

## Letter G 1

English translation: Ruth Dyck Scott, May 2023

Canada Hawarden  
Sask. Box 129  
Mr. Joh. Joh. Dyck  
Received May 30  
From grandpa Peter Matties<sup>1</sup>  
and Anna Isaac<sup>2</sup> (his granddaughter)  
from exile

## Letter G 2

No. 25

<sup>3</sup> If you should receive the letter and you write back, you must include the number, and note when it was received<sup>4</sup>, because it is important.

My dear children Renate and Johannes Dyck and you dear nine grandchildren so far away, I send my greetings to all of you. Yes, we have to live apart like this. I am feeling the pain even stronger now. May our dear heavenly Father grant that this writing finds you all alive and in good health. For a long time already I have longed to write to you dear ones again. I can't pretend there wasn't enough time<sup>5</sup>. I do nothing nowadays, but courage, courage I lack very much. I am sitting at the Medemthaler border, still in Ostenfeld in our Simlinke<sup>6</sup>. We took down our cookhouse in Hohendorf, that stood in the garden, and only cut out the windows, and set it on a hole, (it) is 3 fathoms long, 2 fathoms<sup>7</sup> wide, in the front we have set it up as a kitchen, fireplace is in the other room. Picz<sup>8</sup> and kettle in it for cooking. In front of the Simlinki G. Esau's<sup>9</sup> Motorhaus (engine shed) has been placed. This is such poverty, as I have never yet experienced. I am also totally despondent, as never before in my life. I had hoped to be able to winter in Hohendorf, in Johann Schmidt's<sup>10</sup> cottage. We three families had a small farm<sup>11</sup> up until now. Together we had 3 cows, Gerhard Esau's mare, it was something to occupy (us) with feeding, bringing straw, using all the best for feed, burning the other straw. During the summer at harvest time, I got permission to rake (glean) in the fields, from which the collective<sup>12</sup> had harvested everything. We still had our large Nachrechen<sup>13</sup>, actually got quite a bit of fodder together and so drove home with Gerhard to Johann Schmidt's. The cows ate it very well, and gave

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<sup>1</sup> Willi Frese. Peter Mathies (1851-1934) (GRANDMA #109037)

<sup>2</sup> Willi Frese. Anna Isaak (1906-1937) (GRANDMA #1196413)

<sup>3</sup> Willi Frese. This letter written by Peter Mathies (1851-1934) (GRANDMA #109037) to the family of his daughter Renate Mathies (1885-1963) (GRANDMA #168775) and her husband Johannes Dyck (1885-1948) (GRANDMA #168774) **in the year 1931**

<sup>4</sup> Willi Frese. On which day they have received the letter.

<sup>5</sup> Willi Risto. dass nicht Zeit, darf man nicht vorgeben= you can't say that there is no time to write

<sup>6</sup> Willi Risto. Simlinke. Russisch Землянка Earth House [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dugout\\_\(shelter\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dugout_(shelter))

<sup>7</sup> Willi Risto. 3 Faden lang, 2 Faden breit=5,4 x 3,6 Meter

<sup>8</sup> Willi Risto. Picz=russisch печь, пичь – Oven

<sup>9</sup> Willi Frese. Possibly Gerhard Esau (1886-1933) (GRANDMA #347042)

<sup>10</sup> Alex Wiens. Johann Schmidt (1886-1937), (GRANDMA #415633)

<sup>11</sup> Willi Risto. kleine Bauerei= small farm

<sup>12</sup> Willi Risto. It would appear as if Peter Mathies is not accepted as a Kulak and so not given membership in the Kolchose/Kollektiv and he continues to manage his farm independently, but many stones are put on his path, and these make it impossible for him to succeed in his independent work.

<sup>13</sup> Willi Risto. Nachrechen [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hungerharke\\_\(Landtechnik\)](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hungerharke_(Landtechnik))

pretty much milk with it; every week(we) could still churn butter, I had borrowed the centrifuge from Abraham Philipsen<sup>14</sup>. Our old butter churn, Renate, was made smaller for us by P. Wien's N.[ikolai?], now worked like a new one. In the fall we, I and Gerhard Esau, bought hay for 240 rubles, wanted to make do during the winter, and survive. We had already gathered quite a pile of straw from our own straw, from our former farm, and from Jacob Esau<sup>15</sup>, when suddenly Thiel, that's the name of one of the guys from the Soviet<sup>16</sup>, came to us: by noon tomorrow (we had) to leave Hohendorf and move to Osterfeld. This is quickly said<sup>17</sup>, but not so easy to actually do. I felt as if someone was hitting me over the head with a hammer,

