 Loenhardt, Henry
 Loenhardt, Anton
 Linenherger, Herman J.
 Linenherger, Andrew A.
 Linenherger, Alex
 Little, Mrs. Ellen
 Little, Roy
 Lecuyer, Albert F.
 Lecuyer, Bernadette
 Meier, Alex
 Meier, Frank A.
 Meier, Mrs. John
 Meier, Edward
 Meier, Carl
 Meier, Anton
 Meis, Mrs. Agnes
 Meis, Mrs. Rose P.
 Meis, Frank
 Meis, Anton
 Maschka, Jacob
 Maschka, Lawrence
 Mallon, Wm. Jos.
 Mansfield, Maurice
 Mauer, Virginia
 Merker, Mary
 Merker, Peter
 Miller, A. R.
 Miller, John M.
 Miller, Jacob P.
 Menderler, Agnes
 Miller, Johannes
 Miller, Frank B.
 Montgomery, W. B.
 Molner, John
 Murphy, Ignatius
 Mullen, Mrs. E. G.
 Mulroy, Rich
 McCarthy, Dan, Sr.
 McCarthy, Dan F.
 McMahon, Mrs. Mary
 McClellan, Mrs. Thos.
 McQuire, Wm.
 Munk, Theo Victoria
 Mackey, E. J.
 McGinty, Edward
 Moye, K. J.
 Nushaum, Joe
 Ney, Dora
 O'Driscoll, Mike
 O'Laughlin, John
 Orth, Jacob
 Orth, Martin
 Orth, John
 Page, Richard
 Palen, N. J.
 Paul, Joseph
 Peters, Peter
 Pelzl, Joe
 Pfanenstiel, John
 Pfanenstiel, Ludwig
 Pfanenstiel, Anastas
 Pfeifer, Michael
 Pfeifer, Mrs. Adam J.
 Pfeifer, Adam D.
 Pfeifer, Adam A.
 Pfeifer, Peter
 Pfeifer, Alex A.
 Pfeifer, Jos. A.
 Pfeifer, Andrew
 Pfeifer, John
 Prockish, John
 Ptacek, Louis
 Quint, John
 Quint, John P.
 Quint, Peter
 Quint, Peter J.
 Quint, Peter M.
 Quint, Mike
 Riedel, Andrew N.
 Riedel, Margaret
 Riedel, John M.
 Riedel, John S.
 Rafferty, J. C.
 Rosseo, F.
 Ross, Edward J.
 Ross, Albert
 Rohr, Peter G.
 Rome, Peter J.
 Rohr, Anton
 Roth, Jos., Sr.
 Roth, Jacob
 Roth, Andrew
 Roth, Simon
 Roth, Andrew
 Roth, John P.
 Ruder, John, Jr.
 Ruder, John P.
 Ruder, Paul Sr.
 Ruder, Peter J.
 Ruder, Vinzens
 Ruder, Carl
 Ruder, James
 Rayn, Mrs. Mary
 Rupp, Casper, Jr.
 Rupp, Casper C., Jr.
 Rupp, Mrs. Dora
 Rupp, Peter C.
 Rupp, Jacob
 Rupp, Jacob M.
 Rupp, Fred
 Rupp, Mrs. Emilia
 Rupp, Alois
 Rupp, Leo
 Rupp, Alex P. R.
 Rupp, Jos.
 Rupp, Joe A.
 Rupp, Philip, Jr.
 Rupp, Gabriel
 Sack, Anton
 Sack, Ignatius
 Sack, John S.
 Sack, Stephen
 Sack, John J.
 Sack, John M.
 Sander, Anton
 Sander, Ignatius
 Schaefer, J. M.
 Schlyer, Mrs. John
 Schlyer, Henry
 Schlyer, Nick
 Seitz, John, Sr.
 Seitz, Casper P.
 Seitz, John C.
 Seitz, Alois J.
 Simminger, Mrs. Mary
 Schmeidler, Wm.
 Schmidt, Mrs. C. A.
 Schmidt, Carl A., Jr.
 Schmidt, Michael
 Smith, P. P.
 Schmidt, John A.
 Schmidt, Joe A.
 Schmidt, Bern J.
 Schmidt, Geo.
 Schmidt, Jac. J.
 Schenk, Jos. F.
 Schmie, Gottfried
 Schubie, Anton
 Schubie, Peter
 Schoendaller, Frank
 Schoendaller, Error
 Schuckman, Jos.
 Schuckman, Jac.
 Schueler, Alex
 Schueler, Henry
 Schumacher, Paul
 Schumacher, Anton
 Schumacher, Alex
 Schwartz, Mrs. Lucy
 Schreiner, Jos.
 Speier, Raymond
 Speier, John
 Speier, Alex
 Speier, Anton
 Speis, Peter
 Staab, Peter, Sr.
 Staab, Raymond H.
 Staab, John H.
 Staab, Ferdinand
 Staab, John R.
 Staab, John J.
 Staab, Ambrose P.
 Staab, Richard R.
 Staab, Adolph



HAYS DECEASED

- 1-2. Frank and Amalia Schoenthaler
- 3-4. Jacob and Christina Kiesner
- 5-6. Mr. and Mrs. Nick Giebler
- 7-8. Jacob and Anna Wiesner
- 9-10. Joseph and Elizabeth Basgall
- 11-12. Anton and Anna Eliz. Wasinger
- 13-14. Jacob and Catharine Engel

- 15-16. Balthasar and Gertrude Dreiling
- 17-18. Mr. and Mrs. Carl Depperschmidt
- 19-20. Andreas and Anna Meier
- 21-22. Peter and Susanna Jacob
- 23-24. Jacob and Anna Meier
- 25-26. Michael and Maria Schmidt

- 27-28. Justus and Margaretha Bisling
- 29-30. Andreas and Magdalena Bahl
- 31. Mrs. John Sehlyer
- 32. Dorothea Beilman
- 33. Mrs. John H. Wasinger
- 34. John F. Werth
- 35. Paul Dinges
- 36. Jacob Basgall

Staab, Jacob H.	Toepfer, Amelia	Wasinger, Mrs. Paul	Wiesner, Mrs. Jacob
Stadleman, John	Thibault, Armidas	Wasinger, Geo. L.	Wiesner, Jos. M.
Stadleman, Gus	Tubbs, B. A.	Wasinger, Richard J.	Wiesner, Jac. M.
Stadleman, Jas. C.	Unrein, Clements	Wasinger, Ida	Wiesner, Alex
Stressler, John P.	Unrein, Gerhardt	Wasinger, Agnes	Wiesner, Lawrence A.
Stressler, John	Unrein, Anton	Wasinger, Anna	Wentworth, Ray
Stressler, Anton	Unrein, Anton, Jr.	Wasinger, Zita	Wiles, Mrs. Arthur
Stanton, Walter	Unrein, Dr. Gerhardt C.	Wasinger, Louis J.	Werth, Mrs. John F.
Stadleman, Nick	Unrein, Mike J.	Wasinger, Peter A.	Werth, Theobald
Sterzer, John	Unrein, Jacob C.	Wasinger, Frank S.	Wolf, Carl
Steimel, A. C.	Unrein, Philip	Wasinger, Nick J.	Wolf, Jos.
Start, Mrs. Cecelia	Unrein, John D.	Wasinger, Ignatz	Wolf, August
Start, James R.	Unrein, John	Weaver, Ignatz	Wolf, Peter
Start, James R.	Unrein, Nick S.	Weber, Jerome	Wolf, Ferdinand
Start, Mrs. Sophia	Vieth, Bernard	Weigel, John P.	Watte, Simon Henry
Start, Mrs. Anna	Walter, Jacob P.	Weigel, Adam	Weigel, Jos.
Stecklien, John	Walter, Jacob A.	Weigel, Valentine	Ward, Angolan
Strohmeier, Martin	Walter, Mrs. Rosa	Weigel, Charles	Younger, Geo.
Stroemel, Jos. J.	Walter, Joseph J.	Weigel, Andrew, Sr.	Younger, Peter P.
Speier, Paul	Walter, Frank	Weigel, Otto P.	Zeigler, Isaac
Schreibvogel, Anton	Wasinger, Balthaser	Weigel, Fridolene	Zeigler, Geo.
Sweeney, Wm. E.	Wasinger, Anton T.	Welz, John	Ziegler, Maruice
There, Matt	Wasinger, Martin	Welz, Car.	Zimmerman, Nick
Tholen, Herman	Wasinger, John H.	Weltz, Alex	Zimmerman, Paul
Tholen, John	Wasinger, John H., Mrs.	Welch, Howard M.	Zimmerman, Anton
Toepfer, Wm. A.	Wasinger, Mrs. John	Wiesner, A. A.	Zwenger, Samuel

ST. ANTHONY'S HOSPITAL, HAYS, KANSAS

LOOKING down through the ages over the vast throng of human society we see suffering of every description that human nature has fallen heir to since the sin of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden—and listening, we hear their pleading cry to be relieved from pain—for help to face their trials with courage and fortitude.

Looking again we find the ever-ready helping hand reaching out to them, giving the sympathy that God has implanted in the heart of man for a brother in affliction. Always it has been thus, and looking up to Christ, the Son of God, Who over nineteen hundred years ago took upon Himself human nature and became as one of us in all things, sin excepted, going about doing good, healing the sick, helping the poor, comforting the afflicted, we find our Grand Model—our Divine Exemplar, and as He has done so may we do also.

Coming back to our own time with its present day facilities, we find hospitals in almost every city and town where the sick may be brought and nursed back to health, hope held out to the sorrowing, where the sunlight of God's love and mercy so often beams on the poor afflicted and where the sick poor are not turned away unaided. With this in mind the Sisters of St. Agnes of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, who have been teaching in the schools of Ellis County since 1879 and desiring likewise to be of service to suffering humanity took up this noble work, assisted in the erection of a hospital by the sacrifices of this young and struggling community. To serve the needs of the surrounding territory, the Beach House, which was the property of the Sisters, was transformed into a hospital and dedicated by the Right Reverend J. F. Cunningham, D. D., Bishop of Concordia of blessed memory, and

was named St. Anthony in honor of the great Franciscan saint. On August 25, 1909, seventeen years ago, the hospital doors were thrown open to all who came seeking aid, neither were the poor rejected from whom no remuneration could be received.

