

Letter Q 1

В северную Америку
Канада

Translated July 15, 2023 by Ruth Scott

Nr. 29

Mr. Johannes Dyck
Hawaroserd Box 129
Saskatchewan
Canada

Received 29. February (*Ruth Scott: likely 1932 – see footnote pg 6*)

Letter Q 2

Number 29e

¹Dear children, Renate and Johannes Dyck and you my nine dear grandchildren! Today I wish you all good health and much happiness and blessing in this new year. You surely need this at your beginning in a foreign country, because you have renewed courage and can hope through God's gracious help to make some progress again, if better years arrive than the previous one and we want to hope that. As you dear John write, that money is scarce for you farmers, I can well understand that. Bad harvest and in addition such low prices. Where is the money supposed to come from. But what is so nice, you have your own home, your own bread, flour, meat and so on and many other things, horses, cows and young cattle, which I always had great ploszier². And also you can live in peace and quiet and the family is together. The two girls, Anna³ and Irma⁴, are not always at home. But they can say, we are going home. And I (we), are three people, Peter⁵ in Chiwa. Longs to be with us again. And the three girls⁶ are also on duty all week. Heinrich⁷ often goes to the city. So I am alone at home with Tina⁸. It is a lonely life. We recently received two letters from Peter. He writes that we should advise him, but how? Or what? Coming here, is also like that. Where to get a suitable position? He has bad papers⁹ and to get new ones, I do not know where. We, me and Maria¹⁰, will go there again in summer. It's the same, how are we going to live there? Maria will not earn enough there with Peter, to

¹ Willi Frese. Peter Mathies (1851-1934) (GRANDMA #109037) wrote this letter to the family of his daughter Renate Mathies (1885-1963) (GRANDMA #168775) and her husband Johannes Dyck (1885-1948) (GRANDMA #168774). The letter was presumably written January 1932. The wedding day (Info from this letter) was on January 26, 1882. Based on this information the letter was presumably written in January 1932.

² Willi Risto. Ploszier=Pläsier – pleasure, enjoyment

³ Willi Frese. Anna Dyck (1911-1966) (GRANDMA #440877)

⁴ Willi Frese. Irma Dyck (1912-2003) (GRANDMA #444298)

⁵ Willi Frese. Peter Mathies (1902-1943) (GRANDMA #1196411)

⁶ Willi Frese. Maria Mathies (1909-1993) (GRANDMA #1196425), Anna Isaak (1906-1937) (GRANDMA #1196413), Käthe Isaak (1910-1985) (GRANDMA #1196414)

⁷ Willi Frese. Heinrich Isaak (1877-1934) (GRANDMA #1196412)

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

⁹ Willi Frese. Personal identification documents

¹⁰ Willi Frese. Maria Mathies (1909-1993) (GRANDMA #1196425)

feed me, an old man. So many have gone there, so that the earnings will be slight. And I still need quite a lot¹¹, still have a good appetite. Sometimes I do not know how that can be, I am already 81 years old, I do not work at all. I'm sure others didn't think, and I myself did not think, that in my lifetime I could still become as lazy a person as I am now. But all courage is gone, (when I think) of all that is past. I miss a stable with cattle in it, like we still had in Hohendorf. February 3 received 2 letters from Peter, he is healthy. It is warm there,

Letter Q 3

(R. Scott: something missing. Perhaps: When we ...)

