



WESTERN MONTANA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 2714
Missoula, MT 59806

February 1986

Officers for 1985-1986

President:	Harold Fisher	721-6922/721-5333
Vice-President:	Floyd Severson	543-8677
Treasurer:	Wanda Alsaker	543-5388
Recording Secretary:	Carol Holy	251-4005
Corresponding Secretary:	Susan Doores	543-6812

FEBRUARY MEETING

The February meeting will be at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, February 13 in the meeting room of the Western Federal Savings and Loan, Southgate Branch, 2601 Garfield, Missoula.

Ingrid Alexander will be presenting a program on German genealogical research. She will cover how to get started in German research, making contact with the appropriate sources in Germany and writing letters with German translations. German research also includes many areas of Central Europe that are not now part of Germany but at some time in the past several hundred years were under German control. I am sure that anyone who has research to do in Europe will enjoy this program.

PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

Some books at the Missoula Public Library:

"Last Names First" - by Mary Price Lee. Discusses various kinds of personal names such as nicknames, and names after marriage and describes how names changed as they traveled overseas and were passed down through generations. Includes a dictionary of common last names and their meanings. Call number: J 929.4 LEE

The pamphlet "Tracing Your Ancestors in Canada" published by the Public Archives of Canada will soon be on the shelves. It includes a "getting started" section as well as a list of published sources, census records, military and naval records, immigration records, records of naturalization and citizenship, loyalist sources, personal information banks, and addresses of principal archives. Call number: R 929.1079 PUBLIC 1983 GenColl. (This "book" is small and will be easily missed if you don't look closely).

International Genealogical Index

The International Genealogical Index (IGI) is an index to names found in computerized files of the Genealogical Department of the LDS Church.

The IGI, formerly known as the Computer File Index (CFI), is a massive index. The 1984 edition includes more than eighty-eight million names from records of over ninety countries. The IGI contains the names of deceased persons only. Most of the names are for periods from the early 1500s to about 1875, although some are from more recent times.

The IGI is published on microfiche. Each IGI microfiche contains 357 pages, or frames, with up to sixty-two names per page. Each page has both a page number and a grid number (a letter-number combination, such as M 03) in the upper left-hand corner. Each microfiche also contains an index page listing the name at the top of each page of that microfiche. This index is the last page or frame on each microfiche.

The IGI is updated and reprinted periodically. On the top of each microfiche is the date of that edition. If you do not find the name you want in the IGI, check the IGI again when a new edition becomes available.

The names in the IGI come from several sources. The major ones are:

1. Original or compiled records of births, christenings and marriages that have been extracted and indexed in the Genealogical Department's extraction programs. Parish and Vital Records Listings shows which records have been extracted for each area and time period. It is arranged alphabetically by state or country and is available on microfiche wherever copies of the IGI are found. Its introductory pages tell how to use it.
2. Forms submitted by LDS Church members with information on their ancestors that were submitted specifically to have proxy temple ordinances performed. (These forms usually contain information on individuals or couples only. Rarely are they family group records.)
3. LDS temple records. (However, the IGI is not limited to names of LDS church members or their ancestors.) The IGI also does not index all LDS temple records.



Paulette Parpart
415 E. Main, Apt 1
Missoula MT 59802



WESTERN MONTANA
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 2714
Missoula, MT 59806