

The Heritage and Belongings of Mrs. Clara Monhard-Knauth in 1975

As an Assistant in the clinique of dentistry in the University of Zurich (Ch) in 1973-1978 I lived in the house of Mr. Berther in Zürichbergstraße, where I rented one of his rooms. His waitress was Miss Elmer.

Both told me that there has been an elderly German lady originally from Leipzig, who lived in a little flat she rented from them and died about 20 years ago. This lady was Mrs. Clara Monhard-Knauth. As there were no testimony(?), her things were given away - except a little convolute of papers, journals, documents and photos.

My hosts offered me to look it up before they would throw it away. I found the material extremely fascinating: A testimony of a typical bourgeois and cosmopolitan life.

Clara Knauth was the wife of Octavio Knauth from Leipzig. They had a daughter Hildegard Knauth. Clara's father was Friedrich ("Fritz") Monhard who came from Taegewil in Switzerland. Her mother was Anna Kropp and her grandmother was Sophie Steinberg-Kropp. Friedrich was a well educated banker (look at his testimony). After Clara's husband Octavio died, Clara and Hildegard made trips to- from America and Europe. Clara did an art-historical journey together with her daughter to the Mediterranean: Istanbul, Cyprus, Cairo, Venice (interesting diaries and menu cards).

I am a 70 years old former dentist and am happy to give the material to the family, where it belongs.

Dr. Detlef Schmidt, Germany
Oldenburg, 08th of June 2014

List of Clara's belongings

(1) Gebetsbüchlein (Prayer Booklet) - 1640 von P.L. (36 pgs, all in German)

1st 3 pages have hand written notes including note from Dr Schmidt.

Main body (pgs 4 thru 35) appear to be prayers written in a very fancy script with color headings.

Page 35 - note written by Clara (transcribed to more legible text).

Last page (36) with hand written note.



Translation of the handwriting on the right side :

"If I not exist any longer, this lovely little book should be owned by my sole dear child:
Hildegard Knauth

Clara Knauth, born Monhard , Zürich, dated 25th of May 1907 (time note was written)

"This book was given to my great grandfather (mother side) STEINBERG from a young alien officer, whom he had to give shelter in the year of 1814. My grandmother Sophie KROPP born Steinberg from Burtscheid near Aachen gave it to me, when I visited her in 1892.

Clara Knauth-Monhard
Zürich-Schweiz"

1814 was the year after the battle of Leipzig, when Napoleon was defeated by most of the European peoples.

(2) Calendar - 1906 American Wonders

Has note on rear cover (before January) that appears to be to Hilde from her Grandmother Fanny Knauth. April, May and August have dates marked off which may have coincided with a trip that they were taking.

(3) KNAUTH - Hausrat (Silber, Wäsche) (6 pgs, all in German)
KNAUTH - household items (silver, linen)

Appears to be lists of items (inventoried for trips ?). Cairo referenced at end of list.

(4) Knauth. Clara & Hildegard - 1913 Journey to Cairo (46 pgs)

Appears to be a collection of various documents : Official ship documents, passenger list, voyage itinerary, menus, accommodations and hand written notes.

Page 1 : Cover with ship Norddeutscher Lloyd Bremen

Page 2 : Hand written note by Clara Knauth-Monhard - March 22-27, 1913 (Voyage Dates)
Ship : Norddeutscher Lloyd Bremen "SCHLESWIG"
Le 22 Mars 1913 d'ALEXANDRIE, Pour CORFOU et VENISE

Pgs 3-7 : Ship Manifest including list of passengers & typical places visited

Pgs 8-14 : Hand written notes of daily activities ?

Pgs 15-17 : Purchase receipt for bracelet from Joseph Beinisch -
Jeweller-Watchmaker-Optician establishment in Cairo with money exchange table.

Pg 18 : Hand written list of places to visit or places they did visit ?

Pgs 19-22 : More of Ship itinerary with lunch-dinner menus.

Pgs 23-26 : Hand written notes

Pgs 27-46 : 20 pg document with agenda dates and description of places visited ?

(5) Menucard 1913.02.26 Salon-Dampfer SCHLESWIG
Menus from the S.S. SCHLESWIG in French and German.

(6) Monhard, Friedrich - Geschäftsaufsätze
Friedrich Monhard - Business Papers handwritten in German (35 pgs)

(7) Monhard, Friedrich - Mathematik Aufgabenheft
Friedrich Monhard - Math Exercise Book with notes handwritten in German (25 pgs)

(8) NOTICES of Monhard-Kropp, Friedrich & Monhard-Knauth, Clara to Daughter
Collection of notes hand written in German (102 pgs)

(9) Young Indian Girl's Drawings - 1877.04.27 Imprisoned in Ft. Marion, Florida
Writing Book with Young Indian Girl's Drawings - Imprisoned in Ft. Marion, Florida
Died April 27, 1877

Pictures

Knauth, Octavio & Familie - Leipzig Weihnachten.jpg

Knauth, Octavio & Family - Christmas in Leipzig, Germany

Probably Grossmama (Fanny Steyer, wife of Franz Theodor) with Octavio Knauth Family, assume others are Octavio's wife, Clara and daughter, Hidegard.

Monhart, Friedrich from Taegeweilen - 1847.09.17 Zeugnis (Testimonial).jpg

Hand written in German -
Image of what appears to be an official diploma or degree earned by Friedrich Monhard in
1847.

Portrait Photo - Knauth, Clara - 1.jpg

Portrait Photo - Knauth, Clara - 2.jpg