

Anna Ivankovitser's Maternal Aunt Etl With Her Future Husband



This photo taken in 1915 shows my mother's sister Etl Schigol and her husband (whose name I don't know) who moved to America. My maternal grandparents were wealthy. My grandmother gave birth to 12 children, of which six died in their infancy. They were left with three daughters and three sons. Their oldest daughter, Esther, was born in 1890. Their daughter Etl was born in 1892. My mother's sisters moved to America before the Revolution of 1917. Esther was the first to go. She was a communist and was involved in revolutionary activities. Etl followed her to California about a year later. She was a professional photographer. Etl's fiancé had left with Esther and was waiting for Etl to join him. He became a farmer and they specialized in egg production. They had two daughters. I don't remember their names. They graduated from university and became professors in oceanology. Etl wanted her parents to come to America. She wrote them that she

would send them an invitation. My grandfather didn't want to go. He didn't know what he would do there. They wrote to one another before the war. I still have Etl's letters to her mother in Yiddish.