The first superintendent was Sister M. Cyrilla, who held this post for two years and at the end of that time was succeeded by Sister M. Corona, widely known throughout western Kansas for her great-hearted sympathy toward the sick and the afflicted. Her memory is as a benediction among these people for whom she gave ten years of faithful service. It was during this period that the need of a more spacious and modern hospital became a necessity in order to care for the ever increasing number of patients who applied for admission—hence there rose up the present stately building, modern in every way, with its well equipped operating rooms, X-ray department and laboratory. The present St. Anthony's Hospital easily accommodates fifty patients, seventy, if necessary.

Sister Corona was succeeded in the government of the institution by Sister M. Adelaide, the present superintendent, who is untiring in her efforts to make the hospital one of high class service. During the present administration, St. Anthony's Hospital was standardized and is recognized as Class A. Many other improvements have been made in and about the place, one being the fitting up of a nursery which is a little gem both for beauty and convenience.

There are twenty-four Sisters occupied in the hospital either as nurses or in the various activities connected with a hospital.

Much credit is due the Staff and the Associate Staff for their splendid co-operation with the corps of nurses and the hospital management, for the success that has attended St. Anthony's from the first.

The following figures will give some insight of the work done at St. Anthony's Hospital from its beginning in August, 1909, until August 1, of the present year. *Thirteen thousand one hundred eighty patients were admitted and cared for*, besides the many who came for aid in minor injuries and the like and whose names were not recorded in the register. *Seven thousand two hundred one surgical operations were performed*, and since the year 1917 nearly *nine hundred babies claim St. Anthony's* as their birth place.

The spiritual needs of the Catholic population of the hospital are taken care of by the Reverend Capuchin Fathers of St. Joseph's Monastery in Hays, and the Recording Angel must have much written down to the credit of these humble, zealous and self-sacrificing hospital chaplains.

As we all know, sometime or other we must answer the final summons, so at St. Anthony's the Angel of Death made its claims—but we are glad to say that the mortality rate has been exceptionally low. This alone ought to be a reason why a hospital is of great importance to a community.

At nearly all times St. Anthony's Hospital is filled to its capacity, so much so, that the addition of a new wing has become a pressing necessity. In the not too distant future we hope to see our hopes in this regard materialize.

ELLIS

ELLIS is a thriving, modern little city situated on the Union Pacific Railroad at the point where central time changes to mountain time. The Union Pacific Rail-

In the early days, Ellis was outside the scope of the German-Russian immigrants' influence, as the newcomers confined themselves exclusively to the eastern half of the county.



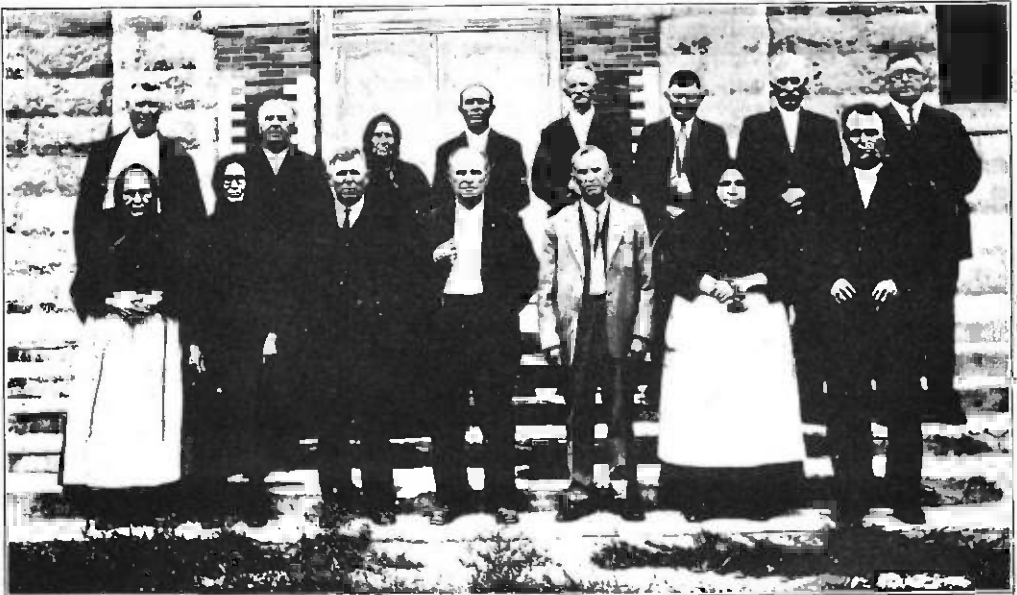
Parochial School House at Ellis, Kansas



Sisters' Residence at Ellis, Kansas

road's roundhouse and shops are located here, and help to make it what it is, the second largest city in Ellis County.

The first of the immigrants to come to Ellis were a few families who were compelled by necessity to seek work in the yards and in the



Group of immigrant survivors now living at Ellis, Kansas

roundhouse. These stayed but a short time, and then moved away.

Later, however, German-Russian farmers in search of cheaper farms bought up land in the vicinity of the city, where they permanently settled. These were gradually followed by others in such numbers that today there are about 175 families of German-Russian descent in Ellis. The remainder of the population is made up of Austrians with a sprinkling of Irish.

Besides the church, the parish also possesses a modern parsonage and a convent, both built in 1917, the former at a cost of \$10,000 and the latter at a cost of \$12,000.

The school is conducted by the Sisters of St. Agnes. It was opened in 1905 with a staff of two sisters and an enrollment of 108 pupils. At present, seven sisters teach about 250 pupils.

The following is a list of all the pastors who have labored in Ellis from the founding of the parish until the present day:



St. Severin Church, Severin, Ellis County, Kansas

St. Mary's Church at Ellis was organized in 1886. The first church was built by Samuel Lent, on a plot donated by Michael Ryan. At that time the congregation numbered about twenty families.

The frame church, which at present is used as a school, was built in the summer of 1900. From 1905 to 1911 it served as both church and school.

Construction on the present magnificent church was begun in 1909, and the building completed in 1911. It is Romanesque in style, and built of native magnesia lime stone. Tastefully decorated, it is one of the most beautiful churches in the county.

- Rev. John Fogarty. 1886-1893.
- Rev. Emmeram Kausler, O. M. Cap., 1893.
- Rev. Martin Muelders, O. M. Cap., 1893-1894.
- Rev. Chrysostom Jacobs, O.M.Cap., 1895-1897.
- Rev. Paul Werr, O. M. Cap., 1897-1900.
- Rev. Richard Dei, O. M. Cap., 1900-1903.
- Rev. James Steppe, O. M. Cap., 1903-1904.
- Rev. Theodosius Mullen, O.M.Cap., 1904-1906.
- Rev. Michael Neff, O. M. Cap., 1906-1913.
- Rev. Philip Knupfer, O. M. Cap., 1913-1915.
- Rev. Didacus Garovi, O. M. Cap., 1915-1917.
- Rev. Ulrich Zeller, O. M. Cap., 1917-1924.
- Rev. Gilbert Stickelmeier, O. M. Cap., 1924-1926.
- Rev. Theodore Schillo, O. M. Cap., 1926-

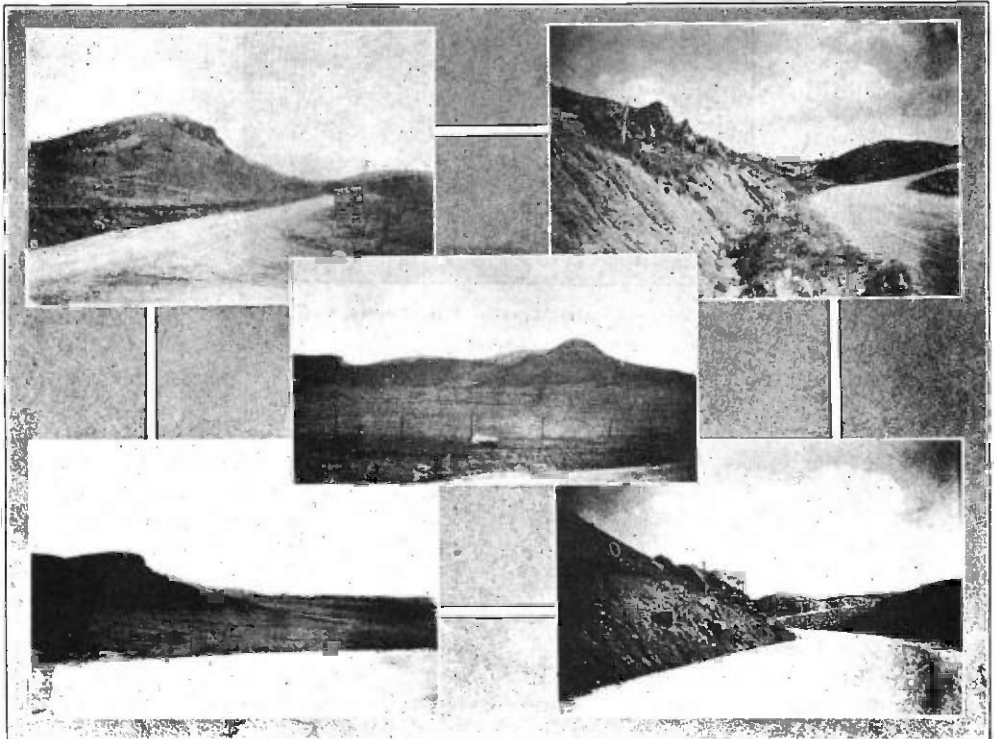
*List of Families, St. Mary's Church,
Ellis, Kansas*

