

# Vol. 16 No. 2

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#### **EXECUTIVE**

**President:** Alice Hoyle

Vice President: Jim Kirkpatrick Secretary: Lorraine McKay

**Treasurer:** Lee Koop

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# **BRANCH MEETINGS**

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, except July, Aug & Dec 7:00 pm at LDS CHURCH 5410 – 36 Ave

#### **GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY**

At City of Wetaskiwin Archives 4904 – 51 Street Tues. Wed. Thur. 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

# Wetaskiwin Branch Alberta Genealogical Society

# Website:

<u>www.abgenealogy.ca/wetaskiwin-branch</u> **Email:** wetaskiwin@abgenealogy.ca.

# Roots & Branches

**APRIL 2018** 

We offer our condolences to our fellow member, ROBIN SHEEHAN on the passing of her husband, XENNETH SHEEHAN on January 23, 2018

# **PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS.....** Alice Hoyle

The saying, "May you Live in Interesting Times" (supposedly originating in China) seems to apply to the current state of all levels of governmental affairs.

We, here in the Wetaskiwin area, are struggling to understand how the current City of Wetaskiwin council can even think about eliminating the Archives. The idea that the history of this region can be so casually disregarded is very difficult to comprehend for those who respect and appreciate the work and sacrifice of our ancestors.

You may be asking yourself, "What can I do – I'm only one person?" ....... continued on page 3

### **COMMITTEES**

# Newsletter

Sharon Aney sharonaney@gmail.com

Library

Robin Sheehan

Webmasters

Lee Koop Lyn Meehan

Volunteer Research

Alice Hoyle Bob Maynard Lee Koop

Membership
 Lee Koop

Programs

Claudia Malloch

Publicity
 Alice Hoyle

Alice Hoyle

Historian

Rosella Plaquin

Youth

Patti Caputo

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#### **FAMILY DISCOVERY CENTER**

5410 – 36 Avenue, Wetaskiwin Wednesdays: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm & 6:30 – 8:00 pm

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# **ROOTS & BRANCHES**

is published three times a year by and for the members of Wetaskiwin Branch of AGS. It is emailed to members and posted on our website.

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#### **EDITOR'S CORNER**

Sharon Aney

April has been a tough month!

Winter would not go away. Our country mourned the tragic loss of 16 young people in a traffic collision. Our City Archives seems to be under threat.

It is true that we cannot change the weather, but we can plan and dream of the gardens and flower beds and fields that we will plant and of the beauty and produce that will result.

We cannot control the actions of others and so we may suffer agonizing loss. But while we can, we should keep those we love close to our hearts and be open and generous with our love. In whatever way we may lose our loved one, it will not change our grief, but it will assuage remorse.

As genealogists we are well aware of the value of documents and photos that have been committed to the Archives by members and organizations of our community for safe-keeping. This is the time to make our voices heard; to state the value of this unique resource. The efforts, experiences and accomplishments of founders, businessmen, volunteers and people of all walks of life in past years are preserved in the Archives.

We are the people responsible for the election of our City Councillors. They are expected to govern wisely on our behalf.

If the Archives is not preserved, the history of Wetaskiwin City and area will never be able to be replaced.

What am I doing? Complacency is a dangerous choice.

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# ...... **PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS**, continued from P.1

But if each person does <u>something</u> – that will add up to a lot of people letting the City know that we want these records kept for future generations to view. Have you written your letters and made those phone calls?

April 15<sup>th</sup> marks the beginning of National Volunteer Week. We should all give ourselves a pat on the back for the work we do on behalf of Wetaskiwin Branch, AGS, as well as all the volunteer help we give to those who are researching their ancestors. If we think back on the number of people we have helped over the years, we can be proud that our Society's existence in this community has helped so many.

The AGS promotion "Genealogy for Youth" resulted in a large number of young people from the Wetaskiwin area researching their ancestors; then telling the story of the ancestors by creating poster boards, displays, etc. that explained how the ancestor arrived in Canada. Our Youth Coordinator, Patty Caputo, spearheaded this project and when the project was officially finished she submitted an amazing project report to AGS for their Canada 150 project, and in addition she created another amazing submission to the provincial newsletter, Relatively Speaking. As a branch, we are very thankful for her work, involving young people in genealogical research.

