

* The date is not known.

* Author not known! Possibly Richard Becker, the most prolific male writer in the Becker family.

* Main topic – the Mouse Plague.

..The countryside here still looks very bare for it was very dry until yesterday week ago when it began to rain. It has rained almost every day since. Two inches in all. Most people have not yet begun seeding. I will probably only begin in a week's time because there are still too many mice.

In all my life, I haven't seen a mouse plague like this year, , although we didn't have so many in the house, like some people. Some had over 90 poisoned overnight. And Mr. Dack poisoned 120 on the kitchen table in one night. (I wish them a good appetite). We have never laid poison in the house but we trapped them in traps. The most we caught was 18. But, in the shed, we caught 350 in one night, without poison. Saegenschnitters caught 800 – 900 every night, for a long time.

The wheat sheds look really terrible, it is almost dangerous to get close to them. It is nothing, that over 1,000 bags fall over.

Now it is raining, and it looks terrible, because the roof has come down on them, too. We caught 3 rats so far too.

I don't know any more news to write. We are all well, thanks to God. I fear it is getting too wet and hope it won't continue through the Summer ... [message ends].

[A one page excerpt, presumably written in May or early June 190? By Richard Becker. – Rufus Pech]

English Translation

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