

Biography of HENRY KRIEGER 1865 - 1951

Henry, son of Nicholas Krieger and Katherina Schneider, brother of Katherina Marie (Jorg), John, Adam, Elizabeth (Schneider) was born in Norka, Russia July 30, 1865, died in Vancouver Washington Nov. 29, 1951 at home of daughter Elizabeth Vaughn.

Henry was also known as Melchor's Henry in the Norka, Russia village.

Family owned and operated a flour and feed grinding windmill, where he learned the skill of sharpening the millstones. This was in addition to farming their land.

After selling all possessions, Henry left Norka May 1, 1890 with his wife, two small daughters, Christine and Elizabeth, widowed mother (since April 1885) aged grandmother Dorothea Nolde Schneider, his two brothers and two sisters. Sailed on S.S. Normannia which left Hamburg, Germany May 22, 1890 and arrived in New York May 31, 1890. They settled in Sutton, Nebr.

Later on Henry moved to Grand Island, Nebr. and worked in a sugar beet factory. It was while living here that Anna Marie (Mary) was born Feb. 3, 1892. Henry and family came to Portland, Ore. sometime between 1893-94 - exact date unknown.

Henry was married in Norka, Russia to Katherina Marie Scheideman January 27, 1887. She died in Portland, Oregon December 19, 1895. Henry remarried July 31, 1898 a second cousin Katherine Elizabeth Krieger and lived to celebrate their golden wedding anniversary. To this union were born Pauline (Monroe) and Amelia (Werre).

Henry moved to small acreage N.W. of Vancouver, Wash. June 1903 and engaged in farming. He sold out in 1918 and moved back to Portland, where he was employed by Knight Packing company till his retirement. In the fall he salted and tromped down huge vats of shredded cabbage for sauerkraut. He could tell from tasting brine if salt content was right. He also made the dill pickles. In the winter time he operated the boilers for heat and power. When the mill stones were ground smooth, he was called on to sharpen them. This was a process of chiseling with a mallet a set of grooves from center of stone to edge in a graduated depth. His brother ADAM was foreman in the factory.

Henry was a charter member of the Ebenezer Congregational Church in Portland and was faithful in attendance.

Originally the Krieger family came from Darmstadt, Germany and were among the group that founded Norka, Russia in August 1767.

Henry was an inspiration to his 20 grandchildren. He would tell them to steal all they could with their eyes. He didn't hesitate to punish, remarking they (the grandchildren) should cry before he had to.

He was a stamp collector, a hobby which many have followed. He loved to fish and knew how to knit nets. He had many interests, among them raising bees on the farm. His philosophy was: "What is past, let it vanish, I want nothing of it."

He took pride in the orchard he had set out with its wide variety of apples, pears, cherries, prunes and plums. He sold fruit to customers in Portland, as well as butter, eggs and vegetables; also honey. Anything to earn an honest dollar.

Henry earned the reputation of being scrupulously honest, his word was as good as gold. He was dependable and trustworthy - his character above reproach; loved and respected by all who knew him. Henry and wife live on in memory - gone but not forgotten.

By Amelia Werre, 8/28/1982

P.S. Henry was a grandson of Peter Krieger and Gr. grandson of Melchor Krieger.