

Ulrich Engle letter describes Indian raid on Mennonite settlers

The following article is taken from a recent issue of **The Diary**, a publication of the Old Order Amish Church of America. It is part of a series in Amish genealogy that is being compiled by Joseph F. Beiler.

The Ulrich Engle who is mentioned as one of the writers of the 1775 letter is buried in East Donegal (Reich's) Cemetery. Many

of his descendents live in our area today.

Jacob Engle, a grandson of the River Brethren, now the Brethren in Christ. The Brethren group broke away from their Mennonite mother church in part because of a disagreement over the practice of total immersion in baptism—one of the reasons why the River Brethren were sometimes

called Dunkards.

The meeting at which the new Brethren group was formed took place in the "Mottleina House"—a stone house standing near Stacktown on a property presently owned by Mrs. G.S. Hoffman. Adjoining the "Mottleina House" is a building which was used by Jacob Engle as a home for his family and a church for his congregation. It is now the residence of Mrs. Hoffman.

Reprint from 'The Diary'

Another paragraph from the invaluable work of Delbert Grant is of special interest (see page 85, Bernese Anabaptist). A letter dated December 7, 1775, was sent by Ulrich Engle, Christian Brechbuhl and Isaac Neuenschwander (Alsatian Amish), who were then in Donegal, PA (now Elizabethtown-Maytown-Mount Joy area), to their friends and relatives in the Jura. In this letter it was mentioned that a man named King, or Leroy in French, formerly of Sonceboz, had left his wife and young children at Conestoga, most likely the Conestoga proper (now Willow Street-New Danville), and had gone with his elder son and daughter and farm helper, Odina from Tramelan, and other people to a settlement on the frontier called Shamokin. The Indians warned the settlement that they should leave or suffer the consequences. The white settlers refused to heed this warning and some time later there came an Indian attack. The homes of six families were burned, thirteen persons were killed and the rest taken captive. King was killed and his son, daughter, and farm helper taken captive (see page 140 of Vol. 5, 1973 Diary, for the whole story). This King, or Leroy, pioneered in the Shamokin area although he pushed westward to Penns Creek, west of the Susquehanna. This area was just opened to white settlers in 1754 and the Indians disputed about the boundary, which was not fully established yet in 1775 when the raid occurred. This King, or Leroy family was Mennonite and possibly also of Amish descent according to the Dr. Gratz study.

25 years with United Telephone Company

George J. Berrier, 819 South Spruce Street, Elizabethtown, has recently observed his 25th year of service with the United Telephone Company of PA.

He and his wife, the former A. Margaret Barn-

hart, have three children: Michele, Marcia, and Mary. The couple attend the United Church of Christ.

Included among his hobbies are hunting, fishing, bowling and gardening.

AARP to have Oct. 8 meeting in Lancaster

The next meeting of the Lancaster Chapter #530 of the AARP will be held at the Hellenic Orthodox Church, 64 Hershey Ave. on October 8. The meeting will start at 2 p.m. and a film called "Safety" will be shown. The film was pro-

duced by AARP.

The speaker of the evening will be Lt. James McMullen of the Lancaster Police Department. There will be a short business session, a songfest and refreshments. Guests are invited.

Host surprise party for Bobby Kirvinskee

Dorothy Sipling, Rheems and Nancy Madara entertained at a surprise birthday party for Bobby Kirvinskee on Sunday, September 26 at the Sipling home.

Guests attending were Frances Houseal, Jean Lowe, Nancy Sargen, Elsie Kulman, Josie Long, Gail Goodhart, Merle Hetch, and Carol Englert.

Marietta Sr. League to hold meeting

by Elsie McCloskey

The Marietta Senior League, will hold their regular monthly meeting, on Monday afternoon at 1:30 at the Community House.

Mrs. Martin Swarr of Landisville, will give a demonstration on wrapping gift packages and fashioning artistic bows, for same.

Tickets for the October Bus Trip, will be on sale at this time.

4 Diamonds Fund will sponsor benefit auction on Saturday

Friends of the Four Diamonds Fund, established at The Milton S. Hershey Medical Center for the purpose of providing financial relief for families of children with cancer who are treated at the Medical Center, will sponsor a benefit auction Saturday,

October 2, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at Hershey Highmeadow Camp.

Contributions of items to be sold at the auction are now being sought. Used furniture, accessories, anti-ques, dishes, glassware, produce, etc. (but no cloth-

ing) are all welcome.

Donors may contact a member of the auction committee for pick-up of items. Committee members are Helen Hahn, 566-2715; Violet Lehman, 566-2083; and John A. Meyers, 367-3479.



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