

was very unpleasant to venture outside the smoke area, as each mosquito bite would cause a most painful swelling out of all proportion to the little wound on the skin. Many a time, when out on the prairie towards evening, did I run unexpectedly into small clouds of these pests, and then one's only salvation lay in tying a handkerchief over the back of the neck and in breaking a branch off a tree with which to fight them in front of one's person. But they always would find an unguarded spot for a vicious bite. These were some of the happy pioneer days!

On September, the 29th, the first wedding took place in the colony. The bride was our sister Anna, and the groom, Mr. Anton Eimer. Father Peter solemnized the marriage in the newly built log church. Another wedding followed a week or two later. Anna and her husband lived ½ mile from us in a sod house which was followed during the winter by a lumber shack and in spring by a neat little, one room, log cabin. Conditions for us had improved inasmuch that there was now a little store not far from the monastery, where one could buy the most necessary things of life, such as flour, groceries, clothing, boots and shoes. A Post-Office, too, was opened up in the store and called ST. PETER'S MONASTERY, but later it was changed to the name of MÜNSTER. The prices at the little store were considerable higher than at Rosthern, as the keeper of it had to pay from \$20 to \$30 per ton or load to get his goods freighted out from Rosthern which expense heightened the cost of his wares. Nevertheless the store was a real boon to the settlers.

At last in the first week of November we could occupy the log cabin which had been chinked up and plastered over the cracks just the day before. It froze solid during that next night. I have skipped one item, though, which I want to include. All Saints' day was a beautiful typical summer day. We all and Anna and her husband rode to church with our neighbor Mr. Brinkmeier. After Mass I stayed behind for ½ hour instruction in catechism, as was the custom. I walked home alone. At home I found mother in bed with an awful pain in her shoulders and back. Mary and Anna informed me that mother had fallen off the wagon on the way home and the wheel had partly passed over her. They had to lift her back on the wagon and at home help her to bed. We all did our very best in nursing mother, but it was many days, before she could be up and around again. It seems that mother, Anna and Mary were all sitting on one seat and the wagon passed over a rough spot, Anna shifted her place which caused mother to lose her balance on the other end, so that she fell off.

And now I come to the final mentioning of Anna's dog Fortuna. The dog was with us up to this time, and always lying on the chain; else she would have killed every chicken. Only at times I would let her exercise, while strictly watching her. One day while she was free Father Prior Alfred drove by and stopped for a chat with mother. When he and his party drove on again the dog followed behind and would not be coaxed or ordered back. Some time later we heard that the dog had turned up at a settler's place, quite a distance off, where she stayed. While the settler was out hunting one day Fortuna was with him and as the man caught sight of a rabbit and took aim, the dog scared it away not minding the man. Thereupon, in a fit of rage the man shot the dog dead, thus ending her eventful career.

During the summer and fall the land in the immediate neighborhood of the monastery was soon homesteaded, but in the majority of cases after the entries had been made at the land office, the settlers returned to the States, to come back with their families in early spring for good. This could be done according to the homestead laws which allowed non-resident absence of six months in each year.

I will mention here that in the early days of the colony there were no meatless Fridays, as abstinence from meat on these days was not commanded in our diocese of Prince Albert. When Father Prior made this announcement on one of the first Sundays in Rosthern, he at the same time cautioned the people against using this dispensation, as the general law of the Church in regard to abstinence would soon be in force in this diocese, too, when it would be difficult for those who had acquired the laxer practice, to return to the stricter Catholic practice, since the relaxation that was only granted in favor of the Indians would cease with the coming of the white people. Mother did not for once use the privilege. The Friday abstinence was made obligatory by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Pascal a year or so later which did not alter anything for us. Nevertheless when during this time scores of pioneers were forced to make their living as best they could and with the things that nature had provided, such as rabbits, prairie chickens, wild ducks and geese, cranes, deer, or moose, and when they had nothing else to eat, excepting meat, hundreds were glad that they could do this with a good conscience and without violating the law of the Church.

To be continued.

