

Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982

*This book has been compiled and
issued in observance of the
City of Cooperstown Centennial*

Cover Design by Roald Vigesaa

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Foreword

When the editorial staff of this book met for the first time, the first question asked was, "Where and how do we start?"

That question was answered for us.

The 1957 and 1976 history books have presented the history of Griggs County in detail. It was agreed that this book would not attempt to duplicate the content or format of either. Instead, it would focus on some topics that had not been covered before.

Though the book was intended as a close-up view of Cooperstown and its near community; stories from other parts of the county are also included. Because of space limitations there could not be the same sort of listing of family histories carried in the 1976 book published by the Griggs County Historical Society. Yet, there are bits of family history and lore in most of the stories in the present book.

Official records at the courthouse and in city hall, and newspaper files in the courthouse and the *Griggs County Sentinel - Courier* office have provided facts, figures, and dates. Collections belonging to the Griggs County Historical Society and the Myrtle Porterville collection in the Institute for Regional Studies have provided more information and pictures. In putting this book together, we have once more been made aware of our debt to the late Myrtle Bemis Porterville, Griggs County's foremost historian.

Mention should also be made of private collections of history kept by people in the area, ranging from a few news clippings to scrapbooks to extensive files. People have been most generous in granting us the use of their scrapbooks and photographs. Others have shared their memories in writing or by way of tape-recorded interviews.

Some items of current information are included for readers who will use this book for reference 25 or 50 years from now.

More topics constantly suggested themselves, and the original question became "How and where do we end this book!"

That question was never answered. We only learned when to end it, at the time when time and space ran out.

It is the hope of the staff of this book that the readers will find something they like. The pleasure has been ours.

-Duna Frigaard

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Centennial Greetings

To all current and former residents and friends of Cooperstown and the surrounding community, I would personally like to use this opportunity to welcome you to the city of Cooperstown as we celebrate our one hundredth anniversary.

We are all very proud of our heritage and achievements in the past hundred years.

We hope that you enjoy our community and the reflections on it made possible by this book.

Sincerely yours,
Leon A. Sayer, Jr.
Mayor, City of Cooperstown

On behalf of all the members of the Cooperstown Centennial committee and all the others who have worked hard for the success of the centennial, I take pleasure in welcoming all the visitors to the city's celebration July 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, 1982. An event of this size calls forth many hours of dedicated effort from the whole community. This book is sponsored by the centennial organization as a lasting keepsake of the anniversary.

Roy L. Solberg,
Centennial Chairman

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Centennial Committees

General Committee:

Roy Solberg.....Chairman
Maxine TorgersonSecretary-Treasurer
Robert Baker
James Cussons
Duna Frigaard.

History Book:

Duna FrigaardChairman and Editor
Lorna Auren
Lorraine Barr
Borghild Bue
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Kenneth Hagen
Marilyn Hazard
Edward Johnson
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Jan Steffen

History Book Finance:

Maxine Torgerson & Roy SolbergCo-Chairmen
Howard Brash
Kjell Haaland
James Sott

Brothers of the Brush:

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Ronald Hegvik
Art Mathisen
Dennis Monson
K.A. Monson
Clarence Sandvik

Parade:

Glenn PlaistedChairman
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Wayne Christopherson
Billie Cushman
Donald Dahl
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John Edward Erickson
Roger Hanson
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Art Monson
John Swenson
Carrol Torgerson
Mike Torgerson
Walter Wilkens

Cook Book:

Bebe McCardle.....Chairman
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Marilyn Clark
Kathy Hoverson

Photography:

Gene Trautman.....Chairman
Gary Cowdrey
Willis Nilson

Distinguished Guests:

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Russel Edland

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Ricki Larson
Roger Nelson
Art Perleberg

Dance:

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Helene Fossum
Lois Knudson
Duane Lura

Fair Board:

Dr. Vernon KnudsonChairman
Dale Donat
Ingvard Haugen
LeRoy Jungels
Bebe McCardle
Mae Monson
Barry Olsen
John Swenson
Maxine Torgerson
Joe Zimprich

Historical Pageant:

James Cussons & Helen SayerCo-Chairmen
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Donald Dahl
Russel Edland
Maxine Torgerson

Food:

JoAnn Hagle & Charlotte HaalandCo-Chairmen
Ron Hensler
Lillian Sorbo

Threshing Bee:

Ingvard HaugenChairman
Harvey Benson
Dr. Vernon Knudson
John Swenson
Trygve Thompson

All Faith Sunday Service:

Donna Mrozla.....Chairman
Shirley Johnson
Kathy Larson
Maureen Rostberg
Agnes Vigesaa
Muriel Vigesaa

Golfing:

Howard Brash.....Chairman
Ed Reiten
Marvin Retzlaff
Clarence Sandvik

All Class Reunion:

Oscar & Mercedes Tang.....Co-Chairmen

Betty Detwiller
William Detwiller
Myron Erickson

Sisters of the Swish:

Kathy HoversonChairman
Pat Benson
Juli Hoverson

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Centennial Book Committee

History book staff members each took responsibility for at least one particular area of concentration in addition to sharing in the general planning, proofreading, clerical and miscellaneous writing tasks.

Lorna AurenWomen's Section, farm living
Lorraine BarrHistoric farms.
Borghild BueChurches, veteran's lists.
Lori ChristophersonFashion, index.
Ken Hagen.....Farm life.
Marilyn HazardHistoric farms
Edward JohnsonMilitary, R.C. Cooper history
Beverly SomaHealth care
Janice SteffenHistoric business, index
Eugenia FrigaardEditor, photography, schools, city, and features, index
Lyla HagenTypist

Special acknowledgement should also be made of several articles written and contributed by Allen Osmundson, of darkroom work contributed by G.J. Frigaard and Lisa Frigaard, and the cooperation and assistance of the people at the Griggs County Courthouse and Cooperstown City Hall.

Mention should also be made of the indispensable technical assistance given by Ron Olson of Knight Printing, John Bring and Mark Frigaard

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Centennial Baby and First Baby

COOPERSTOWN'S CENTENNIAL BABY

Christine Olga Gundersen, born January 27 in Griggs County Hospital, is the first baby born in Cooperstown in 1982; the year Cooperstown celebrates its Centennial.

By stretching the facts just a little, she could be said to be the daughter of Norwegian immigrants.

Christine's parents are Americans who have lived several years in Norway, and have recently returned to the United States.

Pastor Willmore Gundersen, her father, lived and worked in Norway about fifteen years. Three of their four older children were born there. In 1981, he accepted a call to serve Zion (Westley) Lutheran Church in Cooperstown, and the family moved here in June.

Christine's mother, the former Joanne Aarhus, is a registered nurse who worked two years as an outpatient missionary nurse in Cameroun, Africa, before her marriage.

The older children in the family are Betty, Lisa, Steven, and Daniel. All but Steven were born in Norway.

COOPERSTOWN'S FIRST BABIES

The first family to come to Cooperstown was that of Knud Thompson in January of 1883.

Mr. Thompson was noted for his ready wit and his willingness to dicker.

William Glass, who for a time was the only resident on the brand new townsite, remembered Knud Thompson's arrival, and his comment to the effect that Cooperstown was a fast growing community. "Today I have seen the population of Cooperstown double in size," he said. Thompson opened the first store in Cooperstown January 5, 1883.

After the store was built, the Thompson family, which included Knud, his wife, Anna, and small sons Theodore and Adolph, moved into living quarters in the back. Grace Thompson was born there in May of 1883. A doctor was brought from Mardell to assist. Her brother, Oscar, was also born in the living quarters behind the store.

The August 8, 1883, *Courier* announced that "Mrs. Marquardt, the German woman, has increased Cooperstown's population by the birth of a hearty boy." Otto Marquardt, the second child born in Cooperstown, lived here nearly all his life. Like his parents, he and his wife Belle were in the restaurant business.

Back to the Thompson family. The mercantile business and farming were Knud Thompson's living but horses and dickering seemed to be his first loves. Family members tell that very often Thompson arrived at his destination driving a different team than he had when he left home.

Of all the original settlers in Cooperstown, in that first year, the Knud Thompsons are the only family still represented in Griggs County. His great-granddaughter, Mrs. David (Beth) Stokka, and her children, Gretchen and Nathan, live on a farm near Sutton. Beth is the daughter of Carolyn Thompson Pfeifer, who is Oscar Thompson's daughter.

David Stokka is also a fourth-generation resident of the county.

GRIGGS COUNTY'S FIRST BABY

Anna Mathilda Torfin was born September 11, 1880 in a 9'x 14' log cabin on Section 26 of Washburn Township. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Torfin came to Griggs County from Iowa in the spring of 1880 by covered wagon. The Torfins lived on the homestead in Washburn Township for many years. Later they moved to Minnesota, returned to Griggs County, this time in Romness Township, and retired in Aneta.

Anna Torfin was married May 6, 1900 to Olaf M. Sloulin, a druggist. They lived in Aneta for many years.

The second white child born here was Katherine Opheim, October 4, 1880-1 the third Anton Olson January 31, 1881, and the fourth Elmer Mathisen May 17, 1881.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 7

In The Beginning

Griggs County. What was it like when the first settlers came? Grass! Grass everywhere! Ungrazed since the buffalo left, there grew on the hills the short and hardy "buffalo" grass, in low places taller grass up to two feet in height, and on the level places more buffalo grass and "needle" grass that made good hay in a damp season but was too short for cutting in dry years. This grass, which cured when ripe into a hay-covered prairie, was not to be found in the wooded, sandy, or rocky soils of the east nor the sage covered states farther west. Wonderful! The soil must be rich and have plenty of moisture to produce such grass. And on this grassy prairie there grew not one tree.

Among the grasses grew a succession of perennial flowering plants - from the woolly first pasque flower of spring, the flaming Illy and the delicate orchid colored prairie clover of midsummer, to the goldenrod and prairie asters of fall. Look around the edges of the sloughs in June and July and find the largest and most flavorful of wild strawberries.

Overgrown by the grasses are the old trails in the sod. They had been made by Governor Steven's train, by Fisk's gold seekers' expedition, by Sibley's military wagons, by the Red River hunters, by the Indians, by the Fort Totten to Fort Abercrombie mail carrier, and by the buffaloes. If a prairie fire had recently passed over the land, the trails appeared in the sod, and the whitened buffalo bones would be seen everywhere on the blackened ground.

Follow any one of these trails, and almost without warning the prairie seems to end, and the Sheyenne Valley lies before the traveler - three hundred to four hundred feet below the level of the prairie, and from one to four miles wide. Here is sweet running water, timber for homes, fuel and protection, and wild fruits for food. This was like home, and here the first pioneers settled.

-Myrtle Bemis Porterville

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 8

GRIGGS TRAILS AND TRAVELERS

In 1865, General Sully marched from Fort Rice to the south side of Devils Lake looking for Indians, passing through Griggs County. He did not find any and returned to the Missouri at Fort Berthold. A military party consisting of the 3rd Illinois Cavalry under Col. Carnahan came up from Fort Snelling to meet Sully but did not arrive in time to make a junction. On August 11 George T. Johnson was drowned in a lake about a mile south of Shepard and buried in the vicinity. A government headstone has been placed near the lake. It is interesting to note that most early maps called this shallow lake "Johnson," evidently from the soldier buried on its banks.

The Carnahan expedition had been following the Sibley trail of 1863 and passed on to Devils Lake where they named Sully's hill while trying to effect a junction with him. They returned to Minnesota that fall by the east side of the Sheyenne and Red rivers.

In 1867, General Alfred Terry, commander of the military district of the northwest, at St. Paul, made a trip to Montana, establishing new forts. He located Fort Ransom in Ransom County, Fort Totten on Devils Lake and Fort Stevenson on the Missouri. He passed through Griggs County on the trip, following the Sibley trail as far as Lake Jessie area. His trail later became the mail road from Fort Totten to Fort Ransom and Abercrombie. A primitive log shelter was located on the east bank of Lake Jessie but it has long since disappeared though its location is believed to be the Watne dugout by the railroad tracks south of the Orville Tweed home which the historical society asked the Burlington Northern Railroad to preserve. Another mail carriers' shelter had been erected on the east side of the Red Willow Lake, maintained by Ed Lohnes of Fort Totten.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 8

OPHEIM FAMILY

The first permanent settler of Griggs County was Omund Nelson Opheim, who was also known as "Pioneer Nelson" by the other early settlers.

Mr. Opheim had been farming in Iowa for several years, but in the spring of 1879, he, together with his neighbors, Lars Brekke, Hans Seim, C.C. Grindeland, and his wife's brother, Lars Solberg, came to Dakota Territory to look for land for homesteads. They came by way of Valley City. Finding the surveyed Sheyenne River Valley settled for fifteen miles to the south, they returned and then followed it upstream to the north into the unsurveyed part of the territory. Near the Fort Totten crossing of the river, he decided to locate. Good Sheyenne River crossings were few. The party stopped and built Mr. Opheim's log house. They burned limestone rocks they found there, to use for the plaster between the logs. Logs were notched and fitted and no nails were used. This is the first house in Griggs County known to have been built by a permanent settler. In 1932, it was placed beside the courthouse in Cooperstown. It was raised and moved without being taken down. Inside are the original pieces of furniture they brought in 1879. The Opheim homestead was in Section 12 of present Washburn Township.

After the house was built, the party returned to Iowa, by way of Mayville where the brother-in-law located.

Mr. Opheim then had a sale in Iowa and returned to his log house.

Mr. Omund Nelson Opheim, together with his wife, his son, Nels, his daughter, Martha, (Mrs. Gustav Olson) and their sons, Martin and Oscar, left Iowa in a covered

wagon drawn by horses. At Fargo their horses were sold and oxen bought, as more suitable for Dakota conditions. They reached their log house September 20, 1879. "Pioneer Nelson" was known for his hospitality to other settlers before they had located their homesteads and built their houses.

It is hard to determine the date in 1880 of the arrival of the next settlers after Mr. Opheim's family. As far as can be learned "Pioneer Nelson" and his family were the only people living in Griggs County the winter of 1879-1880. But a party of several families from Mr. Opheim's old Iowa home neighborhood came in April. These included the Ole Olson Bjornstad family of grown sons, Nelsons, and Torfins. In the same year Alex Saunder, C. P. Bolkan, A. C. Knutson, George Gullickson, Elisha Fitch and Mathew Davidson had settled along the river, W. T. McCullough near Lake Jessie, Joseph Buchheit near Red Willow Lake, and Cooper brothers on the prairie.

Mr. Alexander Saunders walked alone through the Pembina settlement from Canada until he found a place along the Sheyenne River where wild peas grew. To him this meant good land, a fertile soil. At this place (Section 24-145-58), he spent the winter of 1880-1881 in a hillside dugout. The next summer he built a log house, in which he lived for over fifty years.

Within two years after the arrival of Mr. Opheim, settlers were on most of the good locations the length of the Sheyenne river valley in Griggs County, and large numbers on the prairie.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 8

SQUATTERS

From Atlas of Griggs County, a map made from a copy of government Surveyors' Records.

These are people here, or claiming land when it was surveyed.

Township 144, Range 58 (Broadview Township) No settlers or trails.

Township 145, Range 58 - (Sverdrup) June 15-30, 1881

Section 2: C. S. Lee, K. Mayer, O. P. Bolkan, and P. Evarn

Section 3: J. Peterson

Section 4: W. A. Weatherbee, J. B. Weatherbee, and Ole Hanson

Section 5: S. B. Langford, B. B. Langford, John Langford, and Samuel Langford

Section 10: A. Luckson, T. Trolson

Section 11: C. Benson.

Section 12: A. Larson, G. Gulbrandson, and T. A. Hagen

Section 14: Louis Renders, S. Sanderson

Section 15: E.J. Fitch, Muns Anderson

Section 16: C. Arestad

Section 18: E.O. Stal, O. A. Lea

Section 20: Ole Wesley, S. J. Ouren, and H. Johnson

Section 22: M. Davidson, S. Lunde, and A. Chalmers

Section 24: John A. Atchison, A. Saunders

Section 26: V. Klubben, S. Loge, and K. K. Halland
Section 27: B. Herigstad, K. Herigstad

Township 146, Range 58 (Washburn) Surveyed July 13-23, 1881.

Section 8: W. A. Merrill, G. N. Merrill, Henry S. Merrill, and C. S. Merrill
Section 10: Howard Oviatt, Frank T. Oviatt, Warren J. Sprague, and Jacob S. Fritz
Section 12: John Hanson, Omund Nelson*, Gustav Olson. *(Opheim)
Section 14: Wette S. Rinden (?), Olaus E. Loffen
Section 16: Julia L. Cooper, Alexander Glass, Charles L. Cooper, and William Glass
Section 20: George R. Clark, Charles P. Silva, L. N. Washburn, and M. F. Washburn
Section 22: S. S. Barnard, Francis R. Barnard
Section 26: A. A. Fluto, Ole Johnson, and John Torfin
Section 28: J. Q. Barnard, L.T. Barnard, M.C. Barnard, and G. W. Barnard
Section 32: J. N. Brown, M. Zimmerman, and Isabella Brown
Section 34: O. O. Havig, C. P. Bolkan
Section 36: S. Halvorson, A. Anderson, Ole Halvorson, and Eling Nelson

Township 147, Range 58 - (Romness) Surveyed July 25-August 4, 1881.

Section 5: E. Gunderson.
Section 6: O. Johnson, K.A. Brenengen (?), Martin Johnson.
Section 8: M. Hogenson, A. Simenson, Lars Anderson, and Lars Anderson
Section 16: P.J. Matheson, J. Hogenson
Section 22: A. Nelson, C. Anderson
Section 23: M. Johnson
Section 24: O. B. Oleson, W. B. Olson
Section 25: B. Olson, G. Olson, A.C. Knudson, and M. Knudson
Section 26: A. Anderson, H. Paterson
Section 27: E.J. Moven (?)
Section 36: John M. Dahl

Township 148, Range 58 - (Lenora) Surveyed

Section 6: N. Severson
Section 18: Severt E. Endengora, A.J. Higner
Section 19: O. L. Toreson
Section 31: D.S. Bullock, A. Durham
Section 35: Butte Michaud indicated in almost exact center of Section.
Section 36: S. Mills

Township 144, Range 59 - (Greenfield) Surveyed November 10-15, 1879

Trail marked crossing the Township of the Fort Totten to Fort Abercrombie and Fort Totten to Fort Ransom roads.

Township 145, Range 59 - (Bald Hill) Surveyed November 13-17, 1882

Section 4: James Walker.
Section 12: J.H. Montgomery, Hannah Thompson.

Section 14: Andrew Benson, Emil Krogsgaard, and Iver Jatuessaa.
Section 16: Edward Hanson, George McCulloch.
Section 20: Duncan Sinclair, John Francis.
Section 22: John Mills.
Section 24: Mathias Fjelstad, Fritjof Greenland.
Section 34: Herbert Robinson, Thomas Robinson.
Section 36: John Evanson.

Township 146, Range 59 - (Cooperstown) Surveyed July 1-12, 1881 Fort Totten to Abercrombie, Sibley trail across the Township.

Section 12: George Manning.
Section 14: John Kennedy, John Rankin, and Jane Rankin.
Section 24: (Cooperstown city site) T.J. Smith, C. Ives.
Section 26: N. Swift, T. Cooper, and T. J. Cooper.
Section 34: H. H. Cooper, R.C. Cooper.
Section 36: A. Schua (?), M. Davis, and F. Hann.

Township 147, Range 59 - (Tyrol) Surveyed November 17-20, 1882

Section 2: C. Acland, J. Fosholt.
Section 6: J. Hanson, S. Nack (?).
Section 12: A. Acland.
Section 14: J.F. Fosholt, H. Detwiller.
Section 20: H. Retzlaff, F. Retzlaff.
Section 22: Charles Hunter, Frank Hunter.
Section 24: H. Chamberlain, A. Husel.
Section 26: Samuel Sansburn.
Section 27 and 28: five shacks but no names.
Section 30: Mads Nertrost, M. Retzlaff, J. Retzlaff.
Section 31: C. Trost, C. Retzlaff.
Section 32: W. Trost.
Section 36: J. Oleson.

Township 144, Range 60 - (Bartley) Surveyed June 12-18, 1880. Neither settlers nor shacks.

Township 145, Range 60 - (Helena) Surveyed November 19-24, 1882

Section 2: Fred Williams.
Section 4: Charles Sterner.
Section 10: Jno. Michaelis, Charles Gartman
Section 18: C. J. Cooper
Section 26: Edward Pitcher, James Martin, and J. W. Feiro
Section 28: E.J. Hill, W.F. Feiro, and Peter Feiro
Section 29: Schoolmaker.
Section 32: C.H. Mosley, L.E. Hurd, and J. B. Clifford
Section 33: Schoolmaker, J. White.
Section 36: F. Trumbill.

Township 148, Range 59 - (Pilot Mound) Surveyed September 9-19, 1881.

Section 1: N.O. Rukke
Section 24: Roley Johnson
Section 25: S. Johnson
Section 26: A. D. Thagen

Township 146, Range 60 - (Clearfield) Surveyed September 15-22, 1883

Section 10: Miss McCullen, L. Allen, and T. Andrews
Section 16: Mrs. M.J. Gimblett, J. Walker
Section 18: J. B. Whidden
Section 20: D. Gorthev
Section 22: M. Lifton, C. S. Ives
Section 24: B. Cox
Section 26: G. Lockwood, J. Williams, and H. Wilson
Section 30: B. Andrews, Charles W. Christie
Section 32: W. Howden, J. Howden
Section 34: J. V. Stewart, J.H. Van Vorhas, and J. F. Van Vorhas

Township 147, Range 60 - (Addle) Surveyed November 20-25, 1882

Section 11: G. Oleson
Section 14: E. McCulloch
Section 23: W. McCulloch
Section 24: J. McCulloch, O. Thorn, Mrs. S. Ferrison
Section 26: J. McCulloch

Township 148, Range 60 - (Willow) Surveyed July 23-28, 1883 Fort Totten to
Abercrombie trail across this Township

Evidence of breaking and shacks but no names

Township 144, Range 61 - (Dover) Surveyed June 19-24, 1880

Neither settler's huts, breaking nor trails

Township 145, Range 61 - (Mabel) Surveyed November 6-10, 1882

Section 24: J.S. Byington, L. Roe, and A. Lindsey
Seventeen more shacks were marked in the Township but without names

Township 146, Range 61 - (Kingsley) Surveyed September 8-14, 1883

Section 12: George Kohn, T. Graff
Section 16: O. T. Larson
Section 24: H. Peters, Margaret Crane, and H. G. Pickett
Section 26: J.C. Flynn
Section 30: T.H. Williams, G. W. Williams
Section 32: T. Kingsley, W. Kingsley

Township 147, Range 61 - (Bryan) Surveyed September 9-12, 1884

No shacks, two pieces of breaking

Township 148, Range 61 - (Rosendal) Surveyed July-August 6, 1883

Section 13: Gulbrandson (On south side of Red Willow Lake, the only house marked in the Township).

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial pages 8 through 10

GRIGGS

Griggs County was named for Capt. Alexander Griggs, who came to North Dakota in 1870, and was engaged in flatboating on the Red River in connection with the Hudson Bay trade. Previous to his coming to North Dakota, he was engaged in steamboating on the Minnesota River between St. Paul and St. Peter. Returning to St. Paul in 1871 he was successful in interesting James J. Hill, now of the Great Northern, in the establishment of a sawmill and store at the Forks and in the construction of a steamboat. The firm name was Hill, Griggs & Company. The boat was built during the winter of 1871-72 at Fort Abercrombie and was launched in April. Previous to this, Capt. Griggs had settled on the land now comprising a large portion of the present city of Grand Forks. His cabin was 12 x 12 and five logs high. Thomas Walsh was connected with him and in consideration of his coming down from Fort Abercrombie ahead of the boat and erecting the cabin, Walsh was to own one-half the townsite. At that time there were only a few woodchoppers and half-breeds at the Forks. Captain Griggs became one of the leading citizens in the city, county and state, and was one of the first county commissioners, member of the constitutional convention, member of the board of railroad commissioners, mayor of the city and president of the Second National Bank.

On account of his health he left the state in 1889 and went to the Pacific coast, and is now engaged in steamboating in the Kootenai country.

The first recorded sale of land in Griggs County is from the Northern Pacific Railroad to Alexander Griggs.

(From The Record, Volume 111, 1897-98).

EDITOR'S NOTE: Records in the Register of Deeds office in Cooperstown show that it was Chauncy W. Griggs and Addison G. Foster who owned extensive land holdings in Griggs County. Alexander Griggs owned lots 18 and 19, block 60, city of Cooperstown, and sold them September 9, 1890. As far as can be determined, those two lots are all the property he ever owned in the county which now bears his name.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 10

1882 BEFORE COOPERSTOWN

What was going on around these parts in January of 1882? First of all, Griggs County had been established by the 1881 Territorial legislature but it had not been organized. Half of the present townships in Griggs County had been surveyed.

One family, the Omund Nelson Opheims, were spending their third winter here. About a dozen other families had arrived in 1880.

Although there was as yet no railroad, and only prairie trails for roads, more people kept arriving, lured by free land for the taking, and several more people arrived in 1881. In the winter of 1881-82, there were at least fifty households of settlers in what is now

Griggs County. Most of them were on the Sheyenne River, but there were some at Lake Jessie, Red Willow Lake and on the prairie.

The houses were small and built from available materials. R.C. Cooper, the bonanza farmer, came in 1880 and built a frame house. I don't know whether any other frame house was built that early. The early arrivals who came in covered wagons lived in the wagons, and others lived in tents while they were building a dwelling.

People who lived near the river where there were trees built log cabins. The Opheim cabin, built in 1879 and moved to the courthouse lawn in 1932, is a good example of one style of cabin. The size ranged from 8 to 12 feet wide and up to 16 or even 15 feet long, according to descriptions given later in pioneer biographies. In other words, about the size of a present-day bedroom.

Opheim's cabin and most of the others I've seen pictured were made from rough dressed logs with the bark removed and the ends notched to fit the notched ends of the other logs where they met at the corner in a tongue in groove arrangement.

The Lars Johnson cabin, which is now at the Cooperstown Bible Camp, was made from logs that had been squared off and finished a little more than that. Plaster to chink the cabins was made by burning limestone rocks.

On the prairie and in the ravines the situation was different. Those people had to depend on the earth to provide their homes. Typically they would pick a sidehill and dig a cellar into that so that there was a solid earth wall on one side. Layers of sod were cut and stacked like rows of bricks along the sides to create the other walls. Poles, bark and sod made the roof.

Sod provided insulation on the roofs of the log cabins as well.

Sod houses were cheap to build, but some of them were cold, poorly ventilated, and leaky. When it rained outside it rained through the roofs. There were living creatures in the sod, too. Children would watch small snakes crawling overhead while they lay in bed in the morning.

That was in summer. No snakes stirred in midwinter. There were also no mosquitoes, which were mentioned by nearly all of the old settlers as they remembered their first years.

From what I can gather, the winter of 1881-82 was very cold and snowy and the people in their tiny houses suffered greatly from & cold. Christopher Bolkan, one of the 1880 settlers, recalled afterward that following the first snow in the fall of 1881 most of the men made skis and used them for the rest of that winter and for many years to come for transportation and recreation.

As the winter wore on, they were reassured to see smoke rising in the air above their neighbor's dugouts and cabins. There must have been times when those isolated families felt as if they were all alone in the world.

But civilization goes on and the early settlers wanted their children to have the civilizing influence of an education so the people in the Opheim neighborhood arranged with Bolkan to come and teach their children in January, February and March of 1882. He boarded two weeks at each household and in payment for his term of school; they helped him break a little sod in the spring. He taught classes at the John Qualey home, which by this time was a two-story cabin and a lean-to. The people in that settlement and

Bolkan had lived in the United States for a time, and knew English, and probably the classes were taught in English.

By the first of January of 1882 Griggs County had had several deaths. A settler named Lars Ulven died of exposure after being caught out in a blizzard in 1881. He was buried at the Opheim farm on a site used as a burial spot for the next few years. His death was the first.

There had also been several births. Two babies were born in 1880 and a few more in 1881. Anna Torfin was the first.

But back to those houses; the home furnishings varied greatly. Settlers who came from elsewhere in the United States and from Canada brought along some of their household goods. The Opheim cabin has original furniture brought by the family from Decorah, Iowa, which must have been the envy of their newcomer neighbors downstream.

The people who came directly from Norway or elsewhere in Europe for the most part had their immigrant trunks and that was all, except for whatever livestock they had bought after coming to America.

Ingenuity had to supply furniture. A little board nailed onto a couple of tree stumps or posts made a bench or table. If there was no lumber the tree stumps alone were the chairs and the all-purpose immigrant chest was the table. People lucky enough to have grocery boxes had ready-made benches, cupboards and tables.

Martin Haugen tells me that in his grandparents' sod house, a shallow pit dug into the middle of the floor served as cellar and cupboard for their food. It was covered by boards which were removed at mealtime, and the family then sat on the edges of the pit while they ate.

The nearest towns were Valley City and Mayville and it must have been good news to those early settlers to hear that there would soon be towns nearby. Hope, Mardell and Cooperstown all came into being in 1882, in that order.

Hope was surveyed and platted in 1881-82. Mardell's survey was completed in the summer, and Cooperstown's plat was filed in October.

By January of 1882, at least two Christian congregations had begun their existence along the river valley, organized with the help of circuit riding pastors. Families in the Opheim community had organized the Sheyenne Valley congregation. Farther south, the people in present Sverdrup and Bald Hill Townships had organized the "Thime Norsk Evangeliske Lutherske Menighed." People in Romness Township had met several times for worship and in February of 1882 organized the Ringsaker congregation.

In the spring another wave of immigrants would arrive on foot or in wagons pulled mostly by ox teams. The early arrivals would have to wait for floodwaters to subside before they could cross the rivers and creeks and ravines.

The settlers who were already there would plant their first, second or third crop and turn over some more new sod and hope for better days. But that's getting ahead of the story.

In January, those pioneers were mostly trying to keep warm and fed and out of each other's way in those tiny houses. The big concerns were for their health and the well

being of their animals, and the size of the woodpile, the stock of staple groceries and the supply of lamp oil.

- T. L. by *Duna Griggs County Sentinel - Courier* January 6, 1982

Source: *Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial* page 11

MARDELL

Located in and named for a MARvelous DELL in the valley of the Sheyenne River, the new town was well situated and appeared to have bright prospects. The founders looked for great things to come, and expected that the Great Northern railway would extend the line out from Hope.

Richard Sherman and George Ellsbury were the promoters of Mardell. The plat, filed July 30, 1882, showed eight streets running east and west and four avenues running north and south.

The advantages of this townsite, both real and imaginary, were widely advertised by means of a boom map issued and scattered broadcast by Mr. Ellsbury in which Mardell was shown as a great railway center.

H. H. Wasseem put in the first store building. John Wamberg and Sam Axdahl followed with a dry goods store in which there was a drugstore, Julius Stevens and Anton Enger with a hardware store and Mr. Samuel Homme a blacksmith shop. Meat was furnished by Benjamin Upton and Dubois Newell, machinery by Andrew Johnson. Ole Serumgard and Frank Axtell entered into land business, a town lot was purchased by the Nelson school district and a schoolhouse erected. No saloons were ever allowed. A 24-room hotel was erected by the Townsite Company with Martin Robinson chosen manager. Here accommodations were provided for home seekers going north and west, for Dr. Virgo whose office was under its roof, and for others who were not otherwise provided for. Mardell post office, on the mail route from Tower City to Lee, was established April 3, 1882 with Dr. Theodore F. Kerr as postmaster.

When it became apparent that the railroad would never materialize, the inhabitants prepared to leave. The buildings were torn down for the lumber or moved. The owners left, one by one, many of them to establish businesses in Cooperstown or Hope.

In 1885, the town lots were sold for taxes.

Information about Mardell is limited but the *Courier* carried an account of the big social event of Mardell's existence, the Washington's Birthday party at the Park Avenue Hotel (also called the Palace), February 22, 1883.

According to advance advertising, "Each gentleman is expected to bring one lady, at least, if possible, and to provide himself with dancing slippers, as none will be admitted to the dancing hall unless so provided. Good music will be in attendance. General invitation extended, tickets to dancing hall, including supper, \$2.50."

The *Courier* commented:

"The Grand Party at Mardell on the 22nd inst. promises to be all that the managers could wish. Extraordinary efforts on the part of the proprietor of the Park Hotel are being made to secure satisfaction to all who attend. It will be one of the most enjoyable events ever held in North Dakota. Arrangements have been made to secure the presence of all the ladies in the country round, so that

gentlemen from a distance who find it impractical to secure partners to accompany them from home need not stay away on that account."

"In case of a severe blizzard preventing the gathering of the party, it will be postponed one week without further postponement. Those wishing private rooms should secure them in advance."

The day after the party, the *Courier* reported:

"Just as we are going to press in comes Al Shue with a whole stack of eulogies for the management of the Washington Party at Mardell, which was a grand social success. He says the bon ton of Hope were all there, and for the courtesousness extended to the Cooperstown lads, who were unable to take partners, they are deserved of much praise."

Mardell's location is marked by a sign provided by the Griggs County Historical Society. It is about two miles north of Highway 200, on the river road east of the bridge.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 12

COUNTY SEAT CONTROVERSY

Griggs County was created by an Act of the Territorial Legislature in session at Yankton, Dakota Territory in the year 1881 out of parts of Traill and Foster Counties. It included the area of thirty townships from R56 to RQ west and from T144 to T148 north, inclusive. In the summer of 1882, Gov. Nehemiah G. Ordway designated Hope as the county seat and appointed Allen Breed, R. C. Cooper and William A. Glines as county commissioners. They held their first meeting June 16, 1882, in Hope House Parlor. Allen Breed was elected chairman of the commissioners, and the board then proceeded to appoint county officers and organize the business of the county.

The commissioners met again July 3, August 9, September 28, and October 2. At the October meeting a call for an election of county officials and county seat was made. Election date was set at November 7, 1882.

R.C. Cooper, meanwhile, had registered the plat of the newly surveyed town of Cooperstown, October 26, 1882.

P.A. Melgard, deputy county treasurer in 1883, and later county auditor, afterward recalled the county seat election and subsequent events as told to him, and the county division election as he remembered it.

Mr. Melgard mentions John Steele of Minneapolis. Other accounts say that E.H. Steele, a partner with S. S. Small in the Red River Land Company, the number one landlord in the vicinity of Hope, was the person who negotiated with Cooper.

It should also be noted that the new Steele County was created by taking the ten townships in ranges 54 and 55 from Traill County and combining them with the ten in ranges 56 and 57 from Griggs County and designating them a new county.

It was said that the Hope faction kept the records in a bin of oats temporarily, later sending them to Minneapolis for safekeeping. In January of 1883, they were returned, by mail, from Minneapolis.

Mr. Melgard's comments in 1935:

Well, the election was held and I will give you the results as made plain by a resolution passed by the Board of County Commissioners on the 11th day of November 1882, that will explain all acts taking place subsequent thereto:

The Board of County Commissioners adopted the following resolution:

Whereas, By a vote of the electors of Griggs County, D.T., on the 7th day of November 1882, the County Seat of said County was and is located at Cooperstown in said County, Now therefore, be it

Resolved, That the officials of said County are hereby required immediately to convey the County Records and all property belonging to said County to a certain building erected on Block 79 in said town of Cooperstown which is hereby adopted by the County Board as the County Building for the use of the Register of Deeds, County Commissioner, Judge of Probate, County Clerk, County Treasurer, County Surveyor, Clerk of the District Court and Assessor. This building at that time was a granary and located on the block where the residence of Mr. R.C. Cooper is now located.

This first election is no doubt the one your writer refers to in the article published in the Hope newspaper. It is the understanding I have, and from information from an outsider who voted at the election, it was a lively one. My informant told me that he was paid \$15.00 and told to get out of the Territory at once so as to avoid being arrested for illegal voting. He left at once. This information I got on a visit to Minneapolis 12 years later, and he told me that he did not dare go there anymore. He was informed that it was forgotten long ago and that he could go anywhere in the Dakotas that he care to.

The citizens in Hope were laying wires to blockade the removal of the records and other property belonging to the County of Griggs, but were outmanuevered as the next meeting of the Board was held in Cooperstown the 18th day of November of 1882, with all records at that time present. But the County Commissioners, no doubt, the probable attempts on the part of Hope to recover the records adopted precautionary measures for their safekeeping by appointing three guardsmen, all armed to occupy the building day and night. The three appointees were William Glass, Allen Pinkerton and John Houghton. Everything went on very nicely until one evening late, (close to Christmas.) Everyone in Cooperstown had gone to bed, sleeping the sleep of the just, our guardsmen included, when with a crash the light door to the granary was broken in, followed by a plank catapulted by a mob. In an instant two of the sleepers, Mr. Glass and Mr. Houghton, were covered, each by a person with a gun, the muzzle of which pointed in their face, with the order to keep quiet for a little while. Mr. Pinkerton somehow managed to get outside and started on a run as fast as he could two and one-half miles to the ranch for assistance, but of course, they were too late. Therefore on January of 1, 1883, conditions were as follows:

Cooperstown as the County Seat had the building and Hope had the records.

The Territorial Legislature in session from January 9th to March 9th, 1883 passed an act creating the County of Steele with boundaries as they are now fixed, as provided in Section 1; but Section 2 provided for an election for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of Section I by voting for division, Yes against No.

Now this enactment provided for a political horse trade. It shows the result of conflicting interest; it shows the interest of Mr. John Steele, after whom the county is named and the interest of the Cooper Bros., whose interest centered around Cooperstown. Whether the Cooper Bros. had any knowledge of the enactment or not, I do not know, but presumably they did judging by the addition of Section 2. At any rate, the enactment of the law furnished both parties with a foundation for a political trade.

Such were the political conditions upon my arrival in Cooperstown, D.T., the 31st day of March of 1883 in employment with Stevens & Enger in the hardware business. Mr. Barnard resigning as County Treasurer, Mr. Enger received the appointment, and I became his deputy at the start.

But I am going to close by telling you about how things were accomplished. In the early part of May the store building was up with a swell front and one day in stepped Mr. R.C. Cooper and another gentleman, whom I afterwards found out was Mr. John Steele of Minneapolis, and asked if they could have the use of one side of the store front for conversational purposes, which of course was granted. The conversation lasted three hours and in that time they fixed things which showed itself at the election the 2nd day of June of 1883, to-wit: Steele County was a fact, and Griggs County was bonded for \$30,000 for a Courthouse.

Let me tell you that was some election day! About all the male population of Hope was at the Cooper ranch, where the voting took place for this district, each with nothing less than a gallon, but some with 2-gallon jugs, contents unknown to the writer, except for the fact that some of the boys did not come home for a couple of days. Then the whole railroad crew that was working on the Sanborn-Cooperstown Turtle and Turtle Mountain R.R. came up from Barnes County and voted right. Now, this was at the Cooperstown polling place, but we could not come up with the number cast in Hope, 535 votes cast, more than one-half tissue ballots. There was no contest; the results were just as wanted.

Epilogue:

About 16 years later Mr. William Glass and the writer were in Fargo attending a Scottish Rite reunion. While in the lobby of the Waldorf Hotel in the afternoon one-day, we sat down for a rest, watching who was going and who was coming. While so doing a person with a grip in his hand entered, walked up to the clerk's desk, and registered. After having gone through the performance, he turned around for a survey of the lobby and its contents. His eyes finally rested on us; when with a smile approached us and holding out his hand to Mr. Glass, said: I believe I have met you before." "You bet you have," was the quick response, "I happened to be on my back in the granary, and you were standing by with a muzzle of a revolver pointed in my face."

The gentleman's smile became sickly as he turned away from us and went out into the city.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 13

MIDNIGHT RAID

The granary that was used for a County office immediately following the November 1882 election was the only building on the townsite and stood just about opposite the entrance to the present courthouse block. It was built to store the grain that grew on the townsite in 1882. I think it must have been at least 70 feet long and about 16 wide. It was constructed of heavy dimension lumber in order to carry the weight of the grain when filled. It was sheathed on the inside of the studding with shiplap but there was no covering on the outside. It had a gable roof and was shingled. It was built for use and not for show. When Cooperstown was declared the new County Seat, we had to have an office quick, so we partitioned off about 16 feet at the east end of the granary, putting in a small window, and a door made with inch boards and fastened with a 25 cent lock. It was the plan to occupy it only a few weeks while they were constructing a new and commodious building two or three hundred feet to the north, which was later known as the Dakota House.

When the records were brought from Hope, I was made deputy register of deeds and placed in charge of them. John Houghton and Allan Pinkerton, carpenters, who were constructing the new building, slept in my "office", because they had no other place on the townsite to occupy, and besides, they were counted on to assist me in holding the records in case an attempt should be made to steal them. Because certain people who resided between Cooperstown and Hope visited in my "office" in the daytime, but appeared to have no business there, I became satisfied that they were looking the situation over with a view of recovering the records. I communicated my suspicions to the Commissioners and asked that they bring a couple of loads of plank and board in the "office" so that in case a raid was made in the night time they could not get in without waking us up. I stated that the door and window were no protection whatever, and particularly that we all slept at night. I was told that my fears were groundless; that in just a few days' time we would be moved into the new building, and all would be well. Still, I argued and I thought I was in a better position to judge than the Commissioners were because I had an opportunity to talk with these visitors and observe their actions. There was nothing done. It was cold and we all slept on the floor under loads of blankets.

When they came we were asleep. They went through that door with one little push and were right on top of us in a second. They lit our lamp and I saw that every one of that dozen raiders had a gun in his hand, while ours were hanging on the walls. They soon had the records carried to their sleighs and then ordered us to dress and accompany them as far as the Sheyenne river, presumably, so we would be delayed in sounding an alarm. We all refused to dress and go. They tried force but after the stove and table had been overturned and the place thoroughly wrecked, they left, taking our guns with them.

- William Glass, written in 1937

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 15

THE COURT HOUSE

The voters of Griggs County, at an election held June 2, 1883, authorized its commissioners to issue bonds to the amount of \$30,000.00 for building and furnishing a courthouse and jail.

On January 7, 1884 the bonds were issued and arrangements were made for their sale. The commissioners accepted the offer made by Mr. T.J. Cooper of any block they might

select, in the Cooper's Addition to Cooperstown, and \$1,000.00 cash, and chose Block 3 as the location for the new building.

The lowest bid received for construction of the building was submitted by Alex. Moffat, of Sanborn, for the sum of \$20,980, which bid was accepted.

The May 23, 1884 *Courier* reported:

"The first stroke of work on the new \$30,000.00 court house was done Thursday afternoon by Mr. Langford who does the grading and excavating. "

More progress was reported in the June 20, 1884 *Courier*

"Water was struck in the court house well Saturday at the depth of 48 feet from the surface. It rose in the well with such rapidity that the workmen had to climb for their lives. At last accounts there was 21 feet of water and still rising - no blindfish as yet."

The original courthouse building measured 91 feet long, 48 feet wide, occupied 3,077 square feet of ground, and was three stories in height. The basement was 91,2' feet above ground and 22 feet below ground level. The main story was ten feet high, and the upper story was 16 feet 6 inches high, and the top of the finial on the tower swung in the air 98 feet from the ground. Originally, it contained three fireproof vaults, one each for the register of deeds, treasurer, and clerk of court. The original color of the interior was an olive drab, trimmed and shaded by a darker tint. The woodwork was grained in imitation black walnut and oak, which was painted by T.O. Skattebo, a resident of the county.

The building originally had three brick jail cells with windows. It was heated by a steam heating boiler, tested to 150 pounds pressure. The Cooperstown *Courier* of December 26, 1884 said of the new heating system:

"The completeness and thoroughness Of this system - put in by S.L Pope & Company, of Chicago - may be judged from the fact that steam circulates through all the radiators in all parts of the building with a half pound of pressure at the boiler, and during the recent cold snap, with no storm windows, all the rooms were warmed to 70 degrees with five pounds pressure of steam". "The commissioners have ordered the register of deeds, treasurer and judge of probate to move to their new quarters, as soon as the furniture arrives (which has been selected), the remaining officers will occupy their respective rooms. It is the intention to fence the square in the spring, and with the remaining money to ornament the grounds."

The *Courier* article listed the cost of the building at \$20,980.00 and listed additional expenses that brought the total cost to date to \$29,212.28.

The July 17, 1885 *Courier* reported that a fine sidewalk had been built in front of the courthouse and leading up to the entrance with convenient hitching posts for horses. The latter ornaments would serve to protect the shade trees that will surround the building.

R.C. Cooper submitted a bill on January 4, 1887 in the amount of \$499.95 for fixing up the courthouse grounds, fencing, etc. done in 1886; and in the April of 15, 1887 *Courier* the following notice appeared:

"Sheriff Michels wants to warn the owners of the swine that run promiscuously through our streets that it will go hard with their swine-ships unless they are kept out of the court house yard. "

The trees were planted in the courthouse yard in 1891. According to Myrtle Porterville, local historian, those young trees were transplanted from the Sheyenne River valley, and the early residents used those young trees as pickets to tether their domestic animals, and the animals in tugging on their ropes as they grazed caused the young trees to grow very crooked. During the 1960's and 1970's many of those crooked trees were cut down and some were replaced.

The commissioner's proceedings of October 2, 1899 tell of a petition being presented with 39 signatures of residents and businessmen of Cooperstown requesting the installation of telephones in the courthouse. Four telephones and an extra drop were furnished by A. Groff, superintendent of the telephone company, for \$80.00 per year. On August 30, 1904, the county commissioners ordered that a 30-light gas lighting plant be installed in the courthouse. Then, on April 7, 1908, the commissioners hired Platt Electric Company to wire the courthouse for electric lighting and install fixtures. A bill for this work was submitted and allowed in the amount of \$385.00 on July 7, 1908.

The county auditor was, on April 1, 1918, instructed to purchase and have erected a flag staff of iron, not less than 65 feet high above ground.

A bid in the amount of \$2,210.00 was accepted May 11, 1918 to erect a vault in the Register of Deeds' office, and upon completion, the existing vault was to be turned over to the county judge's office, and the vault was approved at the October 6, 1918 meeting.

By 1885 there were three English speaking church congregations in Cooperstown, the Congregational, the Methodist, and the Baptist, neither of which had as yet built a church. The county commissioners, possibly intending to show no partiality to any one church group, on April 7, 1885, made the following:

"Ordered that the application of the First Congregational Church of Cooperstown for use of the court room for Church purposes be rejected. "

All three churches had built their own churches by the fall of 1886.

Many meetings, programs and training sessions have been held in the courtroom, which is still being used for the same purposes to date. Some of the events that took place in the court house were: a meeting of the stockholders of the Creamery; a Teachers' Institute, compulsory for all teachers in the county to attend, and which lasted an entire week in 1888; church Christmas programs for the various denominations and masquerade dances. In 1895, the Lutheran congregation planned to build a church and the ladies of the church held a social to raise money by setting up a large tent on the courthouse lawn from which they sold ice cream and other refreshments. The band played, and croquet was played by torchlight.

The B. B. Brown family in 1883 brought to Cooperstown a large, heavy grand piano from Pennsylvania, which was the first piano in the area. The editor of the *Courier*, in June 11, 1886, made the following comments on moving the piano:

"Did you ever move a piano? If not, you have no idea how people strain themselves in the back, early in life. J. N. Brown undertook to move Mrs. B. B. Brown's piano to the courthouse Wednesday. George Stork was sprung in the back. R. C. Cooper had done too much lifting - Knud Thompson had a knee out of whack - Rollef Berg wasn't feeling well - A.N. Adams thought the fresh air would do John Glass good - Dr. Newell had been kicked by a horse - Dr. McGuire had a patient waiting for him around a corner - A. L. Bowden said he had a new clerk

that was a terror to snakes handling pianos - Charley Van Wormer said he didn't live here anyhow - D. McDonald said he wasn't receiver for pianos - Jimmy Muir thought the commissioners ought to buy a piano for the use of the county and have it on draft at all times - John Glass said he would have to get a screw driver and take its legs off - John Jorgensen thought he could catch more of the boys with a corkscrew - when, suddenly, the editor of the Courier came to the rescue, shouldered the musical box, and deposited it in the court house without turning a hair. "

Various excerpts taken from the record of commissioners' proceedings indicate it must have been a problem for the commissioners to decide if, or how much, to charge for the use of the courtroom, and which rules to implement.

September 8, 1890:

"Ordered that the court house hall should not be used or allowed to be used, by any Party or Parties for dancing purposes. "

July 11, 1892:

"Ordered that \$1.00 per night's use of court hall be charged secret societies after November 1, 1891.

November 17, 1894:

"Ordered that an amendment to resolution passed Sept. 8, 1890 in regard to letting court hall for dancing and other entertainments, the words \$20.00 be stricken out and \$10.00 be inserted."

January 10, 1895:

"A resolution was passed by the Board of County Commissioners to put the question of renting court house hall for \$10.00 per night, or not at all, to the vote of the people at the coming spring election. " (No other mention was made of this.)

May 18, 1895:

"Ordered that a schedule of prices for rent of court house hall: For dances, \$15.00 per night; For other entertainments, \$10.00 per night; For entertainments of a series of 3 nights or more, \$7.00 per night. All rents to be paid in advance.

November 18, 1895:

"Ordered that all entertainment for charitable purposes be charged for lighting, and heating of court house hall.

January 17, 1899:

"Ordered that the Cooperstown Fire Department be granted the use of the court house hall for their annual ball, free of charge. "

November 13, 1900:

"Resolve that the court house hall be closed for all entertainments requiring a stage to be built, or curtains to be hung, necessitating the driving of nails, or using of hooks in plaster, ceilings or floor."

This new courthouse in the 1880's was a huge, tall structure in comparison to other existing buildings, so it stuck out like the proverbial "sore thumb" from the bare prairie with no trees, and few, if any, buildings surrounding it.

The courthouse through the years has been a witness to happy times, when a child has been adopted, or an alien received his citizenship. It has also witnessed sadder times, when a prisoner has faced a penitentiary sentence, or a marriage has been dissolved and children face separation from a parent-, or when parental rights are terminated and children face separation from both parents. There have also been amusing incidents, such as the enthusiastic lawyer vehemently expounding his case to the jury with an occasional hard blow on the table for emphasis. With each blow of his fist, the water glass made a very noticeable move toward the edge of the table. Finally, came one blow too many and the glass went crashing to the floor. After a moment of utter silence, the lawyer stooped to pick up the pieces. The judge suggested he leave it, since it "couldn't fall any further." Whereupon the embarrassed lawyer muttered that he didn't want his opponent stepping on the glass and suing him, which broke the seriousness of the moment.

One of the officials at the courthouse (I was told it was Ben Tufte) owned a hunting dog that quite often accompanied him to his office. One evening when Mr. Tufte left the office he unwittingly locked the dog in the building. The dog apparently tried his best to free himself, since the door in the old state's attorney's office in southwest corner of the building still contains the deep scratches the dog left there.

The floor in the present Clerk of Court's office still shows where a bullet lodged when an "empty" gun a sheriff was examining discharged accidentally after ricocheting off the tin covered walls.

At various times visitors have stopped by the courthouse to chat. One such visitor mentioned that his father had worked at the local lumberyard when this visitor was a young boy, and came home to report that a load of special fancy lumber had gone to the courthouse. He had assumed that it was used in the courtroom but was disappointed to see so much of the woodwork painted so that he could not identify where that wood had been used. My memory fails me as to the variety of wood, but I believe he said it was "curly mahogany."

Another time, a visitor told us his father had worked in the local creamery when it was located on the east edge of town. One visitor identified himself as the son of Ole Skrien, an early resident living east of Cooperstown along the Sheyenne River.

The trademark of one courthouse employee was his habit of pushing his eyeglasses up on his forehead, then forgetting they were there, would go from office to office searching for his glasses, until someone would finally tell him where they were.

Anyone closely examining the construction of the courthouse will notice several boards of Birdseye maple in the floor of the Register of Deeds office. The ornate hinges and doorknobs, and the hand painted vault doors are other very interesting items to take the time to examine. The heavy framework visible in the attic of the building is also impressive, as well as the view of the surrounding countryside from the tower windows, although the steps leading to the top of the tower are no longer in the best condition.

A 26' by 47' fireproof addition to the west side of the court house was added in 1959 to house the auditor's office on the main floor, and the offices of sheriff and social services in the basement. The original bids accepted totaled \$28,576.44 for the general, electrical, and plumbing and heating contracts.

The courtroom was extensively remodeled, and various windows have been replaced, ceiling lowered, walls paneled throughout the building in the last twenty-five years. Also, an entry was built at the rear of the building since the energy crunch came into being. A new coal stoker was installed in 1978-79, bids for which were opened on December 16, 1977 and the bid of Frostad Plumbing & Heating, Valley City, was accepted in the amount of \$126,755.00 with final payments thereon approved on March 20, 1979.

The courthouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

-Lillie Simenson

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 15

MARTIN A. UELAND, COUNTY SURVEYOR

Martin Ueland was born in Norway in 1858. He studied English in Norway; went to high school in Flekkefjord and later to Trondhjem Technical School, knew German and French and studied to be an engineer.

His training as a surveyor was in great demand in the early years. He did some surveying in Montana before he settled on his homestead here. Mr. Ueland was elected county surveyor in 1882. Sections had been marked off by federal surveyors earlier; a hardwood stake had been buried on Section corners. From these Section stakes Mr. Ueland would chain off the quarter sections, eighties and forties. He was also in great demand in laying out of towns, roads, cemeteries and settling boundary disputes.

On April 4, 1911 Mr. Ueland had been appointed County Superintendent of Highways to comply with a new highway law. His annual salary was set at \$800.00, it being agreed between Mr. Ueland and the board that any public duties as County Surveyor would be performed by the Superintendent of Highways.

Mr. Ueland continued as Superintendent of Highways until January 1, 1917. He had been re-elected in the fall of 1916 but declined to qualify or to be a candidate. Mr. Ueland decided to continue to do surveying for those who needed his services.

In the *Griggs County Sentinel* for April 11, 1912 it was stated that Mr. Ueland had purchased a new Buick Roadster to be better able to attend to his duties. Prior to this Mr. Ueland had used horses, both single and double on a buggy or spring wagon.

Mr. Ueland's name was often mentioned in the Commissioner proceedings from 1911 through 1916. His annual reports were in detail and well written. On January 16, 1913

the County Commissioners took the occasion to express its appreciation of the ability and faithfulness of Mr. Ueland in the performance of his duties.

The Griggs County Historical Society has in its museum the chain, tripod and instruments used by Mr. Ueland as County Surveyor for more than 50 years.

ATTORNEYS

Iver Jacobson

Mr. Jacobson was an attorney and counsel or-at-law, born in Norway in 1851. He went to Wisconsin in 1867 and located at Waupun. After remaining there for two years, he went to LaCrosse, Wisconsin. There he received his education and studied law with Judge Mills of Arcadia. He was admitted to the Bar in the same district. He came to Dakota March 29, 1882, moving to Cooperstown in 1883. He set up the law and land office of Jacobson and Serumgard. He was still here in 1892 and possibly later.

John Jorgensen

Mr. Jorgensen was the first Clerk of District Court since its origin in April of 1882. He was also engaged land business, that is, in locating settlers on choice quarters, buying and selling, loaning money on final proofs, and attended to all branches of land business. By December of 1883 the *Courier* states:

"Mr. Jorgensen has a complete set of abstracts for Griggs County which enables him to give newcomers quick and positive information as to what land is vacant and what is taken."

In 1886 Mr. Jorgenson was still here making final proofs and conducting contests.

Byron Andrus

Byron Andrus, land and law attorney and real estate broker, came to Griggs County in July of 1882. He was one of the very first to engage in the business at Cooperstown. Andrus was the local agent for Griggs County of the Northern Pacific land department. He also tended to a land office business, made final proofs and loaned money for eastern capitalists. He was elected to be the first Judge of Probate.

William Glass, Esquire

William Glass was born at St. Clair, Michigan in 1853. He studied law in Cleveland, Ohio and subsequently became a sailor on the Great Lakes. He came to Dakota and settled on the site of Cooperstown, March of 1881. He was elected justice of peace for the county of Griggs in November of 1882. He opened a real estate and loan office soon after he arrived. He had two brothers, A.J. and N. J. Glass who owned farms near Cooperstown. He remained in the law, real estate and land office business here until 1910.

Fred A. Sabin

Fred Sabin was a lawyer, loan and real estate dealer born in Adrian, Michigan in 1856. He was educated in the same city where he also learned his trade, civil engineering. He came to Dakota in the fall of 1876, first locating at Fargo, and subsequently, in 1879, was on the government survey of northern Dakota for five years. In June of 1883, he established the business of law, loan and real estate at Cooperstown. He was here only a short time.

David Bartlett

David Bartlett was born in Lemorna, Maine in 1855, graduating in 1876 from the University of Michigan and the law school there. He came to Cooperstown in 1883 where he entered into a law and real estate firm with J. Stevens. He was gone from Cooperstown a few years, returning again in 1887. Throughout the years he was associated with William Glass and Frank Gladstone. He left here about 1912 and died in Massachusetts in 1913. Mr. Bartlett served on the committee that drew up North Dakota's constitution in 1888, served on the local school board and village board, and served two terms as lieutenant governor of North Dakota.

Benjamin Tufte

Benjamin Tufte was born near Bergen, Norway in 1861. He received his law degree from the University of Minnesota in 1895. Beginning in 1896, Tufte practiced law in Cooperstown and continued for forty years. During that time he served 24 years as States Attorney. He died in 1936.

Wadel Almklov

Wadel Almklov, the oldest son of S. Almklov was born in 1883. While in his high school years he lost his sight, but continued his education until he received his Bachelor of Arts and Law Degree from the University of North Dakota. He practiced law in Cooperstown from 1914 to the early 1920's; after which he resided at St. Paul, Fargo and Cooperstown until his death in 1977.

Other early attorneys included:

Judge MacLaren

AX Adams

Ole Serumgard

City Justice T.E. Warner

A.M. Baldwin

Spicer and Miller

Will H. Carleton

Will H. Carleton was originally from St. Clair, Michigan, and his name appears as a practicing attorney in Cooperstown in the earliest court records of Griggs County. He served as County Judge of Griggs County for many years and was serving in that capacity at the time of his death on July 7, 1940.

John Sad

John Sad began his practice of law in Cooperstown around 1914 and continued until approximately 1928, when he moved to Valley City to continue his practice there. While in Cooperstown he served as State's attorney from 1918 through 1924. He was for a time in partnership with M.W. Duffy.

In December 1951 he was appointed a District Judge of the seven-county First Judicial District with chambers in Valley City.

Oscar J. Thompson

O. J. Thompson began practice of law here around the year 1922 and continued therein until his death in May of 1953. Part of that time he practiced in partnership with M.W. Duffy. He served as state's attorney of Griggs County from 1925 through 1932, 1937 and 1938, 1943 until his death in 1953. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Knud Thompson, Cooperstown pioneers.

Maurice William Duffy

M.W. Duffy began his law practice in Cooperstown in the year 1925 and continued for 45 years until his death on June 25, 1970, at the age of 88. He was born at Camp Douglas, Wisconsin on October 31, 1881, and came to the Garske, North Dakota area as a child.

He graduated from the University of North Dakota Law School in Grand Forks, and served as Assistant Secretary of State in Bismarck before locating at Cooperstown.

He married Sarah McDonnell on November 23 1909, and they had a family of three daughters and two sons: Catherine, Beatrice, William, Miriam and Neil.

He served as state's attorney from 1939 through 1942, and from May, - 1953 through 1958. He practiced in partnership with John Sad, O. J. Thompson and A. C. Bakken at various times.

Albert C. Bakken

A.C. Bakken is a native of Sharon, Steele County, ND, and attended Mayville State College, University of Wisconsin, and received his law degree from the University of North Dakota.

He served as Steele County State's Attorney from January of 1949 to August 1951; as a counsel for the North Dakota State Tax Department in 1953 and 1954, and was first assistant attorney general for North Dakota in 1955, 1956.

He was in private practice in Bismarck in 1956 and 1957, and came to Cooperstown to practice law in partnership with M.W. Duffy in 1957. He was state's attorney of Griggs County from 1959 through 1966. He was appointed a district judge of the First Judicial District August 1, 1967, at which time he moved to Grand Forks.

He and his late wife, Shirley, were parents of three children: Gary, Glenn and Gay.

Alph J. Overby

Alph J. Overby opened his law office in Cooperstown in July of 1964, and continues at present. He was born and raised at Finley, North Dakota. He resided for a time at Seattle, Washington, working in a loan department, then moved to Minneapolis to work in the real estate department of the First National Bank of Minneapolis, before coming to Cooperstown. His family consists of his wife, Meriel, and children: Signe, Peter, Eric, and Sonja. He is presently serving as state's attorney of Griggs County, since 1967.

Other Attorneys

Allen R. Hawkins moved to Cooperstown in 1975 to be associated with Alph J. Overby in the practice of law. Originally from Jamestown, Allen attended Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn., and Duke University Law School, Durham, North Carolina, finishing there in December 1974. He and his family left here in 1979.

D.G. Topp came to Cooperstown around 1951 to open a law practice and moved to Fargo approximately seven years later to continue his practice there.

Joel Goplen, a licensed attorney, residing at Binford, has served as County Justice of Griggs County from around 1966 through 1982, which office replaced the former County Justice Of The Peace. On January 1, 1983 the offices of County Justice, County Judge, Small Claims Court, and County Courts of Increased Jurisdiction will be abolished, to form a new County Court, with a judge to be elected.

A. Warren Stokes moved to Cooperstown around 1969 to become a partner with Alph J. Overby and practiced here until around 1974, when he moved to Wahpeton to enter a law firm there. He served as Assistant State's Attorney here.

Gary Gronneberg graduated from the University of Minnesota and came to Cooperstown around 1976 to enter the law practice associated with Alph J. Overby. He moved to Grand Forks around 1978 to enter a firm there. While here, he served as Assistant State's Attorney for Griggs County.

Tom Henning moved to Cooperstown in July of 1979, and was affiliated with the Overby Law Office and also served as Assistant State's Attorney while here, until he and his wife, Darlene, and son, Mark, moved to Dickinson in July of 1981, where he became Assistant State's Attorney.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 19

DOWNSTAIRS AT THE COURTHOUSE

I was born October 3, 1902 on a farm near Cooperstown, North Dakota, called the Helena Farm what is now the town of Revere. The little house still is there just as it was then. My father, Mason Knapp, owned the farm then. Later we moved a few miles northwest to another farm. Papa, Mamma, and my brother Gail, four years older than I. Here Papa had more room for his big herd of sheep. This farm we called the Johnson Farm.

When I was one year old my mother fell and never walked again. Papa spent his two farms trying to get help for her but all in vain. The first year or so she went about on crutches, then in a wheel chair and the last two years of her life she was confined to her bed.

I was four years old when one stormy day we were loaded into a sleigh, my mother, brother, Papa's sister, and husband, and their little girl Grace, and Papa. Papa had nailed canvas over the top of a sleigh box and we had a lantern in there to keep us warm. We were moving to Cooperstown to live in the basement of the courthouse. Papa had been elected sheriff of Griggs County, his term to begin January 1, 1907. He served four years of which time I had lots of fun. I was into everything and nothing much missed entering my young mind. The prisoners were good friends of mine, gave me money for candy and had me speak and sing for them.

I started school when I was seven and used to pick Crocus on "Winger" Hill (vinegar).

I used to enjoy visiting the courtroom and the many offices in the courthouse. Sometimes we'd climb to the very top and view the town. One could get such a good sight of town and country from there.

The hall was long going to the furnace room with cells on each side for prisoners. This made a wonderful place to roller skate. Papa bought me a pair after he found out I could skate so well on borrowed ones. Oh, for fun we had! Other children came there and skated, too. Now I wonder how well the prisoners liked it - all that noise.

There were all kinds of people in the cells - some insane ones overnight or for a few days until Papa could take them to Jamestown, one or two who had committed murder were waiting trial and then to be taken to Bismarck to the penitentiary, others to sober up and others just serving a few days to 30 or 60 days. One time Papa was notified two safe crackers might hit Cooperstown and to be on the lookout for them. Someone saw two suspicious characters get off the train and saw them go into a cafe so they called Papa. He took along his deputy and went to the cafe. There they sat up to the counter, the only two strangers in there, so Papa pulled a gun on them. They were armed but didn't go for their guns. The deputy took them to jail. They had a little bag with them with their tools in for cracking safes and a bottle of nitro-glycerin. After they were securely locked in,

Papa buried the nitro-glycerin, as it's so terribly explosive. The one man, Tom Tracy, as he gave his name, was wanted some place far away. He was known as the second best safe cracker in the world - so it was said. I have no way of knowing for sure. He was taken away. The other one, Joe somebody (I forget), was there a - year. The last month of his time Papa would let him out of his cell and give him work to do around the house or down at the livery barn. He ate at the table with the family and was so good to Mamma. He pushed her wheel chair around wherever she wanted to go. I remember the day he was to leave. All morning he played our phonograph and visited with Mamma. When he said goodbye, he cried.

Once my father was called away to be gone overnight. He gave the housekeeper the keys to the two back doors and front door of the jail and told her to lock up early. She fed the prisoners early and went to get the keys to lock up and as she was about to close the door, two walked right by her and escaped. They had taken a watch spring and sawed two bars and bent the bars over with a table leg. One was recaptured but the other they never found.

My father, owned a livery barn and had many racehorses, one he named "Lulu-gail" after us two children. She was a great trotter and won many races. Little Dick Lockart was a pacer and won races at Cooperstown, Fargo, Jamestown, Wimbledon, and the nearby towns. I loved these horses and many times was with my father while training

them. I used to curl up with him on the high banks of horse blankets to sleep. Little Dick would eat anything from tobacco to candy. After school, my brother would put a sack of peanuts in his pocket and Dick would snoop around until he found them and then eat sack, peanuts, and all.

In 1910 my father went to Montana and filed on a claim. His office of sheriff ran out January 1, 1911. We then moved to a small house until Father could straighten his business and move to Montana. My mother was in bed very bad at this time but looked forward to going to Montana so much, but on July 1, 1911 she slept quietly away at 7 p.m. and on the 3rd we laid her to rest beside my father twelve miles west of Cooperstown.

In September I started my second year of school but only went two months. The latter part of October we bade North Dakota goodbye. My father and brother with furniture, farm machinery, Bess and Oakwood and Little Dick, two cows and a calf started for Montana in a boxcar. Our housekeeper and I left on the afternoon train. Many girl friends were at the train to say goodbye. Helen Stone gave me a box of chocolates, my first, and I was very proud of them.

-Lulu Knapp Quick

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 21

POST OFFICES

As early as the 1870's the Fort Totten to Fort Abercrombie mail trail crossed Griggs County. A station was maintained at the north end of Lake Jessie for mail carriers to rest and change teams. Traces of that dugout can still be seen.

The earliest settlers got their mail about once a month or whenever they or their neighbors went to Valley City. With the expansion of the settlement over the county, rural post offices began to be established. The first post office "Durham" was established in the summer of 1880 in Section 8 of Romness Township at the home of Andrew Durham. His brother-in-law, Frank Taper, was postmaster. Another post office called Lybeck was established on Section 25 with Andrew C. Knutson as postmaster. The mail was hauled from Newburg, near Hatton, and later a route was established from Valley City to Pembina.

The other early post offices of Gallatin and Mardell were both located near the Griggs-Steele County line in the early eighties. Gallatin was established October 24, 1881 in the present Sverdrup Township, with John H. Atchison as postmaster. Mat-dell post office was established April 3, 1882 in the present Washburn Township, with Dr. T.F. Kerr as postmaster. Other post offices established were: Helena in 1883, Peter Fiero as postmaster; MontClair in 1883, Daniel Sinclair, postmaster. Ottowa, Romness, Cottonwood and Willow post offices were established in 1883. In 1884 a post office was established at Lake Jessie with Mr. T.M. McCulloch as postmaster. More post offices came as the railroad was built and extended.

In February of 1883, "Al" Shue was awarded the contract for carrying the mail from Sanborn to Cooperstown, tri-weekly. A new star route was established from Sanborn to Mardell, via Cooperstown June 30, 1883. A. A. Cole had the contract. After September 1883, the United States mail was carried daily to Cooperstown, via the closed pouch over the new Sanborn, Cooperstown and Turtle Mountain Railroad.

Mail carriers were usually local people who furnished their own equipment: horses or mules and buggy or sled. Their roads were the trails of the prairie. The mail carriers could carry passengers to add to their income. Quoting the *Courier* the pay of some of these carriers were:

"S.A. Pond has the contract for carrying mail between Hope and Cooperstown, the price bid being \$554.00," February 26, 1886; "Joe McCulloch has been awarded the carrying of the Cooperstown to Harrisburg mail at \$750.00,"

February 26, 1886.

Later contracts:

"Contracts for carrying mail to Cottonwood, Jessie, Romness and Gallatin for the next four years have been let as follows: Cottonwood and Jessie to A. A. Cald of Algona, Iowa at \$166.00 per year; Gallatin to Gardner Cowles of Algona, Iowa at \$109.59 per year; Romness to Robert Boyd of Cleveland, Tennessee at \$114.00 per year,"

January 14, 1898.

A rural free mail delivery service was recommended at Cooperstown in 1901. By November 1903, Martin Rood was secured as the first carrier for Rural Route 1. Rural Route 2 was established in February of 1905 with Carl Scott as carrier and Rural Route 3 was established in April of 1909 with Angus Gardner as carrier. The *Courier* states:

"The job of mail carrier on Route #1 of Cooperstown pays \$60.00 per month,"

October 12, 1905.

The first Cooperstown postmaster was George Barnard who was appointed December 28, 1882. The post office was located in several locations the first years depending on where the local postmaster's business was located. Second was William C. Jameson who was appointed April 28, 1886. Augustus (Frank) Haskell was appointed December 5, 1889. While he was postmaster, the Cooperstown post office was raised from fourth to third class with a salary of \$1,000, because of increasing business. Other postmasters of Cooperstown have been as follows up to the present:

Oscar D. Purinton.....appointed February 15, 1893
 William C. Jameson.....appointed July 5, 1893
 Percy Trubshaw.....appointed June 15, 1897
 Victor F. Nelson.....appointed August 28, 1913
 Hans Kolstadappointed September 22, 1922
 Theodore A. Marquardt.....appointed March 13, 1927
 Clarence Stoneacting postmaster 1950
 Oscar Tangappointed June 27, 1952
 John Halvorsonofficer in charge August 14, 1976
 Jim Morkappointed December 31, 1977

GRIGGS COUNTY POPULATION 1980 AND 1930

	1980	1930	% Change
TOTAL Griggs Co.	3719	6889	-46%

Binford	292	317	- 8%
Cooperstown	1306	1053	+24%
Hannaford	201	351	-43%
Addie	85	210	-60%
Bald Hill	120	260	-54%
Bartley	48	221	-78%
Broadview	68	275	- 75%
Bryan	63	254	-75%
Clearfield	94	195	-52%
Cooperstown	107	231	-54%
Dover	79	260	-70%
Greenfield	137	337	-59%
Helena	71	253	-72%
Kingsley	100	212	-53%
Lenora	101	239	-58%
Mabel	126	376	-66%
Pilot Mound	88	295	-70%
Romness	72	267	-73%
Rosendal	68	176	-61%
Sverdrup	112	315	-64%
Tyrol	179	325	45%
Washburn	90	243	-63%
Willow	112	224	-50%

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 23

JESSIE POSTOFFICE HAS LONG HISTORY

According to the last line of the Lake Jessie Historical Marker, "The mail carriers had a shelter on the east end of Lake Jessie from 1867-1872." At that time the stage from Fort Abercrombie, Dakota Territory to Fort Totten was the mode of transportation, and shelter and horse changes were available there - the remains of a cave just south of the Orville Tweed home immediately south of the NP track marks the spot of the shelter.

In the early 1880's, mail was distributed by William T. McCulloch at his farm home. The mail was carried by horse, sled, foot or whatever from end of track to McCulloch's by Knute O. Buxgard.

According to Postal records, on October 14, 1884, William T. McCulloch was appointed Postmaster of "Jessie, Griggs County, Dakota Territory." The nearest office on the route was Cooperstown, 11 miles SE and the nearest office, not on this route, was Willow, 7 miles NW. The Jessie Post office was located on the Southeast corner of Lake Jessie, very near the present home of Jud and Ginger King. The patrons as they then were called (indeed "patrons" was the word until USPO Dept. became USPS July 1,

1971) would go to McCulloch's home and pick up and send their mail. The original desk with distribution boxes attached is now in the Griggs County Historical Society Museum at Cooperstown.

When the Northern Pacific Branch Line arrived in 1899, Frank Pfeifer sold the southwest corner of his homestead to the Northern Pacific Railroad. NP later sold it to a Mr. and Mrs. J.E. Mellem who planned to name the town "Mellemville." However, early settlers persuaded them to call it "Jessie" after the Lake Jessie, which had been so named in 1839 by Lt. John C. Fremont in honor of his fiancée - Jessie Benton.

Mr. Wilson J. Hummer was named Postmaster on December 8, 1899 and he had the "Postoffice on the line North side of the NP track, 15 feet from track" according to his topographer report. It showed the nearest office "Cottonwood about 5 miles by the traveled road, in a northerly direction." The nearest Postoffice on the same route was Cooperstown, and the nearest office "off the route is Binford." Postmaster Hummer had the dubious honor of having served the shortest time, December 8, 1899 to October 15, 1900 - suppose he couldn't stand another Christmas in the Postoffice?

The next Postmaster was Andrew Hjort who was appointed October 15, 1900. The Post office was moved to lot 5 block 13 on Main Street - it is believed Hjort-Thinglestad ran a general store located on the west side of Main where the home of the late Gus Sues stands.

Otto E. Back became Postmaster on December 10, 1906, and the Postoffice itself was on the same site.

On July 10, 1909, Nels O. Haugen was named Postmaster at Jessie. Haugen owned a two-story hardware store on the Northwest corner of Main Street and Grant Avenue where the Bendicksons later lived. Actually it was the lot west of the house.

Oscar M. Roney, an elevator operator bought the Haugen Hardware and became Postmaster at Jessie October 6, 1913.

By the spring of 1918, the United States had become involved in World War 1, Jessie town had reached its height and one by one the businesses were beginning to dwindle. The Haugen Hardware was one of the fire victims.

Fred Rule had purchased from Herman Hovel the J.E. Laffin Store on the Southwest corner of Main Street and Grant Avenue. The Rules had a confectionery shop and pool table along with the Post Office. Mrs. Grace Rule was appointed Postmaster April 30, 1918.

Mrs. Ovidia (Anderson) Dahl became acting Postmaster October 6, 1925. She and C.P. Dahl bought the Rule Store and converted it to a general store. The Post Office remained in the same Northeast corner of Dahl's Cash Store.

On March 1, 1948, Reynold (Punch) Hovel, eldest grandson of the late Frank Pfeifer who originally homesteaded the site of Jessie, bought the store. On June 12, 1948 Mary E. (Mary Punch to Jessie people) Hovel assumed charge of the Post Office. She received her commission as Postmaster on February 3, 1949.

The Post Office was in the same Northeast corner of the now Hovel's Cash Store and remained there until Black Friday, June 30, 1961 when the store was destroyed by fire. For the next few days, the Jessie Hall served as Post office.

From July 5 to August 1, 1961, the Jessie State Bank Building, owned then by Art Anderson, located on the Northeast corner of Main Street and Grand Avenue housed the Post Office. Makeshift fixtures included an old separation case that was salvaged from Knutson's garage and scrubbed to high heaven, bearing such names as Art, Bud, Ed. R., Ed. Z., Bill D., Henry, Frank M., Frank F., Frank W., Swede, Rudy, Gary, Sig, Ed. and Margaret, NAPUS, Harvey, Alf, West Prairie, Math, Punch, (my memory's too slow to match the box number to the name, indeed I must have forgotten some of the names). Anyway it was business as usual in a most unusual manner until August 1, 1961 when the Post Office was located on the Southeast corner of Main Street and Grant Avenue, thus having been located on all four corners of that intersection. The present lock boxes were supplied by a good friend, M.A. Ellingrud, former Postmaster at Buxton, North Dakota. The frame to hold the Post Office was built by E.B. Ressler, Tony Becherl, with the assistance from Punch Hovel and Margaret Pella.

Soon Jessie Post Office will have completed 98 years as an official U.S. Post Office, but if one counts the years that the Army outpost on the Southeast corner of Lake Jessie served the early settlers, we are already 115 years old -ancient, yes?

(The foregoing account was written by "Mary Punch" Hovel who retired in October of 1981 as Postmaster in Jessie).

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 23

BUFFALO BONES

Explorer Alexander Henry traveled in the region in 1800 and described buffalo herds in great numbers about the Turtle, Park, Goose and Sheyenne rivers. In places small timber had been destroyed and great piles of wool lay at the foot of the trees, where the buffalo had rubbed against them.

Forty years later Alexander Ross, a Canadian trader, witnessed a buffalo hunt on the Sheyenne River by a party of professional hunters. He counted tongues of 1,375 buffalo that had been killed in one day. Very little else was salvaged from the slaughtered animals in that hunt.

In 1839, explorers Jean Nicolett and John C. Fremont traveled in North Dakota. They entered the state in the Oakes area, went north along the James, then crossed over to the Sheyenne and followed it north. One of their camping places and a landmark for later parties of transcontinental travelers, was a lake that Fremont named Jessie after his fiancée. In the Sheyenne valley an immense herd of buffalo hampered their progress for three days.

In 1853, another party of travelers came through and buffalo were again mentioned. This time it was a railway survey party. After the discovery of gold in California the need for a transcontinental railroad was evident and various routes were to be surveyed. General Isaac Stevens, newly appointed governor of Washington Territory, was appointed to survey the north route on his way to his new post. He crossed the Red river into North Dakota near Wahpeton in early June and the party followed the route, which is now the Great Northern Surrey cutoff.

At Lake Jessie a herd of buffalo estimated at two hundred thousand crowded about the lake. In attempting to force buffalo away from the baggage train, Stevens injured himself

and had to ride in the ambulance the rest of the way to Fort Union, west of the present site of Williston. (An artist with the party drew a picture of the buffalo herd at Lake Jessie and it was among the illustrations used in the published railway survey report.)

But huge as the herds were, the end was beginning. For several years, 90,000 hides a year were handled by trading companies. These were only from animals killed from November to March, when the hides were prime.

As early as 1845, thoughtful observers protested the wasteful, wholesale slaughter of buffalo. That it continued until there were less than nine hundred buffalo left alive on the entire North American continent is a matter of record.

The buffalo was the backbone of the economy of the Plains Indians. "Uncle Buffalo," as they called him, was used as a commodity and venerated as a symbol.

They fed on the flesh, either fresh or dried and preserved as pemmican. Sinews were used for thread. The skins, as one observer pointed out, served as "tepees, raiment, bedding, carpets, canvas, bullboats, baskets, buckets and cases for pemmican and fat, strings for their bows, ropes for tethering animals, lariats for catching young buffalo and at the end were used for shroud and coffin." Dried and made into pemmican, the meat would keep for years, early historians wrote.

The loss of the buffalo impoverished the Indians and forced them to accept the terms imposed upon them.

As late as 1877 dried buffalo meat and pemmican were sold at Pembina, but the era of "Uncle Buffalo" had ended.

By the early 1880's, when the first homesteaders began to arrive in Griggs County, the buffalo were long gone, and Indians were rare and infrequent visitors.

But though the living beasts were gone, the prairies still carried marks of their passing. Deep trails through the grass, and basin-shaped wallows gave evidence of their presence a quarter century before. Bleached, dry buffalo bones lay all over. (Though the bones are now gone, many trails remain in 1982.)

For many early settlers, buffalo bones were their first cash crop. The bones were shipped to Detroit, Michigan, to be ground into fertilizer and stores in Cooperstown bought the bones eagerly.

In 1884 the Cooperstown *Courier* reported, "A leading industry between seeding and the breaking season is the gathering of buffalo bones. They are worth \$9 (a ton) in Cooperstown and dozens of teams are coming in every day loaded down. An ordinary wagon load is worth \$6."

