

# **Bernhard Moos**

German-Jewish Immigrant

to

Honored Citizen of Chicago

1843-1895

Information Compiled by Emily C. Rose

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2021

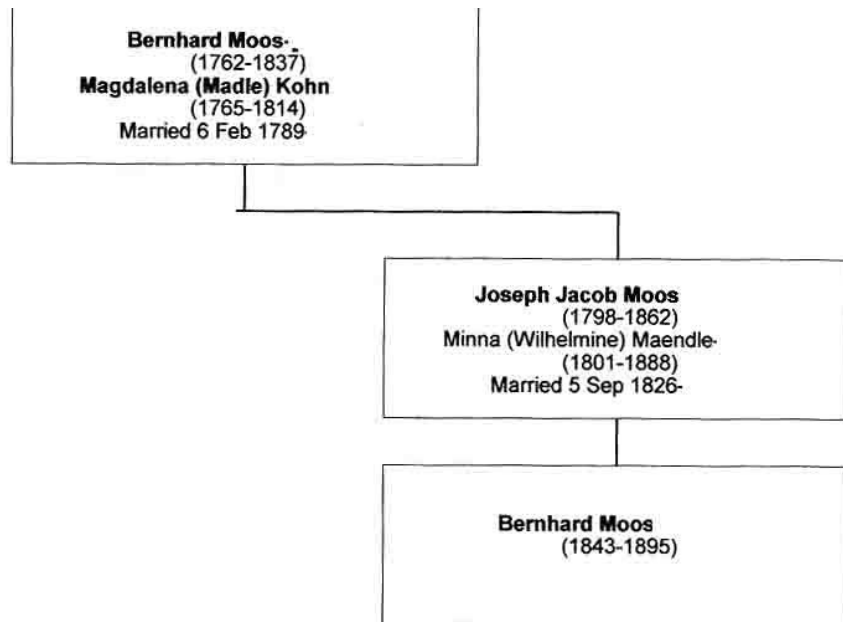
## Birth In Buchau Germany in 1843

Geburts- Tag, Monat und Jahr.	Haus: Vater.	Copulations- Tag, Monat und Jahr.	Haus: Mutter.	Geburts- Tag, Monat und Jahr.		
11 Jan 1796.	Moos Hofsch - 6 Aug 1862	5 Sept 1826.	Mändle Wilhelmina 17. Sept 1858 2. April 1822	18 Sept 1801.		
Vater.	Samuel Moos n.f.		Hofsch Mändle n.f.	Mutter.		
Mutter.	Margareta Hofsch n.f.		Sala Hofsch n.f.	Mutter.		
Zahl der Kinder.	N a m e n.	G e b u r t.	Confir- mation.	Conscription.	Verpflichtung.	E o d.
1	Mosch	24 Aug 1827.	1841		Cassel	
2	Margareta Möller	11 Sept 1827.	1843.			9. Mai 1878
3	Julius	20. Dez. 1834.			1854 America	
4	Samuel F.	11 Buchau 1838				25. August 1893.
5	Bernhard	1. März 1843.			1862 America	

- Bernhard is listed as child # 5. Bernhard was named in honor of his deceased grandfather. This was according to Jewish naming customs. Bernhard's birth date: March 1, 1843.
- Bernhard's brother, Julius: birth date: Dec 20, 1834. He immigrated to America in 1854.

### Birth Register Source Information:

LANDESARCHIV BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG  
 Abt. Hauptstaatsarchiv Stuttgart J 386 Bü 39 Bild 88  
 Permalink: <http://www.landesarchiv-bw.de/plink/?f=1-439979-88>  
<http://www.landesarchiv-bw.de/nutzungsbedingungen>



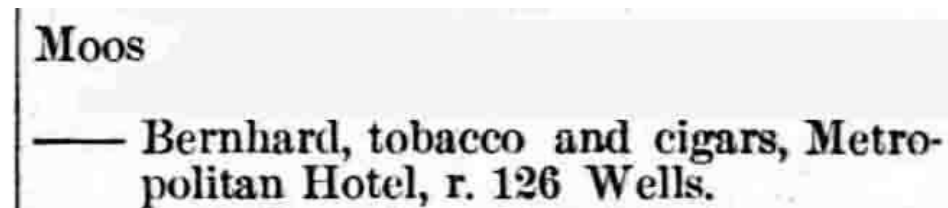
Bernhard Moos lived his first nineteen years in Buchau, a town in south Württemberg. He was Jewish. Most of the 625 Jews in Buchau in 1843 were shopkeepers and tradesmen. They were part of one or more large extended families: Moos, Wallersteiner, Rieser, and Einstein (the family of Albert Einstein). The Buchau synagogue was famous for its unique church bell in the Protestant-style steeple. The bell, which called the Jews to prayer, was a gift from the king of Württemberg in 1839. The story was told that when the Jews had to decide whether to accept the king's gift, they concluded that the king would not understand their refusal, but God would understand their acceptance.

Bernhard trained as a bookkeeper in Buchau.

In 1862 he immigrated to Chicago where his brother, Julius, had settled in 1854.

## Early Years in Chicago

As a new immigrant in 1862, Bernhard worked as a bookkeeper for the banking house of Lazarus Silverman in Chicago. He then joined his brother Julius who had opened a small cigar, tobacco, and snuff shop in the basement of Metropolitan Hall (Hotel) in 1856. Even during the brothers' first years in business, R.G. Dun & Co. representatives reported that they had a very good stand, paid promptly, and were "good for small amounts."



Chicago City Directory, 1865.



Bernhard Moos. Probably his engagement or wedding photo, ca. 1866.

**His Wife:** Carrie Berlzheimer. They married in 1866 in Chicago.



Born Karoline Berlzheimer in 1842 in Mühlingen, Germany. Photo ca. 1866.

She immigrated to America in 1857 with her brothers, sister, and widowed mother.

For more information about her life: Emily C. Rose, *Portraits of Our Past, Jews of the German Countryside*, 2001.

**Moos Bernhard, 153 Randolph**

Chicago City Directory, 1867

## **Bernhard Moos's letter about the Great Chicago Fire of 1871**

Chicago, October 24, 1871.

Beloved Mother and Dear Sister and Brother:

Schiller in his Song of the Bell tells us  
"Alas, with the might of Providence  
We can make no pacts,  
For calamity rushes on."