in Joh. Schmidt cottage lived, each of us had bought a cow. Gerhard's¹² Bleßstute (some kind of mare) Trubchen, Höhner (could be Hühner= chickens) everything was only in small (amounts?), but you could still keep yourself busy with it. And here one is locked up as in a cloister. If it is cold in the Stübchen¹³, I lie down on the Pritze (big stove) and warm myself. In January the weather was really bearable, almost every day some snowfall. But with the frost, it is quite bearable, so some days we did not fire¹⁴ the big stove. But this February makes up for what January missed. The Russians say it has already been 40 degrees [Celsius] and I am always in the room, between four walls. That's why I can't report much to you dear ones. Only as Anna Albrecht writes from America to her cousin, the Markegeld¹⁵ seems a pity to me, but basically enough, are healthy and a few more trifles. In the previous letter I wrote to you dear ones that our three girls are working (as servants) in the city. All three on one Hof (farm). And yet each in a different place. Anna¹⁶ with a German, house madam, head of house is Russian. Mariechen¹⁷ at two jobs, both Russians. At one job she gets 30 rubles, at the other 15 rubles a month, has to cook and bake, but also go to Stolowe¹⁸ three times a day, must also fetch food. Anna has to cook and bake much more. They get little from Stolowe (canteen). She has to work a lot¹⁹ and gets 35 rubles a month. Käthe²⁰ is allowed to cook and bake less, also goes to the Stolowe to fetch food, feed the pigs, but has more free time than the first two. When they get up, they can get up late, but then they have to be up all day and half the night on their feet, so that there is not enough time to write letters. Käthe also gets 35 rubles a month. But the house madam is, as they say, a wicked seven, but Käthe has time for writing, unlike the other 2 girls. The building where they are located used to be a nunnery. I already wrote in the previous letter that every Saturday, the girls come home in the evening, with cheerful courage, at 7 ¼ o'clock. Heinrich²¹ goes to the city in the morning and comes home with them in the evening. And so it was also on the 23rd of January. I and Tine were already waiting for them, when Tine²² finally heard something. They are coming, said

Letter Q 4

¹¹ Willi Frese. still need quite a lot of = of food

¹² Willi Risto. Gerhard Esau (1897-1931) (GRANDMA #347042)

¹³ Willi Frese. Small room

¹⁴ Willi Frese. Fire = heat, did not heat / not used

¹⁵ Willi Risto. Markegeld=Porto = the postage

¹⁶ Willi Frese. Anna Isaak (1906-1937) (GRANDMA #1196413)

¹⁷ Willi Risto. Maria Mathies (1909-1993) (GRANDMA #1196425)

¹⁸ Willi Frese. Stolowe= столовая (Russisch) = a canteen, commissary

¹⁹ Willi Frese. Schafen=Arbeiten = work

²⁰ Willi Frese. Käthe Isaak (1910-1985) (GRANDMA #1196414)

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

²² Willi Frese. Katharina Mathies (1883-1953) (GRANDMA #1196403)

(they) had such a loud conversation, they arrived and the first, who entered the room, said, [she, we] have a guest with us. And by the time they were all in the room, the guest was also inside. Namely Cornelius Peter Wiens²³ (cheese maker). Where did they come from? This is something very unusual here, unlike earlier with us in Hohendorf with the neighbors Franz Schmidt and Gerhard Klassen²⁴, they had a lot of traffic, either guests or Spille drive²⁵ or going for a walk. And here there is neither. After they had rested²⁶ a little, Walmiger says, (everyone) had supper. When we were done with that, we started reading letters. Heinrich had brought us two letters and a postcard from the post office. A letter from Mrs. Johann Esau²⁷. Siberia (she has been) there a long time, where Cornelius Wiens was also earlier. Is in a Zachhos²⁸, he has to feed 14 horses. He gets 45 rubles a month. Fetching hay from the railroad is a lot of work, he has to pay for everything, including the harness. Wiens thought that not enough hay was gotten. Have one goat, this is very little, two slaughtered. The other letter from Gustav Toews²⁹, Chiwa to me. He also described some things, including that they had carried two children to the cemetery within one year. He believes that they will have their future there, and that many immigrants will go there. He lives near the church, does not have to go out if he does not want to and that Cornelius Wall³⁰ from Aliata with family also came there. I think that Santa Claus' son is Cornelius Isaak Wall's father-in-law and that he also wanted to drive to Solikamsk, but his wife wanted to go to Chiwa and so he followed her and it is probably better, because his daughter Margarethe still has to go to school. That (school) is better there. He writes that at Christmas (time) they learned there, just as they used to in our school. If they have community Beratungen (consultations or meetings), first a song is sung and a prayer is held and if some nevertheless get warm (hot under the collar), all go apart / leave in peace and quiet. And (he) thinks that a little place (position?) still seems to remain in the Senatstaat (senate state), of that which we experienced and still perhaps must (experience) again. And that they there receive quite a bit - mere premium (award?), 50 meters of cloth for a family. Sugar, tea, kerosene. They are supposed to get another 40 meters of cloth, also again tea, sugar and other things. Also get for their products, butter, sour cream, Glums³¹ goods for these, also for potatoes,

