



Maud Hart and Delos Wheeler
Lovelace Family Papers.

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She was a tiny sprite whose light hair looked even lighter than it was, because she was so deeply tanned. Her name was Marjorie Gerlach but everyone called her Midge. I am told that she and I met when our mothers were wheeling us out in baby buggies, but she lived on the next street and I have no firm memories of her until Bick and I, walking each day to the Pleasant ^Ur^Dve School, were bewitched by her house. It was chocolate colored and had red glass over the front door and...we discovered later....front and back stairs. A mansion of all glories!

However, Midge had a charm for us greater even than her house or the lovely lacy clothes her mother made for her or her ^{fame as} local ~~as a~~ ~~club~~ dancer, for which she was locally famed. She appreciated us. She admired us. She realized how wonderful we were. Not that she flattered us in words. On the contrary she was blunt and all too honest. But she listened to our stories with wide eyes and gurgled with laughter at our jokes. She waited on us; she had been taught to be helpful at home. Her German mother had taught her to cook, dust and sew. She was practical where we were dreamy, independent where we were tied to apron strings, fearless where we were timid.

She was as agile as she was fearless. Telephones had reached Mankato and the ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ tall poles were sprouting in residential/~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ neighbor ran to tell Mrs Gerlach that her tiny daughter had climbed a telephone pole...all the way to the top.

"Don't worry," Mrs Gerlach answered. "She'll come down."

Bick and I had not thought of climbing telephone poles were full of ~~fine~~ ideas for but we/~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ things to do. Midge put ~~our~~ ^{them} ideas into execution,

We climbed our backyard maple and decided to fly like birds.

"We haven't got wings," Midge pointed out with German practicality.

maybe
start
cutting
kid
stuff
here

"We'll use our arms for wings, " we told her. "We'll wave them and jump the way baby birds do."

Midge jumped.

We decided to daub ourselves with mud, tangle out hair, rumple our dresses and go begging at a strange house. Bick or I ~~rang~~ ^{Knocked at the door} but it was little Midge who explained, in simulated baby talk, that we were hungry.

One day, alone at our ho use, we decided to make an Everything Pudding. Put in one pan a little of everything edible in cupboard and ice box, stir it, and cook it, and see how it came out. Probably it would be the most delicious food ever eaten, I declared, and we would be the first in the whole wide world to eat it, because no one had ^{ever} thought of making it before.

Midge looked dubious but she took charge, ~~nevertheless~~. She suggested that we begin with bacon grease, and stirred briskly while Bick and I dumped in sugar, salt, oatmeal, catsup, tapioca, an egg, milk, molasses, butter, chocolate, bay leaf, corn starch, cocoa, vanilla, egg-o-see. ...~~You name it; we dumped it.~~

Though it didn't turn out well, it was an important scientific experiment.

Bick and I used to spin ^{long} tales ~~by the hour~~ about what we were going to do when we grew up. Midge hung on every word as we told how beautiful we were going to be, what long trains our dresses would have, what big plummy fans we would wave, how we would live in Paris with French maids, even go around the world.

^{It will come out}
~~You will note~~ later who went around the world. She went all alone and sent us post cards.

Bick and I bragged about our relatives. She had cousins living in St Paul including one about our age named ^{Balbina} called Beadie. I don't believe Bick had ever been to St Paul, but

*parted some 2 or 3
miles away to
white slippers.*

*with a
flump
pink slipper
the (red)*

She attended the Mankato Public Schools, except for a few years when her father's profession took the family to Milwaukee. High School dances took the place of the Baby Dance ^{now} after she returned, and she was a lovely blonde sprite on the dance floor at Schiller Hall. Her clothes were always ^{eye-catching} something to look at, for she early took over from her mother and started making them herself. I remember a blue voile ^{party} dress, ~~made~~ high-waisted in the directoire style, and she ~~xxxxxxx~~ covered her white ~~xxxxxx~~ ^{slippers} with some of the voile. When a party was looming, she loved to tear two or three old dresses apart and whip them into a fourth one, brand new.

