

## LITERATURE

Findel, Edith / Grünsteudel, Günther: Dann. Online: [https://www.stadtlexikon-augsburg.de/index.php?id=114&tx\\_ttnews\[tt\\_news\]=3517&tx\\_ttnews\[backPid\]=113&cHash=e81a9d4d72](https://www.stadtlexikon-augsburg.de/index.php?id=114&tx_ttnews[tt_news]=3517&tx_ttnews[backPid]=113&cHash=e81a9d4d72) (zuletzt 11.06.18).

Nerdinger, Winfried (Hrsg.): Bauten erinnern. Augsburg in der NS-Zeit. Berlin 2012.

Projektgruppe „Spurensuche“ (Hrsg.): Spurensuche. Die jüdischen Schülerinnen und die Zeit des Nationalsozialismus an der Maria-Theresia-Schule Augsburg. Online: [http://www.datenmatrix.de/projekte/hdbg/spurensuche/index\\_extern.html](http://www.datenmatrix.de/projekte/hdbg/spurensuche/index_extern.html) (zuletzt 11.06.18).

Römer, Gernot (Hrsg.): Vier Schwestern. Lebenserinnerungen Elisabeth, Lotte, Sophie und Gertrud Dann aus Augsburg (Lebenserinnerungen von Juden aus Schwaben, Bd. 1). Augsburg 1998.

Stöbener, Matthias: Dann, Albert. Online: <https://www.augsburgwiki.de/index.php/AugsburgWiki/DannAlbert> (zuletzt 11.06.18).

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

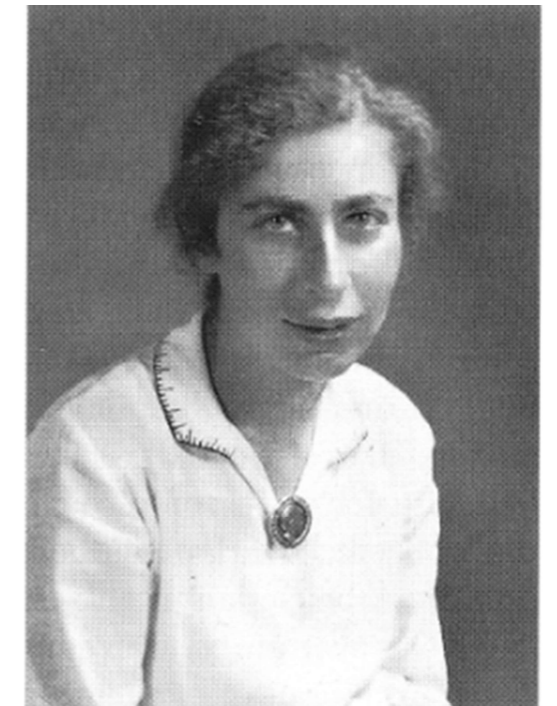
Top: Four Sisters Dann, 1919, from left to right: Elisabeth, Lotte, Sophie und Gertrud Dann. Lender of the picture is Sh. Levita. The picture has been imprinted on the website “Spurensuche der Maria-Theresia-Schule in Augsburg”. Online: [http://www.datenmatrix.de/projekte/hdbg/spurensuche/content/medien-biografien/zoom/pop-up\\_bio\\_955.htm](http://www.datenmatrix.de/projekte/hdbg/spurensuche/content/medien-biografien/zoom/pop-up_bio_955.htm) (11.06.18).

Bottom left: Sophie Dann, 1901. The picture is probably in family property. It is imprinted without proof of origin in: Römer, Gernot (Hrsg.): Vier Schwestern. Lebenserinnerungen Elisabeth, Lotte, Sophie und Gertrud Dann aus Augsburg (Lebenserinnerungen von Juden aus Schwaben, Bd. 1). Augsburg 1998. S. 25.

Bottom right: Sophie Dann, 1939. The picture is probably in family property. It is imprinted without proof of origin in: Römer, Gernot (Hrsg.): Vier Schwestern. Lebenserinnerungen Elisabeth, Lotte, Sophie und Gertrud Dann aus Augsburg (Lebenserinnerungen von Juden aus Schwaben, Bd. 1). Augsburg 1998. S. 41.

## SOPHIE DANN

\* 1900 – AUGSBURG



My name is Sophie Dann and I was born on March 3, 1900 in Augsburg. I am the eldest of my sisters. Thea was born one year afterwards, unfortunately, she was only 17 years old when she died in 1918. My other sisters are called Elisabeth, born 1906, Gertrud, born 1908, and our youngest is Lotte, born 1912. Albert and Fanny Dann are my parents.

We lived in Oberen Maximilianstraße 35 until 1904 and then we moved to Völkstraße 26<sup>1</sup>. My auntie Clemy lived at the opposite house. Unfortunately, my uncle died in 1905 and my auntie became kind of lonely although she was always busy being the chairwoman of the Jewish Women's Association. However, it was good that we lived that close and were able to support her.