Were I, dear ones, to report correctly our present position I would advise you to read the song of Schiller, especially that part where he treats of fire; then indeed you would understand. He counted the heads of his dear ones and sees not a precious one is missing. First of all, I can today assure you that his last line thoroughly fits our case. Thank God not one is missing and, considering conditions, all are in good health.

It is now the first quiet moment permitted me to write you since that terrible October 9th, and at the same time to take fresh breath and ease this burden of care and worry.

To begin, I must remark that here in this western country since the end of July a terrible drought prevailed of such severity that since the end of September, the forest and prairies hereabouts, especially in Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, for thousands of miles have been devastated by fire, everything in its path destroyed, men, cattle, farms, mills, villages, even towns.

On the 5th of October at noon, a general fire alarm was sounded, and soon the news spread that one of the largest warehouses on the South Side was afire; nevertheless the fire was brought under control by 5:00 p.m. Quiet prevailed until Saturday night at 9:00 when again the general alarm sounded. This time there was a large fire on the West Side that raged until morning.

On this Sunday evening, the 8th of October, Julius [Bernhard's brother] and my wife's brothers and sisters were at my home. We were discussing the fire and many other things. There were jokes and laughter until they left about 9:00, when my wife and I went to bed. My wife's brother awakened us shortly after 1:00 a.m. Monday, and we found heaven and earth afire. Owing to the prevailing dryness and southwest hurricane, the fire had an easy victory over all efforts of firemen and others. Like an army column in close formation, it marched forward with almost electrical rapidity. When we were aroused 3 hours after it started, the fire had already destroyed about 30 acres of buildings on the West Side. Driven by the high wind, it left that side, crossed the river, and was now raging in the greater part of the beautiful South Side, mocking all efforts of man and water.

Leaving my house with my brother-in-law, we rushed over to the South Side where my business was located to see whether anything could be saved. Arriving, we found all adjoining buildings in flames. I could do nothing but take what little money there was in my safe and hurry with all speed to save my life.

When I returned to my house, I found that my dear wife had had the presence of mind to pack and send the children and the maid to her sister who lived farther north and then had packed our most important possessions. The fire was now raging behind us, having crossed the river at 3:00 p.m., burning

the bridges between the North and the South Sides. By this time the fire had already destroyed the water works, thus increasing the horrors. With great effort I found and hired a wagon team to move our possessions to my sister-in-law's house.

We turned our backs to the flames that rushed after us. With the wind, a hurricane of dust and smoke, almost blinding us, we left Chicago with a hundred thousand others, fleeing far out to the open prairie. At about 4:00 p.m., broken in spirit and soul, we arrived at a farmer's barn to set up our camp, mindful of the words of Moses,

“Who is man that your thoughts are of him?  
Earth's son that you look upon him.’

Now my loved ones, about myself as briefly as possible. What I had possessed has been destroyed, and my hopes blasted. My loss was not less than from \$12,000 to \$15,000. Though I carried \$10,000 in insurance, nearly all companies are bankrupt so that I can expect little, or more correctly, nothing from that source.

Julius, as well as myself, has each found a place to start a business. The great pains we had always taken to keep our credit good have now borne good fruit. In New York and elsewhere, we are offered as much, and even more, goods than we can use.

Chicago will arise again out of her ashes, and though the marble is still hot, building is going on in every quarter. Stronger, more beautiful than before, Chicago will grow greater than ever.

With hearty greetings and kisses, your affectionate son and brother,

Bernhard

My dear Ones,

Agreeing with every word of the above, I further wish to assure you that the children and I are well.

Your loving,

Carrie

Bernhard Moos's letter to his mother Willhelmine Moos (born Mändle) in Buchau. English translation from the handwritten German original by his son Joseph.

Naturalization. He was naturalized as an American citizen in 1879.

No. 11115

P

Issued Feb. 10, 1879.

# UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

State of Illinois  
County of Cook )  
City of Chicago ) ss:

I, Bernhard Moos, do swear that I was born in Buchau, Prussia, on or about the first day of March 1843; that I am a **NATURALIZED AND LOYAL CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES**, and about to travel abroad; and further, that I am the identical person described in the **Certificate of Naturalization** herewith presented.

Sworn to before me, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of February, 18 79  
Otto Hermannsdorff  
Notary Public.

## Description of Bernhard Moos

Age: 36 years  
Stature: 5 feet, 5 inches, Eng.  
Forehead: high  
Eyes: blue  
Nose: ordinary  
Mouth: common  
Chin: small  
Hair: black  
Complexion: healthy  
Face: small

Christina L. Covert, Cook Co., Illinois, Feb. 6, 1879.

I, Bernhard Moos, do solemnly swear that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States against all enemies, whether domestic or foreign; and that I will bear true faith, allegiance, and loyalty to the same, any ordinance, resolution, or law of any State, Convention, or Legislature to the contrary notwithstanding; and further, that I do this with a full determination, pledge, and purpose, without any mental reservation or evasion whatsoever; and further, that I will well and faithfully perform all the duties which may be required of me by law. So help me God.

Sworn to before me, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of February, 18 79  
Otto Hermannsdorff  
Notary Public.



husband, wife, minor children, and servants expect to travel together, a single passport for the whole will suffice. If any other person in the party a separate passport will be required.



## J & B Moos Cigar Store

Retail and Wholesale Business. Established by brother, Julius (1834-1921) , in the Metropolitan Hotel located at the corner of Randolph and Wells streets.



Metropolitan Hotel, 1862.



J & B Moos. 95 Randolph Street. Established 1856.

**Moos Bernhard (J. & B. Moos) 95 Randolph and 127  
Adams, h. 233 Ontario**

**Moos Julius (J. & B. Moos) 95 Randolph and 127  
Adams h. 117 S. Franklin**

**Moos J. & B. (Julius and Bernhard Moos) cigars and  
tobacco 95 Randolph and 127 Adams**

*Chicago City Directory, 1887.*

**Moos Julius (J. & B. Moos) 95 Randolph, bds. 111  
Franklin**

**Moos J. & B. (Julius and Bernhard Moos) cigars 95  
Randolph**

*Chicago City Directory, 1889*

**J. & B. Moos's Wholesale Business**

As well as owning a cigar and tobacco store, Bernhard and Julius were wholesalers (distributors or jobbers).

