

# **The Mysterious Sam Arnovitch**

David Kimmel

# Rachel Feller



- ✓ My mother's mother's mother.
- ✓ Born Hirlau, Romania, 1890.

# Rachel Feller



- ✓ Immigrated March 1910.
- ✓ Married Leon Fine,  
Ottawa, July 1910.

# Rachel Feller



2 daughters:

- ✓ Anne
- ✓ Sarah

# Rachel Feller



Zaidy and Bubby Fine,  
circa 1965

# Rachel Feller



S.S. Haverford

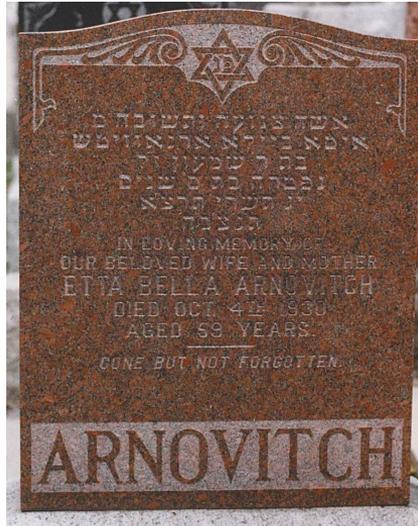
# Etta Baila Arnovitch

## OBITUARY

Mrs. Etta Baila Arnovitch

Mrs. Etta Baila Arnovitch died Saturday, October 4, at the age of 59. Mrs. Arnovitch was a well-known old timer in Manitoba, having lived here for forty years. She was a member of the Shaarey Zedek Synagogue. Burial took place at the Shaarey Zedek Cemetery.

She leaves to mourn her husband, J. Arnovitch and one son.



- ✓ Bubby's aunt was the first Feller in Canada.
- ✓ "Sponsored" the immigration of Bubby's brother and sister to Brandon, Manitoba (circa 1902).

# Sam Arnovitch



- ✓ Etta Beila's son was Sam; Bubby Fine's first cousin.
- ✓ Born Montreal (?), circa 1891.
- ✓ Moved to Manitoba before 1901.

# Sam Arnovitch

- ✓ 1901 Census: Brandon
- ✓ 1911 Census: Winnipeg; real estate
- ✓ 1921 Census: Winnipeg; buyer
- ✓ 1935 Voter's list: Winnipeg; furrier
- ✓ 1940 Voter's list: Edmonton; salesman
- ✓ 1949 Voter's list: Vancouver; retired

# Sam Arnovitch

## 'SKIN' GAME ON FUR MAN FAILS

Alleged Scheme Against Arnovitch Results In \$360 Judgment

What is alleged to have been an attempt to "flim-flam" a Winnipeg fur dealer, by means of a "skin" game, was defeated in the county court today, when Judge Paterson gave an order compelling the Great Northern Express Company to pay into court \$360 in connection with a shipment of furs.

The facts, as outlined by J. M. Isaacs, barrister, are as follows:

Sam Arnovitch, fur dealer, of King street and James street, sold \$3,000 worth of furs to Jacob Adeler, a New York buyer. The transaction was effected through Solomon Shapiro, Adeler's travelling agent.

The furs were shipped to New York. Arnovitch discovered when it was too late that he had forgotten to attach a sight draft to the bill of lading. Accordingly Adeler obtained delivery of the goods without having to pay for them.

Arnovitch paid the money. Before it could leave the city, however, his lawyer took out a writ of garnishee against Adeler and served it on the Express company. Judgment was obtained for the full amount.

In five days if there is no contest, Arnovitch will be able to collect it.

## Farmers Not Worried By Labor Shortage

Farmers in the Beulah and Newdale districts are not alarmed over the labor situation, according to reports submitted to the department of agriculture today by W. R. Roberts, field representative, who is inspecting a number of agricultural centres.

