Chapter XIV

Statistics and the Last Census

In July 1938 it will be 40 years since Bishop Hennesey of Wichita, administrator of Concordia, granted permission for building the first church at Park.

On September 8, 1938, it will be 40 years since the property for a church site and for a cemetery was deeded to the Bishop.

On September 14, 1938, it will be 40 years since the Ohio Waisenfreund, a German Catholic weekly, published an advertisement describing the opportunities of getting cheap and good farm land around Park.

On December 12, 1938, it will be 40 years since the first settlers from South Russia living in Texas, influenced by the above-mentioned advertisement, arrived at Park and gave the impulse for so many friends to follow them. At present, the congregation in its majority consists of German-Russians and their children.

When the first church was completed in 1900, there were twenty-two families: 1 Geo. Birrer; 2 John Fahey; 3 Henry Feldt; 4 John Feldt; 5 John Forster; 6 George Forster; 7 Joseph Forster; 8 John Jegen; 9 Charles Kane; 10 Nikolaus Mardian; 11 Philip Martin; 12 John Meier; 13 David Mosier; 14 A. Nester; 15 Edward Norton; 16 H. Ploeger.
In 1905 the number of families increased to eighty-nine, not including a few single men, according to the information by John Loewenstein. The Liber Status Animarum, however, has listed for the year 1905 only sixty-two families; it is possible, however, that the list in the parish record is not complete.

In 1910, after the Catholics around Grainfield had separated from Park, the Liber Status Animarum shows fifty-eight families only; according to the same book in 1923 there were 154 families. The first census taken up by Rev. Fr. Burkard September 1, 1928, shows 157 families with 974 souls. By November 15, 1932, this number had increased to 185 families with 1072 souls, and January 5, 1938, to 194 families with 1079 souls.

The Registrum Matrimoniorum starts in November 1905 and reports 178 marriages.

The Registrum Baptismorum starts in February 1904 and contains 1977 baptisms. The record continues in the Liber Baptismorum begun December 4, 1931, and up to December 31, 1937, lists 216 baptisms.

The record of Interments starts with January 22, 1906, and reports the burial of seventy-five adults and children.

Census of the parish in January 1938
The number in brackets ( ) shows the total of children born in the family; the next number the children still living in the family, and the last number, the total of souls in the family now living in the parish.
1 Albers, Nikolaus and Mary, nee Schulte (3) second wife Catherine, nee Stump. Mrs. Albers and family moved from Angelus to Park in the summer of 1914.
2 Albers, Anthony and Helena Theresia, nee Schulte.
3 Albers, Herrmann Henry and Louise Ann, nee Schulte 1 3
Anton and Herrmann are sons of Nikolaus.
4 Bieker, Alex, a widower, (10) and Catherine, nee Forster. 3 5 a widow. Alex came from Schoenchen; Catherine is a daughter of the first Catholic settler.
5 Billinger, John and Mary, nee Riedel (10) came from Victoria in 1915.
6 Billinger, Otto and Frances, nee Mardian; a son of John.
7 Brungardt, Peter and Theresia, nee Biddle; came from Grainfield in 1937.
8 Brungardt, John Sr. and Anna Margaret, nee Kippes (4); he is a retired section foreman and with his sons operates General Merchandise store since 1924.
9 Burgardt, John Jr. and Adolphina, nee Brunardt; is a son of John Sr.
10 Cooksey, Dave (a convert) and Lydia, nee Scherr; came in 1920 from Hill City; married 1922; manager of the Lumber Yard and John Deere Farm Implements.
11 Domning, Peter and Sophia, nee Daches (8) moved from Grainfield in 1937.
12 Depperschmidt, John, a widower (4) and Katherine, nee Kreutzer (10) came from Liebenthal, Rush Co, in 1909.
13 Depperschmidt, Paul and Julia, nee Goetz; they have one 1 3
adopted child; Paul is the son of John’s second wife.