The upcoming GenFair in Camrose will give us an opportunity to meet and connect with AGS members from other branches – thanks to Sharon and Carole for volunteering to set up a display for our branch. It will be a great opportunity to highlight the excellent work being done by our branch members.

I hope this year will offer everyone the chance to break down a few brick walls, reconnect with family, find new extended family members you didn't know you had, and just continue to be the amazing people you are!

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#### MFFTING PROGRAMS

#### **JANUARY 2018**

# PRESENTATION: "ASK A FAMILY HISTORY CENTER CONSULTANT"

What a fun evening! Members were asked to submit questions prior to the meeting. After the meeting, we all adjourned to the Family History Center. Computers and laptops were kept busy, helping those who had submitted questions about missing ancestral information, and their brick walls. At the end of the evening, most of the people who had submitted queries had been given some hints, clues, new information, new sites to visit, and in some cases some new discoveries to fill in the blanks on their pedigree charts. A big thank you to Lisa DeWolf and her FHC consultants, and to Dan DeWolf for his assistance with the event.

# **FEBRUARY 2018**

# PRESENTATION: MY MOST EFFECTIVE RESEARCH SITES, WEBSITES, TOOLS, ETC.

Members shared their favourite research tools: Carole told how her **Flip Pal** has helped her record and save photos from family albums. Claudia found a short presentation about the Flip

Pal on the internet and she displayed it for those who did not know about Flip Pal. Claudia told how **Photo Myne** has helped her record and save photos and documents; Dan said that he used **CanScan** to record and save photos and documents. Lee and Carole told about a site **Tribal Pages.com** that they use to create and then print off Family Group information on fan charts. Claudia told that she and her daughter using "**Pages**": stories and photos are being assembled and compiled into a book that can be shared with family members. They are saving the information as a PDF – then publishing using **Blurbs.com** 

As part of the collection of items received from AGS for the Genealogy for Youth project a short video was shown about families, immigration, events that happened in Norway, and the connection one woman made with her ancestor.

#### **MARCH 2018**

Due to the lengthy discussion on the situation with City Archives, Claudia gave a short report on the Roots Tech Conference and about 'Genealogy in 5 Minutes a Day'. She will follow up with an email of the information to the members

# **APRIL, 2018**

# **ROOTSTECH VIDEO: FAMILY HISTORY IN 5 MINUTES A DAY**

Claudia provided a video of a Roots Tech 2018 presentation by Deborah Gamble. Deborah took us through various tasks to fill in and enhance our Family Search family tree, using its clues, inserting our own information, videos and pictures, as well as connecting it with information on Ancestry.com. She also addressed how to use some tools on our smart phones for genealogy. Claudia provided a print-out of the syllabus content so that we will be able to use this detailed information at home.

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# **RESEARCH REQUESTS:**

- 1. I have reported on this one at our meetings. Request for information about a request for information about Raymond Ralph Thompson and his wife Helen Rosalia Thompson. They lived at SW1/4-15-46-1-W5; moving there in approximately 1933, and they left in 1943, relocating to the U.S. Helen Rosalia was a Fraser, and she had family in this area, which seems to be the reason for their move to Canada. The Thompson family has a write-up in Freeway West local history book, and I scanned the pages and emailed them to the researcher. The researcher, Chuck Thompson, lives in Portland, Oregon and he was born in 1941, in a log cabin at the above location. The research request was for more information about the historical ownership of the land, and it evolved into a lengthy back and forth between us as Mr. Thompson was looking for very specific information. His story and the story of his family is quite interesting, and he has given me permission to write an article for Roots and Branches, detailing the research and including a photo of the log cabin where he was born. This will be included in the next issue of Roots and Branches.
- We received a request for information about a Susanna Jans who lived in the Brightview region and died in 1927. The researcher, Susanna's great-granddaughter,