Armbruester, John, John J. Phillip, Martin	Braun, Magdalena Braun, F. R.
Augustine, Ignatius, John M., John Jr., Joseph, Joseph Jr., Michael, Rudolf, Anton, Joseph, Ambrose, Frank	Braun, Jos. P. Begler, George Bittel, George, Jacob, Paul
Bewr, Andrew, Wenzel.	Baumgardner, Albert Brungardt, Adam
Bener, John	Carey, John M.
Befort, John A.	Colrus, Karl
Bieker, Alex., Peter, Henry, Leo, John, John N., Frank J., Sylvester	Dechant, Jos., Michael, Peter, Peter Jr.
Bolbig, Andrew, Jacob, Jacob P., Jacob J., John, John F.	Erbert, Frank, Bernard, Frank Sr.
Boos, Stephan, John	Engel, Con.
Brendel, Peter	Eberle, Frank
Bongartz, Frank	Engel, Joseph
Bieker, Andrew, Joseph	Faulkner, Hugh
Braun, Mrs. Margaret	Finch, Mrs. Harrison Flachs, Ignatius, Joseph, Mrs. Jacob

French, Joseph	Gerber, Henry, Henry J., John H.
Gaschler, Michael, Fred, John N., John J.	Gerstner, Jacob
Frank, Anton	Geschwentner, Sigmun, Edmund
Gabel, Raymund, Jacob	Giebler, Andrew, Jacob
Geist, Alex F., Michael	



Parsonage at Ellis, Kansas



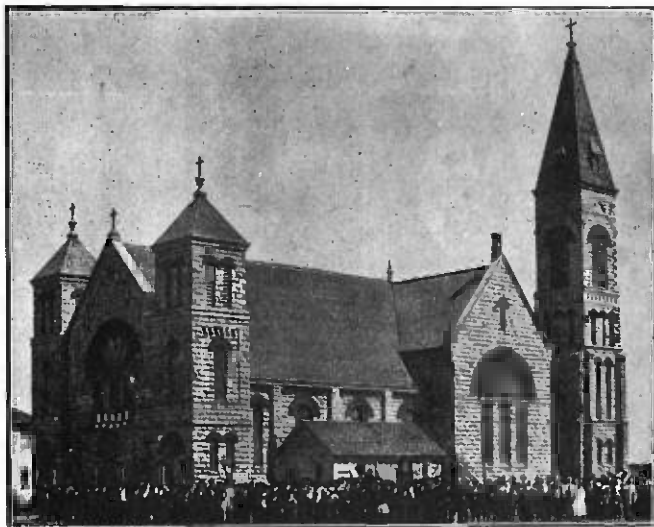
Views of the bluffs on the Saline River in Ellis County, Kansas

Gnad, John, Rudolf
 Goodchuck, Mrs. Mat
 Gross, Fred P.
 Hannis, Clarence
 Hammerschmidt, Michael
 Herrman, Martin, Nick,
 August, Frank C.
 Helget, John, George
 Henehey, Mrs. Ed
 Heronema, Nick, William
 Hoedel, Joseph
 Honus, Joseph
 Paul, Ed
 Theising, William
 Horan, Michael
 Huycke, William F.
 Jaques, John

Lang, Joseph,
 Ignatius sr.,
 Ignatius jr.,
 Michael, George,
 Leo, Frank, John,
 John J., Jacob,
 Louis, Mrs. Daniel
 Laudauer, Joseph,
 John, Charles, Frank
 Luaber, Peter
 Leiker, Alex P.,
 John P.
 Locker, Joseph sr.,
 Joseph jr., Louis
 Lua, George
 LaCuyer, A. F., Dr.
 Lutz, William Jacob

Orth, Clemens
 Pfannenstiel, Jacob
 Pfeifer, Alex, Peter,
 Michael, Joseph,
 Alex J., Andrew
 Phillips, Eugene
 Porzel, George
 Rand, Fred
 Reitmeier, John,
 Frank, Charles
 Riedel, Adam, Victor,
 Alex F., Bernard,
 Andrew J., John A.,
 John D., John P.,
 Nicholas
 Rome, Alex, John J.
 Rohr, Joseph L.

Schoenberger, Jacob,
 Frank, Anton
 Schuster, Mrs. Anna,
 Mrs. Ferdinand,
 Frank, Joseph,
 Frank F., Frank W.,
 Phillip, Frank N.
 Stadler, Clemens
 Stoecklein, Raymund,
 John P., Alex
 Stegman, George
 Storm, Adam, Jacob,
 Peter, Leo
 Stupert, John
 Soloria, Thomas
 Stehley, Mrs. Mart
 Schubert, Clarence
 Schoenthaler, Fred J.
 Tauscher, Leo, Leo jr.,
 Rudolph
 Nei, Mrs. John
 Vonfeldt, John,
 Joachim
 Waldschmidt, John,
 Joseph, Alex,
 Joseph R., Paul
 Wasinger, Michael,
 Frank N., Edmund,
 Andrew, Joseph Dr.
 Walter, Alois P.
 Weber, Joseph H.,
 Joseph J., jr.,
 Joseph sr., Frank A.,
 Ambrose, Paul, John
 Weaver, Frank P.,
 John J., Jacob,
 Joseph, Henry
 Weigel, Andrew J.,
 John A., Bernard,
 John J. A., John J.,
 Martin, Bernard J.,
 Joseph
 Wiesner, Joseph F.,
 Leo, Frank, Peter S.,
 George, Joseph H.,
 Alex J., Alois
 Wittman, John, Frank
 Wischnuck, Michael
 Weinmeier, Alex
 Werth, Anastas, Leo,
 Fred, Paul
 Wilson, Edward
 Wolf, John
 Yunker, John,
 Fridolin, Joseph
 Zerral, Walter
 Lee Solomon (colored)
 Ptasheck, Alice



St. Mary's Church, Ellis, Kansas

Jacobs, Frank
 Krenzer, Mat
 Kappel, John
 Karlin, Melchior
 Kane, Charles
 Kilpes, Jacob C.
 Kipper, Henry
 Kinderknecht, Peter,
 Mathew, Joseph Sr.,
 Jacob, Joseph Jr.
 Kuhn, John M.,
 Anton J., Fred,
 Nicholas, Nick J.
 Kohl, Joseph
 Kozlowski, Joseph
 Klaus, P. A.

Lynd, Mrs. Honora
 Markey, Phillip
 Marquelling, John H.
 Merrill, Mrs. F. J.
 Miller, John, Paul
 Mondero, Joseph
 Nenecheck, August,
 Louis, Frank,
 Stephen,
 Ferdinand
 Neuberger, Joseph sr.,
 Joseph jr., Frank,
 Adolf, John, Wenzel
 Nierenberger, John,
 Nick, Joseph, Edgar
 Nolan, James T.

Rumbach, Joseph
 Ruder, George
 Rupp, Phillip,
 Joseph P., Anton,
 Bernard
 Ryan, Margaret
 Sander, Raymund
 Seipel, Rudolf
 Seidel, Godfried,
 Frank sr., Ignatz,
 Frank
 Shay, J. J.
 Schumacher, Anton,
 Clemens, Mrs.
 Anna Margaretha,
 Mrs. Anna



UNIVERSITY DEGREE MEN

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Henry F. Herman | 9. Fred F. Toepfer | 17. Albert Bahl |
| 2. Dr. B. J. Weigel | 10. Dr. Leo Schaefer | 18. Alex F. Brungardt |
| 3. Joseph Pfeifer | 11. Dr. G. C. Unrein | 19. Fridolin Dreiling |
| 4. Albert Kippea | 12. John Riedel | 20. Walter Mermis |
| 5. Dr. B. Brungardt | 13. Dr. A. A. Herman | 21. Dr. Joseph Schaefer |
| 6. Dr. Joseph Dreiling | 14. Bernard Brungardt | 22. Peter E. Rohleder |
| 7. Alphonse Brungardt | 15. V. A. Weigel | |
| 8. Dr. Jos. Waasinger | 16. B. J. Dreiling | |

*le Adams
teacher*

GORHAM

GORHAM, on the Union Pacific Railroad seven miles east of Victoria, in Russell County, Kansas, was the first town to establish a congregation and thus separate from the church of Herzog with which its membership had been affiliated since 1878. The distance from Victoria and the difficulties of the roads, especially during the winter season, was a deciding factor.

The movement for the new church commenced in 1893 and was sponsored by the following families: Bernard Huser, Philip Bicker, William Funke, John Baumrucker, Michael Baumrucker, Christ. Vonfeld, Patrick Crow, Mr. Fox, John Mills, Robert Mills, Connel Mills, Michael Witt, Thos. Boyle, Jas. Furthmeier, Joseph Kapp, Roman Witt, Anton Novak, Nick Polcyn, Joseph Polcyn, Frank



Rev. Fr. Charles Weber,
Pastor Catholic Church,
Gorham, Kans.



Group of Immigrant Survivors, Gorham, Kansas

Polcyn, Henry Dortland, Thomas Baier and Henry Baier.

The cornerstone of the building was laid in

1894. Owing to crop failures and general financial depression the work on the building proceeded but slowly and it was not till 1898

that the same was completed and the first services held on Christmas day, 1898.

The parish now has eighty families. Six sisters of the congregation of St. Joseph teach sixty to eighty children in the grade and high

school. A fine six-room school house used as grade and high school was erected in 1922-23.

Rev. Fr. George Weber is the present pastor of St. Mary's Church.



**Catholic Church, Parsonage, Sisters' Residence
and School, Gorham, Russell Co., Kansas**

ST. PETER

ST. PETER, in Graham County, Kansas, which was formerly known as Hoganville, was founded by German-Russian families of Ellis County in 1894.

The earliest settlers in this district were John Richmeier, John Brungardt, Peter A. Rome, John Ingerthron, John Peter Knoll, Jr., Nikolaus D. Dreiling, Peter Rome, Sr., and Florian Dinkel.

In 1895 these few families built a small frame church which satisfied their needs for almost fifteen years. In 1909-10 the present St. Anthony's Church was built. Mr. Alex Schueler of Catherine was both architect and contractor. The new edifice was dedicated in the fall of 1910.

Peter Rome, one of the founders of the settlement, gave the land on which the church is built, and in his honor the name of the village was changed from Hoganville to St. Peter.