Later it was reported that 250 tons of buffalo bones had been purchased and were awaiting shipment. This represented bones from at least 10,000 animals! Next year, the price went up to \$13 a ton and later that year it climbed again to \$18 a ton. It was estimated that \$8000 was paid out for buffalo bones in Cooperstown that year. This figures out to somewhere near 500 tons, or bones from 20,000 animals.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 24

Cooperstown THE BURG WAS JUMPING

"The tingling of the scratch awl, the song of the handsaw and the click, click of dozen hammers about town" was music to the ears of the early arrivals in the new town of Cooperstown in January of 1883.

By March the *Courier* further reported: "In time to come, 'how our little town grew in the first two months of 1883' will always be a pardonable theme. The building boom continues with an almost deafening racket."

Later, "The way newcomers have been pouring into town these days is a caution."

April 6: "The frames for six business places have risen from the face of the earth this week in Cooperstown, to say nothing of numerous dwellings. There is happiness in life when one can see things jump as in this burg. The way things hum about town is simply grand."

The first train did not reach Cooperstown until August 27, 1883. Building materials for the earlier construction were hauled in by mule freight or ox teams ("steered" in, as the phrase went).

Cooperstown was born in 1882, when Bonanza farmer R.C. Cooper hired surveyors to plat a town in his wheat field on Section 24-146-59. The plat was filed October 26, 1882. Town and Township were named Cooperstown, after the founder.

The energetic Mr. Cooper foresaw the rapid settlement of the area, and set about establishing a town to serve the needs of the settlers, where they could sell their wheat and buy supplies.

Among the necessities were a branch line railroad, stores, a newspaper to advertise the area and attract more settlers, roads, and a county seat.

Cooper, who was a county commissioner, had a part in getting a bridge built across the Sheyenne River at about the present site of the Highway 200 Bridge. The first bridge was higher than grade level, and had crossplanks on the incline leading up to the bridge to give horses a footing. A road was built (early roads were considered smooth enough if a load of grain could be hauled over them without bouncing the grain over the sides of the wagon.)

How Cooperstown became the county seat and built a courthouse is told elsewhere.

The little boomtown grew with considerable help from its founder.

Mr. Cooper either financed or helped arrange financing for a good many of the early business establishments in Cooperstown.

By the end of 1884 the town had 36 business places, a schoolhouse, and an unknown number of houses.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 26

THE VILLAGE OF COOPERSTOWN

In its first ten years the townsite of Cooperstown was governed by the county and Township. In 1892 a petition was presented to the county commissioners asking for an election on the question of incorporating as a village. The election was held, and the Village of Cooperstown, population 433, came into being. Percy Trubshaw was appointed mayor pro-tem until the second election to elect village officers.

Electors, all male and 21, or over, selected a board of three trustees, a marshal, clerk, assessor, and justice of the peace. Three districts were drawn along lines that are not far from the present ward boundaries.

The first board voted not to take any salary for themselves. The marshal was to be paid a salary, and the justice of the peace was to take what he could in fines,

The new board was made up of:

John Ole District I

David Bartlett District II

John Syverson District III

Will H. Carleton Clerk

K. Hegge Marshal

J.D. Johnson Assessor

E.W. Blackwell Treasurer

T.E. Warner Justice of Peace

J.C. Flynnwas appointed as town poundmaster.

Bartlettwas named president of the council, thus mayor.

Fire protection, traffic control, streets and sidewalks, sanitation, crime control, utilities franchises, annexation of property and livestock control were among the needs addressed by the village council. Members of the present day city council might ponder the fact that the first dog ordinance was passed in May of 1897, and sounded not too different from those now in effect. Every few years a new one was added to the books.

The details of early laws and council action differ from todays in some respects as in the problem of fire protection. In 1893 the council paid Andrew Johnson \$16 to plow a firebreak. The 1894 ordinance establishing the fire zone specifies that ashes must be kept in closed fireproof containers and not dumped on the ground, and that loose straw, manure, paper or other combustibles must not be left out in the open; and that stovepipes leading up through the roof must be encased in a chimney. (The fire zone limits were revised sometimes but in general they have always included the four blocks that comprise the downtown business district.) Shooting of fireworks was prohibited and it was forbidden to run a steam engine within the fire limits.

A look at the laws of a community gives an insight into the community's habits, needs, and way of life. Early fire ordinances were designed to protect residents of a town whose buildings were of wood and who may have been a wee bit careless with ashes. Another early ordinance (1893) established 11 p.m. as closing time for any "pool rooms, billiard room, game room or drinking resort."

In 1894 the council assessed \$500 for roads and passed the first speed law: "any person or persons driving or riding animals at more than a moderate speed shall be guilty of a misdemeanor."

A later ordinance in 1894 prohibited driving or riding animals or vehicles on the sidewalks. In 1896 that prohibition was extended to bicycles on the sidewalks of Burrell Avenue between 8th and 10th Streets. In 1915 that was amended to include children on roller skates, coaster wagons, scooters and like contrivances.

At the same time that the village was spending \$500 on the streets, the council was overseeing the building of a network of board sidewalks over town. In rain or snow the

streets were not in good condition for pedestrians. Probably they were not safe either, if animals were being driven at more than a moderate speed.

Sidewalk Ordinance.

It is hereby ordered that a wooden sidewalk be constructed in the village of Cooperstown, on Burrell avenue, on the south end of lots 14, 15, 16 and 17, of block 60, said walk to be built of new two-inch plank not, less than six inches wide and twelve feet long, and laid upon four two by eight stringers, laid lengthwise of said street and on the side next said street to be supported by a stone wall laid in mortar the same as the balance of the walk on said street: said walk to be laid on uniform incline from the east side of lot thirteen to the west side of lot eighteen.

The owners of said lots are hereby notified to cause said walk to be built within thirty days from the date hereof, or the village will construct the same and cause the costs to be taxed up against said lots.

Cooperstown, N. D, July 13, 1897

By order of the board of trustees,
Will H. Carleton
Clerk

In October 1894, the village board ordered a sidewalk built in a zigzag course from 10th and Burrell (Syverson Store corner) to the south side of Block 18 (high school).

April 2, 1895, the village contracted with Waterous Fire Engine Works Company of St. Paul for fire equipment:

- One #2 steam fire engine

- Hose and hose cart

- A 450 lb. fire bell with frame for hanging

- Two fire hooks for pulling down buildings

Two weeks later a fire department was organized and Maynard Crane was elected chief.

In June bids were called on an engine house, and the council accepted Henry Haugen's bid to have it enclosed and in shape by July 19 for \$270. Contractor Moffatt was low bidder at \$85 on the 14' x 12' cistern, guaranteed not to leak. For the next several years the council bought a lot of hose and other fire-fighting equipment.

But back to controlling the unruly.

A rather broad nuisance ordinance was written early on: "When in the opinion of the board there exists in the town anything that is in their opinion injurious to the health or morals or adds to danger of fire or is unclean or obscene they may by resolution order the same removed or abated." In the spirit of the original, new ordinances were added prohibiting the picketing of stock on streets and alleys and mandating that residents must keep their outhouses ready for inspection. A later ordinance required that outhouses be cleaned at night. At later times, various moves were made to protect community morals.

And, during the summer months when the transient population was greatest, a night watchman was hired to help the town marshal. The salary of the night watchman was \$50 a month in 1897.

The bicycle craze in the gay nineties led to a city ordinance regulating bicycle traffic. In 1897 the council voted to adjust the assessments on 16 bikes.

In 1897 the village of Cooperstown organized a special school district. (A special district is one that supports a high school). Women were permitted to vote in the election, and to hold school offices. David Bartlett became president of the school board. He had previously served as the village's first mayor and as a member of the state constitutional convention. Bartlett also served North Dakota as Lt. Governor. Mrs. R.M. Cowan was the first woman on the board and the others were F.J. Stone, O.A. Melgaard and Andrew Berg.

In 1898 the village bought land from Knud Thompson for a dump ground.

The next year Northwestern Telephone Exchange Company, received approval for telephone service and permission to run poles, wires and facilities in streets, alleys and public ground.

In 1903 a franchise was issued for an electric power plant.

The last order for a wooden sidewalk was dated June 1, 1904. By the next year, the Cooperstown Tile Works was in business and ordinance decreed that all sidewalks thereafter must be of block or stone (concrete).

The village allocated \$6000 for the general fund in 1904, up considerably from the 1901 levy of \$3500.

In November 1906 the residents voted to incorporate as a City.

Minutes of the early years were written in longhand. Will Carleton and Basil Edmondson served long years as clerk of the council.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 27

CITY OF COOPERSTOWN

In 1906 Cooperstown voters approved a proposal to incorporate as a city. As the city's first mayor they elected John Syverson who had also served a term as mayor of the village.

Syverson, a pioneer merchant who ran a thriving department store, was described by some as "a man with a heart of concrete." The term was generally complimentary, referring to his interest in sidewalks, among other things. He was responsible for building many structures in Cooperstown, and his interest in beautifying the town by planting trees is legendary. It is said that Cooperstown's fine stands of old trees are mainly John Syverson's doing. Mr. Syverson's last public act before his death in 1932 was to participate in a tree planting ceremony at the high school.

Fire protection continued to be a major concern for the new city, as it had been for the village. In February of 1907, the city bought a sleigh to carry fire hose to fires and voted to procure runners for the chemical engine.

Carlander was the contractor on a number of concrete sidewalks built in 1907. Price for the work was \$1.10 a square yard on sidewalks, street and alley crossings cost \$2.25

per square yard, 12" curb 50 cents a lineal foot, and gutters 35 cents a lineal foot. Quite a lot of that sidewalk and some of the curb still remain in good condition.

Electricity, as per the quotation from Platt Electric, was to cost not more than 65 cents per month for each 16 candlepower nor more than 13.5 cents per kilowatt. The city ordered electric streetlights installed at sixteen street corners. That same year a crossing was built over the railroad tracks on Park Boulevard to connect east and west Cooperstown on the north.

More street lights and more sidewalks were installed in 1908 and that year the council signed an authorization permitting the Midland Continental Railroad to build a line through Cooperstown and in 1913, when Midland Continental still seemed to be a going concern, voted to give it use of Howard Avenue, south of Highway 7 which was Rollin Avenue through town. The Midland Continental proved to be a promoter's dream and ended up with only a few miles of track in south central North Dakota. It never got as far as Cooperstown.

J.A. Moffatt was the successful bidder for the 1909 concrete work, bidding lower than Edland Brothers.

In 1909 the council voted to install streetlights in the middle of the street over the intersections.

And, to keep children home where they belonged, a curfew was adopted. From October to April, children had to be off the streets at 8 p.m. In the warmer months, they could be out until nine.

By 1910 the city had a band and it was agreed that the band could practice in the fire hall when the building was not otherwise in use. (History repeats: In 1981 the city has a community band funded by a small city levy and it practices in the city hall.)

Mohn Brothers were selected as the contractor for cement work in 1912. That was also the year an ordinance opposing spitting and littering was enacted.

Users of electric lights complained about the quality of service in 1913. There were complaints in 1914 from citizens about noisy windmills on the Hammer and Condry and J.C. Flynn premises.

In 1914 an ordinance was passed requiring that all new buildings in the fire zone be of fireproof material. A whistle on Hall's air tank was to be used as a fire alarm.

The city leased Block 58 from Maynard Crane in 1914 for use as a public playground. The city later bought the block and a public playground was maintained on the east half of the block for at least thirty years before the city began to sell the lots for commercial use.

In 1915 the council looked into using a steam whistle at the flourmill site for a fire siren.

In the years around World War I there were occasional requests to the council for city assistance for families that had fallen upon hard times. Direct assistance was given in the form of a load of coal or food. Most often it was coal.

In 1916 a bandstand, built about five years earlier, was moved onto the playground's park site. An instructor (today she would be called a recreation director) was hired for the playground.

In the year 1917 the council once more enacted a dog ordinance, bringing up to date the ordinance of 1907. (The 1917 ordinance was amended the next year) Of more lasting benefit, the council began to study a proposal for a city water and sewer system, and brought the matter to a vote of the people. Not long afterward they voted to donate the old toilet at the fire hall to the Fair Association and purchase a sanitary closet for the fire hall. On request of Mr. Turnipseed, the council agreed to buy a community Christmas tree.

The 1918 city budget amounted to \$10,200. Itemized, the money paid for the following things:

Poor relief fund	\$200 proposed, raised to \$400
Playground and gym	\$300
Street and alley	\$2000
City hall	\$400
Fire department	\$1000
Officers' salaries	\$1100
Police department	\$2300
Street lights	\$1800
Cement work	\$600
Contingency	\$300

These appropriations were adopted unanimously. A bid for gravel at 60 cents a yard was accepted. Road workers were paid thirty cents per hour for labor on the street.

A poll tax of \$1.50 was levied. (Originally the poll tax was one day's labor on the streets). Electric rates were raised to 15 cents per kw that year. C.S. Christianson owned the power plant by that time. Urgent matters occupied the council in 1918. The Spanish flu epidemic struck this community, bringing illness, hardship and death here as well as around the world. In October the council met in special session to declare an emergency and to designate the old Andrews Hotel (still standing at the corner of 10th and Lenham) as a hospital and to staff it.

Later the council passed resolutions of condolence to the families of Alderman John Regner and Police Chief Anton Christianson, who died of the flu.

In 1919 the city bought the playground block from Maynard Crane for \$7500.

That fall the city raised its pay for street labor to 45 cents per hour to the end of the year, owing to the difficulties of keeping street labor during threshing season.

A serious coal shortage in November caused the city to declare a state of emergency.

The old Palace Hotel, a showplace when it was built in 1883, was no longer in use and had deteriorated to the point where it was a fire hazard.

The basement of the Farmers and Merchants Bank was to be rented by the city for use as a meeting room for the firemen and the city council.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 30

The Twenties

A test well was dug in Block 58 as the city prepared to begin work on the city water and sewer project. All bids for excavating and concrete work for the tower abutments,

reservoirs and pumphouse were rejected and the council voted to do that part of the work with day labor. City street work was bid for 1920 with Court Bonewell the lower bidder at \$8 per day with teams. He underbid Stromme and Graby who submitted a bid for \$10 a day, and Theo. Aaker at 85 cents per hour.

The project included city well, pump house, water tower, reservoir, hydrants, easement and purchase of land for sewer outfall, and an undetermined number of blocks of water and sewer lines which form the nucleus of today's city water system. Many of the original mains are still in use. As nearly as can be determined, the price of the work was less than \$250,000.

In September the city bought an acre of land from Frank Pfeifer for septic tank purposes. Thor Hetager was named official water tapper, and M. Cussons was to man the pumps in time of emergency.

A controversy developed with the water system contractor and the council voted to withhold final payment of \$810 until the city had determined that the street crossings were in satisfactory condition. This refers to the extensions of the sidewalks crossing the streets at the corners to keep pedestrians out of the mud.

The year 1921 was notable for a couple of things: one was that the city election was held on the wrong day and at the wrong hours. It could have been worse. Since the election had been well publicized in advance, it was declared legal.

The other was that North Dakota Highway 7 (Rollin Avenue) was graveled through the city limits. The city asked for government aid and appropriated \$900 as its share, later adding another \$700. The city levied \$12,000 in taxes that year. Salaries for Halvor Sharpe, street commissioner, Martin Rood, chief of police, and the night watchman, not named, were \$100 a month.

In 1923 yet another dog ordinance was passed. The council found it necessary that year to fence the dump ground to confine the rubbish.

During the 1920's several of Cooperstown's original frame buildings began to disintegrate. Many had suffered small fires and had been abandoned. Downtown Cooperstown's most serious fire of all time destroyed four buildings at the corner of Ninth and Burrell in 1929.

Some of them were replaced with new buildings, others were demolished and the space stood vacant. Among those replaced were the old Palace Hotel at the southeast corner of Block 60, and the frame buildings at the middle of the south side of Block 60. The Palace Motors building, now occupied by Sheyenne Tool and Die and the brick "Penney Store" building now occupied by Coast to Coast are from that era. In 1930 the brick buildings now housing the Oasis and the dress shop were constructed.

In 1925, Robert Allen was granted a license to operate a dance hall in the Marquardt opera house (about where the Coachman Inn now stands) for three months. That year the water tower was painted for \$150 and a light put on top.

A public rest room was provided jointly by the Commercial Club and the city. Later the Order of Eastern Star offered to install a public drinking fountain. (Cooperstown eventually had two public fountains; one in front of what is now the Oasis, the other in front of the theater.)

From time to time the council invoked the city fire code. Erick Erickson's smokehouse for his meat market was ordered removed, and R. Anderson was ordered to remove all additions to his icehouse that were not fireproof.

Approval was given to the telephone company's request to dig a ditch for cable on 9th street in 1926.

That was also the year when the electrical system was converted from direct current to alternating current.

After a lapse of a few years the city once more hired a supervisor for the city playground on the east half of Block 58. The city park system at that time also included the block where the water tower stands. When the council gave approval for tourist camping at the city park; that was probably the park they meant.

In 1929 the council acted on a communication from the school board regarding schoolboys frequenting pool halls. The police department was instructed to warn the establishments about the law and ask them to remedy the situation.

Cooperstown's golfers played on a course at the fairgrounds.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 31

The Thirties

In 1930 the city sent a delegation to a meeting of the Missouri River Development Commission at Devils Lake. The organization was a forerunner of the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District.

Troubles developed with the city water and sewer system. Chronic shortages in the water fund made it necessary to issue \$23,500 in water bonds to pay off the original project. Meanwhile, there was also a shortage of city water and the city began a search for an abundant supply that did not end until 1954, when wells were dug at the Sheyenne River and the water piped to town.

Electric rates were thought to be too high, and the city looked into the possibility of a municipal power plant.

R. J. Lockner became street commissioner in 1931. Two years later C.J. Sutter became chief of police in Cooperstown. Both men worked for the city for many years.

Although the area was experiencing hard times, the city celebrated its fifteenth anniversary July 7, 1932, with a parade and other festivities. The city council issued a notice asking that residents of Cooperstown "endeavor to discourage the commercialization" of the event. People who remember the grass-roots celebration say it was a good one. It was reported that 7000 people attended. As part of the commemoration, the Opheim log cabin was moved from its original site near the Sheyenne River to the courthouse lawn in Cooperstown.

On a less festive note, the council decreed in May that all persons who had received poor relief in the past year would be required to plant and maintain a garden or they would not receive help.

That year Mr. T.G. Thompson and Mr. Shelstad met with the council to discuss the establishment of a city airport.

Anyone owing money to the city in 1933 could haul gravel to balance the account. National Prohibition ended that year, and the first beer licenses were issued, to P.J. Tang,

John Dahlbom and R.O. Miller. Sale of hard liquor continued to be prohibited in North Dakota.

The city became involved in the fairgrounds after the Griggs County Fair Association developed financial troubles. As the depression continued, public works projects were developed. The Mayor applied for men and teams for the duration of the public works program to work on digging test wells, improving park projects and graveling streets.

One of the park projects was the construction of a grandstand at the fairgrounds using materials from the old south barn on the premises. (The 1934 grandstand burned in 1962.)

A proposed dam on the Sheyenne River east of Cooperstown and south of Highway 7 was discussed and supported.

The city levied \$8000 for 1934-35.

A federal works project for the city involved graveling 40 blocks of streets and the cemetery road. Thirty men would be hired for 15,000 hours, and there would be 1000 hours of work for teams of horses. By midsummer 1935 the project was done and the city was authorized to use the remaining allotted hours between the golf course and the cemetery.

In a gesture destined to be forgotten, a women's club declared the Larkspur to be the official city flower, and proclaimed that Cooperstown was to be known as Delphinium City. Very few people ever called it that.

The public works project for the winter of 1935-36 was to be the paving of Burrell Avenue. The pay scale for the F.E.R.A. project: teams \$.25 per hour; common laborers, teamsters, watchmen, .40 per hour; skilled labor and truck drivers, .50 per hour; handymen, cement finisher's helpers, oiler, bricklayer's helper and similar jobs, .60 per hour; and up to \$1.00 per hour tops for blade grader operator and others with specialized skills.

In 1936 the F.E.R.A. had given way to WPA, which was to repair sidewalks, curbs and gutters in the city.

Highway 45 through town was to be oiled in 1936, and a delegation from Cooperstown went to Bismarck to see if the whole road could be oiled, not just a strip in the middle. No one recalls how they came out.

The band received a 1.5 mill levy in 1936.

Also in 1936, the Junior Chamber of Commerce proposed to construct a wading pool on the playgrounds, using NYA labor. A CCC camp was to be established in Cooperstown while Ueland Dam was being built. The National Youth Authority and the Civilian Conservation Corps were both federal employment projects for youth.

In 1936 an initiated measure was passed in North Dakota, legalizing the sale of hard liquor. The city went into the off-sale liquor business with a municipal store. Martin Johnson was hired to run it. The welfare board asked for strict control of liquor sales to WPA clients. Six beer licenses were issued that year.

In 1938 the city bought a new fire alarm and spent ten dollars on a secondhand tower, bought from Sam Langford, to mount the siren. A \$298 Chevrolet truck was bought to be built into a fire truck. The water tower was painted again, this time for the sum of \$335.

Several persons became ill from typhoid in 1938, and the city established an ordinance limiting milk sales to those who held permits. For several years afterward Cooperstown had a milk inspector.

A project to enlarge Berg Gymnasium began to take shape. It was to use recycled lumber from an elevator, and WPA labor. The city hall-fire hall was also a WPA project of that era, built by the alley in the northwest part of Block 60 out of the old King-Bruns building.

Ole Stromme, a farmer north of Cooperstown, reported to the council that 10 tons of hay and 10 bushels of wheat burned when fire spread from the city dump onto his field.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 32

The Forties

The forties were as eventful as any decade in history. At their beginning, the great depression was just ending, followed by World War II, which was followed by a building boom.

Blackout regulations affected street lighting in 1942 and following.

Otter Tail Power Company, in 1944, was granted the electrical franchise in Cooperstown formerly held by Central Light and Power.

Some beginnings were made: In 1942, eight blocks in Cooperstown's northeast corner were designated as a city golf course. (In 1945 the pasture where the golf course was located was rented to Charles Smith for \$25 a year with the understanding that the city people would be allowed to use the ground for playing golf if so desired.)

The city council continued to reaffirm its interest in Missouri River diversion.

Another dog ordinance was enacted.

Four establishments were licensed to sell beer in 1945.

In 1945 the subject of airport development was once again proposed to the council, and the next year the city bought a quarter Section of land one mile south of town, in Washburn Township. Price paid for the land was \$2,500.

The fund drive for a hospital was started in 1946, and the city reserved lots 19-20 in block 46 for a hospital site. When the hospital was built it occupied the entire south half of that block. In 1946 the city went out of the liquor business after municipal stores were declared illegal. A non-profit group was organized to run the liquor store.

The search continued for a water supply as the postwar building boom began and with it the extension of water and sewer lines to new parts of town.

Several residents of the community met with the council to ask that the city establish a municipal power company. Later Otter Tail Power Company offered to supply the city with a generating unit in exchange for a twenty-year franchise. After several months' deliberation, the city gave Otter Tail the franchise.

In 1949 the council approved on-sale liquor and granted a license to the Municipal Association.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 33

The Fifties

Building continued in the decade of the fifties - many veterans took out GI loans at low rates of interest.

The city water project of 1954 involved digging three wells near the Fluto Bridge at the Sheyenne River, and piping the water to the city. In 1956 the city decided to do its own street surfacing. There was also talk of city garbage disposal on a voluntary basis at a dollar a week.

Block 20 was designated as the site for a city park and swimming pool. The original pool was built with mostly volunteer labor at a cost of \$21,786. Donated funds were used, and no tax money went into the construction. The first pool was replaced in the seventies.

The city celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary in 1957.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 34

The Sixties

When the state proposed to rebuild Highway 7 (later Highway 200) two possible routes were presented. The state gave the city a chance to have the highway continue to pass through town if Cooperstown would pay the expense. City voters rejected the idea 139-257. The highway bypass project was scheduled for 1961. Highway 45 was rebuilt in 1965.

A fourth well was dug at the river. The sewer lagoon was built in 1961.

Another dog ordinance was written in 1962.

The Griggs County Fair was revived in 1965, and the city deeded the fairgrounds back to the Fair Association after owning them for some thirty years.

The city had a major fire in the fall of 1965. The Windsor Hotel and the adjacent dry cleaners building burned to the ground.

In 1968 the city agreed to buy, license, insure and maintain an ambulance.

A large dam on the Sheyenne River near Cooperstown was proposed as a flood control measure to benefit downstream communities. It was unanimously opposed by people of the area, and the plan was dropped.

In 1968 the city voted to buy the ASCS building at the corner of 9th and Burrell for a city library (59% of the funding came from a library grant) and to build new city facilities including a fire hall, meeting room and office, at the northwest corner of block 60 and to build an unheated storage building in the northeast part of town. The hall was completed and dedicated in 1970.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 34

The Seventies

There was another dog ordinance in 1970. That year, hourly wages for adults working for the city went up from \$1.50 to \$1.75. Monthly wages ranged from \$375-\$550. A snowmobile ordinance was passed in 1971. A fire at the dump ground near the airport spread and burned a field of alfalfa. The city began to discuss a sanitary landfill to replace the dump ground.

A grass green golf course was proposed in 1973.

Construction of low-rent housing for the elderly was approved.

The city bought the old building once used as a light plant, later as a turkey processing plant, and still later as a warehouse by Hildre Implement. It was razed and Burrell Avenue extended across the tracks. The building was built astraddle the roadway.

In 1975 the city proceeded with a 1.2 million dollar street project that involved excavating and paving streets and installing curb and gutter.

A request to move the Opheim log cabin from the courthouse lawn to another site was rejected.

In 1976 the city joined in the celebration of the nation's bicentennial. That same year a group of interested persons proposed the construction of a shopping mall. The project was later dropped.

In 1978, residents of the city voted to approve a bond issue to pay for repairs on the new swimming pool.

The next year the city received a request from Agra-Sun, a company dealing in sunflowers, for development of a new addition south of Highway 200. The city granted Sheyenne Valley Electric Coop a limited franchise for providing service for that new development.

Wil-Rich Manufacturing opened a branch in Cooperstown in the building that had formerly housed the Reiten and Melroe factories.

City employees' salaries ranged from \$825 to \$1,175 a month, with hourly wages at \$2.90-\$3.10.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 34

The Eighties

City voters approved a mill levy to support ambulance service in 1980. Highway 45, which bisects Cooperstown, was resurfaced in 1980. Rental and hourly work rates for the project:

Sweeper and Bobcat operator	\$27.50
Motor grader with operator hauling	20.00
Small truck with driver hauling.....	15.00
Large truck with driver	20.00
Gravel	3.75/yd. Delivered
Labor, regular force	7.50
Labor, part-time.....	5.00

In 1981 the city re-established a mill levy for the city band. Looking to the future, the council began to develop a plan to combat the Dutch Elm Disease threat. Some diseased elm trees had been found in the county.

Funding was obtained for a long-discussed water treatment plant to replace the 1920 system, and at the end of 1981, a contract was let to Sornsin Construction for the project.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 35

MAYORS OF COOPERSTOWN

(Village government 1892-1906)

Percy Trubshaw.....1892¹
David Bartlett1892-1894
John Syverson1894-1895
David Bartlett1895-1896
Samuel Sansburn...1896-1905
Lewis Berg1905-1906

(Incorporated as city 1906)

John Syverson1906-1909
Andrew H. Berg1909-1913
A.M. Baldwin.....1913-1917²
Nels Lunde1918-1921
H.P. Hammer.....1921-1927
E.E. Downe1927-1931
C.S. Christianson...1931-1938
P.H. Costello1938-1942
L.A. Sayer1942-1952
H.G. Hammer1952³
Ralph Bender.....1952-1970
Leon A. Sayer, Jr...1970

(1) In the interim after village government had been approved but before officials had been elected, Percy Trubshaw was appointed to serve as mayor.

(2) Mayor Baldwin died in office and the position remained vacant until the next year's election.

(3) H.G. Hammer was appointed when L.A. Sayer resigned.

Lewis Berg and Andrew Berg were brothers. H.P. Hammer was the father of H.G. Hammer, and L.A. Sayer the father of Leon A. Sayer, Jr.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 35

POST WAR CONSTRUCTION

The first major post-war public building project after World War II was the \$250,000 Griggs County Hospital; completed and first put to use in 1951. For thirty years the building boom continued. There followed a number of public buildings including a new high school, grade school addition, city hall, nursing home, airport development in several stages, new churches, apartment buildings, and several new business buildings. Much of the new business construction was on the outskirts of town, creating the need for new and expanded city services.

A substantial number of new homes were built in the post-war boom, and there were also such additions as the Community Building, the American Legion hall, the Scout

cabin, Griggs County museum building and new construction at the fairgrounds. An addition to the courthouse was built.

Other civic improvement projects have been swimming pools (Cooperstown is on its second pool), new streets, curbs and gutters, new street lighting, addition and extension of the water and sewer to serve nearly every house in Cooperstown, development of an enlarged water supply and storage, and building of a sewer lagoon.

In 1981 the city began to develop plan for a new water treatment plant.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 35

The Coopers of Cooperstown

THE HOMESTEAD HOME OF MR. AND MRS. R.C. COOPER

Much has been written about R.C. Cooper and his large-scale farming. Pictures were taken of the many field activities, mules to begin with and horses later on. Not much has been written about feeding the large crew of men or the human life style on the Ranch and Homestead.

To fully understand the human side of such a ranch we must realize there were two separate types of homes within ½ mile of each other. On Section 34 about ½ mile south of the Ranch lived Mr. and Mrs. R.C. Cooper. Their house was not like that of the average homesteaders. All too many had to live in a one or two room house made of logs, sod or a dugout. Mr. Cooper's house had five bedrooms, beside the sitting room, dining room, kitchen, closets and woodshed. Cooper had a separate bedroom when he became very dirty from being out in the fields. The Coopers had good furniture.

Whenever possible Mrs. Cooper kept a "maid". This is not to be considered the same as a "hired girl", who was treated as one of the family. Mrs. Cooper's "maid" did no milking or outside work. The "maid" served the meals in the dining room. Here the table was set with good linen, china and silver. During the meal she would be in the kitchen, on call of Mrs. Cooper's table bell. After the meal, all was returned to the kitchen. The "maid" and the homestead "hired man" ate in the kitchen.

At his homestead, Mr. Cooper kept a "man" who cared for and milked a cow or two that were kept there for their milk, cream and butter. The surplus skim milk was sent to the Ranch for the men. There were some chickens kept at the Homestead. Mrs. Cooper, herself, cared for the chicks she raised each summer with the old "cluck" hens. There was also a kitchen garden for fresh vegetables. None were raised at the Ranch for the men except a large amount of potatoes.

Mr. and Mrs. Cooper each had a driving team and buggy. Mr. Cooper also had his favorite riding horse. It grew "swaybacked" from carrying him and the heavy saddle. Mrs. Cooper drove off somewhere nearly every day. She had a fast driving team, but she was a "hard driver". Mr. Cooper was often quite upset when she came home with her team all "lathered up". Undoubtedly the homestead hired man took care of the horses.

The first few years Mrs. Cooper often came to the Ranch to see what she could do when some of the men were sick but by 1890 she never came to the Ranch.

Mrs. Cooper made no effort to know the homesteaders among the Scandinavian and the German groups. Her social activities were among the large group of friends who came from Michigan to settle here in 1881 and 1882, visitors from out of town, the professional group, the teachers and the English-speaking ministers in town. Among these she was very active, taking part in their various projects for church, school, social or temperance activities.

Mrs. Cooper had married Rollin when she was 19 years of age in 1870. They had two children who died in infancy and they adopted a daughter, Florence, who died at the age of 27 in 1911. In the obituary of Florence Myrtle Cooper, in the Cooperstown *Courier* for May 4, 1911, no mention was made of her being adopted. Florence was born in Griggs County April 18, 1884. She died at a sanatorium in Batavia, Illinois where she had resided about two years. She had been afflicted with nervous disorders and had been subject to epileptic attacks. The funeral was held from the Cooper home in Cooperstown with Pastor I. Evans of the Congregational Church officiating.

Mrs. Emma Cooper was initiated into the Order of Eastern Star on March 29, 1915, while R.C. was initiated in the new Temple October 12, 1921.

In the Times-Record of Valley City, September 16, 1920, Percy B. Trubshaw wrote about the Golden Wedding of the R.C. Coopers at their splendid home built in 1906 in Cooperstown. About 60 of the old time friends and former neighbors were present at this notable party with a program of music, and a most appetizing luncheon.

Mrs. Cooper died September 20, 1929 and R.C. died March 17, 1938. They are buried in the Cooperstown cemetery.

(R.C. Cooper's homestead house was located on Section 34, Cooperstown Township. It was said to have burned. Described by Mrs. Oscar Nierenberg. She was a maid there in 1888-89. Rooms etc. are reasonably accurate only in their relations to each other. Sizes are not known)

The front part had a mansard roof - that is it sloped upward from four sides. Behind this was a very long addition with a common gable type roof.

The square front part had a "sitting room" and a "parlor" with a bedroom off each. The spare room off the sitting room was a guest room. Mr. and Mrs. Cooper's bedroom was off the parlor.

A long narrow hall extended down the center of the long addition. The dining room was nearest the parlor, and the kitchen was purposely put at the end of the hall to keep the cooking odors from the rest of the house. The maid's room was next to the kitchen. In it there was only room enough for the bed and her trunk. A special bedroom was kept for Mr. Cooper when he was in the fields and got very dirty.

The kitchen was large. Here they ate on an oilcloth-covered table when they had no maid.

There was a bedroom for the hired man who lived at the homestead. There also were two large closets. In one of them, Mr. Cooper kept his medicines for his horses and mules, among other items. The other closet was used as a winter, indoor toilet. The last room was a large woodshed with wood for all the stoves.

To Mrs. Porterville from M.N. Holland, Anacortes, Wn., dated Feb. 21, 1957.

"Really, I did not feel that you had omitted anything in your description of the old ranch house occupied by the Coopers. When I read your column I felt that you had come into my old home, and many memories came back to me.

"In the fall of 1906 when I was eight-years-old my folks rented the Cooper (homestead I believe) farm from Hammer-Condry & Company. I do not know when the farm was acquired, or from whom it was acquired. There was no evidence that any part of the house had been altered, or any out buildings had been altered, since the Coopers made their home there. I remember a large room at the east end of the house with a bedroom to the north. There was another quite large room next to the east room with a bedroom to the north, making one bedroom off each of the two large rooms. The next room was the kitchen which was used for kitchen and dining room. At the north end of the kitchen, and extending westward in the building, was a narrow and long pantry. (That was the place I started a fire when I tried to find something with the aid of a match. A curtain hanging over the door was ignited.) In the southwest corner of the kitchen, close to the kitchen range, was the door that opened to the small bedroom you mentioned.

'A door near the middle of the west wall of the kitchen opened to a hallway leading to a room that appeared like a summer kitchen. The indoor toilet you mentioned was a part of this room. The last room of the house was the woodshed. I cannot remember an outside door from the kitchen; to get out we had to go through the woodshed. The top of the roof over the main area had a flat top with a railing around it. It could be reached by entering the attic where a wall ladder had been placed to reach the top of the roof. A loose cover protected the opening in the roof

'A new barn was built during the summer of 1907. I believe the new house was built in 1908 on Part of the site of the old house. The old house being a long rambling type, a part of it was dismantled to make space for the new house. A part of the old cellar became part of the new basement. I remember things in the old cellar that had once belonged to the Coopers, particularly a nickel plated dining table gadget for salt and pepper shakers and small bottles of condiments or something."

In 1957 Mrs. Annie Michaelis wrote the following to Mrs. Porterville:

"I was another that lived on one of the 'noted' Cooper Ranches, previous to the date and description sent in by Mr. Holland of Washington in a previous issue of the Sentinel - Courier. "

"In the spring of 1903, I moved with my parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Rowley and a brother, Luther, from Iowa, to what was then a Hammer-Condry Company farm located about four miles southwest of Cooperstown and what had been one of Cooper's typical ranches and from which many happy memories are cherished by me.

"On the east side of the east room was a front door and also one on the south side of the next big room joining the east one, then numerous additions of rooms continuing west. (All this was necessary for the Coopers.) "

"There was a beautiful tree grove of box-elder (and still is, 1957) west of the buildings, that was just large enough then to afford good shade and which may have been planted by the Coopers. (R.C. Cooper had a tree claim on one quarter in Section 34, and homesteaded one quarter, Ed.) A driveway along the south side of these trees to the west field was called 'lovers lane.' (H.H. Cooper, brother of R. C. claimed one quarter in 34.)"

"I lived there until December of 1905, when Herman and I were married in the 'east' front room of the house on this ranch. The place now (1957) is owned by Mrs. Hanna Feske and two sons. "

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 37

MULES

R.C. Cooper had used mules in freighting from Missouri to Colorado, and later, did freighting in Colorado when he lived there. He considered them to be "tougher" than horses under unusual conditions and in new or strange places. He knew that they would not overeat or drink when they were too warm and get "foundered" as horses often do. And they would have to be driven by different men.

Tales of the numbers of mules and horses that Cooper owned were sure to grow with repetition. But the number listed with the assessor, or given in security for a mortgage would seem to assure that he had at least the number listed for these purposes. Just how many he bought when he "outfitted" in Fargo in 1880 is not known. No doubt it was the smallest number he could get along with and provide tent shelter for, until his first barn was built. But about five months later, in the spring of 1881, five cars of "about eighty mules from Missouri" came to Sanborn. "Cooper had more than one hundred horses and mules to begin with." (William Glass, who came in spring of 1881).

In the late winter or early spring (of 1881) T.J., Rollin, and Charles Cooper went to St. Louis for the five carloads of mules. Charles and some other men had charge of these mules, and when they reached Tower City they were delayed for two days by a severe blizzard. They had to board up the boxcars with canvas and boards to keep the cold and wind off the mules, unaccustomed to the severe cold. T.J. Cooper and his brother, Rollin, had gone ahead of the freight, on to Sanborn where they waited for Charles. Everything had to be hauled from Sanborn to the farm in 1880-81.

In 1884 horses and mules were assessed at an average of \$60 each. Cooper Brothers were assessed \$980 on their horses, or about 20, and \$4020 on their mules, or about 80 head. (All assessor's and mortgage data are from courthouse records). In 1896 Mr. Cooper bought twenty-five mules shipped in from Montana. (*Courier*, July 31, 1896).

While his harvest crew were cutting around a Section of Cooper's wheat near the railroad south of Cooperstown with about 30 binders, a hand car of railroad workers went by and stampeded the mules on the binders into a run-away of the whole outfit. The mules ran forward and jumped into the canvas and wooden platform of the binder ahead. It took two or more days to make the necessary repairs of broken and metal parts.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 39

THE COOPER RANCH "BOARDING HOUSE"

The Cooper Ranch buildings on Section 26 were especially built for large-scale farming and quarters for feeding and housing of a large crew of men. The "boarding house", as it was called, was built in 1881 for the exclusive use of Cooper's hired help. At first it had only two parts. There was the large two-story part, the upstairs of which served as a "bunk house" for the "month hands" and the lower floor was the large dining room. The one-story part, on the north of the two-story building, was the kitchen, joining the dining room. The kitchen was large with the kitchen stove sitting in the center. It had

a chimney - not just a stovepipe. Wood was used as fuel. The month hands kept a large pile ready at all times. Good cupboard room was built on the sidewalls. The Ranch bell was mounted on the north gable of the two-story part.

There were about 14 men that had work the year around. The men's bunks were made around the outside of the upstairs room by boarding up the width of the bed to the desired height with cross boards to mark the individual beds. They were then filled with hay or straw. The men were given blankets, no pillows or sheets; "lice-cooties" were almost ever present among the men. The seasonal workers were furnished blankets, and each man found his own sleeping quarters, the haymow above the mules, the machine shed, maybe in a haystack or straw stack.

The whole ground floor of the two-story boarding house was used as a dining room for the large crews of men needed in the busy season. It had two long tables, covered with oilcloth, capable of seating up to 100 men. Long benches were used as chairs. Heavy hotel-type china was used and no tin dishes were used at the Cooper Ranch. No lunches were permitted or taken to the men on the Cooper farms. In harvest a man hauled water to the men in the fields.

Mr. Cooper had men cooks at first. About 1886 he began hiring women cooks for the growing season. He then added two rooms, -low, one-story, to the kitchen to be their living quarters. Two girls were hired for the regular crew, and more were employed in the busy season. They were also given a man or boy "flunky" to peel potatoes and do heavy work for them. Good water, almost soft, came from a well only a few feet from the kitchen. The men did their own washing, getting soap from the cooks.

The girls had long days. It was they who rang the large bell to wake the men. A high-pitched hand bell was used for meals. Bread was baked every day, in the large wood-burning stove. The Boarding House coffee mill was fastened to the wall, where the coffee beans were ground as needed. The cooks used opened and washed flour sacks for their dishtowels. For hand towels, linen crash - often coarse and rough - was made into roller towels for the men's use. About a three-yard length of linen toweling was sewed together as an endless belt and hung over the roller. Each man turned it to find the cleanest place when his turn came to use it.

A root cellar joined the kitchen on the north and could be entered from the kitchen. It served as a cellar or basement, as there was none under the house that was laid on the ground. Potatoes, chiefly, were kept there. A large cellar was dug in the hill above the house. It had a shed type building over it. Some of the men found this large root cellar a good place to sleep in the summer. A utility building was near the boarding house where the men kept clothes, washed up, etc.

The staple foods at the Ranch were potatoes, pork and beans, beans and pork, all served three times a day. As the cooks would say,

*"When we ring the dinner bell
How those beans do smell!"*

This food, and bread, was put on the tables in large dishes and passed around by the men. During harvest, when the largest crews were to be fed, a small beef, or a hog, would be slaughtered two or three times a week. But, as there was no refrigeration it had to be used at once or salted.

Besides the staples, including bread, there always was syrup, and butter on the tables. To give variety there was also furnished dried apples and prunes, canned tomatoes and canned pumpkin. R.C. Cooper was known as a good provider. Flour was bought by the 100-pound sack. The coffee, beans, dried apples and prunes were bought by the burlap bag, the tomatoes and pumpkins by the case, eggs by the 30 dozen cases, and butter in large jars or pails. Butter often became strong in flavor or rancid in a short time. No eggs were candled at the stores. After cooking at the Ranch in 1900 and being forced to use eggs of very uncertain freshness, Mrs. Wisdahl never could bring herself to eat eggs again. After seven years at the Ranch Oscar Nierenberg would eat no butter for many years.

Mrs. Jacob Watne wrote to Mrs. Porterville in 1957 that she came as newcomer from Norway to work at the Cooper Ranch in the spring of 1894. They had 65 men in harvest and threshing. There were six Watne brothers, and they all worked on the Cooper Ranch from time to time. Jacob worked there as a blacksmith and also assistant foreman, with \$40. a month pay, which was considered good wages at that time. The Jacob Watnes were married in 1897. A number of Houghtons worked for Mr. Cooper, John, a carpenter, built some of the first buildings with W.T. McCulloch and others. Charles Houghton was a long time foreman. From a news item we read, "W. Houghton, foreman of the Cooper farm went to St. Paul last week with a carload of cattle and hogs."

When the Cooper Ranch was at its largest in acreage a set of buildings were put up on Section five in Cooperstown Township. The barn was 28 by 80 feet in size. Ranch 5 had its own foreman, cooks and hired help to run its own threshing outfit. The buildings were used only during the busy season. Ranch 7 was located on Section 7 in Washburn Township and operated the same as Ranch 5 during the early eighties. After R.C. Cooper had bought the land in his own name Ranch 7 became a year-around headquarters for a foreman and the men and teams necessary to farm the sections that surrounded it. The pictures we have of two large barns were undoubtedly those on Ranch 7. This ranch seems to have been operated later than Ranch 5 as a granary from Ranch 5 was moved to Ranch 7.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 40

SOLDIER'S SCRIP OR BOUNTY LAND

The book committee has in its possession two documents that were assigned to Charley L. Cooper in 1888, each one for 80 acres, on Section 26, which was the original Cooper Ranch location.

One document was for an Act of Congress approved February 11, 1847 entitled, "An act to raise for a limited time an additional military force, and for other purposes." In this document the United States deposited in the General Land Office a warrant in favor of John Weedon, late a private in Captain McCreery's Company, 4th Regiment. Kentucky Volunteers. This parcel of land, assigned to Charley L. Cooper, was for the W ½ of SE 1/4 of Section 26-146-59, containing 80 acres, dated November 17, 1888.

The other document was in pursuance of the Act of Congress, approved March 3, 1855, entitled "An act in addition to certain acts granting Bounty Land to certain officers and Soldiers who had been engaged in the military service of the United States." This warrant document was in favor of Leandre Duere, private, Captain Baham's Company,

Louisiana Militia, War of 1812. It was assigned to Charley L Cooper, Dec. 27, 1888, and was for the S ½ of SW ¼ of Section 26-146-59.

The Cooper family bought railroad land, secured some soldier's scrip for some land, took pre-emptions, homesteads, and tree claims for themselves and others. Charley L. Cooper had been granted "Power of Attorney" to locate additional homesteads.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 41

THE COOPER FAMILY

The Cooper brothers, Thomas J. and Rollin C., played an important role in the early settlement of the county and in the building of the town in the center of their large land holdings. T.J. was 50-years-old when they came here in the fall of 1880, while his brother Rollin was 35. T. J.'s son, Charles, was 22 and also involved in the ranch operation.

The Coopers came here well prepared to begin large-scale farming and the timing was also in their favor with homesteads, pre-emptions, tree claims and railroad land awaiting settlers. They came here with finances from success in Colorado mining. They had experience in farming and also in managing a large force of men required in their operation.

In October of 1880 Rollin C. Cooper had followed the Sibley Trail across Barnes County to the year-old sod house of Ed. Ladbury near Sibley's old Camp Corning. As there was no room for him in the house that night he slept in the haystack. In the morning he brushed the frost off that he had slept in and was ready for another day. No one suspected that this large, genial, bearded man of thirty-five carried with him, or on his person, \$25,000 to invest in the new land. Such was the story told of Mr. Cooper's first trip into what was to become Griggs County.

In the fall of 1880 they began building their barn and "boarding house" for the men. These buildings were located on the SW ¼ of Section 26 in Cooperstown Township, land taken by Thomas J. Cooper as his tree claim. Rollin's homestead was on the NE¼A of Section 34. He also had a tree claim on the same Section. T.J. bought 10,000 acres directly from the railroad in 1880 surrounding the ranch buildings and Rollin's homestead. As the Cooper Ranch was located 35 miles from the railroad at Sanborn they built a "halfway place" with a barn 30 x 100 feet in the vicinity of the present town of Dazey. As the Cooper's shipment of five carloads of mules did not come until 1881 when T.J., R.C., and Charles went to St. Louis for them there seems little question that part of his lumber and supplies of 1880 were hauled for them by early settlers near Sanborn and Valley City.

About 65 friends and acquaintances of the Coopers from St. Clair County in Michigan came in 1881 and 1882 and formed the Cooper settlement. Several of the young men took pre-emptions on good land on even numbered sections adjoining Cooper's railroad land. These men worked for the Coopers. For these it has been stated that Cooper paid from \$500 to \$800 and their pre-emption costs of \$400 per 160 acres.

None of Mr. Cooper's books or ledgers are known to exist. In 1957 Mrs. Myrtle Porterville had weekly installments in the *Sentinel - Courier* about the Cooper family and the Cooper Ranch. Much of her material came from interviews of the people who had worked for the Coopers or knew them personally. Mrs. Porterville also did considerable

research in the *Courier* and *Sentinel* of the early years. Most of the figures we have on the Cooper operation are from news items in those newspapers. Being used for promotional purposes they may be exaggerated. It was mentioned they had 18,000 acres of railroad land and some government land, in all 25,000 acres. One item in 1883 stated they owned 23,620 acres of land, of which 7,140 were improved.

The Cooper's first breaking of 7,000 acres was in 1881 when their only crop was oats. They had their first wheat crop in 1882 when they also had some oats. That year they had 150,000 bushels of grain waiting for the completion of the railroad to Cooperstown. Rollin Cooper played an important role in having the railroad extended to Cooperstown in 1883, where he was a member of the Townsite Company promoting the building of the town.

T.J. and R.C. Cooper's partnership was dissolved in 1886 when R.C. bought out his brother's share in the landholdings and also Townsite Company. R.C. operated the ranch for many years but gradually land was sold to relatives and friends. In 1908 Mr. Cooper had about 5000 acres remaining in his name. By 1916 the original Cooper farms were split up and sold to local people. At one time the Cooper farm consisted of three ranches. The home ranch was on Section 26 in Cooperstown Township, Ranch 5 was on Section 5 in Cooperstown Township and Ranch 7 was on Section 7 in Washburn Township. Ranch 7 became a year-around headquarters after Mr. Cooper had bought it in his own name and was maintained longer than Ranch 5.

Rollin C. Cooper had been appointed county commissioner during territorial days by Governor Ordway and continued to serve by successive re-elections until 1868. In politics Mr. Cooper represented his district in the House of Representatives in 1895 and in the State Senate from 1899-1901.

Three fine buildings in Cooperstown remind us of the Cooper family. The courthouse built in 1884 was located on land donated by the Cooper Brothers and they also donated \$1000. towards the construction. The Masonic Temple is located on lots donated by R.C. Cooper. He also donated a Section of land (9-144-58) towards the building. This land had an \$8000. mortgage on it. The third building reminding us of the Coopers is the fine home, across the street from the courthouse, which R.C. Cooper built in 1906. It is now owned and occupied by the Willis Nilsons.

At the present time (1981) there are no descendants of the Cooper family living in Griggs County. The last one to live here was Charles Cooper who had inherited the tree claim of his father, T.J. Cooper, which was the original ranch site. Mr. Charles Cooper resided here at the time of his death in 1947.

Other Cooper family descendants living of which we have a record of are: Patricia Cooper Champion of Gate, Ga., a great-great granddaughter of James Burnett Cooper; Robert L. Cooper living in Japan who is a grandson of Henry Cooper; John M. Merriell, of Campbell, California, wrote that Wallace A. Merriell was an uncle of his father and that Wallace had married Julia Cooper, a daughter of Thomas J. Cooper. She was a sister of Charles Cooper.

Mrs. Rollin Cooper died in 1929 and Rollin in 1938. They are buried in the Cooperstown cemetery.

ETHNIC GROUPS

At first, the impression may be that Griggs County is Little Norway. While there is some truth in that, there are many other ethnic backgrounds represented here. An effort was made to include as many as possible, down to those that are represented by a single family.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 43

ENGLISH SPEAKING SETTLERS

My heart's in the highlands, my heart is not here.

My heart's in the highlands, a chasing a deer.

They why did they leave their homeland?

The English, Welsh, Scots and Irish immigrated to America for the same reason as most other nationalities. They wanted freedom of religion and relief from the political situation in their mother country. Later, the free land brought them here. Some came as indentured slaves; and when they concluded their service, they sometimes moved west to their new life. The potato famine in Ireland in the early 1840's, which was brought on by a blight in that crop caused the death of thousands. The American relief ships took food there and returned with immigrants. They had little money and worked in factories and mines. In 1750, many Scots were forced out of their homes and country, or they were killed during the 'highland clearance' when the lairds emptied their lands of people to make room for sheep. The price of wool was high. These survivors came to Australia, Canada, and the United States.

By 1884 there was a settlement from Scotland in Riverside Township, present day Steele County. One would see the names of Park, Stewart, Saunders, Ladbury, Stone, Palfrey, Kimball, Bussy, McIlroy, Merritt, Hadwin, Kitchen, Jones, Day, Meyers, Morgan, Slingsby, Conner, Dyson, and Pound. Parts of this Township looked very much like their home country of Scotland. Wild strawberries, raspberries, highbush cranberries, juneberries, and gooseberries were abundant. Prairie chickens, ducks, and geese were numerous in season.

Parties were common with dancing and card playing. With fiddles for instruments they danced the waltz, polka, schottische and also the square dance.

Riverside Township was part of the original Griggs County but now is in Steele County as is Sharon Township where another Scottish group homesteaded in 1881. Grandpa Simpson was a John Knox reformed Presbyterian, as were many of the Scottish newcomers. Sundays were spent singing hymns and listening to Grandpa read the Bible. The grandchildren never complained, and the neighbor children often came for these Sundays also. Grandpa was a great reader and made the scenes in these stores very vivid for them.

Another vivid scene they remember is the time Uncle bought a Sunday newspaper. Grandpa was very angry. It was wrong to read anything except the Bible on the Sabbath. The five foot tall grandpa had the paper rolled in his hand and shook it at the six-foot uncle, preaching fire and damnation to him.

The people in this area had Bobbie Burns Days. They would gang roon (gather round) and dance the Highland Fling and Sword Dance and read Burns poetry, but never on Sunday.

Some of the foods were scones and Scotch shortbread. Both of these recipes are found on page 366 of Griggs County Centennial Cook Book, '100 Years of Cooking'. Other favorites were haggis (stomach of a sheep filled with oatmeal, suet, heart, lungs, seasoned and steamed) also oatmeal brose (oatmeal with boiled water poured over it and served with cream and sugar).

Some of the music popular to this day is Bobbie Burns "Comin thro the Rye" a popular dance tune, "Auld Lang Syne," and many others.

The English often took their name from their profession. The name Cooper means "maker and repairer of barrels or casks." R.C. Cooper did not follow that profession. About 65 friends and acquaintances from St. Clair County, Michigan, came and formed the Cooper settlement around the town of Cooperstown. Of these settlers the families of Brown, Washburn, Barnard, Glass, Langford, Williams, Houghton, Bathie, Hunter, Crane, Smart, Pinkerton, Stevens, Enger, Stair, Newell and Kerr came in 1881.

English plum pudding is still a favorite food here, especially at Christmas. It is a mixture of candied fruit, suet, raisins, currants, spices, and nuts. This is steamed in a cloth bag or mold and served with a sauce. Usually, it is served flaming.

The beautiful tune, "Greensleeves," is English.

They left their leprechauns and blarney stone in Ireland, but we see the loyal Irish wearing green on St. Patrick's Day if they are Roman Catholic, and they wear orange if they are protestant for William of Orange. They greet us with "Erin go Braugh". Some of the Griggs County Irish lived in Tyrol Township where they had a gathering every week, sometimes in the homes, sometimes in the schoolhouse. A.B. Detwiler played the violin while John called the square dances. The Pratt men all played musical instruments for their dances with Marion as their pianist. Some of the others in the group were Campbells, Sansburns, McCullochs and Moores. The whole families would bundle up with foot warmers and robes in the sleigh in winter and horse and buggy when the weather permitted and go to the festivities. Some Irish tunes we still hear are "Danny Boy", "Irish Washerwoman", the lullaby "Tura Lura Lura" and the ancient Irish hymn "Be Thou My Vision". When Cooperstown was young, some held Irish Wakes. These were gatherings held at the homes when there was a death. They would visit and drink a bit of 'Stout' (Irish Beer) as they sat with the body. Sometimes it got noisy after two days.

An old Gaelic blessing:

*May the road rise up to meet you
And the wind be always at your back
And may the Lord forever hold you
In the hollow of His hand.*

An old Irish blessing:

*May you be in Heaven
half hour before the Devil
knows you're dead.*

Irish stew, a favorite food of all pioneers, is still served often. It is a first cousin to any beef stew, but the Irish did not brown their meat or add flour. They used lots of Irish potatoes.

Rod Wiseman is of Welsh descent, one of very few from Wales in the Cooperstown area. Wales has not had the hostile history or the great exodus as Ireland, Scotland, and England. They are fairly content with their position in the British Empire. Wales is the land of British folklore, the home of King Arthur and his round table, of the "Island Valley of Avilion," and of Camelot. The peace and equality taught in this story has been a contribution to the world. The Welsh are of Celtic stock and have a language akin to the Erse or Gaelic. One village is named:

LLANFAIRPWLLGWYNGYLLCOGERYCHWYRNDROBWLLTYSILIOGOGOG
OCH (54 letters).

Quite often the pioneers of America named their new town after their town in their mother country. We do not have a town named that in Griggs County.

The Highlanders were fighters, with the Vikings often attacking from the North Sea and England from the south. These Scots were taught to be warriors from birth. When there was a need to take up arms, a bagpiper would be heard in the hills. The Scots knew what the call meant. For this reason and the need for money, they were trappers and also made up much of the cavalry. Traders of the Hudson Bay Company were Britishers. This company dealt with the Indians.

What are some of the other contributions that these islands brought to the young Cooperstown?

Charles McDonald was a joiner (carpenter). He built and ran the Palace Hotel. The charter members of the Masonic Lodge were mostly British. The first church in Cooperstown was the Congregational. Most important of all, the game of golf was started in Scotland. What would America and Cooperstown do without it?

Are the Britishers still drawn to Dakota Territory? Yes, Postmaster Peggy Morris Jackson of Sutton and nurse and author, Marjorie Cordwell Troseth, Cooperstown, both Londoners, met their American husbands there during World War 11. There was no hesitation. They came to North Dakota to stay.

-Marilyn Hazard

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 44

ESTONIANS

We, the Multer family, Edgar, Ellinor and daughters Tiina Mal of 4 years and Ell Piret 18 months, arrived to Cooperstown on August 2nd, 1949 as displaced from Germany.

We are Estonians and belong to the Finno Ugric group of people - (Finns, Hungarians and Estonians) and our language is very similar to Finnish.

Estonia is the most northern of the Baltic States. Three-fourths of Estonian border is the Baltic Sea with deep open harbors that are open even at wintertime.

Estonia was a rich agricultural country and also had a lot of natural reSource: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennials - (oil-shale, mineral mines and timber). The mining and refining of oil laid a solid foundation for expanding industry also.

Estonians have a rich cultural history. Their epic folklore and poetry provide a background from which many poets and artists of world stature have emerged.

Education was the primary concern of Estonians - the number of students and graduates of higher institutions, compared with the population, was one of the highest in Europe.

Estonians' intense striving for their national self-expression is reflected in their highly developed literature and creative arts. The theater served as rallying point during the period of the national renaissance and continued this tradition during the time of independence. Music has played a remarkable role in the history of the Estonian people. They were able to organize giant singing festivals where choirs of over 20,000 singers performed in colorful national costumes.

Estonians take great pride in physical fitness and have won many Olympic medals and were the champion marksmen in the world.

Good and hearty food is well liked: pork roast with sauerkraut plus lots of other vegetables and salads is served often. Also varieties of breads are popular. Well known are also fish dishes with different marinated variations.

The Estonian Republic was overrun by Soviet Union in 1940 and lost one fifth of its people, especially public and military leaders, by liquidation and deportation to the slave camps in Siberia. Russian communists rule the country still today with heavy hand.

During the 11 World War we escaped by the Baltic Sea to Germany and stayed in various displaced persons camps for five years. We were people without home and country.

After the U.S. Congress passed a special Displaced Persons Immigration Law we came to United States. Our sponsors were Arne and Mildred Goplen in Binford and we stayed with them on their farm for eight years. It felt so good to be safe again and everybody was very nice to us here, especially all the Goplens - we were like part of the family and were included in everything.

1956 Ellinor started to work in local ASCS office and the children came to Cooperstown to school. Edgar also started to work in accounting jobs in various places, since this was his original profession. Finally we moved permanently to Cooperstown and concentrated mainly to educate our children. Edgar was quite active in Boy Scouts, which still is his first priority.

Our girls work both in professional level. Tiina is the director of YMCA College in Vancouver, Canada. She is married to Toivo Allas and they have two boys. Ell is a research information specialist for the U.S. Department of Interior in Columbia, Missouri. She is married to Dr. Erick Fritzell.

Due to the reduction of office force in ASCS, Ellinor was laid off after over 17 years of service. Eventually she started to work again with Edgar as a clerk and bookkeeper.

In North Dakota there are very few Estonians, but there are large Estonian Centers in Canada, Australia, England, Sweden and in most bigger cities in United States.

Estonians, although citizens of their adoptive countries, also retain their Estonian cultural identity and have joined to form a network of local and global organizations. They have in the free world a very high level of education with a high percentage of professional people, actively involved in the productive life of the countries they live in.

Yet the national ideals of the free Estonia are carried on by some 100,000 Estonians who succeeded in escaping to the free world. They publish newspapers and books; they endeavor to preserve national music and arts. On important occasions they dress in their colorful national costumes and gather beneath their blue-black-white banner, the display of which is now forbidden in their native country.

We personally feel very lucky that we could come to the United State and our first loyalty belongs to this great country whose proud citizens we are now.

-Ellinor & Edgar Multer

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 45

GERMAN LUTHERANS

They came six, seven and eight miles in horse-drawn wagons and buggies - the Wilkes, Behms, Retzlaffs, Leiningers, Steffens, Luchts and Rotherts to the Church school house (1901, Clearfield Township) to their German Lutheran worship service for spiritual uplifting, fellowship and visiting. Rev. C.H. Lueker was their first pastor. They worshiped there as conditions permitted until Zion Lutheran (Missouri Synod) Church was built and dedicated in 1909, a mile west of the school on the Rothert homestead. All services were conducted in German by the pastor, as was the Sunday school and the congregation remained and listened. They also had summer school. It was this way until the pastor's duties became heavier and the Sunday school larger, then little by little changes were made. Here baptisms, confirmations, weddings (usually at home or parsonage) and funeral services were performed even as now.

The Christmas program was a real delight and joy. There we were dressed in our Christmas clothes and hair well combed to sing the carols and speak our German pieces. Sometimes a boy or girl could sing well enough to sing alone. The large tree was trimmed with glittering tinsel, colored glass balls and lighted with wax candles. Each was given a sack of candy and nuts.

Toward the middle 1900's, families took turns inviting the congregation to their homes after services. This was before potluck and the host family fed the entire group. The day was pleasantly spent playing outdoor games and visiting before people had to find their way home to begin another week of work. About now the use of the German language was lessening.

Neighborhood children attended the one-room Church school guided by a teacher who was first to arrive mornings, do the janitor work and have the school room in order for twenty-eight or thirty bobbing heads of all ages, grades and capacities, to whom she was to impart knowledge. The dedication and devotion of the rural schoolteacher has not been compared. At the end of the school day we all trudged home.

At home each had his or her chores to do, supper, study hour, to bed and how secure we were. Mothers were very busy and my mother was no exception, keeping her house, family fed, clothes in order, checking children's memory work and on and on. Long winter evenings were spent serving by kerosene lamplight. There were special days, too. Birthdays meant a birthday cake and a better dinner.

Christmas preparation was so exciting, decorating the house, extra touch ups, like frosting on cookies, some homemade candy and always homemade ice cream. Christmas Eve we children had to retire early to be rested Christmas morning. We'd waken to a tree

trimmed with all tinsel ornaments, tinsel rope, cookies and candy tied on and finally finished with colored wax candles, which we'd watch in wonder as they were lighted evenings. We fared very well with presents; our grandparents lived close by, also. On

New Year's Eve the candles were lighted the last time. A dinner during vacation at the Colvin house and another day at our house was a must.

Our family was not musical; however, my mother had an organ that was played by those who came to visit. Everyone joined in singing patriotic songs and hymns, the enjoyable entertainment of those times.

With the passing of the era, the torch is being carried by the younger generation, a bit differently but in the same tradition.

-Evelyn Rothert

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 46

GERMAN-SPEAKING PEOPLE FROM BOHEMIA

The Jessie community is home to many people whose ancestors came from Germany, Bavaria, and Bohemia.

Bohemia is former Kingdom of Europe, later a Crown-land of Austria, and after World War 1, a province of Czechoslovakia.

The literary and official language of Bohemia was properly High German, although the speech in the Northern lands was Low German, each comprising a number of dialects.

High German was taught in school. One afternoon each week the village priest taught the religion class.

Liechtenstein, a wealthy landowner in that area, built the Catholic churches and kept them up. The churches were always built out of sandstone.

The Church owned the farm on which the priest lived. The government paid his salary. The priests, altar boys, and the people of the parish went on a pilgrimage to the Holy Shrine in different towns, twice a year.

Farms were small. Rye, barley, and potatoes were the main crops. The cut grain was stored in the barn and threshed later with a flail. A flail is a whip used when threshing the grain.

When the old folks retired, the oldest son took over the farm. The younger brother would either learn a trade or find work, but jobs were scarce because the country was over populated. The young men were obligated to serve two years in the Austrian Army where their pay was seven cents a day.

In later years the United States sent land agents to Europe to find settlers for the land available in the United States.

That slowly started the emigration to America. Men would come over and work until they earned enough money to go back to their homeland and move the wife and family to America, or they would finance a friend to come to the States.

The first immigrants came West into Wisconsin and southern Minnesota. In later years they kept moving west to wherever there was work available. Many found their new homes in the Cooperstown and Jessie area.

Surnames of some of the families to settle in the Jessie area were Zimprich, Wurst, Fiebiger, Pfeifer, Ressler and Heinz. There are several people still living in Jessie and Cooperstown who came from Bohemia and Austria. Emil Wurst was twelve years old when he came with his parents and still lives on the family farm with a brother, Frank, and a sister, Emma. Erna Zimprich came as a young girl and later married William Zimprich (no relation) and still lives in Jessie. Ernestine Heinz came over as a bride and is presently living in Cooperstown.

-Emil, Frank & Emma Wurst

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 46

SCHOTTISCHE AND KUCHEN

Hard work, fun and deeply religious, described the early settlers around the Jessie area. Ed Zimprich, Sr. homesteaded one mile east and one and one-half miles north of Jessie, and that farm is still in the Zimprich family. They were a large family, so it soon got to be known that everyone was either a Zimprich or related to them.

During the winter, usually one Sunday a month, you could hear the sleigh bells ring and you knew that everyone was heading for St. Lawrence Catholic Church that was then located on the hill by Jessie, but was later moved to its present location near the highway. That building burned down and the present church was built. Fur robes, charcoal foot warmers or heated bricks kept the occupants of the open sleighs, or the covered rigs, warm during their many miles of sleigh rides. There was no resident priest at first so one came by train on Saturday and stayed with one of the parishioners until a return trip was made by train.

Before the church was built, Mass was held in the homes of the parishioners. They also said the rosary and had devotions with their families to keep their faith alive.

Some of the early Catholic traditions were Mass in Latin, abstaining from meat on Fridays, fasting and abstinence during Lent and on Easter Monday there was always a big dance to celebrate the end of Lent. Even small children did their penance during Lent by giving up candy or other "goodies." Catholics are still encouraged to do penance but it is no longer compulsory.

Vatican II made the Mass more a people's Mass by having the Mass in English, having the priest face the people while he was saying Mass. Other changes include more responses by the people, more frequent communion, lay people reading the epistle and complete congregational singing. In the larger parishes, the lay people help the priest distribute communion. The permanent diaconate has been re-established in the church and the deacon will be able to help the priest in all areas except confessions, last rites and consecration. Julian Mrozla of Cooperstown is presently studying to be a deacon.

Entertainment was family oriented, mostly visiting neighbors, house parties, card games, barn dances in the summer and dances in the homes in the winter. They would move the furniture out of the kitchen, which usually was the largest room in the house, and even roll up the linoleum. Then someone, usually Ed Ressler or Johnny Hovel would get the fiddle and the dancing would begin. Children learned to dance as soon as they could walk - no generation gap here. Young and old danced the waltz, the schottische, polka, two-step and square dance. Later on when the dances were held above C.P. Dahl's store in Jessie, everyone brought their children. If they got tired, there was always a

blanket or coat to make a bed on a bench or on the stage out of danger of those dancing feet. No one ever heard of a babysitter. There was only one drawback at the dances above the store. The floor had a tendency to sway during such dances as the polka and schottische, so they just limited the number of couples on the floor at one time. Some of the mixers and fun dances were Sauerkraut and the Circle Two Step.

The young folks would travel by horseback or horse and sleigh, or wagon (depending on the time of year) to go many miles to a dance. Many times they'd go by wagon (no rubber tires) and before they left for home, the ruts had frozen which made for a rough ride.

In about the 1915-1920's, the Stokkelands and Pratts had formed their dance bands and in time Frank Zimprich, Jr., Evelyn, Lillian and Bernard Zimprich, Johnny and Hillard Johnson were playing for house parties as well as public dances. Bernard was about nine years old at the time he started playing for dances. His first drums were his mother's pie tins and wooden spoons.

Another social event put on by the altar society was the annual chicken dinner also held above Dahl's store. Imagine carrying all the water up those long steps as well as the many roasters of chicken, kettles of potatoes and vegetables as well as the dishes and silverware. No paper plates and cups then.

In the summer, ball games, horse racing and political events were held at Jessie Lake. Everyone took part. The horse racing included Shetland ponies as well as the larger horses.

Every farmer was diversified, raising his own beef, pigs, chickens and a few milk cows. The women raised large gardens and canned their vegetables. The most common method of canning was the hot water bath method. The jars were filled with the fruits or vegetables and placed in the copper boiler, which was filled with water to cover the jars. The vegetables were boiled for three hours and the fruit for twenty minutes to a half hour. The jars were mostly a rubber ring and a screw cap.

Horses were the only *Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial of power so every farmer had a lot of horses.* The fields were plowed in the fall and disced and seeded in the spring. No soil conservation was thought of at that time. No fertilizer was used except for the manure that was spread on the fields. These farmers were early risers and put in a twelve-hour day (longer would have been too hard on the horses). The women milked the cows and did the other chores while the men got the horses fed, curried and harnessed for the field. In the winter, many of the farmers would let their horses roam the fields but would round them up every evening.

Threshing time was hard work but also a time of help thy neighbor. The old steam threshers needed large crews of bundle haulers, water boy (he kept tanks of water ready to be used in the steam engines), engineers, separator men and grain hauler. The grain hauler had to shovel all the grain by hand into the granaries - there were no augers or grain elevators. The work was never so hard that there wasn't time for a few pranks and wrestling matches. It was great fun to put a long post through the spokes of the back wheels of the hayracks and watch the expression on the face of the driver when his team attempted to move the rack ahead. Another prank was to pull the pin on the evener of the hayracks and watch the driver come over the front end of his load of bundles when his

team moved ahead with no load behind. Many a time an unsuspecting bundle hauler would reach into his overall pocket and find a mouse placed there by a "friend."

Many times a couple of women or teenage girls would travel from place to place in a cook car to prepare meals for the threshing crew - which meant a breakfast of fried potatoes, eggs and coffee. Dinner and supper was boiled potatoes, meat and either a vegetable in season or baked beans, or macaroni and pie for dessert and of course bread with every meal. Afternoon lunch was sandwiches, cake and coffee.

Fall meant hauling wheat to Valley City to the mill and bringing back the year's supply of flour, usually stored in an upstairs bedroom. Many of their supplies were bought in large quantities such as crackers in barrels, honey and syrup in one or two gallon palls and sugar by the 100 pounds.

Winter was time for butchering, the beef was canned and the pork chops were fried and covered with melted lard. When the lard hardened, it would seal out the air to the meat and it would keep for a long time. Every farmer had his own smoke house and smoked his own hams, bacons and sausage. One specialty that many of the Germans had was "grauten" which is ground pork and pearl barley. Some put this in casings while others just put it in a pan and kept it frozen outside until needed. Some added a little blood to the grauten. Also, headcheese and pigs feet were a treat. They didn't throw anything away except the squeal.

One recipe in particular has been passed down through the generations. Kuchen is a sweet roll dough with a poppy seed filling, or a prune filling and a real must for holidays.

Traveling salesman is not a modern term. Peddlers traveled around with clothing, cloth and sewing articles such as lace and ribbons. Some of these men walked, carrying their wares while others had their wagons filled with every imaginable article. Most women sewed all the garments of clothing for their families so they enjoyed being able to pick out the necessary cloth and any other necessities, perhaps even a new hat for Sunday.

Another traveling salesman of a different type went from farm to farm with his stallion and serviced all the mares that the farmers wanted bred.

Now, in 1982, many of the descendants of these German-speaking people still live and farm near Jessie. Many of them are farming the land and maintaining the homes their parents and grandparents built.

-Gen Zimprich

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 47

NETHERLANDERS

From the windmills and tulips of the Netherlands to the windswept prairies of North Dakota is a long journey, and it must have seemed so to the group who left there in the early 1900's to go to America in search of a better life and more opportunities. However, their first stop was in the area around Fulton and Albany, Illinois.

There was disappointment there also as they were farmers and the price of land or renting it became so costly they could not make a good living. In March of 1914, five families traveled to the area around Wimbledon, North

Dakota where farms were available for rent and soon all were settled there. These were the families of Martin Rose, Claus Huizenga, Ben Iervelt, William Kamphuis, and Art VenHuizen. In the years following, more families from Illinois joined them, and younger people married and began their own homes.

The Dutch are a deeply religious people, so on their first Sunday in North Dakota they held services in the Martin Rose home, continuing this for four years until the group became too large. It was decided to build a small church. Land was donated and each family gave the proceeds of one acre of potatoes toward the building expenses. It was truly a joint effort as the men did all the carpenter work while other items were purchased such as a second-hand organ, a pulpit and altar chairs. The church was dedicated in the summer of 1917 and after that services were held every Sunday with Sunday school following. The services were in the Dutch language, the old Dutch Psalms were sung, and now and then a minister was sent by the church board of Dakota Classes. Otherwise a sermon was read by one of the elders. Later a seminary student came during the summer months to conduct two services every Sunday, plus leading a young people's group. In 1956 they jointly called a pastor with the Presbyterian Church of Courtenay and this continued for six years; however, by the fall of 1963 the congregation had become very small. There had been deaths in the families, some moved back to Illinois, young people married but joined other churches. The last service was held in September of 1963, and the building became the Dover Township Hall.

Most of the remaining members joined the Methodist Church in Wimbledon. Their religious devotion is evidenced by the fact that this small church of twelve families existed for fifty years without a regular pastor, and as a rule there was almost 100 percent attendance at each service. It wasn't always comfortable as the building was heated only by a large round stove in the middle during the cold months. The person taking the collection used a long pole with an open box at the end, which he passed down each pew. He was quite adept at using it, but once in a while would misjudge the distance as he pulled it back, and some unlucky worshipper would receive a poke in the head.

The Hollanders retained the use of their native language to a great extent. All spoke English by the time they came to North Dakota, but whenever a group was together visiting, they reverted to the Dutch language. There were different dialects called High Dutch or Low Dutch, depending on the area in the Netherlands. Some English and Dutch words are almost the same. Many parents spoke in Dutch if there was something they didn't want the children to know, but this didn't work too often, as the youngsters could soon understand the meaning even if they couldn't speak the language. Many parents were determined to teach their children the language so it wouldn't die out, and usually the first-born did learn to some extent, but today among the third and fourth generation it is almost non-existent.

In the early days, many of the customs, traditions and way of life of the Mother Country were preserved, but later American customs took over. At the time the first families settled here, the Sabbath was strictly observed. Any work except that absolutely essential, was a sin. The Dutch are a friendly, hospitable people, although often a bit reserved in manner. They did much visiting back and forth with relatives and friends. There was a feeling of closeness within the group, as they were a minority, and they had shared many things together. They were deeply afraid of debt and were cautious in their business dealings but also they were honest and dependable. They were very thrifty,

making over clothing, saving wherever possible. Each family had a large garden and much canning and preserving was done, but they also had a love of beauty and every garden had room for a patch of bright flowers.

Most of the women did needlework as embroidery, tatting, crocheting and knitting. Girls were taught to knit at an early age in Holland. Most made their own quilts and would have a get together to tie quilts to quilt by needle.

Many of their foods were from old Dutch recipes. A favorite was buttermilk soup, made by cooking barley in fresh buttermilk and served with sugar. Others were Snert (a thick pea soup), Mousse (green kale cooked with potatoes and mashed together), Potarten (brown beans cooked and served with bacon fat), Spek (similar to side pork) cabbage and potatoes cooked together, Oliebollen (deep-fried balls of yeast dough rolled in sugar), Speculas (spiced ginger cookies), pickled meat. Some families served hot cinnamon chocolate with cake on birthdays; especially a milestone as the twenty-first birthday.

Many times the old Dutch family names were Americanized to make them more pronounceable. Grandma Rose's name was Trientje (Theresa); Mrs. Art Venhuizen was Grietje (Grace); Mrs. Henry Smith was Anje (Annie); Epa Hoek (changed to Hook); Harm Bultema (Harry). Many others were also changed.

Mrs. Grace VenHuizen was seven when she left Holland, so she could remember much about her early childhood there. Skating was a favorite pastime and all ages skated. They wore the traditional wooden shoes, which were white with a pointed toe, but for dress they had a smaller, lighter shoe painted black, often with carved decorations and a strap across. Girls as young as two years had their ears pierced and wore earrings consisting of a bead on a wire. This was considered healthful. Their home was a sort of duplex with a long hall between. Large windows faced the street and curtains were not drawn as passers-by might think something suspicious was going on inside. Beds were built in a wall, some so high a chair had to be used in climbing into it. At the end of the hall was a sort of barn room where two goats were kept and their milk sold to others. They traveled third class on the boat to America and were restricted to a certain area on deck by a fence of sorts. Grace, her sister and brother would often stand by the fence and sing, and people on the other side would give them oranges or often hardboiled eggs.

And so the industrious, thrifty, God-fearing and law abiding Dutch people contributed their share to the "Melting Pot" which is America.

Shirley Johnson

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 48

THE NORWEGIANS

It was prophetic that Omund Nelson Opheim and his family were the first settlers in what is now Griggs County.

They were Norwegians, the first in a long, long line of Norwegians to take land in the community.

They came from places with names like Hardanger, Stavanger, Trondheim, Valdres, Hallingdal, Gudbrandsdal, Bergen, Sund, Nordland, Hamar, Lillehamar, even from faraway Vardo, only forty miles from the northern coast of Russia. They named their institutions for remembered places: Ringsaker, Ness, Eidfjord churches, and for national heroes: Sverdrup Township.

Although Norway is not large in area, mountain ranges and rivers and fjords divide it, and travel from one small community to another was difficult. Although the country shared one mother tongue, local dialects were so pronounced that residents of one valley might have trouble understanding people from another one only 150 miles away, as the crow flies.

Though the Lutheran church was the state church, there were differing points of view there. Pietist preachers who thought that the state church had become too worldly had large followings.

This divergence influenced the lifestyles of the people, and they brought the differences with them to Dakota Territory. Through the lifetime of the first generation in the United States, the differences between Norwegian and Norwegian were often as pronounced as those between Norwegian and Yankees, as they called the English-speaking settlers.

Entertainment in one group might include fiddle playing and dancing, and the men probably chewed tobacco and sometimes drank liquor.

Their neighbors, who spoke a different dialect and looked upon such activities with disapproval, would find little in common with them.

In the second, third and fourth generations the children of those families attended school together and became acquainted. As the language barrier among Norwegians and between Norwegians and other ethnic groups was hurdled, friendships were formed and with them, intermarriages. Descendants of Norwegian settlers married people whose parents or grandparents came from Sweden, Denmark, Germany, the British Isles, or Syria, and added new traditions, new recipes to their own.

Because Norway and the United States have always been on good terms, it has been possible for Norwegian-Americans to maintain strong ties with the old country. Members of the third and fourth generations can still find relatives to greet when they visit Norway, and occasionally entertain Norwegian relatives in their homes here.

For many years the late Peter Lima sold steamship tickets for the Norsk-Amerika Line in a building across the street from his blacksmith shop.

Foods, music and household crafts have long been ties with the homeland. Immigrants brought their household goods in trunks decorated with colorful rosemal painting. Inside were household linens trimmed with embroidery and crocheted lace. Some of the cloth was woven by hand. Bowls, spoons and other kitchen items were often handcarved.

After the pioneering era ended, people once more had leisure and interest in learning the old traditional crafts.

The Norwegians liked music. They liked to sing. Accordions, guitars and violins were popular. Occasionally a settler would own a Hardanger fiddle, an elaborately decorated eight-string instrument.

The Norwegian language could be heard quite often on the streets of Cooperstown until at least 1950. Early day business people who spoke both Norwegian and English were a connecting link in integrating the Norse immigrants into the community. Among them were John Syverson, Knud Thompson, H.P. Hammer, P. Tang, P.K. Moe, John Oie, R.S. Lunde and many others.

