Rorreipondeng ans Dentjalaub ...

Correspondence from Germany

Schleife, on September 4th, 1904

Dear Volksblatt!

It's about time to write again after a lengthy period of time.

The weather has changed, and finally the rain has come, so that there is still hope for some green fodder to grow, like tuber und turnips. Farmers couldn't harvest their second crop of hay this year. The so called *Grummeternte* (second cutting of hay) failed, even the beets stayed small. The clover is quite dry, there is a great lack of fodder. We need to feed like in Winter, we only have very few potatoes. The hundredweight costs actually 4 *Mark* or \$1. The bushel of rye 10 or 11 *Mark*. The *schock* of straw 22 *Mark*. 1 hundredweight hay 4 *Mark* and 50 *Pfennige*.

Today is the annual anniversary celebration of our cycling club and other clubs of the neighborhood have been invited. A big parade will take place at 4 p.m. through our village.

Matthias Hantschko also came and said that a certain Weber had written from America to the trackmaster in Spremberg, then the trackmaster had asked M. Hantschko who this Weber was, and the latter answered he probably was the mayor of Giddings.

On July 25th the barn of the half-farmer* Krautz also known as Peter burned to the ground after lightning strike in Halbendorf, more than 100 *schock* of rye and various machines were destroyed in the fire.

In Lieskau the massive home and the barn belonging to the mason Kamenz burned again to the ground on August 6th at 9 in the morning. Three cows died in the fire, all harvest supplies were destroyed as well.

On August 22nd a forest surface of about 26,000 Morgen (10,500 hectares) was destroyed by fire in Prinkenau, Silesia. The fire reached the village of Neu-Vorwerk that lies in this area. Two nearby villages were in great danger.

From Glogau, Liegnitz, Breslau and Sprotten 8,000 men infantry, artillery and pioneers were commanded to stop the flames, the terrible fire lasted two days. The damage is estimated to several million *Mark*.

The fire originated from sparks from a locomotive and spread so rapidly because of the great drought and wind. The train treasury will have to pay for the damage. The castle Primkenau belongs to the Earl of Günther von Schleswig-Holstein, brother of our Empress.

Edleife, ben 4. September 1904. Berihes Boltsblatt! 36 will nach längerer Beit entlich mieber einmiel foreiben. Das Wetter bat fich geatte beit, und ift endlich Regen gefallen, fo bağ uso Beffunng ift, bag noch eimes Granfutter madfen wirb, namlid Rellen und Bafferruben; Der. zweite Schulit son fri, Die fogenante Grume meternie ift biefes Sabe ansgefallen, and die Runtelruben bleiden tlein. Der Rice ift gang ausgetrodact, ber Sutters mangel ift ziemlich groß, Bir möffen fättern wie im Binter, Rattoffeln giebt es wenig, ber Ceniner teftet gegenmättig 4 IRari ober \$1. Roggen ber Odeffel 10 bis 11 IR. aas Edad Stray 29 99, 1 Centner Den 4 99. 50 Bf. Bente feiert unfer Rabfsbrecocrein

tein Diesjähriges. Stiftungsteft, und find Die benachbarten Bereine eingelaben. Am. 4 11ge nachmittags findet ein großartiger Umjug burch unferen. Drt ftett.

Datih, hauligto bat fic and einges funden und erzählte ein gemiffer 28eber bet von Amerita and, an herrn Bahns menter in Spremberg geichtleben, ber Bahnmeifter hatte nachher IR. hautichto gefragt, was das für ein Beber ift, n. er habe geantwortet, bes ift mahrichens lich ber Bärgermeitter von Bibbings.

Am 23. Juli brannte infolge Blip a folog in Salbenborf ble Scheune bes Salbbauers De. Rrauh genannt Bjott nieber, über 100 Schod Roggen und berfchiebene Rafchienen verbrannten mit Am 6, Aug. vormittags 911fr branns te in Liestan bas maffive Bohuhans bes Maurers Ramenz nebft Scheune total nieber, 3 Stud Rinboich tamen in ben Flammen um, auch fammtliche Erntevorathe mutben vernichtet.