14 Depperschmidt, Alex and Josephine, nee Younger and a son of wife’s sister; Alex is a son of John’s first wife. 5 8
15 Depperschmidt, Bernard and Josephine, nee Leiker. 5 7
16 Depperschmidt, Alphonse and Mathilda, nee Kuhn; Bernard and Alphonse are sons of Jacob who moved from Liebenthal to Park in 1908 and left in 1934 for LaCrosse, Rush Co.
17 Dinkel, Anton and Rosalia, nee Giebler; came from Grainfield to Park in 1935.
18 Dinkel, Florian, a widower, (14) and Margaret, nee Younger a widow, (9) moved in 1930 from St. Peter to Park.
19 Dreher, Paul and Elizabeth, nee Hertl (13) moved from Schoenchen to Park in 1930 to get more land.
20 Dreher, Anton and Christine, nee Kuntz. 1 3
21 Dreher, Fidelis and Philomene, nee Schwarzenberger. 2
22 Dreher, William and Pauline, nee Pfannenstiel; Anton, Fidelis and William are sons of Paul.
23 Engel, Clarence and Lidwina, nee Rome, came from Grainfiled in 1937; he is a farmer and a teacher in a grade school.
24 Fahey, Willy Sr. and his sister Rosa, children of John Sr.
25 Fahey, Thomas and Rosa Mary, nee Shipper, (5), a convert. 1 3
26 Fahey, William Jr. and Bertha, nee Linnenberger, (9); the happy parents of two pair of twins within one year.
27 Fahey, John and Silvia Mary, nee Blackwill, a convert; William and John are sons of Tom.
28 Feldt, Anton and Anna Katherine, nee Reinert. 9 11
29 Mrs. Feldt, John, Victoria, nee Leiker, a widow; Anton and 5 6
30 John are sons of John.
Mrs. Forster, John, Nettie, nee Hanish, a widow (5); John was a son of the first Catholic settler George; she is a convert.
31 Gallagher, William H., single, son of William Sr. and Emma, nee Martin; moved in 1918 from Stockton, Kansas, to Park.
32 Gallagher, Philip and Mary, nee Taylor, a non-Catholic; Philip’s father, Frank, came first to Park in 1893; in 1895 he left for Marshall County and returned again in 1905.
33 Goetz, Andrew A. and Victoria, nee Billinger, (4) came in 1910 1 3
34 Goetz, Edmund and Helen, nee Gallagher; Edmund is a son of Andrew; Helen a sister of William.
35 Goetz, Joseph Sr. and Marie, nee Dreiling, (8) moved from Gorham in March 1910, to Park.
36 Goetz, Raymond and Clementine, nee Depperschmidt. 4 6
37 Goetz, Otto and Johanna, nee Meder. 6 8
38 Goetz, William and Erma, nee Gallagher. 2 4
39 Goetz, Mike and Catherine, nee Depperschmidt; Raymond, Otto, William and Mike are sons of Joseph Sr.
40 Goetz, Joseph P. and Clara, nee Windholz, came first to Park in 1917 as cashier of the bank; left in 1920 and returned again in 1927 as elevator manager.
41 Mrs. Haffner, Nick, Theresa, nee Lovenstein (9). The Haffner family came to Park in 1910, moved the following year to Collyer for five years. His son John, however, came back to Park after two years.
42 Haffner, John and Frances, nee Lang (12). 11 13
43 Haffner, Clement and Clara, nee Zerr. 5 7
44 Haffner, Raymond and Catherine, nee Zerr. 8 10
John, Clement and Raymond are sons of Nikolaus.
45 Hansel, Math and Marie, nee Stefan, arrived in 1937. 1 3
Mrs. Hartman, Lorenz, Katherine, nee Fieger (7) immigrated

PAGE 54
in spring, 1907, from South Russia.

Mrs. Hartman, Thomas, Emilia, nee Heier (8); Thomas is a son of Lorenz.  4 5

Hartman, David Theophil and Genevieve, nee Wildemann;  1 3
David is a son of Thomas.

Hecker, John and Ann Marie, nee Herzog (9) transferred from Plantersville, Texas, in 1903; moved to North Dakota in 1913 and returned in 1918.  5 7

Hecker, Emanuel and Marie, nee Spies.  6 8

Hecker, Martin and Frances, nee Ziegler; Emanuel and Martin are sons of John.