wanted to find out where her great-grandmother was buried. Lorraine, the researcher, advised that her father Walter Emmanuel Jans, had attended Bidinger School from November, 1926 to March, 1927, at which time the family relocated to the Vegreville area. The family did not own land near Brightview; they rented land in that area but she did not have a land location. I contacted the person who looks after the Waldheim Cemetery, but he advised Susanna Jans was not buried there. I looked at the records for Twin Creek Cemetery - she was not buried there. The family did not have any writeup in Freeway West history book, so that wasn't helpful. I did find a good write-up in the Freeway West book about the Bidinger School, giving the location of the school, so that gave me an idea of the region where this family would have lived. I looked at the obituary records held in the Archives, but there wasn't an obituary for Susanna Jans. Then I decided to look at the Peel's Collection website, searching for Susanna Jans nothing on her, but I found an ad in the Wetaskiwin Times dated March 17, 1927 – an ad for an auction sale for G. Jans (her grandfather was Gottfried Jans), listing the land location! I have forwarded this information to Lorraine, the researcher. After sending out the agenda for our April, 2018 meeting, Bob Maynard, also on the Research Committee, contacted me to advise he had worked on this research request last year! She asked the Millet Public Library for information and they forwarded her request to Bob. I guess the only new thing I found for her was the land location where the family lived.

3. April 15<sup>th</sup> – I received an email from a Doug Johnson with the Vue Weekly alternative newspaper in Edmonton. He wanted to know who had created the jingle, "Cars Cost Less in Wetaskiwin". I suggested the Archives as a possible source; then I found out he had already contacted Rachel at the Archives; the car dealerships; Reynolds Alberta Museum; Senior Citizens centre, as well as several others. He's had no luck so far, so he has reached out to our branch to see if we can assist. I will be reaching out to people in the community to see if I can find out the answer. If anyone knows who wrote the jingle, please let me know.

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#### **OLD ENGLISH SAYINGS**

(From Hastings & Rothers FHS Vol 24, #4)

"Not fit to hold a candle to": A menial household task was holding a candle for someone while they completed some type of activity. Some people were not held in much esteem; therefore they were "not fit to hold a candle to".

"Saved by the Bell": When our ancestors realized that they were burying a great deal of people before their time had actually come, they came up with a solution. They tied a string to the "dead" person's hand, buried them, and tied the other end of the string to a bell and tied it to a nearby tree branch. If the person revived enough to ring the bell, their survivors would rush out and dig them up. Hence.... "saved by the bell".

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Sharon Aney

Sometimes, when we are researching ancestors through various databases, we just accept without question the names, dates and places that appear. We do not ask "who, what, where, when and/or why" caused that information's appearance in a particular document.

Do we know **Why** our ancestors left their home country in Europe to come to North America in the years that they did? Looking into history books could likely give a general idea, if not a particular answer. Do we know **Why** our ancestor moved from the east coast of Canada or the USA to western locations? Available land? Work? A gold strike? Escaping the law? We might check newspapers, as well as history books.

In the following situation various databases provided answers to Who, What When & Where, but not **Why?** did George E. Aney, in 1881, at the age of about 50 years, leave his home of 30 years in Monroe County, Wisconsin and take his family to resettle in Dakota Territory?

Events of his adult life were documented. In the 1850 USA Federal census George Everett Aney, who had been born in New York, was a 20 year old in his father's house, at Caledonia, Racine County, Wisconsin.

Over the next 30 years it seemed that he settled well into that area. November 13, 1854, George completed certificate #4262 at the Land Office at La Crosse, WI:

"It is hereby certified that in pursuance of law, George E. Aney, Racine County, in the State of Wisconsin on this day purchased of this office the West half of Northwest quarter of Section #10 in Township #16, north of Range #2 West, containing 80 acres at the rate of \$1.25 per acre amounting to \$100.00 for which George Aney has made payment as required by law.

On November 9, 1855, George E. Aney applied again at the Land Office at La Crosse. On certificate #10,076 he paid \$100.00 being the sum for 80 acres at the rate of \$1.25 for the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 10, Twp 16 N R2W.

On April 1, 1856 the town of Ridgeville (Monroe County was now part of what had been Racine county) was organized. George E. Aney was elected as assistant to the Town clerk.