Favorite Norwegian foods are still frequently served at home and in public. One restaurant in Cooperstown regularly serves kumla (potato dumplings), and occasionally lutefisk and torsk. Almost everyone eats such breads as Julekake, lefse, kringlor and flatbread, such cookies as spritz, rosettes, sandbakkels and krumkake. Two favorite brown cheeses, primost and gjetost, are still available but the strong brown gaminelost is now hard to find. Pickled herring and sardines are still popular.

A 1982 bumper sticker says: Uff da' Norwegian driver.

The Norwegian foods and traditions are more visible at Christmas than at any other time. Some of them are the same as those described by Mrs. Fosholdt in her account of Christmas in Norway as she remembers celebrating it at the turn of the century. New clothes for Christmas were a tradition.

Caspara (Carlson) Aarestad remembers that her mother began by sewing each of her daughters a warm new dress. One she remembers was light blue flowered flannel with long sleeves, a ruffle at the bottom, a square yoke and white eyelet embroidery around the neck. There were buttons and buttonholes in the back. There were three girls at the time and each had a dress made that style. These were worn first for Christmas and after that were their "good" dresses throughout the winter.

Foods that her mother made included rulle polse, kurv, the well-known assortment of cookies, and special Nordlands lefse with a spread called gomme.

Christmas also meant hospitality and visiting.

Gudrid Vigesaas Hetland remembers that Christmases were spent in the company of neighbors and relatives. One Christmas visitor came with pencils as gifts for the children. On the way, some of the pencils were dropped and got lost on the hill.

Esther Sola Harvey remembers rice pudding with a raisin hidden in one bowl. The lucky person (usually the smallest child) who found it in the bottom of the bowl got one whole dime. She remembered family singing, and the reading of scripture by her father.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 49

CHRISTMAS IN NORWAY

As I remember it from my childhood in Ringerike, Norway.

Of the year's great festive holidays, Christmas, Easter and Pentecost, it was Christmas where the greatest preparations were made. Already two or three weeks before Christmas they were begun for the festive holiday.

First there was the butchering of the Christmas hogs and preparing of a large amount of headcheese, "rullepolse" (rolled sausage), meat puddings, meatballs, sausage, and the finest pastries.

It took at least a week for two ladies to make all the good food.

Then came the house cleaning, every room in the house, from the loft to the cellar, should be washed and scrubbed until all was shiny clean. Silverware, copper and brass were made as shiny as a mirror. An old man used to say, "It should be so shiny that it dripped from it."

After the cleaning came the Christmas baking; two or three kinds of bread, lefse, Julekake, and a large assortment of Christmas bakkelse. When all this was finished Christmas was at the door.

Christmas Eve was busy day, as all work should be done by a designated time. The men chopped wood, enough to last out the old year. After 5 o'clock it was a holy day. Five o'clock the next morning it was work again. This early morning was called Jule Otta.

The Christmas sheaves for the small birds were set up. On two slender birch trees two bundles of oats or wheat were tied together in the top and raised, one on each side of the drive way. It was interesting to watch the sparrows. It was as though the Christmas meal was served for them. First a couple of scouts came to look over the Christmas sheaf and then flew away for a little while to return with many of their comrades to feast in the large bundles. All farm animals were given an extra portion on Christmas Eve.

Everyone was busy, each with their own work, outside and indoors, to be ready by 4 O' clock. All had a bath and dressed up in their Sunday clothes.

Soon the church bells began to chime in Christmas.

*"It chimes now for Christmas rest ...
It chimes for the heavenly guest. "*

Everyone listened to devotions, and it seemed that one heard the angels singing on Bethlehems plains, "Peace on Earth." I believe there were few who didn't feel quiet peace settle over heart and mind.

All, who in anyway could, should have new clothes for Christmas; and I believe there were few homes, however poor they were, that didn't have one or another new piece of clothing for Christmas.

Santa Claus didn't exist in my childhood, and we learned that Christmas Eve was our Savior's birthday; so all our gifts and all preparations were to honor Him who came to earth to atone for our sins; that He came poor and humble, the Holy Child of God, who had glory with the Father, before the world was; was born in a stable, and laid in a manger.

On the Christmas table were two very large lamps, and when the first star shone in the heavens all the lights should be lit. It was the father of the house who had the important duty to light the lamps.

Christmas Eve was a very holy occasion. All the house members remained at home. All businesses and stores closed at 6 o'clock so everyone could have a quiet, peaceful Christmas Eve.

Christmas Eve supper consisted of rice or cream porridge (romme graut), spare ribs, sausage, pork fillet and many delicacies. Before the meal a hymn was sung, thereafter the father of the house read the Christmas gospel. After the meal a couple of more hymns were sung.

A couple of hours later the Christmas trees were lit. Everyone, large or small, stood in a ring around the tree and sang the old, dear, well-known hymns, "Silent Night", "I am so Glad Each Christmas Night" and "A Little Child."

Then the tree was left in peace for the smaller ones and gifts distributed. It was not Santa Claus who gave out the gifts, but rather the mother or another member of the

family. Everyone had to go to bed early to be prepared to go to church on Christmas Day.

As the distance to the church was often six or seven miles, and it was not as now, to get into an automobile or drive the distance in a few minutes. No, it was to drive with horses, and it was more festive to sit nice and warm in heavy wraps, over a foot warmer under a bearskin robe, while the well curried, brushed, shiny, fat horses appeared as in competition with brass or white copper mountings on their harnesses. The harness bells would ring when the horses stamped or pawed in the snow, restless to get going. Soon sleigh after sleigh would swing in on the church road and by the time they reached the church there was a long line of horse-drawn sleighs.

The church was always packed full on Christmas Day as some who seldom attended church met up that day. A festive mood appeared over both the pastor and the congregation in an involuntary feeling. This is God's house and heaven's portal. The worship service continued possibly a couple of hours and then it was time to be homeward bound.

It always went faster on the way home, the horses knew a good portion waited for them, oats in a warm stall, and undoubtedly the people were thinking of the well laden table waiting for their return.

Everyone remained at home the remainder of the day. The second day of Christmas church services were again held and those who didn't come on Christmas Day were present on the second day.

Then began the Christmas tree parties and Christmas visiting. The young people had get-together contests and parties. Six or seven sleighs, packed with young people, with torches in hand, appeared as a long flame in the darkness. They would drop in at homes of other young people where lunch was served. They entertained themselves with song and games. This continued until New Year's.

New Year's was celebrated in similar fashion to Christmas but not with as holy an atmosphere. In the towns, worship services were held and the Church bells rang in the New Year. After New Year's it was again work as usual but some liked to continue Christmas until Epiphany, but then Christmas must end for this time.

*(Prepared by Mrs. John Fosholdt, Cooperstown, N.D., and
read at the Lutheran Church at Cooperstown in December 1933.
Mrs. Fosholdt was born at Aadal, Ringerike, near Oslo, Norway
January 27, 1872. She died May 7, 1952).
The original was in Norwegian and translated by
Edward Johnson, 1981.*

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 50

JULEBUKKING

This was, and still is, a practice of merriment and fun among Norwegian young people, that took place during the happy holiday season between Christmas (Jul) and New Year.

A group of young people would dress in old clothes, or exchange clothes with their friends or perhaps parents, then put on masks, or wrap scarfs about their faces, and then

as darkness fell they would go to a home in the neighborhood to see if the folks in that house could guess who these Julebukkers were. Various attempts would be made by the people in the visited home to make the masked visitors reveal their identity, such as try to trick them into saying some words, or to laugh, or give some other clue, maybe to guess their identity by their clothes.

When the guessing was over, whether successful or not, there would be refreshments served, and a brief visit, then off to the next home by the masked group, likely accompanied by the young people of the just-visited home. After a couple hours there could be quite a large group of youngsters out having fun in this way.

This Julebukking found its way over here to America also, and there was some of it still going on here in the West Prairie area into the 1940's. It is still being done in Norway, in the 1980's.

Here on the prairie it seems that the Halloween trick or treat has taken the place of Julebukking.

_ Allen Osmundson

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 51

THE SWEDES

The Swedes came too, along with other migrants from the European nations about the turn of the century. Often one member of a family would come first, and then would write home telling of the advantages and opportunities to be had in America so other members of the family would follow. Many of the Swedes in Griggs County settled west of Cooperstown.

There was a settler on every quarter Section! That was the case when the county was new. That free quarter of land attracted men of every vocation. Some were farmers, others knew little about agriculture, but they came for that free land. Some had no intention of remaining after their final proof and they moved away. Much of their land was sold to adjoining farmers who wanted to stay. The farmers had hard times during the depression and farming with horses, but they were strong and kept on.

The Swedish Immigrants brought with them their customs and recipes from Sweden. The Swedes, like the Norwegians, like their lutefisk and lefse, rommegrot and many good things. The ladies enjoyed their knitting and crocheting as it was carried down to the ladies of today.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 51

OUT OF SYRIA AND LEBANON

Turks were overrunning Syria in the early years of the twentieth century, and because of the unrest, many families left their homeland and came to America. The young men came first.

About 1910 several families came to this general area. Some settled at Crookston, Minnesota, others in the North Dakota communities of Stanley-Ross, Rolla-Dunseith and Glenfield-Binford.

Though they were educated in their homelands, they came without knowledge of the English language, bearing names that were difficult to transcribe into an English spelling.

The same man's surname might be spelled Asmel, Ashmael, Ishmael or Ismel by people attempting to spell it phonetically.

Faithful Moslems, they attempted to maintain their faith in a land where their Christian neighbors raised pigs. The women wore long sleeves and covered their heads. The families brought along the Koran, which is the Moslem Bible, and the other traditions of Islam. A well-known feature of the religion is the observance of Ramadan, a month of fasting in which Moslems are not allowed to take anything into their mouths from sunrise to sunset, a practice intended to make Moslems aware of the plight of hungry, poverty-stricken people all over the world. At the end of the thirty days, they have a feast and go from house to house to celebrate.

The difficulties of maintaining a minority faith have been great, intermarriage with their Christian neighbors being one of them. Not many of the second generation, Syrian people have remained Moslems, though the first generation maintained their faith as well as their ties with the homeland. The area where the local families originated is now within the borders of Lebanon.

The first Syrian settlers here made a living peddling merchandise from door to door. Later some of them started farming, raising sheep, goats and beef. Lamb was the preferred meat. For religious reasons they abstained from pork.

The peddlers brought the store to the home. They drove around the country with horse and buggy and had their trunks and wares in the back. They handled clothing and dry goods. Tofic Ishmael had lots of blankets for sale. Some walked from place to place also, carrying their wares on their backs. When night came they would sleep in barns, haystacks, and any shelter available or sometimes they would stay at homes of their customers. Payment for lodging was a gift from their inventory. Mrs. Gilbert Fadness (mother of Amanda Hogie) at one time received a fur coat valued at \$15.00 for board and room overnight.

One of the first-generation Syrians was William Alley, who settled in Glenfield. Amanda Hogie of Cooperstown recalls that her father, Gilbert Fadness, traded at the Alley Store and they would always send along a sack of candy with the grocery order. Oscar Hogie remembers buying his first pair of long dress pants from Charles Alley.

Roy Alley tells about his father:

William Alley came to America from Lebanon in 1914. As a lot of new immigrants, these people worked hard to pursue the American dream that has become so dear to all. They became peddlers, carrying their goods from farm to farm, thus becoming the first traveling salesmen. They worked at most anything, never being ashamed, for there was no task below them. The only thought that brought most newcomers to this great land was a better way of life. In 1917 William Alley joined the U.S. Army, not because he had to but because this country had been so good to him.

That was his way of saying, thank you. He came out in 1919, went back to Lebanon and married Hasaby. They returned in 1922 and both became citizens. They stayed in Crookston, Minnesota and while there, their oldest son was born, Roy Alley. Three other children were born: Ernest, Lila and Rosie. Willie as he was better known, had a quarter Section of land which he traded for a building in Glenfield, North Dakota and he and his brother-in-law, Albert Alley, opened Alley's Cash Store. Work came before everything else. This was why they had come to this country, to achieve the best they possibly

could. Life in Lebanon and other foreign countries is hard, not enough land or money. Even in 1914 life was very hard there. The United States has not had to live in constant unrest. This is why so many believe this land holds for them what they are looking for. Willie and Albert had the store for many years. In later years Albert Alley farmed. Later Willie sold the store and retired. He died in 1968, his wife died in 1972.

As I look back, I think what sticks in my mind most was how hard they worked, saving and living with little comforts. Wondering why, I can now see that people who came with so little wanted to give their families something so great that they were able to pursue the better life that America had to offer. We all give thanks for the poor immigrants who came here those many years ago with only their clothes on their backs and their hearts in their hands. The immigrants have made our country what it is today.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 51

A FEW REMEMBRANCES ABOUT TOFIK AHSMEL

I remember back in the early 1930's when the Syrian peddlers would come to our place to sell their wares. One of these was a very nice, gentle and well-liked man, Tofik Ahsmel, (also spelled Asmael) We, here at the Osmundson farm, always called him Tofik.

Recently, Ruth, Anna, and I talked a little about Tofik, and they told of how excited they would get when Tofik came here with his buggy, pulled by a brown horse called Ruby, and of how anxious they were to see what he had for sale in his trunks, and what a nice, clean smell the various cloths, tablecloths, scarves, and other wares had when he brought them out for inspection. Yes, I can also remember when he came to our home.

Ruth and Anna also mentioned that there was a period of a year or two when Tofik didn't come to our place, and this had seemed so strange. Pa and Uncle Ole (Aslak and Ole Osmundson) had met Tofik somewhere, and he said that one of the other peddlers had told him that he would be harmed (presumably by us) if he came here again. Of course he was then told by Pa and Ole that this was nonsense, and so Tofik came to our home again, and was thoroughly welcomed. There was one of those peddlers who was known to be a troublemaker.

My mom used to tell about the time Tofik came to the farm of her brother, Andrew Larson, and for some reason Andrew and Tofik went driving with the horse and buggy. For some reason the horse started a runaway with Tofik driving, and then he hollered to Andrew, "Andrew, you got family, you jump out!" meaning that to stay with the buggy would be certain disaster. Both of them lived many years after that adventure.

Other oldtimers around here could tell much more about him, I'm sure. I can say that I'm proud of having known him, and I'm glad that Tofik came to our home.

-Allen Osmundson

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 52

FROM ZANZIBAR TO COOPERSTOWN

Dr. and Mrs. J.K. Ramaiya and their family came to Cooperstown in the fall of 1980, and Dr. Ramaiya opened a private medical practice.

Dr. Ramaiya is a native of Zanzibar, Africa, son of an Indian merchant family. His parents later moved to Bombay, India.

Dr. Ramaiya attended medical school in Glasgow, Scotland. He practiced two years in the Zanzibar National Health Service, and then went back to Scotland for three years' training in surgery at the University of Edinburg.

From there he went to Saskatchewan, Canada, to enter medical practice. While he was in Canada he took time to fly to Calcutta, India, to be married. His parents and hers arranged the marriage. Pushpa Ramaiya had never been out of India before, but she quickly adjusted to life on another continent. A daughter, Dharindra, was born while they lived in Canada. On a visit back to India they invited Dr. Ramaiya's niece, Nootan, to join the household. By that time they were living in Malta, Montana. A son, Kamalesh, was born to them there. At the time the Ramaiyas arrived in Cooperstown, Nootan was 15, Dharindra 10 and Kamalesh was 15 months old.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 53

Schools

RURAL SCHOOLS

For 80 years, rural schools played the major role in educating most of the children of Griggs County.

Schools were of first importance to the people who settled Griggs County. As soon as possible, the settlers made arrangements for the instruction of their young. The first classes were taught in January, February and March of 1882, at the home of Johannes Qualey, who had a two-story log house with a lean-to. Christopher Bolkan was engaged by the settlers to teach their children. In exchange, they helped him break some sod on his claim that summer. This term of school came before the legal organization of the county and the establishment of school districts. The first officially recorded term of school was taught by Ole Serumgard at the Omund Nelson Opheim cabin for three months ending March 3, 1883. S. Gunderson also taught a term of school at the same time, probably in Mardell. The clerk's report on Serumgard's term reached the office of the county superintendent first, and he is credited with teaching the first officially recorded term of school in Griggs County. School was conducted in settlers' homes, and in the Park Avenue Hotel at Mardell.

The first rural schoolhouse was built in Greendale School District in 1883, and was known as Meadow Brook School. Located on Section 6 of the present Sverdrup Township, the 16 x 30 foot schoolhouse had an attached coal shed, and was built by James Muir, cost \$1240. The first teacher in that school was Maria Rankin who taught a term beginning in the spring of 1883. In 1896 the building was moved to Section 8, Sverdrup Township and was known as the Langford or Watne School. It closed about 1953.

Not many of the early teachers had had any formal teachers' training, though some were well educated in other fields. Teachers salaries in rural schools amounted to \$35-\$40 a month in the early years.

Teachers' institutes conducted by the County Superintendent of Schools; sometimes a weeklong gave them a short course in teaching. Teachers who came from outside the

community usually roomed and boarded with a family who lived near the school, but sometimes they lived in the schoolhouse. Terms of school were variable in length and enrollment varied with the season. The older children went to school when they could be spared from the farm work. It was not uncommon for students to attend, when they could, up to the age of 20.

The country school was the place where children of newcomer parents learned the English language and American ways, and brought their newfound knowledge back to their families. Occasionally adult members of the family would attend for a while, and it was common practice for a young adult, newly arrived in the United States, to enroll for a while in the country school to learn English.

There are people living in this community in 1982 who remember that they started school knowing no English.

In 1884 the county was divided into nine school townships, of unequal size. The smallest, Nelson, was seven miles long and three miles across. Red Willow, the largest, was 12 by 12 miles. The school Township did not follow the boundaries of the congressional, six-miles-square townships as surveyed by the government, and in 1897 the system was changed. Twenty regular school districts, one for each Township were established. At the same time the city of Cooperstown organized a special district.

Building of schoolhouses progressed rapidly in the early years. In 1884, the average schoolhouse cost \$700, it was reported. This was probably the cost of materials and labor not including the sites.

By 1915 Griggs County had approximately seventy rural schools in operation, located within walking distance of the families they served. Terms were eventually standardized at seven, eight or nine months. Twenty years later, in the mid-1930's, there were about sixty schools running. In another twenty years there were less than thirty. Rural population had declined and roads and cars had improved making it possible to travel a longer distance to school.

School district reorganization took place in 1959 and following, and once more the county was divided into a few large school districts.

The last rural school in Griggs County, Broadview number one, closed in May of 1963 when Mrs. Helen Parker completed her term.

Some of the buildings survive. A few were retained as Township meeting halls. Others have been converted into farm shops, garages or granaries.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 54

STORY OF A COUNTRY SCHOOL

The story of the Gallatin and Loge Schools was written in 1976 by Florence Loge Johnson.

The Gallatin School was located in Section 23 of Sverdrup Township, in Griggs County, on land that now belongs to Lester Larson. A short distance to the north of the school was the Sheyenne River and to the south was the Chalmer Hill, named for one of the early Scotch families in the district.

Teachers' records show that approximately 350 pupils attended Gallatin School from 1885-1929, and 60 pupils attended the Loge School from 1929-1959. There were others

who attended for a portion of a year, but whose names were not included in the teachers' final reports. Many of these were immigrants who were eager to learn the English language. Most of the students were Norwegians and Swedes, as this was predominantly a Scandinavian settlement. There were also a few Scotch students attending, such as the Saunders, Atchisons, and Chalmers.

The Gallatin Schoolhouse had one room, no basement, and was heated with a wood and coal-burning space heater. When the Loge School was built in 1929, the Gallatin School was then torn down and the lumber used to build the dining hall (The Inn) at the Cooperstown Bible Camp.

Gallatin School District was organized in 1883 and dissolved in 1897. Territory embraced therein passed to the civil townships of Broadview and Sverdrup.

Sverdrup Township soon had four schools. The first teacher's reports for the Watne and Westley Schools are dated 1897, and for the Bolkan School, 1898.

In the late teens or early nineteen twenties, there was a proposal to build a consolidated school in the Township. Torkel Njaa, a proponent of the idea, offered land north of the Bible Camp on which to build the school. However, when an election was held, the vote failed, and Sverdrup Township retained its four schools.

In 1926, a petition was circulated in regard to the relocation of the Gallatin School. This led to the building of the Loge School near the Lars Loge farm in Section 27 (now Kermit Ueland's farm). This location was near the center of the southeast part of the Township. The school was built in 1929 by the Bolstad brothers, and was larger than the old school. It had a basement, a coal and wood furnace, roomy cloakrooms, and indoor lavatories.

Sports and games were important recreational activities in both schools. Gallatin School, because it was located in the valley near the hills and river, offered opportunities for skiing, sledding, and skating during recesses and noon hours. Other games played there were Pom-Pom Pullaway, Caddy, and Fox and Geese, to mention just a few. Students at the Loge School spent many recesses during the spring and fall playing softball. Occasionally, the teacher would arrange a ball game with another school. Prisoner's Base, Kick the Tin Can, Last Couple Out, Tag, and Five Hundred were some of the other games played by the children.

A day which the pupils looked forward to in the spring was Play Day. This was held in Cooperstown and there was no school that day. In the forenoon, athletic contests, consisting of dashes, high Jump, broad jump, softball throw, and beanbag throw were held. Each school in the county prepared a float and entered it in a parade in the afternoon. The floats were judged and prizes were awarded.

Spelling bees were often held in the Gallatin School, as they were in many early schools. Two sides were chosen and each tried to "spell down" the other one. The spelling bees evolved into countywide spelling contests in later years. Each school was represented by the best spellers, who went to Cooperstown for the county contest. This consisted of an oral and a written test. The winner of the seventh and eighth grade contest then entered state competition.

Students also participated in declamation contests, reciting memorized speeches - humorous, serious, or poetry. Participants entered a district contest and winners advanced to the county contest.

An important activity in the schools was the Young Citizen's League. (YCL) This organization trained young people in different ways. Meetings were held once or twice a month, officers were elected, and these officers learned how to conduct meetings, serve on committees, plan programs, etc. In the spring of the year, YCL members could attend the state convention in Bismarck. This was a most interesting trip, as most youngsters had not been that far away before, and it was also the first visit to the capital city for many of them. The Patterson Hotel was convention headquarters and since many students had never stayed in a hotel before, this, too, was quite an experience. Also, seeing the state Capitol building for the first time was a big thrill, as was riding to the top floor of it in an elevator.

Christmas programs, pie and basket socials and carnivals were a few of the evening events held in the schools. Until 1948, when REA brought electricity to the Township, lighting at these evening events was not very good. Parents brought gasoline lamps, lanterns, and Aladdin lamps to help light the school building. Needless to say, everyone enjoyed the songs, recitations, and plays put on by the students. A stage was made at one end of the schoolroom, using bed sheets fastened on wires as stage curtains. Days prior to a program were always exciting ones for the children - perhaps because classes didn't meet regularly, and there was less work.

Halloween and Valentine's Day were usually celebrated with a school party. Often, a special treat on Valentine's Day was homemade ice cream furnished by some parents who knew that a good party needed good food, too!

Time marched on - and with it came progress. Due to a decreasing enrollment and increasing cost of education, progress took the form of school district reorganization. The year 1959 was the last one in which the Loge School was in operation. The following year, orange school buses were seen on the roads in Sverdrup Township. These buses carried the students to Cooperstown, because the former Sverdrup School District was not a part of the Cooperstown Special School District.

As you think about your school days, I am sure each of you has a story to tell. Memories are many - sleigh rides on cold, crisp winter days, walking to school on spring mornings when the air was alive with migrating geese, the fresh, clean smell of the school room on the first day of school in September, and the taste of Jelly-soaked sandwiches at lunchtime - to mention just a few.

Mrs. Albert Johnson (Louise Johnson), who attended Gallatin School from 1894-1905, is thought to be the oldest person, living, who attended this school. She wrote:

Gallatin was the name of the school in Sverdrup Township where I attended school when I was of school age. It was also the name of our Post Office in Griggs County.

My oldest sister, Betsey Johnson, later, Mrs. Olof Johnson was my first teacher.

At Gallatin School, there was a small building where the teachers could live during the cold months in winter. We sisters stayed with her. At night we could visit the close neighbors like the Chalmers, Larson, and Freer families.

Our schoolhouse was not modern and we seldom had water to drink at school, so when we ate our dinner the food would go down our throats with a pain.

The school was near the Sheyenne River, so in winter at the noon hour we could run down and do some skating. There were big hills around us, also, and when the snow came we could skip and go sledding, which we enjoyed a lot.

We had several teachers after my sister Betsey taught, and one of them was H.A. Bemis who had the position for several years. He used to make his pupils interested in school by meeting them on their way to school and finding out what subjects they were most interested in. He used to have parties at school in the evenings and he would bring us treats and we would play games. On some Sunday afternoons he would have Song Services for us and taught us new songs. This teacher too would have some of us older pupils help sweep the schoolroom and he would pay us by giving us a Dictionary.

Most of the time my sister and cousin, Eric Stadig, who lived at our house for a time had to walk to school which was two miles. Before going off to school we had to do chores like milking etc., so it was a rush to get to school in time. It was not uncommon to see a wolf in the morning crossing our road. He would stop and look at us and then run on his way.

The homes from which the school children came were Uelands, Chalmers, Herigstads, Atchisons, Sandersons, Hagles, Larsons, Freers, Klubbens, Loges, Mattsons, Stokkas, Molers, and Johnsons.

EARLY SCHOOL DAYS

My father, Torkel T. Vigesaa, came to America from Vigesaa, Bjerkrem, Norway in 1888 as a twenty-year-old single man. He spent a year in the Grafton area before coming to the Cooperstown area where he homesteaded in the beautiful Sheyenne Valley, Broadview Township, Griggs County. Although not the most convenient land for farming since the river bisected the farm, still it consisted of very fertile soil free of rocks.

In the early days, he did considerable herding of horses and cattle in the hills along the valley where grass was abundant.

My mother, Lovisa Osland, arrived in America in 1891, coming mainly for the purpose of visiting her sister and family, the Torkel T. Fuglestads, who had come to America in 1883. Her plan was to remain a year, but in the meantime she met Torkel, the young man who had arrived a few years earlier. Although not previously acquainted, they were from nearly the same locality in Norway near Stavanger. They were married November 28, 1894, and took up residence on the homestead in Broadview Township approximately fifteen miles southeast of the village of Cooperstown.

Their first child, Betsy, was born August 22, 1895. My birthday was April 24, two years later.

Since no schoolhouse had been erected in the new settlement, there was no chance to attend school at the prescribed age of six or seven. Betsy became nine years and I was seven before being introduced to the common, rural one-room school and teacher. It was located one mile to the south of our home down the valley, so we had some very enjoyable early morning and late afternoon walks when weather permitted. However, in

winter, we were privileged to ride by team and sleigh on the icy "pavement" provided by the river itself. There we were entertained by the many rabbits and other animals as we rode along, often with our Uncle Martin as driver.

Our very first introduction to grade school was during the summer of 1904, when Miss Anna Westley began a three-month term beginning May 2 and ending July 22.

She lived with her parents, the Ole Westleys, and provided her own means of transportation by horse and buggy, and drove twice daily a distance of nearly eight miles.

Attending at the time were twelve pupils. Julius and Mary Knutson, Inga Loge, Christian and Inga Rustad, Mary Rasmussen, Constance Thompson, my sister Betsy and myself, Bertha, Torval and Sigvart Vigesaa, who had recently arrived from Norway with their parents, I'er and Elizabeth, and were living in the immediate vicinity.

In the fall of 1904, Miss Rachel Taylor, whose home was at Clifford, North Dakota, came to teach our school. She taught until May 10, 1905. The enrollment was now fifteen pupils.

Our third teacher was a local girl, Miss Regina Klubben.

She taught the term in 1906 when the enrollment had swelled to twenty pupils, of Swedish, Norwegian, Dane, and English backgrounds. I was now in the third grade and besides my sister, Betsy, our younger brother, Trygve, had started school at age seven.

Beginning February 18 and ending April 12, 1907, Miss Jarina Bull came to teach our school. She boarded at our home.

As time passed we became a family of five sisters and three brothers. Besides those already named, there were Agnes, Lawrence, Ruth, Mildred and Hurluf. We all attended the little schoolhouse by the side of the road in the valley, called at that time the "Thompson School".

We have many pleasant memories of our school days with our many schoolmates and school activities, such as programs at Christmas, Valentine parties, and end of school picnics which we enjoyed most of all.

By 1912 I finished the eighth grade and after a couple years of advanced study, I was persuaded to teach the Sinclair school north of Hannaford. I did have the required certification for teaching the elementary grades.

During the autumn months, I boarded at the Watnes, but when winter set in, we were forced to close school because of extreme cold weather and poor condition of heating facilities. However, the school board decided to make improvements so we could again resume school. I was invited to stay at the Milton Mills' home near the school until the end of the school year, paying \$6.00 per month for room and board. Salary for teachers having second grade elementary certificates at that time (1915-1916) was \$50.00 per month, minus 1% off for retirement paid to the State.

- Gudrid Vigesaa Hetland

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 57

SCHOOL

Bucket lunches were kept on a shelf behind the stove. At times, by noon, they were still nearly frozen.

Some mornings we would wear our coats while studying. Also, I recall jumping over a broom handle laid across seats for a quick warm up.

In 1920 and 21 our teacher, Gudrid Njaa, introduced hot lunches. They consisted of a cup serving per person of hot milk with canned corn or peas, butter and seasoning.

The oldest girls, grades five and six, would start this heating on a kerosene stove at 11:30. The smell of a kerosene stove long after had a nostalgia for me.

One Friday with a storm in the offing, Alice and I were told to wait at the school for a ride home. The storm never materialized but we waited anyway, but eventually set out straight as a crow flies across the lake bottom. As we neared the north end it was getting dark but we could discern a shadowy form loping down the hill towards us. Must be a coyote. Then we remembered grandma's advice, "If you encounter a coyote, look him straight in the eye," and thus fortified, we pressed on. It turned out to be Lulu who had come home on a Friday evening from Cooperstown High School and had come to meet us.

The spring of 1916 I was in first grade. 11jordis had taken grade 8 exams the first of the year. Lulu was still kept out of school after a winter bout with pneumonia. I was not allowed to go by myself. The neighbors took me in a week at a time. First week with Christine at Johnsons, second week with Elsie Jensen at Stoais, and the third week with Esther at Skjelsets.

-Elbjorg Krogsgard

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 58

GRIGGS COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS 1883-1982

Dr. T.F. Kerr.....	1882-1895
Andrew Sinclair.....	1895-1901
Clara Feiring.....	1901-1907
I.A. Kampen	1907-1917
Tina Regner	1917-1921
Mathilda Johnson Overby	1921-1933
Eva Fogderud	1933-1939
Gertrude Pfeifer	1939-1943
Agnes Evenson Marson.....	1943-1950
Selma Tang.....	1950-1951
Ralph Olgaard	1951-1955
Selma Helland	1955-

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 58

LIVING IN THE SCHOOLHOUSE

While I was teaching during World War 11 I lived in two different rural schoolhouses.

In 1942-43, I lived in the main schoolroom. A space in the southeast corner was curtained off to serve as my bedroom and for storage space. The southwest corner of the building was called my kitchen. There was a kerosene stove, but I often used the top of

the oil burning heater or the coal floor furnace to bake potatoes and heat foods, which were prepared while I was at home on the weekend. I kept food in a container in the entry hall, which was not heated.

Water was not wasted. The amount I brought along Sunday for my use had to last until Friday. Water for the pupils to drink was brought by parents and poured into the stoneware fountain. Water for washing hands was in a pail with a dipper beside the washbasin on a bench. Kerosene lamps were used for lighting. I usually went to bed early so that people wouldn't know anyone was living in the schoolhouse, which was beside the highway. It was comforting to know that there were farm homes only about a quarter of a mile away in two directions.

The schoolhouse had a large fenced yard. The gates could be closed so that animals could not enter the yard. There was no telephone at the school, and the oil burner was not connected to an outside tank. I carried eight gallons of fuel oil from the shed. It was attached to the schoolhouse, but there was no connecting door so it was necessary to put on coat and overshoes and go outside to the shed. There were no indoor toilets, and the outhouses were some distance from the schoolhouse.

A few rabbits lived under the schoolhouse floor and I could tell the time of day by their departure.

The other schoolhouse, on the prairie, had no fence around the yard. That was 1945-46. I lived in an unfinished room that had been used for storage. I had to cover the window with dark material as it was during the "black-out" period during the war.

To heat this room I used a portable kerosene stove, now on display in the Griggs County Museum. At midnight I would fill the tank and it would last until morning. Mice joined me and I caught them in traps. The lighting system was kerosene lamps and flashlights.

I had a skunk under the floor for a while and when men of the neighborhood trapped it they killed it directly outside my living quarters. We had a smelly building for a month or so but we lived through it.

There was a telephone at this school, but there was a time during a snowstorm when there was trouble with the telephone line so they cut my phone and I had no means of communication. The worst part was that the trouble was in another phone on the line.

Teachers carried fuel oil or coal to heat the building, shoveled snow and ditched water in the spring besides the teaching and janitor work in the building. I wouldn't care to do it again, but it could have been worse.

-Borghild C. Bue

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 59

COOPERSTOWN SCHOOLS

Block 18 of the original townsite of Cooperstown has been the school site since 1883, when the town's founders so designated it.

The wisdom of placing the schoolhouse at the far northeast section of town has at various times been questioned and applauded. For nearly one hundred years, students

have walked north to school in all kinds of weather, thinking their own thoughts about the people who put the school where they did.

To look at the other side, the location has made possible a ten-acre campus, which now includes football field, track, parking lot, a bus garage and practice fields north and east of the school. Had the school been built in the center of town, less land would have been available around the building.

Building a school was one of the first priorities of the founders of Cooperstown.

The Cooperstown *Courier* of February 16, 1883, reported that the stone foundation had been laid for an \$8,000.00 educational institute. R.C. Cooper's freight train of 50 to 60 mules were regularly traveling between Sanborn and Cooperstown hauling freight at the time. By July 20, the *Courier* could report, "It is finished. Cooperstown's school building is on the south half of block 18. The edifice is 40 feet square with the eaves 27 feet from the ground, making a two-story building with high ceilings. Schoolrooms are each 30' x 40' having small study or recitation rooms in connection. The entry has two entrances from this hall - one for boys - one for girls. From each side of this hall a platform stairway leads to the halls above. The stairways are particularly fine affairs, the banisters being of black walnut."

The *Courier* further reported that the building was surrounded by sidewalks, and had a \$700.00 water closet. (The latter fixture was "around back" to the north of the school building). Total cost of the building \$9,000.00, including the surroundings. Architect and contractor was C.C. Phillippee. It should be noted that the school was completely finished before the railroad reached Cooperstown.

The school soon had scholars, and Z.A. Clough, a graduate of the University of Michigan, was hired as the teacher at \$88.88 a month. (Later this salary was considered excessive and the board voted henceforth not to pay anyone more than \$65.00 a month). Mr. Clough reported December 21, 1883 that the first short, three-month term had been successful. This was followed by a six-month term in 1884. Mr. Clough had 27 students ranging in age from 5 to 17.

A lower paid teacher was his successor. School population grew with the town and by 1885 a second teacher was hired.

Financial problems arose. Though the details are not documented it is certain that the financial arrangements were unsettled.

The *Courier* scolded, in 1885, "Were there any laws authorizing (the old district school board) to build a \$10,000.00 school house on a wild prairie of Dakota, without a scholar in the district? The material for the schoolhouse was freighted 36 miles by sleigh, while the railroad was building, on which it could have been brought to Cooperstown, and the house built before it was needed."

In debt to a St. Paul bank, the school district in 1885 issued bonds to raise the money to pay off its debt. The bonds were payable in fifteen years but could be paid up any time after eight years. What was the problem with the bond issue is not clear. At any rate, the "Institute" was abandoned in 1886 and classes were held in buildings downtown. One of them was the old Jackson saloon building at Tenth and Lenham, about where the Hoverson house now stands. Another was the two-story building next door to the present F & M Bank. A lawsuit followed in 1888, and the district was forced to pay its bonds. In

1890 the legal matter was settled, the schoolhouse repaired after nearly four years of standing vacant, and classes resumed.

After the smoke cleared from the legal battle, it was found that Greendale school district owed close to \$20,000.00 for its \$9,000.00 educational institute with the \$700.00 outhouse.

The school grew and progressed. In 1892 the third teacher was added, and a partition built to make a new schoolroom. Agitation began for a graded school, the earlier practice being, apparently, to run the schoolrooms with students of assorted ages in each room.

The change to a graded school, which was the beginning of a high school, came in 1897, when the electors of the district voted to organize a special, school district, which would run a high school.

Meanwhile, a separate building was considered and finally built for elementary students on the south side of block 49.

The school population continued to grow. In 1895 it was reported that the village of Cooperstown, population 675, had 134 children of school age. An addition was built to the large school in 1896.

In July of 1896, Miss A.M. Fitch, sister of Mrs. Maynard Crane, opened a private kindergarten at 60¢ a week. Classes were, at least for a time, conducted over the newly constructed fire hall. Jeanette Bergstrom Costello remembered being frightened at having to step over fire hose and walk past other large intimidating fire fighting equipment.

By 1898 there were 1,164 school age children in the county. The Cooperstown school began to encourage older rural students to attend the higher-level classes. Tuition rates were established for out-of-district pupils attending.

In 1903 the highest ambition of the school's founders was realized: A high school class was graduated from "The Institute." Inez Enger, Adolph Melgard and Lynn Warner were the first graduates.

There was no graduation the next year, but it was eventful.

The large schoolhouse burned to the ground March 27, 1904. A month later the district voted to bond itself for \$15,000 to build a new schoolhouse on the same site.

School was held in the fire hall, courtroom, churches and other buildings until the new brick building was ready. There were classrooms on three levels, in a horseshoe arrangement around a central hallway opening to the south entry, with two classrooms on the east and two on the west on each floor, and a smaller room on the north of the first and second floors. That room served as the administrative office on the first floor. The room above it was used for various purposes. The basement floor plan was somewhat different to allow for the furnace room and later rest rooms as well, but there were classrooms in the basement beginning about 1910, when the elementary pupils were moved to the big school for a while. The short entry stair was in the middle of the entry, and was flanked right and left by stairs leading down to the basement and up to second floor.

The small schoolhouse was sold and elementary students moved into the high school building. The basement rooms were finished and put into use as classrooms to accommodate the growing enrollment.

In 1906 Cooperstown High School graduated two more pupils, Mary Koch and Tena Regner. Since that time there has been a graduating class every year. Fifty-seven classes were graduated from the big square brick building, the last being the 37-member class of 1962.

By 1911 there was once more a space problem and the building which was later the creamery on Block 75 was used for primary pupils. The children used the vacant lot to the north for a playground. Later that block became a public playground. The Central School building was completed on the southeast corner of block 49, December 7, 1914, and in 1915 Mrs. Emma Berg presented a gymnasium to the school district in memory of her husband, the late A.H. Berg. The gymnasium is on the southwest corner of the same block, on lots furnished by the city and the school district. The Berg Gymnasium was enlarged in 1940, using W.P.A. labor and lumber from the old Cooper elevator.

In 1950 the C.P. Dahl home, which had been moved from Jessie, was purchased as a teacherage for use of the superintendent of the school.

In the 1950's, school district reorganization was being discussed as the rural population was declining and rural schoolhouses were growing old. Improving the buildings and holding school for a few students began to be expensive.

Reorganization was a controversial issue, and the Cooperstown plan was not approved on the first vote.

As evidence of good faith on the part of the Cooperstown district, voters approved an addition to the Central School building to be financed entirely by the taxpayers in the City of Cooperstown. The addition, completed in the fall of 1959, is on the south side of Central School and the Berg gymnasium, and includes a long connecting hallway between the entrances to the two buildings as well as an office, rest rooms, furnace room and four primary grade classrooms.

Reorganization passed in an election in the spring of 1960, closely followed by a vote to bond the district to build a new high school. The new school opened in the fall of 1962. Both bond issues are now paid. The grade school bonds were paid entirely by residents of Cooperstown, "Old" District 18. Bus transportation began before the official reorganization took place. A few rural schools had closed and were sending their students to school in town before the vote to reorganize.

The curriculum has changed over the years and so have extracurricular activities

Football was first played as an organized sport in Cooperstown high school in 1906 and continues to be popular. The present nine-man team plays an eight-game schedule. Baseball, most popular sport in the early years, is no longer a school sport here. Basketball had to be played outdoors before the Berg gymnasium was built, limiting the length of the season. The first organized basketball team was a girls' team in 1902. By 1907 they sometimes played other schools. Now the girls have a 16-game basketball season in the fall and boys play a season of 16 games in the winter.

Extra curricular musical activities have included vocal groups, band, a high school orchestra, and in recent years a pop music instrumental group.

About 1939 Cooper Capers, a high school variety show, was born, directed by W.E. Thornton. It was an annual production for nearly forty years.

Until recently, the high school has had a school newspaper. First published in 1920, The Zip, later called The Cooper High Record, later the Lynx Ink, won an impressive number of trophies. A high school annual has been produced every year since 1958.

Cooperstown High School has a chapter of National Honor Society whose charter dates back to the early 1940's. An earlier honor society in Cooperstown High School was called the Marcelleans. Future Homemakers of America, chartered in Cooperstown High School in 1948, continues to be active.

Students continue to participate in speech events, as well as spring music contests.

The Lynx became Cooperstown High School's symbolic mascot so long ago it is hard to find anyone who remembers when. The school has two Lynx specimens mounted by taxidermists guarding the entry from the top of a trophy case.

First school board in 1883 when Cooperstown was known as District Number Four: George Barnard, director; Frank M. Rockwell, clerk; William Glass, treasurer.

First school board in 1884 of Greendale School District of which Cooperstown school was a part: Knud Thompson, director; William Glass, clerk; Jack N. Brown, treasurer.

First school board of Cooperstown Special District, 1897:

M.W. Buckclerk
E.W. Blackwell.....treasurer
David Bartlettpresident
O.A. Melgard
A.H. Berg
F.J. Stone
Mrs. R.M. Cowen

First school board of the reorganized Cooperstown Special School District Number 18 in 1960:

Roy L. Solberg.....president
Archie MarsonDirector
K.A. Monson “
Marvin Retzlaff “
Trygve Thompson “

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 60

GETTING THERE IN 1914

Getting places was not so easy in 1913-1914, but the people went anyway. The February of 1914, Cooperstown High School Echo tells about their adventures.

First, the teachers:

Last fall a group of C.H.S. teachers autoed to V.C. to witness a football game between V.C. and our boys. Those included were Misses Myhre, Wehrs and Murchie and Mr. and Mrs. Persing. Everything went fine going down, but on the return, things were not as pleasant. When they were nearly to Rogers the drive shaft came off and our poor teachers were left in a snowstorm and on the dark prairie. After a while Ralph Hammer came along with his car and after a very tedious struggle they succeeded in reaching Rogers. They remained over night at this place and reached Cooperstown late the next P.M.

Miss Burtness and Miss Myhre, on their return from their Christmas vacation, met with a very exciting experience. At V.C. they were to slow to get on the train at the door, as is generally customary for most folks to do. Instead they preferred to hang on the outside of the back end of a car until a porter took pity on them and unlocked the door. They had a breezy ride from V.C. towards Rogers, for about fifteen minutes.

The students had their adventures too:

Our Trip To Hope

Ah, Memory. That never-to-be-forgotten trip to Hope!

We all gathered at the gymnasium after school, and at five o'clock four cars set sail for Hope, arriving safely at that little "burgh" at about six-thirty. At the hotel we were met by the members of the girl's basketball team, who entertained us at their several homes for supper. The games, of which a fuller account is given elsewhere, were called at eight o'clock. After the game we spent a couple of very pleasant hours in dancing.

Everyone seemed ravenously hungry after the excitement, and Proprietor Lindgren of the Major Hotel gave generous "hand-outs" of raisin pie and bread to whom ever applied.

At ten o'clock next morning we were homeward bound. All was well until we had a tire puncture about eight miles out of Hope, but having a skillful driver, that was soon remedied. We were about to continue on our way when the two cars, which we had left far behind us, came up, but behold! The perfectly good Studebaker was being pulled by the other car. We pulled them around the wilds of North Dakota for the following six hours, and I must say that it was rather provoking to discover that we were no nearer home at the end of those six hours than we were at ten o'clock that morning. Four o'clock found us in Sherbrooke, hungry, tired and cold. We speedily made ourselves "at home" in a ten by twelve country store, satisfying our hunger with soda crackers and sardines.

In the meantime, the other two cars had reached home, and knowing of our sad plight, another auto was sent for us. By coupling the three cars together and uniting the power, we succeeded in reaching Cooperstown at nine o'clock that night.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 64

COOPERSTOWN SCHOOLS, 1982

The Cooperstown Public School District is composed of 268.25 sections of land consisting of land from all or parts of 11 townships from both Griggs and Steele counties. Maximum distance from east to west is 21 miles and from north to south 22 miles. The 1981 taxable valuation has been set at \$3,171,767.00. As the rural population has decreased in the State of North Dakota, evidence of that same trend in this school district is brought out by the facts that in the early 1960's there were nine school buses and two station wagons on rural routes while only five school buses are now needed.

According to census and enrollment figures the school population should remain fairly stable at between 350 and 400 students in the next ten years, but the number in high school may drop to about 110 students at the low point when the present seventh grade students are seniors in high school.

Full-time kindergarten became a part of the regular school program during the 1981-82 school year. Thirty-four children are divided into two sections, with the students

attending every other day. This program adds to the six-week program that has been in operation for a number of years.

In addition to the regular elementary program, the Cooperstown elementary students have several special opportunities. Special help is provided for students who need it in reading and mathematics through a specially trained person, who provides small group and individualized help. The Cooperstown District belongs to the G-S-T (Griggs-Steele-Trail) special education consortium. Through this organization, specialists are provided to help students who have learning disabilities, speech and hearing problems, physical disabilities and other special problems. A specialist is also provided to work with gifted students from the three-county area.

School lunches are still provided for the school system at the elementary building. Inflation and reduced surplus commodities have forced lunch prices to 75¢ a meal for students. Despite the increased cost, about 235 students have their noon meal at school.

About 210 students from grades K-6 attend classes in the elementary building under the guidance of ten regular classroom teachers. The 180 people from grades 7-12 attend the high school building, which was constructed in the early 1960's. There are course offerings at this school in ten distinct departments: art, business, English, German, home-making, industrial arts, mathematics, music, science, and social studies. More than 50 different classes were offered in these areas during the 1981-82 school year.

The high school department belongs to the Sheyenne Valley Multidistrict Vocational Center where juniors and seniors may select courses of a vocational nature in auto mechanics, construction, nurse's aide, vocational office practice, or welding. Students from North Central of Barnes, Hannaford, Glenfield-Sutton-McHenry, McVile, Aneta, and Binford come to Cooperstown to participate. Students have an opportunity to work with five microcomputers and interest has been high in that area for three or four years.

Schools at Cooperstown are governed by an elected school board. Four members of the school board are elected from particular rural areas and the other member from the City of Cooperstown. Present school board members are:

Frank Pfeifer.....Chairman
Eugenia FrigaardVice-Chairman
Casper Aarestad, Jr.
Keven Lunde
Bebe McCardle
Rick LarsonSecretary-Treasurer.

Victor E. Burchill, Ed. D Superintendent of Schools

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 64

COOPERSTOWN SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS AND HEAD TEACHERS 1883-1982

Z.A. Clough1883-1884
Siver Serumgard1884-1885
C.W. Hodge1885-1894
Fred Warmer1894-1896

James Sinclair	1896-1899
Irving Page	1899-1900
L.M. Abbott	1900-1902
M.S. Harper.....	1902-1903
D.H. Loreaux	1903-1908
R. Morgan	1908-1910
W.J. Hoover	1910-1912
Norman Koontz.....	1912-1915
S.B. Erickson	1915-1918
E.E. Hanson	1918-1924
F. Ray Rogers.....	1924-1929
A.M. Paulson	1929-1938
W.E. Thornton	1938-1940
E. V. Estensen	1940-1946
Sherwin Swartout.....	1946-1948
Edgar Mark	1948-1951
Oswald Tufte.....	1951-1953
G.E. Appel	1953-1958
Henry Bryant.....	1958-1961
Don P. Sheldon	1961-1964
Ivan J.K. Dahl	1964-1966
Arthur Morlock	1966-1974
Glenn Resell.....	1974-1978
Lloyd Fandrich.....	1978-1979
Victor Burchill	1979

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 66

SCHOOLS, 1982

School is very different than it used to be. Students go to school five days a week, Monday through Friday; nine months a year, September through May; and about seven hours a day. They also have vacations at Christmas, Easter, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and summer vacation from the time school ends in the spring, about the end of May, until it starts in the fall, about the end of August.

There are many classes to choose from today. Some of these are history, geography, home economics, business classes, typing, foreign languages, physical education, chorus, and different kinds of math, English and sciences. Band is also an elective.

A student has to go to school until he or she is sixteen and through the eighth grade. Most people graduate from high school and many go on to college, usually for two or four years.

Today students have a choice of many sports. There is football, track, girl's basketball, boy's basketball and baseball.

Eating dinner is also different now. Before, they had to bring sack lunches, but now schools have a cafeteria where hot meals are served.

In earlier times, students had to walk to school, but now if they live in the country they can ride the school bus.

People of today probably think that the present-day school system is much easier and more convenient.

- Marci Leininger

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 67

JUNIOR HIGH, 1982

Some people say kids have it easy. We only have to go to school eight hours a day five days a week, right? As a seventh grader you're the new arrival in the busy life of a Junior High student. The Junior High is in the same building as the high school students. We wake up at 7:00 and rush around trying to get ready to catch a ride to school. Of course some unlucky students have to walk. Walk or ride you have to be in the classroom by 8:30 or else you must go to the office and get a tardy slip to get into class.

Our first class is Phy. Ed., where we run, work on weights, work on chin-ups, do long jumps and play games. After we get dressed from our gym clothes (shorts and a tee shirt), we go to Social Studies where we learn about world history and other world information. After Social Studies we go to a study hall and after study hall we go to chorus. At chorus we sing songs and learn about music.

When the first half of school is over we get a lunch break for one hour. During this break some people go home to eat and some bring lunch from home, but most people walk over to the grade school for hot lunch. The food is OK. After that most kids head to the local cafe to buy candy or to play the new arcade game Pac Man for 25¢.

When the bell rings we are supposed to be in our seats and ready for our next class. Here is where the grade splits up. Some of the seventh grade is in band so that is where they go next. After that they go to math and science. The people who aren't in band go to math right after lunch break then science and after that study hall. The whole group of seventh graders gets back together the last period for English. Then at 3:45 we get all of our books together so we can do our homework. We wave good-bye to our friends and say "see you tomorrow."

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 67

RIDING A SCHOOL BUS

One of the main parts of the school day is getting there! The bus picks up most of the kids living in the country but some of them drive in themselves. The kids from town walk to school. The bus has about 16 seats in which 2 adults can fit or 3 children. In the morning the first person is picked up about 7:20 and the last about 8:20. School starts at 8:30. The bus stops at each house. The bus is a good place to do your studying or homework because if you get stuck you can ask someone to help you. If you are tired you can just curl up in the corner of a seat and go to sleep. No one is allowed to stand up on the bus when it's moving and they really don't want you eating on it but you can. In the spring and fall when it's hot you can open the windows. They slide up and down and latch at the top. In the winter the buses often have trouble. They slide off the road into the ditch or get stuck in a drift. They often stall too. When this happens the driver calls in to either the school or a garage on his radio in the bus for either another bus to come and pick up the kids or some vehicle to pull them out. The radio is like any other radio with different stations and knobs for volume and channels except it has a hand piece

connected to it by a cord. The driver pushes a small button on the hand piece to talk into it and then releases it so someone on the other end can talk.

-Mary Stahl

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 68

MELINDA OF MONEY BROOK MANSION

We were walking out of the school at 3:45 on the last day of the nine-months of school. Every semester we usually have 8-12 classes. I'm going home to put on my painters pants which is right next to my designer jeans, which costs \$45 to \$50. Then I'm going to go to a basketball game between the teachers of Binford and Cooperstown. I don't know if I'll wear my Nike tennis shoes or my clogs. I decided on my shiny rainbow top. It wasn't very cold so I decided to wear my satin blazer, which cost \$120. I met my friend at the basketball game, which cost \$1.00 for kids, \$2.50 for adults. She said she had trouble deciding if she should wear her shiny tight pants or her knickers but she did decide on her knickers and high fashioned leather cowboy boots. Whatever I do I won't wear a dress ever! After the game we went to the Coachman Inn to have a shrimp dinner with baked potatoes and a nice tall glass of coke. Altogether it will cost about \$9.50. After we have dinner we're going to go roller disco skating at Red Willow Lake or at the Cooperstown roller skating rink. They have a hi-fi stereo and strobe lights.

The next day a letter came from my grandparents, who live in Miami, Florida. They told me about how many refugees from Cuba and other countries are there. They sent me \$500 to buy a Moped. I really wanted to buy a motorcycle, but that costs \$800-\$1000. If there is any money left over, I am going to get my ears pierced 4-5 times. My mom just told me to get groceries. I went to the grocery store and bought milk (\$1.20/half gallon), a ten-pound bag of sugar (\$3.09), and bread (\$.69). Our family is thinking about getting a van that costs \$9,600. We really would like a custom made van but that cost \$14,000. We finally decided on a car, a Japanese import. It cost \$7,500. We wanted an American car but they cost \$1,000 more. My brother is getting a three-wheeler for his birthday. It cost \$1,695. He is getting a snowmobile for Christmas. That costs \$2,500. My brother is very spoiled! Next week it is my boyfriend's birthday and I am going to give him a gold chain and a ring. Next week it is also our anniversary. We have been going together for two years. I'm giving him a top to match one of mine. He just got a brand new truck from his parents. It cost \$9,600. Then he's going to come and pick me up and we're going to cruise the streets. The gas will cost \$1.37 a gallon. He's going to put a computer in his car.

I just got a call on my cordless telephone that cost me \$200. It was my little sister. She asked me if I would buy her a new Atari video game because she broke hers. There goes my allowance!

In the *Sentinel - Courier* newspaper they posted the enrollments in our area. For grades 1-12 in Binford, 141; Hannaford, 80; and Cooperstown, grades K-12, 397. I also saw an ad about an Air Supply concert. The cost was \$10-\$25. Tonight I'm going to the movie, "Raiders of the Lost Ark." I just got my allowance from Mom and Dad so I have the \$3.00 or \$3.50 it will cost. If I can't go I will sit and watch movies on TV and if someone calls, I can answer them through the space phone on my big screen TV.

That night I did get a phone call. It was the beauty shop to ask me what hairstyle I wanted. I couldn't decide between the beaded look or an Afro or a Mohawk. I went to bed with my headphones on. I played Endless Love by Lionel Richie and Diana Ross. I woke up the next morning and the batteries were dead.

This story is fictional except for all the products and prices mentioned. These are all current fads, fashions, prices, products and events.

We would like to thank the following: V-W Motors; Larry's Super Valu; Coachman Inn; Orris' Phillips 66; Cooper Motors.

Written by: Kari Albrecht, Jennifer Knight, Marci Leininger, and Mary Stahl.

Advisor: Ann Clapper

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 68

Historic Farms

The prospect of owning land drew the settlers to this area in the first place. Farming was, is, and always will be the basic, most important industry of North Dakota.

Perhaps half the people of Griggs County have roots in the community of pioneers who first came to settle here before 1900, and stories of many of those settlers have been told in other books.

How many of those first farms are still owned by members of the original families? The book staff decided to find out. A cut-off date was needed, and the year 1885 was chosen. Although a few settlers were here in 1879 and 1880, immigration began in earnest in 1881 so that 1885 can be said to be the fifth year of concentrated settlement.

An open invitation was extended to any families whose farms qualified to submit their stories to the book. Nearly fifty farms are listed. As far as we know, that's a complete listing. If it seems small in comparison with the number of settlers who came in the 1880's, it should be remembered that in Cooperstown only two business places survive that can be traced directly back to the first five years, and as far as the book staff can determine no house in town of that age is still owned by a member of the original family, and as far as can be determined no person now living in Cooperstown is a descendant of any of Cooperstown's original merchants or professional people.

In an economic sense, farms are the backbone of the community. Equally important, the people who live on the land are a *Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial of strength and stability.*

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 70

JOHN (Johannes) ARNESON

John Arneson, his wife Kristi Nelson Arneson and their son, Arne (1864-1917) came to America from Storebo, Norway in 1865. They traveled Iowa, Minnesota, Washington, and Oregon, and then returned to Montevideo, Minnesota.

Five years later, the grasshoppers destroyed all their crops. The sky was thick with the insects, as though a dark cloud covered the sun. The Arnesons with their nine children, covered wagons and oxen and two other families moved west again. The children took turns driving the cattle behind the wagons. The wagon wheels made trails of dead grasshoppers as they crunched over the thick insects.

On the journey, the youngest Arneson, a nursing baby, was starving as the mother was unable to supply enough nourishment. A gypsy train was traveling nearby. They could hear the child's cries in the night and recognized it as hunger. They sent a mother to the Arneson camp as a wet nurse. The gypsy caravan continued to travel nearby, to feed the baby, saving her life.

The appeal of Dakota Territory brought the pioneers to the Sheyenne Valley.

The Arnesons homesteaded on NW ¼ of Section 6-146-57 in what was then Griggs County, now Steele County. The adjoining land in Griggs County E ½ of NE ¼ of Section 1-146-58 was bought by John Arneson January 25, 1884 for the sum of \$800.00 from William A. Kindred.

Later, the younger Arnesons took over complete management of the Palace Hotel, which was the chief hostelry in Cooperstown. The daughters wallpapered, cooked, and served the meals. Arne was manager. The venture was a success, and the Palace became the focal point of this growing community.

The Arnesons eight children were Arne, Dortha Tobiason, Ella Bergstrom, Anna McDermott, Martha Hazard, Nels, Hans and Josie Hartman. Descendants of the family who still live in the Cooperstown area are Mr. and Mrs. James Arneson, Mrs. Clarence Arneson, James Hazard family, and Mr. and Mrs. Albin Arneson.

John retired. Arne, who was by then married to Mary Halverson, operated the farm home till his death in 1917. Arne and Mary's son, Albin, and his wife, Hazel Monson became the next owners of this farm, where they still reside. Their son Jerome is now farming and owns both the early homestead and the land purchased by the Arnesons in 1884.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 70

THE ROBERT BAILEY FARM

Robert Bailey came to Griggs County from Canada in 1882, and moved onto the Northwest quarter of Section 12 in Mabel Township (two miles east of the present town of Sutton), where he squatted until the land was opened for homesteading in 1883. He and George Hartman came together, and Robert built a shack to live in on the northwest corner of his quarter, and George built a small barn on the southeast corner of the southeast quarter of Section 2.

They shared buildings until they could each put up more permanent structures. The shack was later moved and used as the blacksmith shop after the house was built.

By 1890 Robert was able to list the following improvements to the land:

Farm house 14 x 18 feet	value \$175.00
One board stable, 28 x 28 feet	value \$60.00
2 wells, 1 stoned up	value \$60.00
160 acres broken	value \$480.00
Shanty 11 x 14 feet	value \$40.00.

At that time he owned 3 horses, 2 cows, 2 calves and 4 pigs.

His farm implements consisted of a plow, harrow, binder, seeder and a wagon.

In 1884 he raised 25 acres of wheat

In 1885	65 acres
In 1886	75 acres
In 1887	75 acres
In 1888	85 acres and
In 1889	110 acres of wheat

The yield averaged 10 to 20 bushels per acre each year.

Robert had six children, those still living include James of Cooperstown, Violet Taylor of Sutton, Laura Olson of Fargo, and Richard. Richard was born on the farm in 1898 and still lives in the farm house his father began building 1

1885. The living room of the present house was the original homestead house. Richard is still active in farming, and farms with his two sons Thomas and Daniel.

Many of Robert Bailey's other descendants still live in this area:

Violet Taylor	daughter
Janis Hagen	grandchildren
Ruth Harrington	“
Robert L. Bailey	“
Susan Bailey	great-grandchildren
Steven Bailey	“
Barbara Bailey	“
Joann Larson	“
Dean Hagen	“
Greg Hagen	“
Gerald Harrington	“
Bryan Bailey	“
Robert F. Bailey	“
Rochelle Bailey	great great grandchildren
Natalie Larson	“
Ron Harrington	“

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 71

OLE OLSON BJORNSTAD

Located north of Horse Hill and one mile east of Ringsaker Church in Romness Township is the Clara S. Olson farm. This 160-acre farm was settled on by Ole Olson Bjornstad in 1880 when he and his family came to the Romness area from Decorah, Iowa. His homestead deed to the land was signed in 1892 by President Benjamin Harrison.

After Mr. Bjornstad's death in 1895, the land went to one of his sons, Gilbert Olson, and he owned it until his death in 1942.

One of Gilbert's sons, Albert E. Olson, married Clara S. Hanson in Bowman, North Dakota, in 1910. In 1914 they moved to the Bjornstad homestead quarter, and they lived in the granary while the present house was being built.

Albert died in July of 1948. His widow, Clara S. Olson, lives with her son, Garfield S. Olson, in Grass Valley, California. Every summer they take a trip back to her farm.

ANDREAS BENSON FARM

Whatever dream, or motive, or urge brought the Andreas Benson family from Bergen, Norway to America in 1864 will always remain a mystery. Andreas and his wife, Johanne and their six children, Berent, Andrew, Gjert, John, Bertha and Sophie came by covered wagon and oxen to Dakota Territory in 1881. They settled on land four miles south of Cooperstown (160 acres) Timber Culture Patent, NEI 4 of Section 14, Township 145, Range 59. Here they built a small simple house and started farming. Andreas was living on the farm when the government surveyed the Township November of 1882.

The Griggs County *Courier* newspaper of 1886 states: "Andreas Benson on new land gets eighteen bushels wheat per acre." The price per bushel of wheat in the following years:

1890.....70¢
1894.....47¢
1896.....41¢
1900.....53¢.

Some of the oak trees growing along the Sheyenne River, four miles east of the farm were hauled home and used for various things. A lonely oak fence post, Andreas used for fencing in the 1880's, still remains strong in 1982. How much longer will it endure the elements?

Andreas decided to sell the farm to his son, John, who was to pay his father two hundred dollars a year for as long as Andreas lived.

September of 1899, Andreas and Johanne moved from the farm to Ferndale, Washington. Andreas died in 1915.

In 1898, John and his wife, Serina purchased the 160 acre farm from his dad. They had five children, Jeanette, Arthur, Joseph, Jeanette, and Iva.

John also increased the farm acreage in 1899, buying 160 acres (NW ¼ of Section 14, Township 145, Range 59) from Endre Aarestad for eighteen hundred dollars. John bought more land after 1900, purchasing an 80-acre tract south of the home quarter (N-80 of SE 1A, Section 14, Township 145, Range 59). Later 1900's he purchased 160 acres (SW ¼ of Section 11, Township 145, Range 59) from a neighbor, Hans Holland for seven thousand dollars.

John added more rooms to the original small house built by his father. By 1905 the house had four bedrooms upstairs, two stairways, large kitchen, pantry, dining room, living room, one bedroom and full basement.

John retired turning the farm over to his son, Arthur. John died July of 1942.

Arthur was the third generation to take over the farm. Arthur and his wife, Emma, and two daughters, Swanhild and Eva lived and worked on the farm for many years.

In 1930 Arthur spent \$1200 for his first tractor, a "D" John Deere, which revolutionized and set the pace for a new way of farming, ending the era of horses, even though the machines made his work easier. In the depression years in the 1930's, lack of rain, high temperatures, high winds causing soil erosion, a plague of armyworms and grasshoppers made one give up home. By the late 1930's the economy began to recover

and farming got back to normal. Because of a heart condition, he retired at the age of 59. He died August of 1967.

In 1957 the farmland was rented to his daughter Swanhild (fourth generation) and her husband Byron Pedersen who farm the land. Scott and Amy Jo, their children, also help on the farm.

Eva McCullough (fourth generation) and husband Ronald McCullough and children, Ryan and Molly, are also involved in the farming business in a century-old farm.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 71

ELLEF OLSON ELLEFSON

In 1878, because of drought, Ellef Olson Ellefson left Minnesota and came to North Dakota. He worked for a while at Larimore and then followed the Pembina Trail and Sheyenne River to Sanborn. That fall he went back to Minnesota by train.

In the spring of 1879 he returned to build a log cabin on Section 26 of Pilot Mound Township. There was a large Indian camp nearby - about a mile northeast of Butte Michaud. These Indians were very friendly.

In the spring of 1880 Ellef brought his family from Minnesota by immigrant train.

Early neighbors were Nels Torgerson, who also settled in Section 26. Their first home was a dugout in a hillside. The following year they built a sod house. Their next move was to Lenora Township.

A.P. Rusten also settled on Section 26.

The Hans N. Koloen family settled on Section 25.

Rolley Johnson, Ole O. Groff and nor Olson all settled on Section 24.

All these families lived within a radius of about a mile and a half. It is believed the first settlers lived in a small area, as they felt more secure. Later most moved to new locations.

The land claimed by Ellef Olson is now owned by a grandson, Gordon Ellefson and a granddaughter, Bernice (Mrs. Oriel Larson). A great-grandson, Elwood Ellefson, also lives on Section 26.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 72

DANIEL ERICKSON

Pioneer Daniel Erickson settled near Cooperstown in 1881.

When Daniel Erickson was thirty years old, he decided to leave Enefors, Hjemtland, Sweden, and emigrate to the United States.

He stopped temporarily at Zumbrota, Minnesota, in the spring of 1880 and worked for the railroad for some time. In the fall of 1881, he headed for Dakota Territory and found a homestead along the Sheyenne River in Griggs County. Today, the original homesite is still in the family in Washburn Township, Section 34-146-58. Like many other homesteaders, Daniel chose the location because the river made it possible to get water easily, and the hills provided protection against the winters.

He returned to Zumbrota and married a Norwegian immigrant girl, Edrika Johnson, April 26, 1882. The couple traveled back to the homestead along the Sheyenne Valley in

a covered wagon with a cow tied behind it. They could not take many belongings with them on their journey. When a table was needed at meal times, they used one of the trunks for eating. When a tool was needed for their work, Daniel made it.

Daniel and Edrika raised a family of seven in a one-room log cabin, which Daniel built from the trees along the river. The log cabin is still standing in its original spot on the farm, and since then, two houses have been built on the farm, one of which has been moved to Cooperstown.

Daniel had to walk many miles in order to get the supplies needed for the farm and the home. With no road to follow, he walked to Valley City on one occasion and carried a fifty pound sack of flour on his shoulders all the way home. Another time he walked to Mayville for supplies; however, this time he bought a wheelbarrow and pushed the supplies home. In the wintertime, it was a common sight to see the slightly built, long-bearded man at various places in the community wearing his large racoon skin coat that nearly dragged on the ground.

When Daniel and Edrika's first child, Christina, was to be born, Daniel was not at home for he had gone away for a few days to get some supplies needed for the farm. Edrika had to walk two miles south across the hills to a neighbor's farm to receive help.

In those days friendly Indians often passed through this area, and they would come to the Erickson homestead to sharpen their knives on a grindstone. On several occasions Edrika would serve them food from their cabin.

Quite frequently, Daniel walked to Cooperstown, which was about five miles from their homestead. One time he went to town to do some errands and to get Edrika a new pair of shoes. After he had walked all the way home, he turned around and walked back to town again because he had forgotten to buy the shoes. Needless to say, his wife was not pleased with him.

As the Erickson family grew and more help was hired, a larger home was also needed. The large, new four-story house, which was built in 1907, included a walk-in basement, main floor, second floor, and walk-in attic. The dining room had to be one of the largest rooms in the house because that was where the family and all of the hired men ate their meals.

Daniel Erickson had a love for high-quality horses, and owned many of them, including a purebred stallion imported from Belgium. Farmers in a fifteen to twenty mile area used the services of that stallion.

Daniel died May 24, 1930, at the age of 80, and his wife two months earlier, March 15, 1930, at the age of 79. They were buried at Ness Lutheran Church, which they helped found. Their seven children, all deceased, were: Christina (Mrs. Olaus Nelson), Emanuel, Emma, (Mrs. John Erickson), Olaus, John D., Hilma (Mrs. Swen Olgaard), and Oscar. Many of their children have made their homes in the Cooperstown community.

Emanuel, Daniel's oldest son, lived his 88 years on the Erickson farm. He was known to everyone as "Push," having obtained his nickname from running a pushbinder during the harvest season in the early 1900's. He served for many years as a director on the Farmers Elevator and Washburn Township Boards.

One thing people remember about him was that he liked to initiate the new hired help, many of them newcomers. All the neighbors knew when Ericksons had a new hired man

because Push would send him on a wild-goose chase around the country looking for a left-handed monkey wrench. The man would be gone all day finally ending back at the farm telling Push, "There's no such thing as a left-handed monkey wrench!" Push would laugh, enjoying the joke.

The Erickson farm always had hired men around to help with the chores and to take care of the fieldwork. During the threshing season they hired at least fifteen to twenty men. Chickens, geese, pigs, sheep, milking Shorthorns, Holsteins, and Hereford cattle were raised on the farm along with about twenty work horses and at least four or five good riding horses.

After Emanuel's marriage to Nina Severson of Hunter, North Dakota, June 9, 1920, at Fargo, the couple left on their wedding trip to New England, a small town in the western part of the state. It took them two days traveling at thirty miles per hour in a Model T car to reach their destination. The trip included a ferry ride across the Missouri River. Nina, now a resident in the Griggs County Nursing Home, recalls, "It was just a trail down the prairie that we had to drive on. 11

Emanuel and Nina had two children: Esther Karas, Pembina, North Dakota; and Emanuel Myron, Cooperstown.

In the spring of 1927, another unforgettable incident, which occurred at the Daniel Erickson farm, is the near tragic event that involved Nina when she and Push were expecting their son, Myron. In her eighth month, Nina Erickson, accompanied by the farm dogs, went to fetch water from the river for the house. Thinking that the ice was strong enough to hold her weight, she did not realize that the warmth of the spring sun had already broken it up. As soon as she stepped out on the river, she fell through into the icy water. Fortunately, she was wearing gloves, and they stuck to the ice, keeping her from drowning. The barking dogs alerted the hired men who threw a rope out to her, pulled her to safety, and brought her up the hill to the house. Grandma Erickson, Daniel's wife, gave her warm, dry clothing and a drink of hot brandy. One month later on May 10, 1927, Myron, a healthy, 10-pound baby, was born at the homestead place.

Community clubs, pie socials, basket socials, dances, and trips to the neighbors' homes to visit and play cards were typical entertainment. Traveling daily by horse and buggy or by horse and sleigh, Esther and Myron attended the Bridge School, on Highway 200, east of the Sheyenne River Bridge.

The Erickson family also enjoyed the Cooperstown fairs and rodeos; and Myron and his cousin, John Eldred, would beg the rodeo personnel to ride the steers. After pestering the men too much, they told the boys that they could ride if their fathers would give their permission. Emanuel and his brother, John D., always liked to see the children having a good time so of course they let the boys ride the rodeo animals. Nina and the rest of the family can still hear Emanuel and John D. saying, "Aw, let the kids have their fun! "

Emanuel allowed the children to have their time of fun, but he was serious about making them do their work, too. During harvest time everyone was up at 4 a.m. to clean the steam engine and prepare the equipment for the long day of tedious work. Reminiscing, Myron says, "I remember cleaning the flues. We had to stand on a stool so we could reach the engine boiler."

There were memorable times when Push with his Scandinavian accent and excitable, humorous manner, would talk so fast that he would often get words and phrases mixed

up. One time he referred to the "consellated (consolidated) school," and to mention others, there were his "letter west" (leather vest), and his "jello yacket" (yellow jacket).

Emanuel enjoyed his grandchildren, Diane (Mrs. William Weispfenning), Pamela (Mrs. Curtis Sommer), and Carol, children of Myron and Colleen Erickson; and Beth and Steve Karas, children of Esther and James Karas.

The children liked to help with hauling straw bales in the fall of the year. Diane was told by Grandpa Push to get on the tractor and drive it farther down the field. At age twelve she had never driven the tractor, but she did as she was told. The ultimate happened. She jerked the tractor and all the bales fell off. All Grandpa Push said was, "You better go home!"

When the only grandson, Steve, became old enough to help on the farm, he spent several summers there. Of course, Grandpa Push taught Steve the farming procedures from his years of experience. Steve had just learned to drive a tractor, and he and his grandfather were going over the hills and through the pasture to the field. As he headed over a hill, he suddenly encountered a closed gate. Unable to stop the tractor fast enough, they headed straight through it. This did not suit Grandpa Push very well, and Push, being very vocal at times, yelled, "Gee, Christmas, Man! You drive like a gol darn ninny!"

At the present time, the farm remains in the family with Myron, third generation, and his wife, Colleen, continuing to operate it.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 73

JOHN EVERS

John Evers came to Clearfield Township from Neustadt, Ontario in the spring of 1882. In the fall of that year he built two small shanties on Section 6-146-60 of Clearfield Township. On November 3, 1890 this land was assigned to him under the Homestead Act.

Mr. Evers returned to Canada for a few months and then returned to the homestead accompanied by his wife, the former Sarah Hellwig.

Two of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Evers are still living, Norman of Binford and Albert, who still lives on the original farm.

John Evers farmed the land until 1920 when his son Albert began renting the land from him.

Albert and his wife, the former Priscilla Colvin, are the parents of five children - John, Clarence, August, Lola, and Ruth.

At present the original Evers homestead, plus additional land, is being farmed by the grandson of John Evers, John A. Evers. Two other grandsons, Clarence and August, also have farming interests in the original land. John Evers and his wife the former Donna Smogard, and their son, John Allyn, live in the house, which was built in 1902 on the homestead site.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 64

ANDREW FOGDERUD

Andrew Fogderud was born in Eker, Norway on November 8, 1861. When he was 20 years old he came to America, and in 1883 he came to North Dakota and homesteaded on Section 22-144-59 of Griggs County. In 1888, April 8, he married Ellen Anna Mossing. Ellen had also come from Norway. She was born March 25, 1868. When she was 15 years old, she set out for America all alone. Her father, Peter Mossing had come earlier and taken a homestead on NE ¼ of Section 22 of Greenfield.

Andrew Fogderud and Ellen Mossing were married in the Gunderson School located about one mile south of Walum. There were no churches in the area at that time. When the St. Olaf Church was built, Andrew and Ellen were charter members. They were parents of: Peter Ludvig, Cora, Alfred, Laura, Eva, and Conrad.

Andrew died in 1926 and Conrad took over the responsibilities of the homestead. He married Sylvia Syvertson, and they had two children, Myrna, and Connie.

Conrad was asked many times why he stayed on that farm because it seemed to be a storm center. He loved the farm and the many challenges that went with it. Four barns have been completely destroyed by tornadoes besides many other buildings being destroyed or damaged. In 1957, a tornado destroyed all the building except a brooder house. A new house had to be built. Conrad lived in the new house only two years before his death May 1, 1970. Mrs. Fogderud owns the land at present.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 74

JOHAN FORSBERG

Johan Forsberg, a native of Vermeland, Sweden, came to Chicago, Illinois in July of 1879. On July 4, 1881 his brother, Gustaf, and he came to North Dakota where they established a homestead in Sverdrup Township. Gustaf in Section N.E. 32 and Johan in Section S.E. 32.

Together they built a log cabin, which they thought was divided by the quarter line, one room being Johan's and the other Gustaf's. Later they discovered that the cabin was positioned entirely on Gustaf's land. Then Johan homesteaded on S.W. 32 and S.E. 32 became his tree claim.

Johan married Caroline Logvern, also from Vermeland, Sweden. They were the parents of Christina (Mrs. Walter Christensen), Carl, Ellen (Mrs. Nels G. Nelson), and Beda Maria.

Johan Forsberg had a blacksmith shop on his farm. He sharpened many plowshares for his neighbors. Often the neighbors would plow for him while he did their blacksmith work for them.

Nels and Ellen had two children: Ruth and Royce. They lived in Chicago, Illinois for a year and in Minnesota for three years, and then returned to North Dakota to farm the Forsberg farm. Royce is married to Mavis Vafaret and they live in Cooperstown where Royce is a carpenter. He owns the family homestead, but rents it out.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 74

ELLING FROILAND

Mr. and Mrs. Elling Froiland emigrated to the United States from Stavanger, Norway, in 1882; but they did not come to North Dakota until the spring of 1883. He home-

steaded the northeast quarter of Section 10 in Ball Hill Township when he arrived here. A son, Hans, was born in 1884. Elling farmed until 1907, when Hans married Louise Carstens, who had come to Fargo in 1905 from Trysil, Norway.

During the early years, they endured many hardships. Dorteia, Elling's wife, died in 1893. In 1918 Elling came to live with Hans, who was on the farm; and he lived there until his death in 1935.

Hans continued farming until 1941, when his son, Irwin, took over the farming operation; and he farmed until 1972.

Mr. and Mrs. Hans Froiland had four children: Elwin, Irwin, Ovidia, and Lloyd. Elwin lives in Mesa, Arizona, Irwin in Cooperstown, and Ovidia and Lloyd in California.

Irwin married Esther Njaa in 1934. They have three sons: Edward, Kenneth, and Stephen. Edward is married and lives in Seattle, Washington. Kenneth lives in Sierra Vista, Arizona, and has two children, Sheila and Timothy. Stephen and his wife, Berniece, have two children, Melinda Jo and Blair; and they live on the farm in Ball Hill Township. Stephen is the fourth generation to live where his great-grandfather homesteaded.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 75

TORKEL T. FUGLESTAD

Torkel T. Fuglestad was born March 13, 1856 at Fuglestads, a mountain community in Western Norway. When he was eighteen years old, he went to military school. He married Abigail Osland on June 15, 1880. He did not want to take over the family farm, so he worked in a foundry building steamboats. He found himself jobless one day, after being laid off with one hundred other men and so he applied for the position of city gardener in Stavanger, since he had a love for trees and plants. Because he had little hope of obtaining that job, he decided to go to America. Just as all plans were ready, he received word that the job was his, but he felt he should go ahead with his plans to leave Norway and he turned down the job in Stavanger. So in the summer of 1883, Torkel and Abigail, his sister, Mrs. Endre Aarestad, and her two children left Norway for America.

They traveled by steamboat from Rotterdam, Holland. After fourteen days of travel they landed in New York. They went on to Buffalo and from there traveled by boat for a week through the Great Lakes to Duluth. It was a very uncomfortable trip, for they were moved around during the nights to make room for cargo and livestock. After a month's travel, they were met by Endre Aarestad in Valley City in August of 1883. They followed the work train to Hannaford where the tracks ended and a railroad worker drove them with his oxen and cart two miles to the Aarestad homestead where they stayed part of that winter.

The next day, Torkel filed on the Southwest quarter of Section 10, Township 145, Range 59, with the help of Jens Bull's 10-year-old daughter as interpreter. Jens Bull had earlier filed on the same Section as had Elling Froiland and were Torkel's new neighbors.

Next he needed a house on his claim. He bought a shanty, which was on Froiland's land belonging to a man named Nelson, using a Meerscham pipe as payment. He had been advised to bring such a pipe to America where it would be possible to use it for purposes of trade. Froiland pulled the shanty over to Torkel's quarter with his oxen.

Since it was too late in the year to work the land, Torkel helped complete the railroad to Cooperstown. During this time he suffered from Typhoid Fever. Later that fall of 1883, he helped build a grade to a bridge that was to be built five miles east of Cooperstown over the Sheyenne River. He contracted to supply dirt for this grade from a piece of land near the bluff for 150 per yard. He used only a spade and wheelbarrow, but earned \$3 a day, which was enough to live on through the winter.

A few days before Christmas of 1883, Aarestad and Torkel lost their way coming home from Cooperstown.

There was no moon nor stars and they went west instead of south. Toward midnight they stumbled across an old empty shanty. They burned floorboards started with the last of three matches. This saved their lives (It later belonged to Peter Larson, Section four, Bald Hill).

