

## *Descendants of Frank Hibben Corwin and Clara Tesche*

*Generation No. 6.5*

**FRANK HIBBEN<sup>6</sup> CORWIN** (*Hibben S.<sup>5</sup>, Rebecca Jane<sup>4</sup> Hibben, William<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup>*) was born September 29, 1873 in Cedar Point, La Salle Co., IL, and died September 17, 1950 in Peru, La Salle Co., IL. He married **CLARA TESCHE** November 01, 1893 in Peru, La Salle Co., IL, daughter of **CHARLES TESCHE** and **MARIA WOSKE**. She was born October 27, 1876 in Peru, La Salle Co., IL, and died February 10, 1963 in Peru, La Salle Co., IL.

Child of **FRANK CORWIN** and **CLARA TESCHE** is:

- i. **BLANCHE<sup>7</sup> CORWIN**, b. March 05, 1898, IL, d. February 11, 1988, KS. She m. **JOHN F. MEE**; b. Abt. 1897, IL.

## *Descendants of Caroline V. Corwin and Frank C. Corley*

**CAROLINE V.<sup>6</sup> CORWIN** (*Hibben S.<sup>5</sup>, Rebecca Jane<sup>4</sup> Hibben, William<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup>*) was born April 12, 1879 in Cedar Point, La Salle Co., IL, and died November 26, 1909 in Peru, La Salle Co., IL. She married **FRANK C. CORLEY** April 12, 1898 in Peru, La Salle Co., IL, son of **JOHN CORLEY** and **HELEN McMAHON**. He was born December 1876 in Arlington, IL.

Child of **CAROLINE CORWIN** and **FRANK CORLEY** is:

- i. **KENNETH FRANCIS CORLEY**, b. 1902, IL, d. November 17, 1952, Peoria, Peoria Co., IL. He m. **RUTH KEENAN**; b. 1901, IL; d. December 11, 1958.

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**FRANK HIBBEN CORWIN 1873 - 1950**  
**and**  
**CLARA TESCHE 1876 - 1963**

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**CAROLINE V. CORWIN 1879 - 1909**  
**and**  
**FRANK C. CORLEY Abt. 1875 -**

**Frank Corwin Carries On The Family Newspaper Tradition**

Frank Hibben Corwin was the third child, the second son of Hibben S. and Nellie Wright Hibben. He was born at Cedar Point, La Salle County, Illinois on September 29, 1873.<sup>1</sup> After attending school in Peru he went to work for his father on the newspaper staff. On November 1, 1893 he married Clara Tesche.<sup>2</sup> Clara was one of seven children of German parents who immigrated to Peru in 1865 and were naturalized in 1868. Being the youngest daughter, Clara cared for her parents during their later years. Both the 1910 and the 1920 Census record Clara and Frank living with the senior Tesches, and listed in the household was their daughter, Blanche, who was born March 5, 1898.<sup>3</sup>

One of Frank's newspaper assignments was City Editor. One day in February 1909 his daily rounds looking for news took him to the Lauber undertaking rooms to which a railroad accident victim had been taken. A laundry mark on the shirt of the victim led Frank to identify the body as that of his brother, Thomas.

Sometime before 1920 Frank traded the news gathering and writing for a production job as a lineotype operator. He held this position until he retired. He died September 17, 1950 in Peru and was buried in the Tesche family lot in the Peru City cemetery.<sup>4</sup>

*FRANK CORWIN, EX-PRINTER, DIES SUNDAY* Frank H. (Cap) Corwin, 76, died at 12:45 a.m. Sunday in his home at 1506 Seventh st., Peru. He had been bedridden for five weeks. Mr. Corwin, a retired Daily News-Herald linotype operator, was born in Peru Sept. 29, 1874, the third eldest son of the late Hibben and Helen Wright Corwin. He received his education in the local schools, graduated from Peru high school and attended college at Storm Lake, Ia. Nov. 1, 1893, he was married to Miss Clara H. Tesche. Mr. Corwin for many years worked in the printing business established by his father, who also was a Peru postmaster. A brother, Charles W. Corwin, also was postmaster of Peru. In 1945, Mr. Corwin retired on a pension from the International Typographical Union. Mr. Corwin spent most of his life in Peru, except for a few years spent in Florida and Kansas. The Corwins celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in 1943. Survivors include Mr. Corwin's widow and a daughter Mrs. John (Blanche) Mee, a grand-daughter, Mrs. Frances Stevenson, and a

## **THE WILLIAM HIBBEN LINE**

*great-grandson, Corwin, all of Lawrence, Kan. A brother, Harold R. Corwin, of Harrisburg, Pa., and a sister, Mrs. Alice Hart, of San Jose, Calif., also survive. Two brothers and four sisters preceded Mr. Corwin in death. Services to be conducted by Dr. Richmond Morgan, pastor of the Peru Congregational church, will be held in the Weerts chapel, Peru, at 2 p.m. Tuesday. Burial will be in Peru City cemetery. Friends may call at the chapel.<sup>5</sup>*

Clara survived Frank for thirteen years, passing on February 10, 1963. She was buried next to Frank in the Tesche lot.<sup>6</sup>

