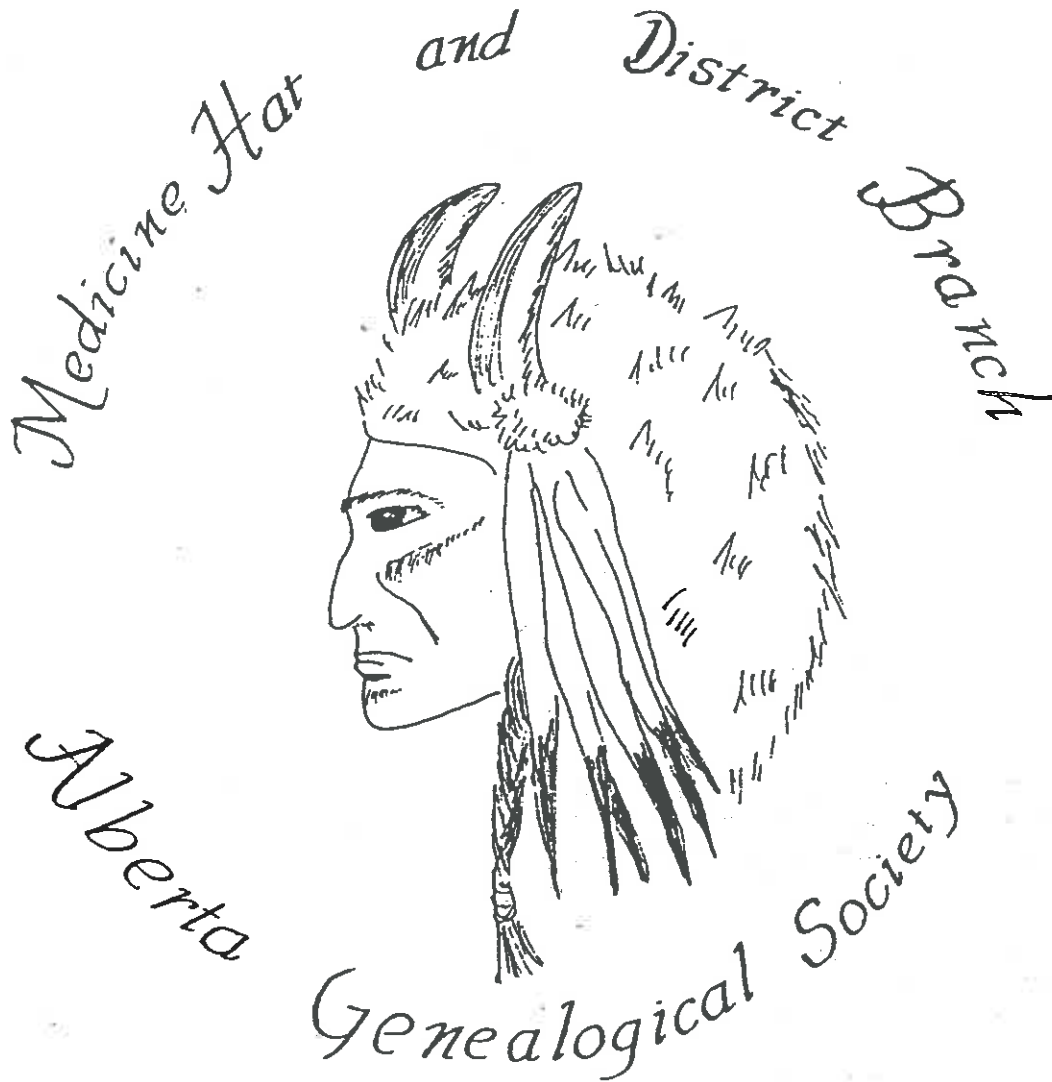


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# SAAMIS SEEKER

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The purpose of the Saamis Seeker is to inform members regarding A.G.S. and Medicine Hat & District Branch affairs, to print material to further member's research and to publish local resources and research.