Mu 39, Muguft brannte bei Brintenan in Ediefien eine Stäche bon nabe 26,000 Mörgen Bald, famie bas auf Diefem Lerain liegende Dorf Ren-Bors wert, zwei angreugende Dörfer waren in bogfter Gefahr. Mus Blogan, Liegnip, Brestan und Sprottan, mutben 8000 Rann Jafanterje, Artilerte und Bioniere tommandert, um bem gener Einhalt ju thun, ber fürchterliche Brand bauerte just Lage. Der Edaben wird auf mehrere Dillionen Datt gefcatt. Das Fener entftanb burd guntenauswurf einer Lotomotive und serbreitete fich bei ber großen Wärre und Bind mit ungeheurer Sonelligfeit, ber Gifenbagufistus mirb muffen fut ben Ocheben auflommen, Die Dertichaft Brimtenan gegort bem Bergog Banther von Solesmig-Dolftein, Brus ter anferer Raiferin, . 2.4.

Benn ich wollte aber bie jablreichen Balbbrande in biefem Jehre berichten, tonnte ich ein Bug barüber foreiben, benn es brannte laginglich, benn bie Darre und Dipe mar fast unerträglich, mangen Lag jeigte ber "Lhermometer 49 bis 44 Reaumur ober 59 bis 56 Gelfins was nach Safrenheit aber 100 Graf wärde ausmachen. Die lehten Lage ift reichlich Regen gefallen, boch immer noch wenig, wie groß bie Darre auch im Jajre 1868 mat, [agen ble Bente, [o was ne bog nigt fo groß wie bies Jahr benn bamals war nicht fo wenig 2Baffer In unferem Derfteige Befone, biesmal ift ber Laftenbruchgraben ftellenmeife gang ausgetrodnet, perfdiebene Brunnen betten tein Baffer mehr, nur mas bie abefinifden Brunen find, haben nicht na fiet.

Die Noggenernie steht ber im Borjahr nicht wiel nach, bagegen bie Frähjahtsfaaten tonnten nicht gebeihen. Uber es ift immer gegangen und wirb auch bies Jahr gehen, nur nicht ben Ruth verlieren.

Bum Goluf theile-ich noch Derrn G. ! Relmbach in Bebrusille mit, bag ein f Jatob Rallenbach, Befiber bes Baftofs ! in Mit-Beigmafferift, früher Riefemetter, i

Die Jenihos Bindmäßle ift längft i abgetrages, und bort alles verdaut und 1 Straften angelegt, das fogenannte Dao 1 riendad befindet fich an diefer Stelle, 1 doch ich werbe mich bort ertundigen und f ein anderes Mal Anstrunft geben fich ber Georg Spreh in Multmit werbe ich nächtes Dai Austauft geben, auf die gezichteten Rachtragen.

Rit Gruß an alle Lejer Des Bollsblattes, Johann Dantfdo farmer'in Schleife, Depijchland. If I would like to report on the many forest fires in this year, I could write a book. It burned every single day because the drought and the heat are almost unbearable, some days the thermometer would indicate 42 to 44 degrees Réaumur or 52 to 55 degrees Celsius, which would be a lot more than 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

Heavy rain has fallen in the last days, but still not enough. People say that even if the drought in 1868 was extreme, it was not so high as this year because at that time there was not so little water in our village pond Beschma. This time the pond is completely dry. Some wells back then had no more water, only the iron tube fountains did not dry up.

The rye harvest is almost equal to that of last year, only the spring seeds couldn't thrive. But it has always been so, and it will also be fine this year, just do not lose heart.

To conclude I would like to tell G. Kalmbach in Behrnville that Jakob Kallenbach, owner of the inn, is in Alt-Weisswasser, earlier Riesewetter.

The Jentho windmill is long since worn out, houses and streets have been built there, the so called Marienbad is in this very place too, but I need to get more information and I will report on it another time. And next time I will provide information to Georg Spretz in Mulkwitz about the questions he asked.

With greetings to all readers of the Volksblatt, Johann Hantschko, farmer in Schleife, Germany

* Halbbauer means that he owned a farm that was about half as much as he needed to support his family and therefore also had to have another job or occupation...

Translated by Helene Yeche