Through the New Year in 1884 they stayed at Ola Stokka's. They were happy to be near a place where church services were held by a layman, Ola Westley. The early settlers organized a community church named Elim, of which the Fuglestads were members.

They moved to their own land in the spring of 1884 and lived in the shanty. They had two oxen, a cow and a small calf. That spring Torkel used his oxen to break up the first 14 acres of his land, and that summer he built a sod house, which was warm in winter and cool in summer. They needed no fire at night and still the water didn't freeze. The three eldest children were born in the sod house: Stephen, 1884; Inga, 1887; and Gudrun, 1889.

In October of 1885, a three-day prairie fire burned all of Torkel's grain stacks except one by the house and barn where he had plowed a firebreak the summer before. That one stack was his first crop, which amounted to 50 bushels. On August 12, 1888, a hard frost killed their crops except for 12 acres, which Torkel had planted early in the spring.

In 1890 they built a log house with a good supply of elm logs, which Torkel hauled from R.C. Cooper's brother-in-law's quarter. He had gone bankrupt so Torkel bought the logs for 75¢ a load. The six youngest children were born in this house: Lisa, 1892; Bjorn, 1894; Thorwald, 1896; Ralph, 1898; Edwin, 1901; and Thelma, 1905. The log house was replaced in 1905 with the present house.

Both Torkel and Abigail lived on the homestead all their lives after coming to America. Torkel died on June 24, 1954, at the age of 98 years. Abigail died on January 5, 1956, at the age of 96 years. When she died she left seven children and thirty-four grandchildren.

The present owners of the homestead are: Dr. and Mrs. Vercel Fuglestad and Dr. and Mrs. Roald Fuglestad, sons of Edwin Fuglestad. The farm passed to Bjorn and then to Edwin. The surviving children are Inga, 94; Gudrun, 92; Lisa, 90; Thorvald, 85 and Thelma, 76.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 75

AMUND GILBERTSON HOMESTEAD

The Amund Gilbertson homestead along the hills of the Sheyenne River in Sverdrup Township has now passed in ownership to the third generation. His grandson, David

Lunde, and his wife, Carolyn Vigesaa Lunde, are the present owners of the land. They have four children, Keven, Nathan, Barbara, and Tanya.

In 1880 at age 23, Mr. Gilbertson immigrated to the United States. On May 2, 1882, he filed a homestead claim on the NE ¼ Section 10-145-58. He walked from Mayville to choose the land on which he would settle, and back again, proceeding to Fargo by train to complete the transaction, and pay the \$16 to \$18 fee.

He first built a dugout for a home where he lived until 1886, when he constructed a log cabin, the top story which is intact on the farm today. It was built in a wooded area overlooking the Sheyenne River, just as his birthplace home in Norway was in a forested area overlooking a lake.

After building the log cabin, Mr. Gilbertson married Maria Hagen, daughter of Ole Hagen. To this union, five children were born - two died in infancy. His wife died in 1899. The three children living to adulthood were Sophia, (Mrs. M.M. Lunde) Olga, (Mrs. Fred Melgard) and Gunhild (Mrs. Lloyd Roen). Sophia became the mother of five children, Muriel, Carol, Roger, Erling and David. Olga had six sons, Gordon, Robert, Frederick, Peter, Tom and Rodney.

On October 5, 1899, Amund Gilbertson, also known as Amund Gulbrandson, increased his holdings by purchasing the SW ¼ Section 3-145-58 for \$1300. He proceeded to construct a frame barn and house on this quarter Section, and the barn is standing to this day. The house was sold and moved to Cooperstown in 1975, as a new house was built on the land in 1974.

Mr. Gilbertson continued to increase his land holdings to 960 acres, and 640 acres remain in the family today.

Amund Gilbertson died in his farm home in March of 1945.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 76

THE HALVORSON FARM

In 1867 three Norwegian brothers, Halvor, Ole and Syver Halvorson immigrated to America and settled in Wisconsin. They were natives of Lillehamer, Norway.

In the spring of 1881, Ole and Syver and a friend, Elling Nelson came to Dakota Territory. They decided to settle on adjacent pieces of land in Washburn Township near present-day Cooperstown, North Dakota. Later that summer they returned to Wisconsin for their families.

Making the trip to Washburn Township were Syver and Anna and their six children; Ole, his wife Petra, one year old son and Petra's father and the Nelsons. Everything, including animals, was loaded into two or three boxcars and sent to Blanchard, North Dakota. From there the families went by foot and wagon to their new home they called "Sod-town." (Located near Ness Church for which Ole Halvorson later donated two acres of land) One of the farmhouses they stayed at on the trek had had recent cases of diphtheria. Two of Syver's children died from the disease.

Syver died of pneumonia in 1883. A month after Syver's death, Anna gave birth to the couple's last child, Siverina. The baby joined four other children in the family, Lise, Marie, Halvor and Caroline in the family's sod home.

Anna managed to keep and "prove-up" the homestead. In 1894, with the help of a hired man named Charlie Swanson, she moved the farmhouse slightly northwest, closer to the center of additional property she had acquired.

Anna moved to Cooperstown in 1918. The farmland she left remains in the family today, 51 years after her death in 1930. Present owner is Jessie Arneson, widow of Clarence S. Arneson, son of Arne and Marie (Halvorson) Arneson and grandson of Anna Halvorson.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 77

HANS AND SINA HAUGEN

FOREWORD: My grandfather and grandmother, Hans and Sina Haugen, came to Cooperstown, Griggs County, in 1882 with his brother, John J. Haugen and wife Kari. Kari was a sister of Sina Haugen.

In the fall of 1928 or 1929 when we were threshing for Bennie H. Haugen and Grandpa Haugen at their place about twelve miles south of Cooperstown, Grandpa and I were hauling grain from the threshing machine with horses and wagons. We did all the grain shoveling by hand, and this was during the start of the big depression; no money, and what we had to sell was not worth anything.

I was just a young boy at that time and as we sat and waited for the grain to fill up the wagon, or as we were shoveling the grain into the granary, grandpa told me how they came from Norway to America: As I remember it Grandpa told it this way.

Martin Haugen

Your grandmother and I were newlyweds in Bergen, Norway, and I was wondering how I could make a living for me and my bride.

Someone told me they were hiring men to go to America to work on large farms there. I went to the employment office to inquire about this. The man in charge told me there was a man by the name of Dalrymple in America who was hiring men to work in his fields and women to cook for the crew of men, and that he would pay for their ticket from Bergen, Norway to Ada, Minnesota. This had to be paid back when they started to earn money. Dalrymple said he wanted Norwegian immigrants as they were strong and good workers.

We got our tickets and after packing our trunks, off we sailed for America and New York after many days crossing the ocean. We finally landed at Ellis Island, New York Immigration Station where they kept us until they were sure all our passports were in order and that we were in good health. They finally let us go so we boarded the train and headed west. We got to a town in Goodhue County, Minnesota. There to meet us were brother John and Karl who had left Norway the year before so we stayed with them a few days.

It was early spring, 1882, and we were anxious to get to our jobs. John and Karl decided to go with us so we all went to Ada, Minnesota and out to the Dalrymple Bonanza Farm. There were bunk shacks for hired men to live and sleep in but we stayed

in the large cook shack as our women cooked for the crew of men. There were long tables set up for the men.

It's hard to imagine all the horses they had, and in use. I know there were thirteen binders on one field, the foreman riding horseback to see that everything was going okay and one man with a team of horses on a buggy with repairs, twine, water, etc. A big crew of men followed up the binders, shocking up the grain as it was being cut. On this one field there were four horses for each binder, one man for each binder, one riding a horse, and a team of horses on the supply buggy. That made 55 horses on that one field.

In the fall a land agent came there and asked if anyone wanted to buy land. My brother John and I told him we wanted land but we wanted to homestead. He told us the only land that was left to homestead was in Griggs County. We told him we didn't care where it was just so we could get land of our own. He said he'd help us so we filed on Section 14-144-59, Griggs County. John took the southwest quarter and I took the southeast quarter. (Gilbert lives on the original Hans Haugen homestead and Elverne on the John Haugen homestead in 1982).

We had to prove up this land the same year or we would lose it. This meant we had to go there and build a homestead shack on our land and each shack or sod house had to have a chimney or it would not be accepted. Lots of men just nailed a stovepipe on top of their shack so they could say they had a chimney.

Brother John and I asked Dalrymple if we could draw our wages we had coming and that we would be back to help take care of the livestock during the winter and if our wives could stay and work by doing the cooking for the crew while we were gone. This was agreed on.

Between us we agreed to buy one ox and one cow and walk and lead them from Ada, Minnesota to Cooperstown, North Dakota. One of us bought an ox and the other the cow. Now we were all ready to take off straight west to Cooperstown. Our women packed us each a sack of food that we carried on our backs. Off we started, leading our two animals. Sometimes we tried to ride them and sometimes we had to push them to make them move. We didn't have to worry about feed for our cattle as we walked through grass all the time. At night we slept alongside of them when they lay down for the night.

After walking what seemed like many days, one evening, we came up over a hill. We could see a shack about a mile away and there was smoke coming out of the chimney so we tried to hurry our animals to get there before dark. When we got to this small house, I rapped at the door. The man inside said something to me so I asked him, "er due Norsk?" He said, "Ja, Ja, Kom in." When he opened the door he had an ax on his shoulder and said he was afraid it was Indians. He handed me the ax and told us to drive a couple stakes of wood in the ground, tie up our livestock and stay with him that night. I think he was just as glad to see us as we were to see him. He was Steen Nelson who now has a large farm about six miles east of Cooperstown. The next morning we started out for Cooperstown. Nelson followed us to the Sheyenne River to show us where we could cross the river without any trouble. It was evening when we got to Cooperstown. We looked around, found a small livery barn, tied up our livestock, and bedded down along our cattle and slept that night.

The next morning we were kind of seared. We didn't know what we were supposed to do. We met a man and asked him to help us. He showed us the courthouse, which was just a small building. He told us we had to go there for information.

We showed someone the papers we had. They told us we had to go about twelve miles straight south. There we would find our land. Brother John and I talked about starting south but how did we know when we came to the right 160 acres of land. As we were on our way back to the livery barn to look about our cattle, and what do you suppose, we met a man we knew from Norway; Einar Stromme, who was driving a team of horses, hitched to a wagon. We showed him our papers, and told him it was at least twelve miles south. He said, "I think I know where this is. It's not so far from my place. Tie your cattle behind my wagon. I'll take you to your place." We started south on a small prairie road. Stromme had homesteaded his place two years before so he had a team of horses, a walking plow, wagon and couple cows. As we got closer to our land, we went past another homestead shack that belonged to Knute Stromme. They too had been here for two years.

When we got to where Einar said I think this is your land, we found the surveyor's stakes so we knew we were on the right place. I walked up the hill where my house now stands and said here is where I'm going to build my house. Down below the hill there was a slough full of water and grass all around. The ducks were singing and rabbits running all around so I said to John, "We have nothing to worry about. Look at all the meat we have." And I said, "What in the world am I going to do with all this land, 160 acres." I was so happy I sat down and cried.

Einar Stromme helped us a lot. We borrowed a short handled shovel, walking plow and a horse from him. We used one ox and a horse, hitched them up to the walking plow to plow up some good sod to build our house. First we dug out in the hillside for our houses. Then we plowed a furrow of sod, measured the sod by the length of our shovel, cut it that length, and started to build our house. One strip of sod we laid lengthwise and the other crosswise so the walls were three feet thick. For the roof we borrowed Einar Stromme's team and wagon, went east to the river, cut poles, laid them on the roof and covered the roof with sod. The grass would grow on the roof and made it good and tight. This house was warm in winter and cool in summer.

(I asked my grandfather how much money he had in his pocket when he came here. His answer was, "I had one five dollar bill.")

We had our sod houses built so now it was time to go back to Dalrymple Farm and see how our wives were getting along. Einar Stromme took care of our cattle so we walked back to Dalrymple Farm. We worked that winter and purchased a team of oxen and wagon. We came back in the spring to put our crop in. We plowed and put in about five acres each the first year.

We also took turns working on the railroad being built from Sanborn to Cooperstown. John would work one week then I the next so one of us could be home with the families. We would walk to work. I also helped build the courthouse in Cooperstown. I'd walk to Cooperstown, carry bricks all day, and then walk home at night. It was hard work but it seemed we didn't mind, as we were young and happy in our new land.

I built all these buildings, bought more land, have had three different threshing rigs. My first steam engine had to be pulled into the field with horses. We also used horses to

pull the separator around the field. There was no feeder on the machine. We had to push the bundles in by hand and cut and pull all the twine. There was no blower for the straw either, but it did have a conveyor that brought the straw out of the machine. Then we had to use forks and pitch the straw away.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 77

ANDREAS HEGNA

Mr. and Mrs. Andreas Hegna came to Lenora Township, Griggs County in 1881 by horses and wagon from Kasson, Dodge County, Minnesota. They homesteaded on an L-shaped quarter of land in Section 18 along the Sheyenne River. They had eight sons and daughters; Mrs. Christ (Ingeborg) Jacobson, Mrs. Simon (Carrie) Anderson, Mrs. Andreas (Oste) Lee, Andrew, Halvor, Ole, John and Christian, all deceased.

Andreas continued living on the farm until his death in 1926 at 98 years of age. His wife died some time before.

His son Andrew continued living on the farm until 1966 when he died at 86, Andrew married Anne Lee. They had four children; Alice (Haugo), Edna (Olson), Melvin, and Arthur, deceased. Melvin owns the farm now.

Alice Haugo has four children: David, Perry, Bonnie, and Delores.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 79

BETUEL HERIGSTAD

In 1852, Betuel Herigstad was born to Baar and Karen Herigstad on a farm on Jaederen, near Sandness, Norway. He married Inger Thu, daughter of Oman and Margaret Thu from a nearby farm.

On April 10, 18SI, Betuel and Inger Herigstad, along with Ola Westley, Omon Westley, Knut Haaland, Karl Herigstad, Waldemar Klubben, Sven Loge and Sven Lunde, left Stavanger, Norway to follow their desire to live in America. They left England April 18, then had an eventful voyage across the Atlantic and arrived in New York, via Newfoundland on May 20. There they journeyed by train to Chicago, to St. Paul and on to Granite Falls, Minnesota. With Christian Aarestad as their leader, the men traveled to North Dakota by train as far as Fargo. With their ox teams, they set out for the Sheyenne River in Sverdrup Township.

Betuel chose to homestead on the NE ¼ of Section 30-145-58. The children of Betuel and Inger Herigstad were Karen, Bard, Margaret, Omen, Inga, Conrad, Emil, Henry, Theodore, Lydia, Sylvia and two girls born around the turn of the century who died in infancy.

The buildings are no longer occupied. Conrad Herigstad, the last surviving member of the original family, owns the homestead land.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 79

ERICK HEYERDAHL

Erick Heyerdahl was born January 1, 1859 in Pierce County, Wisconsin. His parents, Christopher and Margaret Heyerdahl were both born in Norway. When Erick was old enough to work, he helped his father on the farm and worked in the woods in winter.

In the spring of 1882 he came by train to Dakota to homestead. There was prairie all around except here and there a shanty. April 16, 1882 Erick filed on Section 30-144-60 and broke thirty acres of land. In the fall of 1882 he built a claim shanty 14' x 16' and rented out his land until 1888.

Erick Heyerdahl worked for Charley Mosley, Helena Township, for five years and in the fall of each, he went back to Wisconsin to work in the woods. He hauled wood for Mr. Mosley the first years. He hauled from the Sheyenne River twenty miles from the farm. He left in the morning at three o'clock with horses and sleigh and got back in the evening by nine o'clock.

In 1887, he married Mable Warberg. He bought his first machinery in 1888; it consisted of a binder, plow, wagon, and drag. He got no crop that year as all the crops were frozen.

Five children were born to these Heyerdahls. They were Melvin, Gilbert, Carl, Elmer, and Myrtle. Erick and Mable lived to celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary. Most of their lives were lived in Griggs County.

Carl, who was born January 18, 1897, attended UND for two years. He spent one year in the navy, and then on April 1, 1919 he married Anna Sad. They farmed the home place. They raised seven children: Eleanor, Earl, Charles, Margaret, Eric, Dorothy, and Barbara.

Carl ran a grocery store in Walum from 1926-1939, and then was rural mail carrier at Hannaford.

Carl and Anna's sons Earl and Charles are now farming Erick Heyerdahls homestead. Charles and his wife Martha (Lunde) are the parents of four children: Linda, Pamela, Eric, and Gary. Eric and Gary also farm with their father and uncle on this home farm.

Another Heyerdahl is familiar to us in name only. He is Thor, the Norwegian anthropologist adventurer who sailed the Pacific with five men in a raft they built of balsa wood and named the KON-TIKI. He is also author of the book by that name. When Thor spoke in Fargo, the Bartley Township Heyerdahls were his guests. These Heyerdahl relatives resemble each other, not only in looks, but also in the spirit of adventure. Compare traveling the seas in a small raft and the many dangers our pioneers found in Dakota where they brought their families to live.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 80

JOHN HOGENSON

John and Karen Hogenson, pioneers of Romness Township, Griggs County, moved from Fillmore County in Minnesota, September 1, 1880, to their homestead in Romness Township, Dakota Territory.

John Hogenson left from Osterdalen, Norway, on the sailship, Refondo, May of 1867. The trip took six weeks and three days, from Christiania (Oslo), Norway, to Quebec, Canada. He continued from there by rail and by a lake steamer, which took 36 hours and landed at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. From there, by rail, to LaCrosse, Wisconsin, and then by steamer on the Mississippi River to Winona, Minnesota, the end of the journey in June of 1867, without friends, relatives, acquaintances, money, nor knowledge of the English language.

Mrs. John Hogenson, formerly Karen Vestern, was born at Hadeland, Norway. She came with her parents, Bertha (Rustad) and Erik Vestern and five sisters to America in 1868.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hogenson were married in Highland Prairie, Minnesota in 1876 and lived for four years at Amherst, Minnesota.

In the spring of 1880, Mr. Hogenson left Fillmore County in Minnesota for the "Wild West." His friend, Peter Mathison, who had been employed with the government surveyors, had told him that in his judgment, the place, which is now Griggs County, was the right place for an ideal home. Mr. Hogenson was seeking for a place where timber, water and hay would be plentiful. On April 23, 1880, he arrived at Valley City by railroad. The next day, he started out on foot arriving that evening at Sibley crossing. During the night a heavy snowfall made traveling more difficult, but he borrowed a pair of skis and made use of them as far as the present location of Martin Ueland's farm. The following night he camped on the banks of the Sheyenne River, not far from where Torkel Njaa lived. On April 26, 1880, he arrived at the home of Omund Nelson Opheim; and on the following day, he arrived at his homestead. Grover Cleveland was the president of the United States, and his name is recorded on the Homestead patent.

Mathison met him slightly northeast of Mount Franklin in the valley near the Sheyenne River, close to a wooded area on Section 16. During the summer, they built a log hut, broke five acres of ground, put up some hay and made preparations for the winter of 1880-81.

More land was acquired by the pioneer settlers until the Hogensons owned 440 acres. Sons and daughters of the couple inherited portions, and John S. Hogenson of Federal Way, Washington, has bought the land and is the present owner of the entire 440-acre farm. He is the son of August (Fritz) and Marian Hogenson, and grew up on the farm.

Three generations of the Hogenson family have lived on the farm. John and Karen Hogenson, as well as August and Marian Hogenson observed their silver and golden weddings at the pioneer home. A wedding reception for Ragne Josephine Hogenson who was married to Carl W. Bue, November 27, 1907 at the Romness Methodist Episcopal Church, was held there as well.

The first dwelling was the log hut built in 1880. Shortly afterwards they built a log house with a second story a short distance to the east along the hillside on the same piece of land. The third dwelling, which is the present house, was built on E1//2 of the S.W. quarter, Section 16, part of the homestead land of 1880. This home was completed approximately in 1893. This house also served as the Romness post office. John Hogenson was the Romness postmaster from 1887 to 1904. After that, they received their mail from Cooperstown with mail carriers delivering mail on the route.

The John and Karen Hogenson family consisted of five sons, Edward, Belvin, Peter Lewis, Henry Joseph, Otto Melvin and August Nickoli (Fritz) and four daughters, Hellene Mathilde (Mrs. Ole Anderson), Clara Julia Hogenson, Ragna Josephine (Mrs. Carl W. Bue) and Ida Caroline (Mrs. Lawrence Stenbro). They had thirty-one grandchildren and three step-grandchildren. Karen Hogenson died in November of 1932 and John in July of 1939. His youngest son, August and family lived with his father until his death in 1939 and continued living on the farm until the fall of 1974.

TORBJORN HUSO

In 1883 Torbjorn Huso came to Lenora Township in a covered wagon from Minnesota with his wife, Karl, and children, Mary, Birgit, and Adolph, and the grandfather, Ole Groff. They homesteaded on the NE ¼ of Section 14, Lenora Township. He also took a tree claim on NW ¼ of Section 14, Lenora Township. This farm became the home of his son, Adolph.

They lived in a sod house. In 1886, Birgit and the mother, Karl, died of tuberculosis. The oldest daughter, Mary, did the cooking and cared for her brother, Adolph, and sister, Ida, until they were grown.

Adolph T. Huso married Minnie Hanson in 1913. They had five children: Herlof, owner and operator of the home farm, Aneta; Alpha, (Mrs. Del Voiles) Roseburg, Oregon; Olger (deceased); Maurice, Long Beach, California-, and Thoris, Aneta.

Family members recall Adolph telling of his father, Torbjorn, walking to Cooperstown for flour, sugar and other basic commodities. Farming operations were done with horses up to about the years 1925-1927. The Husos had one of the first self-propelled combines in the area in 1940. One of the tedious tasks was picking mustard by hand from the grain fields.

Four generations have now operated this farm: Torbjorn, Adolph, Herlof, and at present, the sons of Herlof, Donald and Paul, operate the farm. Both Donald and Paul have sons. This could be a five-generation farm. On the farm, Herlof operates the Huso Manufacturing, which has been in operation for about ten years. Besides repair work, the plant has turned out many special projects such as glass topped coffee tables, off-set disk, custom hand rails, aluminum boat trailers, and athletic equipment. A larger part of the work has been making parts for anhydrous equipment and truck box ladders.

While Donald and Paul, who live near by, operate the farm, Herlof and his wife, Bessie, still reside there. Other members of their family are Avis (Mrs. Paul McDaniel), Valley City, North Dakota; and Sandra (Mrs. David Eilford), Vancouver, Washington.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 81

CHRISTIAN JACKSON

Christian Jackson was a pioneer settler in Mable Township. He was born in Vestre Toten, Norway on December 13, 1849. In 1871 at the age of 22, he immigrated to the United States and made his home at Coon Valley, Wisconsin.

In 1880 Christian and his brother, Claus came to the Dakota Territory, working on the construction of the railroad. The Indians were a constant menace to the crew as the railroad was being built through their reservation.

In 1882, Christ filed a claim on Section 26-145-61, south of Sutton. The Homestead became a reality when on March 3, 1893 President Harrison officially deeded the land to Christ.

Christ married Ingeborg Vesta, who worked at the Palace Hotel in Cooperstown, in 1890. They built a home on their homestead. As the years passed and their children arrived they built on new rooms to their original two-room home. This home still stands on their homestead.

Ingeborg and Christ had four children: John (1892-1972) Ida (1893-1975) Melvin (1895-1969) and Charlotte (1899-) Cooperstown.

Ingeborg died August 12, 1916; Christ continued to live on his homestead for several years.

John married Eva Wild of Jessie, N.D., in 1917. John took over his father's farm in 1927. He and his wife had one son, Ellis, of Sutton.

Ida married Albert Starr and lived on a farm one mile north of Sutton. This farm was a homestead of his father, Robert Starr. They had two daughters, Dorothy Wagoner, Sutton, and Dolores Carpenter, Hunter, N.D. After retirement they moved to Cooperstown.

Melvin married Helga Pederson of Minneapolis, while he was in the Army during World War One, on June 26, 1918. Melvin farmed with his brother John until 1927. He and his wife then returned to Minneapolis where he worked as a mail carrier. They had two daughters, Doris Freeman and Marean Kralmer both of Minneapolis.

Charlotte married James Bailey of Sutton. They farmed east of Sutton, two miles from the farm Jim's father, Robert Bailey, homesteaded. They had one daughter, Janis Hagen, Cooperstown. After retiring they moved to Cooperstown.

Christ eventually made his home with his daughter Charlotte and her husband for some years before his death February 14, 1932 at the age of 8:3.

Christian was a charter member of the Mabel Lutheran Church in Sutton.

Great-grandchildren are: Dick and Don Wagoner, Candace Gill, Carter, Kevin and Kerry Carpenter, Greg Freeman, Lori Buzzell, Pamela Bluhm, Shirley Balvitsch, Nell, Alan and Linda Jackson, JoAnn Larson, Greg and Dean Hagen.

There are 17 great great grandchildren.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 81

JACOBSON FARM

Erik Jakobsen Aa was born February 10, 1853 on the farm "Aa" in Hyen, Nordfjord, Norway. He married his cousin Johanne Pedersdatter Ommedal. She was born November 15, 1855 on the neighboring farm "Ommedal". Immediately after their marriage they left for America, making the ocean crossing in a Cunard line steamship, and arrived at Port Huron, Michigan in May of 1880. Their destination was Appleton, Minnesota where Johanne's brother Knut Pedersen Ommedal had his homestead.

Erik and Johanne Jakobsen lived for two years at Appleton in a dugout. Their first child, Ellen (Mrs. Gilbert Gilbertson) was born there. On 17 May 1882 Erik and Johanne set out in an ox drawn covered wagon for Griggs County in Dakota Territory where land had just been opened up for homesteading. There were seven wagons in that train, among them being Anton Jensen Stromme, Joseph Hope and Gilbert Olson. Johanne Jakobsen's teenage brother Anto Pedersen was also in the group, his responsibility being to herd all the cattle belonging to the homesteaders. Being a good hunter, he also kept the group well supplied with fish and game. On June 7, 1882 they arrived at Lake Jessie in Griggs County. Erik and Johanne found land for themselves by a nearby lake - Red Willow. They homesteaded a quarter Section in Willow Township in Section 7.

Ever since leaving their homeland, Johanne had been lonesome for Norway. The flat, treeless lands of the prairies were hard to get used to! When she saw Red Willow Lake her loneliness vanished. It reminded her of Norway, she said. So here they stayed. There were lots of wild berries -raspberries, Juneberries, strawberries, currants, plums, gooseberries, highbush cranberries, chokecherries. There was fish in the lake, for immediate eating and for salting away for future use.

Their first summer was spent in their covered wagon on the homestead claim, while they prepared their dugout and made their other necessary winter preparations. They broke up two acres of land that first spring and planted wheat by hand.

Erik and Johanne gradually enlarged their farm to a total of 451 acres, acquiring land through pre-emption and tree claim. They lived in their dugout approximately 10 years, building their loghouse in about the year 1892. By 1898 they had remodeled the loghouse, adding a bedroom, shed and loft. In 1898 they built a new barn - the present barn. This accompanying picture, taken in 1898, shows the family with their remodeled loghouse, the new barn, their new binder and also their mower, rake and buggy. In the early 1900's Erik and Johanne felt the need to add more rooms to their house so they began buying lumber for the project. Erick died before the remodeling was begun. The house, as it now stands, was completed in 1906. Since much of the Jacobson farm is hayland, the raising of cattle has been an important part of the farming operation up through the years.

Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Jakobsen at their farm home: Anna (Mrs. Swen Gilbertson), Peder, Elise (Mrs. Carl Tweed), Emma, Bertha (Mrs. Julius Anderson), John and Emma. The two Emmas died as infants and John as a young boy of ten. (Their oldest child, Ellen, was born in Minnesota).

Their church was very important to Erik and Johanne. When their little 19 by 14 foot loghouse was completed it became one of the places in the community where worship services were held. Church records show that Erik and Johanne Jakobsen attended worship at the Nils Gilbertson home at Red Willow two months after their arrival, and that a worship service with baptism was held in the Jakobsen dugout August 17, 1883. At a worship service in December 1889 -also in the dugout - seven babies were baptized, including Erik and Johanne's daughter Elise. They felt a deep concern for the Christian education of the children of the area. Johanne conducted Sunday School in their home. Later they invited children living a distance from their church to stay in their home so that they could attend the summer parochial school terms. When there were special evangelistic meetings scheduled, their small house was always available. Bethany Lutheran Church of Binford was organized in the Erik Jakobsen home January 1, 1901 - in their log cabin. When Bethlehem Lutheran Church had been built, the Jakobsen home was always open to the visiting pastors and the guests who came to attend meetings there - sometimes so many that they slept on the floor "wall to wall"!

Red Willow colored their lives. It early became a favorite recreation area for fishermen, hunters, campers and picnickers. One *Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial of income for Erik and Johanne* was the sale of milk, cream, butter and eggs to the campers on the shore of the lake. The lake provided much fun for the children. In the wintertime they built a sort of "merry-go-round" on the lee, or skated. In the summer there was boating and swimming, as well as fishing. Cutting lee was an important winter activity.

Their daughter Elise remembered all the people that would come to their farm because of the lake, and the many that would ask for permission to sleep in their barn - a request her kindhearted father always granted. Fourth of July celebrations drew many people to the lake each year. In later years, after their son Peter Jacobson had taken over the farm, the lake provided a new interest for the family. In 1928 a group of young people with their pastor Rev. C.B. Ylvisaker, camped at the lake to study the Scriptures - the beginning of Red Willow Bible Camp. The camp grew. In 1939 Peter Jacobson sold ten acres of his wooded lakeshore pastureland to the group. This became the site of the present well-built Red Willow Bible Camp, which now has ministered to as many as 1800 young people each summer.

Erik and Johanne worked hard, building up their farm, raising their family, supporting their church. Erik Jakobsen died 26 May of 1905, of "catarrh of the stomach after suffering for some time of the disease", according to the Binford Times obituary. He was 52 years old. Shortly after Erik's death a neighbor lady asked Johanne if she would take care of her motherless little nephew, as she was unable to do so. Johanne said she would. That little boy was Clarence Brenningen. On July 19, 1909 Johanne died at age 54. According to the obituary in the Binford Times she had been "ailing more or less during the past two years with tumor trouble."

Their son Peter Jacobson took over the farm after the death of his parents. On November 14, 1914 Peter Jacobson and Anne Lynne of Mose, North Dakota were married. In 1924 they adopted twin baby boys - David and Donald. Peter and Anne Jacobson continued the tradition of hard work and hospitality established by his parents. They were active members of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, serving as officers, singing in the choir and string band, participating in the Luther League, Ladies Aid, and actively supporting the work of their beloved Lutheran Free Church. Visiting pastors, missionaries, and evangelists continued to find the Jacobson farm home a "home away from home".

Peter and Anne Jacobson saw the change from horses to tractors and automobiles. They struggled through the "dirty thirties". They experienced the satisfaction of improved farm conditions in the 1940's when both crops and prices were good. Their sons Donald and David began assisting with the farming. When Peter Jacobson died March 31, 1968, they took over the farming operations.

David Jacobson married Marilyn Haugland of Hamar, North Dakota in 1956. They live on the nearby former John Mustad farm. Donald Jacobson married Donna Quanbeck of McVillie in 1957. They live on the Peter Jacobson farm, in their own house. Anna Jacobson, at this writing, lives in the old farmhouse. She recently had a concrete marker placed on the site of the dugout in which Erik and Johanne Jakobsen lived a century ago, as a tribute to these hardworking, God-fearing pioneers.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 82

PER KINDSO

Per and Ellen Person Kindso came to Sacred Heart, Minnesota from Sweden in 1880. After living there for two years they traveled with another couple to North Dakota in a covered wagon drawn by oxen plus two colts and chickens on June 24, 1882 where they took a homestead on Section 24 in Washburn Township, Griggs County.

Their first house was a one room log and sod cabin combination in the hillside. Later when lumber came in they built a two-room house and then again in 1905 a large more modern house which still stands. The barn, on the farm yet, was built in the spring of 1900.

Their only fuel was wood. They would chop great piles, which were hauled from the Sheyenne River to their home every fall.

At first Portland was the nearest town where they could get supplies so every once in awhile all the settlers would go together to town. They went in wagons drawn by oxen.

Mr. and Mrs. Kindso were the parents of five children Martin, born in Sweden, Hilda in Sacred Heart, Minnesota, Minnie, Oscar, and Effie who were born on the homestead farm. Martin died when he was 27 years old and Mrs. Ernest (Minnie) Nelson at the age of 29 years. Oscar died in infancy. Hilda married Albert Anderson and they farmed in Steele County.

After so many years, Mr. and Mrs. Kindso and daughter Effie went to Sweden in May of 1911 staying till August to visit relatives.

Mr. Kindso died February of 1920, and was buried with two sons and a daughter in the cemetery of Hofva Lutheran Church. They were among the founders of the Swedish Hofva Lutheran Church, which is still in existence.

Mr. John H. Anderson started farming in 1921 after Mr. Kindso's death and continued to improve the homestead with more buildings and a shelterbelt. Mrs. Kindso continued to live with her youngest daughter Effie, who had married John H. Anderson in 1922. He had come from Sweden in 1912. Mrs. Kindso died in 1938.

The Kindso homestead is still owned by his daughter Mrs. John (Effie) Anderson and is presently farmed by her son, Clifford.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 83

KINGSLEY FARM

A squatter is one who settles on a new or uncultivated land without a title. One of the many squatters in this area was William A. Kingsley. A Civil War veteran, born in 1833 in Lebanon, New York. He was an eighth generation American. His Puritan ancestor, John Kingsley, emigrated to Boston, Mass., in 1634.

William married Harriet Sherman of Sherbourne, New York, in 1853. In 1865, he moved west in search of the best homestead land available. He found what he wanted in Griggs County on land not yet surveyed. He moved there with his family in 1883.

William and Harriet's children were Helen, Tyla, Alice, and Frank. Their oldest son, Fred, was killed while working as a brakeman on a railroad in Michigan. All their children homesteaded in Griggs County.

In 1899, he died as a result of injuries suffered in the Civil War. Harriet died in 1912. They are both buried in the Cooperstown Cemetery.

Frank Kingsley was born in 1877 in Michigan. He was William and Harriet's youngest son. He married Marie Falla Stoneburg, a widow with three children. They were Milo, Vanetta, and Avelow. Frank and Marie's children were Fred, Frank, Harriet, Burton, Evelyn, Ira, and Alger. Frank farmed the old homestead, his own land and other

land for forty years. He believed in acquiring large acreage and the latest farm machinery. In 1906, he built a modern grain elevator on his farm. It had a weigh scale, a dump pit, cleaning mills, a storage capacity of 25,000 bushels. He owned a huge gasoline Twin City tractor that pulled a sixteen-bottom plow. He operated steam engines and threshed his own crops as well as those of many of his neighbors. At one time, he farmed in excess of six sections of land.

Frank drove a white Paige touring car, about a 1920 vintage. It had a collapsible top and side curtains. The car was large enough to take the whole family of ten on a drive.

The great depression of the thirties left Frank disillusioned and unwilling to reacquire the land he lost. He died in 1938. Marie died in 1967 at the age of 90. Both are buried in the Hartman Cemetery at Sutton, North Dakota

The next Kingsley to own and operate the homestead was Ira, son of Frank and Marie. He was married to Helen Honey. Ira is also deceased, and at this time the homestead belongs to his widow. Their son Dennis is the present Kingsley to farm this homestead, which is located one and one-half miles west of the town of Sutton, on SE ¼ of Section 32-146-61.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 84

KLUBBEN FARM

Elling and Soneve Klubben were the parents of Waldemar Klubben. Elling made his living as a fisherman till he died when Waldemar was four years old. His home was in Nordfjord, (near Bergen) Norway.

After the death of his parents, Waldemar was reared by an aunt, but had to make his own living at an early age. In this part of Norway fishing was the main occupation. He found the ocean made him sick, so he moved south to Stavanger and worked on the railroad. He married Maria Pernilla Johansen of Sonmore June 9, 1878 and they lived at Holland Station, near Stavanger.

In the winter of 1881, The Waldemar Klubben family, together with the families of Ola Westley, Sven Loge, Sven Lunde, Knut Haaland, Ola Stokka, Andreas Vatne, Sven Lima, Carl Herigstad, Lars Herigstad, and Tobias Thime made plans to move to America. They were ready to leave when the children contracted whooping cough, which made it necessary for the mothers and children to remain in Norway until the children recovered.

The men began their journey April 10, 1881. In England they boarded the ship "The Palmyra". The ship's propeller broke near Newfoundland. Many ships passed them, but did not stop. They were adrift four days before help came and towed them to St. Johns, Newfoundland, where they stayed ten days while their ship was repaired. From there they went to New York and then overland by railroad to Granite Falls, Minnesota. The trip took them seven weeks. Meanwhile, the women and children left Norway and arrived soon after the men did.

These travelers stayed at Granite Falls with the Christian Aarestads, their friends, for two weeks. Since the land there had been claimed, they moved to North Dakota. Klubben and Sven Loge bought three oxen, a covered wagon, a plough, and a harrow. When they unloaded in Fargo, they found that one ox had caught his horn between the boards of the wheat car and had been killed.

Upon coming to Sverdrup in June of 1881, they found a great deal of land available. Tired after their long tedious journey, they decided to settle there. Some chose to live by the Sheyenne, but Waldemar chose the prairie. He filed this claim in Valley City and settled on Section 26. The land was not surveyed until later that summer.

The first year Klubben was able to break up only five acres of land, since it was so late in the season. He had only one ox, but the neighbors let him use one of theirs. The land was seeded to wheat and oats. Wheat sold for ninety cents a bushel that first year and averaged 20-25 bushels per acre. Christian Lee had a reaper and cut all the grain that was cut in the area, but they had to tie it by hand. R.C. Cooper had a threshing machine and threshed for the settlers. Klubben had his grain threshed fourteen days before Christmas the first year. The grain was cleaned and seeded by hand. The grain farming did not provide enough income to keep them through the winter, so Klubben, Sven Loge and others went to Valley City to get work threshing.

The next spring, when they were out of provisions, they had to make a trip to Valley City, the nearest town, a distance of thirty miles. They were within twelve miles of town when they had to turn back; the Sheyenne River at Sibley Crossing was so flooded it was impossible to cross. They obtained some provisions from Mr. Cooper, which lasted till the waters receded.

The first house in which the Klubbens lived was a sod house built on the quarter line between Klubben's and Loge's land. Each family had one room. The house had a dirt floor, a small opening for a door and no windows. There was very little furniture and when company came, they brought in stumps on which to sit. Having built the house, the men went to Valley City to buy supplies. Klubbens lived in this sod house for three years. Then they hauled logs from the river and built a log house. Often during a summer rain, the settlers, while inside their houses had to use umbrellas to protect themselves from rain. After a rain, everything had to be taken outside and dried. Klubbens first barn was made of sod.

Snowstorms were frequent in the winter. Sometimes snowdrifts were higher than the barn and the settlers dug tunnels and went through trapdoors in the roof.

The mosquitoes were a real problem. They were inside the house as well as out. The people would build smudges on the dirt floor of the house.

A large frame house was built on the Klubben farm in 1912. This house is still standing and is sheltered on the north by trees planted by Waldemar. In 1918 a barn was built on this homestead also.

Maria Klubben died on April 26, 1919, and Waldemar on May 27, 1929. The nine children were:

Elisa Sophia Askelson.....	1879-1944
Susanna Loge	1881-1965
Karen	1882-1897
Enga	1884-1905
Regina Haaland	1887-1959
Margareta	1889-1896
Berta	1891-1963
Edwart	1893-1974
Albert Johannes	1895-1972.

EMIL KROGSGAARD FARM

Emil Krogsgaard was born June 10, 1859 in Hedemark, Norway. He arrived in America at the age of twenty and had to wait until he was 21 before he could take up land. In 1881 he came to the Dakota Territory coming to the Mathias Fjelstad homestead that was in Section 24, NE $\frac{1}{4}$. Mrs. Fjelstad was his cousin. Emil took up land the SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 14. He built a house, on his claim and covered the sides with sod. In 1887 or 1888 he bought land from the Northern Pacific Railroad lots one and two and NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 23. He built a house on the new site.

Emil Krogsgaard and Bergina Wold were married February 2, 1898. Gina was born at Ringsaker, Norway, March 6, 1869. They had seven children, Edgar, Mabel, Hjordis (also called Ann), Lulu, Leif, who died at age two, Elbjorg, and Alice.

October of 1909, Emil bought the S $\frac{1}{2}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 14. The first part of the century seemed to be on the upswing. A telephone was installed in 1913 or 14 and an electric light plant, a Studebaker was purchased in 1916, and a new barn was built in 1918. Then came the twenties and the difficult thirties with adverse weather conditions for crops and cattle and also poor prices. In speaking of those days, Edgar would say he would go to Cooperstown with a dime in his pocket Saturday night and come home with the same dime. Emil borrowed on his life insurance and all the land in Section 14 was mortgaged.

In 1927 Edgar together with Ragnvald Hanson bought the El "2 of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ and Lots five and six of Section 24, Township 145, Range 59. That had been Mat Johnsons. Edgar also bought his first tractor, a McCormick Deering, which he used on both places. Ray died in 1931 and Edgar bought out his half interest from his mother in Norway. By this time Emil was doing mostly chores. His cream checks were exchanged for groceries. Chickens and eggs helped. There were some apples for canning. The garden did not produce as plentifully as before for summer use and canning for the winter because of the drought. Edgar would grind whole-wheat flour in a mill set up in the old barn. Emil had sheep and Gina would card wool and make quilts. Most years Emil planted trees of some sort even during the drought in the thirties when they required tedious watering. He planted different varieties of apples, plums, and cherries and tried his hand at grafting. One apple tree he planted in 1915 or 16 is still producing.

Edgar had raised turkeys since 1913. Besides selling eggs for hatching, he had incubators and hatched his own poults. He also sold White Rock chicken eggs for hatching and started his own chicks. At this same time, he went into the bee business. He advertised his honey in farm magazines, shipped it to neighboring states in gallon palls, and also sold it locally. In the fall and winter, Edgar worked for Kimball Brothers who were turkey buyers.

Emil died in the spring of 1940 and Gina died the spring of 1941. By now all that was left of the original homestead was the NE corner of Section 23 with the buildings. Edgar had gone one ' year to high school when his dad asked him if he would stay on the farm and work, which he agreed to do. His father promised him the farm in time. The girls were to each get a high school education.

In 1942 Edgar was able to borrow money and repossess the land in Section 14. At the present time the acreage of the farm is the same as it was originally plus the addition of the Edgar Johnson quarter.

Edgar was born January 16, 1889. June 25, 1957 he was married to Inga T. Soma. He died in an automobile accident July 19, 1974. Peter Mason has been farming the land since Edgar's death. Peter is third generation.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 85

SAMUEL B. LANGFORD JR.

Samuel B. Langford, Jr., was born in Ontario, Canada, on August 15, 1861. In 1872 he moved with his folks to St. Clair, Michigan, where they farmed.

He came to this area in 1880 with R.C. Cooper to work on his ranch, which was located southwest of Cooperstown. That fall he returned to Michigan; and in the spring of 1881, his dad, Samuel B. Langford, Sr., came with him to homestead south of Cooperstown in Sverdrup Township. The location of Sam Jr.'s farm was 145N, Section 6, Range 58W; and he lived there for 71 years until his death on February 2, 1952.

Sam built a small shanty for his home. He broke up his land with oxen and a walking plow. Later, he used mules and horses. He would often speak of Otto "Biz" Marquardt, as just a little fellow who would come and stay with him to hunt raccoons.

By the year 1894, he had built a larger home; and on July 4 of that same year, he married Jennie Glaspell. They had eight children: four girls, Vera, Marvelle, Marian, and Lois; and four boys, Garth, Maynard, Warren, and Lawrence, who died in infancy. Sam and Jennie celebrated their fiftieth anniversary at their home on July 4, 1944. Mrs. Langford died the following December.

Warren, better known as "Ole," was the last of the children to marry. He stayed at home to farm with his dad and continued to farm after his marriage to Emma Erickson, who was also from Cooperstown. Even though they are retired, Ole and Emma still reside on the farm, the home Ole has known for 74 years.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 86

FINGAR LARSON

Fingar Larson born June 8, 1860, of Raaen, married Kari Erickson born May 22, 1860 of Updahl, Numedal, Norway.

In 1881, they came to Hill City, Dakota Territory, now known as Hillsboro, North Dakota. In the summer of 1882 the Larsons filed on their preemption in Nelson County, Nesheim Township, Section 13 in October. In 1884 they took homestead in Griggs County, Section 5 in Pilot Mound Township and built a log cabin. Fourteen children were born to this union with five remaining at this writing in 1981,

The Larsons were members of the West Prairie Lutheran Church north of Jessie, North Dakota until 1900 when the Norway Lutheran Church was organized west of Aneta, North Dakota. Mr. Larson died in 1928 at age 68. Mrs. Larson died in 1959 at age 98 years, 10 months.

Clarence, the youngest son, spent all his life on the farm. He purchased the estate. June 9, 1931, he married Hazel Koloen of Binford, North Dakota, daughter of Syver N. and Annie Laatvedt Koloen. They have one daughter, Betty, born March 19, 1932, who

graduated from McVile, North Dakota High School in 1950 and attended college in Minneapolis, Minnesota and graduated as a medical lab technician in June of 1951. She married Osborne Brekken of Pekin, North Dakota October 7, 1951. They have three children, Rodney, Patti and Janet. Clarence retired from farming in 1972.

Clarence's grandson, Rodney Brekken, married Jane Henningsgard, Tolna, North Dakota June 24, 1972. In the spring of 1973 they came to rent his grandfather's farm. August 4, 1974, Kristopher Allen Brekken was born. A girl, Kari Lynn Brekken was born May 31, 1979. They are the fifth generation to live on the farm.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 87

HELGE B. LARSON

Helge B. Larson arrived in the United States and settled in Minnesota in the early 1870's. He applied for citizenship on May 20, 1872, in Fillmore County, Minnesota. Sometime later, he decided to sell out and move farther west in Minnesota.

A few days before he was to leave, he went to the bank to withdraw his money. On his way home from the bank, he came to a slough with tall grass. As he walked through the slough, he heard a noise behind him. Before he had reached the slough, he had picked up a rock. He turned and noticed a man behind him, but he did not recognize who it was. Since he was carrying a considerable amount of money, he threw the rock at what he thought was a robber. He did not stop to see who the man was and headed for his home as quickly as he could. The next time that he went to town, he noticed that the banker had a bandage on his head.

While Helge lived in western Minnesota, a team of horses was stolen from him. He informed the sheriff of the theft. Shortly thereafter, one of Helge's neighbors noticed a man watering a team of horses in the river. Suddenly, the horses got away from the man as they waded further into the water. It turned out that they ran to a nearby farm. Helge was told to come and identify the team. As he neared the horses, he began talking to them; and they recognized his voice. This convinced the sheriff that they belonged to Helge.

In the spring of 1881, Helge and his family left Granite Falls, Minnesota, moved on into North Dakota, and settled on Section 23-145-58 in Sverdrup Township. He had chosen this place in 1880 on a previous trip to North Dakota. Since this land was railroad land, he had to buy it. His homestead was located on Section 26 in Bald Hill Township.

Helge built a two-story log cabin on Section 23 in 1881, and he filed for ownership of this land on April 17, 1882. The log cabin was located one-half mile east of Chalmer's Hill along the Sheyenne River. A barn was built about 1890, and a house was built in 1904 on the same location. Both of these buildings are still standing, but the log house was destroyed many years ago.

Helge's son, Henry J., took over the farm in 1916 after his death. Henry J. passed away in 1966; and his son, Lester, became the owner. At the present time, Lester resides on his grandparents' farm, and he is continuing to operate the farm.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 88

THE SWEN LOGE FARM

Swen Loge was born near Stavanger, Norway, October 27, 1852. He married Serina Thime and they purchased some land in Norway, which he farmed for about two years.

They became interested in sailing for America and April 9, 1881 they, with their child, Elizabeth, left Norway on a cattle boat named "Johan Sverdrup." During the voyage, the little girl became ill and died. They traveled from New York to Saint Paul by train and when they reached Saint Paul a son, Swen, was born in the railroad station.

They went to Granite Falls, Minnesota, but finding no land available there and hearing they could get land in North Dakota by "homesteading", Swen and a neighbor, Valdemar Klubben, decided to take their oxen and equipment by railroad as far as Fargo, leaving their families in Granite Falls until they were somewhat settled. At Fargo they unloaded their oxen and supplies and drove along the railroad to Valley City where they stocked up on supplies and went on until they came to a place near the Sheyenne River which they liked very much and later became Sverdrup Township, Section 26, Range 145-58.

They built a two-room sod house over the quarter line. One room was for the Loge family and one for the Klubben family. It had no floor, a small opening for a door and no windows. On July 5 they met their families in Valley City.

As it was late that first year, they broke only about nine acres for wheat, which was sold for 90¢ a bushel. Swen and Valdemar worked in the Valley City area during threshing to provide for their winter needs. Their provisions for the winter were three sacks of flour, two gallons of syrup, and two gallons of kerosene. They shot prairie chicken and antelope for meat.

After living in the sod house three years, Swen built a log house in which they lived for thirty-two years. It was replaced with the present home.

Eight children were born to Swen and Serina Loge. They were Swen, Lars, Elizabeth, Martin, Bernard, Pauline, Inga and Hans.

In 1905 Swen Loge built a home in Cooperstown and lived there until he died in 1906. While Serina Loge lived, her sons Martin, Hans, and Lars lived at and farmed the homeplace at different times. Melvin Loge, son of Swen Loge 11, also operated the farm after military service in World War 11. Serina died in 1937. The farm was purchased by her daughter Mrs. Knute (Inga) Ueland. Presently the farm is owned by Kermit Ueland, son of Mrs. Knute Ueland.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 88

ARNE LUCKASON

In 1881 Arne Luckason came to Dakota Territory and settled in Section 10-145-58 near the Sheyenne River and six and one-half miles southeast of Cooperstown.

His mother (Ingeborg) and sister came from Ness Hallingdal, Norway in 1884 to make their home with him.

Kristi (Clara) married George Olson in 1899. They farmed and raised a family of seven children: Ella Gilbertson; Lila Brace (deceased); Leland; Gillman (deceased), Georgie (deceased); Garfield; and Lorraine Andersen.

They observed their fiftieth anniversary in 1949.

Gillman (Gilly) was a farmer, livestock trucker and state representative, 1955-1965. He and his wife, Dolores Erickson had five children: Beverly Tranby; Jacqueline Evenson; Susan Wilhelm; Gloria Thompson, and George Oscar (deceased). They farmed until Gillman's death in 1967. His wife resides on the farm they purchased.

Beverly, her husband, Orville Tranby and sons Wade and Scott returned in 1973 and are farming and reside in their home.

Beverly is a great-niece of Arne Luckason.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 89

SVEN LUNDE

Sven Lunde came to this country from Norway June 10, 1881. His wife, Justina, had to remain a little longer in Norway because their children had whooping cough; so after their recovery, she and the children joined Sven in America. They homesteaded on the northwest quarter of Section 22-145-58 in Sverdrup Township along the Sheyenne River southeast of Cooperstown.

Five of their children were born in Norway, the youngest of whom was only one year old at the time they came to the United States. Three more children were born after they arrived here. Five of the children died at a young age, but three survived. They were: Reier Lunde, who had a real estate business in Cooperstown, Rev. Ludvig Lunde, founder of the Cooperstown Bible Camp, and Axeliana Lunde.

Axeliana married Sven Erickson, and to this union six children were born. Two daughters died, one in infancy and the other in her early twenties. Ernest, Sidney, Algot, and Alice have all made their homes in Sverdrup Township. Ernest was County Auditor for twenty years for Griggs County. Sidney served in World War 11 in England, France, and Germany. Algot worked for Reiten, Melroe, and Wil-Rich Manufacturing Companies in Cooperstown. At the present time, Algot, his wife, Joyce, and their two children are living on the homestead place.

On February 15, 1940, Reverend Lunde opened a country store on the home farm. Known as the Riverside Food Store, it was managed by Sidney and Alice Erickson during the twelve years that it was in operation. Besides buying and testing cream, they sold groceries, gasoline, and oil.

Since Sven and Justina Lunde were very concerned that their children be taught the Word of God, and there were no churches that had been built at that time, they met in various homes in the community for worship.

Since there was no town when they first arrived, they got their supplies from Valley City. One time Sven Lunde carried a sack of flour home from Valley City.

There would be prairie fires in the fall. In order to protect their home from these fires, they would burn firebreaks.

One year the river flooded and reached to the house. Grandma Justina washed some clothes out the window.

They burned limestones on an outside fireplace. Hans Braasten, a cousin of Justina's, was watching the fire at night when he heard a splash in the river. He took off for home thinking it was Indians, but it turned out to be some animal. He returned and finished the night watch,

They sometimes saw Indians come down the river in their canoes.

Life was hard for them in many ways. A lady friend of Justina's made the statement, "It's a comfort to know that we are going to get rich."

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 89

EDWARD MICHAELIS

When Edward Michaelis came to Valley City (which had been called Worthington) March 22, 1882, there was so much snow around the building he had to sit down and slide in. He bought four oxen for \$325 and paid \$128 for two cows. He left Valley City with his family May 25 and they arrived at the homestead on the SE ¼ of Section 8-145-59, Bald Hill Township on May 28. Some winters all the sheds were snowed under.

He married Wilhelmina Bertha Crane in 1868. Their children were Sophia (Mrs. William Trost) Susan (Mrs. George Stevens) Fredrica (Mrs. Luther Rowley) Ernest, Paul, Martha (Mrs. Harry Husel), Herman and Mathilda.

Edward Michaelis retired from farming in 1906, and until 1911 Ernest and Paul farmed together. After Ernest's marriage to Emma Hogie November 23, 1911, he farmed it alone.

Their children are Walter and Thelma (Mrs. William Jungels) both Cooperstown; Kenneth, Cannon Falls, Minnesota; Deloise (Mrs. Ralph Wisdahl), Alderwood Manor, Washington.

Ernest and Emma farmed on the homestead until 1944, when Walter married Borghild Johnson and took over the farm. They have two children, Bennett, Hannaford and Charlotte, Minneapolis. Walter and Borghild sold the farm to Bennett in 1975, and in 1979, Bennett married Susan Ludwig and they are farming the land that was Edward Michaelis' homestead and tree claim. Walter and Borghild now live in Cooperstown.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 89

THE OLSON-CHRISTOPHERSON FARM

This land located on the S ½ of the S ½ of Section 24 in Romness Township was originally homesteaded by Martin Olson. He came to Romness Township in April of 1880 in a caravan from Wineshiek County, Iowa, along with his parents, three brothers, one sister and several other early pioneers.

He married Mary (Maria Johnsdatter) Nelson February 16, 1885 and they lived in a sod house on the north slope of a landmark known as Horse Hill on their homestead until 1910 when a new frame house was completed. This house is occupied today by a grandson, Clifford Christopherson. Five daughters and three sons were born to Martin and Mary.

The third eldest child, Lena Christena, usually known as Christena, born December 20, 1888, married Charles Christopherson May 29, 1910. They farmed with Charles' father in Steele County until 1913 at which time they moved to Jenner, Alberta, Canada to take a homestead.

At that time they had two children: May, born February 24, 1911, and Clifford, born August 2, 1912. They maintained their homestead in Canada until 1920, although they made frequent trips by train back to Romness. Two more sons, Oscar, February 7, 1917, and Alvin, February 28, 1920, were born to Charles and Christena during these trips back to Romness. Alvin died in August of 1920. The other three children still live in Romness.

During these years Martin Olson farmed the land. He died suddenly in April of 1920 during a visit to his doctor in Finley.

Charles and his family had just returned to their homestead in Canada after the birth of Alvin when they were notified of the death of Christena's father. Christena and the children returned to Romness as soon as possible and Charles returned in the fall of 1920.

Charles began farming the homestead in 1921 on shares with his mother-in-law and continued in this way until her death in January of 1942. He purchased the quarter of land after that date to settle the estate.

It is noted in family papers that one-half of the threshing bill for 1934 was \$2.81 for wheat and \$1.97 for flax owed by Mrs. Olson.

Christena Christopherson died November 21, 1952. Charles Christopherson continued actively farming until the 1960's at which time his eldest son, Clifford, took over the farming until 1971.

Charles died January 23, 1973 and the land is currently owned by his estate and farmed by his grandson, Wayne Christopherson.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 90

BENT OLSON

In the spring of 1880, Ole Olson Bjornstad and sons Bent, Gilbert, Martin, Theodore, and daughter Hanna and several others came from Decorah, Iowa, with their covered wagons. Some were driving oxen and some were driving horses. They drove the stock along and headed for Dakota Territory. The oxen had been broke that spring in preparation for the journey.

Bent, Mary and their two sons, Anve, 2, and Ole, 3, made the trip. They homesteaded on the NW ¼ of Section 25, Romness Township, near the Sheyenne River. Their first home was a dugout built in the hillside, with walls and roof of logs, and a dirt floor. Later on he acquired the NW ¼ of Section 24 in Romness Township by planting trees on the land.

Anve and Ole died in a diphtheria epidemic in 1882. Their third son Anton, was born January 31, 1881 and was the first child born in Romness Township, and the first white boy born in Griggs County. They had eight more children: Anna (Brueske) Julia (Lind) Tilda (Olson) Bella (Stromme) Olaf, Mathilda (Sundeen) and Elvina (Anderson). Elvina is the only living child of Bent and Mary Olson. She resides in Cooperstown.

In 1946, Anna Olson Brueske and August Brueske purchased the homestead from the Olson Estate. They had one son, Ronald Brueske, now of Minneapolis. In 1954, Elvina Olson Anderson and Ole Anderson purchased the land from Anna. They have two daughters, Evelyn Young, Wood River, Illinois and Joyce Anderson, Cooperstown.

In 1970, Joyce Anderson Anderson and Oliver Anderson purchased the original homestead from her parents, Elvina and Ole Anderson. They have two children, Julie Johnson, Donnybrook, N.D., Registered Nurse at Kenmare, N.D. and Richard, a student at the University of North Dakota at Grand Forks.

The Tree Claim, NW ¼ of Section 24 was taken over by Carl A. Flissarm (sometimes spelled Flisaram). In 1944, Elvina Olson Anderson and Ole Anderson purchased the land from the heirs of Carl Flissarm.

In 1970, Joyce Anderson Anderson and Oliver Anderson purchased the Tree Claim from her parents, Elvina and Ole Anderson. Joyce is the granddaughter of the original owner, Bent Olson.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 90

ANDREW H.OVERBY

Andrew H. Overby and Ingeborg Vangen Overby, married in April of 1884, had three children while living in their sod house on their homestead in Bryan Township. One day while their Mother was digging potatoes, the children set fire to the sod house. This made it necessary to build again. This time a frame house, built on Section 11, which was not his land, but at that time they built wherever they wanted. Andrew homesteaded on Section 10. He also obtained a quarter by preemption and another by tree claim. On December 1885, he bought from the U.S. the NW ¼ of Section 12-147-61. He paid \$200.00 for it.

Andrew built his barn on Section 3, so when more homesteaders came, he had to buy this land so as not to lose his barn, which was a very nice building.

Ingeborg and Andrew had 14 children. They were Hans,

Paul, and Bertha, born in the sod house, then Nels, Dora, Petra, Chris, Olai, Johnny, Marie, Mattie, and two were stillborn.

In 1909 Andrew purchased a steam rig. It had a 16 bottom plow that it pulled. The front of the engine had a large iron door. Every morning early it was Paul's job to open the door and clean out the 72 flues that were filled with soot. After that it took quite a while to fire up and get enough steam to operate. In the field for plowing they used coal, but in threshing they often fired with straw to cut expenses. There was a steam whistle on the machine. It was used to give different messages. Two long blows might mean "We are low on water, hurry!" The "water monkey" as they were called had quite a job to keep up. The water monkey was Andrew's daughter Dora. Threshing was the most exciting time for the kids - next to Christmas.

In the depression years of the 1930s when people had very little money, they sold every scrap of iron they weren't using. The steam rig was in perfect running order so they steamed it up and ran it into Binford and sold it for \$25.00. It had cost \$3,000.00 when they bought it new.

Chris and his wife Pearl took over the family homestead later and now these lands are owned by Chris's widow Pearl and their sons Kenneth and Gordon. Kenneth and Gordon are the operators.

Pearl said that many times she can remember the Indians coming to ask for food. She wasn't afraid of them; they were always very friendly and appreciative. The gypsies came also and they were not so nice. While some were begging for food, the others would take whatever they wanted. She was frightened of them.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 91

PER PERSON FARM

Per Person came to the Dakota Territory from Hodal, Sweden in 1881. He was engaged to be married and his bride-to-be came to the new country about six months later and they were married at Mayville. After living at Mayville and working there a short time, they took the team of oxen and wagon with the cow tied behind and moved west to Cooperstown. They then had a baby who was sick and later died. The first home was located on SE ¼ of Section 30 in Cooperstown Township. Since it was possible to get the NE ¼ with a tree claim, they moved to that quarter and planted the required amount of trees. With two years of planting and working with the trees, the drought dried up the trees. Neighbors testified that the trees had been planted and cared for but failed; thus they qualified for the land. In the new location a frame house, granary and barn were built.

Many trying experiences came to the pioneers. While Mr. Person was doing some carpentry work, Mrs. Person was plowing with oxen and the beasts decided to go and drink water from the slough near by. The oxen could not be controlled but did as they pleased and Mrs. person could not keep back the tears as they left the field. Later of course they got horses and Person got a set of harnesses, which he carried on his back from Mayville. Often when the oxen were resting, Person would pick up buffalo bones, which he sold. There was a cellar under the house and the sand would fall down from the walls falling into the food. One time a large chunk fell into the salt pork barrel and Mrs.

Person had to wash up each piece and repack it. In 1888 the frost killed the wheat in the month of August.

A new home was built in 1903 by Chris Seldahl and crew. The men had worked hard with the haying and had the barn filled with hay. They were looking forward to a fishing trip to Bald Hill Creek. That night a lightning storm struck the chimney of the new house and the barn. The barn caught fire and burned to the ground along with a shed next to it. A hired man who was a relative helped get the horses out of the burning barn. The hay, harnesses and new buggy plus other items were gone. A new barn was built that fall and was used up until 1979. The original house was finally torn down in 1980.

In 1909 Dr. Bergstrom of Cooperstown was consulted about Mrs. Person's ailing health and it was decided to travel to Minneapolis for a gall bladder operation, which was successful. Mrs. Person died in 1936 and Per Person died in 1938. The children born were Peter in 1889, John 1893, Margaret 1895, Julia 1897, and Inga 1899. Three babies were born and died in infancy.

The farm was rented by Axel and Inga Liljenquist in 1935 and later bought in 1947. Their children are Wilbur, Margaret and Julianne.

Axel and Inga's first experiences in farming included the raising of turkeys. A large hall storm came up suddenly and scattered and killed most of the turkeys. Many of the windows in the house were broken out in the storm.

Wilbur rented some land and farmed in partnership with his father and then bought the farm in 1980. Wilbur and his wife, Betty, built a house on the farm in 1959 and continue to farm the land. Tim, Scott, Susan, Stacy, and Jamie are their children.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 91

JOHANNES E. QUALEY

Johannes E. Qualey was born in Sogndal, Norway, November 15, 1840. At the age of five he and his family came to the United States settling in Dane County, Wisconsin. About 1860 he left Wisconsin and moved to Dodge County, Minnesota where he lived for 20 years. On July 19, 1864 he married Martha Gilderus, who was the first white child born in Koskenang Prairie, Wisconsin. As a child she and her family moved to Dodge County, Minnesota.

In May of 1880 John Qualey and five children, Edwin, Dorothea, Nels, Mathilda and Sever started their journey to North Dakota, by wagon. Mrs. Qualey and baby Gunhild took the train as far as Wilmar, Mn., where they met the wagon and rode with them the rest of the way. In order to have some provisions for the following winter they had sent money to Sever Gilderhus to plant potatoes for them.

On their trip their food ran out at Fargo so they lived on milk and soda crackers the rest of the way. They were especially concerned about finding a place to homestead that had free fuel and water. The land around Goose River had all been taken so they came to the Sheyenne River on July 4, 1880.

The original buildings were one mile north of the present farmstead. Two springs their buildings were flooded so they moved their buildings to the present location. A daughter, Anna, was born after coming to North Dakota.

The first school was held in the Qualey home: teachers were Christ Bolkan and John Dahl.

In October 1913, Nels Qualey, who had married Annette Windloss in 1904, bought the farm and continued to farm until 1942. They had four children, Maxine, Judith, Mercedes and Richard. Richard married Lenore Rosendal in 1942 and they started farming at that time. They had five children, Sheryl, Nell, Reed, Annette and Brent. Richard died in 1978 and his sons have been managing and farming the original homestead in addition to other land that has been acquired. Neil, Reed and Brent are the fourth generation to farm the original homestead.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 92

RORVIG BROTHERS

For nearly 100 years, Rorvigs have lived on adjoining homesteads in Willow Township, Griggs County, North Dakota. Ole, Mathias, Peder, and Paul were sons of Austin and Christine Rorvig of Ringebu, Gulbrandsdalen, Norway.

Ole (July 3, 1849-May 6, 1924) married Marie Berg (Aug. 61 1851-July 26, 1937) in Norway in 1873. In 1881, they left Norway for the United States "The Land Of Opportunity". Their fellow passengers were Norwegian emigrants. The voyage was rough and most passengers suffered; but Ole, having been a sailor, did not get seasick. As a result he helped care for the less fortunate passengers. In 1882, Ole and Marie settled on SE ¼, Section 34, Willow Township. A brother-in-law, Jacob Myhre, met them at the train with ox team and took them to Hope, North Dakota to file their claim. Their first crop was destroyed by a severe hailstorm, and many other hardships were faced.

Ole and Marie's first home was 16 feet square, made out of logs bought from a nearby settler who had hauled them from the Sheyenne River. This cabin was their home for many years until Ole replaced it with a new larger house.

Ole and Marie had nine children: Christine, Arne, Anton, Ingeborg, Olga, Selma, Marie, Palma, and Oscar.

Oscar was born December 15, 1891. He married Lillian Koloen June 9, 1926. They had three children: Sherman, Dorothy, and Shirley. Sherman was born April 4, 1927. He married Donna Carlson, and they have three children: Bradley, Dawn, and Nathan. They now own and farm the family homestead.

The Fort Ransom to Fort Totten Trail (1867-1872) led through the Rorvigs land, and it is still visible in their pasture at the present time.

Oscar, who is ninety years old and has a very clear memory, said he recalls seeing Indians - always friendly - come to the farm and rummaging around, looking for dead animals or anything they could use.

In 1885 Ole's brother Mathias Rorvig came to Griggs County. Here he married Janna Myhre, daughter of Jacob Myhre.

Jacob Myhre was born in Gudbrandsdalen, Norway in 1843. He was married to Mathia Berg in 1867 and soon left by sailboat to America. It took 13 weeks to cross the Atlantic. They first settled in Fillmore County, Minnesota. They had seven children, four of whom died there, as did his wife in 1876.

In the spring of 1882 Mr. Myhre left for North Dakota with his three remaining children. They made the trip in covered wagon, drawn by oxen, bringing 20 head of cattle, plus household goods. It took them three weeks and four days to complete the journey to Griggs County. On this journey the three children contracted diphtheria. The two boys, ages 11 and 8 died and were buried by the Sheyenne River. The third child, seven-year-old Janna, survived. Jacob Myhre and Janna continued on to their homestead in Willow Township. Here Janna grew up and married Mathias Rorvig. Their eight children are: Clara, Jeanette, Magdalena, Ernest, Anton, Olaf, Martin, and Wendell.

Mathias Rorvig raised registered Shorthorn cattle and imported Belgian horses, besides his other farming interests.

Clara, Ernest, and Trygve are residing on and operating the homestead located at SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 34-148-60.

Two more Rorvig brothers later came to Willow Township to live. They were Peder who was married to Julianna Eielson, and Paul who was married to Anna Eielson.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 92

CHARLES ROTHERT

Charles (1841-1908) and Emelia (1850-1914) Steinke Rothert and their five children left their home in Poznon, Prussia for America to establish a better way of life for themselves, their children and us.

In May of 1881 the family set sail from the port city of Bremen, Germany, disembarking at Baltimore, three weeks later on to Chicago and from there to Porter, Indiana where they lived two years.

In June of 1883 they came to North Dakota and Mr. Rothert filed on the S $\frac{1}{2}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and W $\frac{1}{2}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 8 in Township 146 (Clearfield), Range 60, Griggs County, North Dakota. A sod house was built and was improved with some wood structure in 1885. Three more children were born and it was here the family shared the hardship and joy of real pioneer living.

Mr. Rothert helped build the Sanborn-Cooperstown branch of the Northern Pacific Railroad. He also worked on Cooper's Ranch and several large farms to earn money with which to purchase farm machinery. During this time Mrs. Rothert was seeing to home operations. She broadcast seed, harvested with a scythe and threshed with a flail. She often walked the thirteen miles to Cooperstown for family provisions and either carried or used a wheelbarrow to get them home.

Schools and churches were a definite concern of the pioneers and after a growing group of Lutherans had held worship services in the church school, Mr. Rothert, one of the charter members, granted the site and cemetery (five acres) to the Evangelical

Lutheran Zion Church, (Missouri Synod) which was dedicated March 28, 1909. Both Mr. and Mrs. Rothert are buried in the Zion cemetery.

With settlement of the estate, Mr. Rothert's son, Gustav L. (1874-1953) became owner of his father's homestead in 1919. In 1951 with another division of land, Marvin, (1911-) Gustav's son, became the owner of W ½ of SE ¼ of Section 8 in Township 146 (Clearfield) Range 60, Griggs County, North Dakota. For ninety-nine years these acres have been in the Rothert name.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 93

SEVADT K.SKAGEN

Sevad K. Skagen was born in Gol, Norway, in 1852, and he married Margit Olson, whose home was also in Gol. Her birth-date was September 30, 1855. They came to America, and they established a homestead in 1883 in Washburn Township about 41"2 miles east of Cooperstown.

They had five daughters: Bertha, Gena, Mathilda Julia, Oline, and Gunhild. Oline is the only survivor. Their father, Sevadt, died in 1905, and their mother, Margit, in 1938.

Oline was married to John Auren, and they lived on the homestead until they moved to Los Altos, California, in 1938. Later, they purchased a home in Palo Alto, California. They have two children. Luella May is married to Ralph Christianson. They have two daughters, Carol and Sandra, and one granddaughter, Sheila "K." James Skagen Auren is married to Elfrieda Ulleseit, and they live in Grants Pass, Oregon.

John Auren died at his home in Palo Alto, California, on April 25, 1980. Oline still owns the Skagen homestead.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 93

JORGEN SOMA

Ole Jorgen Omundson Soma was born in Sandnes, Norway, October 28, 1853. His father was Ommund Risa who died when Jorgen was only three years old. He was raised by his mother, Agnethe, who lived at Soma in Holland.

In 1882 so many immigrants were coming to America that no ships were available when he brought his trunk to the dock. Instead he took an Oslo boat to Amsterdam where he waited five days to take the next usable boat, which was a Crown Line cattle boat slightly remodeled to accommodate immigrants. The rooms on this ship were filthy and smelled of previous cattle passengers. For fourteen days they sailed the Atlantic Ocean. The journey ended in a near panic, as there was a shortage of coal and food.

Arriving in New York in 1882 he took an immigrant train to Chicago. At breakneck speed the train approached a large bridge. At the moment they reached the bridge the train jumped the rails and slid several rods along the ties. Jorgen said that for a few minutes he feared this was to be his last ride. He left on a smaller train for the Dakotas.

Approaching the Red River Valley it seemed as if the train were entering the ocean. As far ahead as he could see, the valley was flooded, covering the rails by several inches.

In the latter part of March of 1882, Jorgen reached Valley City to look for land. He first worked on the railroad, which was being built from Valley City to McHenry at that time. He found favorable land in the Cooperstown vicinity.

He took a homestead on the southwest ¼ of Section 12-145-59. This was under the Timber Culture Act of 1873 and stipulated that he must plant at least one-fourth of the land to trees within four years. The only trees available were cottonwood trees. This land is now owned by a son, Ingvald, and operated by a grandson, Jergen.

He erected a frame shanty where the Shepard Farmers Elevator now stands. He dug his 24 x 40 foot barn four feet deep into the ground and it proved very efficient. When going to Cooperstown, four miles away, he drove one ox and one horse. Cooperstown was then a village of a few houses.

In 1885 he married Gurina Froiland and she bore him five children: Hans (who died very young); Omund; Agnethe (Nettie); Jonas and Oscar. After her death, he married Lina Lee, who lived only a few months after their marriage. Gina Kydland, from Sandnes, Norway, together with her father and stepmother, Torger and Lina Kydland, were visiting in the area at the time, and she was prevailed upon to help "that poor widower with his four young children." They were married in 1903. Gina's mother was Lise Osland, sister of Mrs. T.T. Fuglestad and Mrs. Torkel Vigesaa. Torger Kydland and his wife returned to Norway in 1905. During World War 11, when the German troops entered Norway, Torger Kydland was taken back into the mountains out of danger, as his heart could not tolerate the trauma. He died at age 98.

When Jorgen first started farming, he plowed with oxen, using five, two for seeder, and three for drag. Using all at once, he managed to cover much ground in a short time. He used a binder drawn by oxen for harvesting and Swen Aalgaard threshed for the entire community. Very dry years followed but his land was low, which insured good crops each year. Wheat and oats were the general crops he raised in those early days.

For fuel, buckwheat and grass seed screenings from the elevator were burned. Dried cow dung was also used. Wood fuel seemed unattainable but he hauled oakwood from the Sheyenne River.

The native prairie grass was highly inflammable. One year a large prairie fire swept down from the northwest with a strong wind. The corner of the fire was aimed directly for the newly erected schoolhouse. With wet sacks, Jorgen and his help managed to steer the fire from the buildings. Another natural hazard was the fierce winter storm. In March of one year, after comparatively fine weather, a blizzard raging for three days froze many cattle that had been grazing in the sloughs in the vicinity. The storm was so fierce that windows were blown in.

In 1909 Jorgen built a brick house in Cooperstown and retired. He had farmed approximately twenty-five years. That same year he bought his first car, a red two-seater, which he used to drive back and forth to the farm. From then on, automobiles and tractors were his hobbies. One special car was a white Glide, on which the front fenders pointed skyward. In 1912, Jorgen took his family on a trip from Cooperstown to Red Willow Lake in a car that had front seats and back seats, but no doors nor a top. Two years later his car had doors and a top, though the top was used only in cases of inclement

weather. On a tour to Grafton, North Dakota, the family started off at seven in the morning and arrived at the destination about 6:30 in the evening, tired and travel-worn. The trip averaged about ten miles an hour, but was thought to be a great adventure.

After about four years of driving back and forth to the farm, which his son, Omund, was renting, he decided to go back to farming. He had a house built on the land he had bought from Knud Holland; W ½ of Section 13-145-59, and moved his family into what later became a blacksmith shop while the house was being built. The family at this time consisted of Jorgen and his wife Gina, and four children, Lise, Torger, Gurina and Ingvald, and the youngest son by his first wife, Oscar.

Besides being interested in automobiles and machinery, Jorgen had a passion for thoroughbred horses. Percherons and Belgians were the favorites. These were show horses and he won ribbons at every fair and horse show, and displayed the prizes on the walls of his home office.

The early settlers formed a congregation as early as October 16, 1881. They met in their homes and continued to do so until 1902. December 8, 1901, Ole Lima wrote to his brother-in-law and sister, Andreas and Ane Vatne, who were then on a visit to Norway: "Friday, the 20th, we are to have trustee meeting, the 21st we have congregational meeting again, to try to get at the church building. Friday I stopped in at Jorgen Soma's and saw the plan he has worked out for the church. He thought that a large enough church could be raised and finished for less than \$1,000.00. It strikes me as a good idea to get Jorgen to build the church on contract, or else to furnish materials and hire Jorgen as overseer. He is surely the most practical man we have among us." "Completed, J. Soma would guarantee the lumber bill not to exceed \$526.00, aside from the steeple, which he assumed would increase the sum by \$50.00. This sounded quite encouraging."

There is no record of any land having been deeded to a school district, but the Shepard school is located on the E ½ of Section 11-145-59 and the building is now used for town meetings.

After moving to the farm in 1912, four more children were born to Jorgen and Gina Soma. Two girls died in infancy, and two other girls, Mildred and Judith, completed the family. He continued to farm and to deal in real estate for many more years. Besides serving on the various Township boards and school boards, he acted for many years and until his death in 1934, as Director of the First National Bank in Cooperstown, now the First Bank in Cooperstown. At the time when two banks in Cooperstown closed, Jorgen Soma and S. Almklov (Dr. Almklov's father and Norman Hoel's grandfather) exchanged worthless paper for hard cash, thereby keeping First National Bank from closing.

In 1931 he was ready to retire. He bought lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 in block 47 in Cooperstown, now owned by daughter Lise Johnson, and left the farm to be managed by his sons, Torger and Ingvald.

After Jorgen's death November 21, 1934, Torger inherited the home farm. He was also a man with business acumen, and proceeded to expand his interests. He died July 2, 1955, when his private plane crashed. His wife, Inga, and son Jergen now own the land, which is operated by Jergen, his son Tim and daughter Kathy. Jergen's wife, Beverly is an RN at the Griggs County Hospital and teaches the Nurses Aide program there.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 93

TANDE FARM

Johan (John) Tande, who came to America from Broskerud, Norway in 1878, bought the E ¼ of Section 12 in Pilot Mound Township on July 13, 1882 for \$1.25 per acre and made full payment on October 4, 1884.

Johan and his son, Sigvart, lived there on the bank of the Sheyenne River.

Sigvart married Inga Mathea (Mathilda) Halvorson January 8, 1895 at Grand Meadow, Minnesota, and they purchased this 160 acres for \$585.54 in March of 1895.

Johan had previously homesteaded 160 acres in Section 24-148-60 in Willow Township and lived there with his second wife until his death May 13, 1891.

Sigvart and Mathilda raised five children on this farmstead. They are: Albin (deceased), Cora, Melvin, Hjalmer and Freda. Two children died in infancy.

Albin first attended a school, which was one-half mile east of the farm on land purchased by Sigvart from the Trostad Estate (E ½ of SW ½ of Section 7). The school was moved away and school was held at the Tom Olson home west of the river. Mathilda boarded the schoolteacher for many years for \$3 to \$4 a month.

Sigvart's brother, Ole, homesteaded the SE ¼ of NW ¼ of Section 7, and that land was later purchased by Sigvart. He also bought the NE ¼ of Section 7 from Gundar Nave and the NE ¼ of Section 18.

Sigvart died suddenly from a heart attack October 2, 1916. Mathilda continued to live on the farm until her death January 13, 1932. Her three sons continued to farm and later bought the NE ¼ of NW ¼ of Section 18, and N ½ of NW ¼ of Section 17. They continued farming until 1946 at which time Hjalmer purchased land in Clay County, Minnesota, and moved there to live.

Albin and Melvin continued to live on the home place, Albin spending winters in California and Arizona, until his death in 1980. Melvin purchased Albin's share of the farm in 1957.

Melvin and his wife, Adeline, had eight children: Kary, Marlin, Judith, Gwendolyn, Craig, Steven, Landis and Lori.

They lived on the farm until 1981 when they moved into Aneta, but their sons Steven and Landis have farmed the land since 1970. Landis and his wife, Marl, are presently living on the farm.

Three dams have been built on this property in later years. The Carlson-Tande dam was built by the Soil Conservation Service and is on the north side of the NE ¼ in Section 7. This is used for public recreation. A smaller private dam was built on the south side of this quarter for stock watering. Another dam for stock watering was built on the NE ¼ of Section 18 many years ago, but washed out three years ago and was replaced with a watering hole.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 95

THE MARTIN UELAND FARM

Martin Ueland was born in Stavanger, Norway in 1858. He was the youngest son of Ole Gabriel Ueland, a member of the Norwegian Storting (Parliament) who was at one time president of that body. Martin attended high school and went to a technical school and became a civil engineer.