Letter Q 5

if they do not want to take 14 rubles à pud money, then goods (instead). The people have had damage with the moths, but what is that compared to all the rest and that his brother Peter Töws³² has gone to the south with his family (to) Nepperstroe³³. How he is doing there, he does not know yet. I will stop quoting from the letter, it would get too long. It is a compassionate letter of sympathy, also mentions our Helene and children in it. It was really quite moving for me, also brought me joy. Included (is) a song, which Töws wrote in prison, I will copy it and send it to you next time, because this time the letter will be too heavy. The 3rd was a postcard from Gerhard Wall's

²³ Willi Frese. Cornelius Wiens (1882-1938) (GRANDMA #1254331)

²⁴ Alex Wiens. Gerhard Klaassen (1878-1938) (GRANDMA #935110)

²⁵ Alex Wiens. Spille fahren oder gehen – to visit someone

²⁶ Willi Risto. abgeruht=ausgeruht = rested

²⁷ Alex Wiens. Maria Esau, geb. Jak. Unger (1886-ca. 1937) (GRANDMA #346671)

²⁸ Willi Risto. Zachhos=Sowchos= a Soviet agricultural business (farm?)

²⁹ Willi Frese. Eventuell Gustav Toews (GRANDMA #935142)

³⁰ Alex Wiens. This could be Kornelius Wall (1883-????) (GRANDMA #1422127) because he could have had school age children. He and his wife Katharina lived with their daughter Elisabeth 1934 in Ak-Metschet. R. Friesn „Mennoniten in Mittelasien“ S. 378.

³¹ Willi Frese. Glums. Possibly from Plattdeutsche (Low German) Gloms=Quark = curd, related to yogurt

³² Willi Frese. Possibly Peter Töws (1887-1949) (GRANDMA #935109)

³³ Willi Risto. Nepperstroe=Dnjeprstoj, Dammbau am Dnjepr bei Saporozhje = a dam built on the Dnjepr (river) by Zaporizhzhia

Helene³⁴. She writes that they are healthy, but do not get letters from us. But I have written to them quite a bit, Mariechen³⁵ already twice.

I do not know how this is possible? I wrote to Gerhard Esau, same address and (it was) received. She writes that her foster daughter Helene Neumann drove with Peter Töws. She has rented herself out well³⁶, gets 65 rubles per month. This already attracts our girls very much. Maria has already written to Peter Töws and asks for Aufschluss³⁷.

There are Mennonites there, would be better in dealings / relationships and spiritual matters. We have to wait for the answer. And that a poszilki arrived to them, which should have been (sent) to us, with sugar, rice and so on. I do not have the card here, Maria is in town, (they) sent it here. If only it would arrive here (safely). So, then we were through with the reading. Now it was time to chat about the letters and then about experiences. Wiens³⁸ is at home all over Russia. He was recently in Am Trakt at home, secretly, also in Ostenfeld, in the sheds and Semljanki, which had been constructed in seven weeks of sour sweat, are already very destroyed on the insides. Planks torn out, bricks taken, windows smashed, down from our roof tiles. Says that it looks wild there. Well, they understand masterfully (how to do that). And that old Peter Bergmann³⁹, who lived in P. Froesen⁴⁰ Orlof farm, now lives in Hohendorf, in Johann Töws⁴¹ (house)

Letter Q 6

and his daughter Helene⁴² has to stay in Walujewka and (stay with) Bergmann. Johannes Töws⁴³, who is married to Abram Bergmanns daughter⁴⁴, works in the cheese dairy which at his place at Töws Wirtschaft (farm) and Johann Dietrich Töws⁴⁵ Lysanderhöh lives in Jakob Janzen⁴⁶ Wirtschaft (farm) Lysanderhöh. Aunt Anna Franzen out of her cottage and (now) lives in the Lysanderhöh blacksmith / forge house. Johann Franz Wall also expelled by the Ebenfelder, he actually went voluntarily. (He) is with his son Jakob and daughter-in-law with Hein. Riesen with the children. And Heinrich's mama still in Seelmann. Bernhard Wall⁴⁷ lives in the church house. The one side in Lysanderhöh from your farm, to Hermann Neufeld⁴⁸ is empty, there they want to erect the big Babel. The evening was over so quickly, we would like to go to sleep, it was already late. We don't have much kerosene either. Publicly we cannot get any, Heinrich⁴⁹ still manages (so sachte bei) to still get such things. I already said, that would be the worst for us. Then we (would) get up in the morning when it's daylight and go to sleep when it's dark. If only there is still bread. Of course, without light it is not nice, in the morning it ging's wieder aus (it started up