Fifteen Years Ago

From No. 37 of St. Peter's Bote

Rosthern reports that the Rt. Rev. Abbot Peter Engel, O.S.B., has returned from his inspection trip of St. Peter's Colony. He expressed himself well pleased with the progress that has been made by the Colony in so short a time. Next morning, Oct. 25, he left again for his Abbey in Minnesota, accompanied by Father Mathias of St. Peter's Monastery, whose health is very poor. — Since the end of Oct. the weather has been surprisingly warm. — Monday, Oct. 24, a disastrous fire broke out in Hague, eleven miles south of here. It started in the Leiland Hotel which it destroyed; then jumped to Mr. Adamson's Implement shop, destroying it also, besides five other business places. The damage is estimated at \$40,000.

Jos. Hufnagel writes from Vossan P.O. on Oct. 20, that he has moved his store to the station which has been named Watson. On his way home from a recent trip to Winnipeg, he bought a carload of potatoes that he hopes to have for sale by Nov. 1st or 2nd at 50 or 55 cts. per bushel.

Humboldt in the centre of the Colony has been designated as a C. N. R. division point. 1½ sections of land have been purchased for a townsite at \$22,000. Half of this sum goes to actual settlers, and the other half to the "German American Land Co." About 300 men are at present employed erecting a roundhouse, laying side-tracks, etc. Edmonton, Alberta, is to be proclaimed a city on November 7th.

Uncle Ezra: "I hear your boy has joined the aviation corps."

Uncle Eben: "Yes, and I'm afraid he won't make good."

"What makes you think so?"

"He's so forgetful that he is liable to take the machine up and come down without it."

Germany's New Mark Is Labor

William G. Shepherd, in a correspondence from Rotterdam, Holland, to the 'New York Evening Post', says:

The German Government does not permit the German mark to be removed from Germany, without an especial license which is extremely difficult to secure.

Work is Germany's coin today. She seems to have more of this golden sort of coin than any of the other European nations. If the salesmen who have flocked to Germany are willing to take German work—good, sound, solid human labor—in return for their wares, Germany will buy without stint. Otherwise, the salesman may as well return to his home country and call his deal a failure.

A simple instance of this German scheme of trading work for goods is seen in her purchase of leather from Holland.

The raw hides are shipped to Germany on credit. In Germany the workmen and the tanning factories are called into play. They tan the leather. And then they send back to Holland enough of the tanned leather to pay for the crude leather. This permits them to keep for themselves a portion of the original shipment.

But the leather deal does not end here. The Hollander, who has received the tanned leather from Germany may wish to sell it to Germany. The German takes it gladly, on credit, with the understanding that he is to pay for it not in marks but in finished products.

The tanned leather is shipped back to Germany in some instances, though it often remains in Germany from the start, and is made into boots and shoes in the German factories. Enough of these boots and shoes are shipped back to Holland to pay the leather merchant for his tanned leather. There is a margin of shoes left over for use in Germany. Not a mark has been spent of German money for these shoes, except in wages; not an ounce of German raw material has gone into them. Germany has secured them by using the coin of work alone.

In some fashion or other, so I am informed by the many disappointed salesmen whom I have found in Switzerland and Holland, the German Government has drilled into the heads of German workmen that it is only by their work and their hearty toil that Germany can again take her place in the world. They all seem to understand this. In some of the busiest factories they work eight hours a day for themselves and then add three hours of work to help Germany. They all comprehend the new scheme whereby Germany is not to spend any of her money but only their work for what Germany needs from the outside world.

Austrian Children Starving

"The plight of the children in German Austria, especially in Vienna, is infinitely worse than that of the children in Northern France," says Mary Heaton Vorse, who was sent to the war regions and German Austria by Herbert Hoover. "Children of 13 to 15 look not more than 4 or 5; undernourishment has arrested their development. They have the yellow pallor that bespeaks famine, their lips and mouths are blue and some of them have distended stomachs that result from lack of food for long periods. The same I had seen on Austrian prisoners in Italy. There are 300,000 starving children in German Austria, and of these 100,000 in Vienna. We have been providing one meal a day to these children. The American public ought to continue this benevolent work." The Vienna Children's Milk Relief is authorized by the U.S. Dept. of State to solicit funds to relieve the situation.

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