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Richter, Arthur, Sr. (1843 -)

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Arthur Richter Senior was born on December 25, 1863, at Jefferson, Wisconsin, the son of Reinhard Senior and Albertina (Rodenwald) Richter.

Reinhard and Albertina (Rodenwald) Richter were born in Germany, the former on September 11, 1836 and the latter on July 9, 1841. At the age of seventeen Reinhard Richter Senior came to America, but after a few years returned to his native land where he served in the German Military Service for three years. After completing his service in the year of 1861 he married Albertina Rodenwald, and the couple came to America on their wedding trip. The voyage west across the Atlantic was made on a sailing vessel. Due to unfavorable winds and storms which they encountered on mid-ocean, the trip consumed seven weeks. After landing at Baltimore they immediately came west to Jefferson, Wisconsin where they settled on a farm.

Six children were born to the couple while they resided in Wisconsin. They are: Bertha (Richter) Marcus, now deceased. Arthur, who heads this biography. Henry now deceased Reinhard, Jr., who resides on the old home farm. William, on a farm south of Albany and August of Utica, Minnesota.

In the seventies Reinhard Richter, Sr. brought his family to Minnesota and settled on a farm two miles south of the present village of Albany. The trip from Jefferson, Wisconsin to Albany was made in a covered wagon, drawn by horses. Incidentally these were the first horses to be brought into that community.

The land which Reinhard Richter purchased from the Christen bros. was still covered with heavy timber and only a small shanty and log barn

RICHTER, ARTHUR, SENIOR

comprised the buildings.

Through hard work and good management he soon put the farm on a paying basis. Although wheat was the chief crop of the early settlers, Reinhard Richter also raised a number of cattle. Butter brought only a small price, usually from five to ten cents a pound, and then it was hard to get good butter. Due to his ability to make good butter, Mr. Richter usually received a premium for his which he sold in the village.

A crop failure was unheard of until 1876, when the entire crop was devoured by grasshoppers. They came in large swarms in the fall of '76, but did little damage that year as most of the crops had been harvested. the next spring the eggs which they had laid hatched and the ground was soon covered with them and they devoured the entire crop. The government furnished the settlers with tar and tin contraption to catch the hoppers but although thousands of the hoppers were caught that way, it met with little success. In July of that year, they suddenly departed, and the following year, the settlers experienced one of the best crops in the history of the community.

Due to old age Reinhard Richter and his wife, sold their farm to the son, Reinhard, Jr., retaining forty acres on which they erected a small home. One June 10, 1921 Reinhard Reichter died and his wife made her home with a daughter Bertha (Richter) Marcus until her death which occurred August 21, 1927.

The schooling of Arthur Richter, who heads this biography, was badly neglected due to the fact that the nearest school was four miles distance and his services were needed on the farm. He remained at home until the age of twenty-two and then learned the wagon maker trade in the

RICHTER, ARTHUR, SR.

shop of Anton Wedel at Albany and in the Diederich shop at St. Martin. After he mastered the trade, he operated a shop of his own in the rear of the Geroge Hartung blacksmith shop for several years. Aside of this trade he also did carpenter work, a trade he followed for about thirty years.

On January _____ 1891, he married Mary Seal at Albany, Minn. Mary Seal was born February 8, 1873 at North Bristol, Dane County, Wisconsin, the daughter of Joseph, Senior and Caroline (Buchagen) Seal. At the age of twelve she was brought to Albany by her parents who settled on a farm west of Albany.

After the marriage the couple made their home with the Seal family and later purchased the farm. In the fall of 1937, they disposed of their farm and retired to the village of Albany.

Arthur and Mary (Seal) Richter are the parents of eight children.

Arthur, Jr., married Gertrude Welle and they reside near Albany.

Clara, now deceased, was Mrs. Edward Dirkes of Power, Montana.

Othelia is Mrs. Aloys Wille of Bellflower, California.

Helena is Mrs. Martin Kamameir of Cold Spring, Minnesota.