Many of the farmers in the Beulah district have married couples working for them, Mr. Roberts reports, and most of the Newdale farmers have already secured their help. In some cases Galicians who were kept all winter by farmers left as soon as the spring demand for farm help developed. These men refused to work for less than \$55 a month and their keep.

## 300 Reply To Plea Made By Chapman

More than 300 replies have been received to the 800 circulars sent out by E. R. Chapman, director of National Service, who is seeking to form

Winnipeg Tribune, March 30, 1917:

"... a Winnipeg fur dealer ..."

# Sam Arnovitch

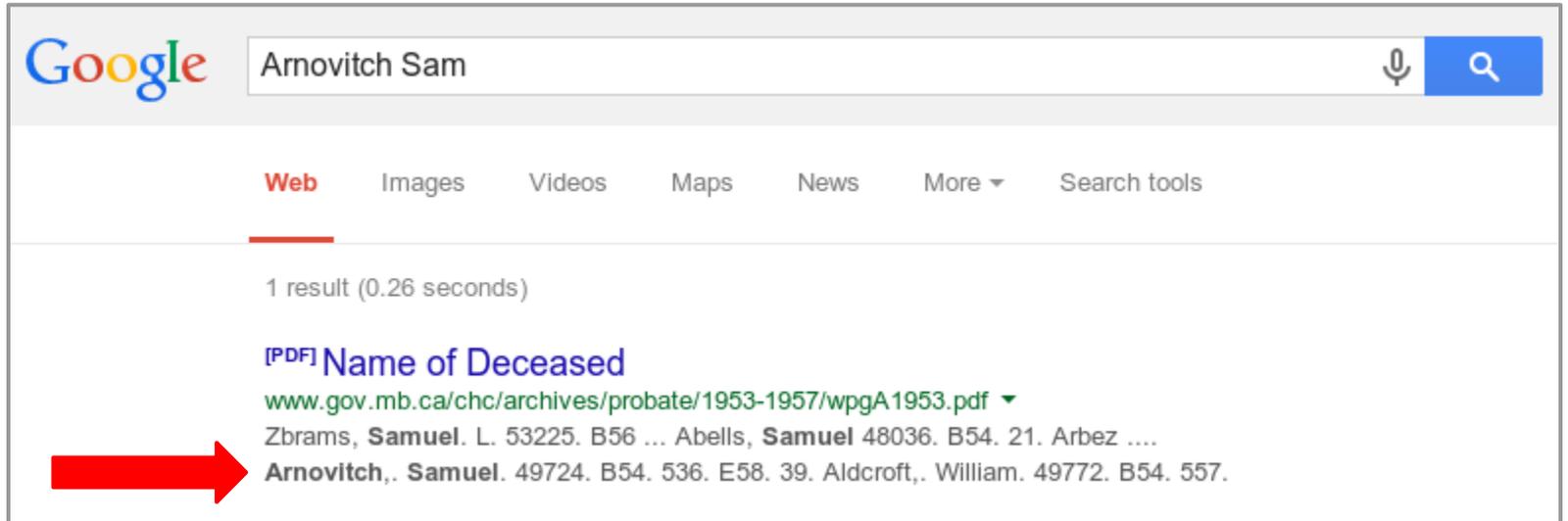
End of story.

- ✓ No trace after 1949.
- ✓ No death record.
- ✓ No gravestone.
- ✓ No family.

# Sam Arnovitch

End of story.

Until ...



The image shows a Google search interface. The search bar contains the text "Arnovitch Sam". Below the search bar, the "Web" tab is selected. The search results show "1 result (0.26 seconds)". The first result is a PDF document titled "[PDF] Name of Deceased" from the website "www.gov.mb.ca/chc/archives/probate/1953-1957/wpgA1953.pdf". The snippet of the document lists several names and their associated probate numbers: "Zbrams, Samuel. L. 53225. B56 ... Abells, Samuel 48036. B54. 21. Arbez .... Arnovitch,. Samuel. 49724. B54. 536. E58. 39. Aldcroft,. William. 49772. B54. 557." A red arrow points to the name "Arnovitch, Samuel" in the snippet.

