



GERMANS FROM RUSSIA
GRHC
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**Finding aid to the
James & Alice (Zimmerman)
Ackerman Collection
2010.02 & 2010.17**

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OVERVIEW

Donor: James Zimmerman

Accession Dates: 6 April 2010; 23 October 2010

Collection Number: 087

Quantity: 0.25 linear feet +one oversized item

Summary: Three religious certificates, 1923-1937 and five books, 1894-1939.

Languages: English & German

Links:

- [16th Journey to the Homeland Tour, 2010 – Biographies of Tour Group Members](#)
- [Journey to the Homeland Tour Photos 2010](#)

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Citation: James and Alice (Zimmerman) Ackerman Collection, 087, Germans from Russia Heritage Collection, NDSU Libraries, Fargo, ND.

BIOGRAPHY

Alice (Zimmerman) Ackerman, Fargo, North Dakota Ancestral Villages: Bergdorf, Glückstal & Kassel (Glückstal District); Johannestal (Beresan District).

“My paternal great grandparents, Jacob Zimmerman (born Dec. 16, 1838 and died Nov. 16, 1897), and his wife, migrated from Johannesthal, South Russia. He married Barbara Steiger in 1865 (she died in 1887). They had 5 children. He remarried Barbara Koepple and had 4 children. They came to America in 1893 and settled on a farm 4 miles south of Venturia.”

“My grandfather, Christian Zimmerman (born Feb. 7, 1881), married Wilhelmina Kusler (born June 12, 1885) on Feb. 2, 1902. They farmed 7 miles north of Venturia and had 5 children, my dad, Alvin Zimmerman, and 2 sisters. Wilhelmina Kusler’s parents, Nicholas Kusler (born April 8, 1858 in South Russia), migrated to America when he was 15 and married Caroline Mutchelknaus (born Oct. 26, 1859). Her parents migrated to America in 1874. Nicholas and Caroline settled on a farm 10 miles north of Eureka.”

“My maternal great grandparents, Ludwig Nies (born Jan. 24, 1860), in Glueckstal, South Russia married Margarel Nie Schmidt Walth (born Dec. 6, 1862) and came to America.”

“My grandfather, Jacob (born Oct. 24, 1893 in Gluckstal), married Martha Aipperspach, whose parents migrated from Bergdorf, South Russia. Her dad, Frederick Aipperspach (born Aug. 17, 1873), came to America at the age of 20 and settled on a farm 10 miles north of Zeeland. Frederick married Magdalena (Kassel, South Russia) Meidinger on Jan. 7, 1895 at St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church 12 miles north of Zeeland. Martha was 1 of 13 children.”

James R. Ackerman, Fargo, North Dakota Ancestral Villages: Johannestal & Rohrbach (Beresan District); Neudorf (Glückstal District); Neusatz (Crimea).

“My grandparents, Ackerman, Pfeiffer, Werre, came to the United States from South Russia in the 1800’s and homesteaded around Java, Artas, Mound City, Eureka, and Greenway, SD, area. My great grandfather, Jacob, and Kathrina (Eissinger) Ackerman were the first settlers in the Artas, SD, area. They arrived May 8, 1885.”

“I was born to Reinhold and Rose (Pfeiffer) Ackerman, August 15, 1942. I have two brothers and two sisters.”

“I graduated from Eureka High School in 1962. I married Alice Zimmerman in 1963. We have two children and four grandkids. I worked in the Oil Industry for 35 years and worked in different areas. I retired from Kaneb Pipe Line in 2003 and moved to Fargo to be close to family.”

“I have always been interested in my family history, hoping I can get it done someday.”

(Source: <http://library.ndsu.edu/grhc/outreach/journey/tours/tourbiogs10.html>)

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The **James and Alice (Zimmerman) Ackerman Collection**, collection numbers 2010.02 and 2010.17, contain two series of materials.

The **Certificates Series** contains three religious certificates, dated 1922- 1937, or Items 2010.01.01- 2010.01.03. A detailed inventory of the certificates is listed below within the Box and Folder List.

The **Books Series** consists of five books. Maria und Lisa is a work of German fiction. Christian Service Songs is a book of hymns written by Homer Rodeheaver, a famous evangelist and composer of the early 20th century. Eine Sammlung von Liedern fuer Sonntagschulen, Jugendvereine und Conventionen and Gebet und Danklieder Nr. 2 fuer Erweckungs und Gebetsversammlungen are books of hymns, in German. These books contain inscriptions (noted below) that are related to German from Russia churches or individuals.

SEPARATIONS RECORD

Item 2010.01.01, Tauf-schein for Milton Henry Deibert, has been separated from this collection and placed in the Oversized Items holdings of the GRHC due to its larger size.

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Box/Folder	Contents
1/1	Finding aid, detailed inventory, and initial inventory
1/2	Newspaper clippings – recipes

CERTIFICATES SERIES

OVERSIZED	2010.01.01 German language Tauf-Schein for Milton Henry Deibert on 2 January 1923, child of Fred Diebert and Maggie (Werner) [Deibert]. Sponsors John Wessel and Minnie Deibert. Pastor A W Blauert. Milton was born 22 December 1922. Polychrome certificate #170 printed in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, by Northwestern Publishing House.
1/3	2010.02.02. English language Certificate of Confirmation on 11 July 1937, in booklet form for Milton Diebert born 22 December 1922 confirmed at St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, Mound City, South Dakota. Pastor A. A. Hellmann. Has embossed seal. "Milton" written on cover.
1/4	2010.02.03. German language Tauf-Schein for Irene Ackermann on 13 June 1926 at the parents' house, child of Johannes & Marguretha Ackermann in Cample [sic] Co., South Dakota. Sponsors "Die Eltern." Pastor J Bohler. Irene was born 24 January 1923. Pink tie at fold. Booklet printed in Germany by Ernst Kaufmann of New York. On cover: "Miss Irene F. Ackerman/Irene/Please return these."

BOOKS SERIES

1. Horn, W. Gebet und Danklieder Nr. 2 fuer Erweckungs und Gebetsversammlungen, Harrisburg, PA: Roy G. Stettler, [der Evangelischen Kirche] 1894, pages 260. Inscription inside front cover "Anna Presler, Fredonia, North Dakota" written several times.
2. Horn, W. Gebet und Danklieder Nr. 2 fuer Erweckungs und Gebetsversammlungen, Harrisburg, PA: Roy G. Stettler, [der Evangelischen Kirche] 1894, pages 260. Bookplate: "Property of Evangelical church/ Not to Be Taken from the Church."
3. Hübener, Helene. Maria und Lisa, Stuttgart: D Gundert 1909 (1904), pages 255. Inscribed on tape on front flyleaf "To Ida Weispfinning [Weispfenning]."
4. Rodeheaver, Homer, Y.P. Rodeheaver, George W. Sanville, J.N. Rodeheaver and Irvin H. Mack. Christian Service Songs. Winona Lake, Indiana: The Rodeheaver Hall-Mack Co., 1939, pages 288. Stamped inside front cover "Property of Evang. Church/ Lehr, N.D."
5. Silberklaenge: Eine Sammlung von Liedern fuer Sonntagschulen, Jugendvereine und Conventionen, Cleveland: Verlagshaus der Epanelischen Gemeinschaft, 1899 pages 232. Inscribed "Friedens Church of Lehr. S.S."



2010.01.01



2010.01.02



2010.01.03