He had married Cornelia Burroughs on November 14, 1855. Their first son, George Washington Aney, was born on Feb. 27, 1857. The family was recorded as still living in Monroe County in the 1880 Federal Census.

But then, in 1881, George moved his family of 6 sons to Dakota Territory. Federal BLM Homestead records indicate that on June 3, 1881 George took up residence on a homestead on the SE ¼ of Sec. 13 Twp 123 R 50 in Roberts County, near the town of Wilmot. **Why?** did he and his entire family move? By this time his oldest son, George W. was married to Wilminna Urich and her family was part of the group of emigrants.

**Note:** Wilminna's recollections of that trek can be found in the May 2013 issue of this newsletter on our website at <a href="https://www.abgenealogy.ca/wetaskiwin-branch">www.abgenealogy.ca/wetaskiwin-branch</a>

Was this a whim? Wanderlust? An opportunity to acquire lands for his sons? A positive answer to any of these questions seems reasonable.

While researching on the website of the Monroe County Historical society website, I searched "Aney" and noted that the name showed up in several **court records**! Upon receiving copies of records from the legal archives of the State of Wisconsin I found the following information:

- 1. On April 7, 1870 George had signed a promissory note, <u>secured by a mortgage</u> on land, to a Mr. Chew for \$500.00 payable in 5 years at an interest rate of 10% per annum. Ten years later, on January 27, 1880 the Circuit Court of Monroe County decreed that property described as West half of NW ¼ Section 10 twp 16 WR2, containing 80 acres (being part of George Aney's 1854 original land acquisition) be sold at public auction on the courthouse steps one year from that date, and that such information be publicly advertised in a local newspaper for 6 weeks following the expiry of one year. On March 16, 1881 the property was sold for \$749.25. The deed for the property was turned over to the attorney for the purchaser.
- 2. Legal documents on file report that on January 20, 1880, judgement of foreclosure had been made on the following lands: SW ¼ of NW ¼ Sec. 3, twp 16, NR2 ( land acquired in 1855) and that they will be sold at public auction. On April 2, 1881 at the circuit Court of Monroe County following a 6 week advertisement in the local newspaper, Tomah Journal, the property was sold for \$800.00. However...the purchase price of the land was insufficient to cover the cost of the mortgage, and the mortgage holder was directed to collect \$1,885.74 from George E. Aney.

George E. Aney had lost his land. He also had a judgement against him to pay unsettled debt. The court records had provided a description of the situation which I believe was instrumental in answering the question: **Why** did he move?

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#### **AGS AWARD**



At the 2018 Annual meeting Bob Franz, President of Alberta Genealogical Society, presented 25 year membership awards to our Branch members, Carole Koop and Lee Koop recognizing their AGS membership.

Jean Browse was unable to attend the conference to receive her 25 year award in person.

Congratulations to our 3 longest serving members

# MARRIAGES GLEANED FROM WETASKIWIN TIMES, 1901 - 1909 Part 2 Sharon Aney <a href="http://peel.library.ualberta.ca/newspapers/">http://peel.library.ualberta.ca/newspapers/</a>