The first school building in St. Peter was erected in 1905, while the present brick school dates from 1917.

In 1904, as soon as a house for them had been built, three Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia came to St. Peter and took charge of the school.

The first pastor of St. Peter was Rev. Fr. H. Vornhold, who was in charge from 1894 till 1902. He was succeeded by Rev. Fr. Charles Weber, who stayed till 1921. Following him came Rev. Anthony Schaefer, who was pastor till June, 1922. From June, 1922, till December 31, 1923, Rev. Fr. Jerome Dies ministered to the people. On the latter date he was succeeded by Rev. Fr. Michael Dreiling, the present pastor.

List of Families, St. Anthony's Church, St. Peter, Kansas

<p>Appelhans, Joseph, Joseph J., Andrew Bollig, Frank Boxler, Mat, Michael, Anton, Michael Jr. Braun, Andrew Billinger, Andrew, Alex, Joseph, Joseph A., Peter A. Brungardt, Balthasar, Mrs. Mary, John M., Frank, Joseph, Peter A., Frank H. Dinkel, Anton Sr., Anton Jr., Anton J., Florian, John, Michael, Alex Dreiling, Nick, Joseph, John, Jacob, Dyonisius, Leonard, Joseph, Mrs. Margaret, John J. Gassman, Joseph, John Gerstner, Jacob, John, Jacob J. Graf, George Geist, John C. Herman, Mrs. Margaret, Anton J., Fidelis, John Hoffman, Andrew, Godfried, Joseph, John, Michael Ingenthron, Peter Katzendorn, Nickolaus Kaehrlc, George Knoll, Michael Sr., Michael Jr., John, Peter, Andrew, John A., Adam J., Godfried, John J., Carl Peter P., Michael, Adam A. J.</p>	<p>Peter A., Joseph, Frank P., Peter P., Mrs. Anna Maria, Frank Sr. Kuhn, Peter, Joseph Lang, Peter Meier, Joseph Pfeifer, Joseph, Joseph J. Richmeier, Alex, John, Frank, John J., Peter J., Jacob, Wendelin, Mrs. John M., Joseph, Peter J., Fridolin, Michael Riedel, Mrs. Margaret, Frank, John, Joseph P. Spies, Jacob, Joseph, Jacob J. Jr., August Rome, Peter J., Joseph, John, Peter P., John, Seraphin, Anton, Raymond, Nickolaus, Peter M., Michael Rohr, Mat, Peter, John Rohleder, Joseph, Conrad, Wendelin, Peter, Peter Joseph Sauer, Peter, John Schoenberger, Raymond Scheck, Joseph Schreiner, Andrew A., John A., Leo, Wendelin Schumacher, Adolf Scheck, Frank Wasinger, Martin, Michael Wittman, Frank, Peter J. Yunker, Leo Vonfeld, M. C.</p>
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EMMERAM

AMONG others, the following families, being then members of St. Fidelis church at Herzog, petitioned the Rt. Rev. Bishop Cunningham for permission to establish a new parish about six miles north



Church of the Sacred Heart
at Emmeram, Kansas

of Victoria, namely: Andrew P. Brungardt, Anton P. Brungardt, B. P. Brungardt, Peter Brungardt, Peter J. Denning, Jos. Denning, Peter J. Dreiling, John Dinkel, Frank Froehlich, Henry Froehlich, John Frank, Henry Hoff, Alex Herman, Clemens Rohleder, Nick Rohleder, Andrew Linenberger, David Toepfer, Albert Weigel, Michael Weigel, Peter P. Weigel, Valentin Weigel, Andrew Windholz, Martin Windholz, Adam Windholz, John Windholz. Their petition was received and permission granted and preliminary work was commenced in the early part of spring, 1899. The cornerstone was laid in May the same year. Progress was slow until Rev. Fr. Emmeram Kausler became pastor. He, in the spring of 1901, took charge of the building and on Christmas day of the same year Holy Mass was said in it the first time. The parish at this time is in a prosperous condition, having sixty families. No parochial school has as yet been opened, although a building for that purpose has been erected for many years. The present



Group of Survivors and Later Arrivals, Emmeram, Kansas

pastor is Rev. Fr. Walter Herman, O. M. Cap.

A list of families follows:

List of Family Heads of Sacred Heart Parish, Emmeram, Kansas

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Bieker, Philip P. | Frank, John |
| Bollig, Peter | Froehlich, Frank |
| Brungardt, Balt. | Gerhardt, Michael |
| Brungardt, Mrs. Monica | Geist, John |
| Capp, Frank | Hammerschmidt, John J. |
| Dreher, Jerome | Hoff, Charles |
| Denning, Mrs. Louisa | Hoff, Mrs. Henry, Sr. |
| Denning, Andrew M. | Hoff, Henry, Jr. |
| Denning, John J. | Hoff, Peter |
| Dinkel, John | Hoff, Willie |
| Dinkel, Peter J. P. | Hoffmann, Michael |
| Dreiling, Mrs. Agnes | Kinderknecht, Anton |
| Dreiling, Peter A. M. | Kuhn, Jos. M. |
| Dreiling, Raymond | Kuhn, Raymond |

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Kuhn, John J. | Weigel, Val. V. |
| Quint, Mrs. Martin | Weigel, Val. M. |
| Quint, Martin, Jr. | Weigel, Augustin |
| Rohleder, Clement | Windholz, Adam J. |
| Rohleder, Nic. C. | Windholz, Adam |
| Rohleder, Nicholas N. | Windholz, Alex J. |
| Rohleder, Peter N. | Windholz, Andrew J. |
| Sander, Ulrich | Windholz, John A. D. |
| Scheck, Frank | Windholz, John, Sr. |
| Schmidt, John | Windholz, John A. |
| Toepfer, David | Windholz, Jos. A. |
| Wasinger, Jacob, | Windholz, John J. |
| Weigel, Albert | Windholz, Mrs. Martin |
| Weigel, Mich. P. | Windholz, Martin J. |
| Weigel, Mrs. Peter A. | Windholz, Peter J. |
| Weigel, Ferdinand | Witt, Herman |

Bachelors

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Denning, Leo | Windholz, Jos. J. |
| Therre, Jos. | |



EMMERAM DECEASED

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Joseph Denning | 4. Peter Andreas Weigel | 8. Peter and Elizabeth Beil |
| 2. Martin Windholz | 5. Jacob and Anna Maria Beil | 9. Johannes and Magdalena Windholz |
| 3. Michael M. Dreiling | 6. Andreas and Catharine Windholz | |
| | 7. Michael and Maria Denning | |



1. Sr. M. Cosma (Weigel)
2. Sr. Hedwig (Toepfer)

3. Sr. Perpetua (Monica Brungardt)
4. Sr. Emmeram (Brungardt)
6. Sr. M. Roberta (Dreiling)

7. Sr. Virginetta (Otilia Dreiling)
8. Sr. Herbert (Toepfer)

WALKER

THE first school building was erected in 1893, which served as a church later on. The first Mass was read in this building on Christmas, 1903. The erection of the present church was begun in the spring of 1904. The cornerstone was laid the same year and it was dedicated on Thanksgiving Day, 1905. Rev. Fr. Emmeram was the first pastor and also supervised the erection of the church.

The following are the names of the organizers of the parish:

Herman Berens	John Leiker
Peter Braun	Mike Riedel
B. M. Dreiling	Ignatz Vonfeldt
Geo. Kippes	Wm. Berens
Clement Griese	Anton Dreiling
Theo H. Munk	Mike Kippes
John Scheck	Joseph Griese
Ulrich Berens	Adolf Leiker
Peter Brungardt	Wm. Robben, Sr.
Nick Dreiling	John A. Vonfeldt
M. B. Kuhn	

The erection of the present Parochial School building was commenced in the fall of 1924.



St. Anne's Church, Walker, Kansas



Group of Immigrant Survivors at Walker, Kansas

the cornerstone was laid in 1924. The school was dedicated in August of 1925.

There are at present 120 school children. The Sisters of St. Agnes have charge of same.



Rev. Fr. Ulrich Zeller,
O. M. Cap.,
Pastor St. Ann's Church,
Walker, Kans.

The following are the heads of the families at the present time.

J. E. Basgall	A. A. Done
U. C. Berens	Anselm Dreiling
Herman Benton	P. A. Dinkel
John J. Brown	Adam Goetz
H. H. Berens	W. J. Hammerschmidt

Mrs. Anna Kippes	H. M. Robben
Mrs. Mary Kisner	A. P. Sander
Leo Leiker	A. J. Scheck
Fedalis Leiker	Wm. Schrant, Jr.
John A. Mermis	Mrs. Anna Schulte
Theo. H. Munk	C. D. Wagner
J. M. Riedel	Joe I. Weigel
Wm. Robben, Jr.	Ulrich Berens
Geo. H. Robben	Wm. H. Berens
Mike A. Sander	P. P. Braun
J. J. Scheck	H. E. Baxter
Wm. Schrant, Sr.	Adam P. Brungardt
Frank Schulte	Peter Dreiling
M. G. Vonfeldt	Joe N. Dreiling
Mrs. J. J. Wasinger	Henry Freitag
Wm. Berens, Sr.	Jacob Hammerschmidt
H. F. Berens	Geo. Kippes
Peter Braun	Joe Kippes
Fred Breer	Mike Leiker
Jos. P. Brungardt	Mrs. Adolf Leiker
J. J. Dreiling	Andrew A. Mermis
Anton Dreiling	Raymond Mermis
W. A. Dreiling	Anton Riedel
Joseph Griese	Wm. Robben, Sr.
Mike Kippes	H. H. Robben
Frank Kippes	John A. Sander
M. B. Kuhn	John Scheck
Lewis Leiker	Nick Schmidt
Frank Mermis	Hy. Schrant
Alex Mermis	U. G. Tholen
Mike Riedel	B. J. Wagner
Albert Riedel	Mike Wittman
J. W. Robben	

HYACINTH

THIRTEEN miles northwest of Hays on the highest point of the divide between the Saline River to the north and Big Creek to the south a little church rears its tower sixty feet into the blue sky. The church is visible for many miles. This is St. John's Catholic Church of Hyacinth, in Buckeye Township.