She was graduated from high school in 1911 and went on to the Milwaukee College of Fine Arts. She ^{was} married ^{in Mankato to} Charles Harris of Iowa ~~in Mankato~~ while he was in the armed services, during World War One. Later they made their home in Lincoln, Nebraska.

After her husband's death in 19... she worked in Chicago and elsewhere as a dress designer. One of her favorite anecdotes concerned the request of a manufacturer during the depression for an attractive dress which could sell for one dollar. Midge achieved this miracle. She was engaged also in various business ventures which seemed more remote from her delicate ^{feminine} appearance, but she had acquired... to compensate for bring short.... a delightful dignity. Although she looked helpless, she was extremely independent and knew how to meet, unaided, both good fortune and bad. She made a trip around the world, alone, when such tours were not as common as they are today.

She is survived by a sister, Dorothy Gerlach Mahle of Chicago whose loving care during her illness Midge described in her last letters to me, and by Dewey Gerlach, late of Le Seueur, Minnesota, and now of Florida, and by two nieces Mrs Joan Nichols and Mrs Beverly Gerlach of

~~she kept outgrowing her dress and her mother was obliged to~~
~~and for so many years that~~ ^{that} ~~she~~ ^{she} ~~made three of the~~
them, one after another, all identical, trimmed with insertion and lace,
dresses, all identical, white, accordion pleated, with

~~trimmed with~~ ^{trimmed with} ~~g insertion and lace,~~ ^{g insertion and lace,} ~~with a bow and streamers of~~
~~white satin ribbon.~~ ^{white satin ribbon.}

~~It began with her running out~~
m the platform holding the skirt wide, and it ended with the
Russian step where she squatted down and kicked right and left
and that always brought down the house.

Midge attended the Pleasant Grove
Mankati public schools, except
for a few years when Mr Gerlach's profession took them to Milwaukee.
She went through the Pleasant Grove school... called the
Lincoln School now...and she was graduated from the high school in
1911. She loved to sew and attended the dances in Schaller Hall in
a variety of lovely dress whipped up herself.

She attended the Milwaukee College of Fine Arts, and
married Charles Harris of Ootumwa, Iowa, while he was in the armed
services during World War One. Later they made their
home in Lincoln, Nebraska.

After her husband's death in 1919 Midge she worked
in Chicago and elsewhere as a dress designer. One of her favorite
anecdotes concerned the request of a manufacturer, during the
depression, for an attractive dress which could sell for \$1.00.
Midge achieved this miracle. She had an instinctive talent for
clothes and was also successful in various business ventures, which
seemed more remote from her delicate blonde beauty. She travelled
extensively, taking several trips to Europe...one on a world tour..
and often visited Mankato.

She is survived by a sister, Mrs Dorothy Mahle of Chicago,
and a brother Dewey Gerlach of Le Sueur, and ----- Florida and
two nieces Mrs

seemed more remote from her delicate feminine ^{daintily} appearance. She made a trip around the world, alone, when such tours were not as common as they are today. She ~~was~~ acquiredto compensate for being short.... a delightful dignity. She looked helpless but she was extremely independant, practical, and courageous and knew how to meet, unaided, both good fortune and bad.

She is survived by a sister, Dorothy Gerlach Mahle, of Chicago, whose loving care ^{for her} during her illness Midge described in her last letters, ~~to me~~, and by Dewey Gerlach, late of Le Sueur, Minnesota, now of Flor rida, and by two nieces Mrs Joan Nichols of Kalamazoo, Michigan and Mrs Beverly Gerlach of

She left also, ^{as} ~~as~~ we who grew up with her in Mankato ^{ac} ~~and~~ well know ^{away}, an exceptional ^{by long} number of friends. She was a merry companion; we ~~all~~ remember her delighted burst of laughter at another's joke. She was ~~always~~ more interested in others than ~~she was~~ in herself, a loving, loyal, admiring friend. ^{nevertheless} her admiration was ^{surely} ~~always~~ balanced by a salutary frankness. Without that blunt honesty, on which one could count, ~~she~~ just wouldn't have been ^{our} Midge.

