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Augustana Seniors Fall 1884: Fritz Jacobson

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Fritz was a senior at Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois, in the fall of 1884. His name appears in the college catalog of 1884 – 1885, along with his birthplace, the year of his birth, and a few other facts. From this start, we researched the genealogy and family history of Fritz Jacobsen. This paper contains a short biography of Fritz Jacobsen, a report on his ancestors, a report on his descendants, and some open questions for further research.

Fritz Jacobson Biography

Fritz Jacobsen attended Augustana College for 4 years and graduated in 1885¹. He eventually became president of Upsala College in 1910 and stayed in New York until 1928².

Friz Jacobsen was born 17 March 1863 in Yllestad, Sweden. He emigrated in 1870 with his mother, Maja, and his two siblings, Henning and Amanda. His father, Joseph, emigrated a year earlier in 1869. He obtained a PhD from Yale University in 1889. He married Othila Holland 29 June 1887 and they had 9 children: Stella, Fritz, Eugenie, Evald, Othilia, Esther, Mildred, Elmore, and Conrad.³ Othilia and Fritz got a divorced 41 years after their marriage on their anniversary. From 1889-1890 he went to Augustana Seminary and he was ordained 22 June 1890 in Jamestown, New York. He became a lecturer at Yale University from 1891-1893. He lived in New Haven, Connecticut from 1890-1892. He moved to Bethlehem, New York from 1892-1928. He was a General for the Foreign Missions Council for the Home for Aged in Brooklyn, New York. After living in New York for 18 years, he died 29 June 1928.⁴

¹ Augustana College and Theological Seminary. Register of Students in the College. Senior class. Aug. Inst. LD 271 A6651 C3 1871-1891. Special Collections, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois

² "Alumni", Augustana Observer, (1 May 1912), image copy, Augustana College (www.augustana.edu), Augustana College Library, Special Collections, Digital Projects. The article mentions that F Jacobsen was named as a president of Upside College.

³ Jacobsen, Fritiz. *Korsbaneret* (1929), pastors of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Brooklyn, New York. pg. 222-227; Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, Augustana, Rock Island, Illinois.

⁴ Fritz Jacobson, *The Augustana Ministerium* (Rock Island, Illinois: Augustana Historical Society, 1980), page 46. *The Ministerium* was compiled from other sources. It is a transcription. When the original sources were in Swedish, it is also a translation

Ancestors of Fritz Jacobson

Generation 1

1. Fritz Jacobson. For more information about Fritz, see the biography in the main part.

Generation 2

2. Josef Jacobson. Joseph was born 26 July 1820 in Sweden.⁵ Joseph married Othilia Halland (3) on 29 June 1887.⁶

3. Maja Larsdotter. Maja, also known as Maria, was born 19 June 1819 in Sweden⁷. Maja emigrated to Amerika in 1870.⁸ Maja married Joseph (2) on 19 June 1887.⁹ Joseph and Maja had 3 children.¹⁰

Henning. Henning was born 15 Sept 1856 in Sweden.¹¹

Amanda. Amanda was born 2 Feb 1860 in Sweden.¹²

Fritz. See 1. Above.

Generation 3

4. Jacob Larsson. Jacob was born 6 March 1789 in Sweden.¹³ Jacob married Stina Andersdotter (5) on 16 May 1851.¹⁴

5. Stina Andersdotter. Stina was born 8 April 1792 in Sweden.¹⁵ Stina married Jacob (4) on 16 May 1851.¹⁶

Generation 4

6. Lars Johansson. Lars was born 4 Feb 1748 in Sweden.¹⁷ Lars married Maria (7) in Sweden.¹⁸

7. Maria Mansdotter. Maria was born in 1750 in Sweden.¹⁹ Maria married Lars (6) in Sweden.²⁰

⁵ "Yllestad AI: 9 (1814-1883)", database of information, *ArkivDigital*, (<http://www.emibas.net> : accessed 10 December 2016), pg. 81, AID: vR1870010, NAD: SE/LLE/13362, Ojorna, Yllestad (b.1820), family in Sweden; Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, Augustana, Rock Island, Illinois.

⁶ Yllestad A1:9 (1814-1883)", *ArkivDigital*, page 81, database information of family.

⁷ Yllestad A1:9 (1814-1883)", *ArkivDigital*, page 81, database information of family.

⁸ Yllestad A1:9 (1814-1883)", *ArkivDigital*, page 81, database information of family.

⁹ Yllestad A1:9 (1814-1883)", *ArkivDigital*, page 81, database information of family.

¹⁰ Yllestad A1:9 (1814-1883)", *ArkivDigital*, page 81, database information of family.

¹¹ Yllestad A1:9 (1814-1883)", *ArkivDigital*, page 81, database information of family.

¹² Yllestad A1:9 (1814-1883)", *ArkivDigital*, page 81, database information of family.

