

My modest contribution to these archives is only a start. There is much which must be added that each of you can variously offer. Only through your generous support and participation and those of your friends, acquaintances, and fellow citizens, can the Western Reserve Historical Society serve as a repository for the annals of German-America and of the various other parts of the mosaic of American society.

Thank you all for sharing this proud occasion with my family and me. And thank you, Dr. Colket, and your fine staff for providing a home for a part of the materials on German-American history, and thereby reiterating the poetic words of the Milwaukee German poet of the last century, Konrad Krez, who said so well: *Da waren Deutsche auch dabei.*



### **KINDERLIED**

In der Sommersonne  
kummerdurchflimmert  
liegt mein Kind  
wie ein schläfriger Faun  
der auf uralten Pfeifen bläst.  
Klagende Töne steigen  
zum trägen Himmel auf  
verlieren sich  
im gellenden Blau.

Schon einmal sah ich  
einen Kinderkopf  
von sechs strahlenden Jahren  
sacht in der Sonne schlummern—  
einen der niemals  
zu sieben  
erwacht.

*Maria Berl Lee*  
Forest Hills, N.Y.