



[Andrew Peterson and family papers](#)

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CONSTITUTION

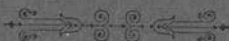
-AF-

CARVER COUNTY

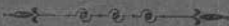
ÖMSESIDIGA

HAGEL VÖRSÄKRINGS

COMPANY.



ORGANIZERAT DEN 1STE MARS 1879



CARVER:
FREE PRESS.
1880.

CONSTITUTION

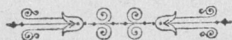
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CARVER COUNTY

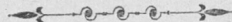
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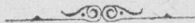


OFFICERERNAS NAMN:

PRESIDENT.....Ernest Popplz.
VICE PRESIDENT..... John J. Broberg.
Sekriter.. .. Henry Rietz.
Skattmastare..... John Lundsten.
General Agent..... Paul Bierlein.

DIREKTORER:

TOBIAS OTTINGER.
ADAM HILL.
HENRY HOEFFKEN.



CARVER:
FREE PRESS.
1880.

12,422

En lag antagen af Minnesota States Lagstiftande församling att gifva rättighet att organisera ett ömsesidigt Hagel försäkrings company inom Carver County

Hvader beslutar af Minnesota Stats Lagstiftande församling.

I sta Sectionen.

Det skall vara lagligt för ett antal personer "icke mindre än tjugo" boende inom Carver County och egnande sig i yrket af jord bruk, att organisera sig i ett ömsesidigt försäkrings Company under namn af "Carver County Ömsesidiga Hagel försäkrings company, för ömsesidig försäkring emot förluster genom hagel af säd och gröda af alla slag, lin, humle och annan gröda inbegripadt. Companyet må föra rättegångar uppgöra contracter, göra och låta inför alla domstolar inom Staten. Och skall hafva samma vanliga makt och rättighet, och vara underkastad alla vanliga skyldigheter af en förening under Minnesota StatsLagar.

II Sectionen.

Föreningens möten skall hållas första måndagen i Mars månad hvarje år, på tid och plats som föreningens bilagar föreskrifver och bestämmer wid hvilket tillfälle. Medlemmarne af nämde förening skall välja tjenstemän nämligen.

En president en vice president en sekretär en skattmästare tre directörer, hvilka skall utgöra en direction för styrelsen af financiella och andra affärer för Föreningen.

III de sectionen

Directörerna eller styresmänen skola inlämna förenings articklar tillkämmed bilagarne och namnen af föreningens officers till Registera af Deeds af Carver County.

IV de sectionen

Förenings Artiklarne af sådan förening skall binda hvarje medlem, hans arvingar och efter lefvande att till skattmästaren af föreningen inom föreskrifven tid betala sin andel utaf skada och föluter skedd genom hagel till tillhörig medlemmar af föreningen.

Vta sectionen

Hvarje medlem af en sådan förening som lider förlust af sin gröda förorsakad af hagel skall inom två dagar efter sådan förlust är skedd underrätta presidenten eller sekreteraren af föreningen. Hvilken skall genast samman kalla directjonen, hvilkens skyldighet skall vara när så församlade, att utnämna en Committee, af icke mindre än tre och icke flera än fem af föreningens medlemmar, att bestämma värdet af sådan förlust; committeeen skall efter noggran undersökning af den skadade grödan afgifven skriftlig rapport till föreningens sekretär angående värdet af den skadade grödan, och skall emna en afskrift af samma rapport till den, som ledit fölusten. I fall den sökande skulle vara missnöjd med, committeeens beslut skall han innan tjugofyra timmar efter han bekommit afskrift detsamma ingifva till presidenten en skriftlig anhallan om annan värdering af förlusten och derefter skall en af föreningens embetsmän utse och förordna en opar-

partisk person att handla såsom värderings man, den som lidit förlusten skall välja en "andre", och de två så walda skall välja den Tredje och dessa tre skola boardera taxera eller värdera förlusten summan deras åtskilliga värderingar eller taxeringar skall adderas tillsammans och divideras med tre, och summan af denna formering skall utgöra förlusten eller skadan, för hvilken föreningen skall vara ansvarig.

Vite sectionen.

Närhelst summan af någon förlust skall hafva blifvet bestämd skall presidenten sammankalla föreningens direction hvilken skall fördela förlusten mellan de åtskilliga medlemmarne af föreningen genom att taxera hela förlusten på antalet "acres" af landet assurerat, och taxera hvarje medlem lika i proportion af så många acres som han skall hafva assurerat.

VIIde setionen.

Det skall vara sekreterarens skyldighet närhelst en sådan fördelning blifvet utgjord komplett, att genast skriftligen underrätta hvarje medlem af föreningen, under hans vanliga post office adress, summan af hela förlusten, och summan hvilken han har att betala så som sin andel, samt tiden inom hvilken summa och till hvilken person den skall betalas.

VIIIde sectionen.

Hvarje medlem må stå till laga ansvar till föreningen om han förnekar eller underlåter att betala sin ålagda andel af den beviljade taxeringen under provissionerna af denna akt; och direktörerna af föreningen är likaledes lag-

ligen ansvariga hvar och en för sig till den peeson som lidit skade eller förlust om de uraktlåter eller förnekar att fullgöra sina under denna akt ålagda skyldigheter.

IXde sectionen.

Hvilken medlem som helst kan wid hvilken tid som helst utträda ur föreningen genom att skriftligen underrätta presidenten eller sekreteraren derom och betala sin andel af föreningens dåvarande ålagda utskylder. Och det skall vara sekreterarens skyldighet, att då en medlem utträder ur föreningen underrätta andra medlemmar därom.

Xde sectionen.

Sådant förening må antaga sådana bilagar som är endast öfverensstämmande med provissionerna af denna akt. Och må deri förskrifva tjänstemännens skyldigheter och lönewilkor.

XIte sectionen

Denna akt skall taga sin början och fortsättas i laga kraft från och efter den blifvet antagen. Stadfastad den 3dre. Mars 1879.

Föreningens Ärtiklar

I

Vi undertecknade innbyggare af Carver County i Minnesota egnade åt jordbruk, härmed förenar oss tillsammans under namn af Carver County Önsisidiga Hagel försäkrings förening under och till följe af en akt berättigad af Minnesota Stats, Lagstiftande församling, benämnd en akt att tillåta en organisation af Carver County öm-

sesieiga Hagel försäkrings förening. Stadfästade den 3dje Mars 1879 för ömsesidiga försäkring emot förlust eller skada förorsakad af hagel till säd af alla slag lin huude och annan gröda. föreskrifvet i 7de sectionen af förutnämnde akt angående summan vi äro skyldige att betala enligt vår annel i lidna förluster af skada tillkommen genom Hagel till gröda ägd af medlemmar af föreningen.

III

Widare ömsesidigt öfverenskommer och lofvar hvarandra att göra och fullgöra alla fodringar af sagde akt, och bilagar som skall göras o:h iakttagas af föreningens medlemmar till alla delar i enlighet med de fodringar som i lag, en och bilagarna föreskrifna äro.

Betygar våra namn och sigill den 31te Mars A. D. 1879

II

För sådant ändamål rörande vår förening förbinder vi ossjelva, våra arfvingar och befälmäktige att betala till föreningens skattmästare inom trettio dagar efter att hatva bekommit notis från föreningens sedretär derom

ERNEST POPPITZ	[sigill]
JOHN J. BROBERG	[sigill]
JOHN JOHNSON	[sigill]
P. J. FRIED	[sigill]
PAUL BIERLEIN	[sigill]
NICHOLAS SWENSON	[sigill]
JEREMIAH EHMANN	[sigill]
PHILIP PIERSON	[sigill]
TOBIAS OTTLINGER	[sigill]
JOHN LUNDSTEN	[sigill]
GOTTLIEB MAETZOLD	[sigill]
ADOLPH KRANKE	[sigill]
JACOB OETTLINGER	[sigill]
G. B. NELSON	[sigill]
JOHN BOEGARTS	[sigill]
HENRY PETERMANN	[sigill]
ANDREW PETERSON	[sigill]
HENRY RIETZ	[sigill]
HENRY GERDSEN	[sigill]
JOHN HOFFMANN	[sigill]

BI-LAGAR.

Wid offentligt möte agående Carver County Ömsesidiga Hagel försäkrings förening hållet i Lake Town den 31te Mars 1879, antoges följande bi-lagar

1. Föreningens skattmästare och sekreterär skall innan de tillträder sina åtskilliga embeten hvardera inlemna en god och antaglig borgern (pound) till direktionen för så stor summa som föreningen från tid till tid bestämmer till säkerhet att de i sina åtskilliga embeten fullgöra och förwalta detsamma.

2. Närhälist en taxering för förluster blifvet gjord såsom föreskrifvet är i 6te sectionen af Lagstiftande församlingens akt att gifva rättighet att organisera denna förening skall summan ålagd hvarje medlem betalas innan eller sist 1st October samma år, och den som lider skada eller förlust af gröda skall af föreningens bekomma den af föreningen bestämda summa före eller sist den 1st November samma år.

3. Föreningens ansvarighet enligt en "policy" warar och eger laga bestånd till dess säden är i stack, men i intet fall skall någon ansvarighet af sådan "policy" äga laga waraktighet längre än till 15de dagen af September.

4. Inträdesafgiften är två dollars och femtio cents per medlem, af föreningen och måste betalas antingen contant eller med skuldsedel (nota) med tio per cents årlig renta å densamma innan han kan bliwa antagen till medlemskap och beräntigad till föreningens förmoner.

5. Skattmästaren skall utbetala penningar endast genom en anvisning (order) från föreningens säkretär underskrifven af presidenten.

6. Skulle peesidenten genom sjukdom eller andra oförmögenheter förhindras att sköta sitt embete, bör vice presidenten att handla såsom president i hans ställe under sådan tid och wid sådana tillfällen.

7. Medlemskapet inom föreningen upphör om fyra år från första följande October efter dato af medlemsbev s.

8. Skulle någon af embetsmännens office blifva vacant skall directionen utnämna en person af föreningen att fylla denna vacancy, och den person så utnämnd skall förstå embetet till nästa påföljande eller årliga wal af föreningens embetsmän.

9. Dessa bi-lagar kan ombytas och förändras från tid till tid utaf majoriteten af röstberättigade medlemmar närvarande wid antingen regular eller sammankallade möten.

10. Föreningens årliga möten skall hållas E. Poppitz Laketown.

Alla policier eller certifikater af medlemskap från denna förening skall utfärdas och underskifvas af sekretäraren samt underskrifvas af presidenten eller annan person berättigad att handla göra och låta i hans ställe.

(underskrivet) Ernest Poppitz pres.

Henry Rietz, Sekretär

Skade ersättning inom föreningen skall vara som följer. per acre.

Hvete	\$10
Majs (Corn)	10
Socker gör	10
Hafre	8
Korn	8
Klöver & Timothej	8
Potäter	12
Wildt-gräs för hö	4
Lin	8
Tobak	12

6. Skulle
dom eller

Return in 10 Days to

C. G. PATTEN,



Proprietor

Charles City Nurseries,
CHARLES CITY, IOWA.