Heier, Andreas and Katharine, nee Wildemann (12) immigrated in April, 1903, from South-Russia.  1 3

Heier, Balthasar and Cecelia, nee Zimmermann (9). He intended to come with his father, but owing to an eye disease he was detained on the German border; his wife continued on while he returned to a hospital at Odessa; the following year he succeeded in entering the U.S.A.  2 4

Heier, John and Marie, nee Heusler (8).  6 8

Heier, George and Barbara, nee Zerr.  5 7

Heier, Michael and Marie Anna, nee Kuntz; Balthasar, John, George, and Mike are sons of Andrew.

Heier, Peter and Magdalene, nee Zerr.  6 8

Heier, Valentine and Margaret, nee Zerr.  1 3

Heier, Jacob and Susanna, nee Maurath (5).  4 6

Peter, Valentine, and Jacob are sons of Balthasar.

Heier, Anton and Marcella, nee Schmitzberger, a son of John.  1 3

Hein, Joseph, a widower (10) and Anna Margaret, widow of Andrew Kuhn (10). In 1909 Joseph Hein moved from Schoenchen, Ellis Co. to Park in order to obtain more and cheaper land.

Herzog, Frank and Elizabeth, nee Leiker (9).  7 9

Herzog, Peter and Magdalene, nee Matern.  1 3

Herzog, Joseph, single. Frank, Peter and Joseph are sons of Martin who came from Plantersville, Texas to Park November 8, 1903, and now lives with his son Fr. Leo, pastor, Vernon, Mo.  4 6


Jacobs, Silvanus and Loretta, nee Leiker; son of Joseph.  2 4

Jerem, George, a widower, and Anne Schulte, a widow, (4) 12 nee Geist.

Kaiser, Ludwig and Anna, nee Zimmermann (9) immigrated with Andrew Heier from Russia in 1903.  5 7

Kaiser, Paul and Elizabeth, nee Ochs (10).  4 6

Kaiser, John and Theresia, nee Zimmermann (3); Paul & John are brothers and arrived here in January, 1908, from Russia. The agent in Odessa who wrote the tickets made a mistake and directed them to Parsons, Kansas, instead of Buffalo Park, Kansas. When they embarked from the train there was no one of their friends to welcome them. They soon found out they had not reached their right destination. What was worse, was that they had forgotten even the name of Buffalo Park. What should they do now? A German Restaurant keeper and a French farmer who knew a little German took care of them and gave them work until they found a way to ret to their destination. Letters were sent to many Catholic
priests in different parts of Kansas to locate a German-
Russian Catholic settlement where there lived a family by the
name of Kaiser. One of these letters reached the pastor of Vic-
toria, a German-Russian settlement. The pastor, Rev. Fr.
Jerome, O.M.Cap., read the letter from the pulpit the following
Sunday and asked that whoever knew of a Kaiser family
should report it. It happened that Miss Margaret Brungardt,
now Mrs. Joseph Mermis at Hays, a former teacher at Park,
was in the congregation and remembered a Kaiser family at
Park. After some long weeks of waiting the lost immigrants
at Parsons found their way to their brother Ludwig at Buf-
falo Park.

67 Kaiser, George and Helena, nee Zimmermann.

68 Kaiser, Alois and Katherine, nee Malsam.

All these five Kaisers are brothers; the last two came with
their parents to Hamburg, Germany; there the father died;
because of eye sickness the boys were sent back to Russia to be
cares for. The mother sailed with a daughter and reached
Park in March, 1908; the boys followed a month later.

69 Kaiser, Anton and Frances, nee Melroy; a son of Ludwig.

70 Kaiser, Joseph and Mary, nee Ochs; a son of John.

71 Kehler, Joseph and Anna, nee Wittman (11), came from
Topeka in March, 1911.

72 Kennedy, James, a widower, and Effa, nee Gallagher, moved
from Hays in 1933.

73 Kinderknecht, Anton and Susanna, nee Brungardt, came
with his mother from Catherine, Ellis Co., in 1905.

74 Kinderknecht, Alexander and Anna, nee Bollig; Alexander
and Anton are brothers.

75 Kraft, Lambert and Frances, nee Haffner; immigrated in
June, 1905, from South-Russia.

76 Kraft, Wendelin and Veronica, nee Haffner.

77 Kraft, Alexander and Mathilda, nee Billinger.

78 Kraft, Joseph and Victoria, nee Billinger, and his mother.

79 Kraft, John and Leoba, nee Mense.

Wendelin, Alex, Joseph and John are sons of John, a
brother of Lambert, who came from South-Russia in March
19, 1907.