³⁴ Willi Frese. Possibly Helene (GRANDMA #109023), a foster daughter of Gerhard Wall (1856-1936) (GRANDMA #426078)

³⁵ Willi Frese. Maria Mathies (1909-1993) (GRANDMA #1196425)

³⁶ Willi Frese. Found a job

³⁷ Willi Risto. Aufschluss=ausführliche Erklärung? = explicit instructions

³⁸ Willi Frese. Possibly Cornelius Wiens (1882-1938) (GRANDMA #1254331)

³⁹ Alex Wiens. Peter Bergmann (1850-1934) (GRANDMA #19137)

⁴⁰ Alex Wiens. Peter Fröse (1873-1916) (GRANDMA #1157786)

⁴¹ Willi Frese. Possibly Johann Töws (GRANDMA #892208)

⁴² Willi Risto. Possibly Helene Bergmann (GRANDMA #1407981)

⁴³ Alex Wiens. Johannes Töws (1893-1938) (GRANDMA #1157813). He had worked in a dairy facility.

⁴⁴ Alex Wiens. Käthe Töws, geb. Bergmann (1906-1990) (GRANDMA #1157815)

⁴⁵ Alex Wiens. Johannes D. Töws (1857-1937) (GRANDMA #1146237 und #1254665)

⁴⁶ Alex Wiens. Presumably Jakob Janzen (1853-????) (GRANDMA #387911)

⁴⁷ Alex Wiens. Bernhard Wall (1891-1980) (GRANDMA #109245)

⁴⁸ Alex Wiens. Hermann Neufeld (1857-????) (GRANDMA #792560)

⁴⁹ Willi Frese. Heinrich Isaak (1877-1934) (GRANDMA #1196412)

again). Visited, ate breakfast and further visiting/ chatting, was also still (all were still there) at noon. After noon we went to the town with Heinrich for Johannes Neufeld to receive his things. Wiens wanted to drive Neufeld wild, had his long beard cut off and they left on Tuesday. But that was so, so was some staying (delay?), because Neufeld's papers (were) not quite right, but it worked (succeeded) and hopefully he is now with his own (family), who live 15 versts (distance) from Petersburg. Wiens' son Peter⁵⁰ is a clerk in the city, receives 125 rubles per month, and his daughter Helene⁵¹ also works as a servant in the city, receives 25 rubles per month. The trip on their tramwaj⁵² and railroad costs 44 kopeks each time.

Wiens also told about Kazakhstan, it is hair-raising, how the people there are tormented and have such bad apartments, mornings so cold inside that they see their breath⁵³. When they lie down in bed in the evening, the few things still left to them have to be put down in the dust, you can imagine. I asked about the horses, wagons, plows and harrows that were sent along from Ostenfeld, whether our (folk) had them. No, were given to Sachhos⁵⁴. When Wiens has brought Johannes Neufeld safely there, he wants to go to Kazakhstan and make his sister⁵⁵ who lives there wild (tease her) and then also go again to Am Trakt. Mariechen Hohendorf like those 30 and 40 years ago, but my love for you keeps me going again.

Letter Q 7

(something missing?)

received a letter from Jakob Schmidt's Katharine. She writes that it seems as if they want to (are going to) take the last cow from them. And that going to church is not possible, because of the skinny horses. And that in the church is no service, do not have fire⁵⁶. They hold the service in the old women's room. And preachers (remaining) are only Cornelius Nickel⁵⁷, Johann Töws⁵⁸ and Peter Johann Wall⁵⁹ (from Medemtal preached over the holidays with them, is also good (this also works). Closer my God to thee and not further and further apart in this time of oppression. Heinrich Schmidt⁶⁰ no longer preaches. We received two letters from our Peter⁶¹ within a short period of time. He is healthy and celebrated a better Christmas than we did here. The church service is cancelled and, on top of that, Katharine⁶² with her girls and my Maria⁶³ had not packed a sermon book. I have already written to our (folk), they will send it and takes a long time. We have enough hymn books. (We) Sing every Sunday. Then I read some chapters from the Bible, it is, (Ruth Scott: his thought not completed here) but we are missing something, a sermon book would be necessary. Peter writes that his landlord bought a horse in the previous summer for 700 rubles and now sold (it) for 200 rubles, (they) are now cheaper. Their neighbor sold one now for 1000 rubles. And for their three-year-old are offered 1000 rubles. (Peter) Has again bought some potatoes from here and there, like last year à Pud for 15 rubles to (for?) us to come together, just too bad

⁵⁰ Alex Wiens. Peter Wiens (1911-2003) (GRANDMA #1254561)

⁵¹ Alex Wiens. Helene Wiens (1913-2003) (GRANDMA #1254719)

⁵² Willi Frese. Tramwaj. Трамвай= Straßenbahn = streetcar

⁵³ Willi Frese. It is so cold in the apartment that one can see one's own breath.

