

TAPE 8

Interview #23: Tape # 8, sides A and B (98 minutes)  
Interviewee: ANDRES, William Sr., born in 1902.  
Interviewer: Henry Paetkau  
Date: Monday, July 26, 1976.  
Place: Creek Road, R.R. No. 3, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont.  
Language: German

## Side A

- 00-01 Introduction
- 01-10 Biographical information
- 10-14 Emigration of his family in 1926
- 14-17 Deterioration of conditions in Russia
  - Flight ot Moscow in 1929: -conditions
  - arrest and interrogation
- 17-36 Return to Molotschna
  - Hiding from authorities
  - Return to Moscow
- 36-38 Organization of refugees in Moscow; the leaders
- 38-39 Reception in Germany
- 39-45 The fate of farmers
  - The apex of Mennonite prosperity
- 45-48 Attitude toward the Tsar
- 48-52 The Russian people; relationship with
- 52-60 Service in the German Battalion of the White army; its collapse; J.H.Janzen as chaplain

End of side A

## Side B

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|-------|--|
| 00-03 | J.H. Janzen cont.  |
| 03-07 | Post-Revolutionary conditions  |
| 07-13 | Refugee camps in Germany (Hammerstein)<br>B.H. Unruh                           |
| 13-15 | Scene upon arrival in Germany  |
| 15-20 | Arrival in Ontario; adjustments to Canadian life                               |
| 20-25 | The Russian people and life in Russia  |
| 25-28 | First years in Canada: -attitude toward immigrants<br>-work as a farm labourer |
| 28-32 | "Die Stillen im Lande"?  |
| 32-34 | Reception in Canada; time and circumstances change                             |
| 34-38 | Interviewer's comments and evaluation  |

## End of the Interview

RUSSIAN-MENNONITE IMMIGRANTS  
of the 1920's (Ontario)

ANDRES, William Sr.

Creek Road, R.R. No. 3, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont.

Tape # 8, sides A and B

Recorded on July 26, 1976 in German

Biographical sketch:

- born in 1902 in the Molotschna
- father was a farmer, quite well to do
- completed Centralschule
- joined the White army and sought refuge in the Crimea upon its collapse
- had great love for Russia and its people and hated to leave
- unable to obtain military permission to emigrate with his family he sent them on ahead hoping to be able to join them shortly, escaping through eastern Russia if nothing else
- the borders closed and he was stranded
- fled to Moscow in 1929
- was arrested and sent back to his home for helping others leave
- hiding from authorities he returned to Moscow to catch the train now being permitted to leave for Germany
- spent about half a year in refugee camps in Germany
- finally emigrated to Canada in April, 1930
- moved to Vineland to join his family, worked on the farm
- difficult time adjusting to Canadian life, forgetting Russia
- eventually bought his own farm and did well