80 Kronawitter, John and Dorothy, nee Dreher (10), transferred
from Antonino, Ellis Co. in July, 1929.

81 Kronawitter, Alois and Isabella, nee Berens; a son of John

82 Kuntz, Jacob and Mathilda, nee Waldmann, (9) reached
Park in December, 1905, from South-Russia.

83 Kuntz, Titus and Mathilda, nee Herzog, son of Jacob.

84 Lederhos, Joseph and Margaret, nee Wittman; arrived the
fall of 1937 from Vincent, Ellis Co.

85 Leiker, Peter P. and Elizabeth, nee Zimmermann (7); trans-
ferred in 1915 from Victoria, Ellis Co. and opened a store. He
has been the organist since 1916.

86 Leiker, Peter A. and Angela, nee Befort (14) came in 1918
from Walker, Ellis Co., P. A. and P. P. are cousins.

87 Leiker, Herbert and Catherine, nee Schoenfeldt, son of P. A.

88 Leiker Alvin and Mary, nee Marquette; son of Peter P.

89 Linneberger, Clement and Elizabeth, nee Dreiling (7)
Bonaventure Linneberger.

Clement and Bonaventure are sons of Peter.

90 Lipp, George and Susanna, nee Zimmermann, moved from 46
Colyer in 1928.
Loevenstein, Matt and Victoria, nee Kress (11) immigrated from South-Russia in March 1905.

Loevenstein, John and Magdalene, nee Blattner (6) and his father came from South-Russia in 1903. Matt and John are brothers.

Loevenstein, Jacob and Barbara, nee Spies; son of John

Malsam, Adam and Theresa, nee Lutz (4) reached Park in 1905 from South-Russia.

Marcotte, Abner Dr. Med. & Mary Catherine, nee Cassidy (1)

Mrs. Mardian, Nick, Katherine, nee Zimmermann (9), one of the first German-Russian settlers.

Marquelling, Joseph and Barbara, nee Zimmermann, came from Logan, Kansas, in 1922.

Martin, Philip and Ruth, nee McClure, a convert; (7) one of the first Irish settlers — came with his father.

Martin, Philip Jr. and Fannie, nee Ringer, a convert, son of Philip Sr.

Martin, Wayne R., a convert in 1936 and Oliva, nee Goetz

Meder, John and Katherine, nee Schmidtberger, came from Pfeifer, Ellis Co., in 1920.

Meder, Martin and Maria, nee Basgall, (10) moved from Pfeifer, Ellis Co., in 1920.

Mrs. Markus Melroy, Mannie nee Jenkins, a convert (3), one of the first settlers.

Merklinger, George and Geneve, nee Meis, arrived from Ellis Co., in 1930.

Mrs. Meyer, Mike, Eva, nee Distel (9) moved from Pfeifer, Ellis Co., in 1904.

Miller, James and Rosina, nee Wildemann, transferred from Collyer, in 1930.

Norton, Edward, a convert, and Johanna, nee Fahey (5) one of the first settlers.

Norton, John M. and Philomena, nee Linneberger (3).

Norton, Eddy and Goldie Mary, nee Blackwill, a convert.

Ochs, Georgy and Susanna, nee Griesemer (5) immigrated from South-Russia in December, 1906.

Ochs, Stephan (2) and Dorthy, nee Haffner, arrived in May, 1904, in company of J. Schnellbach and Matt Loevenstein.

Ochs, Anton and Eleanor, nee Heier (9).

Ochs, Henry and Anna, nee Haffner (9).

Stephen, Anton, and Henry are sons of George.

Mrs. Ochs, John, Andolina, nee Kirchgaessler (5) came from North Dakota in 1905.

Ochs, Caspar and Elizabeth, nee Waldmamn; son of John.

Ploeger, Anton, a widower (10) immigrated in 1909 from South-Russia to Collyer and in 1920 moved to Park.

Rohr, Martin and Mathilda, nee Herrmann, came from Liebenthal, Rush Co. in 1930.

Mrs. Rueschhoff, William, Margaret Helen, nee Wieland, (7) arrived from Angelus in 1909 and lived 11 years on the farm; in 1920 they moved to town and Mr. Rueschhoff became the elevator manager of the Robinson Elevator.

