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Gerhard Brandt Næseth 1913-1994

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- ² Carl Johan Eric Fahlsten was in all probability b. in Bro Parish (Gotl.) in 1823. He signed on board the Swedish frigate Oscar as an apprentice seaman, participating in the Oxehufvud Expedition to South America 1840-1841. After his return to Sweden he signed on board a Swedish merchantman in Stockholm 2 Sept. 1846, but jumped ship in New York already in December of that year. He ultimately made his way to California, where he took part in the gold rush. He later settled down as an innkeeper and wine merchant in San Francisco, where he also went by the name of Edwards. He was a charter member of the Scandinavian Society of San Francisco founded 28 Feb. 1859. When he d. he left a considerable fortune, which was inherited by a couple of sisters back in Gotland. Stockholm City Archives; August Wetterman, The History and Review of the Scandinavian Society of San Francisco (Manuscript in the Library of the University of California); Axel Paulin, Oxehufvud en svensk viking (Stockholm 1947), p. 306; Gotlands läns tidning, 26 March 1852; information courtesy Dr. Erik Wikén, Uppsala.
- ³ Fredrik Edvard Rothstein, clerk, b. in Börrum Parish (Ög.) 22 Aug. 1822, s. Jonathan Rothstein, sheriff (*kronolänsman*), and Hedvig Catharina Seurling. He received passport in Stockholm 21 April 1843 and arr. in New York 6 June aboard the *Hindoo*. In 1850 he was living in Eldorado County, CA. Later he moved to Clinton, IA. Olsson, *Swedish Passenger Arrivals*, pp. 44-45.
- ⁴ Daniel Johan von Sydow, b. in Klara Parish, Stockholm 15 Jan. 1817, s. Axel Reinhold von Sydow, deputy governor of Stockholm County (understäthällare), and Anna Catharina Carling. For a time he was employed as a bookkeeper (bruksbokhällare) but on 22 May 1849 he volunteered in the Danish Amiy in its war with Schleswig-Holstein. On 11 July 1850 he received a passport in Stockholm for travel to California, arr. in San Francisco in June 1851 aboard the Donna Maria. He worked in the gold fields and apparently d. in California. Gustaf Elgenstiema, Den introducerade svenska adelns ättartavlor, VIII, p.101; Birger Schöldström, Svenskarne under Dannebrogen, p. 89; Stockholm County Passports. Stockholm City Archives (Stadsarkivet).

Gerhard Brandt Næseth 1913-1994

Gerhard Brandt Næseth, internationally known expert on Norwegian genealogy and early Norwegian immigration to the U.S., died in Madison, WI 10 June 1994 after a long illness.

Mr. Næseth's career spanned more than forty years as librarian, ending as Associate Director of Libraries at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. He retired as full professor in 1978. In that year he became the administrator of the Vesterheim Genealogical Center and Næseth Library, first in his home and later at 415 W. Main Street, Madison.

As family historian he became interested in early Norwegian immigration and spent several decades studying passenger lists, church records, cemetery tombstones, newspapers and census records to document the 18,000 Norwegian immigrants who reached the U.S. 1825-1850. In 1993 he published the first volume covering Norwegian immigration during this period. (See Prof. Odd Lovoll's review of Mr. Næseth's first volume on pages 149-150 of this issue.)