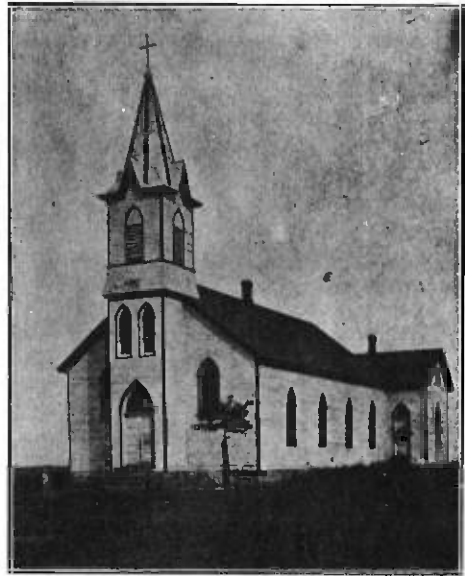
The movement to build this church was started by James Ross and John Miller. These men circulated a subscription list, entering twenty-five names thereon. They presented this list to Rev. Fr. Richard Dei, then pastor of Hays, in whose jurisdiction the territory to be formed into a new parish was located. John O'Laughlin donated a tract of twenty acres in the southwest corner of Section Thirteen, Township Twelve, Range Nineteen, Ellis County, Kansas. On this tract the church was erected. It is a frame building having the following dimensions: auditorium 60x32, sanctuary 20x18, sacristy 16x14; likewise a three-room parsonage 16x28 was built.

The available funds at the commencement of the building was three hundred and fifty dollars. The church building was completed in three months and was solemnly blessed November 29, 1906, by the Right Rev. Bishop Cunningham of Concordia.

Twelve families constituted the entire membership, namely: James Ross, John Miller, Cornel Stecklein, George Schmidt, Alex Geist, Adam Pfeifer, Michael Geist, Peter Schoenfeldt, John O'Laughlin, Andrew Pfeifer, Lawrence Maschka, and Alex Royer.

Rev. Fr. Edward Heil, O. M. Cap., was the first pastor, serving from 1906 to 1910. The following is a list of pastors to the present time: Rev. Stephen Bienemann, O. M. Cap., 1910-1911; Rev. Cyril Zeller, O. M. Cap., 1911-

1913; Rev. Joseph Mayerhoefer, O. M. Cap., 1913-1914; during his administration parochial school building (two school rooms and six



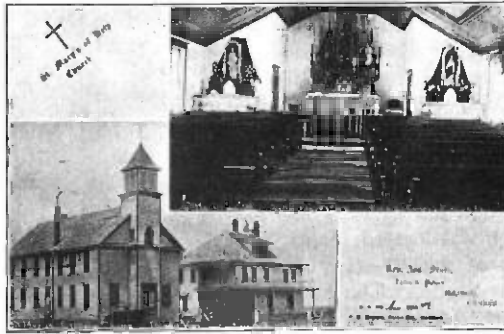
St. John's Church, Hyacinth, Kansas

living rooms) was erected. The building, however, is not used for school purposes as no Sisters could be obtained; Rev. Fr. Norbert, O. M. Cap., 1914-15; Rev. Jos. Mayerhoefer, 1915-17; Rev. Justin Walz, O. M. Cap., 1917-18; Rev. Anthony Burkhart, O. M. Cap., 1918-19; Rev. Victor Schiel, 1919-20; Rev. Didacus Garovi, 1920-21; Rev. Walter Herrmann, O. M. Cap., 1921-22; Rev. George Karlin at the present time. The parish has 46 families, numbering about 220 souls.

LORETTO

THE congregation of St. Mary, Help of Christians, at Loretto, formerly Illinois, Rush County, Kansas, is an offshoot of the Pfeifer parish. Holy Cross Church at

teen families decided to build at Illinois, about four and one-half miles south of Pfeifer. The founders of the new parish were: Peter Basgall, John W. Basgall, John K. Basgall, Casper



Catholic Church and Parsonage, Loretto, Kans.

Pfeifer had grown too small for the growing congregation, and in 1902, when it became evident that a new church had to be built, seven-

Holzmeister, John P. Roth, Jacob Stremel, Leo Stremel, Anton J. Stremel, John R. Stremel, Adam Stremel, John P. Stegman, Adam S. Ur-



Group of Survivors of Loretto, Rush County, Kansas

ban, George J. Urban, Joseph M. Urban, Adam Urban, Sr., Martin Urban and George G. Urban.

As members of the Pfeifer congregation these families had contributed liberally to the erection of the new Holy Cross Church, with the understanding that they should be reimbursed in case they should build a church of their own. When they finally separated they received \$3,000.00.

In Illinois Adam S. Urban and Stephen S. Urban each donated five acres of land for a townsite; Martin Urban gave one acre for a graveyard and Joseph M. Urban gave five acres for the church, parsonage and school. On this plot a combination church and school measuring 60x28x20 feet was erected in the fall of 1912 at a cost of \$3,387.33. Until separate church and school buildings could be erected the upper story was to serve as a church, and the lower as a school.

Having a church, the people were anxious to

the first time on the first Sunday of Advent, 1912. Owing to the lack of proper accommo-



Rev. Fr. Jos. Stutz,
Pastor Loreto, Kans.,
Church

dations, it was decided to postpone the dedication until a priest house could be built.

Work on the new parsonage, which measures



1. Sr. Callista (Urban)
2. Sr. Arsenius (Baagall)
3. Boniface (Urban)

4. Sr. Mary Clair (Stremel)
5. Sr. Thoretta (Stremel)
6. Sr. Caralotta (Eliz. Stroemel)

secure a resident pastor, and on November 22, 1912, Father Stutz was assigned to the parish. Divine services were held in the new edifice for

40x28x18 feet, was begun in January, 1913. The building was completed shortly after Easter. On the tenth of June, 1913, the church

was dedicated by Rt. Rev. J. J. Hennessy, Bishop of Wichita. Toward the close of 1913 the ten acre townsite was divided into lots 50x150 feet, and these sold for the benefit of the church.

This same year, 1913, the name of the village was changed from Illinois to Marienfeld, and a short time later, to the present name, Loretto.

In 1914 the room under the church was furnished with desks and benches, and regular classes conducted. For four years laymen taught the children. In 1918, however, owing to the ever increasing number of pupils, Sisters had to be obtained to take charge of the school. In September two Precious Blood Sisters, Agnes and Servana of Wichita, arrived. In the absence of a convent, Mr. Anton J. Stremel offered his house as a temporary dwelling place for the teachers. In 1919 a convent measuring 28x26x16 feet was erected at a cost of \$5,000.00.

About this time a dispute arose concerning the boundary between the parishes of Loretto and Pfeifer. A number of people who had moved to Loretto after the town was founded

still continued to attend Holy Cross Church at Pfeifer, and refused to help maintain the church at Loretto. After years of wrangling, the Bishops of Wichita and Concordia (Loretto being in the Wichita Diocese, and Pfeifer in the Concordia Diocese) called a conference at Hays to hear both sides of the question. Those concerned in the dispute assembled in the Capuchin Friary at Hays, December 28, 1923, and after thoroughly considering the matter the Bishops set the county line, which is at the same time the diocesan line, as the boundary. Even this measure failed to bring about peace, and the case was appealed to the Apostolic Delegate at Washington, and from him to Rome. However, both the Apostolic Delegate and Rome upheld the decision of the Bishops fixing the county line as the limit of the two parishes.

In the years immediately following the founding of the town, Loretto developed rapidly and in 1916 had a population of about sixty families. Continued crop failures between 1918 and 1924 greatly reduced the population, but since 1925 the number of inhabitants has been again increasing. At present about fifty families dwell in the little village.



LORETTO DECEASED

1. Joseph and Catharine Basgall
2. Nicolaus and Anna Maria Bieker
(Schoenchen)

3. Anton and Christina Stroemel
4-5. Catharina and Jacob Urban

VINCENT

ST. BONIFACE church of Vincent was organized in 1907 by a number of families of St. Fidelis church, Victoria, who desired to have a church nearer to their

Dreiling, Lorenz Braun, Michael Reichert and Peter Weigel. Nothing daunted by the defection of the others these seven men completed the church.



St. Bonifatius Church, Vincent, Kansas

farms which are located from six to ten miles from the latter place. Twenty-two families were in favor of the movement at its inception but only seven remained when the undertaking was completed. These seven were Maurice Baier, Ben Huser, Walter Rajewski. Anton

Today the congregation numbers thirty-four families. Three sisters of St. Joseph teach its schools. The first pastor was Rev. Fr. Vincent. O. M. Cap. The present pastor is Rev. Fr. Edward Heyl. O. M. Cap.

ANTONINO

A SMALL mission nine miles southwest of Hays. It is a branch of St. Francis Church of Munjor and was founded in 1906. Rev. Fr. Michael, O. M. Cap., is the present pastor.

This parish is the first one to branch out from the mother church, St. Francis Church of Munjor, and is located about seven miles west of that colony and nine miles southwest of Hays.

The church was organized in 1906, and its membership was composed almost entirely of former members of Munjor. Among others, the following were among its founders: John Dechant, Gerhard Pfannenstiel, Joseph Gassman, Cornelius Dechant, John E. Wasinger, George Sauer, Anton Sauer, John Herl, Mat Grabbe, Anton B. Leiker, Alex Klaus, John K. Leiker, Lawrence Rohr, Alex Befort, John Dechant, John J. Rupp.

