

## Life of Mr. & Mrs. Matthias Zimmerman

Matthias Zimmerman was born at Beamsville, Ontario, Canada, July 2, 1836.

Henrietta Diantha (Nettie) Brown was born at Ransomville, New York, May 30, 1841, where she lived until shortly after her marriage to Matthias Zimmerman in Sept. 1865. They lived for a while in Maryland and also in Pennsylvania, coming to North Dakota in August 1883, before the railroad was completed. Four children were born of this marriage, of whom only one, Bertha, lived to grow up. They located on a farm two and a half miles south of Cooperstown, N.D., where they resided until they moved to Florida in 1907, purchasing a home and orange-grove a few miles north of Ormond. Here they resided until Mrs. Zimmerman's death, Jan. 24, 1911, of heart failure. She was buried at Ormond, Florida.

Mr. Zimmerman then sold his property and returned to North Dakota where he lived with his daughter, Mrs. Andrew Sinclair, for a year, at which time the family moved to



California. He lived there until his death in January, 1924. He was buried at Ukiah, Cal. The daughter and three grandchildren still survive.

Among the incidents Mr. Zimmerman often recalled was the time a cyclone whipped part of the roof off the house, blew down the chimney, and tore off a shed, scattering it in kindling wood over a wide area.

Mrs. Zimmerman gave piano lessons in the early days to many pupils, of whom several still survive in Cooperstown and vicinity.



Biography of Edward Zimmerich  
--Rosie Fiebeger

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Zimmerich were the parents of Edward Zimmerich, the second oldest of his brothers. Edward Zimmerich is a pioneer who entered into North Dakota in the year of 1882, May 6. He was born July 8, 1857, in a log house. He was born near a town then known as Mikelsdorf, Bohemia. He left his former home because he wanted to better his conditions, and came over here to North Dakota because homesteads could be easily taken up at that time. He came to North Dakota because he thought the land was newer and times were easier in this country than in any other place. He was glad to go away from home as a young man because he knew what hard times were so he thought he would come to North Dakota and start farming for himself. The trip was a tiresome and stormy journey. Many large winds came up at sea and threw the waves high over the ship. The people were frightened and so was he but he knew it had to come whichever way God made it.

He came to New York in 1878 and from there he went with wagon and oxen to North Dakota. The journey was long and slow. He lived in Tyroß, township for a few years then moved and went to Griggs County and stayed there till the time of his death. He came to North Dakota in the year 1882. He bought land in North Dakota and was a bachelor for a while but did not like this kind of life so he later married. His land was in the county of Griggs and was near the town of Jessie. The first house he made when he came to North Dakota was made out of boards and his barn was out of sod. He lived in these buildings till the time of his marriage.

Their trips to town were few. When they went to town they would go with oxen and wagon. Many times they would have to stay at a farm place over night, as the towns were few and it was not settled thickly. Some of his near neighbors were mostly pioneers: Herman Hovel about one-half mile southeast from his place, Julius Wurst about one-half mile straight west, Edward Fiebeger 2 miles northwest, and Albert Rickford about 2 miles southwest.

Their farm machinery was few. What they had was made out of wood. They had to cut the grain down with a knife or else with a scythe. Then some had to pick it up after it was cut down and tie it together. They would thresh the grain with a large stick or else would stamp on it with their feet. They raised mostly grains in those days, potatoes, and large gardens.

The fuel they used mostly was the leaves from the trees and the branches. Many times a fire would break out in the house. They did not have matches. They took two sticks and rubbed them together to get fire and sometimes the sparks would fly on the floor and start a fire. When there were storms in the evening they would stay up all of the night until the storm was over.

He was married to Miss Jeanette Wessley in Waseca County, Minnesota, leaving there the same spring with his new wife as he moved to N. Dak. They had ten children of whom are all still living: Mrs. Ed Fiebeger,



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of Tyrol Township, Mr. Joseph Zimmerich of Lenora Township, Mrs. Emma Langes of Alice, N. Dak., Mrs. Christina Langer of Fingal, N. Dak., Mr. Frank Zimmerich in Tyrol Township, Mr. Edward Zimmerich in Tyrol Township, Mrs. Alvina Geiger in Pilot Mound Township, Mr. William Zimmerich in Pilot Mound Township, Mrs. Ida Pheipher in Washburn Township, and Lawrence Zimmerich on the home place in Tyrol Township.

His present home was 2 miles northeast of Jessie in ~~Tyrol~~ Tyrol Township where he passed away. He died May 9 on Mother's Day at 11 o'clock. He was buried at the St. Lawrence Cemetery near Jessie.



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Mr. Joseph Zimmerich of Lenora Township  
Mrs. Emma Langer of Alice, North Dakota  
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Edward Zimperich (continued)

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## Mr. and Mrs. Ignaz Zimprich

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There were very few automobiles then, mostly Model-Ts, Fords.

Mrs. Zimprich came in 1920. They were married previously in Germany. The children came over from Germany with Mrs. Zimprich. They lived the first winter in Casselton and then moved to Everett, N. Dak. They were there for two years, later moving to a farm near Gessie.

There was no machinery to speak of. There were steam engines, however. Horses were used for all power jobs.

They plowed from six in the morning until seven at night, getting <sup>to</sup> only about four or five acres done in one day with one outfit. One man, with horses, could seed about twenty acres a day.

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