1902		<u></u>
Oct 23	T. J. Farley to	Annie Kennedy
Oct 23	Jacob Neutzburg to	Harriet Windsor
Nov 13	John Meade to	A. E. Lemon
Nov 13	Alex Johnson to	J. Robinson
1903		
Jan 8	Mr. Barry to	Miss Nieson
Jan 29	Andrew O. Anderson to	Tilda Israelson
Jan 29	John W. Brown to	Bertha Lachelt
Mar 19	C. Switzer to	Mrs Lyle
Apr 2	Walter E. Wood to	Maude Lillie Groves
Apr 2	Ger. W Walker to	Alva Dunlap
Apr 16	Charles Howrey to	Edith Smith
Apr 23	John C. Schultz to	August Schneider
Apr 23	Albert Weiler to	Ida Spitzman
Apr 23	Karl Wm. Dambrowsky to	Alwine M. Draeger
Apr 30	Fred Magee to	Marguerite Shaw
May 21	John O. Suss to	Annie Pennock
May 21	John Schleen to	Annie Wedin
Jun 4	William Manning to	Gertie Edmunds
Jun 18	Gustav Forth to	Tena Klatt
Jun 18	James George to	Alvina Humbkie
Jul 2	Frank Fee to	Bella Toft
Jul 2	Gustof Bredinberg to	Edith Edquist
Jul 9	Otto Schlender to	Amelia Hanson
Jul 23	Jesse Lehman to	Ella Babletz
Jul 30	Thos. Phillips to	Kate Carruthers
Aug 13	Charles H. Degere to	Mary Ann McLeod
Aug 27	Jacob J. Kadlec to	Emma Vopat
Nov 12	Hans Korstad to	Henrietta C. Nelson
Nov 26	Fred Tedrick to	Florence Smith
Dec 3	Earl Standefer to	Alice M. Jones
Dec 3	A. G. Gross to	Edna L. Towerman
Dec 10	Andrew Oveldson to	Annie Matatall
Dec 17	Ernest Emery to	Rosa Nelson
Dec 24	Fred F. Jeffords to	Bessie V. Douglas
Dec 31	F. F. Dahlin to	Edith E. Anderson
1904		
Jan 7	J. W. McLeod to	M. J. McLean
Jan 14	Albert Lawson to	Rosa Taunton
Jan 14	Victor E. Thompson to	Lillian M. C. Fawcett
Jan 14	John Hallin to	Emelia Anderson
Jan 21	Chas. H. Herron to	Ida Knight
Feb 18	Charles Alfred Bowie to	Isabelle Smith
Mar 10	James Campbell to	Jennie Johnson
Mar 31	Ale Stordahl to	Rosalie Scheidegger
Mar 31	Ole Linne to	Mary Madson
Mar 31	Geo. Boehm to	Marguerite Von Heine
Apr 7	Austin Berge to	Mrs. Gjerkrud Svien
Apr 14	A. Anderson to	Eatie Turnbull
Apr 28	Wilhelm Kaiser to	Helene Westendorf

Apr 28 May 5 May 12 Jun 9 Jun 16 Jul 7 Jul 21 Aug 4 Aug 4 Sep 1 Sep 1 Sep 15 Oct 27	James R. Schantz to Knut Olson Hauge to A. Anderson to William McGee to Oliver Cartier to Herbert Parker to Matt Neutzling to J. H. Utas to Jess Martinson to Robt Barley to Harvey Hurd to Wm J. Wilson to Walter Ingham Sharpe to	Elizabeth Sayder Margaret Dahlen Gana Ram Lizzie Shaw Sarah Dumont Margaret Price Mary Utas Miss Reid May Stephenson Maggie Farris Ursula Emery Clara Saunders Mary Ellen Baker
	ewspapers on this website	,
1906		
Feb 1	George Akins to	Cora Ohlsen
Feb 15	Ludwig Peterson to	Mabel Hoff
Feb 15	Harry Laushway to	Annie Provost
Mar 1	George Hopfe to	Ida Provo
Mar 1	Len Daily to	Jennie Olburg
Mar 1	Iver Kjos to	Isabella Shaw
Mar 1	Michael Brown to	May Meeker
Mar 8	Chas J. Rother to	Fanny LaPoint
Mar 15	Charles Kolb to	Pearl Myers
Mar 15	Geo W. McCarter to	Eula Maude Saunders
Mar 15	Theo T. Lahl to	Lizzie Lutt
Mar 22	Edward Larson to	Ester Pearson
Mar 22	E. J. Muir to	Margaret Smeaton
Mar 22	Robert W. Gibbs to	Lydia E. Thomas
Mar 22	R. W. Halladay to	Edith Moysey
Mar 29	Alva Lambert Heald to	Lulu Rae Locke
Apr 12	John Harris to	Minnie Tubbs
Apr 19	Henry Anderson to	Helloise Williams
May 10	Sherman Wagar to	Margaret Gibson
May 10	Harry Wallace to	Opal Wallace
May 10	James Scott to	Mary Gibson
May 24	E. C. Hardy to	Emma Olstad
Jun 14	Alexander Richmond to	Elsie Ellen Campbell
Jun 21	Egerton Williamson to	Jessie Redden
Jun 21	Frank Layton to	Myrtle Whyte
Jun 21	C. M. Thompson to	Olva G. Wonden
Jul 12	John S. Ford to	Carrie Eastman
Jul 12	Edward Nunnelly to	Annie Totten Nellie Allin
Aug 30	J. Albert Jackson to Bernhard S. Paulsen to	Bertha Kost
Sep 6	Henry Sharkey to	Mary Kadlec
Sep 6 Sep 20	Thos. I. Ryan to	Teresa Barrett
Oct 4	John Howard Fee to	Clara Bertha Berg
Oct 19	Jules Jean Guise to	Eilse Bonimond
Nov 1	Ernest Alfred Winter to	Hilda M. Loney
Nov 1	Spence Murray to	Katie Graff
Nov 8	Fred Erickson to	Rosa Chale
Nov 22	Wm. J. McNamara to	Ida L. Mulloy
	51 Fichamara to	Tad Er Flalloy