Google   

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1 result (0.26 seconds)

[\[PDF\] Name of Deceased](#)  
[www.gov.mb.ca/chc/archives/probate/1953-1957/wpgA1953.pdf](http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/archives/probate/1953-1957/wpgA1953.pdf) ▾  
Zbrams, Samuel. L. 53225. B56 ... Abells, Samuel 48036. B54. 21. Arbez ....  
**Arnovitch, Samuel.** 49724. B54. 536. E58. 39. Aldcroft,. William. 49772. B54. 557.

# Sam Arnovitch

... which pointed to  
this document ...



Name of Deceased	File No.	Book	Folio
<b>1953</b>			
Arnason, Margaret	47949	E55	433
Ashby, Thomas R.A.	48060	Y47	14
<b>1954</b>			
Arnovitch, Samuel	49724	B54	536
		E58	39
Aldcroft, William	49772	B54	557
Abromson, Max H.	49822	Y48	327
Arnott, John G.	49877	E56	632
		E58	485



# Sam Arnovitch

... which which turned out to be probate records.

New facts:

- ✓ *By 1954, Sam had died.*
- ✓ *Someone cared about his estate.*

IN THE SURROGATE COURT

EASTERN..... Judicial District

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IN RE

SAMUEL ARNOVITCH

 DECEASED

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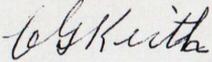
**Certificate**

BY THE SURROGATE CLERK UPON  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT

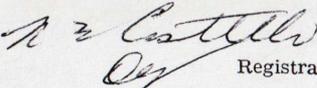
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LET GRANT ISSUE AS PRAYED FOR

Date..... NOVEMBER 22....., 1954.....

  
Judge of the Surrogate Court

Fyled..... NOVEMBER 22....., 1954.....

  
Registrar

# Sam Arnovitch: death

“... Samuel Arnovitch late of the City of Winnipeg ... died on or about the third day of April A.D. 1954 at the City of Montreal ...”

“... intestate ...”

LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION.

  
PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

CANADA }  
Province of Manitoba }

In the Surrogate Court of the EASTERN Judicial District of the  
Province of Manitoba

Be it known, that on the twenty-second.....day of November..... A.D. 1954 ,  
Letters of Administration of all and singular the property of SAMUEL ARNOVITCH.....

LATE OF THE CITY OF WINNIPEG.....

in the Province of Manitoba, who died on or about the third.....  
day of April..... A.D. 19 54 , at the City of Montreal in the Province  
..... of Quebec.....

intestate, and had at the time of his death a fixed place of abode at the City.....  
of Winnipeg aforesaid..... in the said Judicial District, were granted by the  
Surrogate Court of the EASTERN..... Judicial District, to MANLY ISAACS.....

# Sam Arnovitch: death

- ✓ Paperman & Sons provided funeral services (for \$61.63).
- ✓ Paid by Coroner Richard Duckett.

No. \_\_\_\_\_ *May 4<sup>th</sup>* 1954

RECEIVED FROM *Coroner Duckett*

the sum of *sixty - one*  $\frac{63}{100}$  dollars

for *Funeral Services for the late*

*Sam Arnovitch*

*Paperman & Sons*

\$ *61*  $\frac{63}{100}$  Per *Stephan*

# Sam Arnovitch

- ✓ April 4, 1954
- ✓ Male; 63 years
- ✓ 1181 de la Montagne
- ✓ “mort subite”
- ✓ “cause inconnue”

F. 107 50M-10-53

 SERVICE DE LA POLICE  
RAPPORT D'ACCIDENT

Température..... Belle Division QUÉBEC Poste 10 Heure 7:45 PM Date 10 Avril 1954

36571 NOMBRE DE PERSONNES BLESSÉES 1 mort

1.- Nom et prénoms..... Sam Arnovitch Nationalité..... Can juif  
Adresse..... 1181 La Montagne apart-17 Age..... 63ans Sexe..... MARIE ou célibataire?