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Contents

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Abbreviations used in German Genealogy.....    | 1        |
| Post War Letters.....                          | 2-7      |
| Early Pioneers of Redcliff.....                | 7, 8 & 9 |
| Marriages & Deaths Medicine Hat News 1890..... | 10       |

**ABBREVIATIONS USED IN GERMAN GENEALOGY  
SUBMITTED BY  
FERDINAND SCHWAB**

|                |                       |   |
|----------------|-----------------------|---|
| Wwer.....      | (witwer)              | - widower   |
| Ww.....        | (Witwe)               | - widow   |
| ref.....       | (reformiert)          | - Reformed  |
| kath.....      | (katholisch)          | - Catholic  |
| ev.....        | (evangelisch)         | - Evangelical   |
| luth.....      | (lutherisch)          | - Lutheran  |
| menn.....      | (mennonistisch)       | - Mennonite   |
| geb.....       | (geboren)             | - born  |
| get.....       | (getauft)             | - christened  |
| gest.....      | (gestoren)            | - died  |
| verh.....      | (verheriatet)         | - married   |
| gesch.....     | (geschieden)          | - divorced  |
| S.v. ....      | (Sohn von)            | - son of  |
| u.d. ....      | (und der)             | - and of (Son of M. Schmidt and<br>of Jane White)                         |
| d.J.....       | (der Jungere)         | - the younger (junior)  |
| d.A. ....      | (der Altere)          | - the older (elder), senior   |
| T.v. ....      | (tochter von)         | - daughter of   |
| Kr. ....       | (kreis)               | - County  |
| heir.....      | (heiraten)            | - marry   |
| ebd. ....      | (ebenda)              | - at the same place   |
| s .....        | (siehe)               | - see   |
| S.....         | (Seite)               | - page  |
| v.....         | (von)                 | - of (if part of a name, it usually<br>signified nobility)                |
| Bd.....        | (Band)                | - volume  |
| mannl.....     | (Mannlich)            | - male  |
| weibl.....     | (weiblich)            | - female  |
| i.R. ....      | (im Ruhestand)        | - in retirement   |
| a.D. ....      | (ausser Dienst)       | - formerly employed in that<br>capacity (profession) or in retirement     |
| Bez.....       | (Bezirk)              | - district  |
| err.....       | (errechnet)           | - approximated  |
| KB.....        | (Kirchenbuch)         | - parish register   |
| weyl.....      | (weyland)             | - deceased  |
| nachgel.....   | (nachgelassen)        | - the dead left behind  |
| ehel.....      | (ehelich)             | - legitimate  |
| Unehel.....    | (unehelich)           | - illegitimate  |
| N.N. ....      | (Namen nicht bekannt) | - Name not known  |
| Kayserl.....   | (Kayserlich)          | - imperial (imperial troops)<br>(Spelled with an "i" and not a "y" today) |
| freiherrl..... | (freiherrlich)        | - baronial  |

POST WAR LETTERS  
SUBMITTED BY  
FERDINAND SCHWAB

Hellebak  
March 29, 1946

Dear Brother-in-law and Sister-in-law:

We are still in good health and wish the same for you. Wish to notify you that we have received your letter on March 15, and your package on March 27. Dear brother-in-law, you wish to know what we did with our property in Bessarabia. What we couldn't sell we had to leave. There were plenty of buyers but they wanted everything practically as a gift. The furniture, horses, cows, sheep and other livestock we sold. However the machinery, plow, harrows, straw, hay and other inventory was all left behind. We also had to give up all our grain. For this we got a piece of paper. For that we were to get paid in the German Reich. However we didn't receive any money to this day. The best horses were taken by the Rumanian army when the war with Poland started. We were also all conscripted. What happened when the Rumanians left, I can not write you as yet. I believe I hinted more in a letter to Edward but it is to risky now.

The money we had accumulated, we were allowed to take along, but only 2000 Lei per person. The rest of the money we had to give to the Commission. We got a receipt for this. So many Rubels and so many Lei. We were using both Russian Rubels and Rumanian Lei. We were allowed to take two horses and a wagon as far as Galatz. There we had to leave them. We received a receipt for them also. However we haven't been compensated up to now. The money which we had given the Commission, we could draw out in any German bank. However we could only draw out half the amount. The rest we had to leave.