In 1880 Martin left Norway and reached America ten days later. The trip cost \$52. He spent a year in Minneapolis and came to Dakota Territory in 1881, homesteading in Sverdrup Township in Section 26.

In 1882 the land on which he built his farmstead was purchased from the Northern Pacific Railroad for \$640 (\$4 an acre). This was Section 23. He was elected surveyor that year and served in that capacity for 50 years.

In spite of the many things we would consider trials in early pioneer life such as walking to Valley City for supplies, in later years his response to a question in a questionnaire asking him to relate some hardships of pioneer life was that there were none that he remembered.

In 1888 he married Elizabeth Holland who was also born in Stavanger, Norway and had come to Griggs County where her brothers Knud and Hans Holland lived at that time.

Eight children were born to them. There were two boys who died in infancy, and Olav, Knute, Alf, Anne, Magnus, and Bjorn who died in 1981.

Olav married Dagney Edland and their ten children were Mervil, Eunice, Verna, Garvin, Clarice, Anne, Arla, Blanche, Olav, and Duane. Knute married Inga Loge. Their children were Shirley and Kermit. Alf married Olga Paulson and had one daughter Winnifred. Anne married Aadne Windingland and had a son, Alan. Magnus married Milda Hagglund.

Elizabeth Ueland died in 1937 and Martin in 1941. At the time of his death, the home place was given to his son, Bjorn. In 1978 the farm was purchased by Martin Ueland, Kermit Ueland's son.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 96

EDWARD ZIMPRICH

Edward Zimprich of Michelsdorf, Bohemia came to the United States to the Waterville, Minnesota area in 1878 at the age of 19. He came to North Dakota in 1881 with Frank Ressler and Joe Dusbabek. He worked on the Cooper Ranch as a farm laborer for about one year.

Edward preempted in Tyrol Township NW ¼ of Section 8-147-59 May 6, 1882. He proved his preemption December 8, 1884. The same year he homesteaded another 80 acres in the same Section.

His sister Mary (later to be Mrs. Herman Hovel) kept house for him until his marriage in 1886 to Jennie Westley at Waterville, Minnesota. They returned to the North Dakota Territory in the spring of 1886.

Edward first built a small house of log with a sod roof on a hill just north of the present buildings. When he homesteaded the next eighty acres, he was required to live

there. It was impossible to move the house from the hill so he built a house, 12 x 12, with a loft and small lean-to.

Eight children were born in this small house. (They recall sleeping six in a bed crosswise.) The children attended the Zimprich School, which sat west across the road from their home. In 1904 they transferred to Jessie

Prayer services were also held in this little school led by a Joseph Fiebiger, the grandfather of Hugo and Joe Fiebiger.

In 1903 the present house was built. Two more children were born to the family making a total of ten.

Edward and his neighbors hauled wheat to a mill on the Goose River and had it ground to flour. When this was done, it was a two-day trip. Once a year these same neighbors would make a four-day trip with horses to Sanborn, North Dakota to buy supplies for the winter.

Edward Zimprich died in May of 1926. His wife Jennie remained on the farm with her son, Laurence, who later married Louise Gruman. They bought the farm from Jennie in 1940. One daughter was born to Laurence and Louise, Cecilia. Jennie died in September of 1948. Later that fall, Laurence was killed in a car accident. Louise remained on the farm. A few years later her daughter Cecilia married Edward Schaak. They had one daughter, Lisa. Cecilia was killed in a farm accident. Louise, her son-in-law, and granddaughter Lisa still live on the farm. The house built in 1903 is still their home.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 96

Farm Living

THEY CAME TO FARM

They came here to farm - the Opheims, Qualeys, Vigesaas, Fuglestads, Aarestads, Aurens, Houghtons, Nierenbergs, Bolkans, McCullochs, Jacobsons, Washburns, Hagens, Piatts, Hegnas and all the rest.

They all came to live on the land. They were offered free homesteads, and they came by ox team, wagon, horseback, (-n foot and in immigrant cars. They came from Wisconsin, Minnesota, Norway, and Iowa. They came on the train to Fargo, on a boat as far as Caledonia, (At that time Caledonia was the county seat of Traill County which at that time included the area of Griggs and Steele Counties, too) then by foot to the Sheyenne Valley, a distance of sixty miles. Some took the train to Sanborn and then north, sometimes on foot, sometimes by train as the railroad progressed.

At first they settled near the river, where there was water. Trees supplied protection from the wind. As the land along the river was taken up, they spread out into the prairie.

Land was free to the homesteaders in three ways: by the Homestead Act where any person over twenty-one who was the head of the family could obtain 160 acres of land by living on it five years and improving it. The act also allowed a person to substitute a

payment of \$1.25 an acre for the five-year residence requirement. The homesteader agreed to build a home and dig a well and improve the land. The settler did not have to pay taxes on the land as long as he was homesteading. When he had the actual deed, it was then necessary to pay taxes.

The second way to get free land was by tree claim. A person could acquire 160 acres by agreeing to plant ten acres into trees and improve the rest of the land.

The family consisted of Karl Opheim, the mother; Nels, a son; and daughter Martha and her husband, Gustav Olson and their two children, Martin and Oscar. The next year, more settlers came into the area and so people would walk or drive by the Opheim home, some even stopping in for lodging and food.

In 1881 butter was 35¢ per lb.; potatoes, \$1.50 per bushel; flour, \$4.75 per hundred, pounds; wheat, \$1.30 per bushel. Times were good in Dakota. (Quoted from Mrs. Karl Opheim).

Slowly they came and they settled. They brought with them a few horses, oxen, cows and chickens. Land was broken, a few acres each season. Usually by the end of five years they could have their 160 acres, more or less, broke for crop. This involved hard work, perseverance and drudgery. It wasn't easy to build a productive farm from the raw prairie. The pioneers suffered from poor health, loss of crops and livestock, accidents and untimely deaths. They were often lonely, having left their families behind to make a start in a new country, but among the pioneers there was much socializing and friendliness and neighborliness.

Slowly they came and they settled. Post offices were established at various points and then the town of Mardell was established in 1882. It was the hope of promoters that the railroads would be built from Breckenridge to Hope and then to the Sheyenne River valley where Mardell was to be the focal point.

In 1880 R.C. Cooper came to the prairie west of the Sheyenne and staked out a claim. In the spring of 1881 he and his brother came and began farming. They were the largest bonanza farmers in this area. In the summer of 1883, R.C. Cooper began building the Sanborn, Cooperstown and Turtle Mountains Railway and so the hopes of Mardell were gone.

When the pioneers came they needed cash to survive the first years. It is estimated that about 80 percent of the homesteaders worked for R.C. Cooper on the railroad, which helped them all considerably.

Imagine if you will that you are a young man from Norway, Germany, Iowa, Minnesota, New York, Wisconsin, wherever, and you are in Dakota because you heard of the farming opportunities in the western plains of the United States. Now you have your homestead and you must select a place to erect your buildings. Maybe the house will be a sod shanty, maybe a log cabin, maybe a shack, but it is home. You must also have a barn for your few head of livestock and water and you must dig a well. You must select a spot by witching and you dig the well by hand. Hopefully, you will get a good well, as the water will be needed for so many things. Now you are established and you begin to farm.

You must break the land with a breaking plow, you do not plow very deep, only enough to turn the sod so it can decay, then you plow again and your land is ready to seed. You do not have a drill so you sow by hand, tie a rope on a bucket or a sack and

hang this around your neck so it hangs near your stomach, then you begin to walk and very artfully broadcast the seeds by throwing. You do not have a drag yet either so you go to the river and obtain some small trees, tie them together and use the bushy top for a drag to smooth the land and cover the seeds. Since you can only break a few acres a day, you do not have much crop in the first year but during the growing season you are busy breaking more land for next year. Then it is time to harvest and you cut your grain with a scythe and tie the grain into neat bundles using straw for ties. Then the bundles are brought home and it is the women's job to thresh. This is done by placing the bundles on blankets and pounding the grain out with a club or stick. The wheat is ground into flour so the household can use it as a food staple during the coming winter.

Gradually things get better and you acquire machinery and more oxen and/or horses. As the efficiency of the machinery progressed, more horses were needed to provide the power. Oxen proved too slow.

Twenty-eight horse hitches were needed to pull the huge harvesters.

The development of the manure spreader encouraged greater utilization of valuable fertilizer.

By 1890 all of the machinery that would require horsepower had been invented. From then on, all efforts were concentrated on mechanically powered engines. The steam tractor needed a lot of fuel and water. It packed the soil and was forever setting fires. In spite of this disadvantage it was a common sight on some farms by 1900.

Land could also be acquired by pre-emption, which is the act of buying something ahead of other persons. People would move onto a place, build on it and not get a title. They were called squatters. In 1841 Congress established the Right of Pre-emption that is a person could file a land application and move in if he improved the land and lived on it six months, he could buy it from the government for \$1.25 per acre. This meant the squatter had a right to buy his land ahead of anyone else. No one could get more than 160 acres and persons who already owned 320 acres could not get more by pre-emption. Since this system was misused, it was abolished in 1891. People could also purchase railroad land and another's homesteader's rights.

When the Opheims came here in 1879 they were the only settlers along the Sheyenne. The land had not been surveyed but on Mr. Opheim's arrival in Fargo from Iowa he inquired about land and a surveyor there told him there was no better land in the world than along the Sheyenne. He gave him a plot of this land and so Mr. Opheim proceeded on his journey. One of his companions was his wife's brother who chose to settle in the Goose River area. Mr. Opheim then chose his land and built a log cabin, the first home in Griggs County. It had a bark roof with an earthen floor. After building the cabin he returned to Iowa for his family and they returned in a covered wagon in the fall of 1879. The nearest neighbor was 24 miles away. The first winter they had no wheat for flour so Mr. Opheim went to the Goose River area where he purchased wheat and accompanied by others, he went to Grand Forks where he had the wheat ground into flour. The trip took three weeks because he was caught in a snowstorm. The family was distraught, not knowing if he had perished in the storm.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 99

RECORD KEEPING OF AN EARLY DAY FARMER

Entries in the account book of Henry Detwiller and sons. Henry Detwiller died in 1900 and later entries were made by Andy and Bill Detwiller.

Cash	\$ 3.00
Land and Real Estate	
800 acres @ \$10.00.....	8000.00
.....	
..... TOTAL	\$8003.00

Livestock	
17 horses	910.00
18 Cattle	300.00
.....	
..... TOTAL.....	\$1210.00

Fixtures and Implements	
2 harvestors	90.00
1 drill	50.00
1 mower	20.00
1 horse rake	10.00
2 gang plows	50.00
3 single plows	10.00
2 20-tooth harrow	20.00
1 16-16 disc	10.00
2 wagons	60.00
1 buggy	20.00
2 pr. sleighs	12.00
1 threshing machine	300.00
7 sets harness	105.00
1 reaper.....	50.00
.....	
..... TOTAL.....	\$ 917.00
..... TOTAL ASSETS.....	\$10,130.00

Produce	
750 bushels wheat @ \$.60	\$450.00
60 bushels flax @ \$1.25.....	75.00
75 bushels oats @ \$.33	25.00
40 bushels barley @ \$.33.....	13.00
20 bushels rye @ \$.35.....	7.00
75 ton feed @ \$5.00.....	375.00
TOTAL INVENTORY	\$945.00
TOTAL ASSETS AND INVENTORY	\$11,072.00

Liabilities	
Mortgage Payable	\$2,638.92
Interest Payable	343.55
.....	
..... \$2,983.47.....	\$ 2,983.47
Bills Payable	945.00.....945.00

Total Liabilities	\$ 3,928.47.....	\$3,928.47
..... Net worth		\$7,143.53

February 27, 1889:

Went to Cooperstown today and settled account with Hammer and Condry.
Paid cash \$20 and gave my note for \$21 for balance.

March 6, 1889:

Loaned to R.H. Pratt for a few days \$20.

March 5, 1889:

1 drew out \$7.

March 24, 1889:

Sold W. LaPlant 24 bushels wheat @ \$.39 a bushel.

April 6, 1889:

Traded Fred's wheel and a note due November 1 for a buggy.

July 16, 1889:

Bought of Gull River Lumber Company for barn. 16,700 feet lumber for
\$400.81: 2 x 4 x 14 @ .19; 4 x 6 x 16 @ .27; 2 x 6 x 14 @ .24.

January 1, 1904:

real estate	\$4,000.00
6 horses	600.00
1 cattle	30.00
3 hogs	10.00
12 chickens	3.00
70 bushels wheat @ .70	49.00
200 bushels barley @ .30	60.00
325 bushels oats @ .33	107.00
household furniture	100.00
cash	3.00
.....	\$4,962.00

Liabilities

real estate mortgage	500.00
bills payable	216.00
interest payable	13.00
.....	729.00
..... NET WORTH	\$ 4,233.00

April 1, 1904:

bought on account 100# sugar \$5.50
baking power .25
broom .40
wash board .25
5 gallons kerosene \$1.00

April 4, 1904:

bought harness \$8.75

April 5, 1904:
traded 23 bushels barley @ .30 for 11 bushels flax @
\$1.00 paid balance in cash \$3.50.

April 20, 1904:
bought share in Jessie Farmers Elevator \$25.00

April 20, 1904:
bought 1/2 cord birch wood \$3.70

April 20, 1904:
got George shod \$1.00

April 27, 1904:
bought lumber for buggy shed \$12.15

April 27, 1904:
bought

Neck yoke	1.25
Spreaders .....	.35
Trace chain .....	.30
5 Sweat pads	3.10
Coffee .....	.15

May 7, 1904:
To Thompson Brothers bought 2 sacks flower \$5.70 lantern globe .25

May 19, 1904:
To A. Larson brown sugar .50

May 21, 1904:
To P.E. Nelson casting for churn .85

July 24, 1904:
Bought a Deering harvester traded a horse and gave note for balance.

March 2, 1905:
Bought cow at Lewis sale \$20.00

March 29, 1905:
Got contract for school land and paid interest

April 1, 1905:
Sold Dave and King to Sells for \$300.00

April 1, 1905:
Bought team of mares from S.M. Summerville \$400.00

April 5, 1905:
Paid Joe Rogers \$70.00 for work @ \$1.25 a day

June 14, 1905:
Paid George Crawford \$1.25 a day for pulling mustard

March 22, 1905:
Paid George H. Lashway \$100 @ \$20.00 per month

November 4, 1904:
Bought SW 1/4 of NW 1/4 of Section 36-147-59 payable:

\$120.00 January 1, 1905

120.00 January 1, 1911

120.00 January 1, 1916

120.00 January 1, 1921

120.00 January 1, 1925

Interest @ .04%

Work schedule of Alfred Larson April 1, 1910:

April 1 hauled hay
2 hauled manure all day
3 Sunday
4 harrowed
5 clipped horses and harrowed
6 drilled wheat - Farmers Monarch Elevator burned
9 sowed wheat
16 Sawed wood and went to town
17 blizzard all day
21 plowed for oats
May 1 packed for oats
4 sowed the oats
9 started to break
14 broke all forenoon - first good rain
Sept. 17 sold butter 5# \$1.75

1905 crop sold:

762 bushels wheat a .64
120 bushels barley @ .33
111 bushels flax @ .86
6070# flax straw @ \$2.00 per ton
Received from threshing machine \$67.20
Bought 40 bushels Blue Stem wheat @ .70
Bought 65 bushels macaroni @ .67

Total crop sold in 1905

\$1,186.00

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 1

Value

RANDOM LINES FROM A FARMER'S NOTEBOOK

In 1903 President Teddy Roosevelt reported to Congress that total government receipts were \$560,396,674. Expenditures for the same period were \$506,099,007. This left a surplus of over \$54,000,000.

In 1982, the national debt was 2000 times greater than the money spent by the government in 1903!

In 1903, a man who owned one quarter of land decided to have it custom farmed for one year with the following results:

Expense Items

Harrowing and plowing	\$240.00
Seeding	40.00
Cutting and shocking	112.00
Seed	118.00
Twine	29.00
Threshing and marketing	202.00
Taxes	21.00
	\$743.00

Income

1447 bu. wheat @ .69	\$1005.00
842 bu. winter rye @ .80	673.00
300 bu. oats @ .30	90.00
Total Income	\$1768.00
Net Income	\$1006.00

Return on investment excluding land - 135%

In 1883 there were 612 farms in Griggs County.

In 1894 the average wheat yield for the county was 12 bushels per acre.

In 1895 Griggs County had:

A total of81,603 acres into crop

Wheat50,778

Oats3,581

Barley5,500

Flax.....7,018

Rye3,678

Corn.....618

Potatoes430

The value of the entire grain crop in 1895 was \$1,160,591. This was an average gross return per farm of \$1,896.

In 1901 a farmer reported his average wheat yield was 29 ½ bushels per acre. In 1891 another farmer reported a yield of 47 ½ bushels per acre on an 8-acre field.

As far back as 1882 there were traces of rust reported in wheat fields.

One farmer reported his total cost of heating for the winter of 1899-1900 at \$37.00. In 1900-1901 the total was

The price paid to farmers for a bushel of wheat had a low of .38 on January 3, 1896 and a high of \$1.42 in May of 1898.

In 1905 interest on an installment loan was 12%.

A 1905 recipe for hair tonic:

6 oz. bay rum

½ drachm of methol crystals

2 oz. bottle of lavona de compose mix and add to kalon
Let stand ½ hour.

1904 freckle remover:

2 drams oxide of zink

¼ dram subiodide of bismuth

1 ¾ drams dextron

1 ½ drams glycerine

Spread paste on the freckles at night before going to bed, in the morning remove what remains with powdered borax and almond oil.

1904 recipe for mince meat:

2# beef cooked by itself

1# suit

1# raisins

2# currants

1# citron peel

2# sugar

1 teaspoon salt

Juice and grated rind - 3 oranges

Juice and grated rind - 3 lemons

A 1903 advertisement

It behooves everyone to have a reliable salve handy and there is none better than Bucklin's Arnica Salve. Burns, cuts, sores, eczema and piles disappear quickly under its soothing effect. 25¢ at H.H. Bateman's Drug Store.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 101

GOPHERS AND GRASSHOPPERS

My childhood days were spent on a farm near Binford in the late 20's and the hard 30's. Things were not easy but we grew up knowing how to work and to appreciate every little thing we got.

Because of the drought and lack of pasture, we often had to herd sheep and cattle. It was a tiresome, tedious job and when I'd spend the hours along the roadside or on a threshed field, I'd take my little toy car along and build roads in the dry sand to drive it on. Or I'd take a book along to read. But we did have to keep alert lest the animals strayed too far and got into someone's field.

In haying time, 1936, I remember it getting so hot with the sun beating down that neither man nor beast could be in the fields any longer. They had to wait until towards evening to work again. Also we pumped water for the cattle by hand. Our pump was on a higher area and as we'd pump, the hot, south winds would blow the sharp gravel against our legs and face. The cattle would come running home with then- tongues hanging out for a cold drink of water which meant we had to pump all the faster to keep up with the herd's needs.

In the heat and drought, the gophers and grasshoppers were very bad. We had to go in the fields from hole to hole and poison the gophers and used a spreader and poison bran

for the grasshoppers. If we hadn't done this, we wouldn't have had even the little crop we got, as they would have eaten it all up. Because of the terrible heat, we would get bad storms. I remember once it got as dark as night outside and the wind was so strong that it swayed the house so much that the hanging Alladin lamp was swaying. My dad, who worked on the road, was caught out in it with several horses on the road-working outfit. He managed to keep them under control through the storm and severe hailstorm. After the storm, everyone's cattle were running all over as in the dry years there were huge amounts of Russian thistles and these blew loose, hitting the fences and breaking them down.

We, of course, had no refrigerators, so we'd drink warm milk and spread "runny" butter. When we needed to churn butter, my mother hung the pall of cream in the well to cool. Often it wasn't cool enough so we'd churn hours, it seemed like, to get butter. What a wonderful sound to finally hear the butter lapping inside the old wooden churn. When we wanted jello set or cream whipped, we either had to cool it in the well or set it in a cold bowl of water. We, of course, had no ice cubes, but the water from our well was good and very cold.

Money was very scarce but I do remember getting a pretty good size package of candy for five cents. We'd save and save the few pennies we would get and once in a very great while buy an ice cream cone or a drum stick for five or ten cents. We'd make it last and last and really enjoy each lick. Once in a very great while we'd have sugar to make fudge and what a grand treat! I remember really embarrassing everyone when my grandmother had so lovingly made me a birthday cake and I said, "Grandma didn't even frost the cake!" There wasn't enough sugar to frost the whole cake, but the top was nicely done and being a little girl, I couldn't see the top of the cake, as it sat on the table.

We had some good laughs and some good scares over our animals. We had mad roosters that chased us kids, and mad sheep bucks that more than once kept us from our destinations around the farm for sometimes a long while.

My sister and I spent much time in the summers in our play area in the trees making mud pies. We baked everything from pies to bread. The sun was a good oven! We'd play farm and use spoons to plow our fields. As a pastime of fun and exercise, we rolled old tires around the yard, running after them to keep them balanced. Also we drowned gophers out of the holes. I wonder how many gallons of water we carried. When my brother got big enough to play, my sister and I had to be his horses pulling him around in a big wagon my dad made for us. (He did have to play dolls a lot, too). I'll never forget when we finally got enough money from some lambs we had to buy a bicycle. What fun! Wish I could remember what we paid for it. By the way it still can be used after being used by seven of us plus others.

In the wintertime we slid down a big hill by our home on a big sled my dad made for us. We made tunnels in the snow banks. We spent a lot of time playing in the haymow. We'd slide on ice ponds on our overshoes as we had no skates and more than once saw stars when I fell hitting my head.

I shocked a lot of grains and corn, and cultivated corn with a team of horses as well as helped in haying. We kids really enjoyed threshing time, to see the big rigs come in, the actual threshing and all the excitement. But we didn't have to do all the baking of breads, pies, cakes, cookies and everything for ten hungry men that our mother had to do. We

did help but didn't have the responsibility. She also did the milking and separating. There was no baking ahead of time and freezing either. Sometimes we'd get a rainy spell and had people around for an extra long time.

Two jobs I really disliked were chopping and carrying in wood and washing the cream separator. I was always afraid of fires, too, as we did have some chimney fires from burning wood.

I remember the beautiful springs we had: warm air, water running, rabbits scampering by as we'd ride in the wagon pulled by two horses. But I also remember feeling sorry for the horses in the cold winter when dad would get us in a cab from school and the poor horses pulling it had big icicles hanging down from their mouths and noses.

When I went to high school, I had one good dress a year. We usually wore skirts, blouses and sweaters that were interchangeable, so we seemingly had more outfits. Many evenings and every Saturday we washed the few outfits we had. When we bought our class rings in 1943, we paid \$8.25 for the girls and \$9.70 for the boys. I attended summer school at the college in Valley City for eight weeks in the summer of 1944 and then I could teach in a rural school. My wages were \$125 a month, and I did the janitor work. We baked potatoes in the ashes of the old potbelly stove, and they were delicious. As a child in school we did the same. We'd bring gravy and potatoes in syrup cans and set them on top of the stove to heat. If the teacher forgot to loosen the covers, they would pop as the contents heated, often hitting the ceilings. At night it would get so cold the ink froze in the ink bottles (we didn't have ball point pens then) and the water in the coolers would freeze - one way to have ice water in those days.

-Marian Miller Thompson

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 102

REMEMBER THE THIRTIES

I grew up with three sisters and no brothers so I didn't have much chance to play with boys. I had a small cast iron Fordson tractor and I'd pretend to farm using a spoon for a plow, a board with shingle nails in it for a harrow and a pressure spring from a drill for a disc. There was a small threshing machine for the tractor but money was so scarce that I never got that. If I remember right, the tractor cost forty-nine cents. When I got into the sixth grade I did have a Shetland pony, which was the envy of a lot of the boys. Bill Hammer raised Shetland ponies so I would get one to ride if I broke him for riding. I'd ride one to school and my two sisters rode the other one, in the spring and fall. It was 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ miles to school across the field, and we'd walk most of the time in the winter unless in my dad took us with the horses.

We could only afford to heat two rooms in the house during the winter months because money was scarce to buy the lignite coal. I slept upstairs so took my shoes and stockings off downstairs, took my pants off upstairs sleeping in my shirt and underwear, as it was so cold. If I'd take a glass of water upstairs with me, it was frozen solid by morning.

In 1932, I graduated from eighth grade and since there was no money to go to high school I remained at home. We milked ten cows. From fifth grade and on, I always got

up to help milk before going to school and helped with the milking and chores in the evening.

In 1933 and 1934, my dad fed thirteen steers on barley and barley straw. Some of these steers weighed 1300 pounds when he sold them because half of them were 2 ½ years old. They did not gain the most on that ration but he sold all thirteen of them for \$325. He bought barley at the Shepard Elevator at 10¢ a bushel and lost money on feeding it. The farmer that hauled the barley to the elevator got 7¢ per bushel. Those were the good old days!

You could purchase overalls for 79¢ a pair, work shoes for 98¢. I remember purchasing a pair of kangaroo leather dress shoes for \$1.98, which was the very best shoe you could buy. This was in 1934.

In the summer of 1936 it was so dry that we didn't get any crop, so in the winter my dad hauled straw from Blabon for the cattle and some from ten miles north of Coopers-town. We paid one dollar per load of straw. We hauled bundles for 20¢ per hour. We got paid for the time the threshing machine was running. We got up at 5 a.m. to take care of the horses and get them harnessed up before breakfast at 6 a.m. We would start threshing at 7 a.m. In the evening when the machine stopped, the pay stopped. Then we'd take care of the horses, eat supper and go to bed in the barn unless you were close enough to home so your folks could come and get you to sleep at home.

In 1937, things started to get better as it started to rain. But I remember we had a lot of oats that year. We could get 17¢ a bushel for it and we were debating if it paid to thresh it, as the oat yield was not too great. We figured out it cost 8¢ to thresh it.

We did not have any entertainment as far as a radio or phonograph (record player) nor an English newspaper, so we would visit the neighbors, freeze ice cream and play games, and we had an enjoyable time. We did a lot of skiing. We always had to walk back up the hill so got plenty of exercise. We also did a lot of ice-skating.

When I went to grade school, there were up to 23 pupils in the school with first through eighth graders and one teacher. As I have looked back over some records, I found that often the pupils from these country schools were valedictorians or salutatorians in high school.

- Trygve Thompson

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 103

HARD TIMES

Few periods in history have been discussed in such length as the 30's whenever the economic welfare of farmers is being evaluated. No matter how bad things presently seem, nearly everyone can find comfort in the fact that its not as bad as in the 30's. From the standpoint of money in circulation, there has been no parallel in this century.

My own recollection is remembering the hardships of my parents and as it related to me as a boy growing up on a Griggs County farm.

My mother worked as hard as or harder than my dad doing any job she could physically handle. Once she went into the field to shock grain, taking my baby brother with her. She made a bed in a shock of grain and began working as fast as she could. Time passed quickly and she suddenly remembered her baby somewhere tucked away in

a shock of grain. The field had been partially shocked when she placed him there and paid little attention to where she had left him. Looking back down the shocked field, she nearly panicked wondering where she had left him. After searching in several rows of shocks, she found him asleep and safe.

Horses were being used to pull the farm implements and the minimum number required was five horses, barely enough to pull a gang plow. My parents owned four and borrowed a fifth from an uncle.

1933 started a steep downhill trend for us. The farm we were renting was sold that year and we were able to rent a farm with fewer acres, poorer buildings and less pasture. My dad forbade my brothers and me from riding any of the draft horses. Their energies were needed for fieldwork and they were getting a minimum amount of feed to sustain them. Nonetheless, I bridled one of the grey horses we had and rode him to a nearby neighbor. While helping the neighbor to round up his cows for milking, I rode Tom through an abandoned straw pile bottom and Tom stumbled and broke his neck. Needless to say, I had trouble going home and telling dad.

I knew this had put a definite crimp in our farming, as we no longer had the required number of horses to pull the plow. Well, it did seem like the beginning of the end. That year, we somehow managed to seed some crop but none was harvested because of the heat and drought.

I remember dad hauling hay in the rear seat of our "Star" car from Hannaford. The hay had been shipped in by rail and was being doled out to farmers to help them keep the few cattle they had left. The hay was moldy and another one of our horses died from the spoiled hay.

Old "Libby" the mother and grandmother of many of the cattle we had left, died giving birth to her last calf. Lack of nutrition had left her too weak to give birth.

The bank called in the loan we had on our livestock and the cows were sold for \$10 each. A subsidy of \$8 was paid by the government, which made a total of \$18 per cow. That ended farming for our family and dad went to work for WPA for \$40 a month.

My uncle had a house he wasn't using and we moved into it rent-free. I remember the good neighbors who always shared their cream and eggs and other items with us.

The period of the thirties that presented these special problems taught people how to live and enjoy themselves in spite of everything else. It is especially heartwarming to recall the close friendships of that time. It seemed people were able to respond to other people's problems in a genuine way and derived a lot of satisfaction in being able to help one another.

Oh, yes, I remember the government agent who came to our house years later. He was trying to collect the money we owed for the moldy hay. Because this government agent may still be around and the debt could be visited on the second generation, I prefer to be anonymous.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 104

THRESHING DAYS

The Hetland brothers, Krist, Rasmus, and Alfred acquired a threshing rig run by a steam engine. During the threshing season, they took the machine and threshed for neighbors. These brothers could spend hours talking of this adventure.

A cook car, drawn by horses, accompanied the rig. In this small room on wheels, a woman or two cooked meals for the entire crew, at least 20 men. They often moved at night so one person had to walk ahead with a lantern to guide the way. In later years, the cook car was abandoned and the farmers had to feed the crew. When this change took place, the farmers' wives tried to outdo each other by making the biggest and best meals. The men enjoyed these wonderful meals with much talk and laughter. The children of these families, of course loved everything about threshing time. It was an exciting time and also one of neighborhood sociability - Both the men and women worked hard. The women usually did the milking after the men took the horses from the barn in the morning. They also tried to make sure the cows were milked before the men came home in the evening, as these many teams of horses took all the barn room. Sometimes if the cows were left until the men came, the milking would have to be done out in the yard. If the cow decided she wanted to graze while being milked, the person milking would just have to follow her around the yard until the milking was done!

During threshing time, a typical schedule was this: breakfast, 6 a.m.; Morning coffee, 9:30 a.m.; dinner, 12 noon; afternoon lunch 4 p.m. and supper, 7:30 p.m. The women carried the lunches to the fields and served the men. Some dinners were carried out to the fields to the part of the crew that kept the machines going. These men kept the work going while the others went back to the house to eat, as they didn't want to shut down the machines.

One man was kept busy by hauling water for the steam engines. At 5 a.m. this engine sounded off as a signal to the crew to get up and start the day of work.

The work in the field was exciting. The men would take great pride in being able to make a straw pile that would stand graceful and shed the rain and snow. It became a great art in accomplishing this piling up of straw as the machine separated the grain from the straw. The grain would fall into horse-drawn wagons, pulled from the field and stored on the farm. Every kernel of grain would have to be handled by a scoop shovel.

Before the grain could be put through the threshing rig, it had been cut by binders. As it was cut, the grain stalks had fallen to the ground in bundles tied with twine. These bundles were picked off the ground by hand and made into shocks, 10 to 12 bundles per shock. The shocking was done by the family or men who drifted in on boxcars. These men would come up from the south looking for work. They were usually found hanging around the streets or stockyards, where they slept and cooked their meals. The farmer or boss of the machine would make a trip into town and secure as many workers as needed.

Many times the same men would come back to the same area year after year. At night the workers would sleep in the haymows. A washbasin and clean towels were placed in a shed or outside for the men to clean up. Later, bunkhouses were built for the men.

When it rained, the whole crew stayed at the farm where they were threshing. This would really deplete the potato patch and the oats and hay for the horses. Incidentally, it was the oats they usually threshed first so they would have feed for their horses.

It was so exciting to see the men pitching the shocks of grain into the separator. When the horse-drawn hayracks were emptied, they would dash back to the field to get another

load. There was usually competition for the largest load. These loads would have to be loaded evenly or they would tip. Sometimes the horses would decide that they were not going up to the separator and then there would be a runaway.

Alfred's son, Charles, continued threshing until the combines, which were far superior in efficiency, took over. To those of us who remember this exciting time of threshing, a great deal has been lost. It now seems to be an operation that is nothing more than getting the grain harvested in the shortest possible time. All the tense, exhilarating excitement of threshing is a thing of the past.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 105

A FARM WIFE REMEMBERS

PROLOGUE

The following is taken from a tape made of my mother, Neva Hanson of Hannaford. Although she was born and raised in Barnes County, she married a man from Griggs Co. They farmed in Barnes Co. until 1944 when they moved to a farm south of Cooperstown. Later they purchased a farm west of Hannaford, and she now resides in Hannaford. Her home in Hannaford was built by Harvey Sletten's father.

Neva Quick and Kenneth Hanson were married in 1925 at the home of the bride. Three of their children graduated from Cooperstown High School and all four consider Griggs County their home.

_ Lorna Hanson Auren

I was born in 1905 to Will and Dora Quick on the farm that my Dad homesteaded in 1882. There were eleven children, and we all had our chores and duties to do. With a little ingenuity we found many things to play with. In the wintertime we had great fun sledding on hills, using shovels as sleds. We would take ears of Indian corn and pretty rocks and stones to play with, we gave them the names of the cows we had and we would play house for hours. One bad thing though, if we got in a fight with our brother Ralph he'd throw our pretty stones away and throw the corn to the pigs!

When we were married in 1925 Kenneth was renting land from Henry Nelson, west and north of Dazey. The 1925 crop wasn't so good. We lived on a farm near Leal after we were married. 1926 wasn't so good either, it was dry in the spring and remained so dry, you wondered how the grain would hold up, but then we got rain and got about a half a crop. However volunteer sweet clover had grown up on Henry Nelsons land so Kenneth clipped it and it grew bushier and didn't get too tall. In the fall they cut it and sold \$915 of sweet clover. That was a lot of money. 1927 wasn't too good. 1928 a good crop was started but we were hailed out. In 1929 the crash came and prices went down to nothing. Kenneth had bought a John Deere tractor and plow, all in one deal and he paid and paid on it, he even sold a truck that he had used for hauling and paid on the tractor and he still lost the tractor and plow. I can't remember the original price of the unit. In 1930 we moved to a farm west of Dazey and lived there 14 years. 1931 was a dry year; Kenneth sold a small truckload of rye and got \$9.15 for it. Butter fat was down to 9¢ in 1932, that was worst Year for prices.

Market Prices
Wednesday July 23, 1930

Market Prices
Wednesday July 20, 1932

Dark Northern	69
No. 1 Northern	69
Durum	59
Amber Durum	62
Red Durum.	59
Flax	2.87
Barley .....	.23 to .28
Oats .....	.22
Rye .....	.36
Egg .....	.12
Creamery Butter .....	.36
Dairy Butter .....	.26
Butterfat.....	.31 to .34

Dark Northern	30
No. 1 Northern.....	30
Durum	26
Amber Durum	28
Red Durum.....	2:3
Flax	70
Barley	10 to 1.1

1932 was a good crop and no prices.

1933 was dry and still no prices.

1934 grain went to up \$1.00 a bushel but there was no grain it was so dry. Cows grazed over in hills. In 1935 we had lots of rain. Kenneth and landlord decided they weren't going by the farm program - they seeded 250 acres of Ceres wheat and it all rusted. The grain was so thick it came out of the binder as fast as arm could click it out. Pete Frahm was going to thresh it, they threshed a whole bundle load and got only a couple bushels, so that was the end of that, and then they didn't get the government payment either, which would have been about \$100, and \$100 was like a \$1000 then.

In 1936 we got seed wheat from Roy Becker, but no crop, didn't even take the binder out. But we milked cows and we got a little money from that. At least we could go to Wimbledon 8 miles west of us on Saturday night and we could go to the show for 10 or 20¢ and get a huge ice-cream cone for 5¢. In 1936 the cows ate around in sloughs and in the wheat fields. We put up Russian thistles with corn mixed in but cows wouldn't eat it. We had to sell some cows that year because we didn't have enough feed.

In 1937 Kenneth and I were haying and he said the oats and barley were ripe so we quit haying and cut the oats and barley and had it shocked. Right after that the grasshoppers moved in but ours was safe - seems like there was one plague after another. But in 1937 oats sold for 19¢ a bushel so we fed oats to cows to get them to produce more

In 1938 crops began to get better. One lady had said, "yes, we got a little money this year, if it would be like that every year!" In 1939 crops were not so bad, and we were milking 27 cows by hand - and turning the separator by hand.

1941 crop very good.

1942 crop was an awful good crop and a better price too.

In 1944 we moved to farm south of Cooperstown, cream was \$27.00 for a 10-gallon can by then. We got by with hard work and scrimping and savings - every penny counted. We had a large garden, canned all of our food. If you were lucky enough to own a car you had only one, not one for each member of the family. If you went any place you all went. Entertainment was to go to school events or to town on Wednesday or Saturday night. When you met friends and visited, you didn't go buy lunch all night

long. If you had beer, it would only be a glass for 10¢. We would have birthday parties, the women and children would come and bring something for lunch and each one would give you 10¢ - you might have \$1.50 and you would buy something. That's all we could afford but at least we had a party and we gave a gift.

We would go to Wimbledon for the Fourth of July -we'd pack a lunch and have a picnic. They had horse races and entertainment all day and everyone came to celebrate the Fourth. It was a great day.

Food wasn't so high; you could get a lot of groceries for a dollar. Kenneth went to town one day with a 10 gallon can and a 5 gallon can of cream and he got some over \$7.00 - a neighbor lady asked, "What did you do with all the money?" He bought coal, that was always first, a ton of lignite, a few dollars worth of groceries and then maybe we needed kerosene for the lamps.

They gave a black clock at the Farmers Store in Dazey; it was a premium for buying \$52.00 worth of groceries, accumulated of course.

I remember they would have sales in Valley City on all kinds of material at 7 ½ ¢ a yard but there wasn't money to buy it. But then in the summer, the cows had had calves and milked good so we could get a few things. I cleaned house and sent to Sears for two pairs of pink priscilla curtains at 74¢ a pair. I bought a buffet with curved glass doors for \$4.00 at an auction sale in 1936. I still have it. We didn't have so much but we kept up what we had.

In the winter we shut off the smaller living room and just lived in the big kitchen and dining room - the heater was in the dining room and we had a T-pipe stove that went up into two bedrooms and the chimney was half in each room - so we heated the two rooms that way and they were quite comfortable, unless it was too terribly cold.

In 1937 we bought a Chevy car and after that we went lots of places.

During this time we had lots of nice winters though and I used to think God made it that way, because it was a blessing that we didn't have that severe cold every winter. On Christmas Day, 1936 the cows were out over in the hills south of our farm.

We used to go to dances in Dazey, Ralph Bender and orchestra played - they charged 25¢ - a couple that is!

In 1937 Kenneth had heard that coal was cheaper in Wimbledon (he had always got coal in Dazey) so he decided to go there. He left in the morning after chores, he had a heavy bobsled and he had to break road all the way, he didn't get home till 11 at night but he did get the coal cheaper.

Sometime during the thirties we borrowed \$200 from a lending place in Valley City, each year we made a trip to Valley to pay on it, paid the interest and a little bit on the principal, \$40.00 a year. We paid that \$200 many times and it seemed like we'd never get it paid, but we did. Times were hard but we didn't mind it so much, and there wasn't so much to go to any way.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 107

The Storms

The day before Christmas 1935 our hired man Hank Legried went to Dazey with cream, to take packages to Ma's and to get some things. Marvin Hanson was at our place

to help Kenneth butcher. It was such a lovely day; Hank had shed his outer clothes in the bobsled and was going around Dazey in his shirtsleeves. It began snowing and before he got home a storm had developed. He got to our mailbox, six miles west of Dazey and started to the buildings, about ¼ mile. Twice he got to the gate and each time he turned the horses away (they could tell by the tracks the next day). Finally the sled got stuck in a deep slough area east of the buildings so he unhitched the horses and they brought him home, but he had to walk behind them by then, and they almost dragged him home, he was badly frozen by then on his hands, face and feet. We hurried and got hot coffee into him, and dry warm clothes on him and he came out of it all right. We were certainly glad to see him get home.

We had lots of cows milking in March of 1941. Frank Dwyer was working for us then and the fifteenth was a nice day so they hauled some straw and unloaded it before they came in to eat supper and then we went out to milk. I noticed the Jensen boys go by on the road to Dazey and pretty soon a storm came up. I thought of the Jensen boys, they hadn't got very far and they turned around and came back. The next morning their car was by our mailbox, stalled, it had got wet from the snow. They started to walk home and missed the road going south to their home; they came to a grove of trees and knew where they were, turned back and then found the right road and got home.

The storm came up so fast when we were in the barn; wind was so strong it really made a noise in the barn. Kenneth and I got back to the house and it was tough going up hill to the house; then we put a light in the window so Bud and Frank could get in. It was a relief when everyone was in the house.

In Dazey there was roller-skating on Saturday nite and the Tayler boys wanted to go. Their mother said there was a storm forecast so they said they would come home right away if it started to storm. Someone came to the hall and said it was storming, so unbeknown to anyone the four boys started home. As soon as it was discovered that they had left Ralph Bender and Beaumont Stowman and others went to search. They came upon the stalled car but the boys had started to walk. The men walked all night searching and by daylight they found them. The two youngest (twins) were in a hole in the snow - that the older boys had dug - one died, they found the other two dead in the fields. The storm was over, it was very cold and the death toll was very large.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 107

PRESENT DAY FARMING IN GRIGGS COUNTY

Although present day farming predates the founding of the city of Cooperstown, the city has been instrumental in the growth and development of family farms. Farm implements, repairs and services have always been provided at a high level not found in many towns of its size.

As in the past, the entire family shares in the farm workload but mechanization has eased the workload considerably. Many farms would not be able to sustain their size were it not for the help of family members.

Family living has been updated in many respects with many new homes having been built and all have been remodeled and enjoy all of the modern conveniences. Many farm homes are as elaborate as homes in town.

Huge quonset type buildings have replaced the big red barn as the main building outside of the family living quarters. Quonset type buildings house equipment, serve as a farm shop and store grain. Steel bins holding thousands of bushels of grain are found on most farms. Tall silos that make the feeding of all types of roughage possible send it automatically into self-feeders in feedlots holding hundreds of livestock. Milk from dairy herds flows in stainless steel pipe from the cows to storage and cooling tanks and to transport trucks without any manual labor.

Two-way radios summon the men for dinner, place orders for parts and monitor the movement of men and machines. Tillage equipment ranges in width to sixty feet and enables one man to till 200 to 300 acres in an average day's work. Plows being used are as large as eighteen bottoms and it is no longer necessary to stop to rehook the plow when a rock is struck by one of the bottoms. The introduction of the four-wheel drive tractor has provided the traction and horsepower needed. Recently, implements that seed and till in one unit have been introduced.

Large combines command a price tag of \$100,000 and it is not uncommon to find a single farm unit with an investment of a quarter million dollars in equipment alone.

Variable production costs range from \$40 to \$60 per acre with fixed costs adding an additional \$30 to \$40. With December wheat selling presently for about \$3.50 per bushel, 1981 was not a year of high profits for most farms. County wheat yields average around thirty bushels, barley around forty and sunflowers near 1200 pounds per acre.

Modern day equipment continues a trend towards farms of more tillable acres, more livestock and bigger dairy herds. Farms of three or four sections are as common today as three or four quarters have been in the past. Wheat and barley still command the largest planted acreage but other crops such as sunflowers, dry beans, corn and soybeans are increasing in percentages. Since the number of degree-days in Griggs County is borderline for these crops, the risk of these crops failing to mature before a killing frost is quite high. Harvesting of these crops that mature late can also be a problem. Nonetheless, greater gross returns on these crops has prompted many farmers to take the additional risks.

Over 4000 acres are presently being irrigated in the county from an underground aquifer that extends primarily on either side of the Bald Hill Creek. A favorable strata of water bearing sand exists below 100 feet allowing pumping rates of 1000 gallons per minute or more. Water is applied by lateral move or center pivot sprinkler systems. Alfalfa, corn and other livestock feeds are grown on most of the irrigated acres. Potatoes are also being raised and do well under irrigation. The lack of a local market, special equipment and the need for additional hired labor are some reasons for their limited expansion. The first lateral move irrigation system installed in North Dakota is located near Sutton.

One of the most significant aids in crop production of recent years is the use of chemicals and fertilizer. Although they increase production costs considerably, yields achieved today would not be possible without them. Chemical control of weeds in row crops has been especially helpful.

Farm children are receiving the same level of education as children living in town. They are picked up at their farm homes by school buses. Many farmers live in town and commute to their farms to do the work there.

Farming continues to be a life of many variables and a high degree of risk. Farmer's profits are affected by war in the Mideast or a conference on the economic development of third world countries. Yet the farmer has flourished and made great strides in increasing productivity and efficiency in food production. Many farmers find themselves with assets of a million dollars while generating the net cash flow of a blue-collar worker in other industries.

This million-dollar business has evolved from a society of high inflation and a steep rise in land prices, currently in the \$600 per acre range. This farmer retires late in life, lives very modestly and most of his life's earnings will be passed on to his children.

How does the present day farmer view the future? Despite an unpredictable future, most farmers would not exchange their way of life for any other. The farmer is dogmatic and accepts the ups and downs in stride.

National Geographic Magazine reports it has discovered a place where it hasn't rained for 400 years. It reported some of the farmers were getting disgusted. Well, Griggs County farmers may not have that kind of perseverance but they will give it a good try. They came to farm.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 108

In Their Own Words

PIONEER LETTERS OF MR. AND MRS. DUBOIS NEWELL

Cooperstown Dakota

March 7th/86

My dear brother and sister

with pleasure I take this opportunity of answering yours of the 2nd We are right glad to hear from you and to learn that you were well and so nigh ready to come back to the golden northwest I am not surprised at your wanting back, but I would shurly be greatly surprised at any one not wanting or eaven longing to get back to this beautiful country and healthful clime after once living here for a time times are good here and money pleanty. health is very good I know of no sickness in the wide territory we have had a nice winter here, only a little warm if any diferance we have had a good lot of snow this time, it is fast disappearing, and it looks lik spring was about here every body is a prophassing a early spring. and it does look that way now

I have 3 cars of wheat at duluth and will send 2 more this week I will hold it until the 20th if you think that wont be to long and will send you the money as soon as I get it or had I best deposit here at this bank and you check on it if I leave it the bank here I could telegraph you as soon as I sold and you could go on up there just as you say wheat went up one cent yesterday and I believe now that it will go up a few cents I do hope so at least I dont believe that you had best buy many more horses than what we need for our own use for from all accounts there will be lots of them shiped in this spring and the probability they will be low I have not sold non yet,

of course you will have to sell them horses you have there on time if you get any thing out of them I will haul yet this week if the roads dont give away You let me know as soon as you get this how you want the money, and if you can how mutch

You never told me if you got the money I sent you everything is all right here I have only 100 bu of seed wheat cleaned yet we don that in one half day I guess that after one more week I will quit hauling and get ready for seeding. try and get tolerable good horses so we can use them ware ever we want this leaves us all well hoping it may find you all the same

I guess you had best bring me a suit of cloths for every day use as I am nearly out of cloths and you had best fetch 100 yds of 5 cts calico for comforts, write and let me know all you want I will watch the mail

your Brother
Dubois Newell

Cooperstown Dakota

March 7-1886

Ever Dear Brother and Sister it is with pleasure that I write you in answer to your just received last night and was indeed glad to hear from you and to learn that you were well. But sorry to hear of Oscar being sick. Allie I do wish you was home again you dont

know how lonesome I get. Allie if you dont hurry and come home I will half to write all down on paper what I have to tell you or I will forget it Oh yes, Allie Ellen Parks is working at Barnards Well you want to know what we call the baby We call her Olive Lucretia she grows so fast and as fat as a little pig. Oh yes they say Bowden is married but dont know what bride's name is she is from Pennsylvania and one of the Hagen girls is married to a young artist of Cooperstown Mrs. Balkin's Father is very sick and I guess that is why she went home in such a hurry she was down a day or two before she went and she said she guessed would have to give up going home till next winter

we have quite a good deal of snow now but it is fast going away again. They have stopped Saloons at Cooperstown We got a letter from home the other day. they were all well

There is nobody here to go and see only Piatts and we were down there last Oh they have a galery at Cooperstown now Oh Allie do come home or else send Otie or Oscar back, so it wont be so lone some well we got a letter from Uncle Lewis and he had froze his face and ears untill the scars look like burns and he said it had only been 20 below Well are having nice weather here this winter It has been warm enough to thaw some days. Yesterday it was warm enough and we washed all the windows all off.

Crane is married too, he is in Florida he married a Miss Fitch of N.Y. The next we hear of getting married will be Ellen Park dont you think Well I will half to close my foolishness by asking you to write soon I close as ever your sister Jennie Newell

Alley bring some machine needles This leaves us all well and hope you are all well and hope Oscar is well, kiss the children for me and big kiss for your self

Cooperstown D.T.
March 14th 86

my dear Brother & Sister

Yours with Chicago letter in at hand was glad to hear from you I will send up to duluth to morrow and have four cars of wheat sold and send you a draft for \$1200. dollars as soon as I get returns. it will be four or five days probly, I have waited now so long as I durst wheat is only 68 cts here now, I am verry shure that wheat is on the eave of a strong advance in value but we cannot wait longer, I do believe this is as mutch money as we had aught to put in horses this time do the best you can with it, and you want to watch your self up in the city you will find lots of confidence men up thare, stop at first class bording houses try and get all mares if you can they will sell best here

There was two car loads of horses came in last night and I hear of three or four more to come I dont know how the market will hold out here for horses they are starting them high There is a great demand for mares

You will pleas watch the mail and when you get draft let me know, and you must hustle around so fast as possable when you get it in order to get here so soon as possible for seeding time is close at hand. you will write me when you start horses and when you start so that I can be on the look out

I and C.C. did not traid tom was on the lift this morning again I fear we dont get anything out of him we are getting along all right will haul three loads of wheat yet and then I will quit and make ready for seeding I will get everything in shape dont worry

it is just cool enough here to hold the snow and that is all. it thaws some through the middle of the day and cool at night sleading is tolerable good yet. tell me when you start horses how many thare are so that I can make room for them tell me how many men if any you will bring up and will work for us so that I can make arrangements for ballance here, if you bring me suit get Pants 34 waist 31 length coat 40 in Just something that will do to knock around with if this should not be enough money you let me know either by telegraph or leter I will watch the mail and wiers trusting that you will meet with good sucksess and have safe and pleasent trip I close

This leaves us all well hoping it may find you the same

Your Brother
Dubois Newell

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 111

COOPERSTOWN GRIGGS COUNTY DAKOTA MAY 1st, 1888

TO ALL PERSONS TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN hereby know that Wesley W. Newell and Dubois Newell of above said County by common consent do hereby agree to close their heretofore partnership business and hereby declare it a close

Dubois Newell
Wesley W. Newell

Application For A Loan The W.B. Clark Investment Company Minneapolis Minnesota

The southeast quarter (SE 1/4) Sec 2 Town 145 Range 58 and contains 160 acres

Full name - *Dubois Newell*

Age - *45 years old*

Occupation and place of business - *Living upon and farming Section 11 Township 145 Range 58 and also farming upon this land*

Married - *Yes*

Full name of wife - *Jennie Newell*

Character and quality of soil - *Black loam about 2 ft deep a clay subsoil*

Is it homestead, pre-emption or deeded land - *as deeded land*

Never on other land claimed title or proved up under Preemption or Homestead - *No*
Sir

How many acres of land can be profitably cultivated - *All of it*

Number of acres now under the plow - *About One hundred and twenty acres*

Acres in crop last year - *One hundred and twenty acres.*

In pasture and meadow - *About 5 acres (of plank and rail fence) (pasture for hogs) and about 30 acres of meadow*

Will break and crop next season - *About Sixty acres*

What amount of the following articles was produced on the premises for the year 1888

Wheat - *no* - bushels,
Oats - (*120 acres*) 3600 bushels,
Corn - *no* - bushels
Barley - *no* - bushels
Hay - *23* - tons cut

How many head of stock do you now own? *Horses - 11 -Young Cattle - 10 -; Cows - 6 -; Colts - 2 -; Hogs - 12 1 Oxen - 2 -.*

How far from the county seat - *about seven miles*

Acres in timber - *No timber*

Acres fenced - *Six acres of good fence. 5 acres for hog pasture and 1 acre for hay*

Any Stony Land - *There is no stones on this land*

Any waste land - *No there is not*

How Watered - *By two wells 18 and 28 ft respectively one curbed with stones and the other curbed with lumber*

What farm machinery have you - *3 binders, one mower, 1 hay rake, 4 farm wagons, 1 buggy, 6 harrows, 1 bob sleigh, 4 sulky plows and 2 gang plows, 2 seeders*

What is the value of your personal property - *About four thousand dollars*

Encumbrance on - *About two hundred dollars*

BUILDINGS - When built, their size, and for what purpose they are now used - *One Log Dwelling House 18 x 14 ft. shingled roof and has a brick chimney built in 1883. One addition to said house 10 x 18 ft. material lumber built in 1885 and has a shingle roof. One lumber barn 14 x 40 ft. and one lumber granary addition built to the barn 10 x 20ft. same barn and granary.*

CASH VALUE of said Real Estate	\$1800.00
Without buildings	
CASH VALUE of the Buildings	\$ 600.00
Total	\$2400.00

Distance to the nearest town - *About 7 miles*

Name and size of the town - *Cooperstown Griggs Co D. T about 500 inhabitants*

Name and distance to the nearest Railroad - *The same N.P. rr.*

And Station - *The same*

How long have you lived on this property - *My brother has been living there from spring of 1883 to June of 1888*

Did you buy or enter it - *I bought it from my brother this last summer.*

When did you establish your residence there - *My family and I are living on the adjoining Section being about ten rods to my living house from this land.*

When did you make your filing - *My brother filed on it and I do not know the date.*

When did you make final proof - *My brother made final proof on this land in Dec 1887.*

What number of days in the aggregate have you been absent from your claim and for purposes - *My brothers residence was continuous on this land from spring of 1883 until he made final commutation H E proof.*

Has patent been issued - *No. Receivers Receipt has been issued.*

If rented, to whom - *No it is not rented to anybody. I am working this land myself.*

What rent -

Insurance - *There is no insurance on this building at the present time*

Will insure as directed by and for benefit of Mortgages, his heirs and assigns - *Yes for \$400*

Applicant's P.O. address - *Dubois Newell Cooperstown Griggs County D. T*

Has applicant's title or possession to said land ever been questioned, or any contest begun - *No Sir*

Is surrounding country well settled and improved -- *Yes, it is the best settled neighborhood there is in the county*

Other real estate of applicant - *All of Section 11 Township 145 Range 58 being the Section adjoining this land.*

Where - *Sec 11 Township 145 Range 58*

Its value – *About Seven thousand Dollars*

When loan to be used? - *At once*

For what purpose - *To pay my debt and running expenses*

Have you applied for a loan upon said premises within the past six months, and if so, for what amount - *Yes for \$650.00*

To what company, firm or individual did you make such application, and when? - *The Middelsex Banking Company St. Paul Minnesota*

Was your application accepted, and if so, for what amount – *I never had an answer yet and do not propose to wait any longer for it.*

Have you made any permanent improvements upon said premises since you made the above application and if so, what? - *No I have not.*

Is it your intention in good faith to farm the above-described premises during the existence of this loan? - *Yes it is my intention to farm this land and also See 11 Township 145 Range 58*

My last P.O. address before removing to Griggs D.T. was - *White Heath P.O. Piatt Co Ills. Lived there - for about 35 years. Was born there*

I do solemnly swear that I have made the above answers, representations and estimates of value for the purpose of obtaining said loan of money, and that they are true and correct

Dubois Newell

Sworn to and subscribed before me the - eighth - day of

January of 1889 and I hereby certify that affiant was by me made acquainted with the contents of this application before swearing

*John O Oie - Notary Public
Griggs County
D. T*

*Thore S. Serumgard
John J. Strand*

Statement of Agent

I hereby certify that on the 5th day of January of 1889 I made a careful personal examination of the farm offered as security for the loan applied for in the within application and I believe the statement herein made is correct; that I have known this applicant for 5 years last past to be a man of good character and good credit, he is a carefull and industrious man, who meets his obligations promptly, and his farm shows good management and is one of the best farms in this county and I believe it to be good security for farm loan applied for. John O Oie agent

The W.B. Clark Investment Company Minneapolis Minn Application of

Dubois Newell P.O. address Cooperstown D. T. for \$600 for five years

Interest - ten - percent, semi-annually

Number of acres – One hundred and sixty

Appraised value \$2400.00

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 112

PRAIRIE FIRE

In the early years, prairie fires were common. The Cooperstown *Courier* of September 25, 1885, tells about one of them:

The most destructive prairie fire in the history of the county, raged Monday afternoon west of town. The strong wind carried the flames in sheets over firebreak and stubble. All ordinary precautions failed. When the break was too wide to be leaped the blazing tumbleweed carried the seed of destruction. (Losses follow:)

Alexander Nicoll on Section 6-145-61 loses his barn, wagon and four pigs.

James Gimblett, 40 acres of wheat and a wagon.

Frank Brown had his new separator destroyed at A.B. Richardson's. The horses attached to it, belonging to Henry Guillickson, got panicky and perished in the blaze of the straw pile. Richardson lost about 150 bushels of grain.

Charles Gartman lost 400 bushels of grain, and was badly burned on head and hands.

F. Lucht on Section 10-146-80 loses 4 stacks of wheat.

John McDonald loses 40 acres of No. 1 Hard.

Albert Lindsey is minus a horse and 40 acres of grain.

William Murdock is houseless, and lost 90 acres of wheat.

The Grant Brothers lost 75 acres.

Eathan Siften has his engine badly damaged, the woodwork burning off, while two wagons, one belonging to Heatherington, and one to J.H. Montgomery were destroyed. In the language of Lon Sickelsteel, they were caught up in a sheet of flame, traveling a mile a minute.

Maynard Crane, the lumberman, lost his new house and 900 bushels of wheat, a total loss to him of about \$1,100.

J.H. VanVoorhis lost 7 acres of oats.

John Mills, near Bald Hill Creek, is one of the greatest losers. He loses 1,700 bushels of wheat, granary, and barn.

Ed Hanson, Section 16-145-59, lost 1,000 bushels of grain, and granary; insurance \$500.

Ed Michaelis has been laughed at for his big firebreaks; but just the same he was cleaned out - 1,500 bushels of grain, 25 tons of hay, and stable. He says the flames leaped 150 feet.

George McCulloch lost his claim shanty, and one setting of four wheat stacks.

Carl Carlson lost one setting of wheat.

Dr. McGuire lost 20 acres.

James Walker, Section 4-145-59, loses 30 acres of wheat, and house.

Pen Picture Of The Fire

"It was noon when I first saw the smoke in the west. It had been hazy all day, like Indian summer, and very hot and dry, with a parching west wind. The wheat shocks, not half a mile away, looked like great stacks in the distance. A long slough west of my place must have stopped the fire, for an hour passed before the prairie chicks and small birds commenced to fly over, and an occasional jackrabbit and antelope came by. Then the smoke rolled in, in great light clouds, with the blaze behind, running in sheets close to the ground. I thought my stacks on the stubble, and my house with a firebreak, were safe; but the fire crinkled to the edge of the stubble, and in an instant leaped over, and my whole field was on fire. I had time only to cut the halters of my horses and rush for the north slough. The horses plunged in and I followed them to the east side. An hour's work the night before would have saved everything, and now the fire had everything."

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 113

THOSE BLAME COYOTES FOLLOWED ME HOME

My dad, Theodore Nierenberg and his brothers Ed and Oscar came here from Parkers Prairie, Minn. The farmland was good there but grasshoppers were very bad; they decided to come to N.D. to work. They worked for Coopers; as many pioneers did when they first came to this territory.

Theodore Nierenberg worked for R.C. Cooper for seven years. He sowed and harvested grain right where Cooperstown stands. The only thing in Cooperstown at that time was the office of Bill Glass, a lawyer, and a small warehouse that belonged to Cooper, where people could get supplies. My Dad was barn boss and took care of cattle. In the winter he lived in a small shack by Lake Five with my uncle Bill Ashby; almost

every morning they would have to shovel a trench for the 450 Black Angus cattle to get through to water.

The way to acquire land was to homestead (live on a quarter of land), by tree claims, (plant trees on one quarter) or by the right of pre-emption. According to early recollections it didn't make any difference to Cooper if he owned the land he farmed or not. If there was land that had not been claimed he could move in with his outfits and break it up and sow it. Cooper had one quarter broke up and a dandy wheat crop on it - one fellow came into the area to homestead so he found out that quarter was open - he decided that was where he was going to homestead so he went into town to Bill Glass to file papers on it. Bill Glass and Cooper were buddies so Bill Glass went to Cooper and told him, but he said the papers hadn't got to Sanborn yet. Cooper got his driving team hooked up and he headed for Sanborn, the head office was there. He beat the train, so he filed the land in the name of one of his hired men; that way as soon as it was proved up he could purchase it from the hired man!

Cooper put up a shooting gallery for his men, he'd give them 25 shots for 25¢ - There were six candles set up, they had to shoot the wick to put it out, they got \$1.00 back if they shot out the six candles. At first Cooper was making good money at that but then the boys got to be good shots and then they just shot for fun.

Cooper and his brother had been mining in Colorado before they came here. Cooper sold his share of the mine to his brother and then he stayed here and farmed. Mules were shipped in for labor, some from the mining outfit. The old well at the Cooper ranch is filled with nothing but mule shoes, the mules had to be shod often. Cooper's office was right across the road from the Cooper ranch.

My dad bought homestead rights from Ashby, and eventually built the house that is now on the farm. I was born right here on this place and have resided here all my life.

I wasn't too good a boy at school although it wasn't really my fault, there were some big boys at school and me and James (Hazard) were small, and the teacher would let the big boys drag us around by our feet in the school; which really wasn't right. One day I came to school and I couldn't get in, the big boys had locked the door so I just went and sat behind a shock all day! I didn't care so much for school, but I finished the eighth grade and then I quit school and helped Pa on the farm. I drove horses when I was quite small. When Pa started farming his stepfather gave him a team of two-year-old colts. I used to drive the smoothing harrow with that team.

Indians used to come across our land to go to Devils Lake; they called it the old Fort Totten Trail. Farmers didn't care if they made a trail across their land. Pa was out drilling one time with a mare that had a colt; the Indians came along and the colt followed. They tried to chase the colt back for about half a mile, finally they had to turn around and bring it back.

Another time, the Indians came through, they had a new surrey and a black team, the harness and surrey were all tied with red cloth to show. A little Indian girl fell out of the surrey and hurt her arm. They drove up to our house for help. My stepmother was quite a doctor, she wanted them to take the girl to town to a Dr. Kerr who was there then but no they didn't believe in Doctors. They wanted her to do something so she got two strips of birch bark and cotton and she set the arm. After that the Indians brought us all kinds of

gifts, but I have nothing left. They did make my stepmother a pair of buckskin moccasins but they didn't fit her so she gave them away.

Me and Jim Hazard were always together. Once when I was about 12 years old I had been at James' and got home later than I was s'pose too, so I got the dickens, but I went after the cows which was my job. I was riding a little two-year old mare, and as we were going across to get the cows here there were two coyotes, then more coyotes all over. The mare got scared and threw me and started for home. I was so frightened, but by golly, she came back up to me, and I got back on her back and hit for home. Those blame coyotes followed me home.

A couple coyotes once chased me on the bicycle too but I figured that was because I had dogs with me and they were afraid the dogs would get their young.

Now here's a story you won't hardly believe. In early days a land company owned most of the land across the road, they owned land all over here. Wells and Dickey was the name. On one piece of land a fellow broke up about 40 acres, next year he didn't put it into crop and it grew up to weeds and grass. So Dickey came to my Pa and asked him "what will you take to work that up and put it into flax." My Dad told him that it would take an awful lot of work, Dickey said if it goes over 25 bushels you give us one fourth of it, so Dad took him up on it. And they worked it and put it into flax. I ran a brand new seven-foot binder and a hired man ran a six-foot. Just as soon as you hit the flax the bull wheel would catch the sod and cogs would slip, we couldn't do a thing. Pa went to town and got a new reaper (a reaper had a round platform and you sat down on one spot and it had three long arms, they went around and would catch the flax and pull it in the frame and when you came to the windrow the operator would step on a pedal and that would lock one arm and scrape the flax out. That worked good.) The machinery wasn't too good so when we kept working the soil it still lift chunks of sod and that's why the binder wheel couldn't go over it, but the reaper was a different story, it had only one large wheel and it was heavier too. We took six horses out with the reaper, first half day we didn't have too good success, there was so much juice in the flax straw it caused a gum to form on the sickle, after dinner we went out with a barrel of salt water and a broom, we'd make two rounds and we'd wash the sickle off. That way we got the flax cut, but it was worth it as the flax went a good 30 bushels to the acre.

One morning in March here come a Poland China sow with six little pigs in the yard - we advertised in the paper but nobody claimed her. A while later Jim Hazard and me were riding by the two big straw piles - we saw a big hole in one of the piles, course we had to investigate, so we went home and got a flash light and right in the middle of that straw pile was the place where that sow had had her pigs and raised them.

We used to have house parties - good times we'd have - the old folks and the young folks went together. There was a fellow who stayed at Fred Williams, he could really play the violin and I could call square dances. Now days if there's a dance in Cooperstown and one in McVile the Cooper kids go to McVile and more than likely the McVile kids come here, you never see the old folks go along with the young folks. One time Florence and Carl Urness had a house party, some people met at our place, we took two sleigh loads from our place alone. Later on people had barn dances.

We played baseball - each Township had a team, we had a team that beat Cooperstown - Paulson was coach of Cooperstown and he was so angry he went and

hired three of our players away from us. Ole Lura was our Treasurer, Aug. Perchert, Al Perchert was catcher, Manley Opheim, Bob Perchert was pitcher. Any way, that was the end of our team. Well, the Cooperstown team went to play at Hannaford; Rob had them shut out in the seventh inning. There was a fellow who worked for Paulson who came in on the train to Hannaford, so they put a suit on him and Hannaford turned around and beat Cooperstown 7 to 3. Made Rob so mad he quit. After that he wouldn't play ball. Most of the towns and townships had a team so in the summer we played ball and in the winter we went to dances and played whist.

In the 1920's I had the livery - I drove Dr. Almklov and he told me when I started that we's have to go no matter what the weather was - I would wear out a team in the winter.

One stormy night Mrs. Skei (mid-wife) called me to take her out to a farm east of town. The farmer said he would put a light in the very peak of his house and I put a light atop my rig - we started out and got as far as Pfeifer's farm - I decided to take off across country toward a light - we drove until we got to a fence - I was getting ready to cut the fence when we saw a light coming - the farmer was coming to meet us, we remained at his farm all night, the fee was usually \$5.00 but the farmer gave me \$25.00.

One time a fellow named Brownfield brought in two loads of broncos, some big, most little, there was lots of fun in Cooperstown then. He hired some of us to break them at \$5.00 apiece; if they had been ridden he could sell them quicker. Well, Edward Tromsness, Carl Nierenberg and me decided to do that too. One day Carl and Edward were out riding and Sam Langford came in; he had his eye on a little bay. Sam wanted to buy it but he wanted it rode first, so they asked me to ride it, well the other two guys had the breaking saddles - We went to the playground (where Johnson Store is now) it was all banked up with snow. So I got on her back, she made a few jumps and stopped; wouldn't go any farther. Well Buzz Painter came along with the dray team, a pair of grey mules that Killeran owned, he carried a mule skinner's whip so he gave me that, and I gave her a crack, she made five or six good jumps and throwed me saddle and all, right up against the basement of a building. I wasn't hurt too much. When the other boys came back I got the breaking saddle and rode her a mile or so. Sam bought her and in the spring she had a colt. Sam turned her out with the colt and she was around the place eating, all at once she turned up missing. About 11/2 months later Brownfield wrote to Sam that she was out at Belfield with her colt and he should come and get her.

-Frank Nierenberg (interview)

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 114

"OUT OF MY HEAD"

Grandma Boisjolie

Reflecting upon my childhood, I have come to the conclusion that the pioneer character of my father's family explains his mobility and his attempt to farm on the hostile Plains. His people were French Canadian in origin and while knowledge of their background is limited, we do know that Grandma - Rosalie Houd - had come as a girl of seven from Montreal to Kankakee, Illinois, in an ox-drawn covered wagon, and had experienced Indian attacks. Grandma's branch of the family disliked the flat Illinois prairie land and continued north before the Chicago fire to Belle Prairie, Minnesota, a French settlement near Little Falls, where Grandma met and married Joseph Boisjolie.

Grandma Boisjolie was a unique personality - tough, resourceful, and amusing. She smoked a corncob pipe from the time she was eighteen, but was completely scandalized when women started to smoke cigarettes in the twenties. When challenged about her double standard, she simply replied, "But that's different." She was fearless, and raised five highly individualistic sons; my father, the fourth, was born in 1869. Although Grandma was illiterate, as was my father, she loved to play cards and could calculate very quickly. She never did master cribbage, however, and described the "15-2, 15-4" counting system in some of her choicest expletives. Grandma had a reputation for swearing in her own patois of French and English; my husband's brothers still amuse my children and grandchildren by telling how, as youngsters, they hid behind trees and threw stones in the vicinity of Grandma's cane pole as she fished from the bank near her small cottage on the Mississippi River at the foot of the dam in Little Falls. The motive behind this mischief was to hear Grandma swear because she could "cuss better than anyone in town." Grandma died in 1934 at the age of ninety-two. She had danced a jig at my wedding and was "modern" in many ways. She loved the automobile, colored her hair, and smoked in bed, but she refused to believe that one day men "would fly in contraptions in the air." One of the few times she was forced to admit she was wrong was when one of the home town boys, Charles A. Lindbergh, Jr., proved her so in 1927.

Seasons and Survival

My father came to North Dakota around the turn of the century during the period historians call the second "Dakota Boom", a period reflecting the national trends of prosperity, railroad expansion, and eastern European immigration, all of which assisted the expanding and demanding market for wheat. Three times in the early part of the century my father went farther west, and once moved the family to Montana, Idaho, and Washington. While I remember living in those places, my earliest recollections were of our life on the farm around Ayr, North Dakota, near my birthplace of Tower City.

Among my sharpest memories of the northern Plains is the severity of the winters. The winter season was long and cold, and blinding blizzards were periodically expected. In the fall my father would string a line from the house to the barn so that he and my brothers could find their way to feed the stock. One time the blizzard was so fierce that they could not get out of the house; the stock went without food and water for three days. After a blizzard, paths had to be shoveled to the watering troughs where the ice was chopped and water pumped in. Of course, the water would freeze again so the process was laboriously repeated. Many winter days were bright and sunny but crisp and cold. I remember temperatures between thirty-five and forty below zero, but we still went out to play and still went to school. We also hung clothes out to dry in the winter even though they sometimes froze before we got them out of the basket. Usually we left them out overnight and would bring them in stiff the next morning and hang them on a clothes rack next to the heater to thaw. How I loved the good fresh smell they had, quite a difference from today's dryers.

We looked forward to summer, although hot spells with temperatures in the nineties and hundreds were distressing because of the lack of shade. Spring was our nicest season; we enjoyed picking prairie flowers and joyously awaited the abundance of prairie chickens in the summer. Fall was the season for a variety of wild game. It was not unusual for us to roast a dozen or more wild ducks stuffed with Ma's delicious bread dressing. Duck season meant work for me, however, as I was delegated the job of

helping my maternal grandmother, who lived with us for a time, pick the feathers. What wonderful pillows and ticks they made! Unfortunately the settlers' indiscriminate use of the wild game has led to the near extinction of some species, particularly the succulent prairie chicken.

As a farm family we usually had an abundance of food, although not always a variety. We had fresh meat when we butchered, and that generally meant pork rather than beef until the later years. A staple was salt pork which was a basic ingredient for many of the French foods my father demanded. In those days no one ever heard of cholesterol, and when I think of my father's diet which was excessive in fat meat, eggs, and sweets, I naturally am skeptical about current nutrition warnings. My father lived to be ninety-three, and every morning of his solid-food life he ate three or four large French pancakes - thin crepes made with a generous number of eggs, fried in lard, and served with maple syrup. Pa usually ate the first pancake plain and sometimes substituted brown sugar and honey for syrup on the others. My mother, who was of Polish descent and who married at sixteen, simply had to learn to make the French dishes. She never complained about making breakfast because she said she always knew what to prepare. In her sixty-five years of married life, she literally wore out metal mixing spoons which became thin and knife-sharp, and I vividly remember the day she put a hole in her cast iron skillet from the turning of the pancakes. When in 1962 my parents moved into a home for the aged, the pancakes were no longer available. This fact, along with the safety rule which prohibited the old men from lighting their own pipes, were, I am convinced, the reasons for my father's "premature" death a few months later. The futility of a day without "panacakes", as he called them, and the humility of a woman lighting his pipe were simply too much for his male ego. But I do attribute his longevity to his excellent eating habits, if not the nature of his diet. He insisted upon his three meals a day at 7 a.m., 12 noon, and 5 p.m. He never snacked between meals and he never overate. Furthermore, he walked daily until his nineties; in North Dakota he frequently walked to town and back, a roundtrip distance of eighteen miles. He was never overweight, but consumed ample supplies of alcohol and tobacco, contending that if he could not enjoy the things he liked, he would be better off dead anyway.

Returning to the subject of food on the farm, I remember that our table was replete with dairy products, home-baked cakes, pies, cookies, doughnuts, and bread. Fish was rare except in later years when the folks would go by car on fishing trips to Minnesota and preserve their catches by salting them in crocks. I remember my introduction to certain "new" foods on the prairie such as soda crackers packaged in wooden crates, jello, and bananas. When the latter two were combined I thought that was the creme de la creme of desserts. Because bananas had to be "rationed" among us five children, we were led to believe that eating more than one a day would surely kill us. Fresh fruit and vegetables were rare except in growing season. Apples were available in the fall and oranges and nuts were anticipated for Christmas. My father learned to eat celery in 1918 when he took my mother to Rochester, Minnesota, for gall bladder surgery. After Ma recovered, she was expected to raise celery, but she did so with only minimal success.

Work and Play

There was plenty of work for everyone. As soon as I was able, I had to milk cows and feed chickens. Some of my special chores included turning the separator and churning butter. I very much disliked the latter job. I had to work in the cellar with a belly churn.

I was always glad when I heard the butter go PLOP. Another distasteful job was cleaning the chimneys of kerosene lamps.

My older sister worked out a great deal, and in the fall she worked a cook car for threshers. This involved preparing meals for twenty-five to thirty men. Great quantities of cooking were done. It was not unusual to rise at four in the morning to begin the day's work which might include the baking of a dozen pies. I was "flunky", helping my sister with such unglamorous tasks as washing dishes, setting the table, and peeling potatoes. Threshing was an interesting time because many strange men came into town to "earn a stake". On rainy days they played poker in the haymow. Some lost all they made. I liked this time of year in spite of the work, - it was always fun to climb the strawpiles.

Another important time on the farm was butchering. Each of us has a task to perform. Ma cut up all the meat. I had to cut the lard for rendering. We used every part of the pig, and thus had "treats" like head cheese and blood sausage. I didn't care much for the cheese, but did like the sausage, and willingly performed the duty of catching the blood and stirring it so it wouldn't get too thick.

Secondly, despite time-consuming and backbreaking tasks like hauling water from the well, activated by a windmill, and washing clothes on a washboard, we seemed to find time for amusement. In the summer I rode my horse Bluebell, my prized possession, and froliced with Puppy, my fiesty dog. Puppy got into enough mischief to create needed excitement. Once he tangled with a wolf which Pa had to shoot from the stonepile. Another time the dog confronted a badger which I helped him kill with the aid of a big stick. He chased cows and horses, and when he disappeared after getting kicked in the head by a horse, we gave him up for dead. But one day about two weeks later he reappeared from under the porch and went back to chasing the stock. He could take care of himself in any situation, including blizzards when he would simply "dig in" the snow and stay there until the sun came out. Puppy helped with my favorite summer pastime of snaring gophers. I would set a snare around a hole, whistle, and when the gopher popped up, Puppy would strike. Pa paid me a penny a tail for my trophies. I averaged about twenty gophers on a good day.

One day was not so good. Pa was seeding wheat with a drill and four horses. He left them for a moment to help me, and the horses took off, breaking the equipment and injuring themselves on the barbed wire fence. I played with all the farm animals except the pigs, and spent much time with the kittens, especially the "bob-tailed" litter that my devilish brothers had so fashioned when they were first born. I even agreed to my sister's job of feeding the bull when we were home alone. She was afraid of all the animals including the lizards in the cellar, so I was the one sent down to get the potatoes.

Given my father's illiteracy and my mother's fourth grade education, books and newspapers were not priority items in our home. But we spent endless hours poring over the one book that was always there - the Sears catalogue. My favorite pastime was making up orders which of course were never sent. What opportunities for the imagination the catalogue provided!

Much of the family leisure time was spent playing cards at neighboring farms, distance and temperature notwithstanding. Whist was the most popular card game. Card playing often went on until three or four in the morning, with a break for midnight lunch. Small, sleeping children were bundled up and carried out to the sleigh, sometimes in

thirty-below-zero temperatures. When we visited near-by farms (two or three miles away) we would take a lantern and walk. One time we all fell on the lee at the moment of my father's warning to "watch our step". Dancing was another popular "neighborhood" activity in any season of the year. Barn dances were common, and I remember when we had one to initiate our new barn. In addition to square dances, we also did the fox trot, polka, and waltz. All families and all ages participated. The music was generally an organ and/or fiddle. My cousins were talented on both these instruments. Occasionally someone had an accordion, but alas, Lawrence Welk was in another part of the state! In homes where there was a piano we would gather around it and sing. As we got older we kids would stay overnight with our friends and play guessing games until the wee hours of the morning.

For all our remoteness, we had much company. Seldom were invitations issued; people just came. We always had company for dinner on Sunday - uninvited, of course - which meant that my mother did vast amounts of cooking, seven days a week. My father never wanted to eat elsewhere for Sunday dinner because he thought no one could cook as well as Ma. This should have been a compliment for my mother, but how she would have enjoyed a Sunday as a guest! Our place was an especially popular one to visit after my mother served French pancakes for midnight lunch on one card-playing occasion. When in 1917 we got an Edison phonograph with cylinder records, the company increased even more.

Religion

At this point in my life we were living near Binford, North Dakota, in Griggs County where my father finally did settle after several abortive attempts to farm or ranch out West. We lived on one farm, and then moved to another which had an exceptionally nice two-story house, and then moved back to the first farm and its cramped quarters and treeless expanse. Today all that stands there is the windmill surrounded by acres and acres of golden wheat with heads of a size and quality far superior to anything we ever raised.

Our acceptance into the "society" of this hinterland is interesting because we were truly a minority. We were a French Catholic family with a funny name among Norwegian and German Lutherans, and as such were very much a novelty and viewed at first with a great deal of suspicion. No doubt it was the natural neighborliness in an environment that craved companionship and my mother's cooking which accounted for our acceptance. We were included in the Lutheran Ladies' Aid gatherings which I always enjoyed because of the games such as "The Needle's Eye", "A Pig in the Parlor", and "Skip to My Lou" - and those wonderful lunches. My mother made a hit with her Sunshine Layer Cake which she made "out of my head" - she never used a recipe - and which to this day is a favorite birthday request in our family.

The absence of Catholic churches in most towns or their mission status in others, the difficulty of traveling on poor roads, and my father's indifference to churchgoing (although he was proud that his parents were part of the group which founded the Belle Prairie church in 1880 with the famous pioneer Father Pierz as first pastor), make me wonder how we ever got any religious instruction at all. But my Polish mother was devout and determined, and somehow managed to make sure we were all introduced to the sacraments. I never will forget my first Communion in Wimbledon, North Dakota,

thirty miles from where we lived. We marched to the altar with lighted candles. I was last in the procession, probably because I was older and taller than the others. My partner was sick, and when she weaved around the turn, her candle caught my hair and veil. Everyone in the church rose in panic, but the bishop waved them back and calmly tore the veil from my head and beat out the flames.

