

The Petershagen villagers, evidently, had a considerable influence in the Melatschin Colony, especially in ecclesiastical matters. The village settlers included three ministers, namely, Ohm Cornelius Epp, Klaus P. J. J. J., and Cornelius Jansen, the son of Johan Jansen Senior. In addition Franz Wiers Wirtschaft No. 5 was elected as a minister in 1905. The influence of these positions were enhanced by the close ties of the Epp and Jansen family to important leaders in the Christia Colony and the Frederick Homeland. It was here in Petershagen with a setting of reality, La. Jansen and John Jansen, that the Christia Community held its first private devotional gatherings. It was here also in Muensterberg at the other end of the Colony, that the first farmer's school held its first formal session in 1917.

The Epp family, as a result of the influence of the above mentioned individuals, had a prominent position in the Melatschin Colony. The family, as a result of the influence of the above mentioned individuals, had a prominent position in the Melatschin Colony. The family, as a result of the influence of the above mentioned individuals, had a prominent position in the Melatschin Colony.

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