You ask if we had money when we resettled. We had enough money. We has has two pieces of land, 88 (Morgen) acres. Eight acres waste land that was no good for pasture or hay. When we arrived, we took over 3 horses, 7 cows, 2 sheep, 7 pigs, 2 geese, 28 hens, 2 work wagons, 1 single share plow, one potato plow, 1 wooden harrow, 3 scythes, 2 small thresh machines with horse attachments, 1 fanning mill. That was my inheritance. Now I owned 4 horses, 10 cows, 2 calves, 4 sheep, 14 pigs, 5 geese, 40 hens, 3 ducks, 3 turkeys, 3 work wagons, 1 three bottom plow, 1 two bottom plow, 1 single share plow, 2 potato plows, 1 potato (roder)\*. 1 drill, 1 pair light seeding harrows, 1 pair old harrows, 1 pair heavy harrows, all steel harrows. Two (ableg machines)\*, one new and one old machine, 1 grass mower, and one binder. This binder was owned by me and three neighbors, Theodor Werner, Rudolf Briske and Gotthilf Briske. These neighbors were not like in Bessarabia. Each lived on his own farm.

Dear Brother-in-law, I had to give fifty thousand lei to the Commission, besides what money we had on hand. I had receipts for

this amount. However one month before we had to flee, I got a letter from the Settlers Commission. They would re-evaluate it with todays land value, with the Polish crap. I had 50 thousand lei cash money, not including the grain I had delivered. Also not including the corn and sunflower seeds and Soy Beans, that were left in the field.

Yes dear Brother-in-law, for what did I work so long. I send the receipts and notes and other value papers to the Settlers Commission and to this day never received an answer. So my Bessarabian property is like thrown in the ocean. Also that what I brought with me and what I acquired in Poland, I invested in the Polish crap, so that to-day I stand here as a beggar. All I own is on my back, nothing else. The last horses and wagon and the last bit of property we had to leave in the forest and run for our lives. All we kept was a couple of suitcases.

Oh dear Brother-in-law you can not imagine how hard it is when you have nothing at all!

You would like to know about our relief camp. When the German soldiers left, the Danish soldiers replaced them. They guarded the camp with machine guns. They called us out to the yard and then searched our rooms. We thought this was the end. They took our money and our camp stove. The camp was fenced with barbed wire and at the gates they posted guards. No one was allowed to leave. After a while, they asked us where we came from and where we were in 1938. We told them in 1938 we were in Bessarabia. Then they told us to pack. In three days we would be transferred to the International Camp. That's what happened then. In this camp there were all nationalities that can be found in the world. After a while they told us that the different nationalities would be sorted out. The Polish, Latvians, Lithuanians, and all the rest were sorted. We were placed with the Polish people. The they decided to put us in a Bessarabian camp. Here we are with over five hundred people. There are to be more brought in from German camps.

We are Germans but not citizens of Germany. They only recognize as Germans those who were in Germany before 1938. We are classed as foreign Germans because we were Rumanian citizens until 1940. They wanted to send us to Russia but we are refused. Next they wanted to send us to Rumania, again we refused. Then they asked us, "where do you wish to go?" Our idea was to be send to Germany. We still hoped to find the rest of our family there. The hope is still there, but how will it be if we hear they were killed in the war? That would be pitiful.

Oh dear Brother-in-law, it is really hard to live this way. You asked why we get money in camp. That is pocket money. Five Kronen and twenty cigarettes per week. We are getting that from the Danish Red Cross. Yes we are very thankful to the Danish Government and the Danish people.

Yes dear brother-in-law our hope is to be send to Germany, but only to the English or American Camps. We have heard that after April 1, we will be regarded as German citizens. Then we won't be allowed to write any more. Then we will be put behind barb wire and guards, and no more pocket money. Dear Brother-in-law, I wrote to Edward to send me a pipe. You might think I am a BIG man because I asked for a pipe. That is not the case. When you send cigarette papers you have to hide them a bit in the clothing or in the tobacco. Your packages get searched. If they find cigarette papers they tear them in front of our eyes. Cigarette papers are not to be send. Please explain this to Edward. I still have some tobacco but no cigarette papers. If I use other thick paper, I almost cough myself to death. Once more greetings from us all. Hope to hear from you again.

(Following letter from Mathilda Schlenker was inclosed)

Hellibak 18-3-1946

Dear Sister and Brother-in-law:

We are still in good health and wish you the same. We received your letter and thank you very much. Your letter arrived on Feb. 2,. You should send your letters air mail, because otherwise it takes over a month to get here. I will write more next week. This week I don't have enough money.