My father is originally from Frankfurt and you can trace back his family to the rabbi Josef of Mantua in 1530. He came 1897 to Augsburg and married my mother, who came from Fürth and her family is called Kitzinger. My father worked relentlessly in his company, a wholesale trade for dry<sup>2</sup> and manufactory goods<sup>3</sup>. At the beginning, he was only co-owner together with the brothers Heymann and his brother-in-law; but after my uncle's death the business was completely owned by my father. When the war broke out, we were all scared for our father: Although he was already 46 years old, he volunteered to serve his country. Luckily, he didn't have to be at the frontline but was training recruits<sup>4</sup> at home. Since 1917 he was helping voluntarily in the milk and meat post, where food stamps<sup>5</sup> due to food rationing were given out.

Our family has a good reputation in Augsburg. We are popular among the Jews as well as the Christians. My father supported the setup of the synagogue in Augsburg in 1917 and is supervising the house rules of the synagogue since its inauguration since he is the synagogue commissar. <sup>6</sup> Besides all that he is dedicated member of the Augsburg community. Unsurprisingly, he received the honorary title of councillor<sup>7</sup> of commerce in 1927.

Enough said about my father, let's talk about me: Finally, in 1906 I started school. But I was the only Jewish kid in a class of 30 children. I attended the Christian religious lessons as everyone else. However, when my mum found out that we were only taught the New Testament, she told me to skip these lessons. Ernst Fränkl was teaching us Jewish religious classes in our living room from 1907 onwards. Later on, I attended the religious classes in the synagogue. Although we are Jewish, we celebrate Christmas and Chanukka.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> nowadays close to the industrial court in Augsburg

<sup>2</sup> items for sewing

<sup>3</sup> fabrics and material sold by the metre

<sup>4</sup> soldier in his first period of training

<sup>5</sup> due to food shortage, food was only given out on food stamps (a rationed amount of a certain product)

<sup>6</sup> part of the managing board of the synagogue

<sup>7</sup> honorary title for an economic specialist

<sup>8</sup> festival of lights for 8 days in November/December in remembrance of the consecration of the temple in Jerusalem in 165 BC

In 1910, we moved in a beautiful house a little outside the city, Hochfeldstraße 15. We not only had a nice garden but Thea and me also lived in a room with a balcony, from which we had a view to the Alps. After elementary school, I attended the Anna Barbara von Stettensche Institut<sup>9</sup>, which is a private school for girls, together with my sisters. In my new class, I wasn't the only Jewish girl anymore; I met Marie Landauer. Quickly, we became good friends and we are even distantly related. Marie has no siblings and therefore, we often visited each other after school. Her mother always wanted us to educate ourselves by reading classical literature. But we thought Schiller was boring and rather played board games when she wasn't around.

During my time in school, I was also a member of an association called „Wandervogel“ (bird of passage). As a group we did a log of trips to Siebentischwald<sup>10</sup> or even further away. Sometimes we even planned events together with the boys. Shortly before Christmas 1912, Lotte was born. My sisters Thea and Elisabeth had a severe inflammation of the throat at that time and a children's nurse was looking after them. Gertrud also had a cold and mum instructed me to care for her and to keep records of her temperature, her sleep, her food and so on. At that time, I thought of becoming a nurse for the first time.

In 1918 I received my diploma as a childcare worker at the Anna Barbara von Stettenschen Institut. Since I was still interested in education, I attended a training to become an infants' and children's nurse in Munich. After a few other stops in Nürnberg, Augsburg and Munich, I founded the school for mothers of the Augsburg women's club in 1930. A school for mothers should educate pregnant women in terms of pregnancy, baby care, nutrition and children's education. Unfortunately, the infant mortality is very high due to lacking hygiene, nutrition and a huge workload of women. I really enjoyed the experience of building something up from scratch and I constantly receive positive feedback and gratitude from mothers. Furthermore, I am in charge of a home care association, where I am looking after 80 household helpers. I am responsible for accounting, social insurance and I am taking care that everything works out smoothly.

My sisters were and still are quite successful: Elisabeth and Lotte graduated from highschool with good grades. Elisabeth studied history, philosophy and philology<sup>11</sup> in Munich, Berlin and London and graduated with a diploma. At the moment, she is working as a teacher in Sweden. Our little Lotte was brave enough to start a medical degree course in Munich and has been really successful up to now. Gertrud chose a similar profession as I did: She became a kindergarten teacher and opened a kindergarten in the house where we used to live.

<sup>9</sup> nowadays a grammar school for girls at Martin-Luther-square

<sup>10</sup> Northern part of Augsburg forest

<sup>11</sup> linguistics and literary studies