

EINE STRASSE IN BAYERN

SIEGFRIED HOLZER

* 1897 – FREISING, MÜNCHEN



My name is Siegfried Holzer and I was born on 1st July in Freising. I have one sister, Irma, born on 25th February in Freising, she is older than me. My parents are Bernhard and Henriette Holzer. My mother used to be called Neumayer as her maiden name and in our family, she is responsible for the household. Originally, my parents are from Württemberg and they came to Freising around the year 1894. In the same year, they got married in Munich.

In Freising, we live in Mittlere Hauptstraße 7, right in the city center. Downstairs in the building, my parents are owning a department store and they as well as my uncle Oskar Holzer and his family are living in the floors above. My father and my uncle are running the business together and are very eager merchants. You can buy fabrics and items for sewing there.

From 1903 on, I visited the elementary school in Freising for four years. After that, I attended the humanistic Gymnasium¹ in Freising. Martin, who is my cousin and two years younger than me, also attended that school. In 1916, I graduated from school with my A-levels. My grades were very, very good. This is why, I was suggested to be nominated for a scholarship of the foundation of Maximilianeum. Unfortunately, I was declined because only Christians are allowed to receive funding.

Since I am a patriot², I volunteered to fight in the World War and served in the German army until the end of 1918. I was awarded a lot of great honor, e.g. the Eisernes Kreuz second degree and the Bayerisches Militär-Verdienst-Kreuz.

Once I returned back home, I continued my studies at the Ludwigs-Maximilians-Universität in Munich, which I had to put on hold while being in the war. I studied law and economics for six semesters. During this time, I lived in several different small apartments or rooms in Munich – right where I was able to find a nice spot. I was always curious and eager to learn, and this is why I also thought outside the box during my time at university. I attended some seminars in physics as well as social politics. Just to see something else than my usual courses.

After having finished university, I carried out my traineeship at the district court in my hometown Freising. Subsequently, I did a doctor's degree at the university of Erlangen and got awarded my doctor's degree on 29th March 1922. My dissertation had the title „The religious offences after the drafts of a German criminal code compared to the current law.“ Die Religionsvergehen nach den Entwürfen zu einem deutschen Strafgesetzbuche verglichen mit dem geltenden Rechte“. I have to admit it sounds a bit dry, stiff and very boring – but I just love the subject law.

In the following years, I was employed in several different chambers until I was brave enough and also had enough money to open up a business together with a friend. My chamber is very well respected, and we are specialized in copyright and rights of publishing.

But I am not only lucky with my job, I was also very lucky when it comes to love. I met my future wife during my time at university: Hedda Maria Elisabeth von Marck. She was born in Preußen, she's a Protestant and incredibly smart. Hedda studied law as well but in Greifswald and Marburg. Afterwards she did her doctor's degree in Greifswald. She is two years older than me and received her doctor's degree already in 1920. On 1st October 1929, we finally got married. Our wedding took place in Munich. I cannot tell you how happy I am.

¹ school, which is specialized in classical languages (Latin, Ancient Greek)

² emotional connection to the home country

At the moment, we are living in Andreestraße 4 in Munich and my chambers are in Pfandhausstraße 8.

LITERATUR

Christof, Julia: Mit unbekanntem Ziel verweist? Freisinger Juden im Nationalsozialismus, Salzburg 2019.

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BILDNACHWEIS

Siegfried Holzer, ca. 1919. Passfoto aus der Personenakte der Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität. Universitätsarchiv München (UAM), Stud-Kart I, Holzer, Siegfried.