# SPASMS OF BLISS

—FOR A NICKEL.

The man with a nickel bought a Buck,  
He had a match—he was in luck,  
Ta-ra-ra Boom-de-aye,

The Buck drove dull care away,  
Transported the man to the milky way,  
Ta-ra-ra Boom-de-aye.

**SMOKERS:** If you want to enjoy the latest and best luxury—the very finest economical smoke, look for the two little goats, and ask your dealer for



**RETAILERS:** We want all live, energetic merchants to handle "Buck." To new customers ordering 1,000 "Buck" at once we will send a sign and print your name as agent for "Buck" Cigar in Chicago Tribune "ad." Do not delay your orders.

**FOR SALE BY THE FOLLOWING CHICAGO JOBBERS:**

Deane Bros. & Lincoln,  
W. H. Heegaard & Co.,  
W. J. Quan & Co.,  
Corbin, May & Co.,  
Rubel Bros. & Co.,

Spragne, Warner & Co.,  
Rudolph Seifert,  
Peter Van Schaack & Sons,  
Steele, Wedeles Co.,  
John S. Gould & Co.,

Ruhstrat, Gail & Co.,  
Franklin MacVeagh & Co.,  
Hargis & Co.,  
Simmons, Neumann & Co.,  
H. C. & C. Durand,

Grommes & Ullrich,  
John A. Tolman Co.,  
J. & B. Moos,  
Thorwart & Roehling,  
Henry Horner & Co.

**FOR SALE BY THE FOLLOWING COUNTRY JOBBERS:**

Long Brothers,  
Kansas City, Mo.

Berdan & Co.,  
Toledo, O.

The Greeley-Burnham Grocer Co.,  
St. Louis, Mo.

Strong, Cobb & Co.,  
The Chandler & Rudd Co. } Cleveland,  
Ohio.

J. & B. Moos is listed as a Jobber in the fourth column. *Chicago Daily Tribune*, November, 19, 1892. There Similar advertisements listing J. & B. Moos: November 26, 1892 and December 17, 1892.

Bernhard set up others in their own stores. In that way, his wife's brother, Richard M. Berlzheimer, was able to open a cigar and tobacco store in Chicago. Richard's sons worked in his store and in J. & B. Moos's store. One of Richard's sons then opened his own cigar and tobacco store.

# AH! There Mr. SPEAKER!

LEND US YOUR EAR, WHILE WE DASH AGAINST YOUR SENSITIVE TYMPANUM A FEW FACTS ABOUT THE GREAT "BUCK" 5-CENT CIGAR. IT IS MADE FROM THE CHOICEST LONG HAVANA FILLER AND WRAPPED WITH THE SWEETEST OLD CONNECTICUT, PRODUCING THE MOST LUXURIOUS SMOKE ON THE MARKET. NOTHING BETTER FOR THE MONEY CAN BE PRODUCED. WE GUARANTEE THE "BUCK" IN EVERY MANNER. THESE STATEMENTS MAY APPEAR RATHER "CRISP," BUT YOU CAN EASILY PROVE THEIR TRUTH BY TRYING THE



## 5 CENT CIGAR. BEST EVER SOLD.

FOR SALE BY THE FOLLOWING CITY RETAIL AGENTS:

BUCK & RAYNER, State and Madison.	HENRY GOETZ, Madison and La Salle.	J. H. WELLS & CO., Randolph and Dearborn.	DALE & SEMPILL, Clark and Madison.
W. C. SCUPHAM, Central Music Hall.	S. C. SNOV, 351 W. Harrison.	Dearborn.	H. WEINBERG, 147 1/2 39th
TROY BAKERY CO., 116 and 118 Randolph.	H. M. VAN HOUSEN, 71 & 73 S. Clark.	E. A. ZAHN, 18th and Wabash-av.	H. J. DALE, 3100 Cottage Grove.
F. W. KERN, 167 Dearborn.	R. L. SMITH & CO., 143 35th.	A. J. ZIMMERMAN, 139 Oak.	MRS. M. C. CRISS, 2312 Cottage Grove.
A. S. BOWERS, 163 Dearborn.	C. E. KREYSLER, 2614 Cottage Grove.	F. A. BALCH, Revere House, 54 N. Clark.	R. TRUPPELL, 100 N. State.
GUS MECHRAU'KEN, 152 Lake.	F. T. PHILLIPS, 3209 Cottage Grove.	JOSEPH F. ENK, 3 Wabash-av.	J. G. SAYLES, 548 63d-st.
R. M. BERLZHEIMER, 43 and 192 S. Clark.	J. J. EDWARDS, 3032 Indiana-av.	FREEDMAN & BIGANDI, 275 Dearborn	R. S. CROBAX, 558 63d-st.
MOOS BROS., 277 State.	M. A. WINGFREY, 3558 Cottage Grove.	CHILDS & CO., Clark and Madison.	FRANK LACKEY, State and Van Buren.
B. BERLZHEIMER, 159 S. Clark.	F. M. HEANEY, 258 E. Kinzie.	J. H. PELOUPET, 4550 Cottage Grove.	MEYER BROS., 22 Randolph.
	M. KENNA, 129 E. Van Buren.	E. S. HOUTS, 428 71st.	D. K. M'DONALD & CO., 130 Van Buren.
	GOLDEN KEY DRUG CO., 22d & State.	C. H. SCOTT, 538 and 540 79th-st.	E. N. WALKER, 1246 Madison.

Richard M. Berlzheimer's stores listed in the first column. *Chicago Daily Tribune*, December 17, 1892.

He and his brother Julius opened a small cigar store. Success was theirs and today the store is one of the largest of its kind in the city. Mr. Moos stood high in business circles.

*Chicago Daily Tribune*, June 12, 1895, p. 5.

## The Chicago Library Board of Trustees

Despite Bernhard's limited formal education, he considered himself quite cultured and literary minded. He served as the part-time librarian at the Young Men's Association. In 1887 the mayor of Chicago appointed him to the Library Board of Trustees.

Essentially a self-educated man, he never lost an opportunity to increase his knowledge. He early interested himself in educational work, and was a director in the Young Men's Association Library, which was destroyed by the big fire. He was appointed upon the library board by Mayor Roche in 1887, and reappointed in 1890 by Mayor Creglier, and again in 1893 by Mayor Harrison. He was such an untiring worker on the board and so much respected that although he was an ardent Republican, he was continued in office by two Democratic mayors.