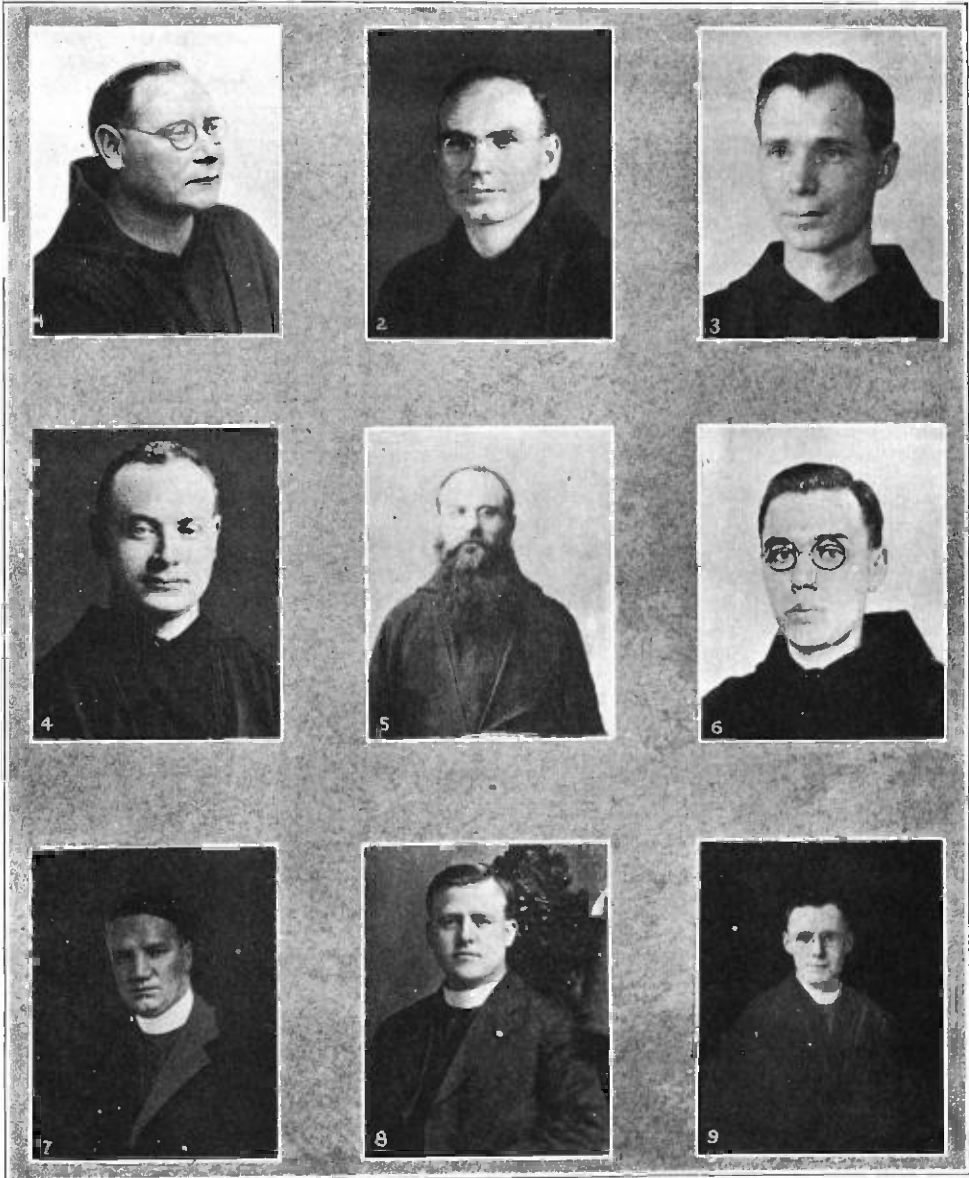
A frame church building of dimensions large enough to accommodate the congregation was erected and dedicated to "Our Lady of Help."



Our Lady of Help Church, Antonino, Kansas



Group of Survivors, Antonino, Kansas



1. Rev. George Karlin, O. M. Cap.
 2. Rev. Raphael Engel, O. M. Cap.
 3. Rev. Edwin Dorzweiler, O. M. Cap.

4. Rev. Athanasius Karlin, O. M. Cap.
 5. Rev. Fidelis Meier, O. M. Cap.
 6. Rev. Richard Bollig, O. M. Cap.

7. Rev. Henry J. Gesenhus
 8. Rev. Otto Von Lintel
 9. Rev. Norbert Staab



PRIESTS NATIVE SONS OF THE SETTLEMENTS

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Rev. William Robben | 4. Rev. Paul Berens, O. S. B. | 7. Rev. Joseph J. Wasinger |
| 2. Rev. Christian Dreiling | 5. Rev. George Herrman | 8. Rev. Michael P. Dreiling |
| 3. Rev. John Leiker | 6. Rev. Alexis Staab | |



Top Row—Lay Brothers (Native Sons).
 Middle Row—Lay Brothers, of many years' service in settlements.
 Lower Row—Clerics. Native sons preparing for Priesthood in Capuchin Order.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. Ven. Brother Wendelin, O. M. Cap. | 5. Ven. Brother Boneventura, O. M. Cap. | 9. Ven. Fr. Virgil, O. M. Cap. (Anselm Kuhn) |
| 2. Brother Andrew (Nick Dinkel) | 6. Ven. Brother Fridolin, O. M. Cap. | 10. Ven. Fr. Flavian, O. M. Cap. (Lawrence Meis) |
| 3. Brother Alexius (Nick Kuhn) | 7. Ven. Fr. Hyacinth, O. M. Cap. (Carl Grabbe) | 11. Ven. Fr. Valerian, O. M. Cap. (Paul Brungardt) |
| 4. Ven. Brother Donolus, O. M. Cap. | 8. Ven. Fr. Mark, O. M. Cap. (Jos. Linenberger) | |

YOCEMENTO

THE town of Yocemento, Ellis County, Kansas, was founded in 1906. The reason of its existence was the erection of a cement plant by a corporation formed



**Rev. Fr. Jordan Hammel,
Pastor St. Agnes Church,
Yocemento, Kans.**

by a number of Hays citizens, headed by I. M. Yost. The men employed as common laborers were mostly Hungarians. These men

the vicinity of Yocemento saw the opportunity for the creation of a parish. They asked permission for the building of a church. Permission being granted, they erected a frame church on a site west of the first bend of Big Creek. The church was later moved to its present site and was dedicated to St. Agnes.

With the failure of the cement plant after a few years' operation the Hungarian population drifted away. The following families, all German-Russians and Germans, remain: Alois Kreutzer, Anton Jounger, Frank Pfeifer, Lorenz Rohr, Frank Orth, George Orth, Bernard Denning, John L. Gerstner, Frank Seib, Mrs. Melchior Bittel, John Peter Weigel and Andrew Kiesner.

The first priest to take charge of the parish was Rev. Father Julius Becker, O. M. Cap., who said mass in the home of one of the Hungarians. His successors were Rev. Fr. Eugene, Rev. Fr. Didacus, Rev. Fr. Vincent, Rev. Fr. Justin, Rev. Fr. Basil, Rev. Fr. William, Rev. Fr. Gilbert, Rev. Fr. William, Rev. Fr. George, Rev. Fr. Justin, Rev. Fr. Pancratius, Rev. Fr.



St. Agnes Church, Yocemento, Kansas

were Catholics. In order that they might have the ministrations of their holy religion the Capuchin Fathers took charge, holding services in private homes. The farmers in

Walter, Rev. Fr. Maurice, Rev. Fr. Florence, and Rev. Fr. Jordan, the present pastor. All these priests are fathers of the Capuchin Order.

NESS CITY

THE need for more and cheaper land to satisfy the demands of their growing families compelled many of the descendants of the original settlers of Ellis County to



Rev. Fr. Cyril Zeller, O. M. Cap.,
Pastor Sacred Heart Church,
Ness City, Kans.

seek for new locations in different parts of the state. In this manner a number of new settle-

One of the latter is Ness City in Ness County, Kansas. The first Ellis County people to settle in this district were the families of Carl Weibert and John Weibert, who in 1913 took up farming some miles northeast of Ness City.

In 1915 they were followed by the families of Melchior Weibert, Andrew Bollig, George Rohr, Jacob Gabel, Martin Wendler, John Leiker, Paul Befort, Carl W. Dechant, John Heili, Conrad Boxler, Anthony Engel, and Joseph Schiffelbein. The following year one more family, that of Elias Pfannenstiel, moved to Ness City from Topeka.

The contract for the present church was let April 22, 1912. The edifice is of frame construction, measuring 46x28 feet. It was completed in the spring of 1912, at a cost of \$1142.50. Not until June 19, 1912, was the new church dedicated. The first Sunday services were held on December 29 of the same year.

The first permanent pastor was Rev. Fr. Alban Hammel, O. M. Cap., while the first superior of the Sacred Heart Hospice, which



Sacred Heart Church and Parsonage, Ness City, Kans.

ments sprang into existence in the course of time, and many already existing towns underwent a rapid development.

was erected later, was the Rev. Basil Heim, O. M. Cap. The present superior and pastor is Rev. Fr. Cyril Zeller, O. M. Cap.

CORDIA

CORDIA, in Fairview Township, Rush County, Kansas, is an offshoot of Liebenthal, situated on the old trail connecting Hays and McCracken, about half way between these two cities.



Rev. John Steiner, Pastor of Sacred Heart Church, Cordia, Kansas

The townsite is small, comprising but fifteen acres divided into lots. The whole plot was donated to the settlers, Joseph Legge, Fritz Oelkers and M. Close each giving five acres. The church property consists of five acres of land donated by Adam Jacobs, a member of the young community.

The Sacred Heart Corporation was formed July 1, 1920, and received its charter on August 5 of the same year. Five charter members were elected as soon as the charter was received. They are: Matt Herrmann, Adam Jacobs, Alex Munsch, Jacob Ronda and John Kreutzer. The last named is also Trustee.

Construction on Sacred Heart Church was begun in 1920, and the building completed on October 1, 1921. The new edifice was dedicated by Rt. Rev. Aug. J. Schwertner, Bishop of Wichita, on November 15, 1921.

In the spring of 1922 work was begun on a rectory, which was completed within a few months.

Rev. J. J. Steines has spiritual charge of the new settlement, in which divine services were

held for the first time on October 15, 1921. On this occasion twelve families attended. Since then, the number of families has risen to twenty-seven, and there are good prospects for a slow but steady increase.