Schick, Joseph and Theresa, nee Wolf (7) one of the first German-Russian settlers who arrived in 1902 but in 1914 left for Wisconsin. He returned in 1925.

Schmitt, Joseph and Alma, nee Torrance, a convert, (4) came to Park in 1919.

Schoenfeld, Martin and Marie, nee Ploeger (6) arrived in 1905.
121 Schoenfeldt, Andrew, widower of Clementine, nee Kruger, a convert, came in 1922.
122 Schoenfeldt, Jacob and Elizabeth, nee Dome, settled here in 1935.
123 Schoenfeldt, Peter, Barbara and Edward came in 1925. Peter, Martin, Andrew, Jacob and Edward are brothers, who transferred from Pfeifer, Ellis County.
124 Schumacher, Mikodem and Elizabeth, nee Stecklein, came from Munior, Ellis Co., in 1930.
125 Mrs. Schwarz, Fred, Clara, nee Linneberger (1); Fred is 5 a son of Alexander, one of the first settlers.
126 Selensky, Adam (Orsak) and Barbara, nee Kress (8) reached Park in 1903 in company with John Loeveinstein and Jos. Zimmermann from South-Russia.
127 Selensky, Jacob and Margaret, nee Schwarzenberger.
128 Selensky, Adam F. and Clara, nee Ziegler.
Jacob and Adam F. are sons of Adam.
129 Stecklein, Alex J. and Scholastica, nee Schuppe (5); moved from Munior in 1924.
130 Stecklein, Victor and Paulina, nee Dreher; a son of Alex.
131 Mrs. Stefan, Michael, Emilia, nee Waldmann, (11) came from North Dakota in 1931.
132 Stegmann, John and Agnes, nee Kuhn, reached here in 1931. Tholen, Theodore, a widower (4), transferred from Colorado in October 1937.
133 Toepfer, Philip and Josepha, nee Schwarz, came from California in 1933.
134 Treutken, John and Katherine, nee Feldt, arrived after the World War in 1919 from St. Libory, Ill.
135 Mrs. Ure, John E., Margaret, nee Frick, moved from Healy Kansas. In 1913 she taught in the North Park School and the next year married John Ure, a non-Catholic.
136 Unterleiner, Joe and Elizabeth, nee Munsch; Martin Unterleiner, whose father came from South-Russia in 1905.
Mrs. Waldmann, Ferdinand, Ottilia nee Bitz (6). Ferdinand and his wife left South-Russia in 1893 to avoid military service and worked in North Dakota and Montana. After three years they returned to Russia following the wishes of his father. However, he was forced to serve in the army for nearly four years. In 1903 he came back to the U.S.A. and settled at Park.
137 Waldmann, George and Magdalene, nee Schlick (10).
138 Waldmann, Titus and Elizabeth, nee Zimmermann (11).
Ferdinand, George and Titus are brothers; the last two with their father, George, came to Park in July, 1904.
139 Waldmann, Pius and Anna, nee Loeveinstein (6).
140 Waldmann, Nikodemus and Josephine, nee Herzog.
Pius and Nikodemus are sons of Ferdinand.
141 Waldmann, Basilius and Anna, nee Zerr.
142 Waldmann, Paulinus and Perpetua, nee Ziegler. Basilius and Paulinus are sons of Titus.
143 Waldschmidt, Andreas and Monica, nee Jacobs (7) moved from Ellis in 1930.
144 Weber, Jacob and Rosa, nee Herrmann (13) transferred from Victoria, Ellis Co., in 1920.
145 Weber, Andreas and Theresia, nee Forster, came in 1914. Jacob and Andreas are brothers.
146 Mrs. Wedman, Frank, Maggie, nee Fahey (2).
147 Wedman, Francis and Helena Marie, nee Blackwill, a convert; a son of Frank.
148 Weigel, Albert and Barbara, nee Meyer, arrived in 1935.
149 Weimer, George and A. Marie, nee Hartmann, (3) immigrated from Schoenchen, Ellis Co. Thomas is a brother of Mrs. of George's brother.
150 Werth, Robert and Theresia, nee Werth, came from Antonino, Ellis County, in 1929.
151 Werth, Thomas and Bertha, nee Kreutzer, arrived in 1930 from Schoenchen, Ellis Co. Thomas is a brother of Mrs. Robert Werth.
152 Wildemann, John and M. Anna, nee Wagner (7).
153 Wildemann, Valentine and A. Marie, nee Zimmermann (15). John and Valentine are brothers; they reached here with their father, one of the first settlers, in January, 1902, from North Dakota.
154 Wildemann, Ferdinand and Dorothy, nee Selensky; a son of John.
155 Wildemann, Joseph and Agnes, nee Goetz.
156 Wildemann, Michael and Hildegard, nee Meder. Joseph and Michael are sons of Valentine.
157 Wilhelm, Mathias and Margaret, nee Ochs, came from South-Russia to Park in 1926.
158 Wittmann, Alexander and Elizabeth, nee Kreutzer (10) moved from Victoria, Ellis County, in August, 1909.
159 Wittmann, Joseph and Clara, nee Kuhn, and a maid.
160 Wittmann, Nikolaus and Josephine, nee Goetz.
161 Wolf, Bernard and Katherine, nee Zimmermann (9).
162 Wolf, John and Theresia, nee Zerr (10); Bernard and John are brothers; they came with their parents from South-Russia in April, 1903.
163 Mrs. Younger, Jos. Sr., Pauline, nee Dreiling (10) reached here from New Mexico in 1904.
164 Younger, Joseph, Jr. and Monica, nee Meder (4).
165 Younger, Edmund and Bertha, nee Billinger.
166 Younger, William and Mary, nee Lang.
167 Younger, Mike and Rosa, nee Dechant, transferred in 1924 from Munjor.
168 Zerr, Anton and Christina, nee Selensky (10) settled here in 1903.
169 Zerr, Clement and Josephine, nee Schafer (13) arrived in 1910.
170 Zerr, Joseph and Barbara, nee Wolf (9); came in 1903. Anton, Clement and Joseph are brothers.
171 Zerr, Nikolaus and Leokadia, nee Waldmann (8).
172 Zerr, Joseph A. and Agatha, nee Heier.
173 Zerr, Clement A. and Maria, nee Zerr.
174 Zerr, Jacob A. M. and Emerenziana, nee Heier.
175 Zerr, Frank and Albina, nee Ziegler; Nikolaus, Joseph A. N. and Frank are sons of Anton.
176 Zerr, Adam M. and Josephine, nee Baumann (11) came in 1910.
177 Zerr, Peter and Anna, nee Heier; son of Adam M.
178 Zerr, Adam and Marie, nee Ochs, (10); arrived in 1902 from
Texas; one of the first settlers.

