



AHSGR Archives
Collection: AR0375
Fred Fritzler, 1883-1961

Title: Fred Fritzler, 1883-1961

Collection Number: AR0375

Dates: 1917-1935

Quantity: .75 linear ft

Language: German, English

Restrictions: None

Processed By: Karen Keehr

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Updated:

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Biography:

Frederick "Fred" Fritzler was born in Grimm, Russia on February 19, 1883. He was the son of Johann Jacob Fritzler (1848-1917) and Katherine Louise (1850-1900). He married Katharina Elizabeth Meisner (1885-1972) on December 27, 1904. In March 1907, he and his family immigrated to the United States. He arrived in Windsor, Colorado in May 1907 where he farmed. He moved briefly to Monte Vista, Colorado in 1911-1912 to help build the sugar factory. He and Katherine Elizabeth had five children: Paul (1905-1911), Friederich (1906-1907), Friederich (1909-1910), Paul Wayne (1914-2007), and Louise (1916-1997).

Scope and Content:

This collection consists of letters from Russia collected by Fred Fritzler of Windsor, Colorado. The letters were passed down to his son Paul Fritzler, a charter member of AHSGR. Paul continued to collect letters from Russia. After Paul's death, his son John Fritzler donated the letters to AHSGR's Northern Colorado Chapter for preservation. Then chapter president Ron Greewald began working on the collection having several of the letters translated. In 2024, the Northern Colorado Chapter transferred the collection to AHSGR's Heritage Center in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Subjects:

- Grimm (Russia)
- Weld County (Colorado)
- Windsor (Colorado)
- Greeley (Colorado)
- German Russian (Neb.)
- Fritzler, Fred, 1883-1961

Fritzler, Katherine Elizabeth (Meisner)
Meisner, Carl, 1898-1957
Meisner, Amelia "Mollie" (Leffler)
Deines, John J., 1875-1942
Brunner, John, 1890-1964

Series Description:

Series 1: Fred Fritzler letters
Series 2: Carl Meisner Letters
Series 3: John Brunner Letters
Series 4: Johann J. Deines Letters
Series 5: Letters without names
Series 6: Fragments

Box 1

Series 1: Fred Fritzler Letters.

Folder 1. Letter written in German, 1917 Nov 8. 4 pages. No envelope.

Folder 2. Letter written in German, 1917 Dec 6. 4 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Windsor, Colorado. The orange envelope has tape that says "Opened by Censor."

Folder 3. Letter written in German, 1921 Mar 14. 8 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 4. Letter written in German, 1921 Jun 8. 9 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado. Small note that says in English "Get in touch with Volga Relief Society, 386 Beech St, Portland Oregon, May be possible to help your friends in Russia soon, F. Repp"

Folder 5. Letter written in German, 1921 Nov 3. 2 pages. Envelope addressed to Frederich Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 6. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado, 1922 (month or day illegible). Large amount of stamps.

Folder 7. Letter written in German, 1922 Jan 1. 6 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 8. Letter written in German, 1922 Jan 13. 2 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 9. Letter written in German, 1922 Jan 18. 2 pages. Envelope addressed to Fried Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 10. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler, 1922 Jan 18.

Folder 11. Letter written by Heinrich Aab in German, 1922 Mar 4. 12 pages. Translated.

Summery: Received \$10 and box with corn, sugar, fat. Send box using Ura company. Many people have left for Germany. Russian have taken everything. People are losing house, farm, dying of starvation. Few animals left. People buried without caskets. Cost of items. List of those who died. Family news.

Folder 12: Letter written in German, 1922 Mar 6. 2 pages. Envelope addressed to Friedrich Fritzler of Windsor, Colorado.

Folder 13. Letter written in German, 1922 Mar 20. 3 pages. Envelope addressed to Friedrich Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 14. Letter written in German, 1922 Mar 30. 3 pages. Envelope addressed to Friedrich Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 15. Letter written in German 1922 Apr 19. 1 page. Envelope addressed to Friedrich Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 16. Letter written by Heinrich Weber in German, 1922 Apr 29. 2 pages. Envelope addressed to Friedrich Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 17. Letter written in German, 1922 May 12. 4 handwritten pages, 1 typed. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Windsor, Colorado. Typed note from Volga Relief Society to Friedrich Fritzler which says that they received a letter from his relatives asking Fred to cover the cost of postage.

Folder 18. Letter written in German, 1922 Jun 20. 2 pages. Envelope addressed to Friedrich Fritzler of Winsor, Colorado.

Folder 19. Envelope addressed to Fritzler in Greeley, Colorado. Russian postmark 20 Jul 1922.

Folder 20. Letter written in German, 15 Oct 1922, 6 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 21. Letter written in German, 25 Oct 1922. 2 pages.