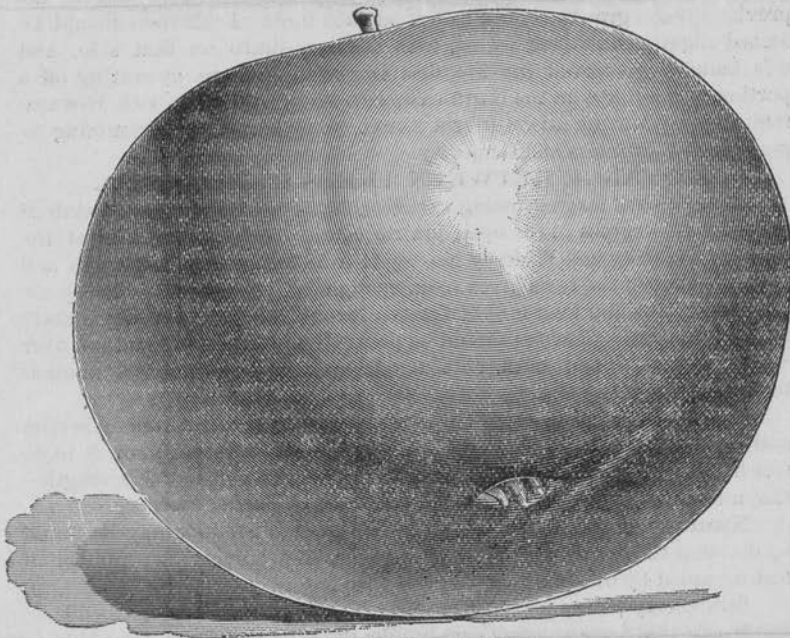
Andrew Peterson

Waconia,

Minnesota,

[ca. 1890.]

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES,
SMALL FRUITS,
VINES,
Flowering Shrubs, Bulbs, Etc.



PATTEN'S GREENING.

CHARLES CITY NURSERIES,

C. G. PATTEN, Proprietor.

Charles City, Floyd County, Iowa.

Established 1866.

INSTRUCTIONS.

Trees that have been in the transit during freezing weather and are likely to be frozen, should have water poured into the bale or box, so as to be sure the roots are thoroughly wet; then put them in cellar, or other place until the frost is all out of the roots before exposing them to the air, and they will have received but little if any injury.

Trees should be pruned in proportion to the loss of roots in digging. It is safe to say that a very large per cent. of the trees that fail to grow, is directly attributed to neglect in pruning at the time of planting.

All superfluous branches should be removed. Care should be used to preserve a central stem—and generally only three to five buds of the previous year's growth should be left on each limb. Fruit trees should be leaned slightly to the north-west, with heaviest limbs on that side, and this balance preserved for the first two or three years, by cutting off a portion of the limbs on the north-east, AND YOU HAVE GONE FAR TOWARD INSURING YOUR TREE AGAINST THE FATAL "Sun-Scald" and promoting its general healthfulness and longevity.

DISTANCE BETWEEN TREES IN ORCHARD.

For apples of large growing varieties, 20x24 feet is far enough north of latitude 42 degrees in the open prairie country; while for trees of the habit of Tetofsky and Whitney No. 20, 14 to 16 feet north and south and 18 feet between the rows gives room enough.

For Plums and Pears, 8x12 for the former, and for the latter 12x16 feet is sufficient. Cherries should be planted with low heads and not over 8 feet apart north and south, so that one tree will not protect another from the rays of the sun.

Currants, Goosberries and Red Raspberries, 3x5 feet. Blackberries and Black Raspberries, 3 feet by 6 or 7 feet, and every fifth row 9 to 10 feet between the rows—especially if the rows have considerable length—that a team can be driven through for mulching or other purpose.

Number of plants or trees to a given piece of ground, may be found by dividing the square feet in the given piece of ground by the number of feet occupied by one plant or tree. (43,560 feet make an acre).

Strawberry plants for garden culture, per rod, 2x2 feet, - -	70
Plants that form runners slowly, like the Wilson 1x2 " - -	140
Strawberry plants, per acre, 1½x3½ " -	8,300
Blackberries, " 3½x7 " -	1,800
Trees, " 8x12 " -	450
" " 12x16 " -	225
" " 16x20 " -	135
" " 20x24 " -	90
" " 8x8 " -	680
" " 4x8 " -	1,360
" " 4x12 " -	910

We are adding to our general stock of fruit, ornamental trees, shrubs and plants as rapidly as time and the experience of reliable growers will permit.

In a climate of great extremes of temperature, it is necessary to

select only the most hardy trees and plants; that we may be spared, as much as possible, unnecessary disappointment and expense.

With this purpose in view we have labored untiringly that we might add something to the stability and progress of horticulture in the north-west; and while we cannot offer as long a list of either fruit or ornamental trees and shrubs as growers east of the Lakes, on account of our dryer and more extreme winter climate, we can yet offer a good selection that, with proper culture, are either wholly or reasonably adapted to this climate, as will be seen by a perusal of our Catalogue.

Transplanting.—NONE NEED EXPECT SUCCESS in planting without a thorough preparation of the soil; it should be in as good condition as for a crop of corn or other hoed crop.

Dig the holes large enough to allow the straightening out of all the roots, and deep enough to have the trees or plants at their natural depth, then pack firmly about the roots the fine surface soil, and if the ground is dry use plenty of water; if wet pack the earth very moderately upon the roots, leaving it loosely on the surface.

Mulching with a few inches of coarse manure, or litter, is essential to a good growth; and if the season is dry the mulch should be removed and the ground well stirred two or three times during the first month after planting. Would you have your trees live? Then heed the above and plant well.

Would you have them thrive? Cultivate and care for them thoroughly until July 1st to 15th, and then let the weeds grow for winter protection; or better still, sow buckwheat among them at the last cultivation.

Fall Planting.—We do not advise Fall planting; in fact we advise NOT to do it in the "cold north."

Persons living a distance from the Nurseries, cannot do better than to procure their stock in the Fall, and bury for Spring planting. Select a spot where surface water will not stand; dig a trench one or two feet deep for the roots—according to the number to be buried—sloping it up even with the surface for the tops. Now place a layer of trees in the trench, with the roots not too thickly together, wet them thoroughly, cover with fine earth well up to the limbs, press it firmly on the roots, and proceed with the next layer in like manner. Make the trench long enough so as never to put down more than three layers. Cover the whole tops as you proceed with unfrozen earth; when so put down cover the roots with mulch. All kinds of deciduous trees, shrubs or plants, except strawberries, may be covered in this way with the most perfect success. NEVER bury them in bundles as received from Nursery, but open, spread out, and wet the roots as before directed.

Strawberry plants cannot be successfully handled in the Fall or planted after September 10th, and one dozen plants set in the spring will be of as much value as 100 set in the Fall.

Evergreens may be successfully planted in September but not later. Spring is, however, the most natural season for their planting, and it may be extended considerably later in the season than is advisable for deciduous trees; but in the clear atmosphere of the west their planting cannot be safely postponed to as late a date as in the more humid atmosphere of the east.

OUR GUARANTEE.

While we use the greatest care to have all our trees and plants true to label, we will, on proper proof, replace all that prove untrue to name, free of charge, or refund the amount paid; but in no case will we be liable for any sum greater than that received for such trees or plants.

TERMS CASH.

ALL RETAIL ORDERS delivered at station or express office, FREE OF COST FOR BOXING OR BAILING.

Patten's Greening—A seedling of the Oldenburg, seed grown near Portage, Wis., and planted by us in the Fall of 1869. Has borne ~~10~~ years, and in 1888 after all the trying winters bore fully five bushels; stands on trying ground, but made a fine growth; limbs strongly shouldered, and fully as hardy in orchard as the Duchess. Trees ten years from the root graft have borne abundantly for four years. Fruit medium to large; uniform size; from light to dark green, sometimes shaded with red, flesh white, half fine, good eating and a superb cooking apple. Season generally November to January, but has kept well through February. Of all the new and old varieties for its season, for hardiness, bearing and quality combined, it has no equal. 4 to 5 feet, 50 cents; 6 to 7 feet, 75 cents each.

We grow only the hardiest of the Russian apples, of which we have a fine supply. We have also the very best collection of Crabs and Hybrid apples that twenty-five years experience has given. The same is true of Plums. No one need now be without an abundance of this hardy and excellent fruit. Among the collection is Wolf, Desoto and Rockford. The latter is a native of Floyd county, Iowa. Large; color dark blue, closely resembling the Lombard, flesh firm, sweet, nearly free stone; a fine grower, perfectly hardy; earlier than Desoto, has withstood late frosts better than any other sort grown here. It took the first premium at the Iowa State Fair in 1889.

Preserve this circular for future reference.

C. G. PATTEN, Prop., Charles City, Iowa.

ESTABLISHED 1863.

Iowa Horticultural Experiment Station Since 1888.

Charles City Nursery,

E. G. PATTEN, Proprietor.

Charles City, Iowa, Nov. 1st 1890

Russian and other
Hardest Winter Apples.
Also Winter Apples Top Worked
on Hardest Stock.

Ninety Miles West
of the Mississippi, and
Thirty Miles South of
the Minnesota State
Line, on Open Prairie.

Andrew Peterson
Waconia Minn.

Dear Sir, Again
I feel interested to know how the
New Russians and Seedlings have
done with you. How my Duchess No 3,
and other seedlings have done.

I have two Early Sweet Russians
that have fruited this year that are
worth growing. Trees hardy & no blight
Of course I cant tell how they will
bear yet. They have not born
young, they are good size and really
palatable fruit. My Greening (Duchess
No. 3.) leads all the new apples. Tree is
fully as hardy as Duchess, a good bear.
Actually if well cared for & keeps better
than any hardy Russian or seedling that
I know of. Tree is well tested, root grafted 10 or 13
years ago. Kindly write me at an early date.
Very truly yours E. G. Patten

Wacouia Minn
Nov. 25-91.

C. C. Patten

Beloved Lily-Lover
Dear Sisi-

The packages of
trees, 6 Patten Greening, 2 Seed-
ling No 4 & 2 Seedling No. 6 -
I received long ago and thanked
for the same, the season I
have not written before is that
I have been waiting for a
letter from you & Bill and
I will you would let me know
so I can send the pay. How
is it with Seedling No 4 - No 6 -
I dont know any thing about
them? Is the tree hardy
against-blighting? and what-
kind of fruit? Respectfully
And. Peterson.

Mr. Petersen, My Dear Sir, I have
been from home a good deal,
No 4 & 6 are hardy here, no blight
6 is small-early & very tender,
4 is late fall & early winter &
better in quality than 4 in
or Good Peasant. I am sorry
to learn that Perless don't
stand so high as it has in the
estimation of judges, though you
will find Greening of fine
quality when ^{fully} ripened on the
tree, much better than I ever
claimed for it. Have you
the Wyant Plum,? & Hawk Eye
Rockford is earliest- Have you
trees of it?

82. is the price to you for the
6 Greening. I have an early
apple No. 5, larger & better
than Tetap hardy here - if you
would like I will send scions to
you graft. Very truly Yours, E. G. Patten

Return to

Edson Gaylord

NORA SPRINGS, Iowa

If not delivered within 5 days.



Andrew Peterson

Waconia.