### Letter G 3

because I had always hoped to be allowed to stay there with the cattle, either with daughter Maria<sup>18</sup> or granddaughter Anna<sup>19</sup>, because I am already so old, and granddaughter Käthe<sup>20</sup> was dangerously ill at that very time, Köppenthaler doctor says: appendicitis, but nothing helped. All of you- get out. We are no longer valued here now, any more than dogs on the street. If our dear heavenly Father does not have mercy on us soon, we will all perish miserably here, one before the other, but in the end all of us, all without exception. Now you can imagine yourselves in our situation, 2 days earlier I and Tina<sup>21</sup> had each slaughtered our piglets. Esau had already earlier slaughtered 2 piglets. The meat (smoked meat) is with Johann Schmidt in the cellar, if it is still there? We sit on the Medemthal border, no more horse, the meat in Hohendorf should be in the chimney<sup>22</sup>, who will take care of it? I drove daughters Maria<sup>23</sup> and Cathrine<sup>24</sup> back again to Ostenfeld and fetched a slay of dung<sup>25</sup>. At this time Anna<sup>26</sup> and Käthe<sup>27</sup> left the Kollektiv and Gerhard<sup>28</sup> and Helene<sup>29</sup> left from Heinrich Schmidt's<sup>30</sup>. I loaded my sled full, watered the cows, gave them feed. So, now you can see how you get it all done. Told<sup>31</sup> Heinrich Schmidt to look after it. It was only a few days later when they came and stole our cows, and, as we have heard, they also want to take away our fodder as well, they like that. Hay and Rächsel (revenge) they can't find that in every place. In Ostenfeld we put up our Motorhaus (engine shed), (it's) missing the roof and we covered it all around with old straw, was supposed to be our barn, did not get finished this fall and now nothing can be done without vehicle (something to drive). Here there is no straw nearby, the nearest is Johann P. Bergmann<sup>32</sup> in Orloff, from there the ones who live here get their fire, because the coal stoves and coal

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<sup>14</sup> Alex Wiens. Abraham Philipsen (1887-1962), no GM.

<sup>15</sup> Alex Wiens. Jakob Esau (1857-1932) (GRANDMA #346669)

<sup>16</sup> Ruth Scott. Soviet (in Russian Sovet) here might mean Governing Council, included local governments elected by workers as well as higher councils that those Soviets elected.

<sup>17</sup> Willi Risto. Schwinde=from Low German, fast

<sup>18</sup> Willi Frese. Maria Mathies (1909-1993) (GRANDMA #1196425)

<sup>19</sup> Willi Frese. Anna Isaak (1906-1937) (GRANDMA #1196413)

<sup>20</sup> Willi Frese. Käthe Isaak (1910-1985) (GRANDMA #1196414)

<sup>21</sup> Willi Frese. Katharina Mathies (1883-1953) (GRANDMA #1196403)

<sup>22</sup> Willi Frese. The meat in Hohendorf is supposed to go into the chimney = smoke oven

<sup>23</sup> Willi Frese. Maria Mathies (1909-1993) (GRANDMA #1196425)

<sup>24</sup> Willi Frese. Katharina Mathies (1883-1953) (GRANDMA #1196403)

<sup>25</sup> Willi Risto. Mistholz=very probably dried manure that was used for heating e

<sup>26</sup> Willi Frese. Anna Isaak (1906-1937) (GRANDMA #1196413)

<sup>27</sup> Willi Frese. Käthe Isaak (1910-1985) (GRANDMA #1196414)

<sup>28</sup> Willi Risto. Gerhard Esau (1886-1933) (GRANDMA #347042)

<sup>29</sup> Willi Frese. Helene Mathies (1897-1931) (GRANDMA #347043)

<sup>30</sup> Willi Frese. Heinrich Schmidt (1884-1937) (GRANDMA #415634)

<sup>31</sup> Willi Risto. Trug auf=. Commissioned, told to do

<sup>32</sup> Alex Wiens. Johannes P. Bergmann (1881-1943) (GRANDMA #19372)

are all stolen, Kulaks<sup>33</sup> are not allowed to have such things, and it was the same with our cows. No stable, no fodder there, and if they came to Kutor<sup>34</sup>, they were immediately taken away. Here they took away all the cows from the people, not just the cows, the chickens, pigs, flour, potatoes, beds, clocks, meat, wool, stockings, fur coats,