Maud Hart Lovelace.

~~She will be deeply missed by her friends, the~~
~~who cherished her for her own dispartion, her~~
 low loyalty and faith in others; her
 tender heart and her ^{sure} ~~blunt~~ honesty.

FORE-WORD

ALL DATA HEREIN RESEARCHED BY BERTHA GOES,
ONLY CHILD OF MARIE GERLACH AND WILLIAM
GOES. BERTHA MADE SEVERAL TRIPS ABROAD TO
GERMANY, VISITING RELATIVES AND GATHERING
INFORMATION ABOUT THE GERLACHS. SHE WAS
ASSISTED BY HILDEGARD AND KARL PFLUEGEL
OF BAMBERG. BERTHA'S THIRD COUSINS.

Compiled into booklet form by Marjorie Gerlach Harris
December 1959

m. married
c. children

Page 1.
b. born
d. death

GERLACH GENEALOGY

6th Great Grandfather

1. Gerlach, Chilian - Apothecary - b. Dec. 4, 1581 - d. Dec. 4, 1632

m. Feb. 19, 1610 - Margarete Schrimpfen

c. Son Johann Friedrich - other children unknown

5th Great Grandfather

2. Gerlach, Johann Friedrich - Barber Surgeon - b. Aug. 14, 1618 - d. 1699

m. Nov. 14, 1665 in Schweinfurt to Margarete Sachsin

c. Son Johann Karl

4th Great Grandfather

3. Gerlach, Johann Karl - Barber Surgeon - b. Dec. 5, 1666 d. 1740

m. Oct 23, 1694 in Eriksenstadt to Anna Margarete Krichnerin

c. Son Johann Friedrich

3rd Great Grandfather

4. Gerlach, Johann Friedrich - Chirurgeon - b. June 26, 1713 d. 1761

m. Sept. 13, 1737 Anna Margarete Bender of Friedburg d. March 1757

c. Son Johannes Heinrich

2nd Great Grandfather

5. Gerlach, Johannes Heinrich - Chirurgeon - b. Sept 24, 1738 d. 1820

(born in Nuren burg , Germany)

m. Feb. 7, 1775 to Anna Amelia Rosine Voit, daughter of Master Carpenter, Johann Voit & Anna Lang of Schweinfurt

c. Johann Peter b. 1776 & Georg b. 1786

Great Grandfather

6. Gerlach, Johann Peter - Lutheran Clergyman - b. June 2, 1776 in Schweinfurt
d. Jan 4, 1861 in Nurenberg, Bavaria

Consistorial assessor in Pappenheim. In 1806 he was rector of the Latin School in Under-Pappenheim & "Verweger" of the Hill-parish of Newdorf. On Nov. 23, 1814 he went to Burk in the Diaconate of Wassertrudigen. In 1820 he became school inspector in the same district. In 1823 he became deacon of Furth near Nurenberg. In 1830 he retired on a pension of 388 gulden or 28 Kreuzer. He left Altenmuhle on June 1847 and went to live with his daughter the widow Stark in Nurenberg where he died.

He was an outspoken Rationalist, as his book "Das Gluck in der Heimat", Erzahlungen Merkwurdiger Begebenheiten shows.



2nd Great Grandfather
Gerlach, Johannes, Heinrich - Surgeon - b. Sept. 24, 1738
in Nuremberg, Germany - d. 1820

Heinrich, Maximilian Gerlach

Gerlach, Heinrich, Maximilian, b. Jan. 5, 1818 in Burk Germany
d. Nov. 6, 1899 in Milwaukee, Wis. U. S. A.

Max came to Milwaukee in 1844 from Germany, because his father insisted that he go into the Ministry and he was opposed to the idea.

