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Another find in Consulate Archives

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Another find in the Consulate Archives

As told in SAG 1/13, I visited the Arninge branch of the Swedish National Archives (*Riksarkivet*) looking for information on a man, Johan Adolf Johansson, who probably lived in Chicago in 1901. The archives were not well kept, and I did not find anything about him. However, I found some other documents that were interesting.

Among these I found this marriage certificate, issued in Rockford, IL, on 1898 Oct. 3 for the marriage of *Otto Person* and *Emma Johnson*. Witnesses were Charles F. Johnson and Anna W. Johnson. The pastor who performed the marriage was Andrew C. Leafgreen.

But who were they, and is it possible to find out more about them?

The 1900 U.S. Census for Rockford showed that *Otto Pearson* was born in Sweden on April 1877, and that *Emma* was born in May 1877. Otto had been 4 years in the U.S. which puts his date of immigration to 1896. Emma had been 20 years in the U.S., and she had given birth to one child, daughter *Florence*, born in Sept. 1899. Otto was a carpenter, and built houses.

In 1910 they still lived in Rockford, and had added *Bertha* (age 8) and *Mildred* (age 5) to the family.

In 1920 they also had a son *Robert* (age 3 years and 9 months).

In 1930 they were not found, but in 1940 they lived in Belvidere township in Boone Co., IL. In 1935 they had lived at Loves Park, Winnebago

Co., IL.

A grandson *Edward E. Morris* lived with them from about 1935. He was 16 years old in 1940.

Otto John Pearson, born 1877 Apr. 9, died 1942 July 13 in Chicago (IL Death Index). He was later buried at Willwood Burial Park in Rockford. In 1967 *Emma* joined him (Findagrave).

The pastor was *Andrew C. Leafgren*, minister at First (Swedish) Evangelical Free Church in Rockford. This church has no microfilmed records.

If anyone knows more about this family, please contact me.

Elisabeth Thorsell