#### Letter G 4

I can't name it all. You must imagine them like children: what they see, they want to have, and our officials are just like that, they can't get enough. You have to wonder that when some of us had small wall clocks for 3 rubles, they also had to be taken. There is a small fortune in those? But for the family there is a great value in knowing the time of day. We are living here, I cannot describe it all. If I were in your midst my beloved ones, I would be able to tell you a lot about it all. They have raged terribly until now, the (control number) Norm<sup>35</sup> has to be reached, with spikes and sticks, outside during the day and at night living in the (our?) houses, and do not know that they are to blame. The people shall keep their Norm<sup>36</sup>, and yet deliver more than they have harvested in reality. This cannot and will not work; they always issue the bill without the Wirt (owner), and even with their shock brigade, lightning brigade. It's outrageous how they hausen (behave), what people have to put up with, it's terrible, and at night with lanterns, it's as if the devil himself were coming. The people in the house are slumbering in heavy sleep, it is much worse than when a gang of robbers broke into our house, they wanted money, and so did these (guys), and on top of that, they (take) what they can find and then drive the family out of the house, and drive us all out into the wilderness, as if we were harmful to other people. In fact, I can tell you that they have managed to make those who live in the villages, prefer to see us leave the farm, rather than enter it. It is sad, for example, I lived in Hohendorf for 60 years, I think the longest of all, aunt Horn<sup>37</sup> was longer, but she is already dead. This autumn Gustav Schmidt came from Chiva, he is staying in Hohendorf with Gerhard Klaassen<sup>38</sup>, he got papers to vote in Soviet<sup>39</sup>, he is a newcomer here, and I, an old man, for whom time can and must afford a guarantee, - Get out. (Be gone)

#### Letter G 5

We have robbed you of everything you owned, and we no longer have any need for you. Yes, my beloved ones, when I stand still and think of the past, present and future, my breath wants to stop. What will it be like, how will it be? We are at the end of the year, I said to the children, last Christmas I was in prison, I experienced nothing of Christmas, afterwards the bitter blow: Mama<sup>40</sup> is dead! This year in the earthen dugout, banished to Ostenfeld. The children did not miss the opportunity to bake something for Christmas. I already said: who will have the best cakes, hopefully the Americans<sup>41</sup>. Well, ours is very good

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<sup>33</sup> Elena Klassen – in der 30er Jahren wurden sehr viele Menschen in der UDSSR enteignet, verbannt. Viele Begriffe wie Kollektivisierung [Zwangskollektivierung in der Sowjetunion – Wikipedia](#) , Entkulakisierung [Entkulakisierung – Wikipedia](#) , Kulaken [Kulak – Wikipedia](#) erklären nur zum Teil das Leben und die Lage zu der Zeit im Lande.

<sup>34</sup> Elena Klassen – russisches Gehöf - large Russian farm

<sup>35</sup> Willi Risto. Kontrollziffer=probably a number, that had to be reached, and that was what was supposed to be taken from the rich.

<sup>36</sup> Willi Frese. Norm = It was determined which contributions (Grains, Flour, Meat, and so on) the family was obligated to deliver to the Kollektiv at a certain time, regardless whether he could actually fulfill this obligation.

<sup>37</sup> Alex Wiens. Probably Anna des Franz, Witwe Horn nee ??? (ca. 1842-????), no GM. Nr. 58 unter: <https://amtrakt.de/bewohner-von-hohendorf-1921-22/>

<sup>38</sup> Alex Wiens. Gerhard Klaaßen (1878-1938) (GRANDMA #935110)

<sup>39</sup> Willi Risto. bekam Papiere in Sowjet zu wählen. Das heißt, hat Wahlrecht bekommen und damit die Erlaubnis im Dorf zu leben und zu arbeiten

<sup>40</sup> Willi Frese. Anna Wall (1864-1929) (GRANDMA #109036)