2.- Nom et prénoms..... Nationalité.....  
Adresse..... Age..... Sexe..... Marié ou célibataire?

Où conduites? A la morgue

Soins donnés par? Dr. Martin par ambulance Hôpital Générale Centre  
Parents ou amis avertis? appelés 8.02 PM arrivés 8.06PM.

Endroit de l'accident? A l'intérieur 1181 La Montagne apt-17

Mentionnez en face de quel numéro de rue, ou l'intersection la plus proche et à quelle distance?

Genre d'accident? Mort subite

Cause apparente de l'accident? Inconnue

Chauffeur ou propriétaire? Age?

Vitesse apparente? Arrestations? Sommations?

Domages approximatifs? Auto licence?

Chauffeur ou propriétaire? Age?

Vitesse apparente? Arrestations? Sommations?

Domages approximatifs? Auto licence?

Chauffeur ou propriétaire? Age?

Vitesse apparente? Arrestations? Sommations?

Domages approximatifs? Auto licence?

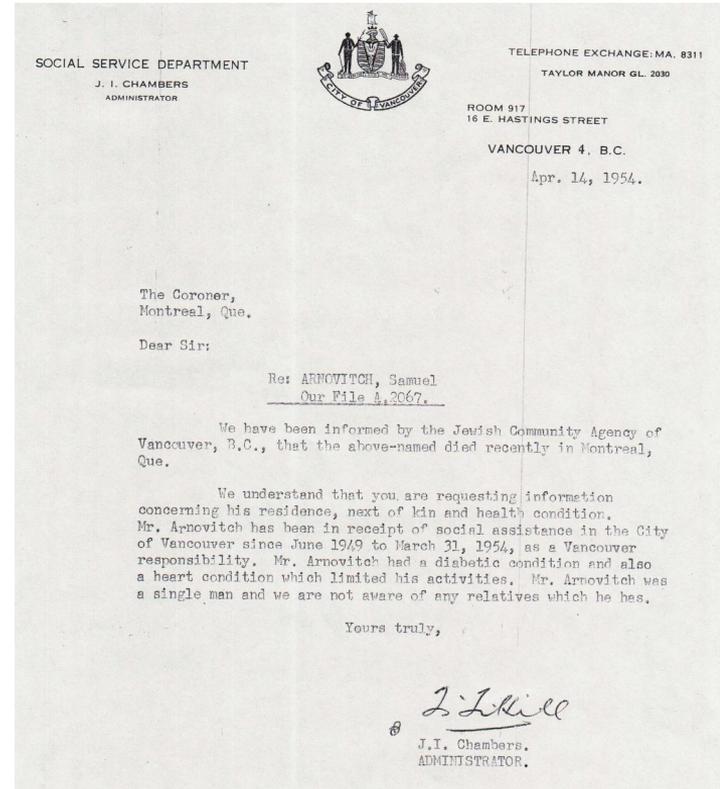
Tramway no. Garde-moteur no. Conducteur no.

NOMS DES TÉMOINS	PRÉNOMS	ADRESSES
<u>M. Bédard</u>	<u>Ernest</u>	<u>4275 St-Hubert</u>
<u>Helle Lafleur</u>	<u>Lourdât</u>	<u>1181 La Montagne</u>