179 Zerr, Jacob and Margaret, nee Blumenschein (6) came in 1904. 2
   Adam and Jacob are brothers, and sons of Adam Sr.
180 Zerr, George and Ada, nee Dreiling. 1 2
181 Zerr, Rochus and Leona, nee Leiker. 1 3
   George and Rochus are sons of Adam.
182 Zerr, Chrysostom Christopher and Barbara, nee Zerr a son of Jacob.
183 Ziegler, Theodore and Regina, nee Heier (13) came from 2 4
   Collyer to Park in 1924.
184 Ziegler, Anton and Magdalene, nee Wenz (9) came from 2 4
   Collyer to Park in 1924.
185 Ziegler, Adam William and Genevieve, nee Heier; son of Anton 2
186 Zimmermann, Rochus and Helen, nee Ochs (4). 2
187 Zimmermann, Frank and Magdalene, nee Mardian (8). 3 5
188 Zimmermann, Mike and Barbara, nee Bitz (11). 4 6
   Rochus, Frank and Mike are brothers, sons of Daniel, one
   of the first settlers who arrived in 1908 from Texas.
189 Zimmermann, Martin and Barbara, nee Zerr, a son of Rochus. 8 10
190 Mrs. Zimmermann, Joseph, Margaret, nee Wolf (7); immi-
   grated from South-Russia in 1903.
191 Zimmermann, Theodore and Rosalia, nee Heier (12). 11 13
192 Zimmermann, Bernard and Marie, nee Wildemann. 7 9
   Theodore and Bernard are sons of Joseph.
193 Zimmermann, George Theodore and Rosa, nee Depperschmidt, 8 10
   moved from Schoenchen in May 1922.