Schools

My education consisted of eight grades in a one-room school. School was at least three miles away and we walked - rain or shine, cold or snow. On exceptionally cold winter days we were allowed to take our team, Belle and Tulip, and a covered sled, with just one window for the driver. When it was stormy we depended on the horses to get us home and they always did. In later years the school district provided a larger covered rig which picked up all the children attending the school. The floor of the cab was covered with straw for warmth, and in the center stood a small oil burner. One day the rig tipped over in a snow bank; the straw caught fire and I got my muff singed. These cutters were the forerunners of the school bus; later in North Dakota the horse-bus, on wheels in spring and fall, was as familiar a sight as the yellow school bus is today, although the horse-drawn rigs would never pass a safety inspection.

There were never many children in a rural school. My school "souvenir" from 1916 lists twenty, and four were from my own family. Six families were represented in the other sixteen. Some times a grade was vacant or had just one child in it. The curriculum centered around basic skills, especially the three R's and geography. Music was the only enrichment" subject. The rural schools in North Dakota during this period were rated as very inferior in quality of education. However, my daughter who is a high school teacher claims that I write, spell, and punctuate better than many of her students from highly advantaged suburban schools. We probably had fewer distractions, though, and we were reared with the attitude that getting into trouble at school meant double trouble at home. Like all kids, we looked forward to recess, but our favorite games of "Pump, Pump Pullaway" and "Chickens and Geese" would appear quite tame and laughable to today's youth.

The teachers were usually young, single women with little or no college education. One year my teacher was a young man, Arthur K. Olson. Teacher turnover was frequent, probably because the salary was pitiful and there was little opportunity for social life. The school did serve as a center, however, for a number of rural social events, such as the popular basket socials which were held in the schoolhouse. One time my cousin and I had a double basket, and had to eat with the two old bachelors who got it - which had not been our strategy, but we were expected to play by the rules, and we did.

The school Christmas play or program was a major event. One year I sang a solo, "Sweet and Low". That was not exactly a Christmas song, but I remember the warm ovation I got. The closest we came to any kind of "pre-school" was when very young children participated in school programs. When I was three I sang "Jesus Wants Me for a Sunbeam" and recited "Little Miss Muffet" at a school program. I don't remember that ovation but was told the audience applauded with gusto.

School provided other learning experiences also. When we lived on the second farm with the nice house, we went to school in town. There I remember trying on another girl's hat and coming home with head lice. Because I had very thick hair, the

extermination process was difficult. My mother rubbed my head with kerosene to get the nits out. Shampooing hair was a problem under normal conditions because water had to be hauled for all the stages. We used Fels Naptha soap for our shampoos.

Clothes

We had few clothes in those days so any one who had anything different - such as that infamous hat - was a novelty. Most of the time we had one outfit for everyday and one for Sunday. In winter we wore long underwear, long black stockings, and high button shoes. It was a nuisance to get all of those layers on neatly. My mother made most of our clothing, and her burden was lightened a bit when she ordered a sewing machine in 1917 from Straus and Schram on Stony Island in Chicago. The machine arrived by freight. What a big day that was! We couldn't imagine anything coming from such a distance. The first thing Ma sewed on the marvel was fly nets for the horses!

A real treat was going to town to shop for dress material. We ached to order ready-made clothing from the Sears Catalogue, but my father was reluctant to let us do this. "What if it doesn't fit!" he would ask. It never occurred to us that we might send items back for exchange. I was permitted to order shoes from the catalogue for my eighth grade graduation. They were beautiful but too short. I would not admit this, however, so suffered the life of the shoes and retain a bunion in their memory to this day.

Supplies

Going to town was a major event. With a horse and buggy it was a day's outing, and such trips were occasionally made to buy staples - flour, sugar and salt. The special treat was a bag of jellybeans. And there was the momentous occasion of driving to Fargo after we got our Ford. I could not imagine a grander city in all the world than Fargo, and at night the patterns of flickering lights were the ultimate distinction of our prairie world. (Recently while in North Dakota, I reacted with comparable enthusiasm to the splendor of a display of Northern Lights, a common but unheeded occurrence in my childhood.)

Most of our introduction to the sophistications of the outside world, however, came from the latest selections in the wagon of the itinerant peddler Charlie who appeared every year with the spring thaw. His covered rig was laden with all the amenities of gracious living: shoe laces, dry goods, ribbon, and lace. We were always fascinated by the bright colors and fine textures of his goods and were thrilled if Ma's purchase included a ribbon or two. We looked forward to Charlie's visits because he was jovial and darkly handsome, and had a mystique about him that suggested to us that he was a gypsy. I learned later that he was Syrian and that Syrian people eventually settled in Glenfield, North Dakota, where they live to this day. Charlie loved to trade horses, and my father often traded with him. We always served him a meal and watered and fed his horses in partial payment for the goods we bought. Another visitor who appeared without warning was my Uncle Joe. He was a bit of a scoundrel who traveled with a wagon full of bulldogs and a different "wife" for each visit. Needless to say, my mother did not appreciate his visits or his women, but we kids liked his dogs which were trained to do tricks. I especially remember the dog Ring who was very smart.

Transportation

In spite of land booms, strong wheat markets, and the ever-present railroad to bring the two together, the everyday life of the North Dakota farmer in the first three decades

of the century was more often poverty than prosperity. The purchase of our first Ford automobile in 1917 would seem to suggest an economic upturn for us, but in those days a car was not as costly as a good team of horses. The automobile did much to quicken the pace of our lives although this more rapid transportation was not without its drawbacks. After my father broke himself of the habit of hollering "Ho" every time he braked, we made more trips to the fields, to the neighbors, and to town, but an outing was sometimes delayed or even cancelled when the car got stuck in the gumbo. North Dakota had no paved roads and few graded ones in 1917. When an auto became stuck in gumbo - the rich, black soil of the northern Plains that becomes sticky when wet - the only thing to do was to wait for the "enlarged" tire to dry, and then chop the mud off with a hammer. In spite of these frustrations, however, the American love affair with the automobile was certainly present in

North Dakota where it helped to overcome the excesses of isolation and remoteness, and eventually led to greater consolidation of schools, churches, and other public facilities. A few years after we got our first Model T, we got another Ford with white wire wheels and a tire in back. This, we thought, was the absolute ultimate of modern civilization.

Medicine

Long distance travel in North Dakota was simpler than it is today because of the railroad. James J. Hill and his Great Northern is a classic story of the self-made man with an idea. In our part of the state, the competitor, the Northern Pacific, served whatever needs we had to travel by train. The two occasions I remember when we relied on the railroad were the times when someone in the family was ill and had to be taken to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester. One was when my middle brother was not able to walk because of an infection on his leg, and went to Rochester for surgery. The other time was in 1918 when my mother had her gall bladder removed. On both occasions my father accompanied the patient. When my mother was hospitalized, my father witnessed the numbers of patients who were admitted to Mayos with the flu, and the numbers of dead who were wheeled out almost as fast. He had word sent back to us on the farm that we were to stay inside and not socialize, a warning that went unheeded.

Fortunately during my growing-up years, we were healthy and seldom needed medical services. Dental care was out of the question. Whenever we got a cold my mother rubbed our chests with skunk oil or goose grease and covered them with a woolen cloth. We did have the services of Dr. Truscott who made the rounds with his horse and buggy; I'm always reminded of him when I see Doc on *Gunsmoke*. He delivered babies now and then, although many births occurred without a doctor in attendance. My mother was often called upon to assist a delivery as a midwife, and she served in this capacity at the birth of her first grandchild. Emergency surgery was quite primitive. When my youngest brother chopped off the end of his little finger at the first knuckle, a doctor was summoned, and the finger, hanging by the skin, was painfully sewn back on without anesthetic or a shot of any kind. On the other hand, when my sister cut her arm at school trying to raise a window with an ill-fitting pane, she was given chloroform while the doctor stitched her arm with common thread.

Politics

While I did not realize the significance at the time, surely one of the unique political developments in the history of the United States was occurring in North Dakota and that was the growth and activity of the Nonpartisan League. The League was formed in 1913 by Arthur C. Townley and was an outgrowth of turn-of-the-century reform movements such as the Farmers' Alliance, Populism, and Progressivism. The debtor farmers, of course, were willing to listen to and even support any "radical" reform efforts which sought to free them from exploitation by the "outside interests" - railroads, banks, and other capitalistic creditors. I remember my father talking admirably about William Jennings Bryan and his convincing rhetoric and powerful oratory. I also remember my father's more skeptical interest in William Langer, the future Depression year's governor of North Dakota, and other Nonpartisans who walked along side Pa while he plowed and argued the merits of the League.

The League was successful during the World War I years in getting control of the state government and passing "socialistic" legislation which created such institutions as the Bank of North Dakota (praised in a July of 1976 article in the Washington Post) and the State Mill and Elevator at Grand Forks, and which strengthened the state hail insurance program. Hail, incidentally, was a frequent curse of nature which in just a few minutes, could ruin a very promising harvest. The Nonpartisan League was far more successful in North Dakota than in neighboring Minnesota where its support of a Republican primary candidate for governor, Charles A. Lindbergh, in 1918, probably contributed to his defeat and the demise of his political career, but where in the forties, Democrat Hubert Humphrey forged the remnants of Nonpartisan with other farmer-oriented groups to form the very successful Democratic-Farmer-Labor (DFL) Party. Thus some of the agrarian concepts which literally grew out of the roots in the Grassland, have helped to shape the political philosophy of the current Vice President and Secretary of Agriculture of the United States.

Holidays

Politics, however, and North Dakota's unique response to the forces of the times, did not concern us much as we continued to work and play in a world that seemed simple and natural. A break in the routine occurred on holidays which were awaited with anticipation and joyously celebrated. The "biggest" day in the year was the Fourth of July. We would spend it at Red Willow Lake, one of the few natural lakes in our part of the state. Each of us would get twenty-five cents to spend the whole day. I usually spent my quarter on five ice-cream cones, evenly spaced throughout the day. There was always a ball game, fireworks, and dancing. My sister's boyfriend was the catcher on the local team, so we gave it our wholehearted support.

Halloween was the kids' day for mischief which seemed to know no limits. The morning after there was never an upright outhouse in the whole area. One year my brothers and their friends put a cow in the schoolhouse basement. Oh, what a mess! Christmas was a time for treats such as oranges, candy, and nuts by the bushel. I do not remember ever getting toys except for a homemade rag doll. We never had a Christmas tree although there was one in the schoolhouse with lighted candles. What a fire hazard that would be considered today. The Christmas season was a time for sleigh rides for the teens. We put hay in the bottom of a bobsled, and with foot warmers and fur robes we

would be toasty warm as we sang in rhythm to the sleigh bells. The song "Jingle Bells" still recalls a very vivid picture for me. Sometimes we got out to "hitch" behind the sleigh, only to be forced to let go and then do some fast running to catch up. I still think we had more fun than kids do today.

Changes of the Twenties

My adolescent years coincided with World War 1, and even though my brother named one of his calves "Woodrow

Wilson", the whole experience was remote to me except for two instances. One was the scarcity of staples such as flour and the poor quality of dark flour we had to accept and about which my father bitterly complained; the second was my sister's fiancé, the ball player, showing up at the house in uniform before he departed for France in March of 1918. I remember what a straight, serious soldier he was, and how my brothers teased my sister by performing military marches around the house.

My interests in the teen years were not much different from those of any young girl. I became very style and clothes conscious, and was eager to earn my own money so I could buy extra clothes. The women in our rural community were anxious to try the new bobbed hairstyle, although at the time they had never heard of the heroines of those Minnesota authors, F. Scott Fitzgerald and Sinclair Lewis. One day my aunt came over and bobbed my mother's hair. We waited for my father's reaction, expecting it to be rather explosive. But he liked it, so I got mine bobbed too. Later in the twenties we learned to marcel our hair. This required heating the marcel iron in the lamp chimney, another defection from common sense safety standards.

My first job was picking potatoes with my cousin. We did plenty of laughing and singing as we picked, and this made very hard physical labor much lighter. We worked as a team and filled about sixty sacks which we had tied around our waists. My first purchase with potato money was a rose-colored dress with rabbit fur around the hem and cuffs. I thought I was really the epitome of high style. To complete the fashion, I also spent seventy-five cents for a box of Winx, an eye makeup. For a while, my cousin, sister-in-law, and I ventured to the big city of Fargo to work in a sanitarium. The other two cooked and I fixed the trays and ironed the doctor's shirts. He was pleased with my work.

As the twenties - and I - matured, we moved, first to southwestern Minnesota and then to Little Falls where I met my future husband when he was home on vacation from Inland Steel. And while I do not regret for a moment the suburban life-style of my married years in the Chicago metropolitan area, I am well aware that they were vastly different from my first twenty-three years. The society that my children and grandchildren experience is so changed that they look upon my childhood as "dull", "too much work", and "unreal". But we survived, because that was our challenge, and while I can't say that we prospered in any material sense, we were an active if naive part of the growth and vitality of a national people searching for the good life - the American dream - in the hard heart of the North American continent. Our energy and hope eroded dullness and boredom; hard work only to "do without" did not kill us but rather prepared us for Depression and War; and, as I look back, the most enduring reality is still that black,

sticky gumbo and lonesome landscape, today one of the richest wheat-lands in the world, and that bracing fresh air which still breathes pure and free.

-Eva Boisjolie Wenzel

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 115

DAYS OF SUNSHINE

One spring day I remember trudging beside my dad along a fencerow that was the boundary of his land and he was carrying three greenish-blue duck eggs in his rough hand. The field to our right had been worked; evidently, he had been unaware of a duck nest and he'd partially destroyed it with some machinery and now he had come back to see if the duck had returned to her eggs. If the men knew of a nest in the field, they always tried to drive around it.

You forget many things at that age but some events that seem very important at the time you remember. One morning later that summer, I came down the stairway very happy and I felt very proud of myself. Mom was at the kitchen table canning large blue plums and she offered me some. I don't know if my feeling of pride came from having dressed myself all alone that morning or if it was that I knew on this day I'd reached the gigantic age of four years.

Another early recollection I have was rather frightening. It was another spring and dad had bought a few sheep and the first lambs had arrived in the pasture. My aunt, a gentle person, very fond of animals, who was staying with us at the time, had decided to take my sister and me down to see the lambs. What she didn't know was that dad had an 111 tempered Shorthorn out there, too. When he discovered us in his territory, he started coming toward us. My aunt was frightened but she didn't panic. She said we should all three separate a little and that would confuse him, and run for the nearest fence. She stayed in the middle and always a little behind the two of us. I turned and looked back once and saw him still coming. Then I panicked and started back towards her. She called and motioned me to keep running towards the fence. Now we had all passed an old straw stack. When he got to it he took a couple of turns around it, rubbing his head in it making the straw fly and pawing the loose straw with his front feet. We got over the fence and I never did lose my respect for the Shorthorns. As the family needed more room, Dad built on to the house. The last addition might be called a utility room. Its uses changed with the seasons. In the summertime, canning and some cooking were done out there. It kept the kitchen cooler. In the wintertime the cream separator was brought in from the milk house and took its place there but this was the room where the laundry was always done. I remember an early type washing machine that was fastened over the tub. It consisted of two large corrugated rollers that swished the clothes back and forth through the sudsy water. Then there was the large wooden cylindrical tub with three quarter inch round holes in it. When loaded with laundry, it went back and forth through the water. This machine was powered by a gasoline engine. When the 32-volt electric plant was installed, the engine was relegated to pumping water for the stock and the switch box now controlled the washing machine. The next operation was putting the clothes through rinsing waters and then they were wrung out by hand-powered wringers. White clothes were made their whitest by boiling them in a copper boiler on the kerosene stove. Some bar soap was bought at the store but Mother made most of the laundry soap

in a large iron kettle from rendered animal fat and lye. After the clothes were hung on the line, the water was carried outside and emptied on the purple lilac which seemed to thrive on it. The kerosene stove was used to heat the water. This was started early in the morning after the water was pumped up from the cistern.

There was always a scarcity of water on the farm. A trench was dug and a pipe was laid from the windmill to the new barn, a distance of three hundred feet, where it passed the house. A pipe was run into the cellar and up into the "everything" room. The object was to put a bucket under the spigot when the windmill was turning and get whatever water was needed for the day for cooking and drinking. If the wind died down and someone forgot to turn off the spigot, it was disastrous. The whole room could get flooded and down into the basement too if the wind started blowing again and no one was around to turn it off.

It was a wonderful country to grow up in. Each season had many different interests of its own and it was impossible to find time for boredom. When the air lost some of its crispness of winter and a gentle south or southwest wind became balmy, a spring thaw might not be too far away. Even the thought of this was exciting. When the snow melted, streams of water ran into the lake from all directions. That which came from the north rushed through a culvert and could be heard from the house some distance away. At this time, feet were always getting wet. This put an end to our cross-country hike to school and we had a longer walk on the graded road which at times became inundated in spots, too. A wet spring brought out many kinds of waterfowl. Some nested and stayed all summer.

Spring also brought Play Day and Play Day nearly always seemed to bring rain but that didn't dampen the spirits too much. The kids' day was on Saturday and the playground west of the Farmers and Merchants Bank would be teeming with kids. The athletic events were held in the morning. In the afternoon you were mostly on your own. Early in the day some stores might hand out small tokens for the kids. Marquardt's Cafe was headquarters for goodies. There was popcorn, ice cream cones and a large assortment of candy in the candy case. They also sold balloons filled with helium. A sad thing could happen if you dropped your balloon for even a second. It would be gone forever. Matinee at the Strand; it could be Jackie Cooper, that poor little kid with the sad face and big rumply cap. After a full day of Play Day and having eaten mostly goodies, you could be a little tired and even a little sick and glad to be home again.

When the school year ended there might be two weeks of parochial school, sometimes called Norwegian school. That was also the time for ripe wild strawberries and they could be found in a pasture on the right hand side of the road as you were walking home. Sometimes it took a little longer to get home. Then came the start of summer vacation and anything could happen. You had a feeling of a fresh freedom. On the farm there weren't so many specific things expected of you, but you carried lunch to the field, walked for the mail, and weeded some in the garden. One year when Dad sold strawberries in town, we picked strawberries. We had to get the cows at milking time in the evenings and when you got to be a little older you found yourself helping with the milking and washing the separator which wasn't a fun job for any age. If my brother had a breakdown with his machinery and I was anywhere in sight, he would say in Norwegian, "You that are so light on your feet," get me this or that, or whatever he needed. I rather enjoyed helping him though. It was much better than inside work like

dusting the bottom of Mom's Singer sewing machine with its fancy iron grill work. Sometimes in the summer he would go fishing in Bald Hill Creek and when he let me go with him I really enjoyed that. There were mostly bullheads and shiners, but sometimes he caught pickerel.

Part of the summer social life was July 4 picnics and other picnics. The Fluto Bridge, Red Willow Lake and Nils Olson's farm were some of the favorite places. Sometimes there would be political speakers from a plank podium decorated with red, white and blue crepe paper, a lot of kids and people you didn't know, a concession where you could get pop that you'd never tasted before, and even though it was outdoors, there was the strong smell of cigars.

A lot of visiting between close neighbors was done in the evening. There seemed to be time for it, but you didn't get acquainted with people living a few miles away unless you attended the same church or met them later when you went off to high school.

Sometimes during the summer we might take a trip to the Park River, Hoople area. My mother's sister lived there. That expedition was a big undertaking. We'd leave in the morning and get there at night. The car would need a little help to get up a steep hill. When we came to what was later called the Langer Hill, everyone would get out and push. I'm sure my pushing didn't help any but I was afraid to stay in the car lest it would start rolling backwards down the hill. Some years when we didn't go up there, our relatives would come to visit us.

It must have been one of our first trips up there and Dad knew there wouldn't be a garage to park his car in so he bought a few yards of unbleached muslin sheeting and soaked it in linseed oil to waterproof it, then spread it out somewhere to dry. That morning, before we left, he folded it carefully and stuffed it in a gunnysack and placed it in the back seat area. After half way to our destination, someone noticed smoke curling up from it. Dad stopped the car, jumped out, grabbed the bag, emptied the contents on the ground, and then trampled on it energetically. He got the fire out but not before a big round hole was burned in the middle of his tarp. He never did use it.

Most of the time the top of the car was up and in rainy weather the side curtains with their isinglass windows were buckled on. It was upholstered in black leather and there were two seats between the front and the back seat that were used if there were extra passengers, mostly for kids. They weren't very comfortable. When not in use, they were folded up and fit into the car floor, practically invisible.

If you were a kid, Saturday night in Cooperstown was a gala event for those fortunate enough to go often. Grown ups enjoyed it, too. I had a taste of it so I knew what it was about but I didn't get to go often enough to satisfy my appetite for it. That was one time my brother wouldn't take me along but now I don't blame him.

Dad made his town visits in the daytime and they were both business and pleasure. He liked people and if he met an acquaintance or friend to talk with you could hear his lusty laugh a block away. Mother didn't always go along to town but when she did, she had a lot of places to go. She was always in a hurry and walked ' fast. If she held my hand I felt as if I was floating behind her like a streamer. The majority of things she bought for wearing apparel were from the Larson store. Gustav Hanson was very convincing about the merchandise being good practical bargains. The little Hanson shoe store directly west had some well-known shoe brands like Selby and Red Goose. Most of our shoes came

from there. Then there was the Thompson store to the east on the corner and the Syverson store another block east that had everything from rugs to toys; and toys they did have! It was like a fairyland at Christmas time. Cooperstown was a big little town. It had anything you wanted. There were the meat market, bakery, jewelry store, millinery shop, hotels, opera house, harness shop, livery stable and produce buyers to name a few.

Fall and time for school again, feeling half reluctance and half anticipation at the prospect of getting together with school friends again and the new tablet, pencils and the box of crayons that smelled so delicious that you were sure to get. A large size tablet was preferred over a small one especially if it had a pretty picture on the front cover, and of course a large box of crayons would give you a little more feeling of prestige.

After an early light snow the kids would step out a large fox and geese game. Some had skis and some sleds. A long sled would accommodate more kids and more to tip off coasting down a steep hill. They took turns and shared. An early thaw would make an accumulation of water between the hills and it would be skating time.

The wool stocking cap and scarf, home knit mittens, stockings and leggings, not to forget union suits, and high-top black cloth buckled overshoes with rubber soles didn't always keep you comfortable walking home from school facing a northerly wind. Your toes would get a feeling there was something between them and there would be frost on your eyelashes. If the wind was brisk, my sister would have me walk directly behind her. She was a little older than I and she acted as my shield. We didn't always walk. Sometimes if it was a little stormy they would come for us and in the morning if it was stormy, we might stay home.

In the winter there were two kinds of transportation besides horseback; the wagon box on runners and a homemade outfit, a boxy looking cab, wood frame, wood front and back, the sides covered with heavy white canvas, and tall doors on either side. There was an opening in the front so the driver could see where he was going and also for reins. This cutter had more protection from the wind but either of these outfits were used for school transportation. If it was very cold and you rode in the sleigh you would sit at the bottom and cover up with blankets, head and all. Dad wore a buffalo coat and large fur mittens. Going to a party or visiting in the winter, it was usually the sleigh. The vehicle for going to church was the cutter. The narrow runners would make a horrible sound like a dozen chalk on a blackboard every-time it went over a place on the road that wasn't snow covered. Sometimes then dad would take off across country over the stubble fields. One time when he did this we hit an uneven snowdrift and the cutter tipped. I don't remember how we got out. It must have been through the front opening. It was a lucky thing we had some old calm horses. Dad got the cutter righted again and we continued on to church.

During the winter months there was a group of neighbors that played cards regularly at different houses. My brother was one of them and I couldn't help but worry a little when he took off on horseback on a cold dark night, but he always made it home.

Later in the summer and into the fall after the grain had been cut and the field of bundles raised up into shocks, it was threshing time. Early in the morning you could hear the boom boom of the Rumley in the distance but couldn't tell for sure if it was the Rumley or your heartbeat. The rate was about the same. When the sound kept getting louder you knew it was the threshing rig coming and it might be around for a few days.

Excitement ran high. Before now mother would have been to town and purchased an extra long piece of white oilcloth for the kitchen table and added a leaf or more to it. Also, she would have bought some more large white cups, baked a big batch of bread and cookies, and also doughnuts if she knew the threshers were coming soon.

Breakfast was served about dawn. The men had good appetites. Besides cereal they might have home-cured bacon and eggs and pan-fried potatoes that had been boiled the night before, or hash. Forenoon and afternoon lunch was brought out to the field, coffee in a two-gallon dark enamel pot. Summer sausage or cheese was the usual for sandwiches. Cookies, doughnuts or cake would be sent out in a large dishpan with a dishtowel for cover to keep the chaff and the flies off. For dinner, home-canned meatballs with gravy or home-cured ham or home-raised chicken. Round steak or other fresh meat had to be bought at the store that time of the year. At one time there was a horse-drawn meat wagon that delivered meat at the door. Potatoes and vegetables came out of the garden. For dessert there was sauce, puddings, or pie. Supper could be some kind of potatoes again, ham or bacon and eggs.

On the whole the men were a cheerful group. Most of them were neighbors but some were from far away and had come to find work in the harvest fields. There was always some humor at mealtime even though it had started raining before they were quite through or had a breakdown. They played a few practical jokes and pranks on each other down around the barn area where some of the horses were kept at night. Some of the men slept upstairs in the hay.

-Alice Krogsgaard Mason

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 115

CHILDHOOD IN COOPERSTOWN

Remembering my childhood in Cooperstown, one of the first things that comes to mind is Playday. We looked forward to Playday almost like we looked forward to Christmas. What we would wear, who we'd be with, and what events we'd participate in. It was food for thought and dreams for many a week before the great event.

The day almost always fell on a typically windy spring day and the town would be overrun with enthusiastic children of assorted sizes and ages energetically taking part in the old time potato sack races, three-legged races, and whatever was offered as well as running from store to store gathering up the freebies that the goodhearted merchants gave out to the little ones on that special day. In discussing this event with Russ Edland, he tells me the country children viewed Playday with even greater love than did the town kids.

I can't believe that it was possible. There was usually a parade on that day also. The floats were a far cry from today's convertibles, antique cars and commercially trimmed floats but were built on little red wagons out of crepe paper, cardboard boxes, construction paper or whatever was available and they were generally pulled by two of the children.

Picnic lunches were brought along by the farm families and were eaten at the playgrounds or spread out on a blanket by the side of the car. The playground was well used on that day as well as every other day during the good weather. I recall the giant

strides and the monkey bars and the slides and the swings and the lovely long evenings in early fall when it was dark and still the kids would be reluctant to come in and the parents would have to walk over to the playground and fetch the children home.

Saturday nights are another vivid memory of my childhood and I'm sure many others think of them and how we just had to go uptown on Saturday night and join the throngs of people walking up and down the streets visiting and shopping. Shopping for us little ones at that time meant going to Marquardt's Cafe with our pennies to buy penny candy. Oh, it was a long and delightful time that went into picking out those goodies - Otto and Belle Marquardt had more patience than anyone else I've ever known. How they put up with the kids endlessly picking out that penny candy, I'll never know! Otto was a great tease and he seemed to love every minute of it. Teenagers had to be out and about to meet members of the opposite sex - after all, in those years, not every eighth grade graduate went on to high school where you normally make these contacts.

Buying popcorn from Fred Ashby and his popcorn wagon is probably a memory that children of several generations will enjoy. When I was a little girl if you had fifteen cents you could go to the show and have a bag of popcorn, too.

The little clown that turned the peanut roaster on his red wagon was a constant *Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial* of joy to me and in later years, I was privileged to sew several suits and hats for that little clown friend of mine.

There were no X-rated movies in those years so I was allowed to go to lots of movies at the Strand Theatre - that is, when I could manage to earn a dime. Laurel and Hardy were about my favorite movie stars.

The old canvas curtain that was used on the stage at the old Opera House lives on in my memory and, even after having visited several well-known art museums, never have I seen anything more beautiful. The painting on that curtain was the subject of endless thought and study. It was almost as interesting to me as the home talent plays that were put on from time to time on that stage. Those plays were hilarious and featured such notables as "Teed Marquardt, Rose Loder and A.M. Paulson among others. The curtain at the Strand Theatre was also a beauty and many of us remember going there to the Cowboy and Indian serials on Saturday afternoons for the grand sum of five cents.

Jim Cussons tells me that he and I, our mothers and his sister went to the Chautauqua at the Playgrounds. Jim says what impressed him most was the size of the tent. He also remembers whole carloads of watermelons coming in at the depot and that he and other little boys from town cut slices out of the melons from between the wooden slats of the railroad cars - I'm sure no other melon has ever tasted so sweet!

Crocus picking on Vinegar Hill in the spring brings back memories of meadowlarks singing sweetly and gentle spring breezes on our faces as we selected the prettiest crocus flowers for our Mothers. We also packed a lunch and had our picnic on the last day of school - on Vinegar Hill. The older students went further afield for their last day picnic but the first two or three grades loaded their lunches up in little wagons and made the trek to the north part of town. Jim Cussons remembers as a little boy, digging caves in the hill just back of where Rick Larson's house now stands. These caves were connected by mysterious tunnels and entrances. Ali yes, Vinegar Hill and the surrounding land was a vast, almost unexplored wonderland that the kids of town dearly loved.

Growing up in a little town has many disadvantages -such as almost everyone in town knew absolutely everything about you and your whereabouts and doings were easily reported to your parents but, on the other hand, someone was always truly interested in you and your welfare. Doors never had to be locked, you always had a neighbor from whom you could borrow things, you could walk anyplace there was to go, and you could walk in the dark of night and no one would harm you, - yes, these and many more assets more than offset the liabilities.

- Maxine Torgerson

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 124

LUNCH AT THE PALACE

Clay Knapp, 88, has lived in Griggs County since he was a very small child, and on the same farm since he was four. He remembers the smell of sod being turned for the first time, the sight of large flocks of waterfowl settling on the sloughs, the taste of prairie chicken.

He remembers driving the 14-½ miles to Cooperstown, "We didn't have much for roads then," with horse and buggy, sometimes taking his mother, Mrs. Hubbard Knapp, to town to shop. She liked to eat lunch at the Palace Hotel. Clay would pull up his rig to the front door and the proprietor of the hotel would meet Mrs. Knapp, greet her, help her down from the buggy and escort her into the hotel. Clay explains that the Palace served expensive meals -fifty cents - but the style and elegance of the establishment made it worth the price, to his mother.

After he had taken the horses to the livery stable to be fed, watered and rested, Clay would go someplace to eat. The place of choice might be Tang's Restaurant or the Exchange Hotel or Marquardt's Palace of Sweets. Economy was one of his reasons. The food was good at all of those places, and the meal cost twenty-five or thirty-five cents. Besides, he says, "I was dressed in overalls and I wouldn't feel right going into the Palace dressed that way."

Once in a while gypsies would travel past their place. He remembers that they wore colorful clothes and drove good-looking horses. Mostly, he recalls, they were horse traders. He never had any trouble with them "but you wouldn't want to trade horses with them." One time a gypsy girl asked for water for her horses. Clay told her she should water them from a pail instead of the watering trough. "There were a lot of diseases those days and you never knew what a strange horse might have."

The gypsy girl didn't like that very well. "She told me 'I'll have you know my horses ain't pizen'," Clay remembers.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 125

A VISIT WITH HAROLD AND MATTIE AUREN

Few people in Griggs County recall the days of the early settlers on the Sheyenne River as Harold who has spent all his life within two miles of the original homestead where he was born February 7, 1886.

It is difficult to portray the events in the humorous way that is unique to Harold as I listen to a tape made recently at his home. Harold, who is 96, and his wife Mattie who is

83 still live on their farm. Harold found humor in everyday happenings and in spite of poor health that has plagued him most of his life, he has brought laughter and inspiration to those who have known him all these years.

-Kenneth Hagen

Harold relates these early day events.

The first thing a homesteader looked for after staking out his claim was water; the log house, sod house or shanty was then built close by. In digging a well two men turned the winch that lifted dirt out of the hole which was dug by hand until they struck water.

Our cabin was built into the hillside in a coulee. They laid logs for the walls and boards in the roof. They took bark off the trees and used for shingles. Then they piled dirt on top of that. In the summertime, it was nice and green up there.

When I was thirteen years old ma got really sick. There was a fellow who had a long legged team of buggy horses and he struck off across the prairie to Valley City to get help. He got back and it was dark but Ma had died. She had a busted appendix. The neighbors came over and fixed her up for the funeral. She is buried on the homestead; the first one of quite a few who are laying in that cemetery.

I had lots of fun with the Indians. They would come from the south and camp in the coulee about 40 rods from our shanty on their way to Devils Lake. There were hills on both sides and a spring for water. They would howl at night just like coyotes. I used to crawl over to the edge of the coulee and watch them. One night even Ma went along. They would dance and have a good time. There was one Indian boy who was my friend - we were about the same age and whenever they came we would run on the prairie together. After the Indians had left their camp grounds we would go down there and pick up lots of stuff - like sleds they had made out of stone and arrows made out of flint stone - they used them to shoot big game, like buffaloes. You could never see any mean stuff about the Indians. I thought they were nice.

My Dad was a blacksmith and the last time the Indians came through he worked on the wheels of their wagons. They had no money so the Chief, who was a big lobster, turned his pockets inside out to show he didn't have anything. Dad said "Ok". The squaws went into the house and got milk and things from Ma. The chief shook his head and ran to the wagon where a big squaw opened a curtain in the wagon. I was standing by Dad when the Chief came back with a big blanket with all kinds of colors. He threw it at my Dad and Dad threw it back. The Chief took the blanket and threw it over my head and ran to the wagon and they were gone.

Years later, I was working at the homestead and there was this fellow with a brown jacket who came walking. He took long, slow, steps. I stopped and waited for him and he came over and shook hands. Here it was the Indian boy, the one who had been my playmate years before. I asked him where he was going and he said he didn't know.

I remember the big snowstorm; I think it was in '97. The storm lasted for three days. The log house got covered up and it was pitch dark in there "just like you should have been in the grave." Dad laid blankets on the floor and he shoveled snow on the blankets until he could see daylight above the door. Then he made steps in the snow so we could

crawl out. All you could see on the prairie was a few stovepipes sticking out. They found one dead after the snow went in the spring.

My Dad had run out of coffee and tobacco so my Dad, a neighbor and my uncle took two teams and two shovels and started out for town. They would shovel the teams out and when one team played out they would hook up another. They went straight across country and by the river crossing by Lunde's. They didn't come back that day but late the next day; they came back smoking.

We had lazy people in those days too. There was a neighbor over east that I saw wasn't walking behind the breaking plow. I went over there and here he had tied a rope to an iron on the plow and he had made a skid out of wood and was riding on that behind the plow! Some used cattle and horses on the same plow. This fellow had two horses and a milk cow - on the plow. They made drags from small trees tied together and used some top branches for the brush.

Only small patches round the shanty were farmed. They had to keep it black around the buildings because of prairie fires. They sowed the grain by carrying a pail of seed hung around their neck with a long rope - the pail rested on your stomach. You broadcast the seed by hand by using two fingers and throwing the seed as you walked. Then they went over the field with the brush drag. Oh they had it handy! They then cut the grain with a scythe and raked it and made bundles by tying them with long straw that was twisted together. The women did the threshing by pounding out the grain on blankets with sticks. The women also milked cows, chopped wood and raised gardens.

I wore out three violins. We had lots of fun playing for dances. In the summer time I slept in the granary because it was too hot to sleep in the shanty. Well, when they were going to thresh, they had to clean out the granary and so they had to clean me out too. My violin got left outside behind the granary and it rained and my violin got ruined. My uncle went back to Norway so I told him to get me a violin. He brought back two. I got a Hardanger; that was a nice one.

Once when we were going to bring the steam engine across the river we had two teams on it. We got just about across when the steam engine broke through the ice. Well, it sat there all winter and there was a fellow who worked for a neighbor who was walking along the river shooting rabbits when he went to get the cows. After a long time, he didn't come back so they went to look for him. Well, there he was, dead on the steam engine. They figured he'd crawled up there and was shooting rabbits and the hammer on his rifle got caught on something and shot himself. Well, he went out to the graveyard.

One day when Arne Hagen and me were coming home with the team we noticed there was a place where the badgers were digging so thick so we thought they must be digging for something. Well, on Sunday we took our shovels and went down there and started digging. We came upon an Indian grave. There were bones laying in the hole. We found some fingers and Arne Hagen put them in his pocket. We found a skull too and we took that into a store in town and they had it hanging on the wall with some eyes in it for a long time. The Indian had been buried with his clothes on and with his bow and arrow.

There were a lot of coyotes on the prairie at nights. They would howl all night. When I was little I used to put on my cap and run for miles and the coyotes would howl and I didn't know what they were. It's funny they didn't eat me up. Maybe the coyotes thought it was nothing to eat.

After we had moved away from the homestead, a neighbor, who was breaking the land there, was going to burn some lumber and stuff and set fire and it got away and burnt all the buildings on the homestead up.

Mrs. Gunhild Thompson carried me to baptism, and I was baptized by Pastor Lundebry. He stopped at Mardell and then walked to the log houses and they had meetings in the homes.

One of the Hagen girls taught school and we had a few other teachers too.

Well, if we couldn't do it one-way we would try another. It was fun, and I had lots of fun. I wouldn't mind doing it over again.

Everybody was the same. Didn't make any difference if you were Norwegian, Swede, English or what. I never heard of anyone beating anybody; they didn't have anything to fight about.

We had good neighbors - there was Thor Hagen, Arne Thompson, Valdres Ola, Gamle Haga, C. Piatt, Newell, and Frost.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 125

COOPERSTOWN CITY

My first trip to Cooperstown was in the summer of 1896. I rode with John Paulson on a lumber wagon from Norway Lake in Addle Township to Cooperstown. The first one we met and got acquainted with was R.C. Cooper and Knud Thompson and later on, C. Whidden and John Syverson on the sidewalk outside their stores. We went looking around in the stores to buy groceries and clothes. We went out to see the Cooper Ranch buildings. This was the first time I had seen mules. I saw some men riders carrying a hayfork on one arm and steering a span of mules with the other arm. Mr. Cooper used both mules and horses for draft animals, farm machinery, and steam engines.

Driving home that day we stopped and talked with a farmer and another man. They were working up the road to pay off their poll tax. Later on, poll tax was declared unconstitutional and void.

On my second trip that year, I had a medical appointment with Dr. L.S. Platou. He practiced in Cooperstown for three or more years. In 1898 he moved to Valley City, opened up an office there and gave medical and surgery treatments. He also built his own hospital.

I never got a chance to talk to Dr. Carl Brim]. He started practice here in Cooperstown in 1898. He was a very busy doctor for over twenty-five years.

The first blacksmith that I met was here in Cooperstown. His name was Nelson Kiil. I was a young boy so he gave me a puzzle, toy rings. I sure was delighted.

-Oscar Olson, 1981

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 127

GILBERT OLSON

Gilbert P. Olson was born March 27, 1861 at Beloit, Wisconsin. He came to Big Stone County, Minnesota at the age of thirteen years, and at the age of twenty-one he came to Dakota Territory in a covered wagon. He came to the Jessie area June 7, 1882

and he settled on Section 10 in Addie Township. He then went to Cooper Ranch and shocked grain where the town of Cooperstown now stands. That fall, Mr. Olson hauled grain to Sanborn and lumber back to Cooperstown which took three days each trip. He hauled the first load of lumber that went into the building of Cooperstown and also plowed the first furrow around to mark out where Cooperstown was to be built. He also hauled sand from Norway Lake into Cooperstown. There were about twenty wagons hauling grain. The first lumber was hauled for Knud Thompson. Olson worked there until Christmas of that year. The following year he went back to Cooper Ranch and worked in an elevator unloading grain.

Gilbert Olson was the father of Oscar Olson.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 127

The Way It Was **EXCERPT FROM HISTORY**

It was after midnight, we had finished putting the paper to bed and were on our way home. Except for the street lamps that burned along main street, the night was black and ominous, seeming to surround each lamp with an impenetrable curtain. We parted at the corner, and I stepped off the curb to cross the street.

Suddenly, a figure of an old man loomed up on the opposite curb, as if he had walked out of the wall of the building behind him. As I came closer, I recognized H.P. Hammer.

It was a little unusual, I thought, to encounter the old gentleman on the street at such an hour, but he was one of the community's most prominent citizens so I did not mention it. I said, "Hello, Mr. Hammer. How are things going?"

He looked at me quite somberly. I had the feeling that he had, for some reason, been walking about in the night and doing some heavy thinking. "It is not going so good, young feller," he said, "and I cannot see the end of it."

He had been the millionaire in our town. "Credit unlimited," said Dunn & Bradstreet. But the depression had cut him down. He had owned several banks in the area, and he had tried to save them from collapse, selling stocks and bonds, mortgaging real estate, cashing in wherever he could, putting the money into those banks. But the depression had gone on and on, and the banks failed anyway.

Most folks had lost what they had. But they had very little to lose, compared with the losses this man had suffered. He could have cut and run. There was no law that required him to put every cent into the banks, in an effort to save them, and so sustain the depositors, desperate and frightened as they were.

"I made my money here, and I'll lose it here," he said suddenly, as if he were talking to someone in the darkness. He stepped off the curb, and moved across the street. His shoulders heaved, and he walked very slowly. I watched until he disappeared in the darkness. Then I went on home, feeling very good about something, but not yet sure what it was.

It had something to do with guts, with stubborn courage that didn't advertise itself. Plain, unvarnished guts.

- Oswald Tufte

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 128

GARDENS

Of the large gardens that were cultivated at Mardell and Cooperstown in 1883 and 1884 the Cooperstown *Courier* says:

"A few months ago the *Courier* had occasion to speak of Meadow Brook Farm, the model plantation of Dakota. Mr. Jack N. Brown's garden covers two acres of land, and notwithstanding this has been a dry season, we there found in abundance, peas, beans, squash, radishes, lettuce, beets, turnips, rutabaga, pumpkin, cucumbers, melons, cabbage, green corn, salsify, and several kinds of 'truck'.

"The Mardell Gardens contain 1000 heads of cabbage and cauliflower, 1,000 dozen sweet corn, 10,000 pounds of different varieties of beets, 4,000 pounds carrots, 50 bushels vegetable oysters, 150 bushels of onions, 5 bushels navy beans, 20 barrels onion sets, 209 hills of tomatoes, and very thrifty plants. Peas, butter beans, sugar pumpkin, all varieties of squash, cucumbers, lettuce, radish, spinach, horse radish, pie plant and peppers are grown here. Two barrels new size potatoes, the seed of which cost 69 cents per pound.

"These vegetables can be procured at the garden for a moderate price. Area of vegetable garden 2 ¼ acres, including larger plant of potatoes of 3 ½ acres."

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 128

SELF-RELIANCE

Anton Falla, married to Gina, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Halvor Kaase, homesteaded near Mose. He lived under a hayrack until he could build a small house. Anton's father, Anders, lived with the son's family later. Anders was a veterinarian, carpenter, mason, and a self-reliant man. He built his own coffin and roughbox, and made grave markers for himself and three other relatives. On his own concrete marker he chiseled the birthplace and left a space for the date of death.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 128

PUREBREDS

Even before the turn of the century, local cattlemen interested in purebred livestock were importing them in an effort to improve local herds. Some of the early purebreds were stock imported from the British Isles. R.C. Cooper had a large herd of Aberdeen Angus cattle, and E.C. Butler had Shorthorns. Galloway cattle were also an early breed here.

Many early dairy herds were composed of milking Shorthorn cattle.

Draft horses were in great demand and local breeders imported Belgian, Clyde and Percheron stallions and mares. Shetland ponies were also raised in quantity at times when they were popular.

R.C. Cooper's Poland Chinas were the first breed of hogs mentioned. Purebred sheep were not mentioned in the early years.

In later years other breeds of livestock have been introduced.

Draft horses have disappeared from the local scene. Most of the prize herds of cattle were dispersed when the owners retired or times became hard.

One herd of cattle in Griggs County can still trace its origins to cattle brought here in 1903. A Scottish breed, Galloway cattle are black like the Angus. In 1903 the *Courier* reported that R.C. Cooper shipped in Galloway cattle from Iowa, and that Glen Dyson purchased a bull and two cows, Herb Church bought three head and T.R. Jones a fine bull.

In 1907 Hammer and Condry advertised that they had bought the herd of 23 purebred Galloways from JY Teal, and that they were offering them for sale.

Steffen Galloways of Griggs County can be traced to that original herd shipped in by Cooper in 1903.

In 1909, William Steffen of Bloomfield, Montana, purchased stock from both Glen Dyson and Herb Church. They were shipped to his homestead in Montana, later known as the A-L Ranch. He maintained herd records.

In 1956 Clarence Steffen and Sons purchased about 50 head of purebred Galloways from William Steffen in Montana.

Since the death of their father in 1970, Steffen Brothers, Clarence and Dale, have continued to raise the purebred stock west of Cooperstown and near Luverne. Other raisers of Galloways in Griggs are the Berge Brothers near Hannaford.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 128

CATTLE DRIVES

There were cattle drives here in Griggs County years ago. Some were for moving cattle to a summer pasture, and then home again in the fall. Most of these drives moved cattle to be marketed to a town, where there was a small stockyard especially built by the railway company, right along the tracks, where the farmer (or a group of farmers) could hold the cattle for a day or so until they could be loaded on a railway stock car for shipment to a large terminal livestock market. The market where we shipped our cattle was the one at South St. Paul, Minnesota.

I first remember these cattle drives from the Osmundson farm in the early 1930s. Most of us in this family, with the help of several neighbors, drove the cattle to be marketed on the road that leads the five miles south to Jessie. A horse-drawn hayrack wagon, with some hay in it, would go ahead of the herd to "lead" it, while horseback riders, and some of us afoot, would follow behind to keep the cattle together. Along the way this herd might be joined by cattle from other farms, if a joint shipment of cattle had been planned in order to fill a cattle car. At that time there was little or no gravel on that

road, so the herd could be driven along the roadbed, with no danger of sore feet. There was very little automobile traffic in those days.

When the herd arrived at Jessie it was penned in that siding stockyard, owned by the Northern Pacific Railway Company, and was fed and tended by the herd owners until time to load on the stock car for shipment.

When arrangements were first made with the depot agent to obtain a livestock ear, one passenger pass would also be issued, so that one of the livestock owners could accompany that particular train to the market destination in order to see that the animals were cared for properly, and also complete the sale.

I remember that my father, Aslak Osmundson, took a shipment of cattle to South St. Paul, and I remember my uncle Ole Osmundson going also. Likely they made a number of such trips before I was born.

Emil Wurst, of rural Jessie, told me several years ago that he also had accompanied a stock car of cattle to South St. Paul, and that my family also had some cattle on that car. He went on to say that, as the animals were being unloaded, he noticed that one of our steers was lying as though dead in the corner of the car. Emil said he went over and prodded the animal, and it then jumped up and left the car like a shot. -Allen Osmundson

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 129

BUTCHERING

Butchering was always an interesting event for me. For the most part we butchered hogs in the 1930's, when I first remembered it, because we generally sold all our beef cattle, although occasionally we did butcher a steer.

Our good neighbor, Almer Myer, was sort of the official butcher in our area, he did the sticking (blood-letting), and furthermore he was a strong man for moving the animal during the hanging and skinning. And of course he always had many stories to tell while the work progressed. My uncle Ole Osmundson did the shooting when I first remember all this, but when I got to be about 11-12 years old I got to take over that job, so I have shot many hogs and steers in my time.

When we butchered hogs we generally scalded them. First, much water had to be heated, then a large barrel was placed on an angle against a raised platform, which was large enough for two to three men to stand on. The hog was shot, then stuck, (we would save the blood in a wide pan, and it had to be stirred gently but steadily for a few minutes, with a bit of salt added), then the barrel was filled about two thirds full of the heated water. The hog was then shoved into the barrel, drawn in and out of the water quite a number of times until the bristle became nearly loose enough to pull out with one's fingers. Then the pig's ends were reversed, repeating the process until the bristles were nearly loose there also. The animal was then pulled out onto the platform, and the bristles were scraped off with special scrapers or large butcher knives. When this was completed the carcass was suspended by the hind legs, and the disemboweling took place, saving the heart and the liver.

About now it would be time for a big dinner, then a long rest with a smoke or two, and a few more stories from Almer. (I'd even get a pinch of snooze from Almer now and then!)

After a while it was time to cut up the carcass. The head was cut off and made into headcheese. Mrs. Ole L. Anderson was an expert at making headcheese, and she also had a smokehouse for smoking the hams. Since we had no freezer at that time, my mother had to can the rest of the meat unless we butchered in the wintertime, when we could freeze at least some of the meat. The canned meat tasted very good, delicious, but it was a long, hot job for my mother to do it. The blood was mixed with potatoes and cooked to make dumplings, very, very good, served hot or cold. One could also make blood kurv, a mix of blood, flour, and onions that was fried. That I liked too.

Some people would butcher only at a certain phase of the moon, but I can't recall that we paid any attention to that though. It was an immense help to us when finally there were butchers and lockers in town, and freezers and refrigerators at home. *

Home butchering was a necessary job in the earlier days, but it was also a little bit of a social event.

-Allen Osmundson

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 129

TORKEL NJAA'S GERMAN SHEPHERDS

Torkel Njaa, pioneer Griggs County farmer, was born in Thime, near Stavanger, Norway, March 17, 1870. He came to the United States in 1892. Upon his arrival in Griggs County, he worked for Jorgen Soma in Ball Hill Township. He bought some land in the southwest quarter of Section 9 in Sverdrup Township; and later on, he purchased more land in Section 16, also in Sverdrup Township, where he lived the rest of his life.

In 1894 he was married to Thea Aarestad. There were five children born to this union: Clara, Otto, Arthur, David, and Halvor. His first wife died, and in 1911 he married Minnie Angelshaug. Two children, Inga (Mrs. Art Simenson), and Esther (Mrs. Irwin Froiland), were born to them.

Torkel Njaa was engaged in farming all his life in the Sheyenne Valley southeast of Cooperstown. He was well known for his interests and experiments with cereal grains and livestock. For many years, some of the county's finest horses and cattle were raised there. In addition to horses and cattle, he took pride in raising fine-quality German Shepherd dogs, which brought him fame throughout the country. In 1914 he imported a German Shepherd watchdog. Being very pleased with this animal, he imported more of them. This resulted in the beginning of an industry that reached its peak in Griggs County in 1924, and gradually it spread as a nation-wide fad. Mr. Njaa shipped them to all parts of the United States, the Philippines, and Hawaii.

Torkel Njaa died in 1939.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 130

CURLY EXPRESS

An unusual mail delivery system was worked out in the early years of the century by people living in the Mose community.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Lynne lived on a farm north of Mose and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Halvor Kaase, lived in Mose. There was no mail delivery to the farm, so the Lynnes

would send their dog Curly to town and the Kaases would tie the mail bundle to Curly's collar and Curly would take it back.

SOAPMAKING

In the early days here on the prairie there was a need for soap, just as there is today. One would certainly guess that there was plenty of soap to be purchased in the towns at that time, but we do know that most farm wives made their own, not only because that was cheaper, but also because most of the necessary ingredients were available on the farm.

There are still, in these times, a few who make soap, even soap that has various fragrances added to it, but this is mostly hobby, even a paying hobby perhaps for some people.

The housewife would save the drippings from fried meat, and would render the excess fat from the hog after butchering, and all this would be accumulated for a convenient time to make the soap.

Melvin Tande and his family lived at the edge of the Sheyenne River southwest of Aneta. When he was a boy, he said, his father Sivert J. Tande would come up here in the fall and get my old widowed grandma Margit Osmundson, and bring her down to the Tande farm to make soap. She would stay there two-three days, Melvin said.

The process of soap making would start by driving three steel rods into the ground, which would hold the heating kettle over the flames. This was set up under a large shade tree back of the house, near the river. Melvin, and his brothers, had the job of gathering wood for the fire. The lard was then heated, mixed with water and Lewis Lye. Earlier, before Lewis Lye was used, a certain type of wood ashes were used instead. This mixture was brought to a certain temperature and stirred to the proper consistency. (Incidentally, this is not a recipe, but only the general way it was made). When the soap cooking was done, the mixture was ladled out onto a flat board with raised edges or something similar, and after a time of proper cooling and curing it was cut into squares, and then wrapped in pieces of newspaper.

Melvin says he still has the old kettle that was used, but it is broken now. Possibly grandma Margit made soap for other neighbors, but unfortunately there are very few people still living who remember her and so could tell me about it.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 130

-Allen Osmundson

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Here in the West Prairie area, if someone became seriously sick, the neighbors would come to that home to sit up with the ill one. Quite often it would be two neighbor ladies who would sit up the one night, then two others the next night, and so on. This was a great help to the affected family, and gave them welcome rest for the night. In fact, this practice continued into the early 1940's.

Occasionally these situations would be the final illness, and if the death occurred in wintertime, with its blocked roads and perhaps severe weather, then the families around

here could count on Mrs. Ole L. Anderson to come and help with preparations of the deceased, and other acts of comfort to the family, besides bringing along some food as an act of kindness. She was a wonderfully helpful lady in all circumstances. Her baptized name was Martha, but everybody called her by the name Malla, sort of a Norwegian name.

Undertakers were very seldom used out here prior to the mid 1930's, although I've been told that Steve Rorvig did preside over some funerals in the 1910-1930 period. Caskets could be bought in Binford at the Buchheit-Bakken store. A wooden rough box was placed in the grave to receive the casket. The grave was dug by the neighbors, a terribly hard job in the winter when much snow sometimes would have to be cleared off the site, and much chopping with the pick ax preceded each shovelful of clay that was thrown out. And if the ground was dry in the summertime that clay had to be pick-axed also, so digging a grave here at West Prairie was never an easy job.

I can still remember, in those early 1930's, that there were pale lavender colored funeral cloths (or decorations) hung on the altar and pulpit, and also the first four or five pews. Hanging these decorations was the job of Malla and Annie (Mrs. Ole O. Anderson), and those decorations did give the funeral service a more somber atmosphere, I thought. Clara Rorvig told me that prior to the lavender color decorations there were black and white cloths used.

In those days the body of the deceased was kept at the family farm home awaiting the day of the funeral, and most often one or two neighbors would stay with the family in the meantime. In the hotter part of summer it was essential to hold the funeral as soon as possible. In the very earliest days of the settlement here a minister was not always available to conduct the funeral service, especially in winter, so the burial was made by family and neighbors, and when a minister might come around in the spring a committal service would be held. At West Prairie a little Gabrielson girl died in September of 1889, at six months of age, and the committal (Jordfestelse) was held in May of 1890 by Pastor I.L. Lundeby.

On the day of the funeral the pastor, neighbors, and relatives would gather at the family home and a short home service would be held. Then after a meal, and a short time of visiting, the casket was loaded on a wagon (or a sleigh in wintertime), and the whole assembly set off to the church solemn procession.

West Prairie Church was built in the summer of 1896, and the bell was installed then also. At the congregation's annual meeting that year, among other business, rules and regulations for ringing the bell were drawn up. In the case of funerals, these were the rules to be followed:

1. Upon notice of a death in the congregation (of a member, that is) the sexton is to ring the bell at sundown.
2. On the funeral day the ringing shall begin when the funeral procession is about one-half mile from the church, so that the first half of that (ringing) is outright ringing, and the last half is tolling with the hammer until the procession has arrived at the church.
3. When the funeral service is over: tolling with the hammer as the casket is carried from the church to the grave, then pausing while the casket is lowered into the grave and the usual hymn is sung, and the committal service is finished. Then the

years of age of the departed one are tolled, one toll for each year as the grave is filled. Signed secretary Tollef (Tvedt) Tweed.

Now back to the remembrances:

The funeral was held at 2 p.m., the casket having been placed on a stand at the front of the church. After the sermon those who were present filed past the open casket to view the remains, then back to their pews (this was the wintertime procedure). The first funeral I clearly remember was the one held for Hans Moen. He died suddenly in C.P. Dahl's store in Jessie December 31, 1931, and his funeral was held January 3, 1932, at West Prairie. I sat with my uncle Ole in church, and I remember that as we walked past the casket Ole had to lift me up so that I could see Hans. Another funeral that I clearly remember in those days was the one that was held for Mrs. Paul (Anna) Rorvig. My mother sang in the choir that day; that was in January of 1933.

In those days, most, or all, of the services were in Norwegian, and I can so clearly remember that at the committal service beside the grave the short hymn "Aa tenk naar en gang samles skal" ("Oh happy day when we shall stand") was sung by all, with our pastor Marcus Tufteland leading the singing, his silvery hair and long, black gown blowing in the wind. And then the six pallbearers lowered the casket into the grave with some light ropes.

There was much more feeling of respect for the one who had died, and the family, in those days. If a dance or a party had been scheduled in the community prior to the death, it was canceled, out of a feeling of respect. Not so today, in many cases.

In our community, we have had many people ready to give a word of comfort, and an act of help, in times of need. Especially I think of Mrs. Ole L. Anderson for the acts of kindness she gave to our community. At the time of birth she would bring food, and words of happiness. At baptism and confirmation she brought gifts and a smile. At weddings her presence was a gift in itself. But it was at the time of sickness and death that she really shone, by the food, by the words of comfort, and by the acts of kindness that she brought to that home. It is good that she lived amongst us. God bless her.

-Allen Osmundson

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 131

ELECTRONIC MARVEL

Television for home entertainment had its beginning in the larger metropolitan areas in the late thirties but World War II stunted the growth of the industry as efforts to advance the technology were diverted to radar, sonar, range finders and other electronic equipment to aid the war effort.

The techniques acquired during the war laid the groundwork for rapid expansion of this medium immediately after the war ended.

Television sets made their first appearance in Griggs County in the early fifties. The limited range of television from the broadcast tower made reception very unreliable and those who owned TV sets at that time had to be content with a few minutes, and rarely, hours of television when atmospheric and other conditions were favorable for wave propagation.

Early TV enthusiasts spent hours in front of their sets watching snow dance across the screen and occasionally getting a glimpse of a picture or a few words of sound.

In 1953 the first local broadcasts from a tower south of Fargo on low power gave us only marginal reception much of the time and on rare occasions, good reception.

Improved reception required an elaborate antenna erected as high as possible. In many instances the cost of the antenna installation was more than the cost of the TV receiver. Houses took on a different appearance as most antennas were installed on the roof.

Several days after the announced date for the beginning of broadcasting, the screens of those owning a TV installation lit up with the long-awaited entertainment. Homes and businesses attracted throngs of people eager to view the latest in home entertainment.

I had an installation at the farm home where we lived during the summer months and I returned home late in the evening of the premier showing and found the living room crowded with friends and neighbors watching the late show which was one of Alfred Hitchcock's semi-humorous, creaking-door-type of productions. Everyone was glued to the television screen and no one acknowledged my presence. The program had reached its climax of suspense and anxiety when a steer wandering in the dark outside the house, stumbled over the wooden steps of the door leading outside and fell through the open door, through the screen door and into the room. The women screamed and vaulted for the protection of their husbands arms. The steer was startled out of his skin and leaped out through the door almost before anyone knew what had happened. It was several minutes before pounding hearts subsided so the TV program again could be heard.

The advent of television changed the life styles of family living and a visit to a neighbor who owned a TV set consisted of a hello and a goodbye with the entire evening being devoted to watching television programs. Movie theater attendance plummeted and many theaters closed their doors. Cooperstown's Strand Theatre was one of the victims but was later reopened as the newness of the medium subsided.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 132

Women Folks

WOMEN FOLKS

Today I went back into history. I visited a log cabin, now empty and abandoned, but the stillness echoes the past. I tried to visualize where was the cupboard, the table, the bed. Maybe they hung a utensil, or a calendar or an important paper on the nail, maybe they made a line for clothes on these nails. Not very large, one window, one door, a dirt floor, but it was home and it was hand hewn.

Today I walked in the Opheim Cemetery. I walked where Opheims had trod 102 years before me, and I could see and feel the beauty of the land. In 1879 they were the first and they picked this spot over all others.

The housewives of the prairie were busy, caring for children, washing, baking, cleaning, sewing, doing outside chores and even working in the fields. Frontier people

did not indulge in self-pity. They only complained if the hard work failed to produce a decent living.

The homes built at first were a sod house, log house or shanty. The sod houses were usually one room with only one opening for a door, and no floor. The roofs were usually not so tight and after a heavy rain, bedding and clothing had to be hung out to dry. The walls of the interior of the sod homes were brightened by using a lime or white clay mixture, or if that was not available, the walls were papered with copies of magazines. Each spring they could be repapered. A sod house could be built without mortar, square, plumb or greenbacks.

Log cabins could be built at a cost of 25 to 100 dollars, and usually consisted of one large room with sleeping space in the loft. These were substantially better than the sod huts and so people lived in them for a longer period of time. Then the wood frame homes were built.

As an example, the Fuglestads lived in three types of homes; sod, log and frame. Their semi-sod house was built tighter than most so only once in the eight years they lived in it did the roof leak and that was during a cloudburst. The walls were 8 to 12 inches thick, and with this double thick wall the home was quite comfortable. Even when the fire went out at night during the winter, the water in the pall never froze. The Fuglestads lived in the sod house from 1883 to 1891 when they built a log house. That was their home until 1905 when they built a modern wood frame house. They added on to their log house three times in that time.

The homes were not only small and inexpensive according to today's homes but they were meagerly furnished. The furniture was usually hand made, or wooden boxes were used. The mattresses were usually straw ticks. The ticks were filled with new straw each threshing season.

The homes were not warm. The same stove was used for heating and cooking. Fuel was anything available; wood, cow chips, twisted straw.

The cooking utensils in the average home were a cast iron kettle, cast iron skillet, tea kettle, coffee pot and a large iron soap kettle, plus the tin dishes used for eating.

Post offices were established at homes in the area. The mail was important to the settlers. It was their touch with the outside world. One paper that was in all the Norwegian homes was the *Decorah Posten*, which had the adventures of Ola and Per printed in a comic strip. Rural free delivery was established in 1893 and the catalogs of Sears and Wards brought the stores to the women.

The women raised the gardens to supply foodstuffs for the coming winter. Food was preserved by canning and packing vegetables in sand and dirt. Butchering was usually done after the cold weather came as the lack of refrigeration or any cooking system caused a constant struggle to keep meats. Meat was preserved in two-quart jars, salted down in crock jars, or packed away in grain in granaries. The grain acted as an insulator and meat could be frozen until May. Meat was also cured and smoked. The housewives would work many weeks taking care of the meat after butchering. Lard was also rendered. This was used to make soap and candles.

Women had to churn the butter for the family. If any surplus was made they could sell it.

The chores that went with raising chickens were done by the housewives or the children. Eggs had to be picked daily. Before the days of chicken coops the hens would lay their eggs anywhere around the farm. Chickens were also used for meat, and eggs were also used plentifully. The chicken also was used as a barter. The housewife could trade chickens for magazine subscriptions. Agents for farm magazines drove Model T's with chicken crates tied behind.

Washing clothes was probably one of the worst chores for the women. Water would have to be saved in barrels, or brought from the river or in the winter, melt snow. Summer would not be so bad to dry clothes but in the winter, many women froze their fingers hanging clothes out, and then bringing the frozen clothes back into the house to dry. Clothes were washed on the scrub board, a backbreaking job. When the hand-powered washing machine was invented, it no doubt helped the housewife. Children or whoever was available had to provide the power.

Even though a woman helped in the fields she was still expected to do the work in the home besides.

The workday of the woman began at 5 and her day usually was 13 hours long. She had to haul the water, haul the wood, milk the cows and feed the chickens. She seldom saw any money from the sale of wheat and livestock and the money from her butter, eggs and cream usually went to help pay the mortgage.

Women's work was so hard because of the limited number of manufactured products available or that she could afford to buy, no laborsaving appliances, the large families, and hired help she always had to cook for.

The prairie was hard on the women and it took its toll.

- Lorna Auren

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 133

THE PRAIRIE VASTNESS

It was in early spring (April of 1883) when we arrived in North Dakota. I was born in Ontario, Canada, and accustomed to the wooded areas. I was transplanted within a week to the prairie vastness of Dakota Territory.

We came as far as Sanborn by rail but the branch not being completed to Cooperstown we took the stage from Sanborn to Dazey in a dreary, drizzling rain. At Dazey we were lodged in a home of a Scandinavian family who knew only their native language, which was strangely unfamiliar to us and seemed a compound of threats and derision. Bewildered and weary and unable to comprehend a word they said, we were almost immediately to find out how more than kind our hosts could be for it was their team, which carried our little group over the miles from Dazey to Cooperstown. We were obliged to ford Bald Hill creek, whose swollen waters crept into the box of our wagon and over the backs of the faithful horses.

At Sanborn we had discovered that, through an oversight, our clothing and household goods were being held in Chicago until they could be re-checked. It was six weeks before they finally arrived. This complicated matters for the mother of the family for we

had brought with us just the clothing we thought needed for the journey and were unprepared for this contingency.

Arriving at Cooperstown we found reserved for our use two claim shanties on opposite sides of a road. One served as living rooms, the other for sleeping quarters and in the latter we wakened one morning to find ourselves blanketed in snow, which had blown in through the cracks in the wall during the night.

One morning I remember of seeing 21 four-mule breaking outfits start out together to turn over the prairie land owned by R.C. Cooper.

In the first year we were anxious to make the most of our land rights so my husband filed on a claim. Leaving the other children with friends in town, he and my brother loaded up a small stove and other necessary household effects and with the two smaller children we set out by ox team for our claim.

Scarcely had we arrived when a band of men rode up and with hootings and much shooting dashed around our cabin shanty. I was terrified. My husband and brother went out to ascertain the cause of this visitation and were told the claim had previously been filed on by one of the men of the party. All our efforts to arrive at an amicable settlement failed and their disturbances continued until, thoroughly worn out and discouraged, we packed our goods, and wended our weary way back to town. That was the extent of our attempt to farm in Dakota.

Schools were not yet established on the prairie; work was to be had in town where our children could have the privilege of attending a good school under the instruction of those who proved to be friends and advisors for many years.

In the fall of that first year we moved from the shanties into a granary belonging to R.C. Cooper. The granary had been painted, papered and divided by partitions into rooms but with the prospect of its being torn down we decided to build for ourselves.

Before this home was completed, the granary was being torn down and one day the children and I sat out on the grass by our new home with our furniture beside us waiting until the roof was put on so we might move in. This was our home for 37 years.

I was never homesick after coming to Dakota, but the longing for the trees and flowers never ceased. One day our son found a little cottonwood twig, which he brought home and planted in our back yard. So far as I know, that was the first tree planted in Cooperstown.

Lacking too were the church spires of the settled communities; quite in evidence were the saloons, which followed with the opening of the new country. But worship we must - so it happened one day, for lack of a better place, we held our service in a saloon, the bottles and kegs mute witnesses of the character of the place.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 135

ABIGAEL

-Mrs. George Newberry "Living Pioneers of Griggs County", *Sentinel - Courier*, 1937

In the snug sod house Abigael Fuglestad could now call home and her own (in 1883) she had a wooden floor in only one of the rooms. Her kitchen had only a hard-packed dirt floor. Every Saturday she swept it out carefully, and then brought in fresh sand with which she covered the dirt.

Torkel had constructed a table from the packing box in which most of their possessions had been transported. Later a carpenter built a cupboard and a chest of drawers. The latter at Torkel's request, was topped by a bookcase. (This piece is on loan at the present time to the Dakota House where it is used as display space and as a little bit of history). Also homemade was their bed and the trundle bed, which was slipped under the regular bed during the daytime.

Loneliness besieged her during the long days Torkel had to be elsewhere working. The ceaseless wind was pitiless. Work was a barrier against lonesomeness. She milked the cow, skimmed the cream from the top of the milk, and churned butter. Her churn was a small wooden one, which looked like half a keg, cut lengthwise. It was cradled in a frame, which brought it up to a comfortable level as she sat on a chair, turning the handle attached to paddles, which beat the cream into butter.

Instinctively she became an expert at knowing how many buffalo chips or how much twisted, dried grass she would need to use in order to bake the bread she had made. Later her expertise dictated just the right amount of wood, which would produce beautifully browned loaves.

Deep satisfaction for any Scandinavian was contained in a cup of hot coffee. Abigael ground coffee by using her rolling pin to crush the beans as they lay in a long trough.

She kept foods fresh by putting them into palls, which she hung in the well. Having drawn and heated water from that same well, she washed clothes by rubbing them on a corrugated rubbing board, which rested in a water-filled tin tub.

She also kept self-pity at a distance by tasks in which their sheep involuntarily assisted. She carded their wool, spun the yarn on her spinning wheel, then knitted socks, mittens and other articles of warm clothing. Their tallow was used to make candles and soap. She mixed tallow and lye in a kettle of water. The lye made the water hot. Abigael stirred the hot mixture until it cooled and began to congeal. She then left it to set overnight, cutting it into bars in the morning. She made candles in a mold she had brought from Norway. She placed the mold upside down, drew a cord through the tiny hole at the bottom, and poured melted tallow into the mold. A bit of the heavy string left at the open end made it possible for her to pull out the hardened candle.

In the face of adversities, which bombarded them from every side, they stood together, Torkel and Abigael, establishing a home on the prairie.

Excerpted by permission from *Though The Mountains Depart* by Swanhild Aalgaard.

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WOMEN'S WORK

In 1938, the Hannaford Enterprise carried stories about pioneers of the area. A story published June 3, 1938, gives a striking account of the life of a hard-working pioneer woman.

Selma Olson was born in Nerke, Sweden in 1857.

In 1881 she came to America and stayed in Chicago until November of the following year, when she came to Mayville. On May 22, 1884 she became the bride of Mr. August Palm. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Ohman in Hillsboro. Two weeks later the newlyweds came to Bartley Township to live on the farm where Mr. Palm had erected a sod house the previous year. This sod house was quite different from many sod houses at this time as it was boarded on the inside, while others had no frame work excepting the window frames and door cases. This was to be their home until in 1887, when they moved into a small frame house, the lumber for which was hauled from Valley City. Ten more years rolled on, when C.L. Peterson was hired to build an addition to the house.

One of the very first jobs to tackle on a farm is to locate a water supply. Mr. Palm and his able wife set to work: himself doing the digging, while Mrs. Palm hauled dirt to the top in buckets. As a reward for this she was promised a clock, which she got.

During their first year in Bartley they had no oxen nor horses. The spring's work was hired and & town trips were made in company with their neighbor Carl Berg, Sr., who had the oxen. Mrs. Palm recalls instances when she did not go to town for three years. On one occasion when supplies had been brought home from town, Mr. and Mrs. Palm were away from home; an intruder entered their home and stole the supplies. Also taken was silverware Mrs. Palm had brought with her from Sweden.

Upon one occasion an Indian came to the Palm house. Upon entering the house, he stood with his back to the occupants of the house, while apparently searching for something in his pockets. This naturally startled the members of the family. However, at length he produced a piece of paper OD on which was written: "Give him something to eat and a bed." Her anxiety over, Mrs. Palm promptly set forth food, which the self-invited guest devoured. Soon after finishing his meal, the Indian made signs of being tired. A bed was soon made on the floor for him. Instead of placing his head on the pillow, he placed his feet there and was soon fast asleep. While he slept, Mrs. Palm set about to patch his trousers, as they were in very bad shape. When he awoke and found his trousers patched he placed his hand on his knee and uttered the only words he spoke while there: "That's good." After eating his breakfast, he left for Devils Lake and was not heard from since.

Besides rearing a family of nine children, Mrs. Palm laundered clothes for neighboring hired help. This included patching also and netted her \$3 a week. Rearing a family was different in the early days, as all the clothes worn by the family were sewed by hand until in 1894, she became the owner of a sewing machine, which proved to be a big help. She also made all the mittens and socks, and for these she spun the yarn. Another way in which Mrs. Palm earned extra money was to board the schoolteacher.

During the haying season, Mr. Palm would cut the hay before going out to work and it was Mrs. Palm's duty to rake and bunch the hay with a hand rake. The children were along to do what they could, which consisted usually in emptying the water jug.

As years rolled by, more land was acquired until at one time eight quarters were owned and operated by Mr. Palm and all the work was done by horsepower. Threshing

time came with even more work for the housewife, as that meant an added task of cooking for twenty-four men without additional help.

In times of sickness when the husband was away to work, it was necessary for Mrs. Palm to walk approximately three and one-half miles to a kindly neighbor lady, Mrs. V. Hanson, for assistance. One of these times it was Henry who took sick. With him in her arms and Charley, about two years old, toddling behind, the little party set out for Mrs. Hanson, who often times took the place of a doctor in the pioneer days.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 135

JULIA

A fisherman's daughter, Julia Bendickson celebrated her twentieth birthday on the boat coming from Norway to the United States in 1910. There were thirteen children in the family. Eventually they all left Norway for the United States. Now there are just two left, Ben Bendickson and herself.

The first to leave Norway was her brother, Henry. He had gone to school in Bergen to be a sailor. When the letters quit coming home, they knew something had happened and he had drowned at sea.

Her brother, Matt came to North Dakota to farm so she and her brother, Carl came to join him. "The first year at Matt's I was so homesick I cried and cried. I would have run away back home if I could have walked across the ocean. It's terrible to come in a strange land when you do not know the language. Matt had told me that if anyone came to the farm for him I should say he was in the hay field. I kept saying this to myself so much that it didn't sound right. When someone did come to ask for Matt, I didn't go to the door, I went upstairs instead. I was so homesick so I sent for my friend, Anna to come so she came in 1911 and we were together. I had promised Matt I would stay with him until he got married."

"My first job in Cooperstown was for a dressmaker, Mrs. Hammer. She went out to the homes and sewed and I took care of her children."

"In 1911 Mrs. Retzlaff came to Matt's and wanted Anna or me to help Mrs. Gilbert Johnson. She cooked in a cook car and he worked on the rig. We both said we'd go. Well, Matt decided that in a hurry. He and Anna got married, so I went."

"While working in the cook car I did all the odd jobs: washing dishes, setting table and peeling potatoes. Mrs. Johnson was a Norwegian lady so we got along fine. I cooked in cook cars for a total of seven years, off and on."

"Alfred (Retzlaff) and his dad had a road crew and one year built a road from Hannaford to Dazey. The next year they made a road to Red Willow. I worked in the cook car. We had so many men to cook for, there were two shifts."

A married Alfred Retzlaff in 1917 and we have two sons, Marvin and Carrol."

"In 1918 we had no money and no car. We drove to town in the buggy. I was going to help Alfred in the field with the dragging and plowing. I drove four horses. They were so slow they wouldn't go. I had blisters on my hands from trying to make them go. Alfred said to have small stones in my pockets and throw them at the horses. That didn't

help so we changed teams. Well, they were so frisky I got blisters on my hands from trying to hold them back. That only lasted a week. I told Alfred I'd rather cook for twenty men than go in the field."

"When Alfred started going place to place threshing I had to learn to milk the two cows and feed the pigs. After we farmed bigger I never milked, I had too many to cook for."

"In the thirties we were very poor. I went with Alfred to McHenry to thresh. They had a better crop than we did here. I rode on a machine that Alfred pulled with the tractor. All I did was sit on a seat and raise or lower the reel."

"Our house on the farm burned in the forties. It started from a gasoline stove that had leaked. There was fire all over the floor. We tried to fight it but it was no use. It went so quick! Four hundred quarts of sauce and meat were destroyed plus most of our possessions. We saved Alfred's time book, a few clothes, the cream separator and washing machine. The hired men ran upstairs and in their haste, they threw out an old mattress while a new one burned, threw down a lamp with no chimney and two different shoes."

"After the fire we fixed up a new chicken coop and lived in it for nine years."

"I went back to Norway in 1916 because my dad was ill and when I came back Alfred and I were married. I went back again when my mother was 92 years old. Alfred couldn't go with me because we had so many turkeys, 12,000, and he couldn't leave. Finally came the day when we could both go. He said his work was all done and we would go to Norway. He was so happy to go home with me, but he died on the boat, the second day out. That was the worst thing I ever went through."

"Three years ago I broke my hip. I was in the hospital for five weeks. Then I got arthritis in my other hip. The doctor said I should either have an operation or be in a wheelchair. I had the surgery and I now get around with the use of a walker. I go to church and to senior citizens. I am glad I had it done. I have no pain and I was always active and worked a lot so I wanted to work again."

"When people say they wish they were back to forty, I say I wish I was back to 80 or 85. At age 82 I drove my car. I wish I could drive again."

She was a fisherman's daughter, and she is a lady who has lived many years without growing old.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 136

FURNISHING THE HOME

The pioneer hurried to provide a house on the homestead and the loghouse, sod home, or dugout at last became a reality. All their household possessions were packed in several trunks, barrels and shipping crates.

The house was generally furnished with only the necessities: a four lid iron cookstove, the much needed coffee pot and coffee grinder, a large iron kettle, cast iron skillet or spider, wooden bowls and kitchen utensils, their personal eating dishes made of either tin, granite or heavy china, and possibly a wooden dasher churn and a large tin dish pan.

Laundry equipment included the wooden or tin tubs, sad (flat) irons, the washboard, and cast iron or copper boiler to heat the water for clothes washing or Saturday night baths. The same boilers were sometimes used for canning or making cheese. A large iron soap kettle was also used to heat water for butchering, and for melting the tallow for making candles.

Their first homes were furnished simply. Homemade furniture was the decor of the era. They made their own tables, chairs, benches, cupboards and beds from the trees in the area or from the packing crates. They also made some of the wooden kitchen tools such as the butter ladle, spoons, potato masher and a turu (a tool used for stirring rommegrot). A large chest, brought from the old country, stored their more valuable possessions: linens, bedding, feather blankets, pictures, Bible, and other books, possibly some silver or pewter pieces, or some fine china, fabric and clothing.

The housewife had to make and mend most of the clothing for the family. A highly important article brought from the old country was the spinning wheel. Besides the knitted garments, she made most of the other clothing by hand. The treadle sewing machine was a fairly expensive but essential item and one greatly appreciated by the housewife when she could afford to purchase one. Store bought clothes were available but were too expensive for the homesteader.

Woman's work was never done. Cooking, cleaning and gardening were only part of the tasks that occupied the woman's day. The housewife had to produce many of the materials needed in the homes. She didn't have shortening for cooking unless she saved the fat from the hog and rendered it into lard or skimmed the cream from the milk to churn the butter. There was no sausage if she didn't take time at hog butchering time to save and clean intestines to use for casings. No candlelight unless she saved the mutton fat to render into tallow for the making of candles. No warm wool garments unless she saved the sheep wool to card, and spin into to knit the sweaters, mittens, stockings, baby clothes and scarves. To wash clothes and clean house, she had to make soap, to make soap she had to save grease and leach out lye, to leach lye she had to save ashes, to save ashes ... it seemed to be a vicious circle to save byproducts to produce a much needed household product.

Heating and cooking fuel on the treeless plain was a problem. The pioneers had to haul wood long distances from the rivers, it was a time-consuming job collecting and preparing the firewood for fuel. Often times cow chips and twisted prairie hay were used for fuel.

Besides candles, another form of lighting in the homes was the kerosene lamps and lanterns that used wicks and were just as smelly and smoky as the candles. Cleaning and polishing the chimneys and refilling the lamps was another household duty each day. A much later form of lighting was the type commonly known as the Aladdin lamp. It gave a brighter light through the use of a mantle, and used refined kerosene.

The common mattress at the time was the straw filled ticks. Each fall the ticks would be taken outdoors and turned inside out, washed and refilled with fresh oat or wheat straw. The ticks varied in thickness from 12 to 24 inches, but eventually flattened down to the bed slats. Sometimes horse, cowhide or buffalo robes would be laid over the flattened ticks to add comfort.

Every fall the settler laid in a winter's supply of groceries-, flour, sugar, coffee, beans, salt, and salt pork (if they didn't butcher their own pork), fuel for the lamps and other supplies. The first settlers in the Cooperstown area had to travel to Valley City or Mayville; a trip sometimes requiring several days. By the early months of 1883, Cooperstown was an up and coming town and had several general stores, eliminating the long hard trip for supplies.