Dear sister, you wrote that you have send a package. That is appreciated. One thing I want to tell you, it is not necessary. For the present time we have enough clothing and bedding. It is enough to drag around. We are now in the fourth camp and how many more times we have to move we do not know. We hear there is something in the wind. If war breaks out again, God knows we might have to leave what we have again. The best is if you wait until we have our own seat again. Perhaps you can help us then. Perhaps we won't ever need help again. May God protect us from another war then we would be lost. We will never forget this war as long as we live.

Dear Sister, we don't need any clothing for now, I know you would gladly help, but you need yours too. What we need most is stockings and wool and some cotton. Especially little Lilli needs stockings. Sister, some nice wool so I can knit some stockings for the little one. In the next letter I will write you more. Stockings and thread and some elastic for in the pants and stockings. That we can't get here in Denmark. And perhaps a Sunday shirt for Heinrich. For Miela's children each a pair of stockings.

(Another letter inclosed)

Dear Sister and Brother-in-law:

I want to let you know that we received your package this morning. It came on our son's birthday. It was a great joy but also a great heartache for our son. It is our son's birthday and nobody knows where he is. He is 18 years old now.

Dear Sister, everything was in the package that you had written. maria takes the coat. I will make a dress out of it. The black coat doesn't fit Heinrich. It is too small. Lilli asked, "what do I get?" I told her a kerchief. She was very pleased. When the package came she was so excited she got her words all mixed up. We had to laugh.

Dear Sister and Brother-in-law I wrote you that you are not to send any more clothing. You wrote that you already have made up another package. And Nathalia gave a dress for Maria and Albert send 2 pair stockings and a dress. So you can send that yet. Perhaps that will be the last. Lilli is waiting with excitement for her dress. And we are also waiting for the necessities that I wrote you. Stockings and wool and cotton and some elastic for pants and stockings. That we can't buy here. I also wrote to Edward to send a pair of stockings for each and a pair of shoes for Lilli. I hope he sends it. We have no answer from him as yet. He wrote once that he would send a few dollars if it is allowed. There are several people here who have already received dollars. Uncle Arnold's daughter-in-law received ten dollars from a lady friend who used to live in Eichendorf where they come from.

Sister you asked if we are leaving from here soon. We won't leave yet. They are not building new barracks and there are more refugees coming. They are remodelling some barracks but for now you don't have to send any more help. You don't have to worry about us. We can manage now. If we need help in the future I will let you know. We will see what they will do with us in the future. One day we are on the moving list and the next day we are off.

Address:

Heinrich Schlenker D.R.K.  
Fluchtlingslager  
Badehofel Hellibak  
Denmark

\*Potato Roder is something like a rod weeder. It lifts the potatoes out of the dirt after they have been plowed.

\*Ableg machine, is a machine to cut grain. It cuts the grain and lays it on a small platform with tines like a fork. When it is full you step on a lever and it drops off on a pile.

THE EARLY PIONEERS OF REDCLIFF  
1910-1912

Part I

Submitted by  
Betty Padfield

George Abbott, store clerk  
Sadie Alcorn, at home  
Elaine Alcorn, at home  
David Broadfoot, Sr., hotel manager  
Frank Britt, student  
Stanley Britt, student  
Edith Broadfoot, student  
Herb Brooks, carpenter  
Chancey Benjamin Sr., laborer  
Chancey Benjamin Jr., student  
Tinna Benjamin, at home  
Karl Bucholz, book keeper  
Don Barber, Broadway store  
Frances Bucholz, student  
H.W. Brown, physician  
James Burns, real estate  
Joe Bergeron, mill foreman  
Thomas Crooks, dairyman  
Tom Clare, mill worker  
Lute Clare, laborer  
Robert Clare, at home  
Elsie Clare, student  
Clarinda Clare, student  
Willie Clare, student  
Pacific Campeau, butcher  
Wilfred Campeau, at home  
Anna Campeau, at home  
Florence (Toto) Campeau, student  
Fred Cann, cmptr.  
Rhupert Cann, store clerk  
Harold Cann, student  
John Crosier, laborer  
Frank Congram, glass worker  
W.A. Dodge, brick foreman  
Madeline Dodge, student  
Ed. C. Danelz, flour miller  
Adam Dubeau, plasterer  
Davidson family, storekeepers  
George Dunnett, town foreman  
Walter Forecast, brick worker  
Walter Fitzhenry, laborer  
Tom Fitzhenry, laborer  
Chas. Fitzhenry, laborer  
Harvey Fitzhenry, student  
Urtie Gibson, laborer  
Violet Gibson, student



