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This item is the basic research for an article written for the WHS newsletter ..... 2007

### A VERMONT MEMORY.

One of our members, Mr Ian Nethercote, spoke about a childhood memory of his when he lived on Boronia Road near the Dandenong Creek. He recalled that the GALLUS family owned a poultry farm which was situated at the corner of Boronia Road, then a two lane road and the dirt road, Centre Road. As child he was most impressed by their large U-shaped drive and the very large wooden sign constructed of silhouettes of hens and ducks which advertised their products.

Ian knew that the family comprised of Mr Edward Ernest GALLUS his wife Helen, nee MACKIE, and their children Diana and Cynthia. He remembered that Diana married Peter BROWN who was the owner of the Canbor Service Station on the corner of Boronia and Canterbury Roads, and Cynthia, who was in a motor accident died at Benalla in 1965, aged 21 years.

Further research revealed that Mr E E Gallus had been a councillor in Whitehorse. His election pamphlet of August 1945 stated that he had been a councillor for the East Ward during the past four years and had served on various committees, one of which was for the Vermont State School. He was also a Life Governor of the Mitcham and Vermont District Hospital and treasurer of the Auxiliary.

In an earlier pamphlet c.1941, in his pre-selection letter, he wrote that he had agreed to contest the election following the death of his father-in-law Cr Mackie. The two councillors, J Willis and E.R. Webb who supported him wrote 'Mr Gallus is a young man who has resided for ten years in the Shire and during that time he has been an earnest worker for his church and its progress. He has established a modern poultry farm of some magnitude with his up-to-date methods being outstanding in that industry'.

The WHS archives has a hand written note which states that when Mr Gallus came to Vermont he cleared 15 acres of bush to set up his poultry farm.

In 1999 the descendants of Wilhelm and Paulina Gallus celebrated the 150th anniversary of the arrival of their ancestors in Melbourne on the 'Dockenhuden' in 1849. This ship was one of three which brought German immigrants to Melbourne during that year.

Edward Ernest's ancestor Wilhelm was born in 1820 in Sommerfeld, Prussia. He married there when he was 24 years of age and in 1848 he, his wife, Paulina Gottliebe Sprotte, and their two daughters sailed from Hamburg to Australia. The youngest daughter died enroute. Herman who was born at sea off the Cape of Good Hope in 1849 is thought to be either Ernest Edward's father or grandfather.

The family story published in the 'Burwood Bulletin', May 1999 concentrates on other branches of the family. Therefore some detailed research is required to reconcile the family story with official records which show

- Ernest Edward GALLUS married Kate JONES in 1911, [?when aged 27 years]
- Ernest Edward GALLUS married Helen MACKIE in 1936. [?when aged 48 years]
- Edward Ernest died in Ballarat in 1970 aged 85 years, the son of Herman GALLUS and Wilhelminia FINGER. [Therefore he was born c.1885.]
- Herman Ernest GALLUS married at sea in 1879, Christine Wilhelmina [Minnie] THIELE. In the birth records of subsequent children of this couple, the mother Minnie is also listed with the surname of FINGER.

The naturalisation papers held in the NSW archives contains two records;

- GALLUS, William 20 May 1851  
A725 vol 1 page 57.
- GALLUS, Wilhelm, birthplace Prussia came to Melbourne on the ship 'Dockenhuden', His