*The Israelite* (Cincinnati, OH), June 20, 1895.

Mr. Moos was first appointed on the library board by Mayor Roche in 1887, and, though a republican, continued in office through several democratic administrations because of his great knowledge of the library's affairs.

Bernhard Moos was a public-spirited citizen, having served as a member of the library board for five years. He was a great student and a man of domestic habits. The new library building was his special pride and it is related of him that during the progress of its erection he was in constant attendance, spending sometimes seven or eight hours a day in the stormiest kind of weather superintending the work. Several times during his illness he expressed a desire that he might live to see the new building opened to the public.

*Chicago Chronicle*, June 12, 1895.



Fatal Illness in 1895 when he was 52 years old

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**BERNHARD MOOS IS SERIOUSLY ILL.**

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**He Is Suffering from Brain Congestion,  
the Result of Overwork.**

Bernhard Moos is seriously ill at his residence, No. 1812 Oakdale avenue. He is suffering from a congested condition of the brain as a result of overwork and an attack of the grip. He is a member of the Public Library Board and has worked hard on matters relating to the new building. A few days ago he was confined to his bed and has since been in a critical condition.

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*Chicago Daily Tribune, April 25, 1895*

## Experimental Operation Performed

### DOCTORS CUT OPEN A PATIENT'S SKULL

It Was the Only Way to Determine What Ailed Bernard Moors.

Most Successful as a Surgical Operation, but the Patient Will Probably Die.

LOOKING FOR A BLOOD CLOT.

There Was Nothing of That Sort on the Brain, but There Was a Hardening of the Cells.

Chicago, June 6.—Bernard Moos, who is a member of the Chicago Public Library Board, underwent a perilous surgical operation to-day, requiring the removal of a portion of his skull for the purpose of saving his life. There is but slight hope that he will survive the operation.

Mr. Moos' illness began seven weeks ago, when he complained of a severe pain in the right side of his head. Since that time he has been in a semi-comatose state. The symptoms were of so grave a character and became marked so rapidly that yesterday Dr. W. A. D. Montgomery, the family physician, called a consultation of six other practitioners.

The family physician was of the opinion that Mr. Moos' ailment was caused by a blood-clot on the brain. The others did not concur in this opinion, and it was decided that the operation of trepanning was necessary to learn just what the trouble was.

In support of the theory that there was a blood clot it should be stated that some months ago Mr. Moos was struck on the head in an encounter with some rough characters in his store at Dearborn and Randolph streets.

Dr. Ferguson was called in to perform the surgical part of the operation, which was conducted this afternoon in the presence of Drs. Montgomery, Brown, Lackersteen and Clark. A survey was made of one-third of the right side of the brain. No blood clot was found, nor was there any indication of injury from the assault made on Mr. Moos.

The doctors found a hardening of the blood cells in the brain and a consequent effusion of a watery substance, which caused the semi-comatose condition of the patient. This secretion was removed affording the patient instant relief, but there is grave fear that it will form again and that Mr. Moos' life is measured by days and hours. The trouble is ascribed to intense mental exertion and worry. In exact terms "premature old age" has fallen upon Mr. Moos.

### BERNHARD MOOS MAY NOT LIVE LONG.

He Undergoes a Daring Surgical Operation and Is In Peril.

Bernhard Moos, who is an active member of the Chicago Public Library Board and an old and respected citizen and business-man of the city, underwent a perilous surgical operation yesterday requiring the removal of a portion of his skull for the purpose of saving his life. There is but slight hope that he will survive the operation.

Mr. Moos' illness began seven weeks ago, when he complained of a severe pain in the right side of his head. Since that time he has been in a semi-comatose state. The symptoms were of so grave a character and became marked so rapidly that the day before yesterday Dr. W. A. D. Montgomery, the family physician, called a consultation of six other practitioners. Those who attended the consultation besides Dr. Montgomery were Drs. M. H. Lackersteen, Sanger Brown, Richard Dewey, and Dr. Clark. One of the physicians was of the opinion that Mr. Moos' ailment was caused by a blood clot on the brain. The others did not concur in this opinion, and it was decided that the operation of trepanning was necessary to learn just what the trouble was. In support of the theory that there was a blood clot it should be stated that some months ago Mr. Moos was struck on the head in an encounter with some rough characters in his store at Dearborn and Randolph streets. Dr. Ferguson was called in to perform the surgical part of the operation, which was conducted yesterday afternoon in the presence of Drs. Montgomery, Brown, Lackersteen, and Clark. A survey was made of one-third of the right side of the brain. No blood clot was found, nor was there any indication of injury from the assault made on Mr. Moos.

The doctors found a hardening of the blood cells in the brain and a consequent effusion of a watery substance which caused the semi-comatose condition of the patient. This secretion was removed, affording the patient instant relief, but there is grave fear that it will reform and that Mr. Moos' life is measured by days and hours.

The cause of the trouble is ascribed to intense mental exertion and worry. In exact terms "premature old age" has fallen upon Mr. Moos. Since his appointment as a member of the Library Board nine years ago by Mayor Roche Mr. Moos has devoted himself untiringly to promoting the usefulness of that institution. Every day he has faithfully spent hours in looking after the interests of the Public Library. As Chairman of the Building committee he has kept constant oversight of the erection of the new structure.

Mr. Moos and his wife are living at the home of their son-in-law, H. Reiser, No. 1812 Oakdale avenue, Lake View. Mr. Moos was born in the City of Buchau, Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1843. He has lived in Chicago since 1860.



**BERNARD MOOS IS CRITICALLY ILL.  
SUFFERS FROM A BLOW.**

Bernard Moos lies at his son-in-law's residence, 1812 Oakdale avenue, critically ill. Some months ago Mr. Moos was set upon and roughly used by a couple of thugs at his place of business in Dearborn and Randolph streets. During the struggle he received a severe blow on the head, which has troubled him ever since. Thursday afternoon the attending physicians, after a consultation, pronounced his



BERNHARD MOOS.

condition serious on account of hardening of the blood cells of the brain and an operation was performed by trephining. There is but a slight chance that he will rally and recover. Old citizens will remember Mr. Moos on account of his connection with the public library board of this city, a body of which he was an active, energetic member for nine years.

