

JOSEF SINSHEIMER

1869 –1950 starting a family, founding a business

Helmine Sinsheimer, nee Oberndoerfer

1892

Arthur S. Obermayer, West Newton

Helmine Oberdorfer from Archhofen emigrated to the USA to avoid a marriage her family tried to arrange according to family tradition. She was the daughter of Samuel Oberndoerfer and his wife Berta, nee Oppenheim, and the seventh of nine children. Adolf Oberndoerfer, who moved to Frankfurt am Main, was her brother.

Josef Sinsheimer and his wife Helmine

about 1910

Arthur S. Obermayer, West Newton

Josef Sinsheimer and Helmine Oberndoerfer married in 1893. The wedded pair had three children: August, who died as a toddler, Zion, who died at the age of nine, and a daughter, Julia. Helmine died in 1916 during an influenza epidemic. Josef Sinsheimer remarried.

Family gathering with relatives from Southern Germany celebrating the 70th birthday of Josef Sinsheimer

New York, July 1, 1939

Arthur S. Obermayer, West Newton

Josef Sinsheimer at approximately 75 years of age

about 1944

Arthur S. Obermayer, West Newton

Advertisement from R&G Corset Company, established by Josef Sinsheimer

about 1900

Arthur S. Obermayer, West Newton

Josef Sinsheimer established a textile company for foundation garments and shapewear. The predominant fashion created a mass-market for corsets. Josef Sinsheimer promoted his goods with advertisement posters drawn up by famous artists like the New York based commercial and art nouveau artist Charles Austin Bates (1866-1936). When corsets went out of style after the First World War, Sinsheimer was already a wealthy man. Many German-Jewish emigrants made a fortune in producing or dealing textiles in the USA.