*MRS. C. H. CORWIN Mrs. Clara H. Corwin, 86, of 1506 Seventh St., Peru, died at People's Hospital about 1 p.m. Monday. She had been a patient 10 days. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday in the Elias Funeral Chapel with the Rev. Philip Krause of the Zion United Church of Christ officiating. Burial will be in the Peru City cemetery. Visitation will be at the funeral home after 4 p.m. Wednesday. Mrs. Corwin was born in Peru Oct. 27, 1876, daughter of Carl F. and Marie Woske Tesche. She was married to Franklin H. Corwin Nov. 1, 1894 in Peru. She is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Blanch Mee of Lawrence, Kan.; a granddaughter, Mrs. C. Russell (Frances) Stephenson of Lawrence; two brothers, Adolph G. Tesche of Mendota and Dr. Carl F. Tesche of Peru. She was preceded in death by her husband; a sister, Mrs. Ann L. McElhanie; and two brothers, Fred and Julius.<sup>7</sup>*

The last will and testament of Clara Corwin directed that her title and interest in the "Tesche Homestead" in Peru be granted to her brother Carl with the proviso that he sell her title to the property for the benefit of her estate. Three thousand dollars of the proceeds for legacies to be paid to her daughter and granddaughter and great grandchildren.

*SECOND: I give and devise to my brother Carl F. Tesche, all right title or interest presently owned by me in the following described real estate, to-wit: Lots One (1) and Two (2) in Block One Hundred Sixty-nine (169) in Brewster's Addition to Ninews, in the City of Peru, County of La Salle and State of Illinois, known as the "Tesche Homestead." Provided, however, that he pay to the acting Executor of my estate the sum of Three Thousand (\$3,000.00) Dollars within one (1) year after my death. Said sum to be used by such Executor to pay the legacies hereinafter set forth in Clauses, "Third", "Fourth", "Fifth", and "Sixth" of this my Will, and which said legacies are made lien or charge against said real estate. . . .*

*THIRD: I give and bequeath to my daughter, Blanche Corwin Mee, the sum of Two Thousand (2,000.00) Dollars. FOURTH: I give and bequeath to my granddaughter, Frances Stephenson, the sum of Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars. FIFTH: I give and bequeath to my great grandson, Allen Corwin Byrn, the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty (\$250.00) Dollars. SIXTH: I give and bequeath to my great granddaughter, Susan Stephenson, the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty (\$250.00) Dollars. SEVENTH: All the rest, residue and remainder of my estate, real, personal or mixed, I give, devise and bequeath to my Daughter, Blanch Corwin Mee, the same to be hers absolutely and forever.<sup>8</sup>*

### Additional Information About Blanche Corwin And Her Daughter

Blanche Corwin was born March 5, 1898, most likely in Peru. She may have been named for her aunt Blanche Corwin who died in 1894 at the age of fifteen. She married John Mee and moved to Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas. She had a daughter, Frances Mee. Blanche died February 11, 1988 in Lawrence.<sup>9</sup> Frances married C. Russell Stephenson and was living in Lawrence at the time of her grandmother's death in 1963. Frances died June 8, 2001 in Lawrence.<sup>10</sup> No information has been found about John Mee or C. Russell Stephenson.



### From A Short And Tragic Life Caroline Corwin Corley Left A Legacy

Caroline V. Corwin (a.k.a. Carrie), the fifth child of Hibben and Nellie Corwin, was born April 12, 1879 in Cedar Point, La Salle County, Illinois. On her nineteenth birthday in 1898 she married Frank C. Corley in her home town.<sup>11</sup> Frank, son of John Corley and Helen McMahan, was born December 1876 in Arlington, Illinois. After his marriage he moved into the Corwin home on West Street where three of Carrie's younger siblings, Alice, Thomas and Harold, were still residing. Frank held a job as a bookkeeper.<sup>12</sup> About 1904 Kenneth Francis Corley was born to the couple and sometime before 1909 the family moved to Chicago. During this time Carrie became an invalid and partially paralyzed. Then tragically during a visit with her parents, Carrie died of accidental poisoning on November 26, 1909. Her death came just nine months after the tragic accidental death of her brother Thomas.

*MISTOOK POISON FOR HER MEDICINE Mrs. Frank C. Corley Dies in Peru From Effects of Carbolic Acid An Invalid for Two Years Death Came One Hour After She Swallowed the Acid—Was a Daughter of Postmaster and Mrs. Corwin With Whom She Was Visiting.*

*Mrs. Carrie V. Corley, wife of Frank C. Corley of Chicago, died yesterday afternoon at three o'clock at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Corwin, West and Fourth streets, Peru. Mrs. Corley's death was due to poisoning, she having mistaken a bottle of carbolic acid for medicine which she had been using. Although her home is in Chicago, Mrs. Corley visits her parents in Peru quite frequently. A week ago Sunday she arrived in Peru for a two week stay. Mrs. Corley has been an invalid for several years past and she underwent two critical operations, the last operation leaving her partially paralyzed. She had been taking medicine regularly and yesterday afternoon about two o'clock she mistook a bottle of the poisonous fluid for her medicine. Soon afterward she called her mother and explained that she was very ill. Dr. Balenseifer was at once summoned. He administered antidotes but they were of no avail, as she passed away about an hour later. Deceased was thirty-one years old. In April, 1898, she married to Frank Corley. She is survived by her parents, three brothers and three sisters. A little son, Kenneth, is also left to mourn her death. The funeral will take place Sunday at two o'clock from the Corwin home and will be private. Burial will be made in the Peru city cemetery.<sup>13</sup>*