Alvina is Mrs. Nick Loubash of Downey, California.

Catherine is Mrs. Arthur Zylstra of Long Beach, California.

Ida is Mrs. Julius Kamameir of Albany.

Edwin, at home.

There are also twenty-two living grandchildren.

Interviewed: Arthur Richter, Senior

BY: Walter B. Haupt

Date: March 7, 1938

Publication granted.

TAKEN FROM THE LEGAL RECORDS OF THE STEARNS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
FOR THE ARTHUR RICHTER, SR. BIOGRAPHY

MARRIAGE RECORD, BOOK M, Page 171

Arthur Richter and Mary Seal
Married at Albany, January 8, 1891
By: Reverend Conrad Glatzmaier, O. S. B.
Witnesses: A. J. Schneider and Mrs. Mary Glatzmaier

MARRIAGE RECORD, BOOK Y, Page 13638

Edward Dirkes and Clara Richter
Married at Albany, June 27, 1916
By: Reverend A. Straub, O. S. B.
Witnesses: Ottilia Richter and John Schmidt.

MARRIAGE RECORD, BOOK 2, Page 16022

Arthur Richter and Gertrude Welle
Married at St. Rose, September 13, 1921
By: Reverend Bede Mayenberger
Witnesses: Paul Welle and Lena Richter

MARRIAGE RECORD, BOOK 2, Page 16271

Aloys Welle and Ottilia Richter
Married at Albany, May 2, 1922
By: Reverend Anselm Orthmann, O. S. B.
Witnesses: Zeno Welle and Alvina Richter

MARRIAGE RECORD, BOOK 4, Page 17215

Martin Kammermeier and Lena Richter
Married at Albany, June 3, 1924
By: Reverend Anselm Ortmann, O. S. B.
Witnesses: Albert M. Kammermeier and Alvina Richter

MARRIAGE RECORD, BOOK 4, Page 17546

Nicholas L. Laubach and Alvina A. Richter
Married at Albany, November 25, 1924
By: Rev. Anselm Ortmann, O. S. B.
Witnesses: Catherine Richter and Alphonse Laubach

MARRIAGE RECORD, BOOK 9, Page 20277

Julius Kammermaier and Ida G. Richter
Married at Cold Spring, September 11, 1930
By: Rev. Adolph Dingmann
Witnesses: Eugene L. Kammermeier and Vivian Kummer

DEATH RECORD, BOOK N, Page 9, Line 203

Reinhard Richter, born in Germany
On September 11, 1836
Son of Reinhard Richter
Died, June 10, 1921
Age 84 year, 8 months, 30 days

DEATH RECORD, BOOK T, Page 10, Line 242

Albertine Richter, born in Germany
On July 9, 1841
Died August 21, 1927
Age 86 years old, 1 month and 12 days

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BIRTH RECORDS OF RICHTER CHILDREN

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE OF BIRTH</u>	<u>PLACE OF BIRTH</u>	<u>FATHER'S NAME & AGE</u>
Arthur Henry	September 20, 1891	Albany	Arthur 26
Clara K.	February 26, 1893	Albany	Arthur
Ottilia R.	June 24, 1895	Albany	Arthur 26
Magdalena A.	October 8, 1897	Albany	Arthur 28
Alvina	November 16, 1902	Albany	Arthur 36
Catherine	January 17, 1906	Albany	Arthur 34
Elenora	June 25, 1908	Albany	Arthur 43
Ida	March 18, 1910	Albany	Arthur 45

<u>MOTHER'S NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>BOOK</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>LINE</u>
Mary Seal	19	1891-B1	9	50
Mary Seal		1893-B3	1	5
Mary Seal	21	1895-B5	3	22
Mary Seal	22	1897-B7	4	8
Mary Seal	27	1902-B12	15	4
Mary Seal	30	-C	1	2
Mary Seal	39	-C	451	2
Mary Seal	35	-D	3	6

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No 1860 Census records