



Left to right: Dennis, Margene, Merline, Arden Drees Rozora (Kuhn) Schroeder taught at Washington No. 9 country school. During WWII, scrap drives were held and the country schools had a contest among themselves to see who could gather the most scrap by a school...this world war involved everyone.

It was acknowledged by the Carroll newspaper how patriotic the Manning citizens were during WWI in these two different articles they printed in 1918.

You'll give it to Manning, yes, Manning with its heavy percent of German population, when it comes to showing the best phase of loyalty to this government. Manning several days ago had sent 29 boys to the country's army. That's better evidence of patriotism than putting up the flag or engaging in heated debate. Manning, you may stand at the head of the class.

PROUD OF RECORD Citizens of Manning can feel proud of the number of volunteer young men who have joined the colors. Should other towns furnish a number in proposition there would be no need of drafting or conscription. The young men go to all parts of the world, and perhaps in a few months they will be scattered thousands of miles apart. Here's hoping that a year from now all will be able to return to Manning feeling that the year had been a profitable and pleasant one by them. - Carroll Herald

Letters to the Editor by Pastor Johann Ansoerge:

Pastor Ansoerge, like Pastor Starck stood up against the anti-German sentiment that was even found in Manning with a large percentage of German background. Below are two Letters to the Editor he submitted to the Manning Monitor.

August 22, 1918 The American Lutheran Church Is A Loyal Church

Some have looked askance at our Church because a portion of her members are of German descent. But German blood does not make for disloyalty. Do you know that during the Civil War 48 generals, who were Germans by birth, fought on the side of the Union? They include some of the most distinguished Generals of the great Civil War. Had it not been for the Germans, both Missouri and Maryland would have been lost to the Union." These are the words of General Sherman, spoken in the House lately.

The writer is proud of the fact that his grandfather, under a German general, fought to retain Missouri for the Union.

Why Roosevelt said the other day in the Kansas City Star: "I also have German blood in my veins." And you will not say that Roosevelt has a drop of disloyal blood in his veins. Why should he, who has English or Irish or French blood in his veins, love this country more? The Lutheran Church has no interest whatever in any language; her business is to preach the Gospel according to the Master's commission. "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature." She is preaching the Gospel in 17 different languages in this country. Language has nothing to do with loyalty.

If the Lutheran Church were disloyal, do you believe that the Government would open to us her army camps and forts? Pastors of our own Lutheran Synod are working in over 260 army camps, and are in the service of the government overseas as chaplains.

The 35,000 of Lutheran boys who have gone into the service of their country are being spiritually cared for by our own Lutheran ministers, our congregations cheerfully and willingly have taken upon themselves the enormous expense which this work entails. We are erecting chapels and comfort huts in the various camps. And the government is rendering us every aid and encouragement, because it recognizes that our boys need the spiritual aid of the Church. Would the government do this if the Lutheran Church were disloyal? No, the Lutheran Church is loyal and is rendering her country a real service.

Can the same be said of those who slander the Lutheran Church? - Johann Ansoerge

August 29, 1918 THE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND LOYALTY

Lutheranism is a synonym for loyalty. When, during the Middle Ages, the Turk made war upon Western Europe. Luther too, was called upon to support his government by paying the heavy taxes levied upon his property. "I am glad," he said, "to be in the army against the Turk with my little penny. Were I not too old and feeble, I should like to be a trooper myself." Luther was no slacker. Neither were his sons.

The Lutheran Church has a great interest in America. That of gratitude is exceedingly great. But more, she cherishes the free institutions of America as the offspring of her teachings. They are of her flesh and blood. Luther clearly saw the course of the coming events. "You must hold fast to the chief thing, spiritual liberty; then the other thing, civil liberty will without doubt follow." Bancroft records the fulfillment of the prophecy: "The principle of justification by faith alone brought with it the freedom of individual thought and conscience against authority." And Daniel Webster: "Reformation of Luther introduced the principle of civil liberty into the wilderness of North America." Under the free institution of this country our Church has prospered beyond measure. She owes our country a debt of gratitude. And this debt she is repaying by her support of the government in the present crisis.

Loyalty to the government is, however, also a Christian duty in our Sunday Schools, in our parochial schools every child is taught to be obedient to its government. They are taught to look upon our President and our Governor as ministers of God; to be obedient to them for conscience's sake. The fear of God is the most potent force back of loyalty. As she teaches so she has lived; her entire history in the Revolutionary War, in the Civil War, her conduct in this war shows her loyalty to the government.

