

Great, Great Grandfather
Rudolph Yenney (Yenni) 1845-1907
 &
 Great, Great Grandmother
Anna Blumer Yenney (Yenni) 1848-1911

Ancestry from my mother, Barbara Pearl Yenney (male side). Bio prepared by Stephen S. Saucerman 4-1-2019

Rudolph Yenni was born on March 3rd, 1845 in the former municipality of Ennenda, in Canton Glarus, Switzerland. Anna Blumer (the future Mrs. Rudolph Yenney) was born September 10th, 1848 in Canton Glarus (*unclear if it was in Ennenda), Switzerland. In 1868, she and Rudolph Yenni were joined in marriage in Canton Glarus and would remain husband and wife for the next thirty-nine years (until Rudolph's death in 1907). To this union, one child was born, a son named Melchoir Yenni. They provided Melchoir with an education the times and facilities offered and reared/confirmed him in the Christian faith according to the Reformed Church of Switzerland (as were Rudolph and Anna).



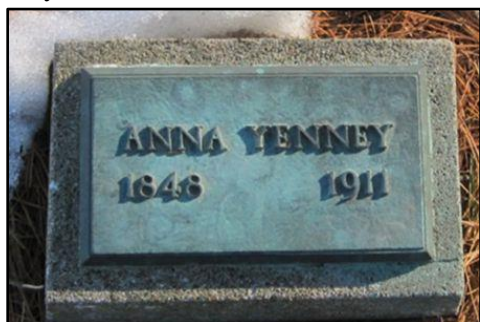
Son Melchoir emigrated to the US (around the Elgin, IA area) in 1892 and married Bostrva (Barbara) Babler on June 14th, 1894. A year later, Rudolph and Anna themselves would follow their son (and new daughter-in-law), emigrating to the US and locating in the same Fayette County, IA area. At this point, Rudolph is 50 years of age and Anna is 47. This is also the time - it appears from my research - that they began using 'Yenney' in place of "Yenni", possibly in an attempt to be more 'Americanized' to those around them (we also know that son Melchoir was starting to go by 'Mike').



In 1895, Rudolph & Anna welcome their first grandchild (via Melchoir & Barbara), Melchoir Rudolph Yenney Junior. This would be followed by four more grandchildren: twins John & Frieda (1899), Elmer (*my grandpa) in 1904, and Margaret in 1905. In the 1900 census, Rudolph is listed as a 'day laborer', wife Anna as a 'housewife', and son Melchoir as a section foreman for The Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway Company (where he will stay for a total of 38 years). On September 16th, 1902 (only five years before his death), Rudolph becomes an official naturalized citizen of the United State.



Rudolph Yenni (now officially 'Yenney') dies on October 7th, 1907. His loving wife, Anna Bluer dies four years later in the town of Elgin, IA on May 12th, 1911. Cause of death is listed as 'tuberculosis of the lungs'. She is 62. On her death certificate,



her father is listed as 'Melchoir Blumer of Switzerland' (*where 'Melchoir' came from). Shortly before Anna's death, on March 25th, 1911, there is a public auction of the contents of the Rudolph and Anna Yenney residence located on Pleasant Street in Elgin, IA. Son Melchoir is listed as the administrator for the auction.

6/14/1894	49	Son Melchoir marries Barbara (real first name 'Bostrva') Babler June 14th, 1894
1895	50	<i>The first United States patent for the automobile, #549160, is granted to George B. Selde.</i>
1895	50	Rudolph & Anna emigrate to the US, settling in the Fayette, Iowa area. Rudolph is 50 years of age. Anna is 47. (Note: it appears this is also around the time they started using 'Yenney' in place of 'Yenni')
1895	50	Rudolph and Anna welcome their first grandchild (via Melchoir & Barbara), Melchoir Rudolph Yenney Junior (Melchoir Jr dies in 1964)
1/20/1899	54	Rudolph & Anna welcome their second & third grandchildren (via Melchoir & Barbara), twins, son John Frederick & daughter Freida (R. A. Crider) Yenney.
1898	53	Son Melchoir goes to work for The Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway Company (will stay for 38 years)
1/12/1899	54	Rudolph visits Melchoir (*who is going by 'Mike' now) at his new work as a section foreman in Hazelton, IA.
1900	55	In the 1900 Census, Rudolph and Anna are living in the town of Fayette, IA in the Pleasant Valley Township.
1901	56	<i>President William H. McKinley is shot at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, New York. He dies a week later. Theodore Roosevelt is sworn in as new President.</i>
9/16/1902	57	Rudolph Yenney becomes a naturalized citizen of the United States (in Fayette County, Town of West Union, IA; nat record No. 3, Page 416).
1903	58	<i>Inventors Wilbur and Orville Wright succeed in the first sustained and manned plane flight.</i>
1/20/1904	58	Rudolph & Anna welcome their fourth grandchild (via Melchoir & Barbara), son Elmer L. Yenney (*GRANDPA!)
1904	58	<i>The first successful field tractor is invented by American Benjamin Holt using a caterpillar track.</i>
1905	59	Rudolph & Anna welcome their fifth grandchild (via Melchoir & Barbara), daughter Margaret (Knight) Yenney (Aunt Margaret)
1906	60	<i>San Francisco earthquake occurs, estimated at 7.8 on the Richter scale.</i>
10/29/1907	61	Rudolph Yenney dies.
1908	-	<i>William Howard Taft is elected President over Democratic candidate William Jennings Bryan.</i>
3/23/1911	-	A public auction at the house on Pleasant Street of Rudolph Yenney in Elgin will take place Saturday, March 25, 1911 (*listed by Melchoir)
5/12/1911	-	Anna Blumer Yenney dies of 'tuberculosis of the lungs' at 62 years of age in the town of Elgin, Fayette County, IA. On her death certificate, her father is listed as 'Melchoir Blumer of Switzerland'.

NOTE #1: Most of the dates below are those of the newspaper date, so the events described may have happened a few days prior.