

## Note to The *Sussman News*

The *Sussman News* was compiled and published in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from March 1934 to December 1939 by three Sussman cousins, all descendants of Yisroel **Zisman** (1837-1902) and Hinda Rachel **Levin** (1834-1921). (Yisroel Zisman's parents, Dov Ber Zisman and Fruma Rivka, were born about 1800 in or near Ponedel (Pandėlys), Lithuania):

**Dr. Samuel Sussman** (1895-1967) son of Louis (Laibzig) Zisman and Emma Meltzer;  
**Hirsh Laib Sussman** (1890-1955), son of Berko Bertzig Zisman and Tone Fehler; and  
**Israel R. Sussman** (1915-2005), son of Louis Sussman and Mollie (Dweire) Derman.

These three relatives, who were living in Philadelphia, created the biweekly newsletter to keep Sussman relatives in the U.S., Lithuania, and South Africa informed of each other's activities, but also to share their family history (genealogy) in the Ponedel region (NE Lithuania).

I am the great-great-granddaughter of Feive Zisman (1825-1906; Yisroel's brother). My mother, Jean L. Shaw (daughter of Dora G. Sussman), received a complete set of the *Sussman News* from Bessie Borwein (daughter of Mary Zisman) of London, Ontario, Canada. This set, spanning almost six years, consists of 184 issues in 8 volumes – a total of 920 pages.

In 2018 we made a searchable database of the proper names and places in the *Sussman News* using optical character recognition ("OCR") technology. Search the database by clicking on the search icon (magnifying glass) and entering the names of individuals or places.

We reconstructed the Sussman family tree using *Sussman News* articles, birth, marriage, death, military, naturalization, and other records, and newspaper articles and photos posted at Ancestry.com. The tree, called "SUSSMAN-SAFANOWITZ TREE," is public and may be accessed at <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/tree/162819871/family/familyview>.

The *Sussman News* is, of course, a valuable source of genealogical information for Sussman and Levin descendants. However, it has a more intrinsic importance. It provides a window into the daily life of Jews in several small Lithuanian shtetls in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries.

Genealogy and family history are never "final." Please send updates, additional documents, and/or corrections you might have to me at address below. I would love to include your descendants when I add new information to the master tree.

