

Mr. And Mrs. Ferdinand Arkenberg Observed Golden Wedding Recently

Well Known Residents Living On A Farm South Of This City

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Where Relics Of Large Interest Are Found Almost Every Day

On Monday of this week Mr. and Mrs. Ferdinand Arkenberg observed their fiftieth wedding anniversary at their country home on state route sixty-six, almost midway between Minster and Ft. Loramie. A crowd of people assembled to pay their respects to the venerable people and to take part in the plans that had been arranged for the day. Fortunately both Mr. Arkenberg and his wife are enjoying good health for persons of advanced years and were able to assume the leading roles in this unusual and very dramatic scene.

Both of the celebrants are natives of this community and every particular event in their lives has excited to more or less extent the interest of the people here, but perhaps no other outburst generated more concern than the one of the current week. Few couples



Mr. and Mrs. Ferdinand Arkenberg

are ever privileged to enjoy the pleasing thrills incident to a golden wedding and since Mr. and Mrs. Arkenberg are numbered among these rare persons it was but natural that they should be accorded large acclaim among the people who know them familiarly.

Mr. Arkenberg is seventy-six years of age while Mrs. Arkenberg will observe her seventieth birthday during the early days of September. They reside on the most historic spot in this section of the country since their farm home is the site of Ft. Loramie which was the center of activities in the day when the red man and the white man were bickering. Mr. Arkenberg was born on a farm just a few rods north of his present home and which is now occupied by William Sommer, while Mrs. Arkenberg, whose maiden name was Mary Ortman was born in Minster.

They were married at Celina on August 27, 1864, and established their home on the farm where the groom was born and where his parents were then living. Within a very few years, however, they moved onto the site which had become a place of attraction for historians and they have continued to reside there as the years have passed over their heads and offered for them a rich experience.

After the passing of fifty years they recall that practically every other person who took an important part in their wedding scene has gone over the great divide and they acknowledge the passing of many of the customs that were common in that day. At the church on their wedding day they were attended by Bernard Stueve and Anna Meyer, who later became Mrs. John Busse, and both of these persons have been dead for considerable time. The wedding mass was intoned by Rev. Godfrey Schlauchter and he too is numbered among the absent millions.

Mr. and Mrs. Arkenberg became the parents of eight children, seven sons and one daughter, and they have all been privileged to live and to enjoy this large event with their parents. They are: Frank and Lawrence Arkenberg who live at the home south of Minster; Joseph Arkenberg at Dayton; Fred Arkenberg and Mrs. Rose Fleckenstein at Ft. Loramie; Julius Arkenberg at Minster; Albert Arkenberg at West Carleton, Ohio; Herbert Arkenberg at Richmond, Indiana.

There are sixteen grand children, while Mr. Arkenberg reports that he has one sister living, Mrs. Caroline Zumbroegel at Minster. Other near relatives of

the celebrants are the following sisters and brothers of Mrs. Arkenberg: Mrs. Frank Busse, Mrs. Ben Schulte, Mrs. Pauline Sommer, Bernard and Louis Ortman, of Minster and John Ortman at Dayton.

Mr. Arkenberg has spent his life principally as a farmer and in the operation of a gravel business, which is now being conducted by two of his sons since he has retired. His home is an interesting place to visit since there are so many things to be seen that make reference to the near forgotten past. He has a rich collection of articles that were made use of by the Indians in both peace time and war time movements and it gives one a thrill to realize that he is standing on ground that was once the headquarters for the brave men of pioneer times.

There is one spot just a few rods north of the Arkenberg residence that will cause the sight seer to pause in contemplation. It is a burial mound where rest the bodies of several pioneers, many of whom having had prominent parts in the early maneuvers here.

The following persons joined Mr. and Mrs. Arkenberg in the day's festivities: Mr. and Mrs. John Ortman and family, of Dayton; Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Sommer and family, of Cleveland; Mrs. Pauline Sommer and family; Mrs. Bernard Schulte and son Maurice and lady friend Miss Evelyn Meyer, Mrs. Caroline Zumbroegel and daughter Frances, of Minster; Mr. Jerome Arkenberg, of Chicago, Ill.; Mr. Frank Arkenberg, of Richmond, Ind.; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Frierott and family, of Minster; Mr. and Mrs. John Stueve and family, of New Bremen; Mr. and Mrs. Leo Frericks and son Thomas, of Minster; Mr. and Mrs. Martin Leonard and family, of Piqua; Mr. and Mrs. William Smith and family, of Sharpsburg; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Keleh, Mr. Charles Uta, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Keleh and family, of Osgood; Mr. Louis Bavendick, of Minster; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Arkenberg and family, of Dayton; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Arkenberg and family, of Alexandersville, O.; Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Arkenberg and family, of Richmond, Ind.; Mr. and Mrs. Julius Arkenberg and family, of Minster.

Mr. and Mrs. Ferd Arkenberg Jr. and family, Mr. and Mrs. Gregor Fleckenstein and family, of Ft. Loramie; Mr. Jack Walkup, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Nabor, of Dayton; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Busse and son John, Mrs. Bernard Ortman, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Ortman and family, of Minster; Mr. and Mrs. Louis Sommers and family, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Pauwell and family, Mr. and Mrs. Aloys Sommer and family, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sommer and family, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Boerger and family, Mr. Henry Barger and family, Mr. John Wilkins and daughters, Mrs. Mary Fleckenstein, son and daughter, Mrs. Theresa Fleckenstein and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sommer and family, Mrs. Ann Surman and daughters, Mr. William Dunn, Mr. Harry Raterman, Miss Ernestine Raterman, Mr. Frank Toeller and Mr. Albert Wolf.