

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 Zimperich of Lenora Township, Mrs. Emma Langes of Alice, N. Dak., Mrs. Christina Langer of Fingal, N. Dak., Mr. Frank Zimperich in Tyrol Township, Mr. Edward Zimperich in Tyrol Township, Mrs. Alvina Geiger in Pilot Mound Township, Mr. William Zimperich in Pilot Mound Township, Mrs. Ida Pheipher in Washburn Township, and Lawrence Zimperich 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
Mrs. Christinia Langer of Fingal, North Dakota
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Mr. Edward Zimmerich in Tyrol Township
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Edward Zimperich (continued)

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