He worked for the city Government in Milwaukee as Clerk of Court as he had had an excellent education in Germany, studying for the Ministry. At that time in Milwaukee every one spoke German, therefore he never did learn to speak English. He was a stern disciplinarian, but a good and just father.

m. Marie Meyer Oct. 1849 - b. Aug 31, 1832 in Friedrikstad
in Slesvig Holstein, d. 1915 in Milwaukee, Wis

She came to Milwaukee as a child with her parents.

Father Heinrich Meyer b. 1803 in Slesvig - d. 1862 Milw.

Mother Anna Boeh b. 1806 in Slesvig & d. 1869 in Milw.

Marie was 16 years old when she was married and had 16 children. (8 children died at birth or in early childhood)

She was a wonderful mother and wife. Her children adored her, she was so kind and understanding.

Marie and Max lived on 9th St. & Prairie Ave. in Milw.
for many years & where eight of their children were born.

8 Children who reached Maturity

1. Gerlach, Maximilian b. 1854 d.
m. c.
2. Gerlach, Heinrich, Christian b. June 17, 1858 - 1924 in Mankato
m. Wilhelmina, Katherina, Irasek b. June 24, 1862 in Vienna, Aus.
c. 1. Marjorie b. Mar. 6, 1892. 2. Henry C. b. Dec 28, 1893
3. Wm. Dewey b. July 4, 1898 4. Dorothy K. b. Apr. 30, 1904
All children born in Mankato - Henry d. 1952
3. Gerlach, Laura b. Mar. 22, 1861 - d. 1937 in Los Angeles, Calif.
m. Dow Maxon in 1882 - b. 1859 - d. 1910
c. 1. Georgia b. 1884 - b. 1937 2. Betsey b. 1888
3. Josephine b. Apr. 25, 1892 4. Robert b. Apr. 7, 1901
4. Gerlach, Arthur b. 1864 d.
m. c. 1. Arthur
5. Gerlach, Marie b. Dec. 22, 1867 d. Sept. 30, 1945
m. William Goes in 1888 c. 1. Bertha b. Apr. 17, 1896
6. Gerlach Herman b. 1869 d. 1940 Druggist
m. Agnes in 1889 c. 1. Gretchen b. 1899
7. Gerlach, Cora b. May 22, 1870 d. Nov. 27, 1947
m. Wm. Clasmann 1892 c. 1. Fritz b. 1894 d. 1912
c. 2. Cora Marie b. 1899 3. John b. 1903
8. Gerlach, Sidonia b. 1872 m. Clauson about 1892 c. 1. Maxine



Grandpa and Grandma
Heinrich, Maximilian, Gerlach and Marie Meyer m. 1849
Photo taken in 1892 in Milwaukee, Wis.

da. daughter

Henry Gerlach Family

Gerlach, Henry Christian b. June 17, 1858 in Milwaukee, d. 1924, Mankato
Apprenticed to an Architect in Milwaukee, Wis. After 4 years
he went to Mankato, Minn. to practice, and opened an office (1883)
He was quite an athlete, enjoyed fishing, hunting, bowling
in fact an all around good fellow. He also was a fine architect.

- m. (1) Julia Lulsdorf, 1885 in Mankato, she died in 1886.
- m. (2) Wilhelmina, Katherina Irasek of Milwaukee, Wis. in 1888
b. June 24, 1862 in Vienna, Austria. d. July 1947-Mankato
da. of Alois & Katherina Irasek of Milwaukee, Wis.

Henry & Wilhelmina (Minko) nickname, went to Mankato, Minn.
to live. Minko was a very good wife and mother, wonderful cook,
and seamstress; she made very stylish clothes for her 2 girls, &
the boys too, and at a minimum expense, also taught the girls to
sew. She had to leave school at 14 years of age, to sew on men's
clothes, in her father's tailor shop, to help support a growing
family of children (they all went to High School).