Minnesota

Ara Springs Nov 27-1891

Friend Peterson

In the commencing of this letter I would respectfully beg your pardon for troubling you; not so much for having to read what I may write as for the many questions I may trouble you to answer I am not unmindful of the fact that you are not beholden to me personally but we do claim that the cause for which you and myself together with many others are laboring to advance has a strong claim on your valuable experience as well as your unbiased observations. Over sixty years I have been a farmer and a fruit grower for home use I have kept on testing but at the same time have been obliged to earn my living by hard work mostly on the farm In this time I have burned up forty five acres of very heavy timber making lime & brick this with my farming has kept me out of the poor house I set or helped set the first apple trees that were set in the North part of Iowa I have only kept my farm clear of mortgages and hand from signing notes by constant and unremitting efforts out side of fruit growing

I will write you a few rambling ideas of my own and then I will try and write out the most of any questions I would like you to answer in such a way that you can answer simply by running a black through either the yes or no so as you leave it it will express what you mean. This will shorten the labor very much as you see and throw the burden more on myself where it rightfully belongs. I would not have you unmindful that I am somewhat familiar with the burdens that are imposed on one by having so many letters to write for a cause that brings so very small a remuneration. I and no doubt you have spent the value of a good farm in time and money were it all rightfully added up. I am glad for my part that my losses in this line have never been kept or posted. I have about fifty letters to write this month. Many of them

are written to our most reliable fruit growers in the N.W. what I am trying to do is to secure to be read at our meeting to be held at Eagle Grove in Wright Co. Iowa the 15th of this coming Dec. Then we expect to preserve them to help make our coming book report valuable. I have been appointed a special committee to look up and gather the most useful and most practical items that can be secured from our most reliable men of experience and observation throughout the N.W. What we want is honest and reliable thoughts we want no axe grinding in these notes. We have no pecuniary work in this. And this is one of the main why we have concluded to write you to assist us. We do not ask or expect you be lengthy by any means. In short all items must be short and what is written to be read in public should be on a page or sheet by its self. Now I suggest that after you read all I have written you that you consult your own time and convenience and mark out the words yes or no as you choose and then if you can write a few lines giving such explanations as you may think best. Or if you prefer write us any thing as it comes to your mind and we will copy what we think most useful. We want your views as to what you think is the most direct and shortest road to success. Successes and failures and how they have been brought about is what we are after. I have Prof. Green's Report of your orchard in Farm Stock and Home of Sept 15th in the absence of any later views from you we shall use this letter as it stands in the paper. But this is too long as it is and then it does not bring out some point we hope to have you answer. I will give you one point that will illustrate what we are after & may interest you. We have in this neighborhood one Minnesota crab tree that has been top worked on one side with the Bethells apple on the other with the Johnathans. The unions are perfect and each kind have borne heavy the last two years. It is not necessary for me to write you that neither of these choice varieties are anywhere a live in N. Iowa on their own stems. Top working on extreme hardy stock is our shortest road but not on old trees.

I have been spending a weeks time this season looking up the Malinda apple and the tree I find it in ten different orchards nine in Iowa and all old trees 18 to 20 years old all have been bearing a number of years just all appear as hardy as the Duchess I have been so far unable to find the first sun scald mark on any Malinda The apple is fine quality if kept till Feb & March We kept them till June this Spring Brand writes me the tree has been tested by him and others where he is thoroughly and that the tree is not hardy Mr Peck on the Jordan farm near Rochester Minnesota told me last winter at Minneapolis he he had fifty Malinda bearing trees or he says he wants more and that his trees are as hardy as Duchess or more so These two stories do not agree at all you see In every orchard I find it in this part of Iowa the trees are even more perfect than the Duchess and have borne much better this season I want all the light I can get on the Malinda to put in our coming report I think it worth all other varieties we ever have had in the State I read that Mr Brand said that you was sick Russians and did not want any more of them is this or is this between Prof Green and him I have fruited the Antonovka the last two years ^{young} worked on Transcendant trees two trees each have taken on smoothly and have borne heavy No blight apples large and fair and a good apple to eat I call it the plow boys apple but goes out with Patters old Greening is sun burnt badly so are his younger trees where exposed to sun The apple keeps her till Nov I have more faith in Mr Brands Peerless I am booked for an article on the Recovery of our old varieties

Our meeting is on George Grove on Wright's Lane Dec 15-16 & 17
Come down if possible
They have been in all the
of the State in fruit
Mr. Peck's trees are fine
I have been in fruit
of the State in fruit
of the State in fruit

Have you received
the bundle of scions
and the Rural Life I
sent you I have an
other article in the next
Farm Stock & Hort
I suppose you take this
paper

Aora Springs Jan. 10 - 1892

Friend Peterson

Since sending you those Malinda
cions I have not heard any thing from you I took
no little care to secure them from fire bearing trees
and then sorted and sent you the best I took them
to town to finish doing them up and had to address them
from memory and I have feared that perhaps you have
not received them. If not I have in safe storage some
75 more for my own use and will divide again with
you I went out to show A. J. Phillips the Malinda
trees in three orchards and got him a fine lot of cions
to take home with him for his own use He is highly
pleased with both the Malinda trees and their fruit
he took a satchel full of the apples and took some of
them on to Washington I have been grafting them
on to hardy stock the last two years I am using the
Virginia (Went) Crab and the Minnesota Crab for
stock trees to graft on to The next three days after our
Meeting at Eagle Grove every cion was taken from all
the Malinda trees so far as I have yet learned I cut
a thousand the day he left Every body are on the hunt

Jan 10, 1892 - 21

now for the Malinda trees and the cions our man Patten is the only man I can learn of who has the Malinda trees for sale and he has put them up now to fifty cents per tree and I should not be at all surprised if he puts them up to a dollar I warned every good honest nurseryman I knew of last spring of this coming craze for the Malinda trees and quite a number secured quite a quantity of cions then but now every nursery man I know of is propagating them and every scion has been secured that could be found We have the trees here in ten different orchards but the cions are all cut or engaged But Mr. Phillips and myself have thought over this matter and have concluded that we had rather have a Virginia or a Minnesota top worked with the Malinda which will cost less than twenty five cents a tree than to have one ^{or on} its own stem as a gift Top worked on three or four year old bearing trees we will be quite sure to get apples three or four years sooner than on their own stems This you see will be quite a saving in time and money too. You are I supposed very favorably impressed with Patten's Greening No 3 - I suppose you judge mainly from what others have said and from the trees on your own grounds Now I wish to be excused by you if I make a few suggestions to you in regard to this Greening No 3. If you will reflect a little you will admit that had you planted the Ben Davis's Willow Twig, Fameuse or Fall Strips at the same time you did these Greening trees they would all been bearing as finely as these by this time We have had no text winters since you set these trees Nothing that would have injured any of our half hardy kinds True his old tree has stood through 84 & 5 and has come out fairly sound But it may be well for you to know that the tree stands on a very favorable location on high ground and sloping a way up the river to the North and East It gets a full and free circulation of air It stands near on the North side of a grove of native trees We are told and read too that the old tree stands in a very hard place and has come out all sound But the truth is the old tree is sun burned from the branches to the ground and the tree leaning slightly to the sun I have never seen this injury to any apple tree before that has been grown to the sun And an other thing worth in its favor he has grown the branches near the ground and heavy on the sun side His younger bearing trees in his nursery rows are sun burned in every place where they grow from the sun I saw them a year ago I think the bark must be off or ready to come off in spots by this time sure In short I must

Say I think they are the worst trees to sun killing
I have yet found and I have hunted every thing
over very closely for this trouble. He sent out in the
first place three trees I got one and my neighbor at Rudd
near by got one and he told me last winter he did not know
who got the other. Mr Swartwood tells me and Mr Heisz
when we went to look his tree over that I had borne moderately
for a number of years. He says with him it keeps till the
middle or last of Nov^r with you it will likely keep till
Dec. But Mr Swartwoods tree stands in a very favorable
place open to the N.E. and protected on the S.E. & S. and
S.W. by one tall Norway spruce and two old and large
Franscendant set many years before the Greening
was thought of. This tree has sap sprouts growing out
on its trunk and on its branches. It has punk weed
growing out on two sides of the stem in 4 or 8 places and
one of the large limbs in the top has died and dropped off.
Now you can judge of its real conditions as well as I
can tell you. The tree I got died the first or second
winter. I know of no body who cares for the tree about here.
I hear he is topworking it to save it now but I have not
tried to get the tree since the one died. He sent me Swartwood
says the tree is not near as hardy as the Duchess but about
the same hardy as Plums Cider. Now I have stated facts
to you and I hope you will tell no one unless it may be
some of your friends. I think I shall publish the facts
before long. I do not like to have poor hardworking men
humbled with a tree as worthless as I think this tree is.
If you think I am saying too much against this tree you
can write to James Swartwood of Rudd Iowa or to
Edwin R Heisz of Mora Spring each very reliable and
honest men. If you can I would like to have you write me if not
more than a card so I may know whether you got the count. Edson Gaylord

Established 1863.

Iowa Horticultural Experiment Station Since 1888.

Charles City Nursery

C. G. PATTEN, Proprietor.

Charles City, Iowa, Oct 3rd 1892

Patten's Greening,
the
Hardest American.
Melinda,
the Hardest Long
Keeper.
Russian Apples,
Winter Apples,
Top worked on Har-
diest Stocks.

Ninety Miles
West
of the Mississippi,
and
Thirty Miles
South
of the Minnesota
State Line,
on
Open Prairie.

Friend Andrew Peterson,

Dear Sir, I want
to ask you how about the Greening
this year, and also of any apples
that are O.K. for your latitude.

The Greening has done wonderfully well
here in North Iowa. And of most
of the Russians for us, I think less &
less, they have too many faults.
I can surely see in the good times
coming when we will make a big advance
over the Russians.

The Melinda I've worked might
do good for you, it is valuable here.

Did you ever get my 50, 8.
Wishing that your health is good.

I am, Truly Yours

C. G. Patten

—♦—Established 1863.—♦—

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Charles City, Iowa, Jan. 3, 1893

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the Hardest Long
Keeper.
Russian Apples,
Winter Apples,
Top worked on Har-
diest Stocks.

Andrew Peterson
Waconia, Minn.

Dear Sir—

Please pardon so soon again. But I want to ask you what percent of Lieby - Hibernat and Charlamoff are promising are they hardy and vigorous trees.

Please reply by return mail.

How about other varieties that you planted if any

Resp. yours
C. G. Patten
H

Echo Farm Nursery,

Albert Lea, Minn.

HARDEST
VARIETIES FOR
NORTHERN PLANTERS.



Andrew Peterson

Wacouia

Minn.

Echo Farm Nursery.



FRUITS, ORNAMENTALS, FOREST TREES,
EVERGREENS
CLARENCE WEDGE.

Albert Lea, Minn., Jan 12, 1898

My Dear Friend:

Excuse me for addressing you in such a familiar way, but I have passed so many pleasant times at your place and you have treated me so very kindly and helped me to cious and everything I asked for that you seem very close to me, especially as we both enjoy the same precious faith in the cleansing power and grace of our dear Lord Jesus. My neighbors are Swedish Baptists and one of the sons of my next neighbor south is Rev. Magnus Berglund of Minneapolis, so although I am a Presbyterian Yankee I feel pretty closely related to the Baptist Swedes.

I want to thank you for what you write about Borovinka and Charlamoff &c. It is just such experience that we want for our paper, and I wish very much to get more like it. When you think or see anything ^{on your own place or orchard that is} interesting to you you may be sure it is interesting to others. When you send me anything I shall be very much pleased to publish it. Have you ever tried the Reptka Malenka at your place if so how did it do. It is almost exactly like 168 Green Sweet (or Regel as Budd now calls it) ^{Certainly} Clarence Wedge

'New Land'—Drama Behind Swedish Movie

By BILL DIEHL
(Second of two parts)

"June 18—1855: Today I bought a claim from the German for \$25. P. Daniel went to St. Paul.

"June 22—Stripped bark for the shanty. P. Daniels came back from St. Paul.

"June 25—Cleared the brush from a path to my claim. In the evening we made out accounts with Per Daniels. He has bought for me besides provisions one pair shoes \$1.75.