Folder 22. Letter written in German, 20 Nov 1922. 4 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 23. Letter written in German, 12 Dec 1922. 4 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 24. Letter written in German, 19 Jan 1923. 6 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 25. Letter written in German, 23 Jan 1923. 4 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 26. Letter written in German, 3 Mar 1923. 2 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 27. Letter written in German, 5 Mar 1923. 2 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado. Translated.

Summary: Received the letter and box. Received money.

Folder 28. Typed letter written in German on the letterhead for Cunard Line Reisebureau, 12 Mar 1923. 2 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Summary: Information about Volga German fleeing Russia to Germany.

Folder 29. Letter written in German, 7 Nov. 1923. 4 pages. No envelope.

Folder 30. Letter written in German, 27 Aug 1924. 2 pages. No envelope.

Folder 31. Letter written in German, 29 Aug 1924. 1 page. Envelope address to Fred Fritzler of Windsor, Colorado with Buenos Aires postmark.

Folder 32. Letter written in German, 22 Oct 1924. 3 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of New Windsor, Colorado.

Folder 33. Letter written in German, 27 Oct 1924. 3 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Windsor, Colorado. Translated

Summer: Need help. Family is starving. Will pay back. Food is beets, pumpkin, and potatoes.

Mother's brothers died. No crops, no bread, no milk.

Folder 34. Letter written in German, 7 Mar 1925. 2 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 35. Letter written in German, 9 Jul 1925. 4 pages (pages numbered at the top 5-8). Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Windsor, Colorado.

Folder 36. Letter written in German, 16 Aug 1925. 4 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 37. Letter written in German, 5 Oct 1925. 2 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of New Windsor, Colorado.

Folder 38. Letter written in German, 3 Dec 1925. 2 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Windsor, Colorado. Translated.

Summery: Birth of daughter Frieda. Complaints brother hasn't written. They are very poor.

Folder 39. Letter written in German, 24 Jun 1926. 4 pages. No envelope.

Folder 40. Letter written in German, 2 Feb 1927. 6 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 41. Letter written in German, 1928. 6 pages. No envelope.

Folder 42. Letter written in German, 1 Apr 1928. 4 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Windsor, Colorado.

Folder 43. Letter written in German, 15 Dec 1928. 2 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Windsor, Colorado from Jake Fritzler of Flint, Michigan.

Folder 44. Letter written in German, 20 Jun 1929. 2 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 45. Letter written in German, 24 Oct 1929. 2 pages. No envelope.

Folder 46. Letter written in German, 10 Aug 1932. 2 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 47. Letter written in German, 30 Apr 1933. 4 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado. Translated

Summery: From sister Emilie to Fred's wife. Liked the pictures sent. Not enough food. People dying of starvation. Paul has consumption.

Folder 48. Letter written in German, 30 Apr 1933. 8 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 49. Letter written in German, 23 May 1933. 8 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 50. Letter written in German, 17 Jun 1933. 2 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of New Windsor, Colorado.

Folder 51. Letter written in German, postmarked 3 Feb 1934. 2 pages (pages numbered at top 3, 4). Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 52. Letter written in German, 24 Mar 1934. 4 pages. No envelope.

Folder 53. Letter written in German, 24 Apr 1934. 2 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 54. Letter written in German, no date, postmark illegible. 8 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 55. Letter written in German and signed Jacob, no date, postmark illegible. 3 pages. Envelope addressed to Fred Fritzler of Windsor, Colorado.

Folder 56. Letter written in German. No date. 4 pages. No Envelope.

Folder 57. Letter written in German to Fred Fritzler from Frederick Schotts. No date. 2 pages. No envelope.

Folder 58. Letter written in German. No date. 2 pages written on graph paper. No envelope.

Folder 59. Letter written in German. No date. 2 pages. No envelope.

Folder 60. Two envelopes addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley, Colorado. One envelope appears to be homemade with writing on the inside.

Folder 61. Two envelopes addressed to Fred Fritzler of Greeley and Windsor, Colorado.

Folder 62. Two envelopes. One is addressed to Fred Fritzler in Greeley, CO. The other is addressed to Friedrich Meisner of Easton, CO.

Folder 63. Letter written in German from Berta, Emilie, and Frieda to Louise and Paul Fritzler. No date. 2 pages. No envelope.