**BERNHARD MOOS' CONDITION THE SAME.**

**May Not Recover from the Surgical Operation on His Brain.**

Bernard Moos' condition was unchanged at midnight last night. At that hour Dr. Montgomery visited him and made the following report: "The patient is in a condition of semi-coma. He understands what is said to him and can obey indications. He will put out his tongue and open or clench his right hand at my request. He can speak, but cannot convey ideas, as he has an amnesia, or forgetfulness of the right words to use to express ideas. He has recovered entirely from the shock of the operation. His temperature, pulse, and respiration are precisely what they were before operating. There is a great effusion, producing intense brain tension. It has reached the fourth ventricle, as is evidenced by the persistent dilation of the pupils, but the respiration remains un-

affected. The operation was absolutely negative, having produced no change whatever in his condition. The prognosis is, of course, unfavorable. There have been recoveries and he is only 52 years old and well nourished. But probably in two or three days there may be a change. It may be sooner and he may live much longer. Should the effusion into the fourth ventricle increase he would die in coma from interrupted respiration."

## Obituaries

### BERNHARD MOOS' INJURY PROVES FATAL

Death of the Member of the Public Library Board.

After an illness covering several weeks Bernhard Moos, a member of the Public Library Board and well known in business circles, died yesterday afternoon at his home, No. 1812 Oakdale avenue. His family had been expecting his death for several days, as his physicians agreed he could not survive a delicate surgical operation that was performed on the skull.

Five months ago Mr. Moos tried to eject some roughs from his store, No. 95 Randolph



BERNHARD MOOS.

street, when one of them struck him on the head with a blunt instrument. He did not think anything of the blow at the time, although the wound pained him. He became ill and his family physician, Dr. William A. D. Montgomery, was called. Other physicians were consulted, as Mr. Moos' condition grew visibly worse, and it was agreed that the only hope of saving his life was to remove a part of his skull.

The funeral will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock at the family residence. The Public Library and all its departments and branch reading-rooms will be closed tomorrow.

[Mr. Moos was born in Wurtemberg March 1, 1842, and received his early education there. At the age of 17 he came to this country and located in Chicago. He and his brother Julius opened a small cigar store. Success was theirs and today the store is one of the largest of its kind in the city. Mr. Moos stood high in business circles. For nine years he was an active member of the Public Library Board, being first appointed by Mayor Roche.]

## MORTUARY MATTERS.

### **Bernhard Moos Expires at His Home After a Long Illness—Other Deaths.**

Bernhard Moos died yesterday afternoon at the home of his daughter, Mrs. M. Reiser, 1812 Oakdale avenue, Lake View. His death was not unexpected, as the family had been warned that he could not long survive the wasting illness of several weeks. A few weeks ago a surgical operation was performed which, it had been hoped, would give relief. A portion of the skull was removed with the idea that a blood clot had formed on the brain. Mr. Moos never survived the shock. He had been injured on the head some months ago while ejecting some men from his store on Randolph street. At the time the injury was considered of slight importance, but for more than two months it caused him intense pain.

Bernhard Moos was a public-spirited citizen, having served as a member of the library board for five years. He was a great student and a man of domestic habits. The new library building was his special pride and it is related of him that during the progress of its erection he was in constant attendance, spending sometimes seven or eight hours a day in the stormiest kind of weather superintending the work. Several times during his illness he expressed a desire that he might live to see the new building opened to the public.

Bernhard Moos was born in Buchan, Wurttemberg, Germany, March 1, 1842. He received a common school education and at 19 years of age came to Chicago. He acted as a clerk for a time in the Silverman bank, and then with his brother embarked in the cigar trade. Their business prospered and each has made a fortune. Mr. Moos married Caroline Berlizhelmer of Chicago, a son and a daughter having been born to them.

Mr. Moos was first appointed on the library board by Mayor Roche in 1887, and, though a republican, continued in office through several democratic administrations because of his great knowledge of the library's affairs.

The funeral will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock. Dr. Emil G. Hirsch, an old friend of the family, will officiate. Out of respect to Mr. Moos the public library and all branch reading rooms will be closed today and tomorrow.

## Funeral and the Library Board of Trustees:

### MORTUARY MATTERS.

#### Funeral Services of Bernhard Moos—Other Obituary Matters.

The funeral of Bernhard Moos was held yesterday afternoon. The services were held at his late residence, 1812 Oakdale avenue, and were simple in the extreme. The house was filled long before 2 o'clock, the appointed hour. Many representative citizens showed their appreciation of his worth by their attendance. The employes of the public library, which was closed yesterday, nearly filled the house, for, besides all the assistants of the main library, those from the branches were present.

The services were conducted by Rabbi Emil G. Hirsch, who spoke of the lesson taught by the life and death of Mr. Moos. Those who acted as pall bearers were: Z. P. Brosseau, who represented the present board of the public library; William H. Beebe and Pliny B. Smith, ex-members of the board; Frederick H. Hild, librarian; N. E. Weydert, superintendent of the new public library, and Leopold Sonnenschein.

Among the floral tributes was a large open book of white carnations resting against a broken column of white flowers, on one side of which was the name "Bernhard Moos" and on the other the words "finis." This was a remembrance from the directors of the board.

The members of the board held a meeting at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon in the directors' room, at which a memorial was adopted. The desk and chair of Mr. Moos had been draped in mourning by the employes of the library and white and purple flowers had been scattered in the folds. The meeting was presided over by Rabbi Hirsch, who presented eulogistic memorial and resolutions.

After the memorial and resolutions were adopted by a rising vote the members proceeded to the funeral in a body.

### FUNERAL RITES FOR BERNHARD MOOS.

#### Services Attended by Friends and Relatives —Memorial of Library Board.

The funeral of Bernhard Moos was held yesterday afternoon. The services were simple and were at his residence, No. 1812 Oakdale avenue, at 2 o'clock. The house was filled with friends and relatives. Many representative citizens attended. The employes of the main library and branches were present. The services were conducted by Rabbi Emil G. Hirsch, who spoke of the lesson taught by the life and death of Mr. Moos. Those who acted as pallbearers were Z. P. Brosseau, who represented the present board of the Public Library; William H. Beebe and Pliny B. Smith, ex-members of the board; Frederick H. Hild, Librarian; N. E. Weydert, Superintendent of the new Public Library; and Leopold Sonnenschein. Among the floral tributes was a large open book of white carnations resting against a broken column of white flowers, on one side of which was the name "Bernhard Moos," and on the other "Finis." This was a remembrance from the directors of the board. The members of the board held a meeting at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon in the directors' room at which a memorial was adopted. The desk and chair of Mr. Moos had been draped in mourning by the employes. After the memorial was adopted the members proceeded to the funeral in a body.