<sup>41</sup> Willi Frese. Peter Mathies meint die Familie seiner Tochter Renate in Kanada

for us, (we) have eaten of everything. (I) already said watch out for that Cornelius Fröse, (who) comes on the Kutor<sup>42</sup>, and fetches (confiscates) a few more sacks of cakes. And his companion is Hermann Froese<sup>43</sup>, black Froese's son. Cornelius is a grandson, I think. His mother was Riesen's daughter. Parents dead, is one<sup>44</sup> of the first class. Hermann Isaak<sup>45</sup> Medemthal driven out of business, also Gerhard Franz Wall . Now he wears Isaak's watch and chain and Gerhard Franz Wall's<sup>46</sup> big fur. He looks as if he came from Moscow. Here on the Kutor he has sucked up everything, as already mentioned, (like) the small wall clocks. Our young crew from 18 to 55 years are long gone from here, (they) had to go to Neu Kolonie. In the Volga there are islands with trees - cut down the trees and make them small (this is behind Seelmann). It was said to be for three months, but the time is soon up; now there is no talk of going home, but from there on to Zachhos<sup>47</sup> No. 11, is also in the area and so they make poor slaves out of the Kulaks, who have to work hard for half the amount of food. At Christmas, their relatives sent a carriage / cartload to Seelmann, for those who wanted to come home for the holiday, for the rest (packages) Posilki<sup>48</sup> small items, pastries and laundry, Heinrich Neufeld<sup>49</sup> drove.

## Letter G 6

It is said to have been treason, when Neufeld came to Straub, the lightning brigade seized his vehicle, complete with the furs and posilki and sent him away to Ostrok<sup>50</sup> . The vehicle should now be in Seelmann, has not yet been sent home. The women had put in the greatest effort to bring happiness to their husbands and sons with a little something, they had given their last and so it goes. The crew that is away from here, colonists<sup>51</sup> are also there to work. Our Julius Bergmann<sup>52</sup>, P. P. Bergmann<sup>53</sup>, Joh. P. Bergmann<sup>54</sup>, Julius Wiens<sup>55</sup>, Cornelius Wiens<sup>56</sup>, Henrich P. Isaak<sup>57</sup>, Johann Töws<sup>58</sup>, Johann Esau, Cornelius Bergmann<sup>59</sup>, P. P. Bergmann, Junior<sup>60</sup>, P. Wiens, Gustav Neufeld<sup>61</sup>, Otto Töws, David Wall, Adolf Neufeld, Johann Franzen, Gerhard Esau son-in-law returned, have rheumatism. Now just imagine this, they have

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<sup>42</sup> Willi Risto. Chutor <https://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D0%A5%D1%83%D1%82%D0%BE%D1%80>

<sup>43</sup> Alex Wiens. Hermann Fröse (ca. 1899-????), no GM, Grandson of Tollen Fröse. Hermann's father's name was also Herman (probably der Schwarze – the black one) and Jacob's mother is Helene (surname is unknown or could be Riesen?) At the end of this letter I have a link for memories of Jakob Fröse (1911-1996) – Uncle of Wladimir Fröse. I think that Peter Mathies' description is very spot on for den Langen Fröse (The long Fröse).

<sup>44</sup> Willi Risto. Probably one of the Sowjet bosses.

<sup>45</sup> Alex Wiens. Hermann Isaak (1879-1932), no GM, oldest son of Peter Isaak #173355

<sup>46</sup> Alex Wiens. Gerhard Wall (1856-1936), (GRANDMA #426078)

<sup>47</sup> Willi Risto. Zachhos = Sowchos <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sowchos>

<sup>48</sup> Elena Klassen – Postpaket – mail package

<sup>49</sup> Alex Wiens. Probably Heinrich Neufeld (1905-1932) (GRANDMA #1409612)

<sup>50</sup> Willi Risto. Ostrok=Ostrog, old Russian Prison

<sup>51</sup> Willi Risto. Kolonisten= Germans from other colonies, but not Mennonites.

<sup>52</sup> Alex Wiens. Julius Bergmann (1880-1965), (GRANDMA #1157806)

<sup>53</sup> Alex Wiens. Peter Bergmann (1878-1935), (GRANDMA #1157847)

<sup>54</sup> Alex Wiens. Johannes Bergmann (1881-1942), (GRANDMA #19372)

<sup>55</sup> Alex Wiens. Julius Wiens (1885-1932), (GRANDMA #1253850)

<sup>56</sup> Alex Wiens. probably Cornelius Wiens (1880-1951), (GRANDMA #19134)

<sup>57</sup> Alex Wiens. Heinrich P. Isaak (ca. 1887-1932) (GRANDMA #416036) Number 106 under:

<https://amtrakt.de/karagandaliste/>

<sup>58</sup> Alex Wiens. Probably Johann Töws (1885-1938) (GRANDMA #1146255) Number. 29 under:

<https://amtrakt.de/karagandaliste/>

<sup>59</sup> Alex Wiens. Vermutlich Kornelius Bergmann (1909 1938), no GM. Number. 136 under:

<https://amtrakt.de/karagandaliste/>. Son of Johann Bergmann #991212

<sup>60</sup> Alex Wiens. Peter Bergmann (1910 - ca. 1937), no GM, Son of Peter Bergmann #1157847

<sup>61</sup> Alex Wiens. Gustav Neufeld (1897-1943), (GRANDMA #1146257).