Summery: Greetings. Asking for a reply. Picture made by Bertha Schafer

Series 2: Carl Meisner Letters. *Carl Meisner's (1898-1957) sister Katherine Elizabeth Meisner (1885-1972) married Fred Fritzler. Carl came to the United States in 1910 at the age 12 with his parents Alexander and Katherine Elizabeth (Fritzler) Meisner. He married Amelia "Mollie" Leffler on September 29, 1918. They lived in the Greeley, Colorado area.*

Folder 1: Letter written in German, 19?? Jul 2. 6 pages. Envelope addressed to Carl Meisner of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 2. Letter written in German, 1924 Sep 16. 3 pages. Envelope addressed to Karl [sic.] Meisner of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 3. Letter written in German, 1924 Sep 25. 8 pages. Envelope addressed to Carl Meisner of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 4. Letter written in German, 1924 Oct 26. 6 pages. Envelope addressed to Carl Meisner of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 5. Letter written in German. 1924 Nov 23. 8 pages. Envelope addressed to Carl Meisner of Greeley, Colorado. Letter pages number 1-4 and 1-4.

Folder 6. Letter written in German, 1924 Dec 28. Envelope addressed to Carl Meisner of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 7. Letter written in German, 1924 Dec 19. 2 pages. No envelope.

Folder 8. Letter written in German, 1925 Mar 4. 4 pages. Envelope addressed to Carl Meisner of Greeley, Colorado. Letter pages number 1-2 and 1-2.

Folder 9. Letter written in German, 1925 Mar 20. 2 pages. No envelope.

Folder 10. Letter written in German, 1925 Mar 20. 2 pages. No envelope.

Folder 11. Letter written in German, 1925 May 24. 4 pages. Envelope addressed to Carl Meisner of Greeley, Colorado

Folder 12. Letter written in German from Bertha Schafer, 1925 Jul 3. 6 pages. No envelope. Translated.

Summery: Weather. Crops, rhubarb, apples. Ask for help with food. They have no money. Send \$5. Widow with children, no friends. Emily & Katharina: Why haven't you written. They need money. 2 days of work for stamps. Brother-in-law Friedrich. Send \$5 and Karl send \$5 and brother Friedrich \$5 they will still be healthy.

Folder 13. Letter written in German, 1931 Nov 14. 2 pages. Envelope addressed to Carl Meisner of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 14. Letter written in German, 1932 Nov 13. 4 pages. Envelope addressed to Carl Meisner of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 15. Letter written in German, 1933 (month unknown) 10. 6 pages. Envelope addressed to Carl Meisner of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 16. Letter written in German, 1933 Feb 17. 2 pages. No envelope.

Folder 17. Envelope addressed to Carl Meisner postmarked 1933 Feb 23.

Folder 18. Letter written in German, 1933 Sept 11. 2 pages. Envelope addressed to Carl Meisner of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 19. Letter written in German, 1933 Nov 28. 4 pages. No envelope.

Folder 20. Letter written in German, 1933 Dec 13. 2 pages. No envelope.

Folder 21. Letter written in German, 1934 Jan 7. Letter contains drawings of houses and trees. 6 pages. Envelope addressed to Carl Meisner of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 22. Letter written in German, 1935 May 26. 4 pages. Envelope addressed to Carl Meisner of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 23. Letter written in German, n.d. 2 pages. No envelope.

Folder 24. Letter fragments written in German, n.d. 4 pages. Envelope addressed to Karl [sic.] Meisner of Greeley, Colorado.

Folder 25. Letter fragment written in German, n.d. 4 pages. Pages numbered at top 5, 6, 7, 8. (This fragment might go with either AR0375.S2.F15 or AR0375.S2.F19)

Folder 26. Two envelopes addressed to Carl Meisner. Smaller envelope postmarked 7-5-23. The large envelope's postmark is illegible.

Folder 27. Letter fragment written in German, n.d. 2 pages. Pages numbered at top 5, 6.

Series 3: John Brunner Letters. *John Brunner (1890-1964) married Elizabeth Fritzler (1895-1951), sister of Fred Fritzler. He was born in Grimm, Russia on March 23, 1890. He immigrated to the United States in 1907. He farmed near Windsor, Colorado until 1929 when he went into the hardware and implement business.*

Folder 1: Letter written in German, 1923 Dec. 14. 8 pages. The envelope addressed to John Brunner of Windsor, Colorado.

Folder 2: Letter written in German, 1924 Feb 9. 2 pages Envelope addressed to John Brunner of Windsor, Colorado.

Series 4: Johann J. Deines Letters. *Johann Jacob Deines (1875-1942) came to the United States with his first wife Amelia "Mollie" Fabrizius (1873-1918) in 1904. After Mollie passed away, he married Katherine Elizabeth (Meyer) Knaus (1882-1963). He became a citizen in 1913. In Spring 1920 shortly after his marriage to Katherine, the family moved to Fort Collins, Colorado. NOTE: There are no Deines families listed in the 1897 Grimm Census.*

Folder 1: Letter written in German, 1928 Nov. 26. 4 pages on graph paper. Envelope addressed to Johann George Deines of Fort Collins, Colorado.