*Chicago Chronicle*, June 14, 1895.

*Chicago Daily Tribune*, June 14, 1895.

Note: Rabbi Emil Hirsch: Rabbi, Temple Sinai, Chicago; Jewish scholar, lecturer and leader. He was selected for the Chicago Library Board of Trustees in 1888.

## THE OBITUARY RECORD.

### Funeral of Bernhard Moos.

The funeral of Bernhard Moos was held yesterday afternoon. The services over his bier were simple to the extreme, and were at his late residence, No. 1818 Oakdale avenue, at 2 o'clock. The house was filled long before the appointed hour by friends and relatives of Mr. Moos and the family. Many representative citizens showed their appreciation of his worth by their attendance. The employees of the library, which was closed yesterday, nearly filled the house, for, besides all of the assistants of the main library, those from the branches were present. The services were conducted by Dr. Emil G. Hirsch, who spoke of the lesson taught by the life and death of Mr. Moos. Those who acted as pallbearers were: E. P. Brossseau, who represented the present board of the public library; William H. Beebe and Philip B. Smith, ex-members of the board; Frederick H. Hild, librarian; N. E. Weydert, superintendent of the new public library, and Leopold Soumenschein.

Among the floral tributes was a large open book of white carnations, resting against a broken column of white flowers, on one side of which was the name, "Bernhard Moos," and on the other the word "Finitis." This was a remembrance from the directors of the board.

The members of the library board held a meeting at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon in the directors' room, at which a memorial was adopted. The desk and chair of Mr. Moos had been draped in mourning by the employees of the library, and white and purple flowers had been scattered in the folds. The meeting was presided over by Dr. Hirsch, who presented the following memorial:

"Bernhard Moos is no more. After an honorable and useful career he had entered into the peace of death, leaving behind many to mourn his going and to remember his life.

"Among the friends to miss him none, next to his own family, has greater cause to deplore his death than his associates on the board of directors of the Chicago Public Library. For nearly eight years Bernhard Moos was among its most active, its most zealous, its most devoted members. The interests of the library were nearer to the heart of none, nor had any deeper understanding of the needs and a quicker realization of the opportunities of this great educational institution than had he.

"When first appointed he was welcomed to the board as one whose reputation for integrity and ability augured much and well for the library. He was known to have by his own energy won for himself an honorable position among the merchants of this city. As a man he was well informed on all subjects, with a mind in sympathy with truth and eager for knowledge, and as a citizen loyal and public spirited.

"The years of his official connection with the library realized to the fullest the expectations based upon his previous career as a man and citizen. As chairman of the committee on administration he was largely instrumental in organizing the service on a strict merit basis. His daily visits to the library helped materially to enhance the efficiency of the force, while for the employees he was at all times a kind and just friend and adviser. As chairman of the committee on buildings and grounds he directed the erection of the new library building from the very inception of the work. No sacrifice of personal comfort and time did he deem too great in the city's service; for, familiar as he always endeavored to be with the minutest details of every plan and contract and the progress of the work, he assumed more than his share of the responsibility in supervising and planning to the injury of his own health and the neglect of his private affairs. His sole compensation was the thought that the city of Chicago should soon have a library building, as economically constructed as possible, honestly built to last for ages, a home worthy of its growing library, the people's university. The new library building will be now, after his death, his monument, as it was for him while living his proud solicitude.

"The board of directors has lost in him a friend endeared to all by the amiability of his temper and the courtesy of his manner. Having learned to love him, they have the privilege of extending to his widow and children their heartfelt condolence. The family's loss is great indeed, but the city has lost in Bernhard Moos a faithful, upright servant and citizen; he leaves behind a name forever to be treasured by those who knew him or prize integrity and devotion to civic duty.

"Resolved, That the foregoing minutes be spread on the records of this board, and that a copy be forwarded to the family.

"Resolved, That this board attend the funeral in a body.

"Resolved, That as a mark of respect the library in all departments be closed on the day of his funeral."

After the memorial and resolutions were adopted by a rising vote the members proceeded to the funeral in a body.

## CHICAGO.

Bernhard Moos, member of the public library board, died at his home, 1812 Oakdale Avenue, Lake View, Thursday last. Mr. Moos was assaulted several months ago in his store by some ruffians, whom he was compelled to eject, and received a blow on the head which, after a time, caused him great pain. It was thought that the removal of a portion of the skull would give relief. No blood clot was found and the operation afforded no relief. Bernhard Moos was born in Buchan, Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1842. He received a common school education and at the age of 19 he decided to seek his fortune in America. He arrived in Chicago in the fall of 1862, and for a few months was a clerk in the Silverman bank, but soon abandoned this and went into partnership with his brother in the retail tobacco business, and from this small beginning has been built up the largest wholesale and retail tobacco business in the city. In 1866 Mr. Moos was married to Miss Caroline Berlizheimer, and he and his wife have lived for some years with his daughter, Mrs. H. Rieser, at 1812 Oakdale Avenue, Lake View. Essentially a self-educated man, he never lost an opportunity to increase his knowledge. He early interested himself in educational work, and was a director in the Young Men's Association Library, which was destroyed by the big fire. He was appointed upon the library board by Mayor Roche in 1887, and reappointed in 1890 by Mayor Creglier, and again in 1893 by Mayor Harrison. He was such an untiring worker on the board and so much respected that although he was an ardent Republican, he was continued in office by two Democratic mayors. The funeral was held on Thursday, Dr. Hirsch conducting the ceremonies. There are but two children, Mrs. M. Rieser and Joseph R. Moos, who succeeds to his father's business.

## Burial



Bernhard Moos was buried in the Moos Family Plot in Rosehill Cemetery, Chicago. His headstone, in the shape of an open book, was a traditional Jewish symbol for a scholar.