A letter from the Treasury Department at Washington, under the date of May 25, 1918, states: "We desire to express to you and the members of Evangelical Lutheran Zion's Church at Manning our highest appreciation of your very liberal support of the Third Liberty Loan. This is an irrefutable proof of patriotism, and loyalty a wise act of thrift, and indeed an example, well worthy to be followed by all organized bodies throughout the land." - Johann Ansoerge.

Manning's Veteran history

Ansoerge refers to the Civil War...Manning had over 50 of its citizens serve in the Civil War for the Union - they also organized the McPherson Post #33 for its Veterans.

During WWI Manning had over 360 of its citizens serve and they formed the Emil Ewaldt Post #22.

During WWII Manning had over 600 of its citizens serve and they formed the Manning VFW Post 3517.

27 of these men who served out of Manning paid the ultimate price with their lives of which 21 were of German ancestry.

Rolls reversed: In my opinion, if Ansoerge and Starck's rolls were reversed as pastors of the two congregations, Ansoerge's family would have been threatened with lynching and Starck's family would have stayed relatively safe in Manning. I have been aware for decades about the animosity towards citizens and immigrants of German ancestry in Manning during WWI & WWII but I never realized until recently how close this "mob rule" lynching mentality was to Manning.

Starck family moves to Chicago

Rev. Ernest J.W. Starck and his family went Chicago, where he had relatives. They stayed for a time with his sister, Jennie Starck Swanson. They may have, also for a time, visited his brother Alvin in Geneva, New York. His eldest sons, Ernest and Adolph were probably living on their own by this time and did not move to Chicago with the rest of the family. But it does seem that Walter (age 18), Arthur (15), Fredrick (11), Elsie (8), Eddie (5), and Frieda (4) did move with their parents. Elizabeth died in Chicago October 8, 1919, at age 50. Her health was not good at the time of the mob action and she only lived 21 months after. By 1930, Ernest Starck was living in Chicago with his three youngest children, next door to his son, Arthur and his family. He was remembered by his grandchildren as "quite a tease" and always spoke German when visiting with his sister.

It is impossible to say exactly how all of this affected the man. He lived on in good spirits, but never again had a church or congregation. He and his wife are buried next to each other at the Concordia Lutheran Cemetery in Forest Park, Illinois. He did what he felt was right and did not succumb to the pressures of fleeting trends. His legacy lives in the firmness of value and strength of resolve in his ancestors.



Ernest G. and Marie (Meyer) Starck wedding in Manning

Ernest G. Starck (the eldest son) had attended Concordia Seminary from 1914-17 and had been teaching Grades 1-4 at St. Matthew's in Lemont, Illinois, when he and Marie were married in Manning. It is not clear if he was present at the time of the attempted lynching. It is also not clear if the timing of his wedding had been planned ahead or had been rushed by the incident. They then moved to Aurora, Illinois, where he taught grades 3-4 at St. Pauls.

In 1936, he was awarded the Carnegie Heroes Medal for saving the lives of three people in the icy waters of the Fox River. He was known in the Starck family as one that they could always depend on. His aunt Jennie is said to have leaned on him later in life and was always well thought of by the whole Starck clan. His descendants and their spouses have included at least eight teachers and a pastor.



Adolph and Effie (Shaw) Starck wedding

Adolph H. Starck enlisted in the U.S. Army February 20, 1918, less than two months after his father was attacked as a traitor. He served in WWI, being released from service February 1, 1919. He lived on the Shaw family farm in Cameron, Township near Gray, where he worked as a farm hand. On May 20, 1920, he married Effie Shaw. They farmed on their own farm in the area for some time, but moved to Chicago by 1930. They retired back to their farm in Iowa in 1967.

Arthur M. Starck set out on his own shortly after moving to Chicago with his family. He married Florence Swanson October 2, 1920. By 1930, Ernest Starck was living next door to Arthur and his family. It is safe to assume that Arthur and his family helped with the support of his father and brother and sisters as an extended family.

Fredrick Starck maintained a connection to this area as he married Leona M. Schade on January 26, 1927, in Carroll. Their marriage certificate shows them living in Manning at the time. By 1930 they were living in Chicago with two children and Leona's 16 year old sister.

The Evening Nonpareil December 27, 1917

Below is the complete transcription and a screen capture of the actual account about the Starck & Tenekeig (Tenekheig - two different spelling variations from two different newspapers) attempted lynchings.

The Evening Nonpareil Council Bluffs, Iowa December 27, 1917 Two men almost lynched at Audubon.