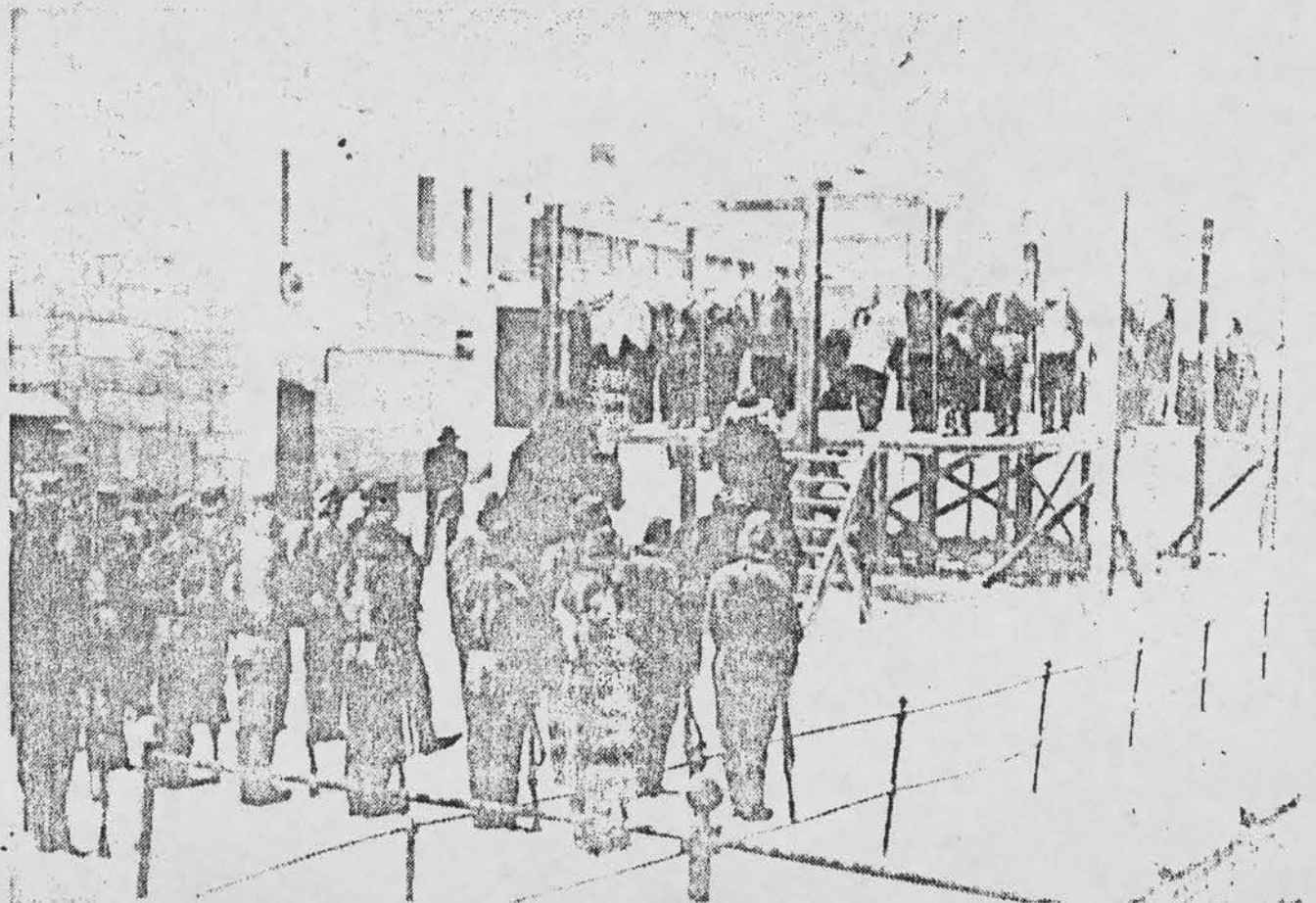
"Nov. 20—Nilsson, Johannes and I went to St. Paul to buy oxen. In St. Paul I spent \$15. We were there until the 27th.

"Jan. 19, 1865—J. A. Peterson and I went to Carver and Chaska. The sargent wrote out an affidavit that I was too old to go to war.

"March, 1873—I have come to an agreement with John Nilson that he is to build my new barn for \$125. It is to be 62 ft. long and 26 ft. wide. He is to use the standing timber, finish it outside, and make the doors for the loft; besides 3 doors, one to each division of the barn. However, I am to pay him separately for the time that he make the stone footings and also I am to entertain the people when we have the barn-raising."



Angry "Sioux Indians" menace a Swedish settler ... but the depicted incident is set too far north in Minnesota to be historically accurate.



Accuracy and error are mixed in this recreation of the hanging of 38 Sioux in the 1862 Minnesota uprising, a scene from "The New Land."

Thus did Swedish immigrant Andrew Peterson precisely inscribe in his diaries, day after day, month after month, year after year, from 1854 to 1898, his daily experiences, business dealings and family matters.

It was this rare treasure offering a unique insight into pioneer life among immigrants that inspired Wilhelm Moberg in his writings of the hardships, heartaches and triumphs of Swedes transplanted to the New World. Names were spelled differently (Daniel, Daniels), but Waconia settler Peterson was in effect writing a living history of this area.

Preserved by the Minnesota Historical Society and excitedly discovered there by Moberg during a visit to St. Paul in 1948, the Peterson diaries formed the basis for Moberg's "The Emigrants" and succeeding such works. "The New Land," like "The Emigrants" made into a movie in Moberg's native Sweden and starring Max von Sydow and Liv Ullmann, premieres this Thursday evening at the World Theater here, proceeds going to the Minnesota Historical Society's immigration and ethnic collections.

MOBERG'S SUBJECT matter was not warmly received in Sweden. The Swedes, even in the 1950's, a hundred years after the fact, remained touchy that fully a fourth of their total population had pulled stakes for "Amerika." The very name of the New World dazzled 19th-century Swedes: "mer rika" means "more rich," and that's what America seemed to promise.

And because Moberg had not spared the severe Swedish church as a prime reason for the mass migration, he became its latter-day target. His writings were denounced as "filthy" and "foul" — and a signal flashed from the homeland to Swedish organizations here: "Do not assist Moberg in any way with his activities." Happily, the current Swedish view is more mature.

MOBERG WAS NOT without his faults, however. He wrote how the newly arrived Swedes had to be careful to avoid poisonous pools in Missouri, and also to beware of its deserts . . . items that would come as a surprise to natives of the Show Me state.

And as Dorothy Gimmestad of the Minnesota Historical Society pointed out to me, he made some errors in viewing Minnesota. These mistakes are perpetuated in the movie, "The New Land." For example, Max and Liv settle in the Taylors Falls area — and then are caught up in the Sioux uprising of 1862. However, in reality, Fort Snelling had been built to separate the warring Sioux and Chippewa tribes — and the Sioux never got anywhere near Taylors Falls.

The movie scene of the mass hangings of the murdering Sioux in Mankato of 1862 is a striking mix of fact and fiction. The gallows where 38 of the Sioux not given amnesty by President Lincoln were hanged is re-created in virtually total fidelity, according to Dorothy Gimmestad. So is the formation of soldiers looking on.

BUT THE FILM errs in allowing a huge fortress-like structure to be seen looming just a few feet away. The hangings took place in the center of Mankato — and no such structure ever stood in the city. "The Swedish moviemakers," she says, "probably figured that any city the size of Mankato surely would have its fort, as would be the case in Sweden."

Another error is that of allowing the Sioux to be prowling as far north as Taylors Falls. But these are minor flaws when held up against the richly rewarding sagas painted on the printed page by Moberg, on the screen by the producers of "The Emigrants" and now "The New Land."

Moberg captured the inner emotions of his subjects. For example, he wrote that Karl Oskar (von Sydow) was convinced that no matter how rough the life in Minnesota, it was better than the bleak existence in Sweden. But his wife, Kristina (Liv), was not so sure. For her, the wind still blew from the east. And, like so many transplanted and second-generation immigrants, she "made a special Sweden out of her longing . . . a land that no one had ever seen and no one ever would see."

MOBERG MAY have mistakenly had his Swedes marveling in 1858 that U.S. coins carried the motto "In God We Trust" (indicating a highly moral nation) when, in fact, that motto did not appear on our coinage till 1864 — and he may have erred in having both Kansas and Minnesota admitted to the Union in the same year . . . but he also mirrored with accuracy and sensitivity the hopes and dreams of the newcomers.

Those Swedish farmers, for example, who had broken both plows and backs battling Sweden's rocky terrain eagerly accepted the myth that "David could never have slain Goliath in America because he would have found no stones for his sling."

And the movie "The New Land" wisely incorporates Moberg's concluding novel, "The Last Letter Home," in its script. This is the poignant climax with the emigrants almost all claimed by death. The news should be written to Karl Oskar's sister in Sweden . . . but the children must ask an elderly neighbor to perform this task. They do not write Swedish. They have become . . . Americans.

Waconia Pioneer Helped Inspire 'The New Land'

By BILL DIEHL
(First of two parts)

A life that ended in 1898 was to influence greatly another life just beginning halfway around the world.

Andrew Peterson was born in Sweden on Oct. 10, 1818. About 1850, Peterson left his homeland for the New World. He settled first in Burlington, Iowa, later — in the summer of 1855 — moving northward to Carver county in Minnesota Territory.

He settled on a claim near Clearwater Lake (now Lake Waconia), developed a farm where he grew apples and grapes, and made maple sugar. Three years later, he married a woman named Elsa. In 1898, the bearded, hard-working farmer died, leaving behind a stack of diaries recounting day-by-day (except Sundays, when he did not break God's law by writing) his experiences in America.

In 1898, in the Sweden that Peterson had abandoned 80 years earlier, Carl Artur Vilhelm Moberg was born. Shedding his first two names, Moberg over the years gained international fame as an author-drama-



VILHELM MOBERG
Sweden Was Liked

tist. It gnawed at Moberg that the massive Swedish flight to America during the 1800s was ignored by authors, dramatists, even historians.

AND MASSIVE IT WAS. During that century, fully one-fourth of Sweden's native population emigrated from that country to North America. That migration cost Sweden more men, women and children than all its wars in all its history. Sweden, Moberg noted, was deprived not only of the emigrants but also of their descendants.

Swedes in America, he figured, Swedish-born down to the third generation totaled some 2,500,000 persons: A fourth of all the Swedes in the world, therefore, now live in the United States. Yet this mass movement was barely mentioned in Swedish history texts though it was the greatest event in Sweden's modern history.

While Moberg thus ruminated in the Old country, those precious diaries and accounts of Waconia pioneer Andrew Peterson were finding their way to the Minnesota Historical Society. The 10 volumes covered the years 1854 to 1898 and had been kept in Swedish. However, a WPA worker, a Miss Emma M. Ahlquist, had translated them — and the translation accompanied the papers to the Historical Society.

IN 1947, MOBERG — his literary credits firmly established — began work on a trilogy about the emigrants, a project that was to fill a dozen years of his life. His quest for information led Moberg onto many avenues, to musty old parish records, to museums, even a boat-crossing of the Atlantic.

Thus it was that in 1948 his quest led him, as it had so many of those about



Seriously ill after a miscarriage, Liv Ullmann is comforted by husband Max von Sydow in this scene from the forthcoming "The New Land," Swedish movie showing the couple as Minnesota pioneers.

whom he would write, to Minnesota . . . to St. Paul . . . and to the Minnesota Historical Society. Moberg (who died in a drowning tragedy this past August) recalled: "It was the most important discovery during my four years in America. In a library (the Minnesota Historical Society) in St. Paul, I found a handwritten manuscript by an emigrant, a Swedish farmer in Minnesota, who had left the province of Vastergotland in 1849."

Moberg was both elated and excited at this discovery: The Andrew Peterson accounts were without parallel. In nearly half a century, the pioneer made about 14,000 entries! (And displayed a farmer's keen sense of contemporary values: The birth of his son gets one line in his diary; the next page tells that a cow gave birth to a calf in the barn . . . and the calf also rates a line.)