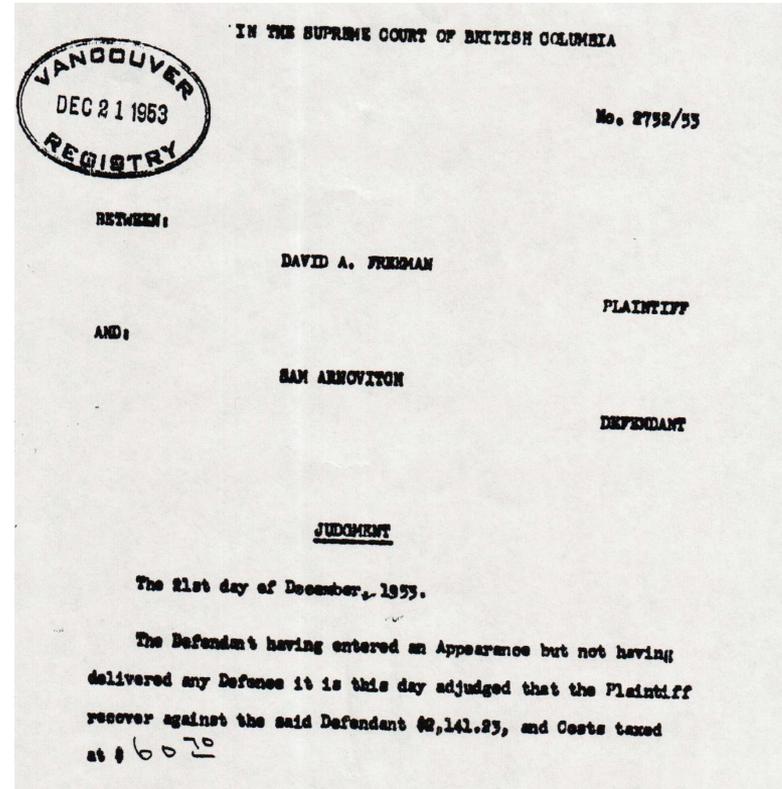
# Sam Arnovitch: death

- ✓ Had been on social assistance in Vancouver since 1949.
- ✓ Diabetic and heart conditions.
- ✓ Single man; no next of kin.



# Sam Arnovitch: estate

- ✓ Who was interested in his estate? Lawyers!
- ✓ BC Supreme Court judgment against Sam (December 1953); we don't know what the matter was.
- ✓ \$2141.23 + court taxes.



# Sam Arnovitch: estate

- ✓ \$1188.03 owed by fur-auction firm.
- ✓ 688 muskrat skins (worth \$584.80).
- ✓ Personal effects: watch; lighter; handbag; \$61.63 (paid to Paperman for the funeral).

IN THE SURROGATE COURT OF THE EASTERN JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF MANITOBA.

IN THE ESTATE OF SAMUEL ARNOVITCH, DECEASED.

This is the Account marked 'A', referred to in the annexed affidavit of Manly Isaacs, sworn before me the 8th November 1955.

*Manly Isaacs*

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A barrister-at-law entitled to practice in the province of Manitoba.

ASSETS IN MANITOBA.

(1). Monies owing to deceased by Soudack Fur Auction Sales Ltd, William & Princess, Winnipeg, Manitoba, held by it subject to Garnishing Order of 26/Feb/54 in Suit No. 16/54, (Manitoba) by David A. Freeman, of Vancouver vs. deceased for enforcement in Manitoba of B.C. judgment for over \$2000. \$1,188.03

(2). Merchandize of deceased held by said firm for sale for him at its Public Auctions, subject to Writ of Fi. Fa. of 26/Feb/54 in above Suit.

688 Muskrat Skins of approximate market value of .85¢ each. 584.80

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\$1,772.83

# Sam Arnovitch: estate

- ✓ Winnipeg lawyer gained administration of Sam's estate.
- ✓ Half went to plaintiff.
- ✓ Half was the "solicitor's disbursement."



# Sam Arnovitch

- ✓ What reduced Sam to zero?
- ✓ Why did he come back to the city of his birth after 60+ years only to die 2 weeks later?
- ✓ Where is he buried?  
(Baron de Hirsch A-5)



**Sam Arnovitch**



**Bubby Fine**



# 1181 de la Montagne today