Milk cows and chickens were of vital importance to the settler, as they provided them with milk, cream, butter, and eggs. Butter and eggs were often brought into the stores by the housewife to trade for groceries.

Fish and wild game supplemented the settlers' meager diet of mush, beans, bread, and salt pork. After the first year on the homestead they would also have the garden produce to add variety to their diets.

Since there was no refrigeration, various methods of preserving foods were used. It was either smoked, salted or canned. Fall with its cool days was hog-butcher time. The fresh hams, picnic shoulders, and bacon were cured rubbed with salt or put in a brine for several weeks before smoking. They were then hung in the smokehouse and allowed to smoke for several weeks, with corncobs providing the desirable fuel. Salting was done by layering the meat with salt in barrels or large stoneware crocks. Crocks were also used to store sauerkraut and pickles. There is no known record when the first canning of vegetables, fruits and meats were done in this area. The first canning jars available were the Mason jar with the rubber ring and Zinc screw-on lid, and later the blue Mason jar with the rubber ring, glass top and wire clamp were used. A root cellar located under the house or a dugout in a hill provided a place to keep carrots, potatoes, onions and other garden produce firm and dry for months. Wild plums, strawberries, chokecherries and berries native to the area were made into jams and jellies.

As time passed and people prospered they were able to build frame double-walled homes. These homes varied in shape and size, and were generally constructed with the outside walls of shiplap covered with heavy building paper and finished with lap siding. On the inside of the studs there was lath and plaster and finished with paint or wallpaper. The floors had soft or hardwood floors. The home contained two or three bedrooms, kitchen and pantry, and a room just for sitting and sometimes a dining room, with a window or two in each room. The wood constructed homes were perhaps colder in winter and hotter in summer than the sod or cabin home but the light, spacious, cheery rooms were a welcome change for the families.

The new home required a heating stove for the sitting room. If they could afford it, new furniture was purchased and only a few pieces were homemade.

The housewife's tasks remained much the same but were made easier with the improvement of many household items.

One improvement in some of the new homes was the building of an underground cistern to store a supply of soft water for washing clothes or bathing. A hand pump was installed to bring the water up from the cistern. Earlier laundry water came from the regular well and was hard water, or a barrel set at the corner of the house to collect rainwater as it ran from a shingled roof. In the winter snow was melted to provide soft water. It is no wonder the earlier wash days were an unpleasant task, with hard water, homemade lye soap and the scrub board. Laundry equipment improved also. The

wooden hand-powered washing machine and hand-cranked wringer helped ease washday, although the scrub board wasn't abandoned completely. It was usually the children's chore to provide the power for the washing machine. A later advancement in the washing machine was the gas-powered washer, with attached wringer. The housewife no longer had to stand over the washing and was free to do other chores as each load washed.

The big, black coal and wood burning cookstove, popular around the 1900's, was the center of the kitchen. Near by was the kitchen rocking chair, used for resting a spell or rocking the baby. One of the stove's features was the warming oven running the full length of the stove across the top. It was a handy place for storing potholders, flat irons, and keeping food warm. (The warming oven was also known to have saved many a premature baby, as the warming oven acted as an incubator). The cooking surface had four to six lids, requiring a special tool for lifting the lids, enabling the cook to add fuel to the stove. The wood box and coal bucket were right beside the stove. A good cook at the controls of the dampers and fire together with the stove could produce a very delicious meal. Flat bread and lefse were baked on the surface; the coffee pot was always on and quite often a kettle of mush or rommegrot. Another feature was the baking oven from which delicious aromas of bread, cakes and the goodies emanated. Many loaves of bread were baked weekly for the family and a good cook generally knew just how many pieces of wood the stove required to bake bread or cakes, and when the temperature was just right. To test the oven temperature a little flour was thrown on the floor of the oven. If the flour turned slightly brown and looked slightly scorched the oven was the proper temperature. Some cooks had a knack of sensing the correct oven temperature by placing their hand in the oven.

There was a reservoir on the side of the stove for heating water, and that was another chore for the youngsters to keep the reservoir filled, along with keeping the ashpan empty and the wood box and coal bucket filled.

The cookstove was a quick place to dry wet mittens and shoes, or warm cold hands and feet. A tub placed in front of the stove was an ideal place to bathe the children on a cold winter night. Three or more flat irons were heated on the back of the stove for ironing, or to wrap in a towel and take on a sleigh ride to keep your feet warm.

Th pioneers were always willing to help one another. They enjoyed each other's company, shared in each other's work and cared for one another during illness. There always seemed to be one lady in the community who acted as a midwife to deliver the babies, and who knew about treating some illnesses.

Life for the pioneer woman was often filled with hardship. There was always endless work and worry over children, sickness, and finances. The homestead land was free but she paid for it with her health as she became old before her time.

She was proud of her home and family and dreamed of better things for them.

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LISA

Lisa Fuglestad Loge is ninety years old in the Centennial year, and has lived in Griggs County all her life. She remembers clearly what it was like to grow up so long ago.

The Fourth of July was a big event. They always got a new dress for the picnic at a spot near the Cooperstown Bible Camp. (It was across the river on a place called "Grise holmen" - meaning "pig pasture").

Lisa's older sister, Inga, recalls driving about eight miles from home to the picnic with oxen, about 1891. Her dad tied American flags to the ears of the oxen. She was so proud. This picnic was the only time during the year they had lee cream and lemonade - price 5¢. This was made by the Herigstad and Lunde boys, Omund and Conrad Herigstad and Betuel and Martin Lunde.

Lisa remembers the huge swings in the big trees at the picnic. The girls had to be careful of their new dresses. There was no program as she recalls, but they played lots of games.

Some years later the picnic was moved across the river to what is now the Bible Camp. Later sometimes on the Fourth of July they drove by surrey to Lake Jessie. That was a long ride.

Christmas called for another dress. Last year's dress was used for everyday for school. They did a lot of housecleaning and some baking. "Food was not that important in those days. Father brought in an ordinary tree branch for a Christmas tree and we decorated it with homemade trimmings made from colored paper and tissue paper. (No popcorn was available yet) All the festivities took place in the homes as there was no church building until 1903." Then they had afternoon programs so everyone could get home before dark. Horse blankets were used to cover the church windows to make it dark enough. By then they could purchase evergreens in town. Real candles were the customary trimmings. Lisa said there was never a fire.

Someone was always ready to play games. Even the father joined in at Christmas. "Put the chairs in front of the stove so no one gets burned. We're going to play blind man's buff." Another game played in the living room had no name. Everyone sat in a large circle. One was chosen "It" and stood in the middle. A homemade ball was tossed from one to the other and the one that was "It" tried to intercept the ball.

School was fun. They had many games including: last couple out, pump pump pull away, ante-I-over, prisoners base, drop the handkerchief, fox and geese, arbor down.

Younger children trapped gophers for a penny a tail. Bird nests were marked with sticks when the youngsters went to get the milk cows so they could return and check up on the "family".

Every farmer had a few sheep for their own wool. Every summer the Fuglestad sheep would be driven to the Torkel Vigesaa farm and he hired a herder to ride sheep for the summer. Andrew Hagle was herder for many years.

Ice wells were the forerunners of modern day refrigerators. A large deep hole was dug, about eight feet deep and five feet across. The cover was in two sets - one large and one small. Both were removed in the winter and then a few palls of water were poured in each day after the weather was below freezing. By spring there would be a layer of ice ready to store cream, milk and all perishables.

One day when Abigael Fuglestad, Lisa's mother was alone, she saw a man coming down the road leading a cow and calf. She went to bargain with him to purchase the calf. She could not speak English and the man could not understand Norwegian but she

managed to get her point across, and made him understand that he had to wait while she ran to the neighbors a half a mile away and borrow the \$5 to purchase the calf. All business was transacted by the time Abigael's husband returned home to see two calves instead of one in the barn. Torkel used to proudly tell that that calf was the beginning of their good herd of cows.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 139

IN THE COOK CAR

Cook cars were restaurants on wheels where food was prepared for a threshing crew.

Mrs. Frank Nierenberg (Minnie Clemens) worked with Mrs. Charlie Loudon in the cook car. Hours were long and the days were hot.

The day began at 4 a.m. Minnie's first job was to see that there were clean towels, soap and water outside for the men to wash. This job was repeated at noon and again in the evening. She then had to set tables and wait on tables while the men were eating. There were seventeen men to cook for, three meals a day plus lunches.

Sourdough pancakes were made. Mrs. Loudon always kept some sourdough for a new batch. They baked all their bread, cookies, and pies. Baking was done on a coal and wood stove. They had lunch ready morning and afternoon to send out with the grain haulers.

The women who cooked in cook cars went right along with the rigs. Forty cents an hour was considered good wages for a woman. "I made \$75.00 one fall and thought I'd made lots of money," Minnie remembered.

When the late Gunhild Gilbertson (Auren) was cooking at the Steen Nelson farm, she was up early to start the breakfast, 4 a.m. One morning she opened & cook car to find a man lying on the floor by the range. Frightened, she ran to the house to get Mr. Nelson and upon investigation they found it was only a stuffed dummy placed there as a prank by the threshers. They were properly reprimanded and the matter was never discussed in the presence of Gunhild.

Gunhild also used to tell about traveling from one place to another with a batch of bread dough rising in the cook car. She always worried that the bread would fall after being hauled over rough roads, but it turned out all right anyway.

Breakfast was toast or pancakes, eggs and bacon or hot cereal for 20 to 25 men every day. The men sat at a long table with benches at each side. Amanda Fadness (Hogie), who worked in a cook car when she was 15, would do the breakfast dishes while the head cook did the baking or started the forenoon lunch. Meat and potatoes and vegetables were a big part of the menu. The cooks baked all the bread, cookies, cake and doughnuts. There would be pie or pudding with the noon meal. Afternoon lunch was sent to the field with the grain haulers.

After the noon dishes were washed, the cooks washed the dishtowels on a washboard and then mopped the floor.

Flies were always a problem even with sticky flypaper, and the cooks would shoo them out with towel in hand.

Peaches and cream were often the dessert at suppertime.

They got milk, cream and eggs from the farmer. The owner of the rig went to town almost every day for meat. There was no refrigeration. Cooking was done on a coal and wood stove. All the water had to be carried in and the slop pail was always full, it seemed.

After the supper dishes were done it was time to set the table and turn the plates upside down over the silver.

Bedtime for the cooks, if they were lucky, was 11 p.m., and often it was midnight. They were up again by 5 a.m.

The cooks slept on a cot behind a curtain at one end of the cook car.

Manda's wages that fall were a dollar a day.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 140

COOK CARS

Jim Hill had a cooking car built to go along with his threshing crew in 1889. According to the *Courier*, it was the best seen in that line. The cooking room was built in the center of the car, and men ate from both sides. A covered driveway, so to speak, was arranged on the outside of the car with stalls that would accommodate 18 men at one time.

The food was served from the inside of the cooking room, from windows that were made to lift up at mealtime. The cook car stood by the old Whidden Store in July of 1899 where everyone could take a look at it.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 141

HIRED GIRLS

One job that was available to young girls and women was that of a hired girl. If the girl was not needed at home to work, she could supplement the income at home by taking jobs helping in other homes. The young unattached girls who came here from European countries were eager to get jobs in the rural homes. These "newcomer" girls thus had a chance to learn the new language and the mores of their adopted country. Most likely these girls worked only long enough to meet some young man, get married and begin their own home.

Usually the pioneer women and children were required to do their own housework and barnyard chores but occasionally help was needed, as in time of childbirth, illness or injury. The cook cars that were set up to feed the crews of men on threshing rigs and railroad lines also provided work for the women.

Most hired girls did not have an easy life - cooking in the cook car was very hard work, as they had many men to cook for and few conveniences. Working in the homes was somewhat better, but there too the work was hard and the hours long.

Hired girls were not treated well in all homes. They had to accept the role of hired help. Wages were poor, the girls usually received board and room and \$2.50 to \$4.00 per week - this was for seven long days with no time off, except maybe a Sunday once in a

while. Perhaps the fate of the hired girl depended on the housewife's disposition, the amount of work that had to be done and the ability of the hired girl.

It has been told that one girl living in the north end of town worked for a family in the south end of town, a distance of about a mile. The hired girl stayed at home but each day had to walk to work, perform household tasks including cooking the noon meal, walk home at noon to eat her own meal and then walk back again to work for the afternoon.

Another tale was that of the hired girl who came from a dance rather late and as "punishment" the next morning was set to work washing walls and ceilings, which were wainscoting!

Mrs. Jens Ashland (Myrtle Lier of Mose) got a job at age 13 at the Hans Froiland farm south of Cooperstown. She worked there for two years from March to November, and then went home to Mose where she went to school from November to March. She finished grade school this way. The second year she was at Froilands' at age 14 she took over the whole household for one month while Mrs. Froiland was in the hospital in Fargo. She worked at Froilands one more summer and from there went to the T. Thompson home in Cooperstown where she worked one winter.

Days on the farm were long - beginning at 4:30 a.m. - first thing to make breakfast for the men and then the daily chores - besides churning butter, washing clothes, ironing, scrubbing floors on hands and knees with a scrub brush and soap. Everything had to be just so. Her pay was room and board and \$1.50 a week, the first year and by the third year she got a little extra pay during harvest.

She then went to work for Mrs. Ashland, where she worked for 2 or 3 years. On March 13, 1922 she married a son Jens Ashland, and to quote Jens "she probably didn't get much pay at home but she got me!" This must have been a good investment as it has lasted for 60 years.

Mrs. Marie Johnson worked for Mrs. R.C. Cooper for a number of years. She did general housework and helped with the entertaining. They had lavish dinner parties. The Coopers had their own light plant, and electricity was available only a few hours a day; so they timed their work to get it done at that time. Mrs. Cooper liked to put on a white dress to go out and work in the gardens. Mrs. Cooper was known to be a very stylish, chic lady, while her husband was described as "more common and like one of the boys".

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 141

BEHIND THE COUNTER

At the age of eleven, Marcie Willows began her first job in a restaurant in Glenfield. Her duties were washing dishes and waiting tables.

Not long afterwards her parents, Edward and Fern Willows, went into restaurant business in Glenfield and later McHenry. Marcie worked for them for some time and then came to Cooperstown in about 1950.

Her first job in Cooperstown was at Marquardt's Cafe. Otto and Belle Marquardt had a small restaurant in the Lende building at the time and Marcie was their waitress from 9 to 5.

She was married to Richard Therkelsen not long after coming to Cooperstown. During the years when her children were small she sometimes worked at Stone's, and as time went on she helped with cooking as well as doing waitress work. She worked at the Windsor Hotel when Helen Sharpe was cooking and remembers that Sarah Sandvik and Thelma Dahl also worked there at that time. Later she worked at the Crescent Lanes Cafe.

She worked the same shift as Vernon Auren at the Coachman Inn restaurant when Duane Miller had it

A widow now with six grown children, she has worked eight years at Andy's Cafe, owned by Andy and Joanne Hagle. She also worked briefly at the Moline Cafe, owned by Mike and Lillian Sorbo. Andy's was closed for a few days and Lillian, who is Andy's sister, was ill and Marcie helped her out. About the only restaurant she didn't work in was Orpha's Cafe, she says. Her sister Mary worked there for a while.

The work in restaurants hasn't changed much in the time Marcie has been employed. "The important thing is to remember who wants cream in the coffee," she says.

Prices are the big change. She remembers selling two-cent candy bars, nickel a cup coffee and two for a nickel cookies.

Restaurant work is a family tradition. Daughters, Alice Flaagan, Janice Therkelsen and Jeannette Myers, and two of her sons, Gary and Ron, have all done some kind of restaurant work at some time. Of Marcie's children, only Eugene has never worked in a restaurant.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 142

House and Home

MY OLD SOD SHANTY ON THE CLAIM

*I'm looking rather seedy now
While holding down my claim
And the victuals are not always served the best
And the mice play slyly 'round me as I settle down to sleep
In my little old sod shanty on the claim.*

CHORUS:

*Oh the hinges are of leather and the windows have no glass
And the board roof lets the howling blizzard in
And I hear the hungry coyote as he sneaks up through the grass
'Round my little old sod shanty on the claim*

*I rather like the novelty of living in this way
Though my bill of fare is always rather tame
I am happy as a clam on this land on Uncle Sam*

In my little old sod shanty on the claim.

(Chorus)

*Oh when I left my eastern home
A bachelor so gay
To try to win my way to wealth and fame
I little thought that I'd come down to burning twisted hay
In my little old sod shanty on the claim.*

(Chorus)

*My clothes are plastered up with dough,
I'm looking like a fright
And everything is scattered round the room,
But I wouldn't give the freedom that I have out in this west
For the babble of an eastern western home!*

(Chorus)

*Yet I wish that some kind-hearted girl
Would pity on me take
And relieve me of the mess that I am in.
Oh! the angel how I'd bless her if this her home she'd make
In my little old sod shanty on the claim.*

CHORUS:

*And when we've made our fortune on the prairies of the west
Just as happy as two lovers we'd remain
We'll forget the care and trouble that we endured at first
In our little old sod shanty on the claim.*

Author Unknown

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 143

BRICK HOUSES

Although brick was a favored building material for banks and other public buildings, it was seldom used for houses in this area. It is safe to say that nearly all the brick houses in the country are located within five or six miles of each other.

When the immigrants left their mother country to come to America to own land and make their living, they had to build their houses. As in the well-known story, some built houses of sod (straw). Some built their houses of logs (sticks). And some built their houses of bricks. Why?

Charles Marson who was born in Derby, England, and was married to Sarah Halford who was born at Walton-on-the Wolds, Leicestershire, England, chose to build a house of bricks because all buildings are brick in England. They came to Cooperstown, North

Dakota in 1889. Later they bought SE ¼ of Section 12-145-59 and in 1904 they constructed a large brick house on this land. Here they made a home for their ten children. In 1906 their son David bought SW ¼ of Section 7-145-58. He built a brick house also. He sold it later and moved away. Both these two structures are still standing, although they are now vacant.

Another brick house of the same era was built in 1907 for Alfred E. Langford and his bride, Mary Jenkins. Langford, who came from Cornwall, England, was also accustomed to brick houses. That house, built on the SE ¼ of Section 6-145-58, had four bedrooms upstairs, four rooms and a large hall downstairs. It is also vacant.

In 1909 Jorgen Soma built a brick house in Cooperstown on the corner of Eighth and Odegard when he retired from farming. Later he went back to farming again and built a brick house on land he bought which was the W ½ of Section 13-145-59. The bricklayers who were hired by Jorgen to do these houses were Arndt and John Ommundsen, cousins of Somas, also from Norway. These men also built a brick house on Twelfth and Park for a man named Erickson. When Jorgen Soma was finally ready to retire, the Erickson house was for sale. Jorgen gave his wife her choice of which brick house she wanted to live in. She chose the one on Twelfth and Park. Their daughter Lise (Mrs. Carl Johnson) lives there today. Why did Jorgen like brick houses? He said, "They are everlasting."

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 145

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 145

Keepers of The Faith

MISSIONARIES

Their Christian faith was important to the early settlers in Griggs County. Histories of the area churches repeatedly tell about settlers conducting religious services at whatever times and places they could. Names of various circuit-riding ministers were mentioned.

Years went by, and young men and women from this Community felt a call to go out and serve as missionaries in faraway places.

These accounts do not pretend to list every circuit-riding missionary who served the pioneer congregations, nor every missionary who went out from here to the ends of the earth. Other names could be added:

Bertha Klubben

Clair and Berniece Ouren

Glen Hetland

Karen Helland Nordvall and no doubt more.

Space and time permitted only a few. Incomplete as this sampling is, the stories tell something of the community's rich heritage.

CIRCUIT RIDER

Circuit rider Rev. I.L. Lundeby was one of the first ministers to visit Sheyenne River community. Though the Lars Johanson's house was small yet it was larger than many of their neighbor's houses. Therefore, Mrs. Johanson was obliged to house the minister. The neighbors brought milk, and other provisions for him.

Rev. Lundeby was such a tall man that Mrs. Johanson had to piece her short old country sheets and put a chair at the foot of the bed so that the bed would be long enough for him. This minister told the Johanson children many interesting stories about his travels over the prairie. He dressed in furs and carried a tent with him so that when caught in a storm he could cover horses, cutter and himself, and camp on the prairie until he was able to get to some settler's home. He would hold services once or twice a year. At one of his services held in 1883 twelve children were baptized at one time.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 148

REVEREND OLE KNUDSEN QUAMME

Reverend Ole Knudsen (O.K.) Quamme (1852-1904) was an early circuit-riding Lutheran minister in the Sheyenne River Valley - his only pastorate - from the time of his 1886 ordination until his death in 1904. During his eighteen-year ministry in the Cooperstown area, he traveled about preaching the Gospel and administering the rites and sacraments of the Lutheran Church to the Scandinavian immigrants.

Ole Knudsen Quamme (or Kvamme) was born at Laerdals Prestegjeld, Midtra Sogn, Norway to Knud Knudsen Quamme and his wife Gunhild Olsdatter on November 3, 1852. The Quamme family immigrated to the United States when Ole was twelve years old, leaving Bergen, Norway, on April 14, 1865. After completing the fourteen-week voyage, they made their way to southeastern Minnesota's Fillmore County, where they settled near Preston and made their living working for others.

The Quamme family moved to Otter Tail County, Minnesota, some 240 miles to the northwest, with oxen and prairie schooner in 1867, to homestead a farm of their own southeast of Fergus Falls. There young Ole met and married Ingrid Olson Helle, the daughter of a neighboring farm family.

O.K. Quamme entered Augsburg Seminary in Minneapolis, an antecedent body of present-day Luther-Northwestern Seminaries in St. Paul, in 1875. Because of financial difficulties, he was forced to extend his studies over a period of ten academic years: 1875-76, 1879-82, and 1883-86. Between times, Ole worked very hard and saved his money, in order to be able to make his tuition payments.

In seminary, O.K. Quamme made the friendship of another seminarian, Ibraim Livius Lundeby (1848-1897). Ordained in 1880, Reverend Lundeby was by 1882 stationed at Valley City as a missionary by the Norse Evangelical Conference of North America. The legendary Pastor Lundeby traveled up and down the Sheyenne Valley from Lisbon to

Devils Lake, organizing congregations, preaching the Word, and administering the sacraments to the settlers who at this time were beginning to reach the area.

As settlement along the Valley continued into the 1880's, Reverend Lundebly invited his friend, Seminarian Quamme, to visit him during Christmas break in 1885 and to survey the situation, with an eye toward assuming a part of the huge pastorate upon his graduation and ordination.

Union Lutheran Congregation, one of the parishes in Reverend Lundebly's pastorate, held a congregational meeting under the leadership of their pastor on March 21, 1886, and decided to call Seminarian Quamme, who accepted and upon completing his theological examinations was ordained as pastor of Union Congregation June 27, 1886.

Cooperstown proper was first settled by Baptists, Congregationalists, and Methodists, financially-established business people and entrepreneurs who came to Dakota Territory from points further east, while the poorer Lutheran Scandinavian immigrants settled in the countryside. Other Protestant congregations in town were well established at an early date, while there was not a significant number of Lutherans nor any regular Lutheran services in Cooperstown until they first began to be conducted at the comparatively late date of 1886 by Pastor Quamme, among the group which in time became Cooperstown (present-day Trinity) Lutheran Church. O.K. Quamme continued to minister to these Lutherans, and upon their formal organization in 1890 was asked to be the parish pastor, in which capacity he continued to serve until 1895.

In addition to the Cooperstown congregation, Reverend Quamme also served the:

- Union (1886-1904)
- Ness (1886-1904)
- Lund (1886-1904)
- Ringsaker (1887-1904)
- Ottawa (1888-1904)
- Ostervold (1888-1894)
- Glenfield (1888-1892) Lutheran parishes

He ministered for two years to the group, which became Our Savior's Lutheran at Dazey (1886-1887), and also served the group at Binford (at that time known as Blooming Prairie) prior to its 1901 organization as Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church.

O.K. Quamme was the founding pastor of both the Cooperstown and the Glenfield congregations. At least six of the other parishes, Union, Ness, Lund, Ringsaker, Ottawa, and Trinity-Binford, were originally a part of Reverend Lundebly's larger pastorate. The clergymen preceding Pastor Quamme at Ostervold were:

- C.J. Gronli
- O.C. Gronvold
- C.C. Gjerstad.

The Scandinavians settling in the Valley in the 1880's and 1890's were by no means a homogeneous group, but represented several different Lutheran backgrounds and synodical affiliations. As a result, it was sometimes difficult for them to join together with other Lutherans to form a congregation. At one time three different synods were represented in the congregations constituting Reverend Quamme's pastorate.

Reverend and Mrs. Quamme moved to Cooperstown in 1886 with their four children. From here the Pastor was able to serve his congregation in town, and would also drive out to his many rural parishes.

The pioneers' churches usually began as preaching places where, prior to the formal organization of a congregation, the people would come together to hear the Word and to receive the rites and sacraments of the Church from a traveling pastor. The settlers who constituted these fledgling parishes were newly arrived immigrants from Norway, Denmark, and Sweden, and were very poor.

The rural parishes held their earliest services in the settlers' shanties and sod houses and later country schoolhouses. By the mid to late 1890's, the congregations were able to begin the construction of church buildings.

Cooperstown Lutheran was without a house of worship until 1896. As a result, throughout all of Pastor Quamme's years with the parish services were held, usually on Sunday afternoons, in the Congregational and the Methodist church buildings.

The courthouse was often utilized by various groups in the community for their meetings, programs, and other activities in the early days. The courtroom was the scene of the Cooperstown congregation's very successful and well attended Christmas Tree (or celebration) in 1888.

In 1895 O.K. Quamme resigned as Pastor of Cooperstown Lutheran and was succeeded by Reverend E.T. Silness. Pastor Quamme continued to live in Cooperstown and to drive out from here to each of the different congregations in his pastorate.

In the early days there were practically no graded roads in the area. Such as existed were simply winding trails across the countryside, and even these were few and far between. It was along such trails that the Pastor's team of horses, Minnie and Sota, pulled his buggy during the summer months, and his sleigh in the winter as he made the rounds visiting each of his congregations in the Valley. Completing this circuit entailed his covering many, many miles over difficult terrain in some of the worst weather imaginable, often keeping him away from his home and family for most of the week.

Pastor Quamme died in 1904 after being kicked by a horse.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 148

MARTYRS OF THE FAITH

Wilhelm Vatne

Wilhelm Vatne, born in 1890, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tonnes Vatne, was murdered 21 years later in the infamous Sianfu Massacre at the outbreak of the Chinese Revolution. A year before, on September 10, 1910, young Wilhelm left Cooperstown to go to Sianfu, Shensi, China for the purpose of teaching the children of missionaries serving under the Alliance Mission there.

John Vatne writes, "Perhaps the most interesting factor in Wilhelm's life was the clear-cut pattern of fine character that was so perceptibly evident even at an early age ... he took great interest in serious discussion on most any subject, including religion. He was deeply religious at heart, but not bound by narrow-minded ideas that would hold one down to a fixed line of action ...

Obviously, Wilhelm wanted to go where God could use him and when the call came, he went to work in China. He quickly became aware of the dire need and dedicated himself to the mission there. It was while living with the Rev. E.R. Beckman family that the homes of missionaries were set afire during an anti-foreign massacre. Of the ten members of their household, only two survived, Rev. Beckman and his youngest daughter. Wilhelm was killed while trying to escape.

Ralph Fuglestad

Ralph Fuglestad, born in 1898, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Torkel T. Fuglestad, died 30 years later, in Sudan, Africa, of a fever attributed to Malaria.

God began to "nag" at Ralph when he was only an early teen. After graduating from high school in Grand Forks, he was attending school in Fargo when he received a letter from his brother, which made him change his plans. As a result of his brother's testimony of faith, Ralph went back to the Lutheran Bible School in Grand Forks as a seminary student. Two things happened there, which further changed the course of his life. He met Esther Huss and read a book called, "Offer from Sudan," by Kaardal. God's "nagging" was complete. He married Esther June 23, 1927 and left for Africa less than a month later.

Ralph wrote, a month before he died after a three-day bout with a high fever, that the work and language were both difficult and satisfying. They were alone on a station far from other Americans and there was nothing for Esther to do but pray, read scripture and sing Ralph's favorite songs while he was dying. She sent a message of his death to the nearest missionaries, but before they could come, Ralph had to be buried and so young Esther had the funeral and then continued to serve out her term on the mission station. She returned for one more term and then because she didn't pass a physical for returning to Africa, she stayed home, went to school, taught and eventually joined the Army during World War 11, hoping to be stationed in her beloved Africa. She ended up in Europe where she was working in General Eisenhower's office when the peace was signed. After a few more years she married Lars Stalsbroten, had a son, Oliver, and now lives in Woodburn, Oregon.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 149

FRIEND OF THE ZULUS

Lillian Young Otte served as a missionary in Zululand, South Africa for over 40 years. She left country, home, family, friends, and said, "I do not consider it a sacrifice, but a privilege."

Lillian Mary Young was born January 19, 1901 in Eagle Grove, Iowa, daughter of Charles and Hattie Young. They moved to the Cooperstown area a year or two later and settled on a farm two miles east of Cooperstown where the Ralph Tweed family now live.

Lillian graduated from Cooperstown High School in 1919, and taught school from 1919-1921. In 1925 she graduated from St. Olaf College and completed nurses' training at St. Lukes' Hospital, Chicago, Illinois in 1928.

In 1929 she was called as a missionary from the Lutheran Church (now ALC) and went to Zululand, South Africa. There she met Rev. C.N.H. Otte and they were married July 1, 1931. They had six children - Carl Jr., Solveig, Elsa, Daniel, Paul, and Ruth.

Mrs. Otte made four trips back to the United States, the first in 1938, the last in 1968. She was much in demand as speaker, and traveled in many states. Her presentation was illustrated by flannel-graph and pictures she and her daughters had drawn, depicting life in South Africa. She had a keen sense of humor. In her last visit in 1968 she also spoke at the mother-daughter banquet in Trinity Lutheran Church here.

Some excerpts from her letters:

"When I think of the faces of the Zulu children, I do not think black, I just see their faces and the different features. Is not this one of the greatest of miracles, that of the world full of people no two faces are exactly alike. "

"Now I doctor the poor ones - the old ones - my life is nearly sad with the pain and suffering I see ... some are so pathetic, so many starving ... there is a drought ... they are truly the ones Jesus spoke about 'the least of these'".

(Donation from Sunday School children) "birthday money went into powdered milk - that went into mush and baby bottles -that went into tummies. I can't say rosy cheeks - the cheeks are black, but they are fat cheeks, and all the kids are well and cheeky ... they're so lively! ... Love, and happy Jesus' birthday. "

"I have a theory that to accomplish the most I must not be bored . . . have many schemes and projects afoot at the same time. "

"My feet flew fast to make the time last longer. "

"Spring is coming here ... It's been cold all winter - 48-50 - inside and outside."

"I am thinking of North Dakota and spring time - chokecherry blossoms and the wheat coming up - have lots to remember of North Dakota and the different seasons and the people, most of the ones I knew as a child are gone - but very much alive in my imagination. "

(On gardening – for family and Zulus) "I don't like the feel of earth through gloves - like chewing with false teeth or listening to sermon through interpreter or trying to get a kick out of someone else's love letter!"

"The little girl who was weeding the garden left all the little weeds. I asked 'Why?' She said they were small - not big enough to pull yet!"

(On going to an outstation) "Last Sunday we felt like flies on the wall the hills so steep, and the brakes still ache."

(On last visit to U.S. - when she visited 10 states) "We got a good peek at American life 40 years after the first exit. "

"Several tooth abscesses and the flu along with the trauma of settling-in gave me the shrinkage I needed to be able to wear my clothes again, after the broadening experience of America. "

(When someone pondered 'I wonder what I will be like when I am old') "I could prophetically say 'Just like you are now, only more so: "

In 1968 they moved from Ntumeni to Eshowe where they planned to live after retirement.

In a letter dated Nov. 4, 1968 and published in the *Sentinel - Courier* to "dear friends in many places" she concludes "We wish the good wishes that the peace of God can give you in this turbulent time. We thank Him for the days we have had here in Africa, for the love and prayers of those who support us in the service of Zulus whom they will never see, and the shadows are lengthening."

She died July 3, 1969 and was buried in Zululand among "her people" whom she loved and ministered to for so many years.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 150

BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

In 1907, Rev. H.F. Josephson began to hold Sunday evening services in the Bateman Hall above the Bateman Drug Store. About that time the Saron Evangelical Free Church started a branch Sunday School in the Bateman Hall, which was conducted Sunday afternoons. R.S. Lunde was the superintendent of the Sunday School. The Sunday School and the evening services continued in this hall until 1909 when the Saron Church purchased the electrical building for a reading room. The Sunday School and Sunday evening services were then conducted in the reading room, which became known as the Mission Hall. The former electrical building is now used for apartments, and is across the street, east, from the grade school.

During this time a number of people were meeting in homes for a mid-week service and several women were active in mission aid work. Rev. Josephson left Cooperstown in 1916 and Rev. L.R. Lunde of the Saron Church continued to hold services in the Mission Hall Sunday evenings.

In 1920 Rev. Krag Wuflestad organized the "Cooperstown Skandinaviske Missions Forening" and the services continued in the Mission hall for a short time. April 28, 1920, a resolution was drawn up to organize the Skandinavian Mission Society with Rev. Wuflestad as pastor. May 10, 1920, the committee met with the organization and gave their report on the constitution, which was accepted. Thereupon a membership list of the society was made out consisting of nine members.

They were permitted to use the Baptist Church in the fall of 1920 for a series of special meetings. The building is the oldest church in Cooperstown, and was built in 1887, five years after the city was incorporated. The inscription on the bell in the tower reads as follows: "Cast by H. Stuckstede and Company, St. Louis, Missouri, 1887, Victor Memorial Baptist Church, Cooperstown, North Dakota."

At a meeting held November 19, 1920, it was resolved that the society inquire of the North Dakota Mission Society about buying the Baptist Church. February 4, 1921 the chairman reported that on January 19, 1921, the board of the North Dakota Mission Society met with the superintendent of the Baptists in North Dakota and signed the

papers to buy the church. The society bought the building in 1921, and it was named "Bethlehem Evangelical Free Church." Several changes have been made since; the steeple has been removed, a basement added, and various other changes made to keep up with the times. An organ was purchased in 1959, a piano in 1963, and a new parsonage was constructed just south of the church in 1952.

In 1922 it was resolved to dissolve the Skandinavian Mission Society and change it to a congregation. Christ Haaland, Rev. K.P. Wuflestad and Emma Skaar drew up a constitution.

Charter members were:

Rev. K.P. Wuflestad
R.S. Lunde
Mrs. R.S. Lunde
Mrs. Inga Anderson
Mrs. M.R. Wagle
Miss Hilma Anderson
Mr. and Mrs. Christ Seldal
Mrs. Clarence Lunde
Mr. and Mrs. E.T. Thompson
Miss Emma Skaar
Christian Haaland
Miss Elise Wuflestad
Miss Nora Wuflestad
Miss Carn Wuflestad
Mrs. O.M. Otteson

Early members were: Mrs. N.P. Nelson

Miss Emma Dahlbom
Ole Herigstad
Elise Roisland.

The congregation was incorporated February 28, 1929 and until 1931 Bethlehem Evangelical Free Church shared Pastors Larson and Mars with the Swedish Mission Church west of Cooperstown. In 1931, the Swedish Mission Church voted to affiliate with Bethlehem Church. Their church was sold to the Methodists at Sutton.

In 1949 the congregation voted to join the Evangelical Free Church Association and February 14, 1955, voted to join the Cooperstown Bible Camp Association when that association was duly organized.

Since 1942 the Christian Fellowship Church shared pastors with Beth'4em Church. In 1968 Saron Evangelical Free Church Joined Christian Fellowship Church and Bethlehem Evangelical Free Church, making a three-point parish with Howard Matson as pastor.

Pastors who have served Bethlehem were:

Hans F. Josephson1907-1916
L.R. Lunde1916-1920
Krag Wuflestad1921-1926
Arthur W. Larson1927-1929

Oscar Mars	1930-1932
L.R. Lunde	1933-1937
Roy S. Newlin	1938-1943
Krag Wuflestad	1944-1949
EX. Folden	1949-1951
Arvid E. Nyquist	1952-1955
Carl P. Cornelius	1956-1959
Donald W. Erdman.....	1960-1963
Richard C. Haglund.....	1964-1968
Howard C. Matson	1968-1969
S. Kenneth Nelson.....	1969-1972
Keith L. McNeil	1972-1981

Mr. and Mrs. LaDon Rydberg a graduate of Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Illinois, have accepted the call to serve the three parishes, Bethlehem Saron and Fellowship Churches, to begin in January of 1982.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 150

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

The Christian Fellowship Church is located in Helena Township. It was organized September 21, 1949 with fourteen members. It was dedicated June 14, 1953. Rev. Arvid Nyquist served as first pastor.

This was an independent group when first organized. In 1977 they joined and became members of the Evangelical Free Church of America.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 151

COOPERSTOWN BIBLE CAMP

In their desire to see the gospel message have a greater outreach, the Saron Evangelical Free Church, under the leadership of Rev. Ludvig R. Lunde, purchased an International truck and a van was built with a folding platform and organ. With this gospel wagon, services were brought to the people in the towns and communities in the area. The gospel wagon was traded for a large tent and the first Bible Conference came into being on June 21, 1925, at the site that we know now as the Cooperstown Bible Camp. Since then an annual Bible camp has been held.

The success and progress made during the early years of camp were the result of much sacrifice and a lot of hard work by the people of Saron Evangelical Free Church and interested friends of the community. Rev. Ludvig R. Lunde, under whose leadership the Bible Camp started and began to grow, served as pastor of Saron Church for twenty-five years. Hans Seldal, who designed and supervised in the building of all the earlier buildings spent many weeks each year in making improvements on the campgrounds.

Before 1925 the area of the campgrounds was a wilderness of grass and underbrush and much clearing had to be done before the tents could be put up for the opening of camp, June 21, 1925. In the spring of 1926 half of the old horse barn at the Saron Church was moved to the camp and rebuilt just west of where Elim building now stands. Part

was used as a kitchen and dining area for the speaker and song leaders and their families. The other part was used as a refreshment stand where ice cream, pop, and candy was sold. Many of the families of the area purchased tents, which were filled to capacity with campers. In 1927, two cabins Hephzibah and Saron were built for the use of speakers and song leaders; and in 1929 the people began building the tabernacle under the direction of Hans Seldal, who designed the building. The tabernacle was completed and used during the conference of 1929 with a dedication service July 4.

In 1930 the camp bought and dismantled the nearby Gallatin schoolhouse and built the first section of a multipurpose building called "The Inn". This building provided kitchen and dining room as well as sleeping rooms upstairs.

During the first few years the only lighting available was gasoline mantle lamps in the tent and kerosene lamps around the grounds. With the new building each year, better lighting was needed. A small 32-volt generator and a gasoline engine were put into use, followed by a 110 volt direct current generator and a tractor motor, used for several years until R.E.A. lines were built in 1948 and all the buildings were wired. With ice cream and pop selling for a nickel and large candy bars five cents and a penny, the sale of refreshments was big business after the services even in depression days. The old refreshment stand was replaced in 1934 by a new building called "Elim". Elim was used as a storage building for many years, but has now been repaired and restored, and is used again as the refreshment stand.

In the spring of 1935 two small cabins and a large four-room cabin were built at the south end of the campground on what was then known as Riverside Drive.

With the ever-growing need for dining room space and sleeping quarters, the "Inn" was remodeled and enlarged in the spring of 1936. That same year a laundry room and shower room was built on the banks of the river south of the "Inn". Water from the river was stored and heated by the sun as the water supply.

In the early years of the camp the only means of refrigeration was ice. Every winter, men and teams of horses gathered for the annual ice harvest. The ice was packed in one big block and covered with hay or straw, in a woven wire enclosure. In 1939 a barn that had blown down was purchased and rebuilt as an icehouse.

In the spring of 1938 the heirs of Lars Johnsons, gave their log cabin to the camp as a memorial to their parents. The cabin was dismantled and then rebuilt on the campgrounds where it now stands. Also in 1938 the basement was dug and foundation built for the Pioneer Building. In the spring of 1939 the two stories were added, for additional sleeping rooms and office space.

In 1956, the Cooperstown Bible Camp Association was incorporated under the laws of North Dakota. A camp board was elected and has been responsible for the operation of the camp since its incorporation.

In 1964 a new dining hall was built. The old Inn was torn down and the new building was built during the fall and winter. The new building, now known as "Ludvig Lodge" also includes sleeping rooms upstairs and the whole building is insulated and heated and used during the winter.

Building and expansion have not stopped at the camp: a camp administrator's home was built in 1977, during the summer and fall. In the fall of 1979 a tennis-basketball court was built. In 1981 a new bathhouse was constructed.

Twenty churches make up the camp association today, from North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota. The camp has been supported by many other churches in the area, and the Bible Camp has been leased to many different groups of other church affiliations as well as to interdenominational groups. The camp program today is structured to include Family Camp, Junior High, Senior High, Niners, Junior Boys, and Junior Girls camps, using the grounds one week each summer. The camp is used year-around, with many camps and retreats held throughout the fall and winter.

Rev. Al Reimer, Rev. Earl Eveland, and James Booth have served as camp administrators in the past. Keith Anderson is the camp administrator at the present time, and has been at the camp since 1977.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 152

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The first English language church services of Griggs County were held in the farmhouse of R.C. Cooper in 1880 and conducted by Frank M. Rockwell, a cousin of R.C. Cooper. They called themselves the "Union Church." In the summer of 1881 the services were conducted by Rev. Rockwell in a large tent loaned by Mr. Cooper and set up on the NW1/4 of Section 31, T. 146, R. 58 in the most central location for the first families: R.C. Cooper, M.F. Washburn, J.N. Brown, S.B. Langford.

Mr. Rockwell often rode to the meetings upon an ox fitted with a special saddle. William Gimblett, another early preacher also rode this ox. By 1882, about sixty settlers had come from the neighborhood of St. Clair, Michigan, besides others from other states. Services of the winter of 1882 and 83 were held in the dining room of the Merriell House, also known as Dakota House, the first hotel and rooming house, now owned by Alph Overby. Mr. Rockwell also conducted revival services in the summer of 1883 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J.N. Brown, then known as the Meadow View Farm. Following the completion of the schoolhouse, the meetings were held there. Sunday school was organized June 2, 1883.

June 7, 1884, Mr. Rockwell sent a request to the Congregational ministers of Dakota to organize a church June 17, 1884. This call was signed by:

George W. Barnard
Mrs. George W. Barnard
Belle Rice
Mrs. Emma Cooper
Mrs. Isabella Brown
Mrs. M. Zimmerman
Jack H. Brown
Cora E. Hagarty
Mrs. E.B. Newell
Minnie C. Barnard
Mrs. T.F. Kerr
Theodore F. Kerr
George Calder
A.N. Adams

John N. Glass
Alex J. Glass
Anna E. Glass
Livia P. Barnard
Maria Rankin
Miss Therza Gimblett
Mrs. Martha Newberry
Mr. Edwin Bradley
S.B. Langford
Mrs. S.B. Langford
Laura Langford
Bertie Langford
Olive Langford
Frank M. Rockwell
Mrs. F.M. Rockwell
William Gimblett
Richard A. Horholtz
James Walker
Theodore Nierenberg
William A. Wetherbee
Mrs. S.J. Haskell
Mrs. R.C. Brophy
R.C. Brophy
B.B. Brown
Mrs. B.B. Brown
Mrs. M.A. Baker
Alice M. Jameson
William C. Jameson

The following ministers and laymen responded to the call:

Rev. H.C. Simmons
Rev. J.W. Donaldson
Br. David McCulloch
Rev. David Wirt
Rev. Joseph Waite
Rev. William Ering
Bro. L.W. Starbird.

At the first business meeting the following officers were elected: Deacons S.B. Langford and A.N. Adams

Clerk, Mrs. Lucy H. Brown

Treasurer, George W. Barnard

Trustees Jack N. Brown, George Barnard, R.C. Cooper.

The Articles of Incorporation of the First Congregational Church were filed to begin May 1, 1885, to run for fifty years. February 23, 1886, the church bought lots 1 and 2 of

Block 81 and the church built shortly afterward. The pastor's house was built in 1906. Besides F.M. Rockwell, early pastors included:

Thomas Sims
Horace Payne James
George Frost
Edwin Shaw
Rev. Ruring
Charles Evans
Edward Keedy.

In 1939 the Congregational Church building was sold to the St. George Catholic congregation.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 153

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Fargo Presbytery met in the Congregational Church in Cooperstown September 11, 1923 in response to a petition signed by a number of members of the Congregational and Methodist Churches of Cooperstown requesting the Presbytery of Fargo to organize them into a Presbyterian Church. At a meeting October 4, 1923 the organization was completed by electing E.M. Culver, W.H. Butler, E.S. Hamilton, and Dr. M.D. Westley as elders. They were ordained and installed into their offices by Dr. D.T. Robertson.

C.E. Curtis was the first pastor, 1924 to 1926. Other pastors that have served this church are:

J.R. Kirby
LeRoy C. Cooley
Charles C. Converse
W. Ray Radliff
W.J. Henderson
Harvey Senecal
Robert Schurr
Robert Maharry
James R. and Faye A. Fedlam
Harvey Bullard-Bates
Bill Shields - at present

The last eight are still living and still in the ministry.

The present church building was the Methodist Church and after the merger was used as the Presbyterian social hall until 1939. It was remodeled in 1941. At that time a basement was put in and a new hot air heating system was installed and is still in use. The Methodist Manse was the first building to the east of the church and was rented for years until it was sold in 1952.

The Congregational Church stood in the northeast corner of Block 81 where the Edgar Multer residence now stands. This building was used as the Presbyterian Church until 1939 when it was sold to the Roman Catholic Church of Jessie. The Catholics were using the social hall for services Saturday afternoon and Sunday mornings for a charge of \$3.00 per week. The Congregational Manse was in the southeast corner of Block 71 and was used as a Presbyterian Manse until 1969 when it was sold to Alvin Eslinger. In 1924 the Hannaford church joined the parish. Sharon joined later. Hannaford officially closed in 1973. Sharon is still a part of the parish. The Courtenay church was part of the parish from 1975 to 1978.

Dr. M.D. Westley was the first clerk of session, 1923-1924. Other persons that have served as clerk of session are:

E.S. Hamilton
A.B. Detwiller
L.A. Sayer
Bertha Langford
Claire Johnston
Frank Smith
Willis Nilson
James Sott
Rita Jungels - the present clerk.

Because of the condition of the steeple, it was taken down and the bell was given to the Historical Society and was set in front of one of their buildings.

In 1953 the church entered into a moneymaking business deal of buying 125 sheep at \$25 and putting them out on shares. After two years they were sold and sheep raising was left to the farmers.

The present organ was purchased in 1957. The sanctuary was remodeled and new pews installed. In 1964 the basement was remodeled by redoing the kitchen, tiling floors and ceiling and new light fixtures.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 153

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Grace Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod, was established in 1947 when application was made to the district office to establish a mission. A candidate was called and Pastor Willard C. Laatz was assigned to establish the new parish at Zion, Binford, and the new Cooperstown mission.

Pastor and Mrs. Laatz moved into the parsonage purchased by the Synod Mission Board from the Dr. Carl Brimi family. It still stands east of the present Grace Lutheran Church. A year later, ownership was transferred from the district to Grace and Zion congregations.

The first official act of Pastor Laatz was performed August 30, 1947 when Dennis Jay Johnson was baptized. The first marriage was also performed that year when Richard E. Olson and Norma Radliff were married.

The first service in Cooperstown was held September 14, 1947 at the parsonage with six persons receiving Holy Communion. September 29, 1947 the first public service was held in the band room of Berg Memorial Gymnasium in Cooperstown and a Sunday School was organized on the same day with Mrs. Henry Winning as the first superintendent. Mrs. David Krenz is currently serving as superintendent with 25 students enrolled.

After services at Berg gym October 19, 1947, a meeting was called. Rev. Laatz served as temporary chairman of the meeting attended by 36 souls, and it was voted to form a Lutheran congregation. Officers elected were:

Carrol Retzlaff.....president
Glen Johnson.....secretary
Henry Winning.....treasurer

May 2, 1948 Grace Lutheran was chosen as the name of the new congregation. The charter members were:

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Pittenger, Mr. and Mrs. Carrol Retzlaff, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Winning, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Winning, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Stalvik.

June 28, 1948 a meeting was held of Grace congregation to consider a building program. At that time the plan was to begin with a basement as the first unit. The following committees were chosen: Building committee: Pastor Laatz, chairman; Alfred Retzlaff, secretary; Lester Winning, Carrol Retzlaff, and Glenn Johnson, members at large. Finance committee: Lester Winning, Clifford Pittenger and Carrol Retzlaff.

In August of 1948 the congregation was officially incorporated. A bid of \$525 was made on an old rural school building, and a week later, 21 ' '2 lots were purchased for \$100 from William Barr for the purpose of locating a church on the property.

The rural schoolhouse was purchased with the total estimated cost of moving, repair, and basement to be \$700. This schoolhouse was in Greenview Township, Steele County, and the section at right on the picture was built in 1888. The building was moved in the fall of 1948 and work began immediately to prepare the building for church services. The project was actually completed for a total of \$1,089.90 (including the cost of the building). At that time there were 28 communicant and 11 voting members. The project was completed in time for the children's service Christmas Eve, 1948. All services up to this time, except the first one, were held in the Berg Memorial Gymnasium. Services continued at the church-school building until Christmas Eve 1952.

During the first months of Pastor Laatz's service he received \$35 a month from Grace until the amount was increased to \$50 a month in October 1951.

Between 1949 and 1952 there were random discussions about the possibilities of uniting Grace and Zion, Binford into one location and locating in Cooperstown. At a voters meeting at Zion Monday, April 21, 1952 the decision was made to retain the church building and congregation at Binford. Some members at Zion asked for their release to join Grace. They were the families of:

Alfred Retzlaff
Marvin Retzlaff

Reynold Retzlaff
G.L. Rothert
Walter Rothert
Edgar Krenz
Reuben Weber
Art Hegland
Albert Evers

This new growth stimulated the idea of building a new church. The congregation had to be highly optimistic, since less than \$50 was available for a building when the voters first considered the project. By the time the project was approved, \$250 had been built up in the fund. Members were sure the congregation was to grow and the old church building was already too small for them. During the week of May 18, 1952, Alfred Retzlaff and Pastor Laatz attended the Church Building Exposition in Chicago to get ideas current in church edifices. It was on this trip they visited churches in the Chicago area and came back with slides of a church building in Oak Lawn, Illinois that became the prototype for Grace Lutheran Church in its building program. The building committee was formed June 2, 1952 consisting of Alfred Retzlaff, Norwin Hanson, Walter Rothert, Lester Winning and Reynold Retzlaff. The real property had already been purchased so the plans went ahead for the new church building. August 24, 1952, groundbreaking ceremonies were held.

Church members braced for a period of long, hard work. With nearly all labor on the church being volunteer, work progressed more slowly than they had originally hoped. The building committee originally had expected to have the building ready for dedication in 1954. It would, however, be some time after that that the church would be ready for the dedication.

With the church still not ready for the laying of the cornerstone, much less the dedication, in the fall of 1953, chairman, Alfred Retzlaff estimated that more than 7000 hours of volunteer labor had been donated by church members, helpers from the community, and helpers from sister congregations. The foundation was laid during the middle of October of 1952 with blocks scheduled to be laid the following week.

It was in October of 1952 that the congregation approved selling the old church building. The transaction was finally completed when the building and property were sold to Mrs. Edna Haukaas May 13, 1953. As work progressed on the new building, the basement was used for the first service, the children's Christmas Eve program in 1952. With farm members free to work only in the winter months, the building was ready for cornerstone laying ceremonies November 21, 1954.

After the departure of Rev. Laatz in October of 1955, the voters decided to sell their original parsonage east of the new church and buy the property and house just west of the church.

Even as work on the main floor of the church progressed, services were regularly held in the basement. Facilities were somewhat makeshift but it served the congregation well. Julie Nell Retzlaff became the first of many baptized in the church basement. She was baptized January 11, 1953 and in April of that same year, the first class to be confirmed in the new church basement included: John Evers, Arlen Rothert, Gerhart Simpkins,

Ervin Steinwand and Ervin Vogt. Ingvald Engberg and Marion Flohns were the first couple married in the church basement in December of 1953.

September 16, 1956, Rev. George Schubarth was installed in the first service held in the upstairs nave. The finishing touches were put on the new church building after the arrival of Pastor Schubarth and it was dedicated April 28, 1957.

The first baptisms in the upstairs nave of the church were Russel Vance and Timothy Reuben Weber, baptized May 5, 1957. Later that month, Thomas Mason and Betty Hagle became the first couple married there. The first class to be confirmed in the new church, June 16, 1957, consisted of Darlene Watne, Raymond Savre, and Joanne Rothert.

In the fall of 1958, Pastor Schubarth accepted a call to Nebraska. From July 26, 1959 to July 8, 1962, Rev. Vernon Knight was pastor at Grace. Rev. John Alan Krueger was pastor from April 21, 1963 to December 13, 1971 and Rev. Ronald Nichols served as pastor from June 18, 1972 to January 16, 1977. Currently serving is Rev. R.C. Gauger who was installed October 2, 1977.

Ladies Aid was organized in April of 1948 and the first officers were:

Mrs. Glenn Johnson	president
Mrs. Clifford Pittenger	vice-president
Mrs. Lester Winning	treasurer
Mrs. Harry Weitenhagen	secretary

In January of 1949 they joined the Synod Wide Lutheran Women's Missionary League. Current officers are:

Mrs. Larry White (Joanne)	president
Mrs. R.C. Gauger (Janice)	vice-president
Mrs. David Krenz (Bonnie)	secretary
Mrs. Reuben Weber (Ada)	treasurer

Grace Lutheran Church has grown and currently has 130 communicant members and 171 baptized members. Its present officers are:

Larry White	chairman
Carrol Retzlaff	secretary
Arlen Rothert	treasurer
A.B. Savre	financial secretary
Reuben Weber, Gary Ramsey, and Clinton Dahl	elders
Gary Monteith and David Krenz	trustees

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 154

NESS LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Ness congregation was organized when Pastor I.L. Lundeby was Home Missionary in the area from 1882-1884. The first meeting was held in 1883 in Amund Gilbertson's log house near the Sheyenne River. Ten families were represented at this

meeting. They chose the name NESS because a number of the new settlers came from a place by that name in Norway. Families at the first meeting were:

Gulbrand Auren
Ole Hagen Fekjer
Amund Gilbertson
Thor Hagen
Ole Kristofferson
Andrew Larson
Arne Luckason
Ole Skrien
Arne Thompson
Iver Thompson

These families met in various homes until the Bolkan schoolhouse was built when services were held there.

The Ness church was built in 1898 while Rev. O.K. Quamme was pastor. The Norse language was used almost exclusively until the 1920's. In 1929 a basement was constructed with Melvin Seim supervising the work, members donating labor. In 1949 the church was wired for electricity and an oil furnace installed in 1955. In 1959 glass-block windows replaced the original ones in the church proper, hall and balcony.

In 1908 the congregation joined the United Norwegian Lutheran Church, which in 1917 became the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America and is now the American Lutheran Church.

The Ness congregation was part of a parish in the early days that included the Union church east of Hannaford and the Lund church north of Luverne. In later years Ness was part of a parish that included Blabon, St. Petri and Lund churches.

In 1968, because of changing conditions, the members voted to dissolve with most members transferring to the Trinity congregation at Cooperstown.

Upon its dissolution a cemetery association was formed to maintain the cemetery and preserve the church building for the association's meetings, and other occasional services. One such service was in 1981 when the Halvorson family met here to celebrate their centennial anniversary of coming here in 1881. The church was filled for the Sunday service.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 156

OTTAWA CHURCH

In 1880 people began to settle on land in the Sheyenne valley. They settled near the river because here they found water and wood.

In the beginning services were held in homes. They felt the need for organizing a congregation and land was obtained from Hans Koloen for a cemetery in Pilot Mount Township.

On April 8, 1885 services and a congregational meeting were held and a number of families joined the congregation. It was decided that the name of the congregation

should be Ottawa Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church. Ottawa is an Indian name that means "the center of good things."

The first election of officers included the following:

H. Koloen	deacon
A.P. Rusten.....	deacon
A.H. Berg	deacon
John K. Olson	trustee
Ole O. Groff	trustee
Nels Torgerson	trustee
John K. Olson	sexton

It was decided to call Rev. I.L. Lundeby as pastor at a salary of \$125.00 for twelve services. By the end of 1885 it is recorded that twenty-eight families had joined the congregation.

From 1889 to 1899 funds were gathered to start building a new church. By the turn of the century it was definitely in mind to get the building done, even though the total amount was slow to grow. The annual meeting of 1902 reported that \$185.25 was in the treasury for the purpose of building. It was suggested at the meeting of February 28, 1903 the building begin and a committee of three was appointed and given authority to hire someone to begin work on the building. By April of that year \$1,178.80 was in the building fund, and the church was completed during 1903.

The first ladies aid meeting of any record was held in May of 1887. The aid met once a month at the home of members, full dinners usually being served.

Pastors who have served Ottawa are:

Rev. I.L. Lundeby	1885-1886	Rev. R.E. Johnshoy	1953-1957
Rev. O.K. Quamme	1888-1904	Rev. Quentin Quanbeck	1957-1961
Rev. V.E. Boe	1904-1906	Rev. L.R. Vanderpan	1961-1963
Rev. J.M. Jensen	1906-1911	Rev. Harald Dordal (interim)	1963-1964
Rev. T.E. Sweger	1912-1918	Rev. Arlington Mitskog	1964-1968
Rev. O.J. Ovrebo	1918-1941	Rev. Hans S.T. Floan	1969-1972
Rev. E.O. Lee	1941-1943	Rev. Oscar E. Twedt	1972-1977
Rev. Wilhelm J. Madson ..	1943-1948	Rev. Mark Winick.....	1978-1981
Rev. CW. Holm.....	1948-1952	Rev. Milton Olson.....	1981-

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 156

RINGSAKER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Ringsaker Church was founded in the late 1800's to serve a group of settlers who had traveled to Romness Township from Winneshiek County, Iowa. Early services were held in homes of the settlers and the worshipers were served by mission pastors named Vaage, Harstad, and Lundeby. Many of the early services were held in the home of Andrew Knutson, as his home was larger than most because he had a store and the post office known as Lybeck, a Norwegian word meaning "a quiet stream."

Prior to actual organization of the congregation, two children, Anton C. Olson and Elmer Mathison were baptized by Rev. Vaage in the summer of 1881 during services conducted at the home of Anders Nelson.

The congregation was officially organized February 9, 1882 after services conducted by Mission Pastor, I.L. Lundeby in the Knutson home. The following were the first members: Anders Nelson, Syver Syverson Solei, Ole Olson Bjornstad, Gilbert Olson, Han P. Pramhus, and Carl A. Flisaram. Syver S. Solei was elected secretary. Herman Ludvig Johnson was baptized on this day and John Peter Johnson and Anna Marie (Olson) Hilstad were baptized during the following year.

In the years 1882 and 1883 the following people joined the congregation: Martin Johnson, John Johnson, Mrs. Anna Nelson, Bernt Olson, Erick Johnson Vestern and family and Andrew Anderson Hovelsrud and family.

The little flock was reminded how uncertain life is when on November 8, 1881, Anna Nelson Svartberget, only 48 years old, died. In the fall of 1882, five children died during a diphtheria epidemic. Thus, it became necessary to obtain land for a place of burial. Ole Olson Bjornstad was appointed to contact Carl A. Flisaram who agreed to donate an acre of land from his property in Section 22 for a cemetery. Due to some error, ownership was not recorded as transferred to the church. The land was then sold to some company and then bought by Ole Pederson Overby.

According to church minutes dated from 1885-1891, it was quite a struggle to acquire title to the land. Times were hard and the pioneer Overbys could not give title to the land until they had actually acquired title.

According to minutes of the January 4, 1894 meeting, the cemetery committee had completed its work and the land was "over-deeded" to Carl A. Flisaram as trustee of the Ringsaker Church. The deed was for two acres of land at a total price of \$25.00.

During 1883, Syver S. Solei organized the Sunday School and in December of that year, records show that the minister's annual salary was \$28.00. February 9, 1884, it was ordered that a yearly salary of \$100.00 be paid.

The first couple to be married were Paul J. Nelson and Helen Vestern on May 24, 1884. The first three confirmands were Magnus Lynner, Augusta Vestern and Thea Sletten, May 25, 1884.

Discussions began January 4, 1896 regarding a church building. Pastor O.K. Kvamme, P.P. Idsvoog, and Gilbert Olson were on the committee to investigate the cost of building a church in the dimensions of 30 x 40 feet. From records of the January 6, 1897 meeting, it was decided to build a church that summer on the cemetery grounds.

Originally, carpenters were to be hired by the day with the congregation helping in the work. But in May of 1897, it was decided to hire a contractor to furnish all materials. The contract was let to M.M. Lee and the church was built at a cost of \$1,380.45. It was paid for in the first year with donations raised by the Ladies Aid and the Ringsaker Church Society. A bell donated by the Young Peoples Society was installed in 1899. The church was dedicated in July of 1902 by Professor Oftedahl from Augsburg Seminary, Minneapolis, who made the trip from Minneapolis by train. A copy of a narrative written by him on the trip and during his stay in Romness was found in a scrapbook owned by Amanda Skramstad. He states that Pastors Quamme, Quanbeck, and Swenson also took part in the dedication.

In it he further states: "The church is an unusually attractive building, quite roomy and practically constructed. It was on this occasion decorated with bouquets of redtops in an original and appealing manner.

"After services, the Ladies Aid served dinner for all in attendance, and thus, after dinner the people could gather again to listen to 'the testimonies of the ministers and laymen and satisfy their souls with God's heavenly manna."

"Monday and Tuesday we had discussional meetings and thus there was time to become familiar with the beautiful Romness Valley."

He spent the first evening of his stay at the home of Rev. O.K. Quamme in Cooperstown and the following days he spent enjoying the hospitality of Marthinus H. Skramstad on his homestead to the southwest of the church site.

The cemetery association was organized in 1938 with constitution and by-laws drawn up the following year. Electricity was installed in 1946. The 60th and 75th anniversary celebrations were held in 1942 and 1957, respectively.

A total of eighteen pastors, 7 student pastors, and several visiting pastors have served the church in the years 1882 to the present.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 157

ROMNESS METHODIST CHURCH

The Romness Methodist Church was started by Rev. L. Trelstad of the American Sunday School Union. Rev. Trelstad held worship services in the pioneer homes in Romness mainly during the winter of 1901.

The congregation organized by presiding elder, J.A. Jacobsen in May of 1901 was known as the Romness Methodist-Episcopal congregation. At the John and Karen (Vestern) Hogenson's grove, camp meeting was held. The guest pastors who participated in these services were Martin Hellerud, Fritz and Anton Trelstad. Before the church was built, the congregation met in the schoolhouses and in the homes until 1903 when Mr. and Mrs. Peter Idsvoog gave the land where the church building was erected. The congregation received the charter May 6, 1903. Three names mentioned on the charter were Peter P. Idsvoog, Gudmund Gudmundson, and John Hogenson. The church was dedicated in 1904, free of debt. The congregation never had a loan on their church building. T.M. Hauge was the pastor and H.C. Munson was the presiding elder when the church was built and dedicated. Rev. Hauge served the congregation for several years.

Twenty-four pastors have served the congregation: Fritz Trelstad served before the church was built

T.M. Hauge, first pastor after the church building was erected

N.C. Hanson, whose family occupied the classroom area (now the kitchen) for a while

A.W. Rosness, H.O. Jacobson, C.A. Joranson, J. Korsmo, G. Gilbertson, (later known as Gilberts)

O. Asp, B. Oakland, Lee Paulson, G. Hjelmaas, John Nymark, Loren Pugsley, Alfred Anderson, C.H. Nelson, Ralph W. Davis, Chris F. Miller, William Samuel, Glen S. Gabel, D. James Farnham, Robert F. Collitt, Doyle A. Buss and Lionel P.A. Muthiah.

Pastors from the McVille-Hamlin Parish, Hillsboro-Finley Parish and Finley-Hope Parish served until 1968. The church is still a part of the United Methodist Conference. The descendents and relatives of the late John and Karen Hogenson held a service in August of 1973 and again in August of 1975 when they gathered for their family reunion. Those are the only two services held at the church since 1968.

Twenty-seven are buried at the cemetery including two infant graves, unknown as to location of the graves. They were buried in the early 1900's.

There are a few individuals who are still members of this congregation.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 158

ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. George's Catholic Church of Cooperstown started out as a mission of St. Lawrence's of Jessie. In its infancy, Mass was held at the then Max Wild home. It is now the home of Mrs. Alyce Lura.

As the membership grew, they purchased what had been the Congregational Church in 1939. Father George Miller was the pastor. The people named their new parish after the much-loved priest. The document of incorporation was dated August 29, 1941 with officers listed as Bishop Muench, Fr. George Miller, Fr. Leo Dworschak, William Pfeifer and Frank Bednar.

The Redemptorist Fathers came to Cooperstown in 1941. They were a group of missionary priests working from the Cooperstown Mission House, serving a large area of the upper mid-west states. They purchased the Dr. C.F. Craig residence known to many as the P.H. Costello home. It was named the Redemptorist Mission House. A large house was needed as they had several priests working from their new mission house.

The first Redemptorist to be pastor of St. George's was Fr. Anthony Huber. He performed the first wedding; that of Loretta Bednar and John Paintner, June 6, 1944. August 14 the same year was the start of daily Mass being said at St. George's. The Catholic youth organization began November 2, 1944. The first midnight Mass in Cooperstown was offered December 25, 1944. The first confirmation class was June 16, 1945 confirmed by Bishop Muench of Fargo.

Fr. Bernard Guenther followed Fr. Huber coming in August of 1945. He prevailed on the parishioners to purchase land for a cemetery, about one-half mile north of Cooperstown. The first burial was Mrs. Theodore Hovel, July 2, 1948.

Fr. Breitenbeck was the next pastor, arriving in 1950 to 1956. It was under his leadership that the steadily growing parish decided to build the present structure. The first masses were held Easter week in 1953.

Bishop Leo Dworschak at dedication services, new St. George's Church, 1952.

Fr. Bernard Langton came in 1956 to 1959. He was followed by Fr. Stanley Burke, 1959-1964. They spent much of their time raising funds to pay on the large debt.

In 1964 the care of St. George's was transferred to the diocesan priests. Fr. C. Jaillet was the first. He was here less than one year, leaving Cooperstown for the mission fields of the Bahamas.

Fr. Adam Hasey came to Cooperstown from nearby Tolna, North Dakota in the summer of 1965. He remained here for eight years. The membership had grown to over 300 people by the time he left. It was then the parish voted to build a new rectory, attached to the church. A full-sized catechetical center was built in the rectory basement. The old rectory was torn down to make a much-needed parking lot. Fr. Hasey left in July of 1973.

Fr. George Schneider followed. He was installed in September of 1973. In December of 1978 a mortgage ceremony was held, twenty-five years after the church was built. Fr. Schneider left after seven years as pastor of St. George's.

He was succeeded by Fr. C. Richard Rudd, the present pastor, who arrived in 1980. Shortly after he arrived, the parish voted to put on a new insulated roof, and off-peak electric heat, hoping to improve the energy conservation.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 158

ST. LAWRENCE CHURCH, JESSIE, N.D.

Several years before there was a St. Lawrence Catholic Church at Jessie, even before there was a Jessie for that matter, the homestead families, Pfeifers, Zimprichs, Fiebigers, Hovels, Dusbabecks, Resslers, Wilds, Becherls, and others met in homes or in the Zimprich School house as often as a priest would come from Sanborn; the nearest established church. When the railroad came through Jessie, this became a Mission, but still had no church building.

In 1908, the church was built atop the highest hill, just above the schoolhouse at the northwest corner of town. For several years, church was at that location. Somehow the town did not grow sufficiently to surround the church so in 1925 the white frame church was moved to the northeast corner of Jessie. This was located next to the Frank Arndt home, which was purchased in 1927 for a rectory.

These structures were paid for by generous donations of parishoners and generous portions of chicken, potatoes and gravy served by the Altar Society members. These ladies would prepare and take meals (to say nothing of their own silver, dishes, tablecloths, and often tables and chairs) up the outside stairs to the hall over Dahl's Store to make extra money for building funds. Later Father George Miller bought the Jessie Bank Building so the stair climbing was out. In 1948 when Father Reman Ludwig was priest, the present hall was built and the carrying was down to the edible goodies, but show me any church and I will show you some hard-working women who augmented contributions with their chicken dinners.

It was during Father Ludwig's years that St. Lawrence was destroyed by fire and it was through his efforts that the present church was built in 1951. Father Ludwig was followed by Father Joseph Heubsch and Father Edward Freuh who were resident priests. In 1968, St. Lawrence became a mission of St. George and St. Lawrence rectory was not used by Father Adam Hasey, Father George Schneider, or Father Richard Rudd.

Throughout the years, there have been some of the original homestead families in the parish (at present it is mostly third and fourth generation) and there are also new

members, so names and faces change, but St. Lawrence remains the church for those of Catholic faith in and around Jessie, North Dakota.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 159

SARON EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

Many of the early pioneers who settled in Sverdrup Township came from Norway and Sweden. Realizing a need for a church home for their families, the Saron Evangelical Free Church was organized in March of 1895 with Peder Wuflestad as chairman. The church was first named "Sarons Frimeneghed". Charter members were Mr. and Mrs. Lars Johnson, Betsey Johnson, Margaret Johnson, Nicholas Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Waldemar Klubben, Per Lideen, Mr. and Mrs. Swen Loge, Arne Luckassen, Hans Lunde, Mr. and Mrs. Peder Wuflestad, Swen Wuflestad, Krag Wuflestad, Kristian Wuflestad, Mr. and Mrs. Tonnes Vatne, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Lunde and Karl Lende.

In April of 1896, S.M. Andrewson was called to serve as their first pastor. Meetings were held in the homes and also upstairs in a granary on the Lars Johnson farm. In 1903 the church was built and later a barn was added to shelter the members' horses during services.

At one time, flax, wheat, and potatoes were raised on a rented plot to help meet church expenses. Potatoes were sold for 45¢ a bushel.

Ludvig Lunde was called as pastor in 1916 and served in that capacity 25 years. During this time he was instrumental in starting the Cooperstown Bible Camp. The first camp service was held June 21, 1925.

Pastor Lunde traveled extensively in evangelistic meetings. He also held street meetings in neighboring towns using a "Gospel Wagon" built for this purpose by Hans Seldahl.

In 1951 the name of the church was changed to Saron Evangelical Free Church.

The Norwegian language was used in all services for several years. In 1934 they began conducting their services in English every other Sunday and soon all services were in English.

The church building was remodeled in 1918 and a basement was added at that time. In 1956 the sanctuary was redecorated and all new windows were installed. A new foyer was added in 1973.

Pastors who have served this church are:

S.M. Andrewson
Swen Wuflestad
Krag Wuflestad
H.F. Josephson
Ludvig Lunde
Roy Newlin
Irving Standley
Richard Hess
Edward Kimball

Bruce Chapman
Howard Matson
S. Kenneth Nelson
Keith McNeil.

The present pastor is Rev. LaDon Rydberg who also serves the Bethlehem Free Church and Christian Fellowship Church.

Chairman of the present boardAllan Stokka
Vice-chairmanKeith Anderson
Elders.....Algot Erickson, Bert Johnson, Sidney Erickson
TrusteesMonroe Wuflestad, Keith Anderson, Mark Johnson
Financial secretaryKermit Ueland
Secretary.....Phyllis Johnson
TreasurerErnest Erickson
Sunday School superintendentJoyce Erickson
Bible Camp representativeLuella Stokka.

In the past years at the Saron church there has been seven ordinations, 25 Bible instruction classes with 192 graduates. Nine young men have gone out in full time Christian service. Three missionaries have gone out to China, South America, and the mountains of Kentucky.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 160

SHEYENNE VALLEY CONGREGATION

The Sheyenne Valley Congregation celebrated its 100th anniversary in 1981. It is located in the western part of Steele County but this portion of Steele County was included in Griggs County in the early 1880's. At the time Cooperstown was designated as the county seat of Griggs County, the boundary lines were changed and the land on which the Sheyenne Valley Church is located is now part of Steele County. Several of the members are from the Sheyenne River Valley area and are residents of Griggs County.

In the years 1879-1880, early settlers came to the Sheyenne River Valley. Omund Nelson Opheim was the first permanent settler. "Pioneer Nelson" Opheim and his family were the only people living in the area during the winter of 1879-1880. In the year 1880, John Quale, Iver Seim and John Johnson Hanson arrived with John Arneson and Evan Monson joining the community a year or so later. In 1880 and 1881 Pastor Bjug A. Harstad from Goose River visited the settlement and conducted several services, which were held in the log houses.

The 1881-82 treasurer's book lists the following names as contributing towards the pastor's salary, some of them charter members: Iver Seim, John Hanson, John Arneson, Evan Monson, John Qualey, Mikkil Aga, Johan Mustad, Mattias Hilstad, Gustav Olson, Omund Opheim, Ole Halvorson, Syver Halvorson, Andreas Larson, Sven Knutson Norgard, Peter Hanson, Johannes Dronen and Peter J. Hanson.

At a congregational meeting held February 2, 1885, a constitution, compiled by Pastor O.C. Gronvold, Omund Opheim and Ole Halvorson, was read, considered and unanimously adopted. Worship services were conducted in the homes and later in the Mardell schoolhouse located in the townsite of Mardell.

The new church building was completed in the fall of 1898, located on the "SE corner of the Opheim Tree Claim".

June 19, 1961, tragedy struck the congregation. The church and all its furnishings were completely destroyed by fire. It was being renovated and repaired in preparation for the congregation's eightieth anniversary to be observed in September. Worship services were conducted in the Oak Grove schoolhouse located approximately two miles southwest of the church site. At a congregation meeting held there November 1, 1961, it was voted to build a new church. Construction was started April 23, 1962 and the first service was held in the new church November 25, 1962.

Pastors who have served the congregation are as follows:

Bjug A. Harstad	1880-1881
Carl John Gronlid	1882
Rolf Fjelstad	1883
O.C. Gronvold	1883-1887
T.H. Larson.....	1887-1892
Henry H. Eliassen	1892-1900
E.T. Silness	1900-1906
Henrick Voldahl	1906-1909
E.C. Tollefson.....	1909-1916
V.E. Boe	1909 and 1917-40
E.T. Fyrand.....	1941-1948
O.A. Jordahl.....	1948-1966
Ernest Stadum.....	1966 to the present.

The church has a membership of approximately 100 confirmed members.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 161

THE SWEDISH MISSION CHURCH

About 1882 Swedish Christians began arriving to what is now Cooperstown.

These people settled four miles west of what is now Cooperstown. Feeling the need of Christian Fellowship they began meeting in their homes, where they sang the good old hymns and read the Bible, giving their testimonies. The head of the household where they met took charge, giving a word of admonition to follow their Saviour.

Sunday School was added and it was church to them all. The farmers were Per Person, Ludvig Anderson, Jonas Dalhbom, Jens Person and Brita Johnson, a widow with several children.

Soon they felt the need of a church home. In 1914 they sought advice from each other. None of them had funds to build such a building.

At a business meeting it was decided to circulate a list to all who wished to contribute to such a building. Jonas Skanse and Peter Person, son of Per Pei-son were chosen for that duty.

Neighbors, and business places contributed. A petition was sent to both Sears, Roebuck and Montgomery Ward, the catalogue houses in Chicago, with whom the farmers did business by mail.

Mr. Hoffman was chosen as contractor to build the church.

The building was erected on the northeast corner of Per Person's tree claim and was dedicated November 1, 1914.

A pastor was called and the work progressed. Daily vacation Bible School was added - a home-made bus picked up the children in one direction, and Elna Johnson, now Mrs. Jess Gibson of Cedaredge, Colorado the other direction, for two weeks each summer, five days a week.

In 1931 members of the church voted to disband and join Bethlehem congregation in Cooperstown. The building was sold to the Methodist congregation in Sutton, who still use it.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 161

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, COOPERSTOWN

For almost a century the congregation, now known as Trinity Lutheran Church (ALC), has been a part of Cooperstown. In 1886 there was activity among the residents of

Norwegian Lutheran heritage in Cooperstown to establish a church in the community. First services were conducted by a mission pastor, O.K. Quamme, who served nine congregations at that time. A Christmas Festival was held in 1888 in the courthouse with Pastor Quamme and children participating. Part of the program was given in Norwegian. The Cooperstown brass band assisted.

The church was organized April 20, 1890 as "Den Norsk Evangelisk Luthersk Menighed i Cooperstown, Griggs County, N.D." (Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Congregation in Cooperstown, Griggs County, North Dakota), and incorporated under the state laws of North Dakota in 1895. At the time the church was fully organized in 1895, the recorded members of the congregation were 15 families (56 souls) as follows:
Nicolas August Aagreen

Severin Almklov

Anders Gustave Anderson

Rollef Berg

Ragnar Biorn

Anton Enger

Steen C. Gunderson

Soren Hagen

Karimus Hegge

Claus Jackson
John Johnson
Nils Nelson Kiel
Martin Lee
Hans O. Lien
Iver Jacobsen.

Voting members listed in 1908 were as follows:

H.P. Hammer
A.H. Berg
Lewis Berg
P.A. Melgaard
Henry Haugen
P.E. Nelson
S. Almklov
Albert Larson
Martin Rood
J.E. Johnson
C.J. Lucken
Knut Hamre
F. Gronland
Gunder Frigaard
Pete Moe
Pete Tang
Benjamin Tufte
Ole Feiring
Andrew Johnson
Ernest Johnson
Mrs. Julie Stevens
Mrs. R. Anderson
Mrs. S. Black
Mrs. M. Simenson
Martin Garlid
Ame A. Olson
C.L. Brimi.

Services were conducted alternately in Norwegian and English. In 1923 there were more English services than Norwegian. Since 1940 all services are in English.

There has been a building program throughout the years. Shortly after the congregation was organized, the pioneers saw the need for a church home. The north half of block 62 was purchased for \$100 in 1895. In 1896 the church was finished and

first services held. It was a frame church built with a tall belfry and cross. A basement was added in 1909. The church was remodeled and refinished through the years.

When the congregation outgrew its quarters after World War II, a new church was built. The modified Gothic brick structure seats 650 and has 22 classrooms.

Ground was broken in July of 1956, and the new church dedicated in November of 1957. The mortgage was burned ten years later.

In 1914 a parsonage was built east of the church and used for 63 years. A garage was built in the sixties.

In 1976-77 a new parsonage was built on lots in the southwest corner of block 62.

The pipe organ was installed in 1915 in the first church. Sarah Anderson was the first organist. When the old church was torn down, the organ console and pipes were purchased by Selmer Quam, who later donated the pipes to the church. Six new ranks were added to make a 14-rank organ, a total of 890 pipes in the specially prepared chamber behind the altar. On the day of dedication of the organ in the new church, a concert was given by Eugene Douth, organ builder. Present organist is Lise Johnson who has served for over 40 years.

Pastors who have served the congregation are:

O.K. Quamme, 1890-1895 (1886-1890 as mission pastor)

E.T. Silness, 1895-1905

J.N. Jensen, 1906-1911

T.E. Sweger, 1912-1920

G.R. Estrem, 1921-1928, - 1.0.

Jacobson, 1931-1938;

P.H. Holm-Jensen, 1938-1941-1

H.J. Hansen, 1942-1947

C.M. Rasmussen, 1947-1954

A.P. Tidemann, 1954-1960

E.R. Schmidt, 1961-1970

Marvin Williamson, 1970-1979

David Putz, 1980.

In 1962 Trinity became a one-church parish. Prior to that time the pastor had served one or more congregations in addition to Cooperstown.