PLUNGING HEAD-LONG into his project, Moberg in 1949 emerged with "Utvandrarna" (The Emigrants"); in 1952 with "Invandrarna" ("Unto A

Good Land"); in 1956 with "Nybyggarna" in 1959 with "Sista brevet till Sverige" (these last two volumes combined in a 1961 English translation as "The Last Letter Home").

Moberg's works were not greeted with cheers and hosannas in his native Sweden. The mass migration was a sore spot, there was a deep-rooted lingering resentment. Old heartaches and jealousies were to be found only skin-deep. And the fact that Moberg spared neither the church as a prime cause of the migration nor the earthy, coarse peasants' tales in his works led not only to a chilly reception for the first volume in Sweden but also a signal flashed across the ocean to Swedes living here: Do not cooperate with Moberg!

THE AUTHOR however, persevered . . . and as the volumes appeared (with mixed critical reaction on both shores), a gradual realization of their importance seemed gradually to reach Swedish literary and historical cir-

Continued on Page 30



Carol Burnett, as an aging actress, plans a show-stopping funeral for herself, on her show Saturday at 9 p.m. on Ch. 4.

Immigrant

Continued from Page 25

cles. One result was a tandem movie-production project in Sweden, the making of "The Emigrants" and its forthcoming sequel, "The New Land," starring Max von Sydow and Liv Ullmann and opening at the World Theater here Thursday evening, Oct. 11, in a premiere benefit performance for the Minnesota Historical Society's immigration and ethnic collections.

Next Sunday, when I continue with this background of "The New Land," we'll examine Moberg's accuracies — and errors. We'll scan pages of the Peterson diaries. And we'll see anew how a life ended and a life began in the same year eventually combined to give life to a pair of important motion picture productions.

Dying Baseball Player Is Movie Subject

Continued from Page 23

The Family") is a bright addition as the harried team manager, wheedling and pleading with his players to get it all together. A notably hilarious scene occurs when Gardenia tries to lecture the players on teamwork, using a parable about uncoordinated fingers and an escaped house fly, this every utterance translated into Spanish by one Puerto Rican player for the benefit of another.

PHIL FOSTER is fine as a coach; Patrick McVey (who died the other day) is touching as De Niro's father; Selma Diamond is funny as a know-it-all, jumble-it-all telephone operator, and Heather MacRae is seen fleetingly as Moriarty's wife.

Ann Wedgeworth reprises her "Scarecrow" hooker role with solid effect. Of regional interest, Minneapolis, Rochester, Cannon Falls and the Mayo Clinic all get plentiful mention.

Dialog often is pointed, telling. Moriarty at one juncture notes: "Everybody knows everybody is dying. That's why people are as good as they are to people."

Touching, amusing, eye-fogging, "Bang The Drum Slowly" is both an outstanding motion picture and also certainly one of the best sports movies ever. It is, in the parlance of its subject, a grand-slam homer.

We are pleased

"I'm still wearing the same styles,



Waconia Den 18 April 1848

nu ären ni så Jät hjertigenligste
khebad från os alla ak om ni
Willen vara snälla att skrifa till
os ak ni kunden kanhända
läsa engelska, så skall ni nog
skrifa till eder
i hast af edra ämt förbundna
blods förvanter

Stress pränt Dittman

Waconia Ia Conty box 84
minnata

Dittman tänkte att brief till dig
än 13 orkabar minnata hast
mest af dem da det möjligt
är framkommit

Som jag Niclaus Svensson är nämnde
nabbo till till Stenare Ditterson hade han
så sitt sista till om jag ville skriva
till eder när han dog, som orsak för hans
barn skriva engelska, så kunde ni
förstått att sådant, jag kunde så
familjens vägnar betygsa eder att eder
moderfaders Broder Anders Ditterson skola
sin wardning Den 31 marts kl. 11 ak han
somnade i stillhet ak frid Han var usst
ak. Stilla sig ak Hata familj afton bö
kl half 9, ak gick till Sängs ak lag ak
talade med sin hustru ak kl 11 var hans
Ande fri från lidens vederwedighet
Han blif af många vänner ak tros
fränder, följde till sitt sista hvilorom
begrafnings täkten var den 15 me af
April men 17 af David. Der var en stor
skara samlad 8 barn 5 söner ak 3

Därlvar, alla till Sködes. Samt många
Släktingen varit ifrån Hans födelsdag
som den 20. Oktober 1818 således 79 år
5 månader och 11 dagar, jag var hos
Honom när han föll edert brev och som
sade så att jag är den älskte och alla mina
Suzskan är gånge äfven jordansfloden
och jag är nu till sist. Tröste inte du
att Hans tid var så nära slut.

Han har lifvat här på denna platsin
55 och uti det näbbomstid 61 således 37 år
Han har lifat till samman med sin Hustru
i 40. år och varit välsignade med 9 barn
en datter dog, 2 i lifva, Han är lärj
och bekant af familj och alla kända
och bekanta ty han var en ämningens
och Rättskaffers ärlig man, och en som
vred i ordets fjälla be merkelde
Han kaner att saknas märkt af
församlingen ty han har varit
nitiskt församlingens medlem och
haft märkt betydelse för mig

Han har varit en märkt gudfruktig
man, och skött sina äligande
med akurater och förstånd att han
kan räknas bland de stilla i landet
Han har hållit och bevarat en
god och Redbar karakter, som
ingen haft ansatt att klandra
Han har haft sin tros grund vid
Korsens fot och förkätelse och
Remisgi blodet och der har han
erhallit kraft att vandra evange
lium verditet till guds manes pris
ja nu har han fullbordat lifvet
Hållit tron och är nu himma
och emalaga Rättsföretagens krona
som Herren honom gifva skall
med guds nåd och frid förvara
våra tjänsten att vi må få lönen
att vi må få viätae der ovan
der som alomig någon skilsmesa
skall ske utan lifva och Prisa
Sammit för Hans utgjutna blod

Wacouia Apr. 18, 1898.

I, Nicolas Swenson, am the closest neighbor to Andrew Petersen. He asked me shortly before he died to write to you, when he wasn't with us any more, and tell you about his death.

9610
His children write only English so he thought you would have trouble reading a letter from them. On behalf of the family I now must tell you, that your grand father's brother, Andrew Petersen, died March 31 at 11-o'clock in the evening. He died quietly and peacefully. He was out of bed in the evening for awhile, washed himself and took part in Evening Prayers with the family about 8:30 in the evening. Afterwards he went to bed and he talked to his wife for

awhile after they were both in bed.
At 11 o'clock his spirit was free
from the difficulties of this
world.

Many friends and Church-
members paid him respect at the
Funeral. Also present were 8
children (5 sons and 3 daughters)
and many other relatives from
near and far. Davids Psalm
17, Verse 15, was read at the Funeral.

Andrew Peterson was born
Oct. 20, 1818 and his age was
79 years, 5 months and 11 days
when he died.

I was with him when he
received your letter some time
ago, and he then said, "I am the
oldest in the family and all of
my sisters and brothers are
already on the other side of the
'Jordan River' and I am left to
the last." I did not think at the

time that he was to go so soon.

Andrew Petersen had lived in this community since 1855, and we have been neighbors for 37 years - since 1861. He and his wife had been married for 40 years and they were blessed with 9 children. Only 8 are still living. One daughter died young. He is mourned by his family and a lot of friends and neighbors. He was a true Christian in every way and he is going to be missed in the Church, because he has been a very good member and leader in the Church. He was a very god-fearing man and did his duties accurately and with good sense. He was a quiet man with an honest and good character, and nobody had any reason to complain about the way he took care of things.

He had laid down his sins
at the foot of the Cross, and so
he received strength to live his
life after the words of the Bible
and to praise the Lords name.
Now he has finished his life in
this world and has gone to meet
his Lord and Master and from
Him receive the "Crown of Life."

I now pray that Gods grace and
peace will be with us. So we all
will meet again in Heaven where
we never have to part.

From us, all kind and cordial
greetings to you. If you would be so
kind and write to us, we will
certainly answer your letters.
Let us know if you read English.
In that case it would be easier for
us to write to you.

In haste: your affectionate relatives

Address: Frank Peterson

P.O. Box 84 Waconia Minnesota

Peterson sent a letter to you Oct. 13 (1897?)
but did not receive an answer. It is possible
that you lost or you never received it.

[File 1, Apr. 18, 1898]

9610
Altho there is no salutation
at the beginning of the letter
it was written to Ivar Widén,
grandson of Andrew Petersen's
brother - Johannes Rydell of Sweden.

A

Note - Johannes took the name of
Rydell - must likely for Professional
reasons.

Wacouia Den 18 April 1798

nu ären ni så djärligt önskar jag
helt och fullt att ni
villan vara snälla att skriva till
os. och ni kunden kan handa
läsa engelska, så skall ni mig
skriva till eder
i Hest af edra ämt förbundna
blads förvarter

Stress pränk Dittinson

Wacouia So Conty box 84
minnsata.

Stress pränk Dittinson
Den 18 april 1798
ni har skrivit
till mig att
ni vill ha
ett brev till
mig om
ni vill ha
ett brev till
mig om
ni vill ha
ett brev till
mig om

Som jag Niclaus Swinson är nämnd
nabba till till Skinnar Dittinson hade han
Dittinsons sista villan som jag ville skriva
till eder när han dog. som orsak för hans
barn skriva engelska, så kunde ni
på läbbel att sådant, jag kan nu så
familjens vägnar ötygna eder, att eder
modersfaders Bröder Anders Dittinson skickade
sin berättelse Den 31 mars kl. 11 och han
somnade i stället och frid Dittinson usla
och skriva sig och hade familj afton bön
kl. half 9, och gick till Sängs och låg och
talade med sin hustru och kl. 11 var hans
Ande fri från lidens veder vidighet
Han blif af många vännen och tros
fränder, följde till sitt sista hvilom
begräfnings täkten var den 15 re af
Mars kl. 11 af David. Den var en stor
skara samlat 8 barn 5 söner och 3

H. H. H.

Lämnar alla allskades. Samt många
släktingar långt ifrån Hans födsdag
den 20. Oktaber 1818 således 79 år
5 månader och 11 dagar, jag var hos
hon när han fått edert brev och hon
sade då att jag är den älskte och alla mina
släktingar är gånge äfven jordans flåren
och jag är nu till sist. Träde inte du
och Hans tid var så nära slut.
Han har lefvat här på denna plats 55
och uti luft nabbansin 61 således 37 år
Han har lifv till samans med sin hustru
i 40. år och varit välsignade med 4 barn
en datter dog, 2 söner, Han är lärj
och saknad af familj och alla kända
och bekanta ty han var en ämningens
och Rättskuffens ärlig man, och en som
vresten i ordets fölla bemärkelse
Han kommer att saknas märkt af
församlingen ty han har varit
nitiskt församlingens medlem och
haft märkt bestyr der med

Han har varit en märkt gudfrukt
tyg man, och skött sina äligande
med akaritet och försänd att han
kan räknas bland de stilla i landet
Han har hållit och bevarat en
god och Redbar karakter, som
ingen haft ansukt att klandra
Han har haft sin tros grund vid
Korsens fot och förklarelsen och
Remingebladet och der har han
erhållit kraft att vandra evange
lium vordit till guds mans krus
ja nu har han fullbordat loppet
Hållit tron och är nu himma
att emata ga Rättsfördighetens krona
Som Herren honom gifva skall
måna guds nåd och frid förvarna
våna tjentan att vi må få lifven
att vi må få nådta der ovan
der som aldrig någon skillemå
skall ske utan lifven och frid
sammit för Hans utgötta blod

THE WACONIA PATRIOT

WACONIA, MINNESOTA

August 30, 1930

Atty A. E. Haering
Waconia, Minnesota

To

Mohn A. Peterson Estate	Hearing Adm.	
Pub. 3/20-27, 4/3		\$ 6.00
John A. Peterson Estate	Hearing Claims	
Pub. 4/24, 5/1, 5/8		6.00
John A. Peterson Estate	Final Acct.	
Pub. 8/14-21-28		6.00
		<hr/>
		\$ 18.00

Rec'd Payment
Waconia Patriot
Sept 10, 1930
L.B.L.

