Balleb Dills. 17. Februar 1912 Da id unn fo lange gefdwiegen habe, getraue ich mir beute wieber mit ein baar Brilen angebumbelt ju tommen. Run febr viel Reues weiß id gerabe nicht, abr bas Benige will ich bod berichten. Die Bitterung if bier febr berfdieben, wir batten barbarif taltes . Better mitte borle gen Monats; infolge bes telten Beiter muß biel fpåt gefater Derbfte bafer wieber umgelat werben, be berfelbe falt ganglid ausgefroren ift. Mit find aud 20 Ader Dafer burd ben falten "Spel" fibt'n gegengen. Mil bem Pfingen find bie Leute meifent ferlig, und fomit werben icon tagtig Bidne für's belbige Deispflangen gemocht. Doffentlich giebt's Diefes Jahr eine dute Rorn. Ernte. Mm 13. b. Wit, batten wir einen larafemen, guten, einweichenben Megen, ben erften bieles Jahr. Mm 8. Bebr. Rerb bier Derr Johonn Mbel im Alter bon nabit 51 346 res; bie/Lobes Urlache mar Regens frebs. Er hinterlift feine francras be Gettin und 6 Rinber. Mm 4 Bebr. murbe bie Berbliche Dale bes Berblis denen auf bem biefigen St. 3obannel-Rriebbel burd Bafter Q. Grmifd gut lesten Rube gebettet. Der Gefunbheittzuftanb ift jer Belt ein giemlich guter; bier und ba glebis mobl mal 'ne gute Ertaltung, aber bas ift bod gerabe fein Bunber!

From Valley Mills, Texas

17 Feb 1912

Dear Volksblatt!

Since I have been silent for so long. I dare to come back with a few lines today. Now I don't have a lot of news at the moment, but I want to tell you a few things. The weather here is very different, we had barbarically cold weather in the middle of last month; as a result of the cold weather much of the late autumn oats have to be transplanted again, as it is almost completely frozen. I also had 20 acres of oats frozen in the cold "spell." People are usually finished with plowing by now, and so now the plans are to begin planting soon. Hopefully this will be a good year for the corn harvest. On the 13th of the month, we hold a long, good, soaking rain, the first of this year. On February 3, Mr. Johann Abel died here at the age of about 51 years; the cause of death was stomach cancer; he leaves behind his mourning wife and six children. On the 4th of February, his mortal remains were laid to rest in the local St. John's Cemetery by Pastor K Ermisch.

The state of health is pretty good at the moment; here and there, there's probably a good cold, but that's no wonder!

Greetings to all *Volksblatt* readers.

Gustav Symank

Translated by Sandra McNeely

Somit Grun an olle Bol'sblatte