

(Handwritten date: Thursday, March 7, 1935)

C. A. NEUENSCHWANDER, RETIRED FARMER AND BUSINESS MAN DIES  
Heart Failure and Dropsy Cause Death Today of Well Known Retired Elderly Man;  
Former Bank President and Merchant Here; Native of Switzerland

This morning at 9 o'clock occurred the sudden and unexpected death of Christian A. Neuenschwander, aged 85, one of the pioneer farmers and business men of this community. His death came at his home on West Franklin street. Mr. Neuenschwander had been in failing health for a long time, suffering from dropsy and complications.

SUDDEN DEATH

His death today was sudden. He had a very good night and rose as usual and ate breakfast. Later he lay down on a couch to rest and it was there that he died. His wife noticed that his breathing was rather unusual and within a short time he had passed away. The attending doctor attributes his death to heart failure and complications. Mr. Neuenschwander, while not able to go about much, spent most of his time sitting in a chair or lying on a couch.

Mr. Neuenschwander was active in business until a few years ago. He was former president and vice-president of the First Bank of Berne and otherwise active in business. He owned a fine, large farm a mile south of town and retired from farming quite a few years ago, but, until unable, he visited the farm frequently and took much interest and pride in it.

Mr. Neuenschwander has lived in this community since 1866 and until infirmities of age prevented, took an active part in the Mennonite church, moral activities and civic life of the community. He also supplied some of the enterprise for the business. He was a farmer and served as president of the Berne Farmer's Institute for several terms.

In 1891 he was one of the group that founded the Bank of Berne. He was one of the first board of directors and in 1893 was made vice-president. In October, 1906, he was elected president and served the institution and community in that community until 1919.

Mr. Neuenschwander was well known as "Chaeser Chrigu." This was due to the fact that he was employed for some time at a cheese factory about one mile from town, and the nickname stuck to him with the years.

In 1872 Mr. Neuenschwander moved to town, and with others established a general store on the present site of the Peoples State Bank building. The store flourished and developed a larger trade. Through instigation of Mr. Neuenschwander Berne got its first sidewalks, made of cheap blanks.

It was in 1880 that Mr. Neuenschwander bought a farm of 80 acres south of Berne from John Gilliom, and through subsequent additions, hard work, and good management developed a model farm.

In 1915 he retired, and with his wife, moved to his present home on W. Franklin street. It should also be said that in 1904 he became a stockholder in the local electric light plant and (cut off)

...was the oldest of the children of Abraham and Catherine (Zurfleuh) Neuenschwander, and was the only one living at the time they came to America.

C. A. Neuenschwander married a neighbor girl, Miss Anna Stauffer, in the fall of 1875. She was a daughter of Christian and Verena (Habegger) Stauffer and was born in 1855. They celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on Oct. 2, 1925, and would have celebrated their 60th anniversary Oct. 2, 1935.

Mr. Neuenschwander served as deacon of the Mennonite church for over 20 years and in December, 1877, he was chosen as secretary of the Sunday School, serving for 40 years.

Surviving are the wife, eight children and one brother. The children are: Mrs. E. A. (Ella) Luginbill, Berne; Menno of Bluffton; Rev. Elmer J. of McPherson, Kans.; Wesley O., of Berne; Leon, who lives on the homestead south of Berne; Mrs. T. H. (Meta)

Soldner; Mrs. Frank (Selma) Habegger of northeast of Berne and Mrs. Ross (Edna) Hartman of Mondovi, Wis.

The surviving brother is Peter A. Neuenschwander of Deepwater, Mo. Thirty-two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren also survive.

Two children preceded him in death, Lila and Omer; and the following brothers and sisters: Jacob, Mrs. Abra. A. Sprunger, Mrs. Chris Reusser, Mrs. John Neuenschwander, Mary Neuenschwander and one sister died in infancy. His parents also preceded him. Seven grandchildren are deceased.

Funeral services will be held Sunday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock at the home and at 2 o'clock at the local Mennonite church, of which he was a member. Rev. C. H. Suckau, pastor, will officiate. Burial will be in the M.R.E. cemetery.

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(Handwritten date: Monday, March 4, 1935)

#### BLOOD POISON CAUSES DEATH OF YOUNG MAN William Schwartz, 17, Dies From Infection Caused By Boil FUNERAL IN PA. TOMORROW

William Schwartz, age 17, a native of this community and well known here, died at the Methodist hospital at Fort Wayne Saturday from blood poisoning. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam P. Schwartz, formerly of this vicinity, now of Pennsylvania.

The youth had been making his home with his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Enos Brandenburger of Allen county. He had been saving money to join his parents, brothers and sisters in Pennsylvania in the near future. Some time ago a boil developed on his face. Twice the family doctor lanced it, and the second time infection developed after it had been lanced. His condition became serious Saturday a week ago, and Tuesday he was removed to the hospital at Fort Wayne. Despite the best of medical care, the poison could not be checked. His eyes were swollen shut and he was unable to see for several days before his death. While in a coma much of the time, the youth suffered greatly.

The deceased was born in this community in July, 1917, a son of Sam and Effie Eicher Schwartz. Surviving are the parents, who moved away from east of Berne two years ago, and the following brothers and sisters: Peter of Pa., Mrs. Enos Brandenburger of Allen Co., Mrs. Elmer Brandenburger, Emanuel, Sam, Amos, Reuben, Martin, John, Effie and Frances, all of Pennsylvania.

The parents of the youth came to his bedside several days before he died. The body was taken to his sister in Allen Co. and Sunday evening left Fort Wayne on the train for Union City, Pa., where the funeral will be held Tuesday.

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(Handwritten date: Monday, March 18, 1935)

#### MRS. MARTZ DIES

Mrs. James Martz, aged 82, former Berne woman, died Sunday at Scotville, Michigan. She went to Michigan last summer where she resided with a son. The funeral will be held here Wednesday at 2 p.m., at the local Evangelical church. She owns the house here occupied by the Ellis Lehman family.

[Karin King note: Rachel (Hahn) Martz is buried in MRE Cemetery, Berne, Indiana]

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#### DOCTOR VIZARD FOUND DEAD

Dr. John Vizard, 65, Of Pleasant Mills, Dies Tuesday

DECATUR, February 28 - Dr. John Vizard, 65, one of Adams county's most prominent physicians, was found dead in bed at his home in Pleasant Mills at 8 o'clock Tuesday morning. Coroner Robert Zwick pronounced the cause of death as angina pectoris. He had recently suffered a severe attack of influenza but had visited in Decatur Monday.

When the doctor failed to arise at his usual hour Tuesday (cut off)

[Karin King note: John Vizard buried in Decatur Cemetery, Decatur, Indiana]

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(Handwritten date: Friday, April 5, 1935)

CLAIMED BY DEATH

S. M. Foster Funeral Set For Saturday

Well Known Businessman, Banker and Civic Leader of Fort Wayne Dies Thursday Evening at Home

(Photo) Funeral services for Samuel M. Foster, aged 83, well-known Fort Wayne banker, businessman and civic leader, who died Thursday (cut off)

[Karin King note: Samuel Foster buried in Lindenwood Cem., Fort Wayne, Indiana]

**Adams County Historical Museum**

**1935 Scrapbook, image 05**

**Transcribed by Karin King**