

(Handwritten date: Friday, December 27, 1940)

CHRISTMAS DINNER

A large Christmas dinner was enjoyed on Wednesday at the Joel Augsburger home, south of Berne. The afternoon was spent in a social manner and enjoying a gift exchange.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Joel Augsburger, sons, Carl, Dale and Walter, daughter Ruth, Mr. and Mrs. Sylvanus Augsburger and son Dickie, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Augsburger, Mr. and Mrs. Ermin Beer and family, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Roth and son, and Miss Betty Augsburger of Fort Wayne.

(Handwritten date: Monday, July 1, 1940)

DEATH CLAIMS RUDOLPH MOSER

Funeral for Brother-in-Law of Mrs. Robert Schwartz, Tuesday

Rudolph J. Moser, 85, of Fort Wayne, formerly of Berne, died Sunday evening, at 7:20 o'clock, at the Methodist Hospital. He had been ailing for the past two weeks, but was able to be about until two weeks [sic] ago.

The deceased was born February 26, 1855, in Switzerland. He was married to Emma Schwartz, who preceded him in death five years ago.

He formerly was a carpenter and cabinet maker, and was a member of the Salem Evangelical and Reformed Church at Fort Wayne.

Children living are Martin Moser of Fort Wayne, Mrs. Olga Minnich of Arcola and Mrs. Melita Pfeiffer of Fort Wayne with whom he made his home. Six grandchildren are also living.

He was a brother-in-law of Mrs. Robert Schwartz and John M. Amstutz.

Three sisters and one brother preceded him in death.

The only living relative, is a nephew, who is a soldier in the Swiss army.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock at the Klahn and Sons Funeral Home at Fort Wayne, with Rev. Carl Koepke officiating. Burial will be in Lindenwood Cemetery.

(Handwritten date: Monday, December 30, 1940)

...TAKEN BY DEATH

Mrs. Daniel D. (crossed out and "L" written) Schwartz Dies Sunday at Home Near Berne

Mrs. Margaret Schwartz, 38, wife of Daniel D. (crossed out and "L" handwritten) Schwartz, died at 6:20 o'clock Sunday evening at her home three miles north of Berne. Although in failing health several years with arthritis, Mrs. Schwartz did not become seriously ill until Friday, when she suffered a heart attack.

She was born in Monroe township February 10, 1902, the daughter of Jacob E. and Emily Graber Schwartz.

Surviving besides the husband are the parents; six children, Emma, Ernest, Merlin, Samuel, Daniel and Lydia, all at home; eight brothers and four sisters.

Funeral services will be held at the home Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock. Burial will be in the Schwartz cemetery, north of Berne.

(Handwritten date: Monday, July 1, 1940)

BROTHER, SISTER TAKE UP AVIATION AT VAN WERT, O.

James Bixler, and his sister, Henrietta, Sunday took their first lesson to become aviators. They are taking their lessons at Van Wert, Ohio.

They are the children of Dr. Ermin D. Bixler, local optometrist and have been interested in aviation for quite some time. James is a sophomore in B. H. S. and Henrietta graduated from the local school this spring.

Miss Bixler will be Berne's first aviatrix.

Luther Yager of this place is at present the only licensed aviator in Berne. He will take his examination for pilot's license on Wednesday.

Paul Rohrer, son of Mrs. Fred Rohrer of N. Jefferson street was Berne's first aviator. He was a pioneer in the field, starting in 1914 when he built his own monoplane, equipped with a 25-horse power motor. He took his lessons at the Cicero School of Aviation in Chicago.

Later he built another plane, equipping it with a 6-horse-power motor. He made several successful flights, but on Thanksgiving Day, 1916, after coming from his practice field four miles west of town and making two circles over town at an elevation of about 1,500 feet, his plane crashed in the John Eicher field, carrying him to his untimely death. Paul was nineteen years old when he died a martyr to his cause.

(Handwritten date: Friday, November 29, 1940)

Merlin Sprunger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jonas Sprunger of north of Berne, who recently graduated the International Business College at Fort Wayne, will undergo an operation on his left leg Saturday at an Indianapolis hospital. He was handicapped a few years ago by a seige of infantile paralysis.

Miss Erma Beitler, missionary at Smithville, Tenn., is spending some time at the Ed Beitler home in Hartford township. She has not been feeling well for some time and is resting up for some time.

Adams County Historical Museum

1940 Scrapbook, image 187-188

Transcribed by Karin King