EARLY PIONEERS OF REDCLIFF CONTINUED

Udel Gibson, student  
Wm. Grey, Sr., laborer  
Wm. Grey, Jr., student  
Katie Grey, student  
Rev. Lawson Gordon, Presbyterian Church Minister  
Cecil T. Hall, druggist and Post Master  
T.H. Haywood, brick layer  
Wm. Henderson, Sr., public secretary  
Wm. Henderson, Jr., book keeper  
Viola Henderson, student  
Marion Henderson, student  
Kerwood Henderson, pre-school child  
Eleanor Henderson, pre-school child  
William Henderson, student  
Wm. Hall, brick worker  
R.S. (Dick) Hodge, time keeper  
Robert Hamilton, mine foreman  
Willie Hamilton, student  
Inez Hamilton, student  
Joe Hitchen, mill wright  
Ben Hurlbert, laborer  
Leonard Henderson, pre-school child  
H.A. Ireland, store keeper  
John Jackman, business man  
Henry Jackman, brick worker  
Mamie Jackman, student  
Theodore Kops, plasterer  
Alf Kops, glass worker  
Anna Kops, Post Office Clerk  
Florence Kops, student  
Lorina Kops, student  
Louise Kops, student  
Viola Kops, student  
John Kitchen, town employee  
Isaac Kitchen, laborer  
Johnnie Kitchen, student  
Dorothy Kitchen, student  
Wm. Keaths, baker and store keeper  
Pat Lavalley, steam engineer  
Jas. Lavalley, brick worker  
Mae Lavalley, student  
Tinna Lavelley, student  
Andy J. Learnmonth, mine manager  
James Learnmonth, laborer  
Nannie Learnmonth, student  
Eleanor Learnmonth, student  
Jackie Learnmonth, student  
W.T. Lockwood, real estate  
John Q. Landis, real estate and farmer

These names have been taken from the book entitled Redcliff's Golden Years by Cecil T. Hall.

**MARRIAGES AND DEATHS  
FOR  
MEDICINE HAT, ALBERTA  
1890**

These names have been extracted from the 1890 copies of the Medicine Hat News.

**MARRIAGES**

|                     |                  |              |           |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------|-----------|
| CAMPBELL - PEEVERS  | Robert - Kate    | September 20 | Methodist |
| CUDLIP - MURPHY     | G. Amelius-Lily  | April 10     |           |
| DOBBIN - GOBBETT    | L. - A.          | September 24 | Anglican  |
| ERICSSON - DOBBIN   | A. - F.A.        | September 23 | Anglican  |
| MAXTOLFIS - FELDMAN |                  | January 14   |           |
| MITCHELL - SMALL    | Frank - Lizzie   | June 9       | Presby.   |
| MOTT-WILSON         | Const. -Miss     | January 11   |           |
| McKAY -FITZPATRICK  | Alfred-Jane      | February 1   |           |
| OWENS-KENNEDY       | John-Sarah Annie | October 1    | Presby.   |
| PERRAULT-FAVEREAU   | Joseph-Ezeile    | November 18  | R.C.      |
| YEREX-BANNERMAN     | Mr. - Minnie     | July 3       | Anglican  |

**DEATHS**

|                          |             |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| BULL, Marion Isabells    | August 19   |
| NIBLOCK, Mrs. J.N.       | February 7  |
| McKAY, Mrs. A.           | January 23  |
| REYNOLDS, Audley Herbert | November 2  |
| ROSE, Mary               | December 31 |
| SAGE, Infant son         | November 19 |
| EARL, George William     | January 15  |

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

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**WE ARE MOVING**

BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 2ND, 1992, THE MEDICINE HAT AND DISTRICT GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY WILL BE HOLDING ITS MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING AT THE MEDICINE HAT MUSEUM.

THE MEDICINE HAT MUSEUM IS LOCATED AT 1302 BOMFORD CR. S.W., JUST OFF HIGHWAY NUMBER ONE, AND NEXT TO THE ESSO SERVICE STATION.

THE MEETING TIME WILL REMAIN THE SAME - 7:30 PM THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH.

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