[ca. 1945?]

Andrew Peterson Diaries - 1856 to Oct. 27, 1871 -

Translated from the Swedish by
Miss Margaretha Alquist.

Note:
The typist has had previously no experience in this
kind of work, we hope the succeeding parts of the
diary may show improvement. The translator
has had no opportunity to correct some
of the terms used since she has become more
familiar with farm names in current use.
She plans to make corrections, as far as
possible.

This is just a temporary binding to show
what has been done, - for the inspection of the
Peterson family and Mr. C. W. Lundsten, - to be returned.

Joseph Ball.

800-årsminnet av Erik den helige
Relikskrinet visat i Uppsala domkyrka - Forskning bekräftar legenden

STOCKHOLM den 26 maj - Erik den heliges genomhuggna halskota och hans gyllene juvelprydda begravningskrona, Nordens äldsta bevarade och Sveriges dyrbaraste relik, lyftes av domprost Olle Herrlander ur det gnistrande relikskrinet i Uppsala domkyrka den 18 maj då man högtidligt höll 800-årsminnet av kung Eriks död. Omkring 2,000 personer defilerade förbi relikskrinet under den visning som följde för allmänheten. I högkoret föreläste riksantikvarie Bengt Thordeman om Erik den heliges person och helgongestalt.

Mycket talar för att legenden är sann att kung Erik Edvardsson mördades vid Trefaldighetskällan utanför kyrkan efter en majmässa 1160. Benresterna har undersökts och halskotan visar ett brott som torde ha åstadkommit genom ett hugg. I början av 1600-talet började Sankt Erik betraktas som Stockholms skyddshelgon men den tolkningen torde ha berott på ett missförstånd av Johannes Messenius, Stockholmskrönikans författare. Stockholm existerade inte på Erik den heliges tid. I början av sin helgonbana utnyttjades han som symbol för motståndet mot en förflyttning av rikets centrum från Uppsala till Stockholm.

Vendels kyrka i norra Uppland som just firat sitt 650-årsjubileum har också anknytning till Erik den helige. Kyrkan invigdes 1310 enligt en anteckning som finns bevarad till minne av en helbrägdagörelse.

Till 800-årsminnet har Mynt- och justeringsverket låtit prägla en medalj med bild av S:t Erik på framsidan och gravsättningen i Uppsala högar på baksidan. Vid årets S:t Eriksmedaljering i Stockholm fick 251 kommunala trotjänare motta medaljer. Radioorkestern spelade och Arbetarsångföreningen sjöng "En visa om S:t Eriks stad".

Kung Gustaf Adolf räknar sin härstamning från Danmarks Knut den helige, Norges Olav den helige och Frankrikes Ludvig den helige samt - i 24:e led - från den svenske helgonkungen Erik. När Resos semesterby i Italien invigdes för någon vecka sedan utnämnde biskopen av Grosseto Erik den helige till skyddspatron över den unika anläggningen.

Moberg bemöter kritik

"Språket i invandrarböckerna så äkta och genuint något kan vara"

STOCKHOLM den 26 maj - Författaren Vilhelm Moberg har nu tagit till orda och bemött professor Einar Haugens och dr Jöran Mjöberg's kritik mot det svenskamerikanska språket i hans invandrarböcker. I en artikel i Svenska Dagbladet hävdar han att hans framställning helt och hållet bygger på amerikansvenskan sådan den förekommer i svenskamerikaners brev och dagböcker. Vad han gett uttryck åt är de svenska invandrarnas eget språk och genuina uttryckssätt - ett språk så äkta och ursprungligt som något kan vara, framhåller författaren.

I "Sista brevet från Sverige" har Moberg redovisat en förteckning över ett 60-tal arbeten som han använt som dokumentär grund. Som det ojämförligt viktigaste betecknar han Andrew Petersons "Dagbok åren 1854-1898. En svensk farmares levnadsbeskrivning. 16 delar." På detta dokument vartill manuskriptet finns i Minnesota Historical Library i St. Paul bygger Moberg i allt väsentligt sin framställning av nybyggarnas språk.

Andrew Petersons skrivsätt präglas av dialekten i hans hembygd i Östergötland. Under intrycket av det amerikanska språket skriver han att han "fixar fänset" när han lagar stängslet. När han bryter stubbar så "grubbar han på filen", när han hugger gärdesstänger så "fixar han räls" och när han röstar på president så "votar" han. Dagboken omfattar 3,000 stora manuskriptsidor och är sannolikt det omfångsrikaste och äldsta dokument som föreligger på svenskt invandrarspråk i Amerika. I denna dagbok anser sig Moberg ha funnit urkällan till amerikansvenskan, även om denna sedan förändrats och skiftar från stat till stat.

Moberg anser att det är något säreget gripande med amerikansvenskan och han har ingenting till övers för dem som finner den komisk. Han har inte gjort några karikatyrer, säger han, utan återgett verkligheten, så regellös den än kan te sig.

Vad invandrarbrev i hans böcker beträffar framhåller författaren att han som förebild använt ett tusental Amerikabrev som han fått låna ur arkivet hos Föreningen för svenskhetens bevarande i utlandet. Skribenterna där blandar flitigt svenska, amerikanska och bibliska uttryck. Där finns uttryck som "De förenede States", "negroslav", "statekörkan" och "jag guess" m.fl. Moberg har färgat en del av dem med smäländska men han säger sig inte ha fabricerat ett enda.

Efter den 1 juni blir vår adress följande:

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 New York 21, N. Y.

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Founded 1921

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RADIOGRAM från SVERIGE

Nr. 22 New York den 26 maj 1960.

Underhållning och blomprakt i Stockholms parker

Många attraktioner förhöjer den svenska huvudstadens behag i sommartid

STOCKHOLM den 26 maj - Blomsterprakten i parkerna och på de öppna platserna i Stockholm kostar en halv miljon kronor om året. Till friluftsuperhållningen går en lika stor summa och till parkleken 1.5 milj. Underhållet av parkerna kostar 8 milj. och för nyanläggningar går det åt 5 milj. kr. Sammanlagt 600,000 blommor och växter sätts ut i parkerna varje år, därav 250,000 lökväxter, 1,500 träd och 30,000 buskar.

Friluftsuperhållningen är mycket omfattande. Man ordnar i sommar 171 konserter, teater- och dansföreställningar. Vid konserterna medverkar bl.a. spårvägsmännen, polisen, brandmännen och AK-orkestern.

Underhållningspremiären i den vackra Kungsträdgården missgynnades av kylslaget väder men trots det infann sig 10,000 personer för att lyssna till sång och musik och en populär revykavalkad. "Bättre än alla andra svenska städer är Stockholm sommartid" löd prologen som lästes av en berömd skådespelare. Kända artister medverkade i numren. Man håller sig med en stor friluftsscen och högtalare är strategiskt utplacerade runtom. Parken med sina statyer och fontäner är vackert illuminerad och en attraktion i sig själv, inramad av Strömmens vatten, Operans och Jakobs kyrkas silhuetter, NK:s varuhuskvarter och Handelsbankens och Jernkontorets magnifika fasader. På förmiddagarna bjuds också grammofonkonserter. Som gratisnöje för vem som vill torde de attraktioner som bjuds i Kungsträdgården inte ha många motsvarigheter.

Även Skansen bjuder i sommar på en blomsterprakt utan like. Hundratusentals tulpaner, påskliljor och pärlhyacinter har planterats ut sedan tre år tillbaka och blommor nu som bäst.

Svenska skattesystemet utreds

Omläggning till modernare och smidigare metoder anses önskvärd

STOCKHOLM den 26 maj - Den länge aviserade stora utredningen om det svenska skattesystemet har nu tillsatts av finansminister Sträng. Det blir två kommittéer under gemensam ledning som skall komma med förslag angående skatt för enskilda och bolag. Någon skattesänkning är det inte fråga om - det blir politikernas sak - utan en rationellare omfördelning av skattebördan.

I direktiven framhåller finansministern fördelarna av att man företar en överflyttning från direkta till indirekta skatter. För löntagare kan det möjligen gå att ordna ett system med definitiv källskatt varigenom den besvärliga deklARATIONEN skulle undgås. Företagarna kan räkna med en kombination av skatt på bruttot och nettot av sin vinst. Bönder, rörelseidkare och fria yrkesutövare bör beskattas efter nya regler. Sambeskattningen, skattefusket och skatteflykten skall särskilt uppmärksammas.

Hr Sträng manar utredarna att inte rygga tillbaka för långt gående reformer. Det är inte säkert att det av traditionen betingade nuvarande skattesystemet är det som bäst passar landet under kommande decennier. Utredarna har fått i uppdrag att skyndsammast framkomma med förslag, men innan dessa framlagts och beslut fattats torde det gå ännu några år.

Kvinna ordförande i svenska Röda korset

Fru Clare Nordenson efterträder justitierådet Emil Sandström

STOCKHOLM den 26 maj - Fru Clare Nordenson har utnämnts till ordförande i Röda korsets centralstyrelse efter justitierådet Emil Sandström. Hon har i tjugo år varit verksam inom organisationen, därav sex som vice ordförande i centralstyrelsen. Många värdefulla kontakter har hon knutit vid internationella kongresser. Hon är maka till fil. dr Harald Nordenson.

Röda korset är med sina 600,000 medlemmar en folkrörelse i Sverige. En verksamhet som ligger den nya ordföranden särskilt varmt om hjärtat är Ungdomens Röda kors.

LIBRARY.

St. Paul Dispatch
St. Paul Pioneer Press

55 E. FOURTH STREET
ST. PAUL 1, MINNESOTA



JUNE DRENNING HOLMQUIST

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CENTRAL AND CEDAR

ST. PAUL 1

MINN.

5-31-60

B

Ebba tells me this note concerns criticism ~~of~~ by Haugens and Mjobergs of Vilhelm Moberg's use of mixed Swedish and English in his latest book. Moberg in reply says he found it used that way in manuscripts in MHS collections and goes on to quote examples.

LK
Don't know how
we'd catalog - perhaps
J & T,
JDH
with you?
JTA

Does library
want - If not, perhaps
LK does - B

Bellö-kantorns äldste bror förebild till Mobergs Karl-Oskar

Märkligaste smålandsemigrant östgöte! 'Röd lyser stugan' gör nya avslöjanden

Smålandssången "Röd lyser stugan" fortsätter att avslöja nya intressanta släkthemligheter och upplysningar lagom till jul under jubileumsåret. Härordagen kunde vi berätta att sångens författarinna, fru Linnéa Andrén i Halmstad, tack vare ett exemplar av denna tidning, vilken förrirrat sig till ett hem långt bort i amerikanska Västern, kommit i kontakt med tidigare inte kända släktingar. Nu visar det sig också att hennes morfars, belökantorn Johannes Rydell, äldste bror Anders Peterson är den verkliga förebilden till Karl Oskar Nilsson i Vilhelm Mobergs stora och av de flesta svenskar lästa utvandra-repos.

Men den stora överraskningen är förmodligen också för Vilhelm Moberg — att "Karl Oskar" ingalunda var smålänning utan östgöte! Liksom sina syskon var han född och uppväxt i Svinhults socken och fick tidigt lära sig att ta hand om sig själv och uppöva den handens skicklighet som emigranterna hade så god nytta av i det nya landet.