## Estate

### COURT NOTES.

The will of Bernard Moos, who died June 11, was admitted to probate yesterday. It shows that the late director of the public library was worth \$65,000, of which \$50,000 is in personal property, and all is left to the widow.

*Chicago Chronicle*, June 20, 1895.

\$65,000 in 1895 is equal to about \$2 million in 2021.

Samuel H. Williamson, "Seven Ways to Compute the Relative Value of a U.S. Dollar Amount, 1774 to present," [MeasuringWorth](#).



## Bernhard Moos Elementary School Naming

Bernhard Moos, formerly a member of the Public Library Board of Trustees, was honored last night by the Board of Education naming after him the building known as the Humboldt School.

The name of Bernhard Moos was chosen because of the request of the members of the Board of Library Trustees asking the Board of Education to name a school building after him. It is mainly through his persistent efforts the city now enjoys the new Library Building.

*Chicago Daily Tribune, April 9, 1897.*

### IN MEMORY OF BERNHARD MOOS

#### The Board of Education Has Named a School Building in His Honor.

The board of education has named one of the new school buildings after Bernhard Moos, who was for several years a member of the library board and chairman of the committee in charge of the building of the new library building.



BERNHARD MOOS. Mr. Moos died two years ago. He was a member of the firm of J. & B. Moos, cigar manufacturers, 95 Randolph street.



Bernhard Moos Elementary School, 1711 North California Avenue, Chicago.



Portrait of Bernhard Moos hanging in the Bernhard Moos Elementary School.

Honored at the Dedication of the Chicago Central Library

# VOW PILE TO BOOKS.

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New Public Library Building  
Is Formally Dedicated.

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## PROGRAM OF CEREMONIES

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C. S. Thornton Accepts in Behalf  
of Mayor Harrison.

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## ORATION BY DR. E. G. HIRSCH.

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President A. F. Hatch Brings History  
Up to Date.

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## BISHOP CHENEY'S INVOCATION.

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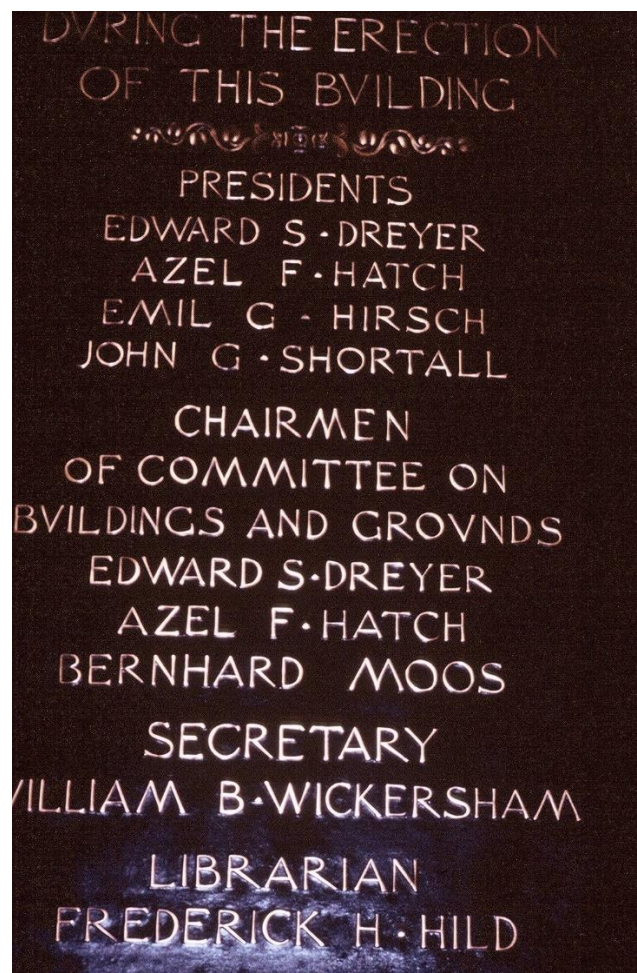
With ceremonies as simple as the classic architecture of the building itself, the new Chicago Public Library was dedicated at 5 o'clock last evening and delivered over to the city by the library board—a final climax of contrasts between Chicago day, 1897, and Oct. 9, 1871.

The response to the 3,500 invitations which the board had issued more than filled the space in the delivery room of the building, where the ceremony took place, and where the dedicatory address was delivered from an improvised platform.

President Hatch took occasion here to commend the devotion and services of Bernhard Moos.



Chicago Central Library, 1897, Michigan Avenue between Washington and Randolph streets.



Plaque honoring Bernhard Moos in the Chicago Central Library, 1897.

# Prominent Descendants of Bernhard Moos

## Joseph Moos (1867-1946)

Bernhard Moos's son Joseph was named for his grandfather. Joseph worked for J. & B. Moos for decades. After Bernhard's death, Joseph took over as president.

Joseph expanded the wholesale cigar and tobacco business in Chicago and other areas in the region distributing several popular cigar brands.

One of the new cigars that came to market in 1898 was called Anna Held Cigar. It was named for Anna Held, a burlesque star.



After Joseph retired from J B Moos, he was chairman of the board of Albert Pick & Company, the largest hotel equipment company in the country. He and his wife Katherine Hoyt Moos had a winter home in Miami Beach where Katherine created a showcase garden. When Katherine died in 1947, her granddaughter established the Moos Sunken Garden at the world-famous Fairchild Tropical Botanic Gardens in Miami.

<https://fairchildgarden.org/miami-botanical-garden/moos-sunken-garden/>

## Elizabeth Moos (1890-1984)

Bernhard Moos's granddaughter (Joseph's daughter) was an innovative educator and peace advocate.