Debbie Shaw Schwartz

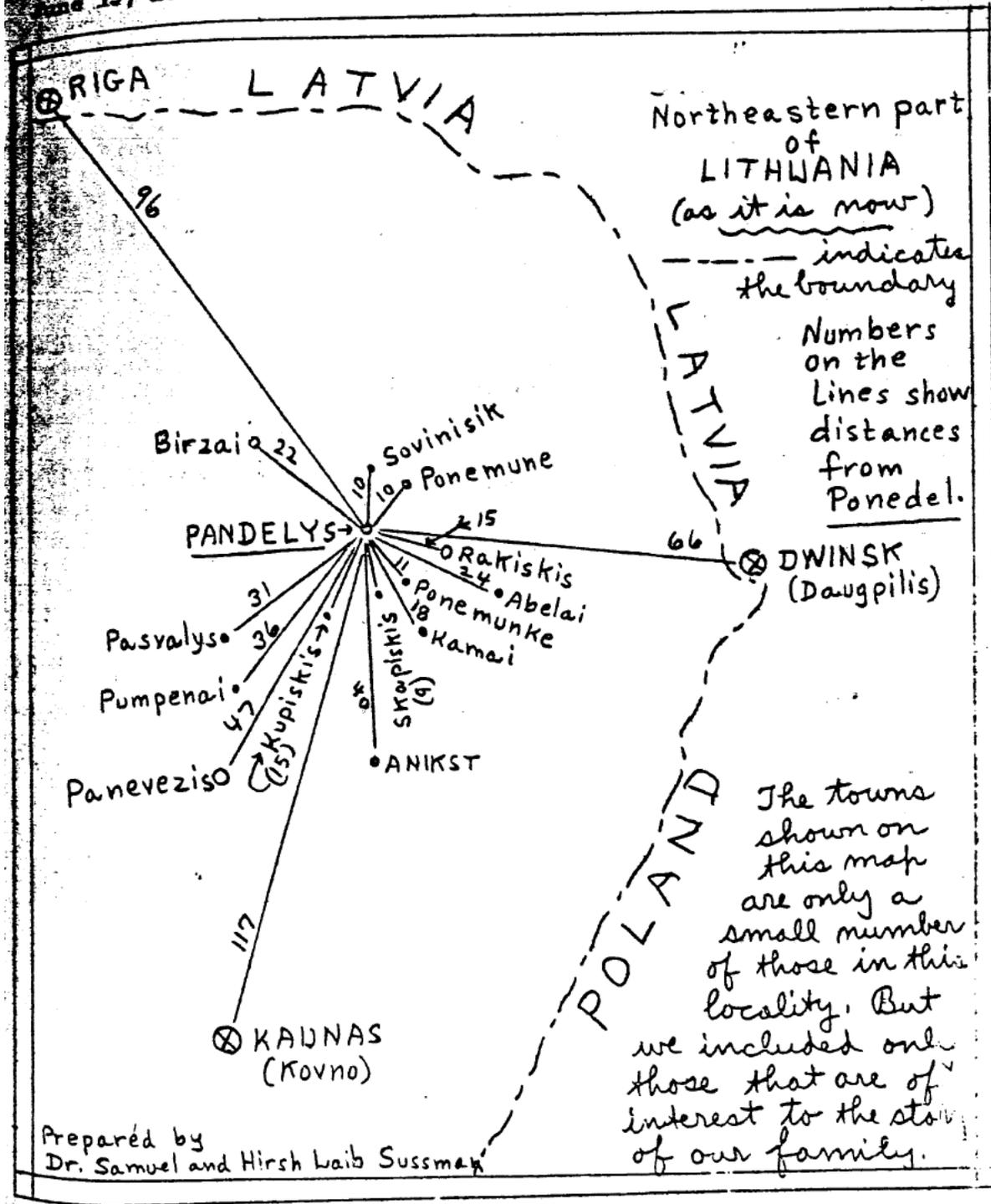
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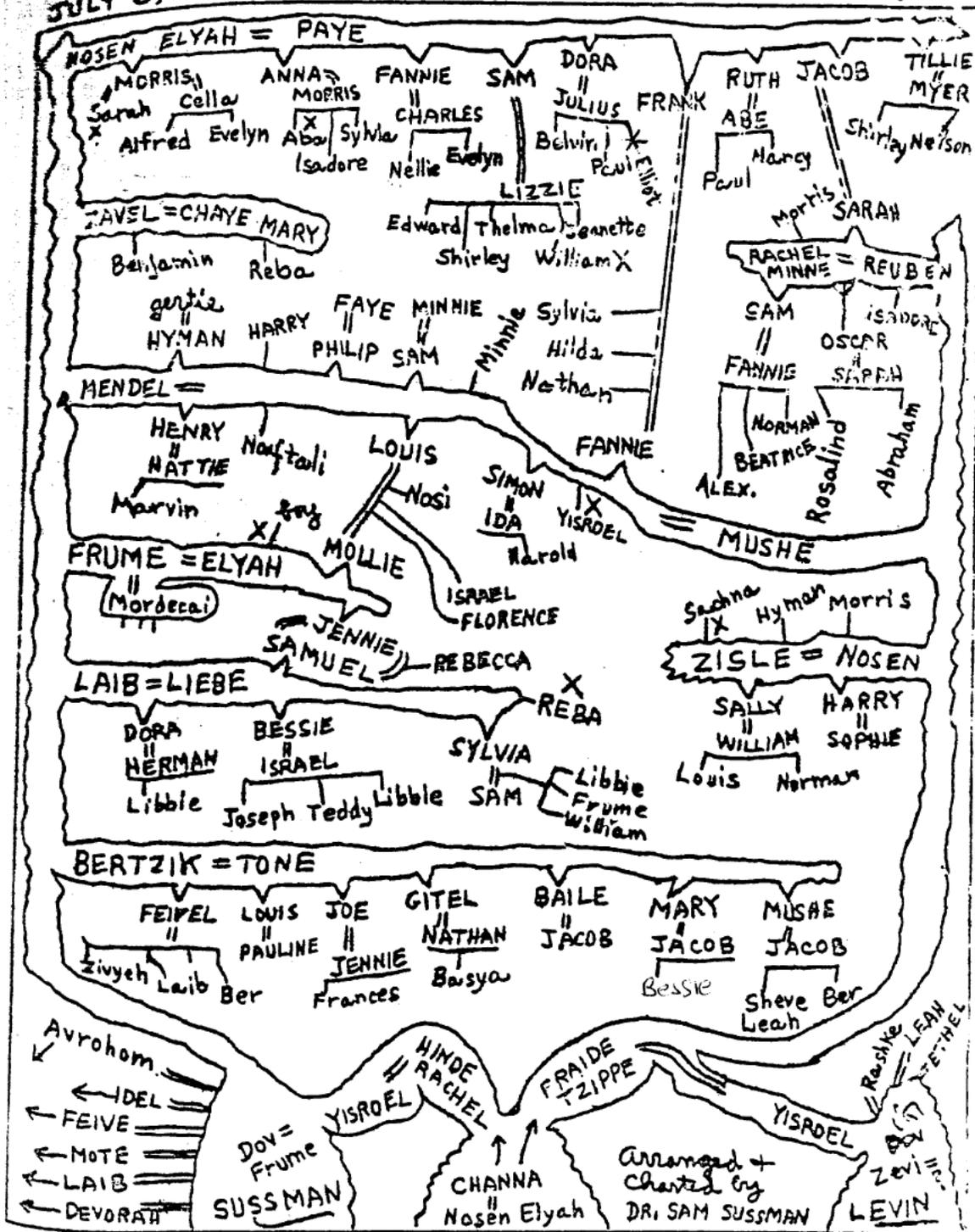
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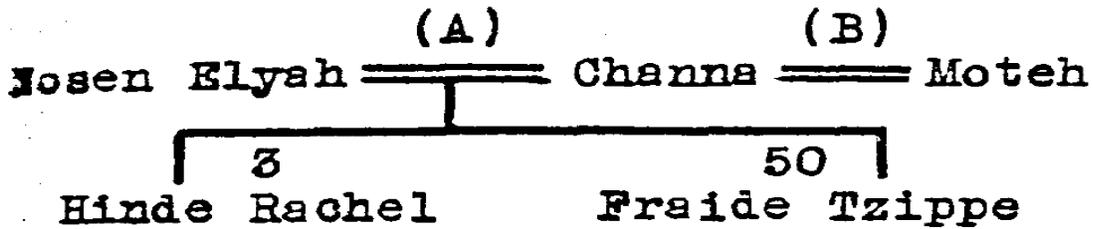






CHARTS FOR OTHER SUSSMAN FAMILIES WILL APPEAR LATER, IN THE COURSE OF THE HISTORY — Editor.

Family No. 1



CHANNA

We trace our history to Channa - for she is the first about whom we have any authentic records. There are still living many who remember Channa as an old woman at the time when they were youngsters - & that was before 1900. Channa was a short woman with erect posture. Her face expressed determination; her eyes, bright; her voice, strong; and her hands were never idle.

Family No. 2 (Zisman)