Sacred Heart Church and Parsonage, Cordia, Kansas

SEVERIN

SEVERIN, located about five miles northwest of Catharine, is a branch of the latter, having been founded exclusively by former members of the Catharine parish. Reverend Father Severin, in whose honor the town was named, was its first pastor. The church was built in May, 1916, and was dedicated June 22, 1916. The following families constituted the original membership: Peter J. Walter, Frank Schmeidler, Jr., Peter J. Miller, Jos. G. Dinkel, Alois E. Karlin, Raymund A. Schmidt, Emil Schmeidler, August Schmeidler, Philip Meis, Peter H. Staab, Frank Walter, Alois J. Koerner, Jacob Koerner, Henry Meis, F. A. Meier, Paul Karlin, Michael Kranne-witter, and Adam Walter.

Besides the first pastor and founder, Rev. Fr. Severin, the following Capuchin Fathers functioned as pastors: Rev. Fr. Victor, 1916-1918, Rev. Fr. Gaudens, O. M. Cap., 1918-1919; Rev. Fr. Pancratius, 1920-1922; Rev. Fr. Cassimier, 1922-1925, and Rev. Fr. Maurice, the present pastor. The parish has no parochial school as yet.

POLITICAL

IN the land of the Czars the political activity of the first immigrants who came to Ellis County was a very limited one. Their right of suffrage was limited to a vote at the "Gemeinde Versammlung" (meeting of the heads of families of the town). Political issues of state and national scope never came before them for solution at the ballot box as they do in their new home. It was therefore undoubtedly with a sense of bewilderment that they faced the proposition of deciding momentous questions by means of the ballot, to which they were entitled after making their declaration of intention to become citizens of the United States. Under the circumstances they did the natural thing; they consulted those who spoke their tongue and who were familiar with the condition, political questions and parties in the country. Such men there were and they acquired great political influence and control among the settlers.

The two parties between which the new settler had to choose were, as today, the Republican and Democratic. With but few exceptions the immigrants joined the ranks of the Democratic party.

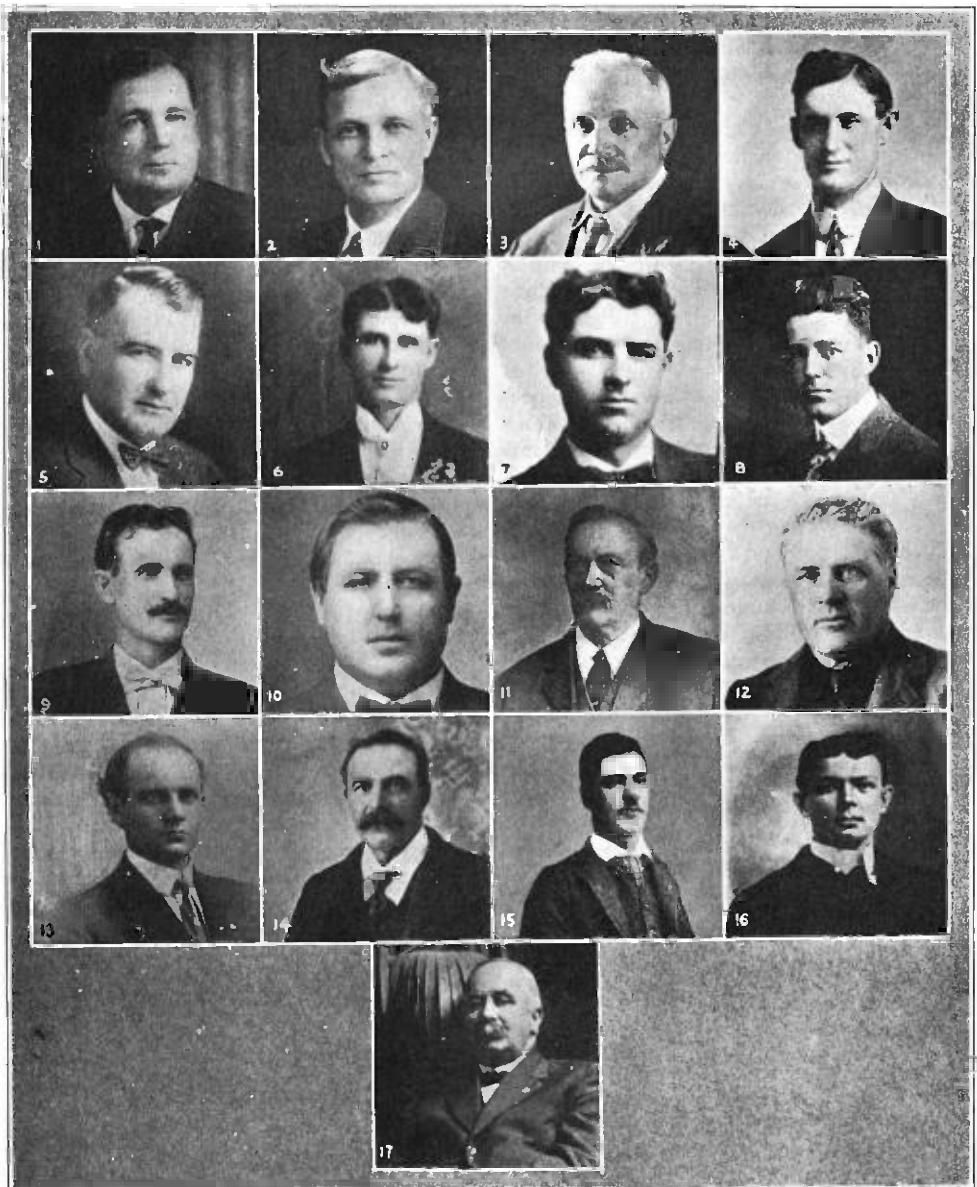
The explanation for this is to be found in the following facts: The men who spoke the German language and were in this country at the time of the arrival of the settlers were Democrats; the German Catholic newspapers, which were the only ones the settlers read, were Democratic in their politics; and the word Democrat had an especial appeal to a people who had but recently left the realm of the most autocratic government in the world.

It is not unnatural that in the early years they depended a great deal on the leadership above referred to. This leadership, while at times used for the political preferment of the individual, was on the whole wise. As time went on and the settlers became better acquainted with various political issues, and as the younger generation grew up, this leadership waned and disappeared.

In the first few years of their sojourn in the United States the political aspirations of the new citizens did not go beyond the township officers. The next step was more ambitious and involved the office of County Commissioner from the Third District, the district inhabited by the settlers. Jacob Karlin was the first one of their number elected to this office. He was succeeded by B. Brungardt, and to this day this office seldom if ever has passed from their hands.

Their attempt to elect one of their number to a county office met with failure for many years. It was not till the year 1890 that Philip Jacobs was elected clerk of the District Court in a three-cornered contest. Since that time the various county offices have been held and are today held by their descendants. While the vast majority of the German-Russians of today are still Democrats, a tendency to break away from the party has shown itself in recent years. This is especially strong among the younger element.

On another page of this volume are the pictures of some of the men of the German stock who held office in Ellis County in the past fifty years.



- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1. Alex Weltz, Sheriff 1917-21, 1925-27 | 7. Jacob C. Kippes, Register of Deeds 1913-17 | 12. B. Brungardt, County Commissioner 1889-95 |
| 2. Jacob Bissing, County Clerk 1894-97, Probate Judge 1911-15 | 8. Jacob M. Wiesner, County Attorney 1919-23, 1925-27 | 13. Joseph Jacobs, County Surveyor 1909-11 |
| 3. John B. Gross, Probate Judge 1907-11, 1921-26 | 9. P. P. Smith, Clerk District Court 1904-07 | 14. Jacob Karlin, County Commissioner, the first immigrant to hold a county office |
| 4. Alex Schueler, Register of Deeds 1909-13 | 10. B. M. Dreiling, Clerk District Court 1897-99, County Treasurer 1907-11 | 15. Jos. Herrman, County Commissioner Rush County, Kansas |
| 5. Frank B. Miller, Clerk District Court 1915-19 | 11. John Schlyer, Sheriff 1880-83, County Treasurer 1883-87, Representative 1894-96, 1899-1902. | 16. M. P. Dinges, County Clerk 1903-07 |
| 6. John J. Dreiling, Clerk District Court 1911-15 | | 17. Jos. Griese, County Commissioner 1895-98, 1899-01, 1905-08 |



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| 1. P. J. Roth, Register of Deeds 1905-1909 | 7. J. M. Schaefer, County Treasurer 1903-07, County Assessor 1908-12 | 14. P. V. Gottschalk, County Clerk 1911-15 |
| 2. Jacob Karlin, County Commissioner | 8. John Jacobs, County Commissioner 1917 to date | 15. A. P. Brungardt, Register of Deeds 1898-1903 |
| 3. M. H. Mulroy, County Atty. 1894, Representative 1910-1912 | 9. Henry P. Leiker, Register of Deeds 1924 to date | 16. M. A. Basgall, Supt. Pub. Inst. 1912-1914, County Clerk 1918-1923 |
| 4. Carl Engel, County Treasurer 1923-1927 | 10. Jos. J. Stroemel, Clerk of District Court 1923-1927 | 17. Edward Polifka, County Surveyor 1891-93 |
| 5. Philip Jacobs, Clerk of District Court 1891-1897, County Treasurer 1898-02, County Treasurer 1911-15 | 11. Boniface Weber, Representative 1924 to date | 18. Alex Meler, Supt. Pub. Inst. 1899-1905 |
| 6. F. B. Brungardt, County Assessor 1912 | 12. Romuald Leiker, Clerk of District Court 1919-23 | 19. Frank S. Wasinger, Register of Deeds 1917-21 |
| | 13. Peter J. Rome, Register of Deeds 1920-24 | 20. William Grabbe, County Clerk 1891-94, Supt. Pub. Inst. 1905-09, Representative 1909-11, County Commissioner 1912-15 |

