

Revekka Ogranovich As A Nurse During World War I



This is my mother's sister Revekka (in the center), as a nurse during World War I with the wounded in the field hospital, where she used to work. The picture was taken in Tallin in 1914. I don't know whether my mother or her sisters had Jewish names. They might have had Jewish names, but they weren't used in the family. My grandparents were religious. Jewish traditions were kept in the family. Sabbath and Jewish holidays were celebrated. While the children were small, they took part in the religious life of the family, and when they grew up they became atheists. Of course, all of them went to their parents' place for Jewish holidays, but they just merely paid a tribute to the tradition. In spite of the fact that my grandfather was a common worker, he wanted his children to get a good education. All of them went to a Russian lyceum, as there were no Jewish lyceums at that time. The daughters didn't go on with higher education after finishing the lyceum as they acquired such comprehensive and deep knowledge in the lyceum that it was enough to work in

pretty serious positions. Revekka was the only one who left for the Latvian city Revel [today's Estonian capital Tallin] and entered a university there, but she left the university with the outbreak of World War I and went to a front field hospital as a nurse. After the war she returned to Nikolayev. Revekka was married to an officer, Mikhail Sevastopolskiy. They had a daughter called Sofia. Revekka was a housewife. She was a great cook, and an impeccable homemaker. She was over the hill when she died and she was the one who had the longest life.