# TIME

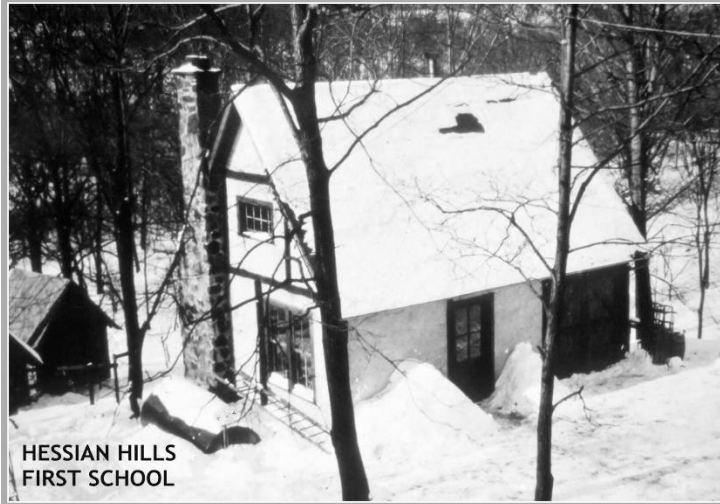
Monday, Dec. 19, 1932

## Education: In Hessian Hills

Fortnight ago came news of another Progressive school, young and bold, in many respects unique in the U. S. Croton-on-Hudson, N. Y. is a quiet village near Harmon, where New York Central trains exchange steam for electricity. The sprawling, bridge-playing, gin-drinking suburbs of New York have not yet entangled it. In Croton, seven years ago, settled Economist Stuart Chase, his wife Margaret Hatfield, Elizabeth Moos, a former teacher at Walden and other modern schools, and her husband Robert Imandt, violinist, onetime French Army man, camp director. Between them Miss Hatfield and Miss Moos had three children. They wanted to teach them. They went to it in a garage. Soon other families sent their children over. When the number grew to 16, Teachers Hatfield and Moos realized they had a School. At the beginning of their third year there were 29 pupils, five teachers, installed in an old farmhouse they had managed to buy. From the surrounding country, where George Washington skirmished with King George Ill's mercenaries, they took the school's name: Hessian Hills. More & more people heard of it. Since its founding, 30 families have moved to Croton to put their children in Hessian Hills.

Hessian Hills' aim is a socialized group in which the pupils feel a sense of communal enterprise and responsibility. Much of its success has resulted from the intelligence and enthusiasm of the parents. Any feeling of competition is avoided; the child is to compete not against his fellows but against his own previous efforts. Flexible, searching, the Hessian Hills theory (though disclaimed as a theory) was well under way by 1931. With Robert Imandt as shop director, the pupils worked at weaving, metal, wood and leather work, drawing and painting. Elizabeth Moos taught Rhythmics and directed academic work: social sciences, then arithmetic and writing, after these reading and so on. The parents met regularly, joined in school activities. The village of Croton watched a bit suspiciously the hatless, overalled, unrepressed children, dashing down to look at local industries, asking grown-up questions.

A 1939 Documentary Film about the Hessian School: [1939-School A Film About Progressive Education-Funded by the Rockefeller Foundation - Bing video](#)



HESSIAN HILLS  
FIRST SCHOOL



UNDATED  
ELIZ MOOS &  
HUSBAND CARL  
IMANDT

## Elizabeth Moos, 94, Activist Indicted During McCarthy Era

Elizabeth Moos, a peace activist who was arrested during the McCarthy era on charges of failure to register as a foreign agent, died Sunday in her apartment on Riverside Drive. She was 94 years old.

Mrs. Moos, along with Dr. W. E. B. Dubois and three other leaders of the Peace Information Center, was indicted in February 1951 by a Federal grand jury on charges of violating the Foreign Agents Registration Act.

The prosecution said the organization had been a sponsor in this country of the Stockholm Peace Appeal, which Federal officials described as a Communist trick that promoted unenforceable Soviet proposals about atomic energy and weapons. The charges were later dismissed.

Mrs. Moos was a 1911 graduate of Smith College and held master's degrees in early childhood education from the Bank Street College of Education and the Columbia University Russian Institute.

She married twice; both marriages ended in divorce.

She is survived a daughter, Ann Remington of Columbus, Ohio; two sons, Raymond Redheffer of Los Angeles and Carl Moos of Stony Brook, L.I.; six grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

*New York Times*, January 1, 1985

## Bernhard Moos's grandson, Leonard Rieser (1922-1998)

Bernhard Moos's daughter Minnie (1871-1938) married Herman Rieser who emigrated from Buchau in Germany. One of their children was Leonard Moos Rieser.



### *Leonard Rieser, 76, Opponent Of Arsenal He Helped Create*

By WOLFGANG SAXON

Leonard Moos Rieser, a physicist who helped usher in the nuclear age with the Manhattan Project and crusaded to curb the arsenals it spawned, died on Tuesday at the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, N.H. He was 76 and lived in Norwich, Vt.

The cause was cancer, said officials at Dartmouth College, where he was a professor and administrator for 46 years.

Dr. Rieser (pronounced REE-zer) helped steer Dartmouth through a period of considerable growth. He was nationally known as president and chairman of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in the 1970's and was chairman of the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists from 1985 until his retirement in June.

He joined the Dartmouth faculty in 1952, was appointed professor of physics in 1960 and retired in 1992. After his retirement, he remained with Dartmouth as a senior fellow of the John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding, which he had served as founding director, beginning in 1984.

Dr. Rieser's administrative service spanned 25 years, during which he was chairman of the physics department, deputy provost for the sciences, dean of the faculty and provost.

A native Chicagoan, Leonard Rieser graduated with a degree in physics from the University of Chicago in 1943, and was then posted by the Army to the Manhattan Project, which produced the first nuclear chain reaction in 1942 and ultimately developed the atomic bomb.

He worked at the Manhattan Project's metallurgical laboratory in Chicago and at the Los Alamos Laboratory in New Mexico, where he witnessed the first atomic explosion.

After the war he worked as a researcher for the physicist Otto Frisch at Los Alamos and received his doctorate in physics from Stanford University in 1952.

As chairman of the Bulletin of the Atomic Sciences, Dr. Rieser was seen in many news photographs resetting the publication's "Doomsday Clock" to dramatize the threat of nuclear annihilation and the need for peaceful alternatives to nuclear conflict.

He did so one more time in June in



Reuters, 1991

Leonard Moos Rieser

response to the test explosions set off by India and Pakistan, advancing the clock by five minutes to 11:51 P.M. and warning of "perilous times."

Dr. Rieser is survived by his wife of 54 years, Rosemary Littledale Rieser; a daughter, Abigail, of Northampton, Mass.; three sons, Leonard, of Philadelphia, Timothy S., of Washington, and Kenneth Willis of Princeton, N.J.; two brothers, Lawrence, of Jackson, Wyo., and William, of Perkasio, Pa., and three granddaughters.

New York Times, December 19, 1998