⁵⁴ Willi Frese. Sachfos. Probably this refers to Совхоз (Russisch). A large agricultural collective.

<https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sowchos>

⁵⁵ Alex Wiens. Helene Fröse, nee Wiens (1889-1961) (GRANDMA #1253852)

⁵⁶ Willi Frese. The church is closed, because there is no wood for heating

⁵⁷ Alex Wiens. Cornelius Nickel (ca. 1875-????), no GM. Was elected Elder as successor to Peter Wiens around 1926 Nr. 16 unter: <https://amtrakt.de/bewohner-von-fresenheim-1921-22/>

⁵⁸ Alex Wiens. Johannes Töws (1869-1937) (GRANDMA #1014885)

⁵⁹ Alex Wiens. Peter Joh. Wall (1881-1958) (GRANDMA #1396804)

⁶⁰ Willi Frese. Heinrich Schmidt (1884-1937) (GRANDMA #415634)

⁶¹ Willi Frese. Peter Mathies (1902-1943) (GRANDMA #1196411)

⁶² Willi Frese. Katharina Mathies (1883-1953) (GRANDMA #1196403)

⁶³ Willi Frese. Maria Mathies (1909-1993) (GRANDMA #1196425)

papers and from where can (he) still get (good papers)? Wiens promised to get the girls and Heinrich (papers), perhaps also for Peter. I have the right ones in my name, the girls also have (papers) other (names). They are called quite differently in the city and that is suspicious, if one is called and does not think about it. How it will be by summer, we must leave to God, we go there, or he here⁶⁴. Or at a different place, where P. Töws is and Franz Wall is there, I just remembered the beautiful hymn verse: "Entrust your way, and what grieves your heart, to the most faithful care of him who governs heaven! He who gives to the clouds, air and winds their way, course and path, will also find a way where your feet can go." <https://lyricstranslate.com>.⁶⁵ Preferably to the old home and in the old homestead. Heimatslos (to be without a home) that says something, whoever has not yet experienced this, can only thank God for His grace. Dear Maria had brought and given me a pot of honey and Zwieback (rusks) and cakes [small cakes] from the city for my birthday and for my golden wedding anniversary⁶⁶. I think the Zwieback she saved from her Maul⁶⁷, which she got from her house madam for herself to eat and I don't want that (to happen). This birthday we three celebrated in solitude alone. I have to wait until your letter arrives. If only the letter would arrive

Letter Q 8

and on the commemoration day of the golden anniversary (we) also did not have to work at baking, not with collecting the tables and chairs, we three so very all alone. Yes, Mama has been calling from her grave for over two years. My dear wife and I, an old man, have to go on pilgrimaging around here in the foreign country. It's hard! Dear friend Anna Wall⁶⁸ often said to me, (you will) want to celebrate the golden anniversary. I said no, because I married rather late, I'd have to be over eighty years old, it will not happen. But you are younger, it can happen to you. Still during the summer in Ostenfeld several times (people) spoke to me about this and one really believed it possible, so spry we both still were in good form. And how is it now? My beloved is already calling from the grave and he (himself?) is in distant Siberia wandering around in desperate need and misery. This dear good friend had also imagined the twilight of her life differently, but the hardships along the way, the meager food shortened her life. Yes, we were so close to the goal⁶⁹. That's how it is, man thinks and God directs. I want to go back again to our day of commemoration and remembrance. Fifty years ago, I and my dear Anna joined hands in matrimony and grandfather Ohm Cornelius Fröse⁷⁰ married us. Where has the time passed so quickly. This day is granted to only a few married couples. In the 50 years I remember seven couples: Peter Quiring⁷¹ Walujewka, Gustav Töws⁷², Wilhelm Philipsen⁷³. I and Mama were at these three celebrations.

