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Wretlind Once More

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You should also ask about the horses, wagons, cars, boats, aircraft or anything else which may appear in the picture. You should not be discouraged about a series of "I don't know" answers. You should keep hoping for a bit of information, a possible clue to the family background. You should go on to the next photograph as soon as you realize that you have exhausted the knowledge of the person interviewed.

You can do the same with other mementos of the past. By simple changes in the questions, you may stumble upon a rich family heritage.

The use of oral history technique in genealogy is as new as the recording devices. You must remember that it is not a substitute for any other method used in genealogical research and that any information gained through the use of this technique must be substantiated by accepted genealogical research methods. But oral history techniques used properly may be the channel by which you may get new clues, when you feel that you have exhausted all other leads. The by-product is of course a very important aspect of the genealogical story, the filling out the skeleton with flesh and heart.

Wretlind Once More

In connection with the article on Eric Wretlind and his city directory of Boston, MA, which appeared in a previous issue of SAG (Vol.II, No.3), a reference was made to Wretlind's statement in the foreword of his book as to his training as a druggist in Sweden. A check of the records of the Swedish Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences reveals that Knut Erik Wretlind received his bachelor's degree (Farm.kand.) from the Royal Pharmaceutical Institute in Stockholm Aug. 31, 1876 and that he passed the official examination as a licensed druggist in Stockholm May 21, 1880. It was shortly after his licensing that he emigrated to Boston. According to the same Swedish sources Wretlind became Swedish Norwegian vice consul in Omaha in 1883, not 1884.