Children of this marriage all born in Mankato, Minn

1. Child died at birth in 1889
2. Marjorie, b. March 6, 1892, she attended High School in
Mankato, then went to the Art School in Milwaukee and
lived with her Grand Parents the Iraseks.

m. Charles A. Harris of Winterset, Iowa Feb. 14, 1918.
Charles enlisted in the 1st World War July 1918. He
returned home in Feb. 1919 and they went to live in
Hastings, Neb. Charles died in 1929, and Marjorie
went to work as a dress designer. In 1944 she went
into the Letter Shop business. Retired in 1955.
3. Henry Clay, b. Dec. 28, 1893. d. 1952 in Mankato, Minn.
Graduated from the University of Minn. in Architecture,
and Engineering, with high Honors. He joined his father
in the office, had real talent, but was sensitive and
not a very good business man.

m. Bernie in 1931. she was b. in Windsor Canada
They lived in Mankato, and Henry carried on the business
after Henry Sr.'s death. Bernie d. July 1959 in Mankato
4. William, Dewey b. July 4, 1898. He had charming personality
was a good mixer, and well liked. He graduated from the
University of Minn. in Architecture. He became Head of
the Architectural & Engineering Dept. of the Green Giant
Co. in Le Sueur, Minn. where he now lives.
m. Leora Schweider in 1929 - - Lee was just the right wife
for Dewey, she's a help-mate in every way.
c. Beverley b. 1932 in Mankato, went to High School in Le
Sueur, then to Hamlin College in St. Paul & majorzed
as Medical Technologist. She is now employed as such
at North Western Hospital in Minneapolis, Minn.
Bev is very competent, dependable & fine young lady.

5. Dorothy, Katherine b. April 30, 1904. She was a precocious and clever child. She graduated from State Teachers College in Mankato in 1924. Then received a position teaching Kindergarten in St. Paul, Minn., and was very successful. In 1926 she went to Europe on a Tour, including a group of teachers.

(1) m. Richard Holbrook in 1926 in Chicago, Ill. upon her return from Europe, but returned to her teaching in St. Paul until Xmas. Returned to Chicago Jan. 1, 1927 and she & Dick went to live in Riverside, Ill. suburb of Chicago.

c. Joan Worden, b. April 24, 1933, in Chicago, Ill. Dorothy & Richard were divorced in 1938. Dorothy went to work designing dresses. Her mother came to live with her and kept house and take care of Joan.

(2) m. Arthur E. Mahle M. D. Feb 17, 1944. (Specialist in Internal Medicine) Associated with Wesley Memorial Hospital of Chicago, and for 2 years he was Chief of Staff, of same Hospital. They all are living in Chicago.

c. Joan attended Roycemore Girls School in Evanston, Ill. then she went to Pembroke (Brown U.) in Providence, R. I.

m. Charles Nichols Feb. 16, 1952 in Greenwich, Conn.

c. Scott Huntington - b. Dec. 31, 1952

Parents of Wilhelmina (Alois & Katherine Irasek)

Alois b. 1836, Katherine Novac b. 1839, in Wittingau Czechoslovakia
m. In Vienna Austria in 1860. Both worked, Alois as a tailor and Katherine in an Embroidery Establishment, employed by the Royal House of Franz Joseph, Emperor of Austria. She was honored for her exquisite Monograms & permitted to use a 5 pointed crown insignia on all her work.

Children born in Vienna

1. Wilhelmina b. 1862 2. John b. 1863 3. Lois b. 1864

In 1865 Alois decided to go to America, Katherine was able to care for the children & make her own way, & urged him to go.

He established himself in Milwaukee, Wis in the tailoring business & in a year he sent for her. She came over with three small children, all their possessions and plenty of courage.

Alois met her in New York and they came on to Milwaukee, Wis.

They both worked hard, Alois with his tailoring and Katherine with her needle work and they prospered. In 10 years they owned their own home, a fine tailoring business & raised a big family.

4. William b. 1868 m. 2 boys 5. Paulie b. 1870 d. 1905
6. George b. 1872 - no children 7. Eda b. 1875 m. Carl Pauli
8. Jack b. 1879 m. no children c. Ralph b. 1893 d. 1914
9. Adele (Dell) b. 1882 m. Wm. Prescott d. 1950

(2) m. Tom Sharpnack 1955 d. 1956