... used cunning again. Mrs. Johannes Neufeld<sup>62</sup> is alone, her husband sent away, one son in Neu Colonie, the other gone? Thiel came: Aron Esau's<sup>63</sup> wife<sup>64</sup> and Mrs. Johannes Neufeld were supposed to have cleared their rooms by the next day, 5 families from Streckerau were coming here, 5 people are already here, the others not yet. They live in the sheds, four families, at some cost to them and they endured a difficult autumn, now (they are) just chase out on a winter day, how can that go well? There is a *must* (demand) behind it. We got notification from Medemthal Soviet, here on the Kutor (to pay for each person) a soul 14 rubles. Bandmessergeld (band knife money) to be paid within 24 hours and in the villages they only pay 7 rubles per soul. We are 136 in all. We have just submitted a document with all signatures that we are not able to raise this money; what will happen, we do not know yet. What good is the land when so and so many families have a skinny horse? The last one cow and pig, also chickens, everything taken away, how should a man actually think about this. 6 families 1 horse. They want to starve us out, this is obvious. If it should not happen, we must confess, our God is for us, who can be against us, he who gave his only begotten son to redeem us poor sinners, should He not provide us bread and the necessary clothing? Here are women who are so full of faith that one has to be in awe,

- and for me there are hours when I have to fight fiercely.  
I want to strive for the life in which I am blessed<sup>65</sup>,  
I want to struggle until I win that  
If they hold me back, I'll run away,  
When I am weary, the Word calls:

## Letter G 7

Continued battle, penetrated  
until we reach the jewel (prize)...

I ask our faithful Savior to grant me this by His grace. Children, it's hard, hard in your (my) old days. When I think back to how our grandmothers, mothers and wives were so worried about feathers: Dad, we have to buy feathers<sup>66</sup> and bedding, we need it. How is it now? We are all lying on old straw sacks. I still have a nice blanket, but the children cover themselves with all kinds of old furs, Kastendecken (blankets from old boxes), and for the bed frame: benches pushed together, boards over it, straw sack on top, so, now done. That bothers me every evening, and the Soviets mesh<sup>67</sup> it. It takes a good nature to accept all this with love, mine is too weak. Letters have come from Germany, from America, they are very sorry for us, but that doesn't help a thing. If the Americans would like to come to an agreement with the Abendländern (Western Europeans), and would actually work at this, it would be a small item for their small breakfast, just a beginning. There are still millions here who are groaning under the oppressive burden, no help, no salvation other than to gently go to ground (die). I had thought my old days (would be) different<sup>68</sup>, man thinks (plans) and God directs, the hand over your mouth and be quiet, that's what Cornelius Wall<sup>69</sup> wrote me. His wife from Aulie<sup>70</sup> - Ata, and the (our?) dear friend has become silent, already rests in the grave, her struggle is over. She became silent here on earth, but we hope that she

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<sup>62</sup> Alex Wiens. Vermutlich Maria Neufeld, nee. Andres (1889-????), (GRANDMA #1254717)

<sup>63</sup> Alex Wiens. Aron Esau (1869-1943), (GRANDMA #1240619)

<sup>64</sup> Alex Wiens. Helene Esau, nee Penner (1874-1937), (GRANDMA #1240619)

<sup>65</sup> Elena Klassen – an old song [LIED: Ich will streben nach dem Leben](#)

<sup>66</sup> Willi Risto. Einschüttung=. Supplying goose feathers for pillows and comforters

<sup>67</sup> Willi Risto. Veraschen = to ruin everything

<sup>68</sup> Elena Klassen – anders vorgestellt = had imagined it to be different

<sup>69</sup> Willi Frese. Cornelius Wall (1860-191939) (GRANDMA #426348)

<sup>70</sup> Willi Frese. Anna Janzen (1863-1934) (GRANDMA #1414967)

will join in the Hallelujah with all perfected souls before God's throne. She wrote to me, on June 28 I received the letter: Oh, God, help me to be still, still as the gold in the torment of fire, still so that you can make me pure, until still your image appears in me, so help me Lord to be still<sup>71</sup>. This dear good friend has achieved it, has become quiet. Her husband Cornelius Wall is also in prison. Also