1907		
Feb 7	Samuel Olson to	Susan Larson
Feb 14	H. J. Donnelly to	Nellie Blow
Feb 21	Bruce Kerr to	Jemima Meade
Mar 14	Charles Freeman to	Myrtle May Craig
Mar 28	John G. Park to	Mamie Dundas
Nov 14	Edward Blake Johnston to	Ida A. Schumann
Nov 14	W. Sharbona to	Mabel Blair
Nov 14	John Christenson to	Stella Kadlec
Nov 21	T. O. Solomnson to	Tena Nelson
Nov 28	M. J. Lockhart to	M. Fraser
Dec 5	Jas. T. Rattray to	Miss Powers
Dec5	Martin Erickson to	Anna Anderson
Dec 19	Robert Howard Till to	Lottie Gould
Dec 19	John C. McArthur to	Jessie Amanda Scoville
Dec 19	Henry P. Foucar to	Laura Bruce McKenzie
Dec 26	Otto Dahm to	Lillie Weymouth
Sec 26	Mr. Morin to	Agnes Mills
1908	This Floring to	rightes i illis
Feb 6	Ole A. Kvale to	Marit T. Jevne
Feb 27	Ralph Walker to	Emma Fransen
Feb 27	H. T. Ric to	Emma Thorson
Mar 5	E. L. Scotvold to	Miss Hendrickson
Mar 12	E. J. Davies to	H. A. Walker
Mar 19	David Ambler to	D. Whitehead
Mar 26	William Crichton to	Mary Fairbairn
Apr 2	J. F. Bidinger to	Nora Hendrickson
Apr 16	Wm. J. Coley to	Berth Ferlin
Apr 23	J. R. Staples to	M. M. Kottemier
May 28	Frank L. Bentley to	May Nelson
May 28	Oscar Lee to Zernah	Grace Boyd
May 28	E. W. Eklund to	Adeline Oberg
Jun 4	Thomas Roberts to	L. Birkott
Jun 11	Charles Ezra Grant to	Mina Bell Quick
Jun 11	Walter Grey DeForest to	Rose McShane
Jun 25	W. Trevor Roper to	Winnifred N. Roper
Jul 9	Geo. Tait to	Alice Maud Campbell
Jul 23	Robert Clifford Legear to	Bertie Maple Miller
Jul 23	Cecil L. Campbell to	Esther Norlund
Jul 23	William Wilson to	May LePage
Jul 30	James Henry Eastwan to	M. Minnie Johnson Iliff
Jul 30	Peter McKercher to	Christina McMillan
Jul 30	Wm. E. Walker to	Minnie J. Thorsley
1909		
Mar 4	J. W. McKinley to	Martha L. Woodry
Apr 15	George Long to	Martha Paquelin
Apr 19	Ernest Anderson to	Gina Torgenson
May 6	G. W. Hustwayte to	Claire B. Grant
Jul 15	Edward Matherly to	Hazel Violet Lewis
Nov 18	Olgan Paulson to	Hannah Bjorg
Nov 18	John Wellington Ambler to	Annie Marguerite Sykes

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