GERMAN-RUSSIAN YOUNG LADIES WHO ENTERED
THE CONVENT OF THE SISTERS OF ST. AGNES,
FOND DU LAC, WISCONSIN

Victoria, Kansas, List

ORDER NAME	FAMILY AND GIVEN NAME
1. Sister M. Felicitas.	Catherine Dreiling
2. Sister M. Cosma.	Margaret Quint
3. Sister M. Hilda.	Veronica Quint
4. Sister M. Josepha.	Rosa Quint
5. Sister M. Basilia.	Amelia Kuhn
6. Sister M. Albina.	Margaret Kuhn
7. Sister M. Albina.	Clementine Kuhn
8. Sister M. Anselm.	Philomena Kuhn
9. Sister M. Almeda.	Albina Kuhn
10. Sister M. Virgilia.	Lidwina Kuhn
11. Sister M. Anthaline.	Cecilia Kuhn
12. Sister M. Hiltrudis.	Pauline Dreiling
13. Sister M. Lioba.	Mary Von Lintel
14. Sister M. Agnes.	Thecla Von Lintel
15. Sister M. Anna.	Catherine Von Feld
16. Sister M. Jerome.	Elizabeth Goetz
17. Sister M. Susanna.	Mary Wallbrock
18. Sister M. Florine.	Margaret Sander
19. Sister M. Dorothy.	Catherine Von Feld
20. Sister M. Firmina.	Margaret Von Feld
21. Sister M. Pancratia.	Mary Von Feld
22. Sister M. Hedwig.	Barbara Braun
23. Sister M. Lambertine.	Agnes Gerber
24. Sister M. Liberata.	Rosa Schuhmacher
25. Sister M. Felicia.	Appolonia Wasinger
26. Sister M. Consolata.	Mary Wasinger
27. Sister M. Killian.	Catherine Weigel
28. Sister M. Herman Joseph.	Barbara Weigel
29. Sister M. Georgine.	Rosa Sanders
30. Sister M. Marietta.	Margaret Dreiling
31. Sister M. Angelita.	Felicitas Dreiling
32. Sister M. Felicitas.	Cecilia Dreiling
33. Sister M. Emeline.	Celestine Dreiling
34. Sister M. Annabel.	Blanche Dreiling
35. Sister M. Francis Borgia.	Helen Dreiling
36. Sister M. Thecla.	Catherine Sanders
37. Sister M. Victorine.	Elizabeth Scheck
38. Sister M. Perpetua.	Monica Brungardt
39. Sister M. Viola.	Rosa Goetz
40. Sister M. Verda.	Ida Goetz
41. Sister M. Liboria.	Basilia Lang
42. Sister M. Terentia.	Bertha Linenberger
43. Sister M. Emmeram.	Eva Brungardt
44. Sister M. Augustine.	Bertha Brungardt

Sisters from Hays, Kansas

ORDER NAME	FAMILY AND GIVEN NAME
1. Sister M. Terese.	Bertha Sack
2. Sister M. Mark.	Elizabeth Bahl
3. Sister M. Gervase.	Bertha Frank
4. Sister M. Angelina.	Catherine Drees
5. Sister M. Laurentia.	Anna Dening
6. Sister M. Afra.	Olive Dening
7. Sister M. Justine.	Rosine Dening
8. Sister M. Antoninus.	Regina Gabel

Pfeifer, Kansas

1. Sister Mary Flavia.	Margaret Kippes
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Selden, Kansas

1. Sister Mary Austin.	Anna Koerperich
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Emmeram, Kansas

1. Sister M. Herbert.	Emma Toepfer
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Sisters from Catherine, Kansas

1. Sister Mary Athanasia.	Margaret Leiker
2. Sister Mary Alexia.	Anna Schueler
3. Sister Mary Clementia.	Matilda Schueler
4. Sister Mary Alexander.	Agnes Schueler
5. Sister Mary Martina.	Matilda Walter
6. Sister Mary Scholastica.	Catherine Walter
7. Sister Mary Stella.	Amelia Schmidt
8. Sister Mary Solana.	Adeline Wolf
9. Sister Mary Annette.	Sophia Karlin
10. Sister Mary Fidelis.	Cecilia Karlin
11. Sister Mary Bernette.	Mary Karlin
12. Sister Mary Rosalinde.	Helen Karlin
13. Sister Mary Bertilla.	Pauline Schneler
14. Sister Mary Eunice.	Catherine Kraft
15. Sister Mary Paulina.	Angela Meis
16. Sister Mary Matilda.	Philippa Meis
17. Sister Mary Carlita.	Mary Staab
18. Sister Mary Paulita.	Rose Staab
19. Sister Mary Lauraine.	Helen Staab
20. Sister Mary Marcia.	Sophia Antonie
21. Sister Mary Adelinde.	Agnes Koerner
22. Sister Mary Anarda.	Mary Karlin
23. Sister Mary Protase.	Christine Leikam

Sisters from Munjor, Kansas

ORDER NAME	FAMILY AND GIVEN NAME
1. Sister Mary Hortulana	Anna Laiker
2. Sister Mary Aquina	Catherine Laiker
3. Sister Mary Ludmilla	Catherine Schulte
4. Sister Mary Rose	Mary Ruder
5. Sister Mary Marina	Catherine Goetz
6. Sister Mary Clarita	Pauline Claus
7. Sister Mary Laurinda	Elizabeth Pfannenstiel
8. Sister Mary Florian	Germaine Pfannenstiel
9. Sister Mary Agnese	Mary Grabbe
10. Sister Mary Clemenza	Agnes Wasinger
11. Sister Mary Silveria	Emma Boos

Sisters from Welker, Kansas

Sister Mary Sophia	Anna Berens
2. Sister Mary Ventura	Elizabeth Berens

Sisters from Ellis, Kansas

1. Sister Mary Rosaria	Mary Erbert
2. Sister Mary Evelyn	Philomena Dreiling

GERMAN - RUSSIAN AND GERMAN YOUNG LADIES WHO ENTERED THE CONVENT WITH SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH

FAMILY AND GIVEN NAME	ORDER NAME	ADDRESS
Catherine Brungardt	Sister M. Frederica	Victoria, Kansas
Anna Mary Roth	Sister M. Liguori	Pfeifer, Kansas
Elizabeth Basgall	Sister M. Augustine	Pfeifer, Kansas
Catherine Urban	Sister M. Callista	Pfeifer, Kansas
Margaret Basgall	Sister M. Arsenius	Pfeifer, Kansas
Sophie Jacobs	Sister M. Wilfred	Pfeifer, Kansas
Catherine Rupp	Sister M. Collette	Schoenchen, Kansas
Dorothy Zimmerman	Sister M. William	Schoenchen, Kansas
Mary Werth	Sister M. Columba	Schoenchen, Kansas
Rosa Kisner	Sister M. Celeste	Pfeifer, Kansas
Elizabeth Urban	Sister M. Boniface	Pfeifer, Kansas
Mary, Roth	Sister M. Sabinus	Pfeifer, Kansas
Beatrice Pfeifer	Sister M. Theodore	Victoria, Kansas
Rose Pfeifer	Sister M. Vincentia	Victoria, Kansas
Mary Pfeifer	Sister M. Odilla	Victoria, Kansas
Clara Pfeifer	Sister M. Baptista	Victoria, Kansas

FAMILY AND GIVEN NAME	ORDER NAME	ADDRESS
Sophia Pfeifer	Sister M. Remigia	Victoria, Kansas
Catherine Lang	Sister M. Amelia	Victoria, Kansas
Eva Brungardt	Sister M. Benedict	Victoria, Kansas
Catherine Brungardt	Sister M. Edward	Victoria, Kansas
Susanna Brungardt	Sister M. Conrad	Victoria, Kansas
Ida Linneberger	Sister M. Mary Margaret	Park, Kansas
Magdalena Mardian	Sister M. Liborius	Park, Kansas
Mary Mardian	Sister M. Austin	Park, Kansas
Rosa Zimmerman	Sister M. Germanus	Park, Kansas
Theresa Zimmerman	Sister M. Francis Magdalena	Park, Kansas
Mary Toepfer	Sister M. Hedwig	Emmeram, Kansas
Adelaide Weigel	Sister M. Cosmas	Emmeram, Kansas
Appolonia Weigel	Sister M. Damian	Emmeram, Kansas
Odilia Dreiling	Sister M. Virginita	Emmeram, Kansas
Elizabeth Stegman	Sister M. Nolasco	Pfeifer, Kansas
Veronica Dome	Sister M. Cortona Marie	Pfeifer, Kansas
Theresa Dome	Sister M. Denise	Pfeifer, Kansas
Ida Schutz	Sister M. Ethelbert	Catherine, Kansas
Catherine Wasinger	Sister M. Teresa Vincent	Catherine, Kansas
Magdalen Scheck	Sister M. Amanda	Walker, Kansas
Frances Bieker	Sister M. Annetta	Walker, Kansas
Dorothy Wasinger	Sister M. Ermelina	Walker, Kansas
Amelia Zimmerman	Sister M. Lucidia	Schoenchen, Kansas
Lucy Dinges	Sister M. Leona	Schoenchen, Kansas
Magdalen Keller	Sister M. Francesca	Collyer, Kansas
Clementine Keller	Sister M. Renilda	Collyer, Kansas
Emerentia Brungardt	Sister M. Rose de Lima	Victoria, Kansas
Lidwina Werth	Sister M. Esther Marie	Antonino, Kansas
Anna Sauer	Sister M. Leonilla	Antonino, Kansas
Victoria Grabbe	Sister M. Marie Alma	Antonino, Kansas
Cunnegunda Grabbe	Sister M. Frances Inez	Antonino, Kansas
Mary Horning	Sister M. Salome	Antonino, Kansas
Agnes Fisher	Sister M. Teresita	Antonino, Kansas
Mathilda Wasinger	Sister M. Adeline Marie	St. Peter, Kansas
Mary Ingenthron	Sister M. Celine	St. Peter, Kansas
Blandina Storm	Sister M. Davidica	Ellis, Kansas
Margaret Kuhn	Sister M. Agneta	Ellis, Kansas
Emma Sauer	Sister M. Dominica	Antonino, Kansas
Albina Billinger		St. Peter, Kansas
Regina Romme		St. Peter, Kansas
Germaine Sauer		Antonino, Kansas
Regina Brungardt		Victoria, Kansas