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### Kenneth Francis Corley Is Raised By His Grandparents

Frank left his son Kenneth with Hibben and Nellie Corwin and returned to Chicago. Kenneth was raised by his grandparents.<sup>14</sup> Frank married again in Chicago and devoted his attention to his new family. When Kenneth came of age, he married Ruth Keenan and resided in Peru. They had seven children. Kenneth is recorded in the La Salle-Peru City Register for 1928, as the proprietor of the Corley Coal Company.<sup>15</sup> In the City Register for 1930 he was listed as an insurance agent.<sup>16</sup> In the 1940s Kenneth and Ruth moved to Peoria, Peoria County, Illinois where he was the assistant manager of the Eureka Food Company. Kenneth died unexpectedly on November 17, 1952 and was buried in the Corwin lot in the Peru City cemetery. Ruth died December 11, 1958 and was buried next to Kenneth.<sup>17</sup>

*KENNETH CORLEY, NATIVE OF PERU, DIES IN PEORIA. Kenneth Corley, 50, Peoria, a son-in-law of Mrs. John Keenan, 1608 Third st., Peru, died unexpectedly about noon Monday in the office of a Peoria hospital. Corley, assistant manager of the Eureka Food Co., Peoria, went to his work at 8 a.m. returning home about 11:30 a.m. complaining of not feeling well. He was accompanied to the office of the doctor by one of his co-workers. Born in Peru, a son of the late Frank and Carrie Corwin Corley, he was married to the former Ruth Keenan in Minneapolis, Minn. The couple lived in Peru for some time and have been residing in Peoria for several years. Surviving are the widow, seven children, Tech Sgt. John K. Corley, with the marine corps at Camp Lejeune, N. C.; Miss Connie, Chicago; Mrs. Sarah Joan Kress, Springfield; Miss Mary Ann, Chicago; Robert, Richard and James at home and one grandchild. Funeral services will be held in Peoria at 11 a.m. Thursday. The cortege is expected to arrive in Peru at 1:30 p.m. at which time burial will be in Peru City cemetery.<sup>18</sup>*

### Generation 6.5 End Notes:

- <sup>1</sup> Civil War Pension Records, National Archives and Records Administration, Invalid application #1327745, certificate #1102374.
- <sup>2</sup> Marriage License, La Salle County, Illinois, #8018, filed November 2, 1893, book 3, page 252.
- <sup>3</sup> US Census 1910, T624-300, page 106/sheet 12A, line 28, Seventh St., Peru, La Salle County, Illinois; US Census 1920, T625-379, page 199, line 52, 1506 Seventh Street, Peru, La Salle County, Illinois.
- <sup>4</sup> City of Peru Illinois cemetery records, block 06, lot 054, grave 9.
- <sup>5</sup> *The News Tribune*, La Salle-Peru-Oglesby, La Salle County, Illinois, September 18, 1950.
- <sup>6</sup> City of Peru Cemetery records, block 06, lot 054, grave 8.
- <sup>7</sup> *The News Tribune*, [Note 5], February 11, 1963.
- <sup>8</sup> Estate files, La Salle County Genealogy Guild, Last Will and Testament of Clara Corwin, Peru, La Salle County, Illinois, dated December 19, 1957.
- <sup>9</sup> Social Security Death Index, #514-46-3768, Blanche C. Mee, b. 5 Mar 1898, d. 11 February 1988, last residence Lawrence, Douglas Co., KS, issued KS.
- <sup>10</sup> Social Security Death Index, #509-22-5604, Frances J. Stephenson, b. 8 December 1923, d. 8 June 2001, last residence - Lawrence, Douglas Co., KS, issued KS.
- <sup>11</sup> Marriage License, La Salle County, Illinois, #2146, filed April 16, 1898, book 4, page 166.
- <sup>12</sup> US Census 1900, T623-317, page 154, line 29, West Street, Peru, La Salle County, Illinois.
- <sup>13</sup> *The News Tribune*, [Note 5], November 27, 1909.
- <sup>14</sup> US Census 1910, T624-300, enumeration 91, sheet 11B, family 202, Peru City, Peru Township, La Salle County, Illinois.

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<sup>15</sup> *La Salle-Peru, Illinois City Registry, 1928*, Peoria, Illinois, (Leshnick Directory Company).

<sup>16</sup> *La Salle-Peru, Illinois City Directory, 1930*, Chicago, Illinois, (R. L. Polk & Company).

<sup>17</sup> City of Peru Cemetery records, block 08, lot 013, graves 8 and 9.

<sup>18</sup> *The News Tribune*, [Note 5], November 18, 1952, page 10.