

LETTER K 1

Number 21, April 22, 1930

¹Dear Children, so far separated from us. First of all I wish you good health and God's blessing on body and soul. Yes, may our dear Heavenly Father give you, dear Johannes², that you may continue to be head of your household, even if you're not able to work as hard anymore and need to take it easy. As the children grow and mature, it is the good advice from their father that is indispensable. Especially in a strange land, it may just be that the children need to listen to reason. I am sorrowful, dear Lieschen, to read that you still need to remain in bed. If everything would just turn out well. Yes, God is in charge and leads all things well. Now, dear Renate³, on Good Friday⁴ after church, I went to mother's graveside, going with Franz Mathies and then visited Aunt Horn⁵ in the afternoon.

On Easter Sunday morning, I was at the graveside with Anna Mathies and Otto Toews and went from there to church. Heinrich Schmidt was the speaker. On Good Friday it was Arthur Toews⁶, doing it quite well. In the afternoon I went to the children in Johann Schmidt's⁷ little house, while Tina⁸ and her girls wanted to go to Wilhelm Philippsen's. Helene⁹ & Gerhard¹⁰, the boys and Mariechen¹¹ and I went to visit Jacob Esau¹² and both his daughters¹³, who live in Cornelius Neumann's¹⁴ living room. Johan Esau's¹⁵ wife¹⁶ was also there, who with her husband having been banished to Siberia, now receives 1 Rubel 30 Kopeken per month and is obligated to buy state-bonds^{17 18} -- that's true. Abraham Froese¹⁹ from Koeppenthal, sole-owner of a consumer business,

¹ Willi Frese. This letter is written by Peter Mathies (1851-1934) (GRANDMA #109037) to his daughter, Renate Mathies (1885-1963) (GRANDMA #168775) and her husband, Johannes Dyck (1885-1948) (GRANDMA #168774)

²Willi Frese. Peter Mathies (1851-1934) (GRANDMA #109037)

³Willi Frese. Renate Mathies (1885-1963) (GRANDMA #168775)

⁴Elena Klassen – Karfreitag = Good Friday

⁵Alex Wiens. Anna Horn, born Wall (1842-1930) (GRANDMA #1467943)

⁶Alex Wiens. Posibley Artur Töws (1900-1937) (GRANDMA #132298)

⁷Alex Wiens. Johann Schmidt (1886-1937) (GRANDMA #415633)

⁸Willi Frese. Katharina Mathies (1883-1953) (GRANDMA #1196403)

⁹Willi Frese. Helene Mathies (1897-1931) (GRANDMA #347043)

¹⁰Willi Frese. Gerhard Esau (1897-1931) (GRANDMA #347042)

¹¹Willi Frese. Maria Mathies (1909-1993) (GRANDMA #1196425)

¹²Alex Wiens. Jakob Esau (1857-1932) (GRANDMA #346669)

¹³Alex Wiens. Renate Esau (1882-1938) (GRANDMA #346680) and Maria Esau (1889-1935) (GRANDMA #346682)

¹⁴Alex Wiens. Probably Kornelius Neumann (ca. 1881-????), keine GM. Nr. 118 under:

<https://amtrakt.de/bewohner-von-hohendorf-1921-22/>

¹⁵Alex Wiens. Johannes Esau (1881-1938) (GRANDMA #346670)

¹⁶Alex Wiens. Maria, born Unger (1886-ca. 1937) (GRANDMA #346671)

¹⁷ Elena Klassen – Wertpapiere

¹⁸ Willi Risto. Облигации (Russisch): It was mandatory to buy bonds worth 10-20% of one's wages or income from one's business, that would most likely not be redeemable. That was basically a loss.

¹⁹Alex Wiens. Abraham Fröse (1865-1931) (GRANDMA #4904 und #1408782)

receives 70 Rubel per month, that's more like it. Next week our Tina²⁰ wants to go see Heinrich²¹, but he's not well as he just had Typhoid Fever, while Gerhard Fieguth also had it and subsequently died and was buried without a coffin. Tina can travel via Steam-ship. I'm wondering whether Mrs. Johann Neufeld²³ will also go; I suspect not. Will Tina be able to travel alone? On the second day of Easter I stayed at home in the forenoon, while Fr(anz) Matties, Otto Toews, Tina and Marichen went to church and again stopped at the grave-side. In my thoughts, as I sat there, I could see our buildings on the day our children came to see us: Mama on Deck, now in the grave, Heinrich²⁴ in Siberien, Dycks²⁵ in America, while we others need to hang around here, short on food²⁶, short on clothing, while having been robbed of everything. As I've already said, I'll be satisfied with Black-bread, a small house, but my own possessions in the closet.

Letter K 2

At best. I'm well taken care of and have a good place to live, yet something is missing: the dear faithful wife²⁷ cattle in the stall where I so loved to be. Well, that's past and will not return. Yesterday, the second holiday of Easter, we were at Gerh(ard) Wallen: Tina²⁸ and her girls, Helene²⁹, Gerhard's³⁰ boys, Mariechen and I. Their foster children, who are in the collective, also came. They are at Ja(kob) Esau;s in the summer-room in which Helene was, without our bedsteads, tables, chairs, clothing, food, etc.. It's no trick when I take something from one and giving it to another as they do. Yesterday nephew Gerh(ard) Wall was in our establishment, looking everything over. The Romanof from Besemenn³¹ has dragged everything away, so that all that's left is the forge, barn, granary, and knee high manure. Word has it that this summer the buildings will be torn down; to what extent, I do not know, if only the residence or everything.

