

Above is shown the fine home and farm buildings Joseph Kaufmann built near Cottonwood, Idaho, in 1906 and 1907. It was a landmark of the area until 1971 when it was razed to make way for a new home for the present owner. It was a favorite gathering place for the young people who had many good times there.



Above is pictured the Cottonwood farm home of Joseph Kaufmann and a gathering for the wedding of his daughter Kate to Peter Seubert of Marathon, Wisconsin. In the picture are many of the old time residents of Greencreek, Idaho, and the Cottonwood area. Picture taken 1913.

Joseph's beloved sister Sophia moved here from Illinois with her husband, Henry Jansen, and bought a farm adjoining the one Joseph sold to Rieners. For a few short years they enjoyed the companionship of three of their children, who lived here also, and with the Kaufmann family. The Jansens celebrated their golden wedding there; in a short time, later in 1922, both of them passed away (within eight months of each other).

Joseph, becoming increasingly dissatisfied with his economic progress and desirous of getting away from the harsh winters of Camas Prairie, sold his farm to Sidney Brown on April 12, 1921 and moved his family to Lewiston, Idaho. He traded in a farm in the Tammany area on this deal, later selling his equity to his son Frank. He also took on a farm in Canada, going up there one fall with his son Tony to harvest; however, a Mr. Defenbach foreclosed on this, and his equity there was lost.

Joseph now was sixty-six years old; and had there been a social security program in effect at that time, no doubt he would have retired. However that was not the case. Moving into a comfortable home on 12th Avenue in Lewiston, Mr. Kaufmann secured a job operating an elevator in a downtown business and office building where he was a polite and familiar face for a number of years. He kept in continual contact with his brother Ferdinand in Illinois so these fine old men kept each other informed of their family doings, their health and worries. Many of these letters are still in the possession of Joseph's children.

Later, beginning in the late 1920's, Joseph became a vegetable farmer. He would plant his gardens on land farmed by his sons Ally or Joseph, care for them during the growing season then later market the harvest to the Lewiston Food stores. Monetary results of his labors over and above his needs for livelihood were used to silently and ardently pay off his indebtedness. Often during the 1930's Mr. Kaufmann would take the train to Cottonwood, stay with us a night or so and seek out a creditor to make a payment with his hard-earned vegetable money. I wonder if in this day one so honest as Joseph could be found.

Joseph and Elizabeth continued their quiet life at Lewiston. Late in the 1930's, they moved into a small house on 30th Street owned by their daughter Josepha Romain. Sometimes they were taken to Cottonwood or Greencreek to visit friends and relations by their children. I recall one such visit when these two old folks, the J. F. Jenny's and the John Hoenes were seated in our living room and after a glass of wine sang a number of German songs for our family. As these people were all good singers, I regret we did not tape this so we could replay it for the enjoyment of others. The Kaufmanns also made a trip East to their old home and spent some time several winters in sunny Arizona with the Romains.

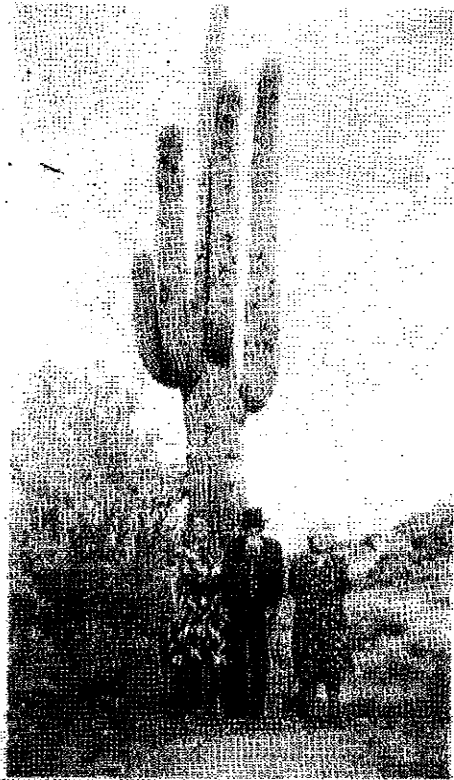


Above is shown Josepha Romain with two of her children and their spouses in front of her old home in Illinois.

Picture in 1974.

Below are shown Josepha Romain and her parents Joseph and Elizabeth Kaufmann near Phoenix, Arizona.

Picture in 1950.



On other occasions, such as the fiftieth and sixtieth wedding anniversaries and Joseph's ninetieth birthday, family gatherings were enjoyed, keeping the family united and in touch with each other.

Joseph's long and full life as teacher, farmer and head of the large Kaufmann family was consummated by his death on March 28, 1952, nearly ninety-six years after his birth in the log cabin near Greencreek, Illinois. He was buried in the Normal Hill Cemetery in Lewiston, Idaho. The words kind, gentle, honest, pious, dedicated and humble can all be applied to this good man. Disappointments and some reverses he no doubt had, but God had endowed him with a strong faith that sustained him and I'm sure carried him to his eternal reward in Heaven.

Three and one-half years later his good wife passed away in a nursing home in Clarkston, Washington. She also was buried in Lewiston beside her husband on Normal Hill. This fine woman was a wonderful mother to the family of Joseph. She was a good manager of the family affairs and, although sometimes blunt and outspoken when she deemed it necessary, she was well respected by the entire relationship.

Following is a list of the children of Joseph and Elizabeth Kaufmann, their spouses and pertinent data:

Frank Ferdinand 9-27-1886 - 10-4-1973	Married 10-1-1907	Clara Forsmann 8-13-1889 -
Josepha Catherine 12-2-1888 -	Married 5-8-1908	Frederick Romain 7-20-1886 - 12-10-1956
Joseph Ferdinand 1-27-1891 - 3-19-1975	Married 10-10-1910	Reho Fish 9-7-1892 - 9-17-1923
Henry Clemens 8-21-1893 - 5-26-1975	Married 5-6-1929	Veronica Nuxoll 2-23-1909 -
Katherine Sophia 11-22-1895 -	Married 10-13-1914	Peter Seubert 3-21-1890 -
Aloysius Johannes 1-16-1898 - 9-22-1972	Married 11-6-1922	Anna Uhling 8-25-1901
Elizabeth Bernadine 4-8-1900 -	Married 9-14-1920	August Seubert 11-21-1892 -
Antonius Michael 6-2-1902 -	Married 2-19-1941	Kathryn Moriarity 4-24-1909 -
Lorenzius Johannes Michael 6-27-1904 -	Married 6-2-1929	Louise Mary Madden 5-2-1909 -
Mary Helena 7-9-1905	Born and died in infancy	