¹³ Yllestad A1:9 (1814-1883)", *ArkivDigital*, page 81, database information of family.

¹⁴ Yllestad A1:9 (1814-1883)", *ArkivDigital*, page 81, database information of family.

¹⁵ Yllestad A1:9 (1814-1883)", *ArkivDigital*, page 81, database information of family.

¹⁶ Yllestad A1:9 (1814-1883)", *ArkivDigital*, page 81, database information of family.

¹⁷ Yllestad A1:9 (1814-1883)", *ArkivDigital*, page 81, database information of family.

¹⁸ Yllestad A1:9 (1814-1883)", *ArkivDigital*, page 81, database information of family.

¹⁹ Yllestad A1:9 (1814-1883)", *ArkivDigital*, page 81, database information of family.

²⁰ Yllestad A1:9 (1814-1883)", *ArkivDigital*, page 81, database information of family.

Descendents of Fritz Jacobsen

Generation 1

1. Fritz Jacobson. Fritz married Othilia Halland. For more information on Fritz and Othilia, see biography in the main part.

Fritz and Othilia had 9 children.²¹

2. Stella Geneva born 16 April 1888.²² She changed her last name to Borlana after getting married.²³

3. Fritz Ivan Constantine was born 17 Sept 1889.²⁴

4. Eugenie was born 30 Sept 1891.²⁵

5. Evald Berthold was born 24 April 1894.²⁶

6. Othilia Eveline was born 23 June 1895.²⁷ She changed her last name to Hagstrom after getting married.²⁸

7. Esther Irene was born 26 August 1889.²⁹

8. Mildred Maria was born 19 Aug 1901.³⁰

9. Elmore Joseph was born 24 June 1904.³¹

10. Conrad Julius was born 9 Sept 1906.³²

²¹ Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, New York microfilm. Pg. 83. Family in Sweden; Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, Augustana, Rock Island, Illinois.

²² Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, New York microfilm. Pg. 83.

²³ Jacobsen, Fritz. *Korsbaneret* (1929), pastors of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Brooklyn, New York. pg. 222-227; Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, Augustana, Rock Island, Illinois.

²⁴ Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, New York microfilm. Pg. 83.

²⁵ Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, New York microfilm. Pg. 83.

²⁶ Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, New York microfilm. Pg. 83.

²⁷ Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, New York microfilm. Pg. 83.

²⁸ *Korsbaneret* (1929), pastors in Brooklyn, New York. pg. 222-227

²⁹ Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, New York microfilm. Pg. 83.

³⁰ Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, New York microfilm. Pg. 83.

³¹ Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, New York microfilm. Pg. 83.

³² Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, New York microfilm. Pg. 83.

Questions for Further Research

We have had a lot of success in our research regarding Fritz Jacobson. We were able to find many interesting facts about him and his family. We were able to find information about his life in Sweden and his life in America. In addition, we were able to find what he did once he came to America regarding work and schools he attended. Overall we were very satisfied with the information we were able to get on Fritz Jacobson.

If we were able to have more time to research Fritz the first place we would go back to would be Special Collections. Here we would hope to research more information about his time at Augustana. If we played any sports, what clubs we was apart of, and what his academics were like. We were not able to research these topics with the limited time we were given, but we think that would be important information to get.

The next place we would want to go would be the Swenson Center. We were finally able to find information about his kids, but not very much. So if we had more time we would go back and try to find out more about his kids and try to get more information on Othilia as well. We would probably start this research with Othilia's dad, Bengt Holland. Because he was a pastor he would come up in the Church Records and we would hope that could lead us to Othilia and her nine kids.

We have created a record for Fritz Jacobson in the Family Tree on *FamilySearch*. The record locator is MWTT- VZ5. *FamilySearch* played a vital role in our research. We were able to find information about him and his family. Not all of the information was correct though. For example, it automatically put in when Fritz was born, but it was incorrect so we had to go in and manually put in the right date of birth for Fritz. We were able to find a source for Fritz as well from the New York State Census in 1905. But if we had more time we would try to find more ancestors to Fritz and find more sources for his descendants and his ancestors. We also would like to find more sources for Fritz. Overall, *FamilySearch* was a useful tool in obtaining information on Fritz Jacobson and his descendants and ancestors.

Source list:

Augustana Observer, 1902-2015

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, New York microfilm. Pg. 83. Family in Sweden;
Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, Augustana, Rock Island, Illinois.

Jacobsen, Fritz. *The Augustana Ministerium: A study of Careers of hte 2,504 Pastors of the Augustana Evangelical Lutheran Synod/Church 1850-1962*. Rock Island, Illinois, Augustana Historical Society, 1980.

Jacobsen, Frtiz. *Korsbaneret* (1929), pastors of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Brooklyn, New York. pg. 222-227; Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, Augustana, Rock Island, Illinois.

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