

Letters from Russia

Louis Russia – March 20, 1922

This letter was written in Louis, Russia and addressed Mr. John Quint, Hays,, Ellis County, Kansas.

March 20, 1922

Dear Brother,

Best wishes from us all to you and your entire family and we hope that this letter will reach you in good health. We are all well.

My dear brother this is the fourth letter I have written to you but still have received no reply. How are you getting along? All others seem to hear from their friends in America only you seem to have forgotten us. I do not know what to do. I have tried everything possible to obtain relief, but all of no avail. I would, therefore, again ask that you help us, for we are all doomed to starvation. I can hardly sleep on account of worrying about what will follow. We have often wished if we could get only one full meal.

In my previous letters I wrote you about what we eat. We have no bread, price being prohibitive, but are forced to eat the met of dogs, cats abd horses, and we do not even get enough of that. Sickness cannot be prevented. Such is the famine here. Many people have died, we do even knot the number.

I again ask you to help us. Forty pounds of flour costs 4,000,000 rubles which is more than our entire property is worth. All other people here who have friends in America or Germany seem to obtain relief. Go to our son-in-law, Clemens, and ask him to remember us in our old age that we may not starve.

The children of our brother, Jacob, have gone to the cities. Regarding the weather wish to advise that we had no snow during this last winter, such as hardly ever before. You might wonder what we did with all our property. On December 25, 1921 the Reds came and robbed us of practically everything. I was arrested and kept in prison for a month with the worst criminals, Michael was also arrested and kept in the same prison.

I could write you more about the revolution. Our poverty started then already and with no crop this year you can easily imagine how we are getting along. It is with reluctance that I write to you about this poverty.

Before closing I would again beseech you not to forget us. Kindly help us in whatever way you can. With kindest regards we are you brother and sister-in-law.

John Peter and Anna Maria Quint

Mr. John Quint of this place by whom above letter was received states that at two different times he sent money to his brother. All money was sent through the American Relief Society, but it seems that in spite of their efforts some things do not reach the destination for which they are intended.

Taken from the Ellis County News, Hays, Kansas
May 25, 1922