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## Notes and Sources

**Peter THIESSEN**

### General:

from Susanna (Thiessen) Mrs. A. A. Dick .....  
Reedley, Calif. Aug 3, 1939

A reunion of descendants of Peter Thiessen and Margaretha Friesen Thiessen was held Sunday in Dinuba City Park. History of the family encompasses a period of over 250 years and 195 direct descendants of the couple were present.

Peter Thiessen was born in 1808 and his wife in 1810. Over 250 years ago, Mr. Thiessen's family migrated from Holland into Germany. Their descendants live in all parts of the world.

At the close of the 18th Century they made another move into Russia and from there the younger generation in 1874 moved to the United States. Many of them settled in Nebraska and Kansas and some came direct to the Reedley and Dinuba districts.

Most of those attending the picnic assembled after church services in Dinuba and Reedley. Several tables were needed to accommodate the large number present. After the delicious repast, there was a program. A male choir of fifteen voices sang songs in both English and German. W. T. Krause gave a report of the family history as it has been handed down since 1808.

M. B. Fast, oldest member of the family present told many happenings in the family since 1877 when he came to Jansen, Nebraska and later married into the Thiessen family. He told how the town of Jansen became named after a branch of the family.

Three oldest descendants of Peter Thiessen were unable to be present at the reunion. They were Mrs. Friesen, 85, of Reedley; J. J. Thiessen, 77, who lives in Pieper Colony; and P. W. Thiessen, 79, of Los Angeles.

It's hard to know just what to say  
When special people go away  
Because you hate to see them go  
And yet you're glad for them, you know.  
So this just says "good bye" and then "good luck"  
Until we meet again.