



# Eastern Nebraska Genealogical Society Newsletter

P O BOX 541  
Fremont NE 68026-0541

April 2016

Check your address label!  
If your membership  
number is green, we are  
still waiting for your  
membership renewal

11 April 2016  
Mares Meeting Room  
1722 E 19 Fremont NE  
7 P.M.  
**PROGRAM**  
Trip to Sweden  
Pat & Ken Beebe

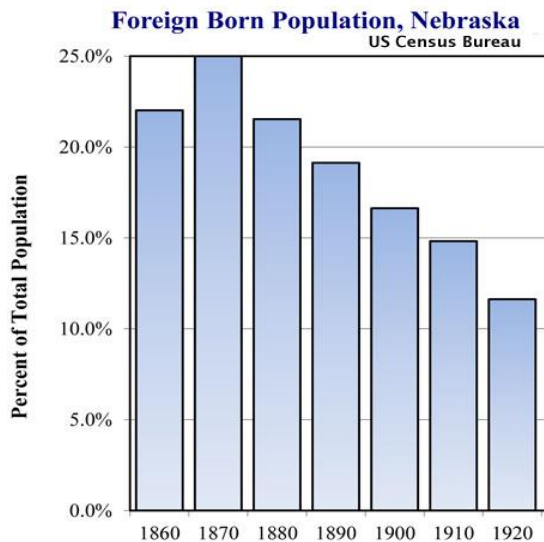
**BROWSE NITE 7 P.M.**  
25 April 2016

## Dodge County Census - 1870 – by Country of Origin

Born in	Total	Percent	Born in	Total	Percent
USA	2554	60.65%	Switzerland	16	0.38%
Prussia/Germany	833	19.78%	France	8	0.19%
Sweden	192	4.56%	Italy	7	0.17%
Denmark	135	3.21%	Norway	6	0.14%
Ireland	127	3.02%	Holland	6	0.14%
England	101	2.40%	Austria	4	0.09%
Canada/Nova Scotia	89	2.11%	Wales	2	0.05%
Scotland	75	1.78%	Belgium	2	0.05%
Bohemia	33	0.78%	Mexico	1	0.02%

Renee Bunck is handling the Newsletters for now while Claire continues to compile the Quarterlies. Ideas for topics for either or for future programs are always welcome.

Moving forward with last month's theme of Ethnic Origins of Dodge County, here is a graph that shows how Immigrants helped Nebraska grow between 1860 and 1920.



Foreign Born Population for the entire US varies from 13% to 15% over the same time period. Our March newsletter reported 223 US born and 77 foreign born residents in 1860 for Dodge County. That amounts to 25% foreign born residents - slightly greater than the 22% shown in the graph above for Nebraska in 1860.

Census takers reported 39% foreign born residents in 1870 for Dodge County – well above the 25% shown above for all of Nebraska in 1870. We doubt that anyone will be surprised to learn that half of the foreign born immigrants documented in Dodge County in 1870 listed their place of birth as Germany or Prussia.

Stories about some of those early immigrants can be found among the newspaper clippings that Claire is constantly locating and adding to the ENGS tickler files.

In 1870, Thomas and Isabel Frahm are listed with children Werbhe 7, Hans 6 and Mary 1. **Prussia** was listed as the birthplace for the entire family. In later years Thomas reported being born in Holstein, **Germany**.

A Dec 1905 obituary for Thomas appeared in the Tribune and tells how the family arrived in 1869 and engaged in farming and stockraising. In 1878 they moved into Fremont and opened a restaurant and later conducted a lumber business, then started a business in general merchandise. Thomas Frahm erected the Frahm block at Sixth and Broad. He served as a city councilman, ran for county treasurer, held membership in the Knights Templar, Masonic, and I.O.O.F. fraternities. Before coming to America, Thomas served four years in the Prussian war in Denmark. Three daughters - Mrs. Mary Wehner, Mrs. Rickie Jones, and Mrs. Amelia Brainard are listed as his surviving relatives in 1905.

Born in **Denmark**, the Nels and Hannah Peterson family was enumerated in 1870 as a farmer with children – Peter 20, Chris 17, Swent 15, and Andrew 12.

The family appears in a Dec 1895 Tribune write-up for the Peterson's Golden Wedding Anniversary. The celebration took place at the residence of their son Andrew. The surprise celebration was shared with about 40 children, grandchildren, and other close relatives. Nels and Hannah were married in Jutland, Denmark and came to America in 1863. They lived in Omaha for 2 years before moving to Fremont. Their Golden Anniversary was celebrated on Hannah's seventy-seventh birthday. Both Nels and Hannah were hale and hearty and gave promise of living many more years of "usefulness and happiness". Their children Andrew, Chris, James, and Mrs C. S. Anderson were a part of the celebration.