### Letter G 8

everything was stolen from outside, they have not yet been inside the house. When I've finished your letter, I will write to Cornelius Peter Wall, and then (I'll) send it to him in Saratov when there is a possibility. It is very difficult from here, one does not know who is going (there). In the past, it was announced in church on New Year's Day who had died where, but not anymore. Aunt Horn<sup>72</sup> fell ill on 5 November, died on 12 November at the age of 88 years 6 months 18 days. Funeral message Heinrich Schmidt<sup>73</sup>, text John 6 verse 40. Jacob Peter Reimer died 1 November in Jacob Esau<sup>74</sup> business, I and Mariechen attended the funeral. Funeral message Heinrich Töws, aged 81 years 7 months 12 days. Berta Figuth<sup>75</sup>, Heinrich Peter Isaak's wife<sup>76</sup> also. Cornelia<sup>77</sup> Horn nee Wall, Elsa Quiring Medemthal, Dietrich Philippsen's wife. He is also dead, also Johann D. Philippsen's daughter Anna; I cannot list by name all who died. Friedrich Horn's<sup>78</sup> wife Cornelia nee Wall is also dead, sad children left behind<sup>79</sup>. And marriages go on and on, one soon does not know what to say in this sorrowful time.

Fast<sup>80</sup> Lindenau married the widow Heinrich Franzen Fresenheim. His son Nikolai<sup>81</sup> (married) Salomon Dyck's<sup>82</sup> daughter (nachgelassen, who had survived). Former teacher Heinrich Johann married Franzen's daughter; the last two couples without bans and marriage ceremony. Gustav Schmidt<sup>83</sup> Chiwa married to Agatha Klaassen<sup>84</sup> Hohendorf, Johann Gustav Töws'<sup>85</sup> daughter Lieschen<sup>86</sup> with Cornelius Wiens<sup>87</sup>, Kutor<sup>88</sup> Wiens' son. Were both presented<sup>89</sup> and married, Schmidt after the service in the church of Heinrich Schmidt on the same Sunday.

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<sup>71</sup> Ruth Scott. She is quoting a poem or song verse.

<sup>72</sup> Alex Wiens. Anna Horn, nee. Franz Wall (ca. 25.04.1842 - 12.11.1930) (GRANDMA #1467943), Date of birth calculated according to the age. Widow Heinrich Horn Also look at Letter 107 Hermann Bartsch. S.077 on right.

<sup>73</sup> Willi Frese. Heinrich Schmidt (1884-1937) (GRANDMA #415634)

<sup>74</sup> Alex Wiens. Jakob Esau (1857-1932) (GRANDMA #346669)

<sup>75</sup> Alex Wiens. Bertha Fieguth (ca. 1859- 1930), no GM (oder #19138 ??). Number 65 under: <https://amtrakt.de/bewohner-von-lysanderhoeh-1921-22/>

<sup>76</sup> Alex Wiens. Susanna Isaak, nee Wilh. Warkentin (1891-1930) (GRANDMA #416034)

<sup>77</sup> Alex Wiens. Cornelia Horn, nee Joh. Wall (ca. 1900-1930), no GM. Witwe Friedrich Horn #1196399.

<sup>78</sup> Willi Frese. Friedrich Horn (1894-1941) (GRANDMA #1196399)

<sup>79</sup> Elena Klassen – page 7 on the side of the page

<sup>80</sup> Alex Wiens. Johannes Fast (ca. 1855-????), no GM. Nr. 1 under: <https://amtrakt.de/bewohner-von-lindenau-1921-22/>

<sup>81</sup> Alex Wiens. Nikolai Fast (ca. 1895-????), no GM. Nr. 3 under: <https://amtrakt.de/bewohner-von-lindenau-1921-22/>

<sup>82</sup> Alex Wiens. Solomon Dyck (ca. 1870-????) (GRANDMA #426083)

<sup>83</sup> Willi Frese. Gustav Schmidt (GRANDMA #830085)

<sup>84</sup> Willi Frese. Agatha Klaassen (GRANDMA #830084)

<sup>85</sup> Willi Frese. Johann Töws (1879-?) (GRANDMA #892208)

<sup>86</sup> Willi Frese. Elisabeth Toews (1910-?) (GRANDMA #891957)

<sup>87</sup> Willi Frese. Cornelius Wiens (1907-1933) (GRANDMA #1254579)

<sup>88</sup> Elena Klassen – Nickname, probably from the Chutor (Russian) Farm

<sup>89</sup> Willi Risto. Aufgeboten= officially presented to the congregation

Wiens 2 o'clock in the afternoon by Jacob Penner.

