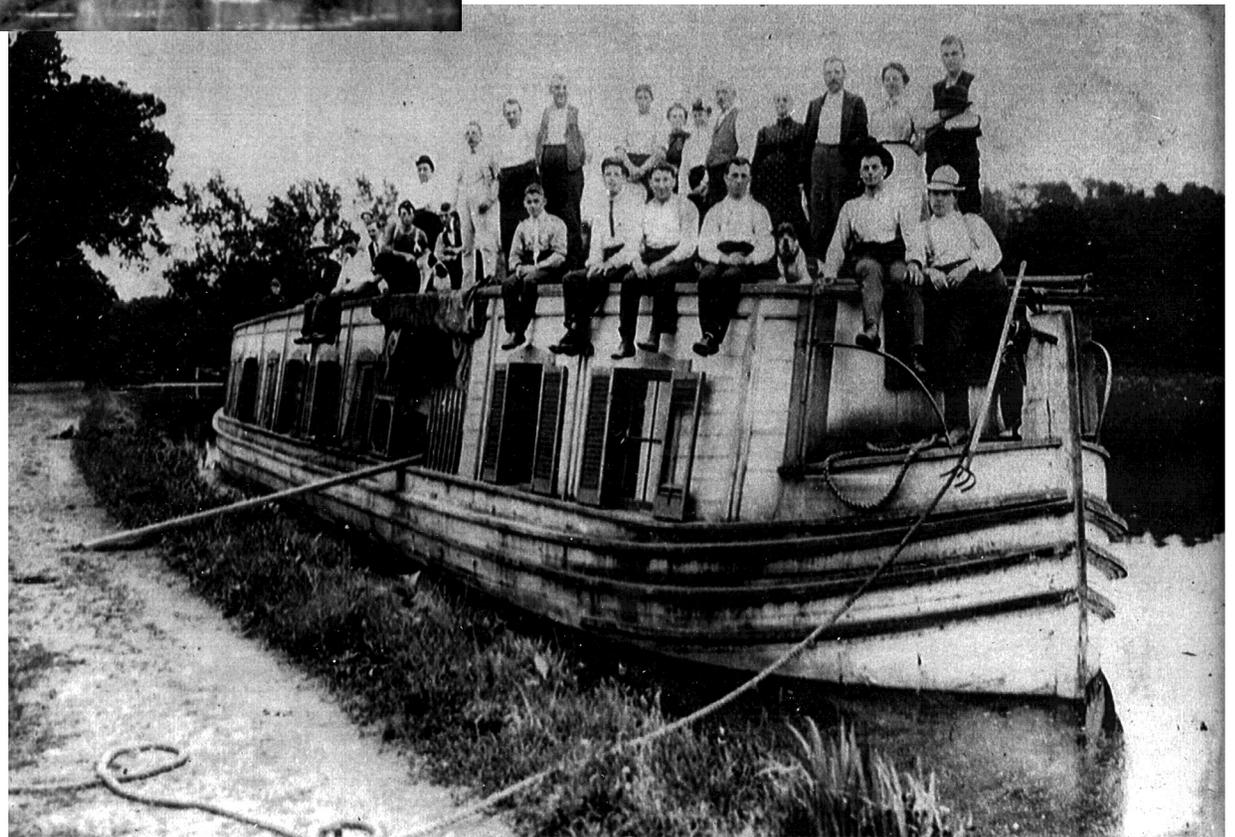


In 1825, the Separatists of Zoar won the bid from the State of Ohio to dig the seven miles of the Ohio and Erie Canal that went through their land.

Men and women both labored to build the canal with women carrying away dirt in their skirts.

The Separatists received \$21,000 from the state for digging the canal. They used the money to pay off their land debt. Digging the canal was done by hand and included construction of Lock 10, a feeder lock, and a side-cut canal leading into Zoar. Industry boomed in Zoar with their flour being sold as far away as New York City.



Each household in Zoar was given a number. Goods, including milk, spices, cheese, bread, etc were distributed to each household by house number. The amount of goods per household was determined by the number of people living in that household. Most of the houses in Zoar would house multiple families and multiple generations of families.