Born in **Austria**, John Grunkanz, 25 and single, was listed in 1870 as a Grocery Clerk. John married Caroline Zingre, daughter of Jacob and Christina Zingre, Jan 28, 1871

In 1881, the Tribune describes the "Tin" (tenth anniversary) wedding celebration of Mr. and Mrs. John Grunkanz. The unsuspecting couple was assisted in their celebration by a busload of friends and family who provided a feast along with a pile of gifts including a tin hat, cane and glasses for John plus a tin wreath, slippers, and a full set of jewelry for Caroline. The party was as "merry as a marriage bell".

John Grunkanz's obituary appeared in the Tribune in 1895 and announced that John had died in Seattle after a brief illness. While a resident of Fremont, John was cashier of the Fremont National Bank, deputy county treasurer and treasurer. According to the article, he was a man of great popularity among his acquaintances. John had moved to Seattle with his family about 7 years before his death.

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Next door to John Grunkanz, we find Arthur Gibson, 25, occupation News Dealer and his wife Jennie, 22. Arthur was born in **England** and Jennie in Connecticut. Nearby lives Arthur's brother, Thomas, 28. Thomas Gibson was also born in **England** and was listed as a farmer in the 1870 census

According to a 1902 Tribune article Arthur Gibson was born at Leicester, England in 1844 and came to America at age 2 with his parents. They settled in Quincy, Ill and 10 years later moved west to Nebraska and then to Denver where his father established the Rocky Mountain News. The Tribune states that Arthur enlisted in the army in Colorado at 19 and helped to avenge the Meadow Mountain Indian massacre.



After the close of the Civil war, Arthur attended business school in Chicago and then came to Fremont in the late 1860's and established a flour mill with his brother, Thomas. The Tribune continues with the story, telling that after a few years the flour mill was sold to Thomas. Arthur opened a book, stationary, and notion store at 6<sup>th</sup> and F street, married Jennie Benton, and stayed in the stationary business for 25 years. In 1886, Arthur became a director of the Equitable Building and Loan association of Fremont and served as it's vice president from 1893 until his death in 1902.

Arthur died at age 58 leaving his wife and 2 daughters, Mrs Walter Eddy and Miss Jessie Gibson. Five of his brothers and two sisters are also still living in Nebraska, Washington, and California.

Jacob Zingre is the next immigrant we will highlight. He was born in **Switzerland** and is enumerated in 1870 with his wife Christina (born in **Prussia**) and their children – Caroline 16, Lesetta 13, Albert 6, and Adaline 3. Caroline was born in Iowa and the rest of the children were born in Wisconsin.

Albert Zingre, age 6 in the 1870 census, is the subject of an 1895 Tribune article when he marries Miss Lizette Jurgung. The couple were quietly joined in wedlock at the home of the bride's mother on west 6<sup>th</sup> street. Only the immediate families were present for the ceremony. The newly weds were driven to Nickerson and left for a week's trip during which time they will visit relatives of the bride at different points along the Elkhorn and the wedding trip may extend as far as Hot Springs. Returning to Fremont, they will be "at home" with the bride's mother.

Miss Jurgung, born in **Germany**, is a young lady with many rare accomplishments. Mr Zingre came to Fremont as a mere boy and has grown up here. Eight years ago he went into the employ of the Nye and Schneider company and still holds the responsible position of superintendent of stations. He is a reliable young man with excellent business capacity and stands high in the confidence of his employers.

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Edward McMahon along with his wife Ellen and children Thomas 5, Bridget 3, and Peter 3 months appear in the 1870 census. Edward and Ellen were born in **Ireland**.

The Tribune allows us a peek into the lives of this immigrant family as Bridget McMahon marries James Monroe. James Monroe's parents were born in **Germany** and **Ireland**. The marriage of Mr. James C. Monroe and Miss Bridget Agnes McMahon took place on Oct 23, 1894 at 8:30 am at St. Patrick's church.

Two or three hundred friends gathered at the church at that early hour to witness the interesting and solemn ceremony. As the young couple entered the church and as they left it Miss Bothwell played a beautiful wedding march on the organ. They entered accompanied by the bridesmaid, Miss Clara Monroe (sister of the groom) and Frank Hanlon, groomsman. Rev. Fr. Fitzgerald performed the ceremony that united them for life. Afterwards they proceeded to the residence of Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Marr where a delicious wedding breakfast was served. Later in the day, they went to the residence of the bride's parents in Elkhorn township, seven miles east of the city, where this afternoon and this evening a reception was given to the numerous relatives and friends of the worthy young people.

The bridegroom has a residence already prepared for the reception of his bride at 608 N H street, where they will be "at home" to their friends after November first. Both young persons are well and favorably known in Fremont. Mr Monroe is a young man of industrious habits and of honest and honorable character. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed McMahon, of Elkhorn township, and is an accomplished young woman who combines the finer graces in a most charming and lovable character.