Cornelius Siebert<sup>90</sup> widower married Jacob Froesen's<sup>91</sup> daughter Käthe<sup>92</sup>.

Cornelius Dau died, his son Peter has his bride here at the engagement place, (she is) Cornelius Engbrecht's daughter.

Deceased Peter Nikolai Wall's son Peter will marry his cousin, Cornelius Froese's daughter, is still very young! And so many are being born, that world extinction doesn't seem imminent<sup>93</sup>. The last handfuls of grain are being taken from the farmers, no corn, nothing to feed pigs and chickens with, nothing remains here; and they are starting a large costly pig breeding operation, so for example in Johannes Neufeld's barn they put in a hall and floor. Orloff also, in the barn Hocks zu zwei Stück<sup>94</sup>, the same at our farm.

Letter G 9

Jacob Franzen, Gustav Töws, made lots of pens, a lot of wood was already brought there. And ours was all meshed<sup>95</sup>; the Plodke<sup>96</sup> pay for each Hocke 10 rubles. And then how many workers in addition to that and not many fewer overseers, everything is too expensive. Earlier there was enough meat on the market and cheap and now nothing, nothing. We farmers fed our pigs ourselves, cheap and yet good, even if the trough<sup>97</sup> was not washed. They wash all the troughs diligently, every morning they throw in straw and throw it out in the evening. They are ruining all the Strohhaufen (straw piles); (they) are and remain much too stupid, for all their knowledge. For example, what is the purpose of banishing us here to lie on the bear's skin<sup>98</sup>? Couldn't we rather work (farm) in the village, (this) would make more sense than how it is now, and create something useful for the whole empire? Jacob D. Froese often works with the Soviet. He has lent us a workbench and harness<sup>99</sup>, has made many windows, has also adjusted our front windows and installed them; Abraham Johann Bergmann<sup>100</sup> has cut glass and also cobbles. I was delighted with your letter of October 17 on November 15, and also the postcard, thank you very much. I wish you all a Happy New Year and God's bountiful blessings. You are still fresh (new) beginners there and you are still very much in need of blessings. In spite of all the misery and despair that we have here, marriages continue, almost every Sunday a few brides and grooms come to the pulpit and after the service is the wedding.

<sup>101</sup>e.g. Peter N. Wall, s son Peter with his cousin Maria Froese Medemthal, Peter still very young.

Fast Lindenau with widow Heinrich Franzen Fresenheim,

his son Nikolaj with deceased Sal. Dyck's daughter, teacher Hein with Johann Franzen's daughter, both couples without marriage ceremony,

Gustav Schmidt Chiwa with Agatha Klaassen Hohendorf married in church,

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<sup>90</sup> Willi Frese. Cornelius Siebert (1884-1938) (GRANDMA #1253844)

<sup>91</sup> Willi Frese. Jakob Fröse (1870-1931) (GRANDMA #464093)

<sup>92</sup> Willi Frese. Katharina Fröse (1900-1943) (GRANDMA #1253843)

<sup>93</sup> Willi Risto. It doesn't look like the world's population won't die out.

<sup>94</sup> Ruth Scott. Hocks = Hock is low-German for a pigpen. Possibly 2 pigs in each pen? This is unclear to me.

<sup>95</sup> Willi Risto. vermascht=. Wasted, poorly made, broken up.

<sup>96</sup> Willi Risto. Plodke=плотники, Zimmermänner = carpenters

<sup>97</sup> Elena Klassen – a long vessel to hold animal fodder

<sup>98</sup> Willi Risto. auf der Bärenhaut zu liegen= to be lazy, do nothing, to spend time just being idle

<sup>99</sup> Willi Risto. Geschirr=Werkzeug = tools

<sup>100</sup> Alex Wiens. Abraham Joh. Bergmann (1873-1932) (GRANDMA #1254603)

<sup>101</sup> Elena Klassen. This is a repeat with supplements.