Johannes Rydell flyttade till Bellö 1852. Två år tidigare hade den då 32-åriga Anders emigrerat till Nordamerika. Tre systrar och en broder lämnade också hemlandet.

I väldiga, på engelska maskinskrivna brev, ger en av fru Andrén's släktingar, Neil F. Norman i Galesburg, Illinois, en rad intressanta glimtar från Anders i Amerika. Andrew Petersons liv i Nordamerika, närmast med utgångspunkt från den forne svinhultspojkens digra dagboksanteckningar. Moberg berättade någon gång på 40-talet att han funnit en märklig originalhandskrift i ett bibliotek i Saint Paul "En svensk farmares levernebeskrivning", och författare var just Andrew Peterson. Handskriften omfattar tio band på tillsammans omkring 3.000 sidor (7.000-8.000 boksidor) och tillhör Minnesota Historical Society Library. Den förvaras i ett "Manuskript Museum". Tre kopior har gjorts av dagboken, en finns hos Minnesota-universitetet, en på Andrews farm i Waconia, Minnesota, och en hos nämnde Neil Norman, vars mormor Gustava Jonsson var syster till Johannes Rydell och Andrew Peterson.

Norman berättar att han som sju-årig pojke var på besök på Andrews farm, och man förstår att han hyser en mycket stor vördnad för denne märkliga bonde från Sverige och det verk han lämnat efter sig. Han tror alldeles säkert att Moberg

är en stor författare, men Uncle Andrew är ändå ett strå vassare. Hans dagbok, förd under 44 år, från 1854 till 1898, är en klassiker av det mest fascinerande slag, slår han fast.

En mångkunnig man

1898 är Andrew Petersons dödsår. Ett år tidigare hade Johannes Rydell i Bellö slutat sina dagar. Han hade i likhet med Andrew varit en mångkunnig och mångbetonad man. Men någon dagbok i likhet med sin äldre bror förde han inte. Sannolikt var det de omvälvande händelserna i samband med överflyttningen till Amerika som kom Andrew att starta sitt väldiga dagboks-företag, en folkkuppteckning som man förgäves sökt någon motsvarighet till här i landet. Andrew anses vara ett märkligt undantag bland de svenska utvandrarna. Huvudparten av dessa kunde inte ens skriva sina namn, de växte upp före folkskolans tillkomst 1842, och hade således inga förutsättningar att kunna berätta om vad de upplevde i det främmande landet. Vad de behöver för att överleva i det vilda nybyggerlandet var i första hand inte pennor och ord utan färdighet i att bryta mark, timra hus, tillverka skor och kläder och allehanda bruksföremål.

Andrew Peterson var också vad man bland småländsk allmog kallar för en "allehandamakare". Han tycks ha kunnat allt, och vad hans dagliga anteckningar beträffar måste man hålla med Neil Norman om att detta är författari när det är som bäst. Koncentrationsförmågan kunde inte vara bättre, livet på farmen registreras med ett språk som är idel kärna. Även när det gäller de viktigaste händelserna i livet behåller Andrew sin knappa stil — det viktigaste för honom är att notera händelserna, inte att kommentera dem.

Karl Oskar Nilsson har fått Andrew Petersons flesta egenskaper: mångkunnigheten, ledarförmågan, gudfruktigheten, envisheten. Andrews dagliga anteckningar om sysslor, väderlek, födelser och död bland människor och djur, gudstjänster, stadsfärder och mycket annat som var livets gång i nybyggerkolonien i Minnesota, allt detta har varit en guldgruva för Vilhelm Moberg, som enligt vad han själv säger ger en fullständig bild av en nyodlares och farmares liv i Minnesota under 1800-talets senare hälft.

När Andrew Peterson lämnade sin hembygd var han ungarl och förblev så i åtta år framåt. På det första dagboksbladet står det att han

tog ut sitt första "national papper" våren 1853. Han hade då anslutit sig till en grupp svenska baptister i Burlington, Iowa. De flesta av dessa, däribland Andrew, flyttade två år senare till till Minnesota Territory. Som boplatz valde de området vid Lake Waconia (platsen bär efter sjön namnet Waconia).

Gruppen synes inte ha varit så värst stort, det talas på något ställe om 11 personer. Flera ursvenska förnamn skymtar i dagboksanteckningarna, där är Jonas Petter, Maja-Stina, Danjel och Johannes.

Nio barn men alla dog barnlösa

Det framgår med önskvärd tydlighet att dessa svenskar fick börja med tomma händer. Men jorden var fruktbar och till den satte man sin tillit. Här fick man inte vara bortkommen eller hjälplös. Andrew synes från första stund ha tagit ledningen när det gällde att bygga upp hemmen. Han timrar hus, snickrar möbler, slaktar kreatur och prövar sin förmåga som fruktodlare, sirapskokare och vinodlare. Man får dock knappast något intryck av att en sådan mångkunnighet skulle ha varit något ovanligt. Sannolikt var det så att de flesta som utvandrade var duktiga i det mesta. Det var helt enkelt en nödvändighet för den som skulle slå sig fram.

Den 15 september 1858 gifter sig Andrew med en kolonimedlem som heter Elsa. Andrew berättar därom på en rad. Den dagen hann han också med att "ploga till wetett".

Andrew och Elsa får i sitt äktenskap nio barn. Även klockslaget för deras födelse finns med i dagboken. Hur många moderna pappor gör något sådant?

Andrew Peterson blir — precis som Karl Oskar — en välbärgad man och vida betrodd. Det byggs kyrka och skolhus, och han får sitta med i juryn vid tinget.

Neil Norman berättar att Andrew och Elsa lyckades skapa något av en idealfamilj. Barnen trivdes hemma och det var en arbetsgemenskap och sammanhållning av mycket ovanligt slag.

Men det blev inga ättlingar, och det vill synas som om Andrew skulle ha tagit detta rätt hårt. Samtliga barn dog barnlösa: grenen av den släkten är utdöd.

Andrew Peterson dog den 31 mars 1898. Han skrev sin dagbok ända till sista dagen han levde.

I en kommande artikel skall vi återberätta mera från hans märkliga dagbok.

Ax.

[2]

Svinhultsbo i USA förebild för utvandrarnas Karl Oskar

Smålands-Tidningen Dec. 28, 1961 9156



Unik Amerika-bild

[2]

Den här bilden är unik. Den visar tre av de "tidningsupp-täckta" Amerika-släktingarna till Smålandssångens författarinna, fru Linnéa Andréén i Halmstad. Längst till vänster ses lärarinnan från Eksjö och Norra Sandsjö, fru Elsa E. Carlson, som varit den förmedlande länken mellan släkting-

arna och fru Andréén. Trion vid tidningen med smålandssångensreportaget är därefter fr. v. fru Helen Wettstein, fröken Gladys Booth och fru Verna Wilcox. Det är barnbarn till Maria Kristina Andersson, född Pettersson. Hon var syster till kantor Johannes Rydell i Bellö, som ju var Ivar Widéens och Linnéa Andrééns morfar.

Dagbok romanstoff

[3]

Det visar sig nu att Johannes Rydells äldste bror Anders i USA Andrew Peterson är den exakta förebilden till Karl Oskar Nilsson i Vilhelm Mobergs berömda utvandrarromaner. Andrew, som dog 1898 i en ålder av 80 år, hade i 44 år fört dagbok från sin farm i Waconia, Minnesota. 3.000 hand-

skrivna blad i tio band blev ett utomordentligt dokument, som berättar om ett halvt århundrades bondeliv i Minnesota och som Moberg haft stor nytta av för sina romaner. "Karl-Oskar" var med andra ord inte smålänning utan östgöte, liksom sina syskon född och uppväxt i Svinhult.

Förmedlande sång

[4]

Bland släktingarna i Amerika har kontakten med Sverige och Smålandssångens författarinna haft goda följder. De har fått mer kontakt och mer förståelse med varandra. Det är som om detta gemensamma intresse blivit en förmedlande länk mellan dem, skriver fru

Carlson i brev till tidningen. Linnéa Andréén säger alltid, att hon tror, att det är särskild välsignelse med Smålandssången, och visst måste det vara det efter dessa underbara händelser, slutar hon.

Reportage på sidan 5!



Anders Pettersson, den flitige dagboksskrivaren i Minnesota, med hustru och nio barn, alla döda. Fotografiet fann Ivar Widéen då han efter morfaderns, bellökantorn Johannes Rydell, död, gick igenom alla brev och papper.

(Translated from Smålands-Tidningen, December 28, 1961) ✓

[10]

Bellö Parish Choir Director's Oldest Brother Model for Moberg's Karl-Oskar

The Most Remarkable Emigrant from Småland a Native of Östergötland!

"Red Shines the Cabin" Produces New Discoveries

The Song of Småland, "Red Shines the Cabin" ("Röd lyser stugan") continues to reveal new, interesting family secrets and information in time for Christmas during the jubilee year. Recently we reported that the song's composer, Mrs. Linnéa Andrén of Halmstad--thanks to a copy of this newspaper which found its way to a home far away in the American West--came in contact with previously unknown relatives. Now it is app^oarent that Anders Peterson, the oldest brother of her grandfather, who was Bellö parish choir director, Johannes Rydell, is the true model for Karl-Oskar Nilsson in Vilhelm Moberg's great emigrant epic which has been so widely read in Sweden.

But the biggest surprise--probably also to Vilhelm Moberg himself--is that "Karl-Oskar" is not from the province of Småland at all but from Östergötland. Like his siblings, he was born and raised in the parish of Svinhult and while young, learned to take care of himself and gain those manual skills that the emigrants found so useful in the new land.

Johannes Rydell moved to Bellö in 1852. Two years earlier the then thirty-two-year-old Anders had emigrated to North America. Three sisters and a brother also left the homeland.

In lengthy, typewritten letters in English, one of Mrs. Andrén's relatives, Neil F. Norman of Galesburg, Illinois, gives several interesting insights into Anders in America. Norman bases his account of Andrew Peterson's life in North America primarily on the former Svinhult boy's voluminous diary entries. Moberg told in the 1940s how he had found in a library in Saint Paul, Minnesota, a remarkable manuscript, "A Swedish Farmer's Autobiography."

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The author was precisely Andrew Peterson. The handwritten work spans ten volumes with approximately 3,000 total pages, the equivalent of 7,000-8,000 printed pages, and belongs to the Minnesota Historical Society Library. It is kept there in a "Manuscript Museum." Three copies of the diary have been made: one is held by the University of Minnesota; one on Andrew's farm in Waconia, Minnesota; and one by Neil Norman whose mother's mother was Gustava Jonsson, a sister of Johannes Rydell and Andrew Peterson.

Norman relates that as a seven-year-old boy he visited Andrew's farm, and understandably he has great admiration both for this remarkable farmer from Sweden and the work he left behind. Norman does not doubt that Moberg is a great author but believes that Uncle Andrew was nonetheless a bit sharper. That Andrew's diary, kept for forty-four years from 1854 to 1898, is a classic of the most fascinating kind, Norman holds unshakeably.

A Versatile Man

Andrew Peterson died in 1898. A year earlier Johannes Rydell ended his days in Bellö. He like Andrew had been a versatile and complex man. But he did not keep a diary similar to his older brother's. The revolutionary events of the move to America were probably responsible for prompting Andrew to begin his massive enterprise, a folk journal which seems to have no counterpart in Sweden, Andrew is considered to be an exception, too, among the Swedish emigrants. The majority of them, growing up as they did before the advent of public schools in 1842, could not even write their names, and thus had no presumptions about being able to tell what they experienced in the foreign land. What they needed to survive in that wild land of pioneers was in the first place not pens and words but the capability to break ground, build houses, and make shoes, clothes, and all manner of useful equipment.