Rev. W.A. Starck and Fred Tenekheig have ropes about their necks; Latter being dragged a block. Sensational climax to series of Treasonable and Disloyal Acts toward the United States Government. Both men leave the county hurriedly after their rough handling. Will not be allowed to return. A large number of people of the county declared disloyal and feelings run high.

Audubon, Iowa, December 27 - Two prominent men of this community had ropes placed about their necks late yesterday, and one was dragged over the pavement for a distance of about one block and nearly died as a result of his rough handling, a sensational climax to a situation in the county that has been gradually developing for weeks as a result of disloyal acts and words of a large percent of people of the community.

Young famer nearly killed Fred Tenekheig is a young farmer living two and one-half miles from Audubon. He is single, about 30 years of age and is worth \$45,000. Up to yesterday he had subscribed \$1 to the Y.M.C.A. and \$2 to the Red Cross. Yesterday he was notified to come to town and be questioned by the local Council of Defense. After his arrival the members of the council decided that the fellow's hearing should be made public and those hail were notified of their plans. At the meeting, Tenekheig was notified that he should subscribe for \$1000 in Liberty Bonds or be taken to Council Bluffs with State Agent Yackey of Harlan, who was in the meeting.

Refuses to comply with demand; is attacked. Tenekheig was defiant. He refused to comply with the demands of the council and the meeting closed with Tenekheig leaving the building in the custody of Yackey. As he emerged from the building someone in the crowd knocked Tenekheig down and instantly there were scores of others striving to vent their feelings upon the man. The crowd finally reached one of the banks, where it was understood that the young fellow was to subscribe for \$1000 in Liberty Bonds.

A great crowd had congregated in front of the bank and demands were made upon Tenekheig that he come out and Sheriff Frank Wilson was asked to compel the fellow to show himself. This the sheriff declined to do, but the determined men made a rush and secured their man.

Rope about his neck and dragged over pavement. "Come here you German" yelled someone in the crowd and in another instant Tenekheig was grabbed by as many as could get a hold on him, a rope was placed about his neck and he was dragged over the pavement to the public square.

An hour to revive him Arriving at the public square about one block from the bank, the rope was loosened from about Tenekheig's neck and for nearly an hour it was believed that he was dying. He finally partially revived, however, and when able to talk said he was ready to give money to the war funds. In his clothing was found a check for \$1000, made payable to the Red Cross, but not signed. He agreed to sign the check and did so, but the signature, made in his feeble and obviously nervous condition was hardly distinguishable.

Make sure of check being cashed Someone in the crowd telephoned to the bank to ascertain if the check was good and being assured that it would be honored and honored at once, this chapter of the exciting incident was closed.

Sheriff Wilson then started with Tenekheig for the latter's home, a citizen driving the man's team there. Arriving there Tenekheig told the men to leave the rig as it stood, which was done. Very soon after Tenekheig secured another rig and left hurriedly, no doubt fearing another visitation. It is understood here that he went to Atlantic. It is said he had already arranged to go to California and presumably is now well on his way there.

Rev. W.A. Starck before the meeting Rev. W.A. Starck is a German preacher living in Lincoln Township, where he has for some time conducted a German Church and school. He had repeatedly been before the Council of Defense for acts of disloyalty, has been selling German Thrift Stamps and in many ways has been proven guilty of treasonable acts towards the United States government. Starck was notified by telephone to come to town. It was declared he was not at home. State Agent Yackey got on the wire and notified Starck to come to town and he came. He came with his wife and family. Appearing before the public meeting, Starck maintained a defiant and unreconciled attitude toward the Council of Defense and citizens gathered there. He talked in his own defense and talked eloquently, too, and looking into the faces of the determined men before him, he still refused to do their bidding.

Rev. Van Dran of Gray, who was present, made a plea to Starck to do his duty by the government, but his appeal fell upon deaf ears.

Given three days to leave the country. The meeting culminated in an ultimatum to Rev. Starck that he must leave the country and that within three days. But there were still many who believed that Starck should not be let off so easily.

Audubon County last week sent sixty-five of its finest young men to war in one body. It had already furnished a large number of soldiers who are serving in practically every branch of the war service, and public indignation has long been a boiling point among loyal American people. Starck has been one of the chief offenders.

Escapes in the excitement; visited at home. But in the excitement Starck gathered his family together and they disappeared from town. Last night a company of forty or fifty determined men left for town for the Starck home. The distance is about nine miles from Audubon.

It was reported that some of Starck's German friends would defend him to the last and the men went heavily armed, prepared for anything that might happen and determined to rid the community of the traitor.