⁶⁴ Willi Frese. It is still not clear, whether his son Peter will move to them or whether he will move to Peter in Chiwa

⁶⁵ Ruth Scott. You can hear the hymn at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4t-9TiBrmkk>

⁶⁶ Willi Frese. The wedding day was 26.01.1882. Based on this information this letter was written in January 1932

⁶⁷ Willi Frese. Maul=Mund = mouth

⁶⁸ Willi Frese. Peter Mathies Frau Anna Wall (1864-1929) (GRANDMA #109036)

⁶⁹ Willi Frese. Close to the goal= almost made it to the Golden Anniversary

⁷⁰ Alex Wiens. **Cornelius Fröse (1817-1885) (GRANDMA #991232). He was the grandfather of Johannes Dyck (1885-1948).**

⁷¹ Alex Wiens. Peter Quiring (1819-????) (GRANDMA #3101569) und Maria, geb nee Siebert (1833-????) (GRANDMA #350384) celebrated in 1902 their Golden Wedding Anniversary. More at: <https://amtrakt.de/peter-quiring-1819/>

⁷² Willi Frese. Possibly Gustav Töws (1840-1924) (GRANDMA #935147) and Entz Margarethe (1845-1928) (GRANDMA #935145)

⁷³ Willi Frese. Presumably Wilhelm Philipsen and Aganetha Isaak, nee Klaassen (1846-1933), (GRANDMA #991220)

Philipsen had no meal with guests, I and Mom went there in the evening to congratulate. We drank a few cups of Prips⁷⁴ and chatted a couple of hours in the family circle.

The following: Jakob Bergmann⁷⁵, Franz Bartsch⁷⁶. He died the autumn, you know. Peter Reimer Orloff, church servant Cornelius Dau⁷⁷, Medemtal. And to eighteen silver anniversaries⁷⁸ I was with Mama. There are more (silver anniversaries): Franz Klassen Hahnsau, Peter Wall, Cornelius Isaak⁷⁹ Köppental, Jakob Unger⁸⁰ Lindenau, Heinrich Isaak⁸¹ Fresenheim, Gustav Töws⁸² junior the children, Heinrich Harns⁸³, Gerhard Wall, Jakob Schmidt, our Franz Wall⁸⁴, Jakob Esau⁸⁵, Wilhelm Philipsen, Heinrich Neumann, Gerhard Klassen⁸⁶ and Johann Bergmann⁸⁷ double⁸⁸ Lysanderhöh, Johann Franz Wall⁸⁹, Johann Peter Wall Orloff, Gerhard Franz Wall, Jakob Wolf Medemtal. And at eighty-six funerals and have stood at so many coffins. I also went to the interment every time. I felt the need of this last escort for the deceased and to look into his grave, where he shall rest, until

Letter Q 9

the joyful resurrection morning. But with Mama⁹⁰, my dear, dear wife, I was not granted to be at her deathbed, casket, not at the grave. I had to languish in prison. I was also not allowed to be with dear Helena⁹¹ and her children. Dear children, such were my thoughts on the day of our Golden Anniversary. And soon, yes soon (I) think, it will be said, old Mathies has died. May our dear, faithful Savior give me, this old sinner, courage, strength and fortitude to endure to the end of my life. And when my clock of life has run out, offer a gentle death and a blessed homecoming. May the faithful Savior grant me this by (his) grace Amen.

Received a postcard dated January 6, 21 from Berlin Hermann Pietz. He writes a Poszilki sent to us about the receipt with the number to return. The sender can be seen in the accompanying papers. The duties for the package, with all expenses paid. In addition to food, various shipments of goods are now allowed.

⁷⁴ Willi Frese. Prips (Plattdeutsch= Low German) barley coffee

⁷⁵ Alex Wiens. Jakob Bergmann (1852-1927) (GRANDMA #1157804) and Anna Isaak (1856-1927) (GRANDMA #173356). The wedding date is not known.