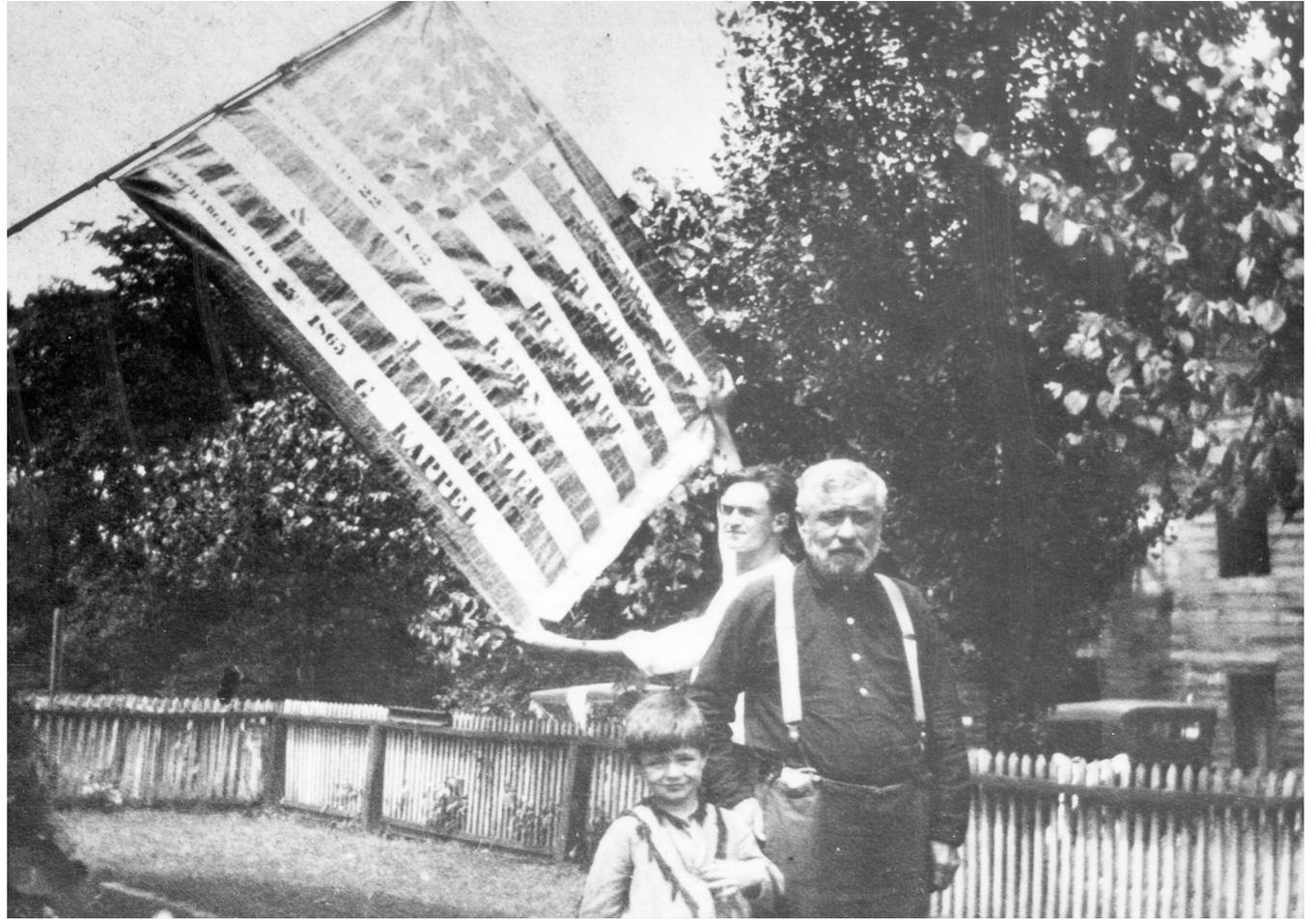
From 1829-1840, children aged three to thirteen were housed in kinder anstalts (nurseries). The children lived separately so that their parents could work freely outside of the household. The children were still expected to work for the greater good. Jobs for boys included sheep and cow-herding, weaving baskets, and working in the central garden; girls spun linen and wool and milked cows

Schooling through the eighth grade was provided with lessons in both English and German.



**William Bimeler
during the
Civil War**

Despite their pacifist beliefs, a handful of young Separatist men enlisted in the Civil War, fighting in several battles including Gettysburg. Two passed from disease during the war and one was captured and spent time in Andersonville Prison Camp. The Society of Separatists also paid for multiple substitutes to prevent more of their young men from being drafted.



A Zoar Civil War Veteran stands in front of a flag sewn with the names of the Separatists who served during the Civil War.