These are difficult times in which to fight for a break-through. Joh 44:10, Psalm 103:8,9-13

The papers report much about seeding-time, to go all out for seeding. In spite of that, 48 young men were required to serve 5 years each. They had to go to Seelmann from which they were brought to Kosakenstadt, which took about one week. Horses as well

²⁰Willi Frese. Katharina Mathies (1883-1953) (GRANDMA #1196403)

²¹Willi Frese. Heinrich Isaak (1877-1934) (GRANDMA #1196412)

²¹Willi Frese. Eventually Gerhard Fieguth (1867-1930) (GRANDMA #19142)

²³Alex Wiens. Probably Maria Neufeld, geb. Andres (1889-????) (GRANDMA #1254717)

²⁴Willi Frese. Heinrich Isaak (1877-1934) (GRANDMA #1196412)

²⁵Willi Frese. Familie Johannes Dyck (1885-1948) (GRANDMA #168774) in Canada

²⁶Willi Frese. food

²⁷Willi Frese. Anna Wall (1864-1929) (GRANDMA #109036)

²⁸Willi Frese. Katharina Mathies (1883-1953) (GRANDMA #1196403)

²⁹Willi Frese. Helene Mathies (1897-1931) (GRANDMA #347043)

³⁰Willi Risto. Gerhard Esau (1897-1931) (GRANDMA #347042)

³¹Willi Risto. Possibly a Russian village: Безыменная. Alex Wiens. It was the next railway-station on the Trakt

Is not enough to make headway ³² as young men were needed. From Hohendorf, Gustav Toews³³, Pastor Jacob Phiiipsen³⁴, Gustav Klaassen³⁵, Peter Neumann, Wladimir Janzen, Peter Neumann and Gustav Klaassen. We received your precious letter on April 13th in which you dear Johannes encouraged us to come. Could That actually be?

Johann Siebert's³⁶ wife³⁷, as a consequence, was under arrest³⁸ in Moskau and in Kosakenstadt for four month but is now at home in rehabilitation. She'll be arrested again because of the emigrations. Jacob Franzen sits in prison for the second time, while Elder Julius Siebert³⁹, Dietrich Toews⁴⁰ and teacher Ostenfeld are also imprisoned. Diet(rich) Janzen and his dad have come home, are receiving no food, no bread, need to bring food from home, even if they have no horse or wagon. For us it is serous, that we'd like to take a walking cane and go, if they'd only let us through. The political group⁴¹ has today begun to put up (or stack) mais⁴². Today after seeding the Kollektiv has receive 36 horses from Kosakenstadt. Hopefully for a good payment this fall, as it will take much feed to overwinter them. We don't know how many more they may send. The outlook is bleak, with a strong drying East-Wind there is already much dust in the fields as well as on the roads. Seeding equipment⁴³ is set to seed very sparse on the plowed fields. Must close, as this paper is full and the children also need to write. They were here early this morning! My⁴⁴ hearty greetings and that of the children and other residents, your dear N.N. Farewell.

⁴⁵Aunt Horn⁴⁶ celebrates her 88th birthday on Friday April 25th. Dear children, hearty greetings to all from your grandfather, Farewell.

⁴⁷As the saying goes, you will need to annex your dwelling for the many letters. More at another time; I just had so much on my mind. Have already written two: one to Cornelius Wall and another to Peter Wall in Aliata. They always ask about you dear ⁴³

СевернаяАмерика

Canada, Hawarden, Sask. Box 129, M. Joh. J. DYCK
Received May13, from grandfather Peter Mathies.

³²Willi Risto. It is not enough, since more men and horses are needed to put in the crop

³³Alex Wiens. Gustav Töws (ca.1876-????) (GRANDMA #935142)

³⁴Alex Wiens. Posibly Jakob Philipsen (ca. 1905-????), keine GM. Nr. 110 under: <https://amtrakt.de/bewohner-von-hohendorf-1921-22/>

³⁵Alex Wiens. Posibly Gustav Klaassen (ca. 1904-????), keine GM. Son of Gerhard Klaassen #830085.

³⁶Alex Wiens. Johannes Siebert (1896-1942) (GRANDMA #1157809)

³⁷Alex Wiens. Louise Siebert, born Bergmann (1904-1986) (GRANDMA #1157808)

³⁸Willi Frese. Was married four month

³⁹Alex Wiens. Julius Siebert (1887-1943) (GRANDMA #1015425)

⁴⁰Alex Wiens. Dietrich Töws (1894-1942) (GRANDMA #132241)

⁴¹Elena Klassen – political group

⁴²Elena Klassen – Kukurusa (Mais)

⁴³Willi Risto. Gedrillter. Drille = Sämaschine

⁴⁴Willi Frese. Peter Mathies (1851-1934) (GRANDMA #109037)

⁴⁵Elena Klassen – Seite 1 seitlich= page 1

⁴⁶Alex Wiens. Anna Horn, born Wall (1842-1930) (GRANDMA #1467943)

⁴⁷Elena Klassen – Seite 2 seitlich