⁷⁶ Willi Frese. Franz Bartsch (1854-1931) (GRANDMA #1377858) and Lisette Wölk (1859-1938) (GRANDMA #1319324)

⁷⁷ Alex Wiens. Cornelius Dau (ca. 1848-????) and Katharina (ca. 1853-????) both without GM. Nr. 188-189 under: <https://amtrakt.de/bewohner-von-medemtal-1921-22/>

⁷⁸ Willi Frese. Silbertagzeit= Silver Wedding Anniversary

⁷⁹ Alex Wiens. Cornelius Isaak (1847-1923) (GRANDMA #173351) and Katharina, nee Neufeld (1864-1939) (GRANDMA #991218). Silver Wedding Anniversary March 22, 1912

⁸⁰ Willi Frese. Possibly Jakob Unger (1858-1916) (GRANDMA #780525)

⁸¹ Alex Wiens. Heinrich Isaak (1877-1934) (GRANDMA #1196412) with Katharina, nee Mathies (1883-1953) (GRANDMA #1196403). Married October 7, 1904, Silver Anniversary 1929

⁸² Alex Wiens. This could be Gustav Töws (ca. 1876-????) (GRANDMA #935142) and Agathe, nee Wall (ca. 1883-????) (GRANDMA #935141) Wedding date is not known (ca.1901 or earlier)

⁸³ Alex Wiens. Heinrich Horn (ca. 1875-????) and Sara Heinr. Isaak (ca. 1875-????) both no GM, married February 25, 1889, Silver Anniversary 1915.

⁸⁴ Willi Frese. Franz Wall (1866-1933) (GRANDMA #109011)

⁸⁵ Alex Wiens. Jakob Esau (1857-1932) (GRANDMA #346669) and Marie Louise, nee Löwens (1860-1921) (GRANDMA #346679) married June 9, 1880.

⁸⁶ Alex Wiens. Gerhard Klaassen (1840-1897) (GRANDMA #1157801)

⁸⁷ Willi Frese. Johann Bergmann (1844-1936) (GRANDMA #991212)

⁸⁸ Alex Wiens. On September 28, 1896 Johann Bergmann and his sister Anna, nee Bergmann had a Silver Wedding Anniversary – he with Emilie, nee Franz Isaak and she with Gerhard Klaassen.

⁸⁹ Willi Frese. Gerhard Wall (1856-1936) (GRANDMA #426078)

⁹⁰ Willi Frese. Anna Wall (1864-1929) (GRANDMA #109036)

⁹¹ Willi Frese. Helene Mathies (1897-1931) (GRANDMA #347043)

For example, clothes, shoes, soap. Your letter of December 26 and 28, January 30 were received with happiness. You write, dear John, that you bought more land, I can understand. Are buildings on it, are there two

pieces of land? The first (time) three, in all now five, that works. I was very happy about your sons, that they are so courageous and even though (they) did not have work. Bravo Johannes⁹² and Peter⁹³, also the girls are so industrious, Anna⁹⁴ even works, it is good, help your parents back to the green place, they have done a lot to you, dear children. You will not remain without reward and you can live there in peace and quiet. If you were here, perhaps in Kazakhstan, a misery and sorrow. And there, a free man, that wants to say something (is important). Wiens told (us) that Hermann Isaak⁹⁵ and Lieschen Epp⁹⁶ the lame one also died. In all with the children already 39 souls went to rest, how many more? Johannes, do you have to buy horses in addition to your land purchase? Are they expensive? Heinrich⁹⁷ often goes to town. He was recently at the cattle market. There was a black mare, of the local breed, quite big, well fed, not old. The Russian had asked 150 rubles. (I) Believed sold for 125 rubles, is cheap. And the cows were only little cows⁹⁸, the udder was hardly visible at the bottom of the belly. For this they demanded 500 to 600 rubles. I do not know how this is, for slaughter? Here they actually also eat horse meat, at Christmas one was with us. I still do not want to, if I do not have to, eat horse meat. Demanded 25 rubles for 35 pounds of horse meat.

Dear children, you will have to look at my letter through your fingers a little bit. My head and my pen do not want (to cooperate well) any more.

⁹² Willi Frese. John Dyck (1913-1988) (GRANDMA #168776)

⁹³ Willi Frese. Peter Dyck (1914-2010) (GRANDMA #414049)

⁹⁴ Willi Frese. Anna Dyck (1911-1966) (GRANDMA #440877)

⁹⁵ Alex Wiens. Hermann P. Isaak (1879-1932 in Karaganda), no GM, son of Peter Isaak #173355.

⁹⁶ Alex Wiens. Elise (1882-1955), wife of Hermann Isaak. This is the date of death in the Karaganda list Nr. 180:

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

⁹⁷ Willi Frese. Heinrich Isaak (1877-1934) (GRANDMA #1196412)

⁹⁸ Willi Risto. Kühchen= kleine Kühe = small cows