

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) SS
CITY & COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO)

ALICE PHUDDGMANN, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That she arrived in Sydney, Australia, in 1928 and that later that year, she met GEORGE BOTTCHEK at the German Club; that he was introduced to her by a friend and that it was love at first sight; that after a short courtship, they decided to live together as man and wife although their marriage was not actually solemnized until July of 1930.

That at the time they first began to live together as man and wife, GEORGE BOTTCHEK had sent for a nephew, HERMANN BOTTCHEK, an orphan living with GEORGE BOTTCHEK's parents in Landsberg, Germany; that HERMANN arrived in Sydney in 1929 and lived with affiant and GEORGE BOTTCHEK for several months before he left for the country where he worked on a farm; that while he was working on the farm, he visited with affiant and GEORGE BOTTCHEK frequently and left all of his personal effects with them; that GEORGE BOTTCHEK felt a strong sense of responsibility for HERMANN BOTTCHEK, who was orphaned at the age of nine years; that he treated him as a son and that affiant concurred in this feeling.

That while affiant and GEORGE BOTTCHEK were in Sydney, they moved several times and worked at several different places; that GEORGE BOTTCHEK worked as a carpenter and affiant as a dressmaker; that they rented house-keeping rooms inasmuch as they did not own a home of their own; that irrespective of where they lived, when HERMANN BOTTCHEK was in the city, he lived with affiant and GEORGE BOTTCHEK, and that when HERMANN BOTTCHEK worked in the country, he left his personal effects with affiant and GEORGE BOTTCHEK and that he visited them frequently.

That this was the relationship of affiant and GEORGE BOTTCHEK to HERMANN BOTTCHEK before affiant and GEORGE BOTTCHEK were married and for many months before HERMANN BOTTCHEK reached his majority; that HERMANN BOTTCHEK was regarded as a son by them and as a member of their household.

That in August of 1930 shortly after affiant and GEORGE BOTTCNER were formally married, they left for the United States and gave HERMANN BOTTCNER the money to follow them to the United States as soon as they had established themselves and had definitely decided to remain in the United States; that within a few weeks after arrival, they notified HERMANN BOTTCNER of their intentions of staying and that he immediately came to the United States; that HERMANN BOTTCNER lived with affiant and her husband during the entire period after that time, with the exception of about two years following 1937, at which time he was fighting with the Spanish Loyalists in Spain; that after his return from Spain, he lived with affiant and her husband all through the intervening period and through the sickness of GEORGE BOTTCNER, followed by his passing on 17 January 1941; that after the death of GEORGE BOTTCNER, HERMANN BOTTCNER continued to live with affiant and her daughter until he enlisted in the United States Army on 5 January 1943.

That it is difficult for affiant to remember the exact dates concerning her experiences in Australia because they were so long ago and at that time the present need could not be foreseen; that furthermore the ship on which affiant and her husband sailed in August of 1930 was sunk and all of their records were lost; that they were fortunate to survive; that the name of the ship was the Tahiti.

Alice Bruggeman

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31st day of January, 1948.

My commission expires:
26 Feb. 1949

Helene Reinisch
Notary Public in and for the City &
County of San Francisco, State of
California