Andrew Peterson was what the Småland commonfolk call a "maker of sundries" (or what Americans call "a jack-of-all-trades"). He seems to have been able

to do everything, and when it comes to his diary entries, one must agree with Neil Norman that ~~it is~~ as an author ~~that~~ Andrew excels. His ability to observe could not have been keener; life on the farm is registered in language that is lean and precise. Even when describing the most important events in life, Andrew holds to his spare style--the most crucial task for him is to note the events, not to comment on them.

Karl-Oskar Nilsson has been given most of Andrew Peterson's qualities: the versatility, the leadership ability, the piety, the stubbornness. Andrew's daily entries on tasks, weather, births and deaths of people and animals, church services, journeys to town, and all the rest that made up the way of life in the pioneer colony in Minnesota--all this has been a gold mine for Vilhelm Moberg who has said that the diary gives a complete picture of a pioneer's and a farmer's life in Minnesota during the late 1880s.

When Andrew Peterson left home, he was a bachelor and remained so for eight years afterward. On the first page of the diary, it is noted that he took out his first citizenship papers ("nattjonal papper") in the spring of 1853. He had then joined a group of Swedish Baptists in Burlington, Iowa. Two years later most of these, including Andrew, moved to Minnesota Territory. They chose to settle near Lake Waconia, which gave the surrounding area its name.

The group seems not to have been very big; there is mention of eleven persons. Several old Swedish given-names appear in the diary entries: there are Jonas Petter, Maja-Stina, Danjel, and Johannes.

Nine Children but All Died Childless

It is eminently evident that these Swedes began with empty hands. But the earth was fertile, and in that they set their trust. Here one was not allowed to be impractical or helpless. Andrew is seen from the first to have taken the lead at establishing a homestead. He built a house, fashioned

furniture, butchered cattle, and demonstrated his skill as a fruit-grower, sirup-maker, and vinyard-cultivator. One, however, receives no inkling that such versatility should have been anything unusual. Probably most of the emigrants were similarly capable. Such was simply necessary for success.

On September 15, 1858, Andrew married a member of the colony named Elsa. Andrew relates this in one sentence. That same day he also managed to "plow until the dew fell" ("ploga till wetett").

Andrew and Elsa's marriage produced nine children. Even the time of their births are found in the diary. How many modern father's do likewise?

Andrew Peterson became--just as Karl-Oskar did--a well-to-do and widely respected man. He helped build a church and a school, and he was chosen for jury duty.

Neil Norman tells that Andrew and Elsa succeeded in establishing something of an ideal family. The children liked being at home, and there was a working camaraderie and a togetherness of a very unusual sort.

But there were no offspring, and it seems as if Andrew took this very hard. All his children died childless; that branch of the family is dead.

Andrew Peterson himself died on March 31, 1898. He wrote in his diary up to the last day.

In a future article we shall relate more from his remarkable diary.

* * * * *

(Photo caption) Former Native of Svinhult in U.S.A. Model for the Emigrants'
Karl-Oskar

(2)

* * * * *

Unique America-Picture

This photograph is unique. It shows three American relatives of the

composer of the "Song of Smaland," Mrs. Linnéa Andrén, of Halmstad. Mrs. Andrén discovered the three as a result of an article in Smålands-Tidningen. At the extreme left of the picture is the teacher from Eksjö and Norra Sandsjö, Mrs. Elsa E. Carlson, who was the link between the relatives and Mrs. Andrén. The trio holding the newspaper with the article on the "Song of Småland" are, from the left, Mrs. Helen Wettstein, Miss Gladys Booth, and Mrs. Verna Wilcox. They are grandchildren of Maria Kristina Andersson, nee Petersson. She was a sister of Johannes Rydell, the Bellö parish choir director who was Ivar Widéen's and Linnéa Andrén's grandfather.

Diary as Novel Material

It so happens that Johannes Rydell's and Maria Kristina Andersson's brother, Anders, is Andrew Peterson, the model for Karl-Oskar Nilsson in Vilhelm Moberg's famous novels about emigrants from Småland. Andrew who died in 1898 at the age of eighty-years-old had kept a diary for forty-four years on his farm in Waconia, Minnesota. The three thousand handwritten pages in ten volumes make an extraordinary document describing a half century of farm life in Minnesota--a document which Moberg depended upon heavily while writing his novels. "Karl-Oskar" was, in other words, not from the province of Småland but from Östergötland, where he was born and raised in Svinhult just as his brother and sister were. (3)

A Unifying Song

Among the relatives in America, the contact with Sweden and with the composer of the "Song of Småland" has had good consequences. They have come in closer contact and gained more appreciation for each other. "It is as if this common interest has become a unifying force among them," writes Mrs. Carlson in a letter to this paper. "Linnéa Andrén always says she believes there is a special blessing about the 'Song of Småland' and judging from these wonderful events, there certainly must be," Mrs. Carlson notes in closing. (4)



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

690 Cedar Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101 221-6126

April 25, 1971

Memorandum regarding the Andrew Petersons of Waconia:

Yesterday afternoon, under the guidance of Mr. Elwell Broberg, grandson of one of the original band of Swedish Baptists who settled in Laketown Township on the shores of Lake Waconia in the middle 1850s, my wife and I were shown the Andrew Peterson farm and the church which he helped build in the late 1850s. The original house, built about 1870, is still in use. The grooved maple ceilings, the paneling, the wide board floors, the original stairs to the second floor, the original timbers, etc. may be seen. There have been "improvements", but these have not destroyed the original construction. The original bark-log shanty that housed Andrew Peterson when he first settled is gone. There is, however, a potting shed, which was undoubtedly used for Andrew's grafting operations. It is now cluttered with junk.

11, 3/7
When the house was sold, everything in it was cleared out and divided amongst collateral heirs. Mr. Broberg had no idea of where everything went. Even Andrew's grafting tools which were in existence when Miss Nute visited there about 25 years ago seem to be gone. The land is leased and the house is occupied by renters. All of Andrew's orchards are gone. Mr. Broberg pointed out the southern slopes where they had been. There are many maples remaining however, from which Andrew took sap every spring for maple syrup. The land is rolling, partly wooded, about 160 acres.

Nearby is the small church, built for the Reverend Nilsson when the settlement was begun in 1855 and after. It is a gem. I was informed that the Bethel Seminary has offered to move it to the Bethel campus at Arden Hills, but the small congregation of 22 families does not want to sell. A golf course has been established on land adjoining the church, and the club wants the church land. A highway development threatened the pine trees on the edge of the church, but the congregation resisted and forced the county to plan otherwise. The church overlooks Lake Waconia and is beautifully situated. It definitely is a historic building.

Mr. Broberg knew the family history, which is rather sad. No children were born to any of Andrew's children, and all are dead. The last to die was Emma. Mr. Broberg related a scandalous legal story as to the disposition of the Andrew Peterson property, but made me promise not to repeat it. It does seem sad that the Peterson farm could not have been kept up properly. It might be worthwhile for the Society to send a photographer to record what is left.

C. C. Q.
Carlton C. Qualey



Staff Photo by Ben Kern

The 19th century Andrew Peterson farmhouse stands overlooking Hwy. 5 west of Victoria.

Festival will celebrate legacy of hardy pioneers from Sweden

Waconia

Back in the last century Fredrik Olaus Nilsson, a Swedish sailor, went Baptist after a terrible ocean storm.

He was jailed and then banished from Sweden for his dissenting religious views.

In 1853 Nilsson and wife sailed to America with a group that wound up in Burlington, Iowa. Here one Andrew Peterson joined the group. Peterson had been keeping a diary on his own Atlantic crossing and on everything else since he had left Sweden.

The group moved north to Carver County, where Nilsson's Scandia Swedish Baptist Church took root in the woods west of Lake Minnetonka.

Peterson proved out a claim and on Sept. 15, 1858, married a member of



Ben Kern
your weekend

the hour of each birth being recorded in the diary, which Peterson kept until the day of his death, March 3, 1808.

in growing a wide variety of apples and other fruit.

"To this Swedish immigrant farmer, the Civil War must have been remote and irrelevant," writes Carlton C. Qualey in Minnesota History Quarterly, summer 1972. During the war years the diary deals with "maple syrup, apple grafting, the calving of cows... grape planting, soap making, harvesting..."

"In October and November 1871 he spent every day in the orchard... to determine which varieties could survive Minnesota winters..."

Today the old Peterson farm and its old house, granary and appurtenant remnants rest in the hands of Georgene and Ward Holasek, breeders of fine Arabian and Percheron horses (Arabian stud fee: \$1,000).

the colony named Elsa. He entered it in his diary. Also that he managed to "plow until the dew fell" that day.

He helped build a church, and a school, and served on a jury. Friends helped each other build houses, acquire cattle, develop farms. It's all in the diary — unphilosophical but conscientious in its detail.

Excerpts: "Finished clearing on Nilsson's claim . . . Per Daniels . . . bought for me . . . shoes (\$1.75) . . . two mauls and chain (75¢) . . . glass and putty (62¢) . . . half interest in a woodsman's axe (\$1.62) . . . chalk (5¢) . . ."

Elsa and Andrew had nine children,

Elsa survived him. All their children died childless, and in her declining years she left the farm to a kind and helpful friend. Since then it has been changing hands, but the house, granary, two gnarled old apple trees and a few oddments stand as monuments.

Further, Peterson left mankind a legacy — his diary — later prized by Wilhelm Moberg, popular Swedish novelist, who researched it for "The Emigrants," "The New Land" and "The Last Letter Home."

The Peterson diary is also familiar to horticulturists who prize its records of Peterson's experimentation

The well-preserved Peterson house has tenants while the Holaseks, with two sons, live in a modern brick rambler beyond highway view by woods surrounding a five-acre springfed pond. Back there they also have sprawling white metal horse barns and lounges for hayride customers.

A sign by the entrance on Hwy. 5 just west of Victoria signals a Harvest Festival coming here to the erstwhile "Andrew Peterson Farm," 10 a.m. to dark on Saturday, Sept. 23, adults \$2, children under 12 free, to celebrate the Petersons and all they stood for.

The sponsors are a Heritage Committee of the Carver County Historical Society. The farm has been nominated as a national historic site, and the committee hopes to invest the farm with appropriate educational qualities.

The festival offers hayrack rides, tours of the grounds (enter the old porch, look over the ropes, see artifacts, diary in glass case), see the old granary, a surviving ancient apple tree, an old maple sugar cooker, and go up over the hill to the festival proper.

There you'll find slide-tape programs in a hayride party room and the horse-barn lounge, a harvest dinner with beef on a spit, an apple, cheese and cracker booth, craft demonstrations (weaving, woodcarving, straw work, stained glass), threshing bee (11 a.m.), historical program (2 p.m.), dinner (4 p.m.), a Moberg film (7 p.m.). Another Moberg film will be shown at the Waconia Theater (tickets available at the festival).

Earl Dunn, Eden Prairie impersonator and entertainer, will be a day-long master of ceremonies. Prof. Phil Tideman of St. Cloud State University will be in charge of the 2 p.m. historical program.

Tage Pousette, Swedish consul general, will be on hand, along with representatives from the American Swedish Institute and the State Historical Society.

And you might also be lucky enough to meet Mrs. William Mihelich, busy chairwoman of the Heritage Committee. She is researching a book and a slide-tape program about that never-to-be-forgotten farmer, horticulturist and diary keeper Andrew Peterson.

You might ask her who composed that popular Swedish song, "Red Shines the Cabin." Answer: Andrew Peterson's brother's granddaughter, Linnea Wedeen.