Folder 2: Letter written in German, 1929 Dec. 30. 4 pages. Envelope addressed to Johann Jacob Deines of Fort Collins, Colorado.

Folder 3: Letter written in German, 1932 Dec. 13. 2 pages. Envelope addressed to Johann Deines of Fort Collins, Colorado.

Folder 4: Letter written in German, 1933 Mar. 13. 5 pages. Envelope addressed to Johann J. Deines of Fort Collins, Colorado.

Folder 5: Letter written in German, 1933 Jun. 13. 6 pages. Envelope addressed to Johann J. Deines of Fort Collins, Colorado.

Folder 6: Letter(s) written in German, no date. 17 pages. Envelope addressed to Johann J. Deines of Fort Collins, Colorado. It is unclear if these fragments were sent together.

Folder 7: Letter written in German, March 20 (no year). 2 pages. No envelope.

Series 5: Letters with no names. Letters with no names but are dated.

- Folder 1. Letter written in German, 19 Mar [no year]. 8 pages. No envelope.
- Folder 2. Letter written in German, 16 Mar [no year]. 3 pages. No envelope.
- Folder 3. Letter written in German, 11 Nov 1921. 2 pages. No envelope.
- Folder 4. Letter written in German, 8 Dec 1921. 4 pages. No envelope.
- Folder 5. Letter written in German, 1 Jan 1922. 4 pages. No envelope.
- Folder 6. Letter written in German, 8 Mar 1922. 4 pages, paper from ledger book with Russian writing.
- Folder 7. Letter written in German, 4 Jul 1922. 2 pages. No envelope.
- Folder 8. Letter written in German, 6 Oct 1922. 2 pages. Pages numbered at top 1, 2. No envelope.
- Folder 9. Letter written in German, 29 Mar 1923. 2 pages. No envelope.
- Folder 10. Letter written in German, 27 May 1923. 2 pages. No envelope.
- Folder 11. Letter written in German, 14 Jun 1924. 4 pages. No envelope.
- Folder 12. Letter written in German, 31 Jun 1926. 2 pages. No envelope.
- Folder 13. Letter written in German, 18 Mar 1933. 4 pages. Stylized "M" on last page. No envelope.
- Folder 14. Letter written in German, 29 May 1933. 3 pages. No envelope. Translated by Harold

4/19/2005

Summery: Poor. 3 or 4 people are dying of hunger. Rations for children. Send what you can spare.

Lost their animals. Given a rabbit and 600g of cornmeal every 7 days.

- Folder 15. Letter written in German to "Dear Brother Jakob," 17 Jun 1933. 3 pages. No envelope.

Series 6: Letter Fragments.

- Folder 1: Letter written in German, no date. Pages numbered at top 1-4. No envelope.
- Folder 2: Letter written in German, no date. Pages numbered at top 5-8. No envelope.
- Folder 3. Letter written in German, no date. Pages numbered at top 3-4. No envelope.
- Folder 4. Letter written in German, no date. Pages numbered at top 5-6. No envelope.
- Folder 5. Letter written in German, no date. Pages numbered at top 5-6. No envelope.
- Folder 6. Letter written in German, no date. Pages numbered at top 3-4. No envelope.
- Folder 7. Letter written in German, no date. Pages numbered at top 5-6. No envelope.
- Folder 8. Letter written in German, no date. Pages numbered at top 3-4. No envelope.
- Folder 9. Letter written in German, no date. Pages numbered at top 7-8. No envelope.
- Folder 10. Letter written in German, no date (possibly a Fritzler letter). No envelope.
- Folder 11. Postcard with blue flowers and river scene with German writing on back, no date.
- Folder 12. Letter written in German, no date. Pages numbered at top 2-5. No envelope.
- Folder 13. Letter written in German, no date. Pages numbered at top 1-7. No envelope.
- Folder 14. Letter written in German from Alexander Reihl, no date. 2 pages. No envelope.
- Folder 15. Letter written in German, no date. 4 pages. No envelope.
- Folder 16. Letter written in German, no date. Letter written on an unused, unfolded envelope. No envelope.
- Folder 17. Letter written in German, no date. Pages numbered at top 1-4. No envelope.
- Folder 18. Letter written in German, no date. 4 pages. No envelope.
- Folder 19. Letter written in German, no date. 1 page. No envelope.
- Folder 20. Letter written in German, no date. 2 pages. No envelope.

Folder 21. Letter written in German, no date. 4 pages. No envelope.
Folder 22. Letter written in German, no date. 2 pages. No envelope.
Folder 23. Photocopies of letters written in German, 3 Jul 1925.