Peter Dau with Catrina Engbrecht, daughter of Cornelius Engbrecht, also here (not completed word ver...) marriage in the church,  
Cor(nelius) Wiens, Kuter Wiens' son Cornelius with Lieschen Töws Hohendorf, marriage in the church,  
Widower Cor(nelius) Siebert with Ja(cob) Froese his daughter Käthe Lysanderhöh, wedding in the church,

Widow<sup>102</sup> Dyck's (Kroljer) son Johannes<sup>103</sup> with Kuter Wiens' daughter Helene<sup>104</sup>, marriage in church,

Preacher Johann Töws<sup>105</sup> son Johannes<sup>106</sup> with Abraham Peter Bergmann's<sup>107</sup> daughter Käthe<sup>108</sup>, marriage in the church,

deceased Salomon Dyck's<sup>109</sup> son Robert<sup>110</sup> with Schwabauer's daughter. Whether I got them all or not, I do not know<sup>111</sup>. Announcement from the pulpit: born 32 boys, 32 girls, baptized 47, married 14 couples, died 4 wives, 2 husbands, 1 old husband, 1 old wife, 1 single old man 1. Will close, (sending) warmest greetings from me<sup>112</sup>, daughter Maria<sup>113</sup>, daughter Catharina<sup>114</sup> and her girls<sup>115</sup>, Gerhard Esau<sup>116</sup> and daughter Helene<sup>117</sup>. Remain your faithful, loving father. Farewell Ade Ade, please answer this soon.

Page 8 on the side - Franz Epp<sup>118</sup> Orloff's wife Peter Fröse's daughter<sup>119</sup> died, buried Sunday, was 24 years old. Couple of wedding days (were) later made known<sup>120</sup>.

- on the 9 January 1931 (I) received a letter from Heinrich Wall Beiershorst Germany, interesting<sup>121</sup>

-received the letter from you with the postcard for my birthday the 20 January, best thanks for it<sup>122</sup>

[From Alex Wiens (this does not belong to the letter)]

to the son of (Black?) Fröse in: <https://amtrakt.de/история-моей-жизни-и-жизни-ближних-пре/> Jakob Fröse (1911-1998) writes something about Hermann Fröse in the chapter:

**Ближние предки и родственники.]**

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<sup>102</sup> Willi Frese. Maria Wall. (1886-1974) (GRANDMA #861313)

<sup>103</sup> Willi Frese. Johannes Dyck (1909-1992) (GRANDMA #1462370)

<sup>104</sup> Willi Frese. Helene Wiens (1913-1945) (GRANDMA #1462375)

<sup>105</sup> Alex Wiens. Johannes Töws (1869-1937) (GRANDMA #1014885)

<sup>106</sup> Alex Wiens. Johannes Töws (1893-1936) (GRANDMA #1157813)

<sup>107</sup> Alex Wiens. Abraham P. Bergmann (1877-1961) (GRANDMA #1157799)

<sup>108</sup> Alex Wiens. Käthe Bergmann (1906-1990) (GRANDMA #1157815)

<sup>109</sup> Alex Wiens. Salomon Dyck (ca. 1870-????) (GRANDMA #426083)

<sup>110</sup> Alex Wiens. Robert Dyck (ca. 1907-????), no GM. Nr. 40 under: <https://amtrakt.de/bewohner-von-lindenau-1921-22/>

<sup>111</sup> Elena Klassen – he is not sure if he has written all of them. The letter writer repeats himself here with some additions on page 8

<sup>112</sup> Willi Frese. Peter Mathies (1851-1934) (GRANDMA #109037)

<sup>113</sup> Willi Frese. Maria Mathies (1909-1993) (GRANDMA #1196425)

<sup>114</sup> Willi Frese. Katharina Mathies (1883-1953) (GRANDMA #1196403)

<sup>115</sup> Willi Frese. Anna Isaak (1906-1937) (GRANDMA #1196413), Käthe Isaak (1910-1985) (GRANDMA #1196414)

<sup>116</sup> Willi Frese. Gerhard Esau (1897-1931) (GRANDMA #347042)

<sup>117</sup> Willi Frese. Helene Mathies (1897-1931) (GRANDMA #347043)

<sup>118</sup> Alex Wiens. Franz Epp (1902-1943) (GRANDMA #1157827)

<sup>119</sup> Alex Wiens. Katharina Fröse (1906-1931) (GRANDMA #1157828)

<sup>120</sup> Elena Klassen – Page 8 on the side

<sup>121</sup> Elena Klassen - Page 1 on the side

<sup>122</sup> Elena Klassen – Page 3 on the side