In 1968 the Ness Church, east of Cooperstown, disbanded, and many members joined Trinity. Trinity Lutheran Church had 607 members November 1, 1981.

The oldest organization in the church is the Ladies Aid, now known as the ALCW (American Lutheran Church Women). The women's organization is older than the church itself and played an important part in establishing the church.

The first Ladies Aid meeting was held November 1, 1888. There were nine members:
Mrs. P.A. Melgaard

Mrs. John Oie

Mrs. Rollef Berg

Mrs. Signor Rice
Mrs. Julius Stevens
Mrs. Anton Enger
Mrs. Quamme
Mrs. S. Almklov

Mrs. Ole Feiring. The first three mentioned were present at the Ladies Aid 50th anniversary in 1938, according to a report compiled by Mrs. Lewis Berg and Mrs. Theodore Kittelson.

In 1888 the Ladies Aid organized a Sunday School and rented a room for it. Some teachers have served for 10, 20 and up to 50 years. A board of education of three members is elected by the congregation. Sunday School enrollment in November 1981 is 131.

As far as can be determined, choir was organized in 1910, but no doubt from the beginning music was an important part of worship and activity in the church. Some members have been in choir as long as 40 years or more. For a time there were five choirs in various age groups. The first director was P.O. Lillence. Present director of the choir is Mrs. S.J. (Della) Quam, who has served in some phase of music in the church since 1934.

Special events celebrated by the congregation include:

- The 50th anniversary celebration May 12-19, 1940
- End of World War II Jubilee night in service of prayer and song
- April 23-26, 1953, Christian Service Recognition Festival honoring Lillian Young Otte, Gerald Garlid, Clarence Solberg
- 75th anniversary celebration September 16-19, 1965

*Members of the congregation who served in full-time ministry:

Lillian Young (Mrs. Carl Otte): became a missionary in 1929, after completing nurses' training; served in Zululand, South Africa for over 40 years. She made four trips to the United States, first one in 1938 and last one in 1968, died in 1969.

Gerald Garlid: Ordained in 1939. Served in Heron Lake, Brewster, Ellendale, Appleton, all in Minnesota; Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin; Torrence, Corte Madera in California; and North Hollywood, California where he had special responsibility for Christian education which included a Christian Day School with an enrollment of 600 and pre-school of 200. He is now retired and lives in Northfield, Minnesota.

Clarence Solberg: Ordained 1942. Served in Bison, South Dakota; Green Bay, Wisconsin; Area missionary in northern California, assistant director of Home Missions, ELC; Regional director of Home Missions in NW United States, western Canada and Alaska; Executive assistant to president of Northern Wisconsin District ALC. Since 1969, Bishop of North Pacific of American Lutheran Church.

Glenn Hetland: Ordained in 1960, served ten years as a missionary to Brazil, later served at Beltrami, Minnesota and now at Van Nuys, California.

David Lura: Attended Wartburg College, Iowa two years, one year clinical training in Lincoln, Nebraska, served in Navy for four years, graduated from University of Hawaii in

1976, completed Master of Divinity, Illif, Colorado in May of 1980, called as pastor in Rockford Methodist Church at Rockford, Washington, where he is serving at the present time.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 162

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH (Lutheran Brethren) 1881-1981

The Zion Lutheran Church had its beginning in 1881 when a group of immigrants from Norway settled along the Sheyenne River and on the prairie in what is now Sverdrup and Bald Hill Townships. At first they met for worship on Sundays in their sod and log houses. The preachers were two men from the group, which came that spring, namely, Ola Westley and Andreas Vatne.

In the summer of 1881 Pastor P. Nykreim of the Norwegian Lutheran Conference visited the newcomers. Encouraged by him, they, together with several others who had recently arrived from Minnesota, organized the "'Thime Norsk Evangeliske Lutherske Menighed" October 16, 1881. Fourteen settlers were enrolled as members. Pastor Nykreim was elected chairman.

Early members were the families of:

Ola Westley

Ole Stokka

Betuel Herigstad

Nils Herigstad

Andreas Vatne

Martin Lunde

Sven Lunde

Ole Lima

Peder Wuflestad

Jens Bull

Torkel Fuglestad

Endre Aarestad

Betuel Lunde

Elling Froiland

Tonnes Vatne

Karl Lende

Arnt Njaa

Hans Braasten

Christoffer Ashland

Ingeborg Soma

Sven Loge

Waldemar Klubben

Pastor Lundebj from the Goose River area served the congregation in 1883, and the next year the congregation divided when 13 of the members reorganized into Elim Norwegian Evangelical Congregation and became associated with Hauge Synod with Pastor Jacob Nesheim from Norway serving as minister.

On June 23, 1886 they acquired land for a cemetery and a building site for a church. The land was donated by Ola Westley. The first burial in the cemetery was that of an infant and the second burial, which occurred in 1888, was that of Vilhelm Vatne, first husband of Ane Lima Vatne.

In 1896 Elim joined with Hoiland congregation and took the name Ebenezer Norwegian Lutheran Church. The congregation remained an independent Lutheran Church and was served by pastors from Hauge Synod and the Lutheran Free Church.

On December 19, 1896 the future pastor, O.J. Edwards from Red Wing, Minnesota arrived. Services were held in the schoolhouse near the Jorgen Soma farm home. In February of 1897 the congregation numbered more than 30 voting male members over 18 years of age. Later that same year the congregation purchased 40 acres of land on which they erected buildings for the pastor and his family.

As time went on the schoolhouse became too small for the increased attendance and they began to make plans for building a church. On December 20, 1901 a meeting of the trustees was held to discuss the matter. This was followed by a meeting of the entire congregation the next day. Several plans for an adequate size building were submitted. The estimated cost was \$1,000 or less. The seating capacity would be approximately 115.

The Ladies Aid had requested that the building of the church be started in the spring. The Ladies Aid had \$600 in its treasury toward this project, and with an additional \$300 from the congregation they believed they would have sufficient funds with which to erect a small, attractive and solid church. In response to the request of the Ladies Aid the congregation resolved to begin the work in the course of the winter by hauling sand and stone, and then after the spring work finish the foundation and make further decisions as they found best.

The building was begun in the spring of 1902 at the site donated earlier, which is located five miles south and two miles east of Cooperstown. It consisted of a main auditorium and a smaller side-room partitioned off by wood folding doors. This room had a cookstove in one corner and was used as a kitchen and a place for serving food whenever afternoon services were held in addition to the forenoon service. It was used on Sunday mornings for the adult Bible class and also provided extra seating space to accommodate overflow crowds. The Sunday school classes met in various areas in the main auditorium. The first funeral service conducted in the new church was in December of 1902 for a young man, Baard Nilsen Herigstad.

According to the old records the following served as pastors until the year 1919:

M. Njust

H. Hjertaas

O.J. Edwards

H. Quanbeck

O. Swenson

E. Aas

L.N. Haugland and P. Eidsaa.

In 1919 the congregation again reorganized, this time as Zion Lutheran, and from that time they have been served by pastors from the Lutheran Brethren Synod. The congregation joined the Lutheran Brethren Synod in 1957.

In 1928 the church underwent great improvements which consisted of putting in a full basement with furnace, as well as the building of an extension on the west side for the chancel, thus giving more seating space in the main auditorium. Pews were installed to take the place of individual chairs, which had formerly been used,

In the 1960s it became apparent that a decision must be made in regard to the church building, which now was in need of extensive repair. As this was discussed it did not seem feasible to make the needed repairs, and neither did it seem advisable to build a new church out in the country. A decision was made to proceed with a new building in Cooperstown. The work was begun in 1968 and in January of 1969 the new sanctuary was fully completed. The first service was held January 19, and the church dedicated in June. The mortgage was burned in January of 1976. A new parsonage was built in 1976 and dedicated in November of that year.

The pastors who have served since 1919 are:

M.E. Sletta

Elmer Hagen

Andreas Vatne

Gilbert Stenoien

E.H. Gunhus

Oscar Monson

Olaf Monson

Ole Vettrus

Andrew Monsen

Joel Lunde

Sanford Soma

LeRoy Njaa

Gordon Solheim

Glenn Larsen and Elwin Walvatne. Silas Bergstad and Irving Standley served as interim pastors for short periods of time. Prof. C. Christianson served as interim pastor during the summer of 1967, while Roy Johnson served during a portion of 1966 and 1967. The present pastor is Willmore Gundersen.

The officers are: Elders - Herluf Vigesaa, George Vigesaa and Leslie Ronningen

Trustees - Trygve Thompson, Robert Berge and Everett Vigesaa

Secretary - Ted Vigesaa

Treasurer - Roald Vigesaa

Sunday School Supt. - Mrs. Robert Berge

Ladies Aid President - Mrs. Edwin Johnson.

CEMETERIES AND BURIAL GROUNDS

One of the pioneer hardships was the burial of their dead. There was a high infant death rate. There were accidents, drowning, diphtheria and death from the blizzard. Burial had to be local and prompt especially in the summer. It was often near the house, at the edge of the garden or in a small plot on some farm where neighbors could bury their dead. In time these places became overgrown with grass. Unmarked, there were cases where relatives could not find the place of burial to remove the body when regular cemeteries were laid out.

In 1881, Lars Ulven died from freezing and exposure, having been lost in a blizzard. His remains were buried on the Opheim farm on Section 12 of Washburn Township. This was the beginning of the Opheim Cemetery where 32 bodies were buried. The following is an incomplete list of those buried in the Opheim Cemetery:

Lars Ulven	1881
Elling Nelson's daughter	1881
Elling Nelson	?
Sina Halvorson (a child)	1881
Laura Halvorson (a child)	1881
Frank Axtell	1883
Syver Halvorson	1883
Two sons of John Johnson Engen Sr.	1882 or 1883
Bolette Abrahamson	1884
Omund Nelson Opheim	1885
Endre Johnson	1885
Christoffer Olai Johnson	1886
Martin Helmer Johnson	1886
Gunhild Mustad	1887
Andrew Larson	1892
Johan Mustad	1894
Lars Mikkelsen Falkenhaus	1894
Annie Fladland	1896
Ladvor Fladland	1896
Julia Qualey	1896
Annie Johnson	1890's
Pearl Opheim (child of Martin)	1901
Samuel K. Norgaard	1903
Mrs. S.K. Norgaard	1904

Baby girl Opheim (child of Johnny)	1904
Mrs. O.N (Karl) Opheim	1905
Martha Opheim Olson	1916
Mrs. Israelson	?

The Old Swedish Mission Church Cemetery (aka Swedish Evangelical Covenant Church) was started about 1885 or 1886. Brita Johnson, a widow, gave a small plot of her farm for a community cemetery when her daughter who was about twenty years old died. The following materials are recorded from the memories of Mrs. Margaret Gilje and Mrs. Axel Liljenquist (Person girls) who lived in the community of the Swedish Mission Church.

Daughter of Brita Johnson (age about 20)
 Julia Person (child of Per Person)
 Peter Olaf Person (child of Per Person)
 Unnamed child Person (child of Per Person)
 Lars Sundberg - died 1 Jan. 1905
 Wife of Lars Sundberg (1st)
 Ludvig Anderson
 Johanna Anderson
 Hilma Anderson (child of Ludvig and Johanna)
 Jonas Skanse
 Karl Skanse
 Jonas Dahlbom
 Christine Dahlbom
 Anna (child of Jonas and Christine Dahlbom)
 Emma (child of Jonas and Christine Dahlbom)
 George Watne
 Cora Wattle Wife (1st of Jens Person)
 Maggie Person (daughter of Jens Person)
 Mrs. John Nelson Wife (2nd of Jens Person)
 Marie Nelson (Mrs. Edward)
 Brita Johnson
 John Johnson
 Mr. and Mrs. Helgsten
 Esther Boe
 Mrs. Nic Boe
 Emma Person
 Lorence Person

In May of 1890, the *Courier* referred to the "burial ground west of town," where a Mr. F.D. Fenner was buried. West of town was referring to the Clearfield Township

Cemetery which is located on the N' 2 of Section 20. The following information was contributed by Marvin Rothert on whose land the abandoned cemetery is located.

Sarah A. Howden	24 Jul 1851-21 May 1901
Arthur G. Richardson	30 Mar 1892-14 Apr 1892
Walter A. Richardson	13 Oct 1895-19 Jan 1896
Ralph A. Richardson	19 Apr 1888- 6 Jan 1899
Erma Fenner (age 10 months)	Mar 1895
Alfred Fenner	1879-1897
Walter Fenner	1887-1897
Clara Luella	
Evers (daughter of John)	Dec. 1892-Aug. 1897
Infant (daughter of J. & S. Evers)	-14 Dec 1894
Alvin V. (son of J. & S. Evers)	8 mos., 14 days-15 Oct 1894
Abelona (also in Evers fence no other identification)	20 Oct 1905-10 Jan 1907
Mary Campbell Gorthy (wife of D. Gorthy) (age: 47 yr., 11 mos., 8 days)	-15 Apr 1887
David Gorthy (son of Mr. & Mrs. D. Gorthy)	
Peter Gorthy (son of Mr. & Mrs. D. Gorthy)	

Another place is an abandoned Cemetery on SW ¼ Section 12 of Sverdrup Township. This was used as a cemetery before the Ness Church was built in 1898. The following are buried there:

- Olaf Skanse (worked for Arne Luckason)
- John Hagen (11 yr. old son of Ole K. Hagen)
- Hector Hagen (son of Mons Hagen)
- Twin girls (daughters of Thor Hagens)
- Christie Auren (Mother of Harold Auren)
- Mrs. Gunhild Thompson

The Hilltop Burial Ground is located on the NW' 4 of Section 13 in Pilot Mound Township. Helgi and Barbara Olson and two small children were buried there in 1891. They died of typhoid fever.

Lone Soldiers' Graves are located in various parts of the County. These Soldiers most likely came through with General Sibley and his large army.

The grave of Samuel Wanemaker, NE 10th Minnesota Infantry, who died 9 August 1863 at age 42, is located on the SW ¼ Section 28 of Addle Township.

George E. Brent, Company D Minnesota Cavalry, who accidentally shot himself 20 Jul 1863, is buried on SW ¼ of Section 29 in Addle Township.

George T. Johnson, Company G. 111. Cavalry of the Sulley Expedition, was drowned 11 Aug. 1865 and buried S9'4 Section 23 of Bald Hill Township.

Christ Peterson, Company D. 1st Minn. Cavalry (no dates) is buried on NE11A Section 35 of Bald Hill Township.

Other abandoned burial sites include the NW ¼ of Section 12 of Clearfield Township. Here two children of Herb Church are buried and also a transient worker who died in the late 1890's. Another site is located in the SW ¼ Section 21 in Bryan Township. Here lie the remains of Riley Jeffords t6 Jan. 1891-25 May 1909.

The earliest churches usually laid out burial places near their church. The following is a compiled list of the cemeteries in Griggs County. More information could be obtained by consulting with the respective church officials.

Abandoned

Opheim	Washburn Township	SW ¼ Section 12
Abandoned	Sverdrup Township	SW ¼ Section 12
Bethany	Willow Township	NW ¼ Section 33
Gospel Tabernacle Cemetery	Willow Township	SW ¼ Section 33
Clearfield	Clearfield Township	N ½ Section 20
Eidfjord	Dover Township	SW ¼ Section 24
E.L.C. Lutheran	Addle Township	SE ¼ Section 7
Hannaford Lutheran	Greenfield Township	NW ¼ Section 5
Hannaford Presbyterian	Greenfield Township	SW ¼ Section 6
Hero	Tyrol Township	SE ¼ Section 33
Lone Grave	Clearfield Township	NW ¼ Section 12
Lone Grave	Bryan Township	SW ¼ Section 21
Lone Soldiers Graves	located in this writing	
Lyster Menighed	Bartley Township	SW ¼ Section 12
Mabel Lutheran	Mabel Township	SE ¼ Section 20
Mildred Hartman Memorial	Helena Township	NW ¼ Section 7
Naeroen	Rosendal Township	NW ¼ Section 33
Ness	Washburn Township	NE ¼ Section 36
Ottawa	Pilot Mound Township	SE ¼ Section 25
Ringsaker	Romness Township	SE ¼ Section 22
St. George Catholic	Cooperstown Township	NW ¼ Section 24
St. Lawrence Catholic	Tyrol Township	SE ¼ Section 18
St. Olaf	Greenfield Township	NE ¼ Section 30
Saron Evangelical	Sverdrup Township	SE ¼ Section 20
Swedish Mission Church	Cooperstown Township	SW ¼ Section 20
Union Lutheran	Greenfield Township	NE ¼ I 4 Section 2
United Methodist	Romness Township	NW ¼ Section 16
West Prairie	Pilot Mound Township	NW ¼ Section 30
Willow Lake	Willow Lake Township	SW ¼ Section 4
Zion Evang. Luth. Kirke	Rosendal Township	NE ¼ Section 29
Zion Free Luth. Aka Westley	Sverdrup Township	SE ¼ Section 17
Zion Lutheran	Clearfield Township	SE ¼ Section 8

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 165

Health Care

MEDICAL DOCTORS OF COOPERSTOWN

Many doctors have served this community in the past one hundred years. At some point, every town in the county seems to have had its own doctor in days when a ten-mile trip was a long one. The earliest physician and surgeon in Griggs County was Dr. T.F. Kerr of New York. He was an 1874 graduate of the University of Michigan and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York City. He and Eliza, his wife, came to Griggs County in 1881. Dr. Kerr also served as County Superintendent of Schools in Griggs County from 1882 to 1894. Dr. Kerr left Cooperstown in 1905 because of poor health.

In May of 1883 Dr. George Newell came to Cooperstown where he opened the first drugstore, and gave up his practice except for surgical cases. The reason Dr. Newell gave for giving up his practice was the long drives and the dark stormy nights. Dr. Kerr attended to the country practice.

The fall of 1885, another doctor, Dr. J.M. McGuire, arrived in town. He opened his office in the Cooperstown Drug Store, which was owned by O. Krogstad and R.A. Clausen. In 1886, the partnership was dissolved and R.A. Clausen became the sole proprietor. Many of the doctors who came to Cooperstown had interests in drug stores. They dispensed their own medicines.

In July of 1885, Dr. Orrin Hayden came to Cooperstown. No records were shown where he had his office.

Dr. G.L. Virgo from Page came to Cooperstown in July of 1887. Dr. Virgo purchased the Gillespie building, where he had his office and opened a drug store.

July of 1888 brought another doctor to Cooperstown, Dr. Christian Wade], a Norwegian physician and surgeon. He opened his office in the Independent building. (The Independent was a short-lived newspaper in Cooperstown).

July 26, 1888, Dr. Nils Bergstrom arrived from Montevideo, Minnesota. He operated a drug store in connection with his medical practice. His brother, Olaf had told him of the new village of Cooperstown. Nils came to Cooperstown and was so impressed that he decided to locate here. He found office space in the new Palace Hotel. In 1888, Dr. Newell sold his drug store to S. Almklov. Dr. Newell suffered a stroke in 1890 and returned to Rochester, Wisconsin. He died in 1898.

Dr. Ludwig L. Platou and Dr. William B. Wanner came to Cooperstown in 1894. Dr. Platou was from Norway. Both doctors had their offices over Enger's Hardware Store on Burrell.

Dr. Carl L. Brimi of Eau Claire, Wisconsin was the next doctor. He arrived January 17, 1898. Dr. Brimi graduated from Rush Medical College, Chicago and interned at Norwegian American Hospital in Chicago. His reason for coming to Cooperstown is unknown but perhaps the good proportion of Norwegian settlers in this area was an important consideration. His office was in the Syverson's bank building. Dr. Brimi's calls took him all over the area, from Dazey to McHenry and McVile to Finley. His calls were made with livery stable teams and rigs and later auto mobiles were used, weather permitting. Kitchen table surgery had to be performed sometimes in

emergencies. The usual emergency was a farm accident involving hands caught in machinery or a broken bone or two. There were also many tragedies.

In December of 1899, Dr. Brimi received \$200.00 worth of surgical equipment, in addition to the large assortment he already had, which made a very large inventory of surgical instruments for the time. He also purchased an improved operating chair. Dr. Brimi was rapidly building up a large practice. For many years Dr. Brimi was county coroner, superintendent of the board of health and official physician for the railroads. Outbreaks of scarlet fever, typhoid fever and diphtheria called for house quarantines and school closings, virtually unknown today. Worst of all was the historic influenza epidemic of 1918. Dr. Brimi, just out of the Army, found himself to be one of the few physicians available to the county in this crisis.

Dr. W.L. Burnap arrived in Cooperstown in 1903. He and Dr. Brimi were in partnership. It was announced that Dr. Brimi and Dr. Burnap had under consideration the possibility of starting a city hospital.

Dr. Brimi held various offices in state medical associations. Dr. Brimi died very suddenly at the age of 48, January 25, 1925.

Dr. M.D. Westley established a medical practice in Cooperstown in 1904. He was a graduate of Hamline University, St. Paul, Minnesota and Jefferson Medical College (now Temple University) in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He practiced in Cooperstown until his death in 1946. He was a son of a pioneer Cooperstown area family.

Dr. Leif Almklov was graduated with a degree in medicine from Hamline University, St. Paul, Minnesota. He practiced in Cooperstown from 1906 until retirement in 1951. He was the son of S. Almklov who purchased the drug store from Dr. Newell.

Dr. Kent Westley, son of Dr. M.D. Westley, practiced in Cooperstown in his father's old office for a short time in 1947. For a short time around 1949, Dr. Milton Johnson practiced here in that office.

In 1951 Cooperstown had a new hospital and several doctors. Dr. K.M. Wakefield who came from Gackle, North Dakota

Dr. L. Fennell, newly arrived from Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Dr. L. Almklov, still practicing in Cooperstown, Dr. Beck in Sharon and Dr. O.D. Dekker in Finley had admitting privileges at the hospital. In 1955 Dr. Fennell resigned from the hospital staff. Dr. Beck was here for a few months in 1955. April of 1956 found Dr. R.L. Coultrip in partnership with Dr. Wakefield. In 1957 Dr. T.A. Harris came and spent one and one-half years here.

From May of 1960 to June of 1962, Dr. Lars Vistnes practiced here. After that, Dr. George Skelly spent one year in Cooperstown. In December of 1965, Dr. Peter Patton from London, England joined the Wakefield clinic. He spent six and one-half years in Cooperstown. December of 1973, Physician's Assistant, Don Bradshaw came to Cooperstown under the UND Medex Program to work with Dr. Wakefield.

In 1977 Dr. Wakefield left Cooperstown to join the University of North Dakota Family Practice Center in Fargo, which at that time had offices on the North Dakota State University campus.

Dr. Norman Kester came to Cooperstown in August of 1977. He practiced here alone for four months until Dr. Robert Pierce Joined him in January of 1978. They practiced

together until July of 1979 when the hospital contracted with an organization to supply doctors until a permanent doctor or doctors could be found. Some of the following spent weekends while others spent one week to three months. From July of 1979 until the fall of 1980 we have had Drs.:

George Rosenthal
Edward Bowles
Hugh Patterson
Dane McKenzie
Donald Baker
Charles Stafford
John Worden
William Mumford
Habiboola Niamathali
Burton Heleloid
R. W. Bos
W. K. Chang
William Christensen
William Keig
Laurie Hakala
Robert Rowed
Nishira Naser
Steven DeCock.

Dr. J. K. Ramaiya began his practice in Cooperstown October 15, 1980. Dr. Ted Banach spent three weeks in Cooperstown in November when Dr. Ramaiya was on vacation.

January 5, 1955 Jovone' Mack, R.N., resigned as superintendent of nurses. Ruth Syverson, R.N. of Sharon accepted the position January 10, 1955. She resigned August 15, 1965 and Beulah Baird, R.N. accepted the position effective immediately.

Griggs County felt a growing need for a nursing home in our area. Many local residents were in nursing homes 50 to 100 miles away from Cooperstown. Because Cooperstown was the county seat, centrally located and also had the hospital and doctors, it was decided to conduct a drive to solicit pledges and donations to build a nursing home in Cooperstown. The Griggs County Nursing Home was opened December 6, 1971. Merle Haerter, R.N. was superintendent of nurses of the nursing home. There were fifty beds available.

Federal laws stated that an administrator was necessary for a nursing home and hospital so Tom McMorrow was hired to fill the position. Mr. McMorrow resigned from his position December 1, 1974 and Gary Ryba was hired to fill that position, until August 15, 1977 when he resigned. Douglas Dale was hired as administrator in July of 1977. Beulah Baird, R.N. continued to work in the capacity of Director of Nursing until June 30, 1978 when she retired. No one had applied for the position so Shirley Erickson, R.N. was hired as acting Director of Nursing. September 11, 1978, Dawn Satrom, R.N. applied and was accepted for the position. During all this time the hospital was in the process of recruiting doctors. Douglas Dale resigned as administrator December 31,

1979 and Richard Spilovoy was hired for the position of Administrator of Griggs County Hospital and Nursing Home, a position he still holds.

Dawn Satrom resigned September 30, 1981 and Rebecca Dunker, R.N. is the present Director of Nursing.

There have been many changes since the opening of the hospital thirty years ago, not only in doctors, nurses, aides, housekeepers, cooks, kitchen aides, laboratory, business offices, medical records, x-ray, janitors but in new departments as well. A respiratory therapy department was opened June 1, 1981. This is a twenty-four hour service available to hospital and nursing home patients as well as outpatients. In August of 1981, a physical therapy department was made available two days a week to the hospital, nursing home and outpatients. They are affiliated with Mercy Hospital in Valley City.

In 1976 the hospital celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary and honored Carl O. Johnson, who had been a member of the board and its treasurer since the board organized; Dr. K.M. Wakefield, who had been on the medical staff; and Beulah Baird, R.N. who had been on the nursing staff since the hospital opened.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 167

GRIGGS COUNTY HOSPITAL

Cooperstown's first hospital of which there are records opened August 27, 1903. Dr. Burnap and Dr. Brimi started a city hospital in the old A.N. Adams house. Tax records show that the A.N. Adams house was located on Block 72, Lots 4 and 5. The AX Adams house was built in 1885. For many years it was the home of the Gilbert Auren family and stood where the Grace Lutheran parsonage now stands. It is now located on the Roger Dahl farm which is three miles west, three miles south and one and one-half miles west of Cooperstown. It is used as a dwelling house by the Roger Dahl family after a fire destroyed their farm home.

The hospital was opened for patients October 1, 1903. The people of Cooperstown felt fortunate they would not need to leave town to be treated. They felt they had a first-class hospital, good doctors and the best-trained nurse. Miss A.E. Oliver was the nurse at the city hospital.

December 3, 1903 the Cooperstown hospital was reorganized and was then owned and controlled by Dr. Burnap only, with the agreement that the patients of other physicians would be received provided others consulted him. This made it possible for one man to be responsible for all cases, which under the old plan was impossible. No dates are available when this hospital closed.

During the flu epidemic of 1918, the old Andrews Hotel at Tenth and Lenham was converted to a hospital and staffed with people to care for the victims of the flu, with Dr. Carl Brimi in charge of the emergency arrangement.

November 14, 1945 a group of concerned persons met to discuss the need for a hospital in Cooperstown. A board of directors was elected:

Rev. Ray Radliff, Dr. Fred Rose, Dr. M.D. Westley, C.P. Dahl to name a few. The first formal meeting was held September 26, 1946 when a permanent board of directors

were elected. C.S. Arneson was named chairman, Carl O. Johnson, treasurer, and Mrs. S.L. (Ethel) Lemna, secretary. Ground breaking for the hospital was in the spring of 1949. The hospital was constructed by Moline, a Jamestown contractor. It was completed in 1950 and equipment installed by February of 1951.

Dr. K.M. Wakefield of Gackle, North Dakota and Dr. Loren Fennell of Winnipeg, Canada met with the hospital board in August of 1950. The 'y were encouraged to open practices here and were to lease the west wing of the hospital for their clinic.

Mrs. Grace Cabot, R.N. was hired as superintendent of nurses in November of 1950. She was to receive a monthly wage of \$275.00; however, she was relieved of her duties January 10, 1951, before the hospital opened.

Mrs. Jovone' Mack, R.N. was hired as superintendent of nurses January 16, 1951. The hospital board gave her the authority to hire whatever help she felt was necessary. Among those registered nurses who worked when the hospital first opened were Beulah Baird who worked nights

Beverly (Kloster) Soma who was the surgical nurse-, Merle Haerter

Shirley Erickson

Sally Thompson

Ida Hanson-, and Erma Juve. Part-time RN's included Miriam Laatz

Agnes Bender

Maxine Lang

Mrs. Art Brown.

Nurse's aides were:

Marvel Oakley

Mary Lou Wuflestad (Johnson)

Norma Olson

Josie Johnson (Olson)

February 15, 1951 the Griggs County Hospital opened its doors for patients. Staff physicians were Dr. Wakefield, Dr. Fennell and Dr. L. Almklov. Visiting doctors were Dr. Beck of Sharon and Dr. O.D. Dekker of Finley.

The first patient registered in the hospital was E.S. Bardahl. Two days after the hospital was opened, the first baby was delivered. Mr. and Mrs. Einar Overby became the parents of a baby girl, Sandra. Dr. L. Almklov attended the delivery. As of January '31, 1982, there have been 19,839 patients registered in the hospital. There have been over 1800 births (including triplets born in August of 1951) since the opening of the hospital in 1951.

There were 31 employees on the full-time, part-time staff of the hospital in 1951. Today there are 96 on the staff of hospital and nursing home. Originally a full-time worker worked 48 hours a week. In March of 1958 the hospital policy was changed to a 40-hour week for full-time employees.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 169

DENTISTS

Early records of dentists practicing in Cooperstown are quite sketchy. Many of the dentists were here for only three or four days at a time and then they would move on to other cities. First records we have are of a Mr. R.E. McCutchins, "an accomplished dental surgeon." He was formerly from Massachusetts and practiced his profession in rooms at the Palace. His work was said to be on par with the best of the land. He opened his office in March of 1884. In September of 1884 a Dr. C.V. Doolittle of Minneapolis came to Cooperstown. He had in office at the hotel and was here for a few days.

In June of 1885 James Brown, doctor of medicine and dentistry was in town for a few days. He also had his office at the Palace. January of 1886 Charles Barnes was here for four days. Most of the traveling dentists had their offices at the Palace. In April of 1886 Dr. C.L. Onsul was here. From April of 1886 to March 2, 1888 we have no records of any dentists being in Cooperstown. March 2, 1888 records show a Dr. J.W. Cloes was at the Palace for a few days.

In August of 1888 a Mr. Wilbur Hodgman opened a dental office in the Ford and Lucken building.

In July of 1889 Dr. J.W. Clos, D.D.S. came to Cooperstown. He stated he would stay in Cooperstown if business warranted it. There also was a Dr. W.E. Malree who was in Cooperstown for a few days.

May of 1890, the Mayville dentist, Dr. Dipuhs was in Cooperstown for a few days. His office also was at the hotel. In July of 1891 the Jamestown dentist, Dr. E.M. Johnson, was in town for several days. He returned in the fall for a few days.

We have no records of any dentist being in Cooperstown in 1892.

In May of 1893 Dr. Simms opened an office in the GAR room at & courthouse. August of 1893, Dr. J.E. Featherston of Valley City returned periodically for treatment of aching jaws. Dr. Horace Foster from Grand Forks was here in August of 1894, returning in April of 1895. These dentists would return to Cooperstown to practice dentistry frequently to spend a few days at an office in the Palace.

First record of a dentist staying for any length of time was in April of 1898. Dr. Fred Rose came here for five days with an office at the Palace. In November of 1899, he returned to Cooperstown intending to remain for one month, and stayed for a lifetime. His office was in the new Syverson block. Dr. Rose, D.D.S. and Dr. Brimi, M.D. had their offices on the second floor of the Syverson building. Dr. Rose was born in Canada but he was a graduate of the Chicago College of Dental Surgery in 1896. He practiced in Chicago, Illinois and Fargo, North Dakota prior to coming to Cooperstown. When Dr. Rose first came to Cooperstown, he did not have an office. He traveled by horse and buggy to Hope, LaMoure, Edgeley, Lisbon and other villages. His equipment, consisting of a portable dental chair and instruments, he carried with him in the buggy. Dr. Rose practiced 54 years in Cooperstown treating over 70,000 patients. During the first years, extractions were only fifty cents and these he did any time of the day or night. In 1952 Dr. Rose suffered a stroke leaving him paralyzed and he spent his remaining years at the Griggs County Hospital. He died June 30, 1959.

Dr. Andrew Jackson Newell, D.D.S. opened a dental practice here in July of 1919. There are no records where his office was nor how long he practiced in Cooperstown. He moved to Chicago and retired to Cooperstown after World War 11. Dr. W.D. Plonty practiced here for several years. His office was above the I.D. Allen store. He left Cooperstown about 1940.

In 1950 Dr. Edmund Belyea, D.D.S. arrived in Cooperstown. He practiced in the Syverson building, Dr. Rose's former office. Joanne (Olson) Brekke was his office nurse. Dr. Belyea moved to Rolette in 1954.

In June of 1955 Dr. Tom Jackson came to Cooperstown to practice dentistry. He practiced in the former office of Dr. Belyea. In 1963 Dr. Jackson moved to new quarters at the Johnson Store building owned by Erick Berdal. Dr. James McDonald came to Cooperstown in 1964. Dr. McDonald practiced with Dr. Jackson until 1966 when he moved to East Grand Forks, Minnesota. Dr. Jackson left Cooperstown in 1968.

Cooperstown was without a dentist until 1969 when Dr. Arlo Neumiller, D.D.S. opened up practice in offices formerly used by Dr. Jackson. In 1971 Dr. LeRoy Hagen joined with Dr. Neumiller in practice. Dr. Hagen practiced two years in Cooperstown. He left Cooperstown in 1973 to join the V.A. Hospital in Fargo. Dr. Neumiller is still practicing in Cooperstown. His wife, Sonja is bookkeeper and Debbie Paintner is dental hygienist.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 170

MIDWIFERY

Webster defines midwife as: A woman who helps other women in childbirth.

First record of a midwife and nurse in Cooperstown is February of 1905. Mrs. A. Skei graduated from Christiania, Norway in 1896 and practiced at the J. Holman house, which was built in late 1903 and is located west of the Ethel Lemna home. It was most recently occupied by the late Leonard McCulloch and his wife, Lois.

Other homes where midwives practiced include the home of Myrtle Anderson. Mrs. Martha Bonewell (Bakken) practiced midwifery there. Mrs. Tom Boe took care of mothers and babies from 1935 to 1941 when she lived in the Tufte house. Art Mathison lives there now. Mrs. Max Wild was also a midwife and also took care of old people. She lived in the home where Alyce Lura lives.

The last midwife who practiced here was Mrs. Frank Borchert. She lived in the corner house across from the community building. The last baby to be delivered there was Duane Lura. Mrs. Borchert had planned to close her doors as the hospital was being built. Duane was born August 30, 1950. His cousin, Sandra Overby, was the first baby born in the new Griggs County Hospital.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 171

EARLY REGISTERED NURSES

There have been many registered nurses or professional nurses in Cooperstown. The first records we have of R.N.'s are:

Julie E. Anderson, 1915

Constance Ness, 1916

Minnie Beatrice Vatne, 1918

Edith A. (Olson) Skofstad, 1922

Olga Standal, 1926

Lillian Kirkeby, 1930

Lilly Monson, 1930

Of these, Edith Skofstad is the RN we remember best. She was an office nurse for Dr. M.D. Westley for many years, and later worked many years in the hospital.

There have been many others who are from this area or have worked in the Griggs County Hospital and Nursing Home.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 171

MEDICAL TRAGEDIES

The prairie land exacted its toll in terms of human suffering.

Medical facilities were lacking, or skimpy in the early days. There were no nearby hospitals to give aid to victims of accident or those in need of surgery. Women died in childbirth, children died of a number of maladies that can now be treated or prevented. There were no antibiotics or blood transfusions or diagnostic tests.

Diseases swept through the neighborhoods - smallpox, diphtheria, typhoid, measles, and scarlet fever. Pneumonia and appendicitis were incurable. Tuberculosis was fairly common. Gravestones in every churchyard tell of people who died too soon.

Most families were touched with tragedy at some time. The Ole Larsons, who settled north of Mose, lost one son from diphtheria and another died of a burst appendix, two of the dreaded killer diseases.

The last epidemic, which cost hundreds of lives in Griggs County, was the flu epidemic of 1918. Whole families became ill and sometimes several members died.

The first recorded death in the county was that of a settler who became lost in a storm and died afterwards of the effects of exposure. Death and injury from severe weather still occur.

Many people suffer all their lives from after effects of exposure.

Walter Hemmingson, 69 years old, was caught outdoors in the March t5, 194t blizzard, without his heavy winter footwear. His feet were badly frozen and gave him trouble to the end of his life. He died after having both legs amputated when he was 85.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 171

TRIP TO THE DOCTOR

When Lizzie Fiebiger (now Mrs. Christ Helm) was a little girl, she got a beard from a foxtail grass in her ear. Her mother couldn't get it out, and they decided to take her to the doctor. Her father drove the wagon to Jessie to catch the train to Binford. In Binford Dr. J.R. Truscott examined her and gave her ether while he removed the awn. As she came to Dr. Truscott was fanning her face and calling her name, telling her to wake up.

They went back to the depot and caught the southbound train back to Jessie.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 172

COOPERSTOWN VETERINARIANS

Veterinarians or "Horse Dentists" as they were referred to in the early years began coming to Cooperstown as early as 1892. The earliest veterinarians to come to Griggs County were E.E. Railson, A.E. Kirk, Knapp, S.B. Langford, and J. Clark.

Samuel B. Langford was the first person to do veterinary work in Griggs County. He was born in England in 1837 and came to Griggs County in 1881. The first known office of S.B. Langford was at Dr. Kerr's Drug Store in August of 1894. Mr. Langford traveled many miles by horse and buggy as a veterinary surgeon. He died in 1913.

Dr. J.A.H. Winsloe, a graduate of the Veterinary College of Toronto, Canada, came here in May of 1897. He had his office at Bateman's Drug Store and later at various livery barns. In 1909 he bought Geo. Adams' barn and fitted it up for a hospital in which he could treat horses. He was also well known as an auctioneer. Dr. Winsloe served this community until shortly before his death in 1921.

Dr. W.D. Foss was a veterinarian in Cooperstown, N.D., during the 1920's. He later became a Federal meat inspector in Wisconsin and Iowa.

Dr. H.O. Helmer was born near Cooperstown in 1886. He attended Kansas City College and graduated in April of 1913. He also attended the Indiana Veterinary College and received his postgraduate degree January 27, 1923. He came to practice here in the early 20's. He sold his practice in 1945 to Drs. D.D. Clark and George Chapman. In 1948 he left to work as a government poultry inspector, but returned to this community while Drs. Clark and Chapman were in the armed forces. Dr. Helmer died in 1965.

Dr. D.D. Clark and Dr. George Chapman purchased the practice of Dr. Helmer in September 1945. Drs. Clark and Chapman were born in Kansas and graduated from the Kansas State Veterinary College in 1945. They entered military service in October 1946 and Dr. Helmer returned to the practice. In the spring of 1948, Dr. Clark returned to Cooperstown and practiced alone until June of 1955. In 1953 Dr. D.D. Clark moved into the former Haerter Brothers woodworking shop and handled Land O'Lakes Feeds besides his veterinary practice.

Dr. Laverne Larson joined Dr. Clark in 1955. Dr. Larson was born at Bottineau, N.D. in 1929. He graduated from the University of Minnesota Veterinary College in 1955.

Dr. Vernon Knudson joined Drs. Clark and Larson in June of 1962. Dr. Knudson was born and grew up at Taylor, N.D. He graduated from the University of Minnesota Veterinary College in 1962.

Drs. Clark, Larson and Knudson had their office in the building on the corner southeast of the Central School until April of 1974. During this time they did nearly all their work out on the farms treating only pets at the office. Their area had expanded going out up to 50 miles from Cooperstown so they were each driving up to 55,000 miles a year doing their work. In an effort to reduce the time they spent driving, they built a new building in the southwest addition of Cooperstown, located on the north side of the bypass near Reiten's, Inc., with facilities for treating farm animals. This building was put into use in April of 1974. The farmers could now bring in all kinds of animals to a place with equipment to handle them.

Dr. Allen Hoverson, Jr., who was born near Sutton, N.D., and graduated from the University of Minnesota Veterinary College, Joined the practice in October of 1979.

The change in veterinary practice and livestock farming the last 25 years had been rapid, much more change than during the preceding 75 years.

Military

THE VETERANS

The two World Wars, and Korea and Viet Nam are long ago and far away now. The veterans of World War I are past 80.

The youngest veterans of World War II are close to 60

The Korean Conflict veterans are 50

The Viet Nam era veterans are 30

When the doughboys of 1917-18 went to war, the community gave them a send off at the depot with speeches and band playing and flag flying. Veterans of that war have memories of hasty training, transfers from one camp to another, bouts of illness and homesickness, long marches, death, destruction, and finally the trip home. The community gave them a heroes' welcome.

After the war, an official honor roll was compiled, listing all the veterans of the war from Griggs County.

There were too many people, leaving a few at a time, for the community to send off its World War II servicemen and women in the same way. Their welcome home was just as warm, if not as official.

They, too, rated a veterans' honor roll.

Griggs County was represented by many of its youth in the Korean Conflict and later in the Viet Nam war. No official roster of the Griggs County Veterans of those wars exists as yet, so it was not possible in this book to list them. It is hoped that someone, sometime, will take time to compile lists of those men and women from Griggs County who also served their country.

EARLY DAY VETERANS

Each Memorial Day, the veterans' organization in Cooperstown recognize deceased veterans of the nation's wars. Among the veterans of early wars buried in the Cooperstown Cemetery are:

Civil War

J. Haskell
A. Haskell
B.B. Brown
O. Purinton
D. Ward
B.J. Skofstad
J.W. Wiltsie
E. C. Butler.

Spanish-American Veterans

C. Porterville
C. Engebretson.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 174

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

Old soldiers from the Civil War and veterans of the Indian wars established a post of the Grand Army of the Republic in Cooperstown in the 1880's.

Officers of the post listed in 1888 were George N. Stork, A. Haskell, E.C. Butler, O.D. Purinton J.A. Lawrence, John Lloyd, B.B. Brown, Charles Stermer, J.T. Haskell and Harrison. Other veterans in the area included Mathew Davidson, C.C. Platt, Dubois Newell and S.K. Norgard to name a few. E.C. Butler died in 1929, last of the Civil War veterans in this area.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 174

CIVIL WAR VETERANS

The Civil War took place from 1861-1865. As Griggs County was not settled until the 1880's the war left little impact on the county. The majority of the first settlers were immigrants from the northern European countries and had not any experiences with the War Between the States.

A small number of the first settlers came from the states east of the Dakotas. A few of these had served with the Union forces. We read about Bounty payments and Soldier Scrip, which they may have used, in securing government land.

In the Myrtle Porterville historical collection are a number of letters written by Dubois Newell to his parents in Illinois while he served with the Union forces in Tennessee, Georgia and North Carolina. In one of his first letters from Camp Butler in Illinois he wrote, "They won't pay us our Bounty until they start us down to our regiment." We do not believe Mr. Newell used his Bounty in securing land in Griggs County. In another document it was stated that he bought his land. (Section 11, Sverdrup Twp.) from his brother, Wesley W. Newell who had settled here in 1883. In his war letters Mr. Newell told about poor living conditions, rainy weather and limited rations. The enemy troops were referred to as rebels. Dubois Newell lived in Griggs County from 1888 to his death in 1895.

Another local man who had served with the Union forces was Mr. E.C. Butler. Mr. Butler enlisted at the outset of the Civil War at the age of 17 in Company 1, 25th Maine Militia, and later served in Company G, 23rd Maine Infantry Volunteers until the regiment was mustered out of service. Mr. Butler farmed in both Steele and Griggs County and his picture was hung in the Hall of Fame at the State Agricultural College by the Saddle and Sirloin Club January 30, 1925. Mr. Butler died in Cooperstown in 1929. He was the last of Griggs County's Civil War veterans.

The years of the Civil War are recalled in this area by documentation of the Sibley Expedition, in 1863, into what was to become Griggs County. General Sibley's expedition was in pursuit of the Sioux Indians that were part of the tribe that had taken part in the Minnesota Massacre in 1862. A camp about two miles south of Binford was occupied about one month in 1863 by part of the Sibley forces. It was named Camp Atchison, in honor of Capt. Atchison. An impressive marker has been erected at this historic place.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 174

WORLD WAR I

Many books have been written about World War I. Two are of special interest to Griggs County people. "*The Lost Battalion*"! by Thomas M. Johnson and Fletcher Bratt was published in 1938. *The Lost Battalion* was the 308th Infantry, a unit of the 77th Division. It was a proud outfit, wearing the Statue of Liberty patch. It was engaged in four major World War I campaigns

Amiens in northern France with the British Army

Alsace-Lorraine

Chateau-Thierry and the Argonne forest

The *American Legion* Magazine ran a series of articles on American participation in World War I. The issue of January of 1978 contained the story of the "Lost Battalion."

The Lost Battalion was penned up by the German forces in the Argonne forest and subjected to heavy machine gun and artillery fire for several days without food, blankets or ammunition, before finally rescued through the advance of the American forces.

"*A World of Woe*", was written by Edward Nelson, who was with a unit of the 77th Division. The Griggs men who served with Nelson were Thorvald Fuglestad of Broadview Township

CW. Michaelson of Bartley

Robert and Art Johnson of Romness and Sigurd Lima who met death while serving with the unit.

As this is written in January of 1982, Thorvald Fuglestad resides on his farm in Broadview. Carl W. Michaelson passed away Dec. 11, 1961. His widow, Esther Michaelson, and their son, John, have been long time residents of Bartley. Arthur O. Johnson passed away in Romness June 11, 1959. He had been Adjutant of the V.F.W. post in Cooperstown. Robert Johnson moved to Spokane, Washington. Sigurd Lima lost his life in the Argonne forest with the Lost Battalion.

In an article in the *Sentinel - Courier* of November 10, 1927 it was stated that another chapter had been written in the story of efforts to obtain information which would lead up to the solving of the mystery regarding the disappearance of Sigurd Lima.

Carl Michaelson and Sigurd Lima left Cooperstown for Camp Lewis, Wash., on May 24, 1918 and were both sent from that camp to Camp Kearney, California. At this camp they were separated. As a replacement overseas Mr. Michaelson again met Mr. Lima and they managed to become members of the same squad. They were assigned different duties with the Lost Battalion and separated. Mr. Michaelson later met two Minnesota men who had been with Mr. Lima when he was severely wounded.

In the November 10, 1927 issue of the *Courier* the addresses of the Minnesota men were furnished to Mr. Olaf Malde, then County Treasurer.

Since no actual evidence existed so far as to the certainty of his death, Mr. Lima's beneficiaries had been unable to collect government insurance or obtain any other compensation from the government.

Mr. Lima was one of only about twenty members of the A.E.F. of which the War Department had no records and which were being carried upon the rolls as missing. He was a relative of the late Peter Lima.

Sgt. Irving Berlin, one of America's all-time great songwriters, was the 77th Social Director.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 174

GRIGGS COUNTY IN WORLD WAR I

Griggs County was represented by about 350 persons in the various units of service overseas and in camps in U.S. The number is not known exactly because part of the original records were sent to Washington, without a copy being kept in the county. Other men enlisted who were not in the draft list. Of these there was no official list.

Griggs County was represented in every type of war service. There were regulars, volunteers, and drafted men. Griggs County doctors and nurses served overseas and in camps. They did work in first aid stations and in the "Army of Occupation." Officers in National Guard units to which Griggs County men belonged outside of the county acted

as officers in training camps in France. One man was with a submarine for several months of service. Others were machine gunners or worked with big gun crews. Part of the drafted boys served in the same division as the "Lost Battalion." Large numbers fought in the "Battle of the Argonne."

That the Griggs County men saw hard service is shown by the fact that 5% plus were killed in action and another 10% plus were wounded or gassed. These percentages are upon the total number in the service, not only those who went overseas. One man was a prisoner in a German Prison Camp until after the Armistice.

The Griggs County chapters of the Red Cross produced more than their quotas of all requested garments and bandages, etc.

All Liberty Loans were over-subscribed.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 175

WORLD WAR 11

In the late 1930's Griggs County citizens were much concerned about existing conditions in countries across the Atlantic. Not until October 16, 1940, did it strike close to home. On that date men in the 21 to 35 age bracket had to register for a peacetime draft for one year of military training. A few of those who registered volunteered for service in the winter of 1940-41. By spring the first draftees left for Fort Snelling, Minnesota, for further medical exams and processing. From here they were sent to various camps for their basic training. Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, and Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, became temporary homes for many young men from this area.

With the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor, on the Island of Oahu in Hawaii, December 7, 1941, the one-year enlistments became duration plus six months. A shocked nation stepped up its preparation for a long and costly war. On the home front shipyards, aircraft and ammunition plants operated around the clock. Factories, of all kinds, were converted to defense production causing shortages for the civilian population. The effects were felt from the implement dealer to the grocery store where rationing and priorities were commonplace. Persons who were unemployed or failed to qualify for the military found profitable employment in defense work.

For persons in the military service their destination was decided for them. On one side it was from the desert of Africa to the Normandy beaches. On the other side it was from New Guinea to the Aleutian Islands with extremes of climatic conditions in scores of Islands in between. "C" rations, "K" rations and mail call kept the overseas boys fighting for months, which turned into years for those who survived the battles. Censored mail from overseas and limited space on the "V" mail revealed little of the war the men and women overseas were experiencing.

Following the successful landing at Normandy the end of the European war was a matter of time. Local people remember VE (Victory Europe) day as May 8, 1945. During the summer of 1945 the Pacific forces were closing in on the home islands of Japan. The bombing of Nagasaki and Hiroshima hastened the end and VJ (Victory Japan) day came on August 14.

LATER WARS

The Korean conflict began soon after World War 11 and the 38th parallel divided Korea into the North and the South. Local boys became involved in a war, which was officially called a conflict. President Truman and General McArthur disagreed on Korean matters and McArthur was relieved of his command. No settlement was reached until General Eisenhower became president, but Korea remains divided to this day.

The Vietnam War was our longest war continuing through the 60's. Fought at a great distance from home under severe conditions it became a very unpopular war and those who were engaged in it failed to receive their just rewards.

In World War I we had Liberty Bonds while in World War 11 it was Series E. Bonds. Twenty-five dollar bonds were bought for \$18.75 and brought \$25.00 when held to maturity. \$50.00 bonds cost \$37.50 and \$100.00 bonds were \$75.00

Great Wars create great generals. World War 11 made Dwight Eisenhower a great general in the European theatre and his popularity made him President of the United States a short time later. In the Pacific theatre it was General Douglas McArthur who said, "I shall return", and by doing so he is remembered and admired.

Although not noticed locally World War 11 brought about a great change in the lives of the Black people. At the beginning of World War 11 the Blacks and the Whites were segregated in the military. Towards the last of 1945 all branches of the service were integrated. At the same time there was a mass movement of Blacks into the Northern cities to compete for jobs previously held by the Whites. From a small percentage of the total population they now have become a majority in some localities.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 176

SOLDIERS, SAILORS, MARINES AND NURSES - GRIGGS COUNTY World War I - Honor Roll

A

Louis Aaker
Selmer Aarestad
John Aarestad
George Adams
Carl Adrian
Frank Albrecht
Alfred Alfson
Oscar Alm
Hans Amlie
Thomas Amlie
Norman Amundson
Arnold L. Anderson
Anton B. Anderson
Edwin B. Anderson

Elmer O. Anderson
Ingvald Anderson
Oscar R. Anderson
Mervin J. Armstrong
William A. Armstrong
Jens Ashland
Peter Atneoson
John Auren
Sigwart Auren

B

Edwin Bailey
Albert R. Barnes
Nola F. Barrett
Monroe H. Berg
Jacob Bergen
Ole Bergstad
Oveado Berry
George Bjor
Julius M. Bjorg
Lillian J. Blackwell
Helge Blueflat
Even Bodshaug
Albert Bolkan
Alfred Bolkan
Edwin Bolkan
George C. Bolkan
Carl F. Bonewell
Max Borchert
William Bostrom
Carl L. Brimi
John Bruvik
Earl Bustrack
Edward W. Butler

C

Hilmar Carlson
Nick C. Cederson
Adolph Christensen
Lester J. Christianson
Charles H. Cole
Patrick H. Costello
Robert W. Craswell
Paul W. Crawford

D

Edwin Dahl
Oscar Dahl

John O. Dahlbom
Harold L. Davidson
John E. Davidson
John H. Duncker
Orney E. Dunnum
Peter A. Dybwad

E

Clarence H. Ebentier
Norman Edland
Axel O. Engelstad
Ewald J. Erickson
Joseph R. Erickson
Nicklas J. Ethen
Wayne Evans
Melvin Evenson
Peder Falstad
Martin G. Frigaard
Thorwald Fuglestad
Oscar M. Frydenberg

G

Carl A. Gaastjon
Carl E. Gardner
Sever Garethun
Ole Gilbertson
Lars Gjesdal
Vincent W. Goodrich
Albert Graven
Royal O. Gray
Edgar M. Grigsby
John Grotting
Ole A. Gustavson

H

Paul R. Hafner
Halfdan H. Hagen
Henry W. Hagle
Ole Hagle
Iver Halvorson
Ole Halvorson
Ralph A. Hammer
Harry C. Hansen
Almer W. Harfson
Christian Hanson
Ragnvald Hanson
Oscar O. Haugen
Einar Haugland

Hans A. Helland
Jonas A. Helland
Ole B. Helmer
Emil W. Hendrickson
Peter A. Hendrickson
Gabriel Herigstad
Henry Herigstad
Ole Herigstad
Trygve Herigstad
Homer L. Hill
Oscar H. Hoffman
Otto Hogenson
Hans Hogie
Hans Hopsdal
Milton T. Houghton
Herbert P. Hovel
Clarence Huffer

I

Elvin R. Iverson
Ernest A. Iverson

J

Melvin C. Jackson
Martin Jacobson
Carl Jensen
Albert I. Johnson
Albert Johnson
Arthur O. Johnson
Ben C. Johnson
Bruno J. Johnson
Carl H. Johnson
Edvin Johnson
Elmer B. Johnson
Helmer C. Johnson
John M. Johnson
Joseph O. Johnson
Manley Johnson
Martin Johnson
Nels A. Johnson
Robert C. Johnson
Simon R. Johnson
Thomas D. Johnson
M.R. Johnston

K

Knut Kalvik
Victor W. Kamp

Clarence H. Kelson
George W. Kimball
John H. Kittelson
Albert J. Klubben
Olaf Knapp
Alfred P. Knudson
Severin Knudson
Soren Krag
Carl E. Krantz
John Kvia

L

Alfred B. Larson
Henry L. Larson
Guy A. Lee
Rudolph Lee
David O. Lima
Sigurd Lima
George A. Lindgren
Gordon M. Lindgren
Charles L. Lockner
Henry C. Lowe
Olai C. Lybeck
John Lyle
Robert P. Lyle

M

William F. Madison
Harold S. Madsen
Henry O. Magenton
Ceroo Maggi
Alfred Magnuson
Emil A. Magnuson
Olaf Malde
Oliver A. Malland
Ralph S. Mann
Ralph E. Manning
David B. Martin
Ole E. Mattson
Walter H. McCullough
Edward H. McDermott
Willard McDermott
Fredrick H. Melgard
Clarence W. Mellem
Melvin Meyer
Carl W. Michaelson
John S. Michaelson
Edgar N. Mickels

Theodore A. Miller
Lester B. Moore
Julius A. Mortenson
Sigfred B. Mosby
Claire A. Musser
Arthur Myer
Christian Myhrvold

N

Luigi Nardella
Bert P. Nelson
Edwin L. Nelson
Floyd E. Nelson
Fred Nelson
Martin F. Nelson
Elmer Nettestad
Andrew J. Newell
John M. Nickerson
Jorgen Nordness

O

Arne Oftedal
Amund Olauson
Harry S. Olgard
Oscar Olgard
Olger P. Olsby
Emil Olson
Frank A. Olson
Harold O. Olson
Melvin M. Olson
Olaf H. Olson
Orville G. Olson
Oscar Olson
Oscar M. Olson
Siger E. Olson
Claus Opevig
Christine A. Ouren
Oscar J. Overaa
Ralph S. Overaa
Alph H. Overby
George E. Overby
Oscar R. Overby

P

Sherman Painter
Herbert L. Parks
Ralph A. Parsons

Arthur W. Payne
Sherman A. Payton
Albert Perchert
Anton Peterson
George Peterson
Joseph B. Peterson
Peter O. Peterson
Ragnvald Peterson
Edward J. Pfeifer
Carl Pierson

R

Harold Ravndal
Edwin S. Raymond
Reynold L. Rearick
Albert H. Rickford
Fridrech Rinas
Emil F. Ringlee
Sverre Rise
Olaf Rogne
Torger O. Rogne
Sigurd Romsaas
Henry M. Ronningen
Henry N. Rood
John E. Rood
Dallas A. Root
Hilmer Rud
Sylfest Rudser
Elmer Rule
Henry C. Rusten

S

Albert M. Saby
Borre H. Saugstad
John F. Schenker
George Schuckhart
George M. Severtson
Gabriel Sharpe
Gabriel J. Siegel
Victor L. Simenson
Martin Skaar Anton
G. Skofstad
Sigurd Skjelset
Alfred M. Skjeret
Milton Smith
Axel X. Solfield
Jonas Soma
Marinius A. Sonju

Oscar A. Sonju
Carl Sorenson
Paul Sorvik
William J. Stanford
Ernest Stangeland
Trygve Stangeland
Frederick S. Stevens
Frank L. Stewart
Andrew Storkson
Leonard A. Stortroen
Conrad Strand
James A. Strand
William E. Stringer
Melvin Sundeen
Melvin Stromme
Otto A. Swanson
Alfred T. Swingen
Lewis Swingen
John A. Syverson

T

Herman Thoen
Jens Tom Thoreson
Marcus A. Thoreson
Phillip R. Thoreson
Walter J. Thoreson
Carl J. Thronberg
Peder Titterness
Trygve Torson
Jack Tower
James W. Trask
William H. Trask
Gustav A. Tufteland
Peder J. Turner
Martin Turnquist
Dinah Tweed
Maynard Tweed
Oscar Waldemar Tweed

V

Magnus Vagle
George A. Van Alstine
Edward F. Van Scoik
Aadne Vigesaa
Tor Volstad
John Vormedal

GRIGGS COUNTY - WORLD WAR 11

Honor Roll

A

Algot P Aalgaard
Leonard W Aalgaard
Selmer O. Aalgaard
Robert W Adsero
Gordon D. Allen
Ross C. Alm
Arthur G Alm
Roland S. Almer
John R. Almklov
Mark A. Almklov
Bernard H. Amble
Robert M Amundson
Alfred L. Anderson
Alvin H. Anderson
Chas C. Anderson
Herluf Anderson
Kent N. Anderson
Leroy A. Anderson
Robert B. Anderson
Sidney Anderson
Hans A. Anundson
Clifford A. Arneson
Bruce Ashland
Walter I. Ashland
Audrey Asmus
Clifford W. Asmus
Thorvald G. Auren
Theron M. Auren

B

Oscar E. Bailey
Robert W. Baker
Roy W Baker
Sidney A. Bakke
Oliver D.J. Bakken
Orville L. Bakken
Manley E. Barclay
Vernon D. Barclay
Robert W Beardsley
Ray A. Becherl
Arthur S Bendickson

Milo A Bendickson
Homer A. Benson
Richard J. Benson
Oscar C. Berg. Jr.
Orrion W. Berg
Sherwood Berg
Alfred K Berge
Carl K. Berge
Olaf K. Berge
John M. Bjor
Hillard G. Borchert
Marvin M. Borchert
Edwin A. Bodell
Alvin T. Boe
Edsel L. Boe
Eldred P. Boe
Orvil M. Boe
Selmer M. Boe
Francis P. Boisjolie
Clarence S. Bokken
George R. Bonewell
Floyd A. Bostrum
Clarence W. Breimon
Clifford M. Breimon
Lyle G. Breimon
Carl L. Brimi
Robert J. Brimi
Robert Bostrey
Clinton A. Brown
Gordon B. Brown
William A Brown
Willard V. Brurud
Walter A. Burbeck

C

John R. Calhoun
Wm. H Calhoun
Raymond Cardin
Carrol C. Carlson
Charles R. Carlson
Axel D. Christiansen
Dale Christiansen
Ole K. Christiansen
Lloyd A. Christianson
Carlyle A. Challguen
C.H. Christopherson
E.A Christopherson

W.R. Christopherson
James L. Clancy
Avis J. Cogswell
John L. Cook
Curtis B. Costello
Wesley E. Cresap
James M Cussons

D

Douglas G. Dahl
Kenneth Dahl
LeRoy M. Dahl
Phillip O. Dahl
Quentin S. Dahl
Simon E. Dahl
Valentine C. Daschle
Wm. J. Davidson
Anthony L. Davis
Alvin S. Dien
Robert J Dietrich
Oreon Z. Dinger
James J. Donahue
Bjarne M. Dramstad
Martin G. Dramstad
Sigurd C. Dramstad
Beatrice Duffy
Neil C. Duffy
Wm. G Duffy

E

Cleo E. Eberhardt
Russell L. Edland
Stanley J. Edland
Eugene K. Edlund
W.O. Edwardson
Norman G Eklblad
Calvin S. Ekstrand
Chester Ekstrand
Virgil Ekstrand
Gerald M. Elvrum
Mancer J. Elsass
Lewis J. Engebretson
Dale M. Erickson
Lester O. Erickson
Olive H. Erickson
Sidney I. Erickson
Arland O. Erlandson
James E. Erlandson

Edward W. Ernst
Harvey J. Ernst
Albert Eslinger
Reuben Eslinger
Wallace R. Ethen
John E. Everson
Robert H Everson
F

Gleonard A. Falla
Andrew D. Feske
Alfred J. Fieber
Frank J. Fieber
Richard F Fiebiger
Hartvig P. Finstuen
Edwin H. Flamme
Edward F. Flick
Gilman B. Fliflet
Marvin E. Fliflet
Orval C. Fliflet
Selmer G. Fliflet
R.E. Fredrickson
Bertrand R. Freer
Alan E. Frigaard
Arthur Frigaard
Gordon J. Frigaard
Lloyd H. Froiland
Alvin J. Forseth
Erling Fuglestad
Lloyd E. Fuglestad
Marvin S. Fuglestad
Thelford R. Fuglestad
Clifford M Fuross

G

Roland A. Gerth
Leonard M. Glimsdal
Albert C. Gomez
Leander Goodnow
Orville H. Goplen
C.J Grafsgaard
Wm. E. Graving
O.P. Greenland
Elmer O. Gronneberg
Irvin C. Gronneberg
John C. Grover

Minard E. Gunderson

H

Hazel Haaland

Stanfield R. Haaland

Kenneth S. Hagen

Milton M. Hagen

Thomas H. Hagen

Melvin Hagle

Doris Hammer

Edwin Hamre

Alfred G. Hanson

Clifford A. Hanson

DuWayne E. Hare

Keith A. Hare

Herman A. Hareland

Stanley C. Harold

Elnor C. Harrington

W.G. Harrington

James O. Haugen

John J. Haugen

Kermit J. Haugen

Leonard D. Haugen

Maynard J. Haugen

Mervin H. Haugen

Sverre R. Haugen

Clemens K. Haugo

Johnny Hegna

George Hegvick

Lewis Hegvick

Henry C. Heinze

Arne Helland

Fritzof A. Helland

Howard J. Helland

Walter A. Helland

Maynard E. Helmer

Alfred H. Herberg

Carl J. Herberg

Romeo E. Herberg

Bert H. Herigstad

Philip R. Hetland

Earl G. Heyerdahl

Kenneth L. Hillier

Marvin E. Hilstrom

C.W. Hockberger

Hollis B. Hoff

Everett V. Hogie

Marvin J. Hogie
George R. Holloway
Edgar L. Honey
Frank S. Honey
Kenneth J. Honey
Orman W. Honey
Henry Hook
Kenneth B. Hopewell
Gordon W. Houghten
Wilfred G. Housenga
Melville A. Hout
Eilif Hovi
Maurice A. Huso
W. Tupper Howden

I

Cris P. Idsvoog
Donald L. Ingens
Norris V. Iverson

J

Bryon D. Jackson
Charles R. Jackson
Ellis T. Jackson
Janet G. Jackson
Bernard W. Jacobs
Lawrence N. Jacobs
Sylvester D. Jacobs
Reuben L. Jacobsen
Donald E. Jacobson
Alf. S. Johnson
Alvin I. Johnson
Arnold L. Johnson
Bremen I. Johnson
Carl M. Johnson
Clarence L. Johnson
Clayton L. Johnson
Clifford O. Johnson
Donald D. Johnson
Donald R. Johnson
Edward O. Johnson
Ernest J. Johnson
Gordon W. Johnson
Henri B. Johnson
Hillard A. Johnson
Howard C. Johnson
Kelly Johnson
Lacroy F. Johnson

Lawrence J. Johnson
Lester E. Johnson
Leonard Johnson
Levi G. Johnson
Manley O. Johnson
Martin J. Johnson
Maynard S. Johnson
Melvin H. Johnson
Norman C. Johnson
Philip L. Johnson
Richard T. Johnson
Roger Johnson
Verner L. Johnson
Vernon H. Johnson
Walter E. Johnson
Wayne A. Johnson
Robert B. Jones

K

Einar Kaastad
Alfred J. Kalvick
Berthin Kalvick
Norman E. Kalvick
Orvid W. Kalvick
Wilbur H. Kamphuis
Lloyd L. Kerber
Lynn J. Kerber
Howard O. Kindle
Robert C. King
Alger L. Kingsley
Avelow M. Kingsley
Vernon J. Kirkeby
Gordon L. Kittleson
Carl Kjormoe
Donald G. Kleven
Thorvald D. Kleven
Lyle M. Klubben
Wm. S. Klubben
Carmen H. Knutsen
Clayton K. Knutson
Clifford M. Knutson
Conrad I. Knutson
Hans Knutson
Irving L. Knutson
Knut N. Knutson
Melvin L. Knutson
Norman V. Knutson

Olaf Knutson
Samuel O. Knutson
Wilfred C. Knutson
Boyd Knapp, Jr.
Claude B. Knapp
Duane C. Knapp
Erling P. Knapp
Richard O. Knapp
Fred G. Knauss
Norman A. Korst
Vivion L. Kouba
John L. Kramvik
Paul F. Kreie
Olga E. Krenz
Ralph J. Krogfoss
Robert B. Krogfoss
Henry E. Krokum
Willard P. Kunkel
Robert R. Kopperud

L

Alfred L. Larson
Halvor Larson
Herbert J. Larson Ira L. Larson Louis A. Larson Robt. D. Larson Trygve G. Larson Loren
L. Law Douglas H. Lee Milo J Leir Donald O Lende Lynn H. Lende Lloyd G Lerum
Glenn T. Lien Harry E. Lien Irwin L. Lien Nels A Lind L.A. Lindgren Wayne L. Lockner
Donald W. Loder Fergus C. Loge Gerald W. Loge Kenneth L. Loge Maynard R Loge
Melvin L Loge Raymond T Loge Richard E. Loge Forrest F. Louden Harry L. Lucht
Noel J Lucht Russell P. Lund Duane W. Lunde Lorraine J. Lunde Roger A. Lunde
Berlyle J. Lunn K.L Luttschwager Ingvald M. Lyngby Reynard Lyngby

M

Jerome P. Mack Stanley H. Mack George A Malmin Douglas J. Markuson John Marrs
Clifford C. Martin John Martinson Arlene E. Mathison Charlotte Mathison Arne R.
Mattola Leroy I. McCallson L.M. McCulloch W.E. McCulloch John D McDonald
Harvey C. Meyer C.G. Michaelson James R. Michaelson John E. Michaelson Arnold
Midstokke Gene V Midstokke Vernon Midstokke Alvin R. Miller Manfield A Miller
Walter H. Miller John R. Mills Edward P Moe Hans K. Moen Earl Moler Kenneth A.
Monson Lloyd E Monson Raymond Monson Carl E. Moothart Gordon J. Moothart
Llewellyn Morrison Patrick L. Morrissey Herbert O. Myer
Lester C. Myer Mildred Myhre

N

Alvin L. Nelson Clarence Nelson Erling W Nelson Harold D Nelson Kenneth E. Nelson
Leslie Nelson MeMn H Nelson Nels O. Nelson Norman H. Nelson Reuben W. Nelson
Walter E Nelson Leif NevIand Magnus Neviand Lloyd J. Neubauer Chester H. Nielson

John M Nielson Kenneth A Nielsen Lester R Nierenberg Robt. S Noland Harry O.
Norstrum Kenneth T Norswing Clifford A. Notvig
O

Frederick S Oakley Theo. K Odegaard John W. Ohman Roy E. Ohman Alvin S. Oien
Daniel S. Olgaard Kenneth S Olgaard Kermit M Olgaard Oswald A Olgaard Selmer O
Olgaard Albert F. Olsen Ole O. Olsgard Arnold D. Olson Chester L. Olson Clifford R.
Olson Earl C. Olson Garfield S. Olson Henry D. Olson Henry O. Olson Herbert F. Olson
Lloyd E. Olson Ludwig R. Olson Marcus S. Olson Neilan F. Olson Robert E. Olson
Sidney C. Olson Melford Ophiem Ole M. Opheim Vernon R. Opheim Johnny H. Ott
Glenn D Ouren Stanley J. Ouren Andrew Overby Bryon G. Overby Einar A. Overby
Hans Overby Leonard Overby Stanley Overby

P

Chas. Paintner Laurence P. Paintner Oscar E. Pederson Emma K. Pella James V. Pella
Lynne C. Pella Albert V. Perchert George W. Percher! Otto C Perchert
Walter T. Perchert Leland F. Pittenger Vivian E. Pittenger Alvin R Plienis Claude B.
Porterville James U. Potter Raymond C. Potter Almon M. Pottorff Robert L. Pottorff
Herbert E Pramhus Floyd Pratt Howard H. Pratt
Q Selmer J. Ouam Marvin W. Ouest Vernon P. Ouest
R Richard R Radliff Eilert M. Ramsey Johnnie Rasmusson Marcus Rasmusson R.C.
Rasmusson W.G. Rasmusson Marcie Reiersen Chester J Ressler Elmo B Ressler Harvey
C. Retzlaf Alice L Richardson Kenneth Richardson Myron L. Richardson Wm H.
Richardson Roland Rickford Louis M. Riley Casper Riste Milo E. Riste Stanley E. Rise
O.A Rondestevdt Francis L. Ronningen Nordeen Ronningen George A. Ronning Herman
M Ronning Martin J. Rorvig John W. Roscoe LeRay V. Rusten
S Ed. T. Samuelson Fred E. Samuelson Sam O. Samuelson Clarence Sandbo Ralph C.
Sandbo Willard L. Sandbo Avery B. Savre Leon A. Sayer Mark E. Sayer Howard M.
Seim Lowell E. Seim Roland W. Seim Walter E. Seldal Dean C. Severson Milton S.
Severson Irvin T. Sharpe Ira H. Sharpe Wm. B. Sharpe James L. Simenson Melvin M.
Simenson Selmer P. Simonson Sever Simenson Bernard L. Skarloken Chester J.
Skarloken Axel J. Sjøkvist Merwin N. Skaufel Marvin L. Skjelset Wm. A, Skjolden
Arthur M. Skramstad

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Gene L. Skramstad Maynard G Sola Oscar K Sola Gordon Solee Reuben Solee Mildred
Soma Alfred A. Sonju Paul J. Sorvik Wilfred P Sorvilk Joseph J. Stahl Alvin H. Stalvick
Orville E Stalvick Harry Standal Hjalmar L. Standal Walter Standal Harold H Steinborn
Raymond L Stenbro John M. Stevens Gordon L Stokka Melvin A. Stokka Clarence I.
Stone Edwin A. Stromme Ernest O. Stromme Kenneth M. Stromme Mervin H Stromme
Obert E. Stromme Victor H. Stromme Kenneth C Sutter Orlin M Sutter Wesley L. Sutter
Alvin N. Swanson Oren E Swanson Kenneth J. Swenson Eldred M Swingen Robt. D.
Swingen Alfred J. Syverson
T Conrad L. Tande Joel T. Tande E. Palmer Tang Oscar G Tang Arthur L. Talle Leonard
M Talle Arthur W. Taylor Carl M. Taylor Walter N. Taylor R.E. Therkelsen Robt. K.
Therkelsen Bernard J. Thompson John O. Thompson John E. Thompson John D.
Thompson Norman S. Thompson Oscar J. Thompson Erwin Thorn Wm. E. Thornton
Wallace H. Thune Oswald B Tjeltweed Marvin T Tollefson Carrol H. Torgerson Iver B.
Torgerson Clarence G. Trelstad Eugene Troseth Lloyd F. Troseth Ole A. Troseth Viola

Troseth Arthur A. Trost Allen C. Trostad Gerhard M. Trostad Leonard A. Trostad Paul E.
Trostad Ruth M. Trostad Melvin J. Tufte Ben Tveito Einar Tweit
U Shirley E. Leland Casper D. Vangen Norman Vangen George H VenHuizen Ralph
VenHuizen Walter Voight
W Albert Wagle Ingram T. Walen Bruce S. Wandke Allen R Watne Chester B. Watne
Claire A. Watne Earl W. Watne Ernest H. Watne Gerald C. Watne John M. Watne Milo
C. Watne William J. Watne Reuben B. Weber Waldo E. Wells Alph L. Westley Bruce H.
Westley Kent F Westley Robt, L. Widlund Kenneth A. Willert Meryl G. Willert Paul C.
Willert Warren H. Willert Earl M. Willis Richard Wogsland Earl L. Wold Edwin C.
Wold Hjalmer S. Wold Lowell H. Wright Robt J. Wuflestad Eugene Wunderlich
Y Gerald H. Youngbeck J.M. Youngbeck
z Oliver J. Zentz Alvin A. Zieke, Jr. Frank J. Zimprich Rosella A. Zimprich Francis W.
Zuehlke
They Gave Their All
*Boyd C Chamley
*Martin R. Dahl
*Clifford W. Fallen
*Karsten A. Fossum
*C-B. Hendrickson
* Bjarne Johnson
*Willard R. Johnson
*Burton E. Kingsley
* Richard J. Knapp
*Wayne E. Mack
*Henry L. Newell
*Sidney O. Ohman
*Harvey M. Olson
*Alvin Overby
*Clarence H, Overby
*Eugene J. Overby
*Lance Pousette
*Frederick Reid
*Eldon F. Ressler Robt. H. Schmidt James P. Severson Harold V. Shogren Laurence D.
Sundin C.A. Thompson
*Leonard E. Trelstad

Historic Business

ARTISTS OF THE LENS

The first photographers who came to town were the traveling salesmen type. The photographer would set up his bulky camera on a heavy stand, positioning himself under a black focusing cloth at the back of the camera. He would watch the ground glass image of his sitter, suggesting and pleading for a pleasant expression.

The photographic establishments seemed to maintain something of a grand style. Furnishing and decorations were lavish, and the backgrounds on which people posed were elaborate counterfeits of grandeur.

The first known photographer in Cooperstown was John Aaberg who was here in 1885.

Starting in 1886 the railroad leased a car specifically for a photographic gallery. The first was the Haynes Palace Studio Car. Others leasing a railroad car were: H.T. Hanson, Logan, C.L. Judd, Lees and Francis.

The following is a list of the photographers who came to Cooperstown, some staying but a short time. Others set up studios and stayed a number of years. The years given are the approximate times of their arrival:

AT. Rostuen Studio, 1887

H.T. Hanson Photographic Car, 1890

C.H. Lien at Rostuen Studio, 1892

Brady of Minneapolis, 1892

C.E. Fuller managing Lien's Studio, 1892

Frank Haskell had photographic equipment, 1892

Logan Photographic Car, 1893

Rudd, 1894

C.L. Judd and Lees Photographic Car, 1895

1. Glerum moved his gallery from Lee to Cooperstown, 1895

Francis Palace Photo Car, 1896

C.H. Galbra with C.L. Judd, 1896

M. Belgum purchased gallery of 1. Glerum, 1896

Haynes Studio Car, 1898

N.J. Brown, 1900

Von Blon Studio, 1900

Harold Brown learning photography at Von

Blon Studio, 1900

William D. Hartman Studio, 1904

Paul O. Lillenas Studio, 1913

George Benson Studio, 1917

Lars Newgaard Studio, 1928

Earl Jarrett Studio, 1946

Russ Edland Studio, 1951

Gene and Ruth Trautman Studio, since 1956.

Although the location of all the early studios is not known, Von Blon is known to have practiced his trade upstairs in the two-story frame building on the east side of 9th Street, one-half block south of Burrell Avenue. The building is now known as the Lende building. Hartman also was in that studio.

Lars Newgaard was first above People's Store. When that burned down he moved upstairs in the S. Hall building, which was later Halvorson's Shoppe, and later to what was originally the Stevens and Enger building which was used as a studio for about 25 years afterward.

Lars Newgaard, Earl Jarrett, Russ Edland and, for a time, Gene Trautman's, all worked in that building next door to the Gamble Store on the south side of Burrell Avenue. The Trautmans now have their studio in their home.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 181

JOHN ASKELSON'S SHOP

John Askelson came to Cooperstown in 1898 from Iowa, returned to Iowa hut came back in 1900 to stay.

In 1908 he bought a shop where he built boxes for wagons, sleighs, and hay racks, water tanks, and wood rings for well curbing, eveners and poles out of native oak and ash, skis, hand sleds, windows and frames, and he repaired all parts of wagons, sleighs, buggies and anything else made of wood.

He rented it out New Year's Day, 1915 when he moved to a farm. Later he sold it.

The shop was where Irene Glesner now lives, on the south side of Roberts Avenue, east of Tenth Street.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 182

BAKERY AND CONFECTIONERY

The first mention of a bakery was in December of 1886. "Mrs. Lloyd has opened her restaurant and bakery on Burrell and is now prepared to supply our citizens with bread, cakes and pies. She can accommodate a number of table boarders at reasonable rates."

Other early bakery and confectionery stores from 1887 to 1900 were operated by Mrs. M.M. Robinson, Mrs. Al Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. D.L. Colson, Mrs. Hiram Maurer, F.A. Mayer, A. Skeock, D.B. McDonald, Mai-tin Knapp, N.A. Ness and the Simonson Brothers. 1901-1907: Sells Bengson, Mrs. S.L. Hodgeman, Lewis Brothers and the Graff Brothers.

One of the more prominent bakers remembered was Duncan B. McDonald. McDonald started as a baker in 1898, when he was employed by F.A. Mayer and N.E. Ness. By 1901 he was running his own bakery and lunch counter. In August of 1903 he

purchased the old Iverson property (59-16) then occupied by the Lewis Brothers confectionery. Later that year he moved to that building across the street. He ran his bakery in that location until about 1914. (The building still stands, the vacant laundromat east of the F & M Bank parking lot.)

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 182

BANK OF COOPERSTOWN 1883

The Bank of Cooperstown was built and organized by George L. Lenham, J.M. Burrell and their associate eastern capitalists, located on the corner of Burrell and 10th just opposite the Palace Hotel in Block 73. Mr. H.G. Pickett cashier in charge opened the bank for business June 2, 1883.

November of 1884, J. Stevens, the hardware man and H. Pickett bought the Bank of Lenham and Burrell and engaged in the banking business for about two years. The building was bought by Syverson and Company in 1887 and in 1892 was moved across the street to Block 72 to make room for Mr. Syverson's new building. The old "Bank of Cooperstown", a two-story frame building, is presently an apartment building owned by Art Skramstad.

Other early banks included the Lawrence Brothers Bank of Cooperstown, Griggs County Loan and Trust Company of Clark and Smart and the Odegard and Thompson Bank.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 182

LAWRENCE BROTHERS BANK

The Lawrence Brothers Bank operated in their store from 1886 to April of 1889. The Farmers and Merchants Bank then took over and remodeled the bank. Andrew Johnson was cashier. Other banking businesses in the Concrete Store operating for a short time were Clark and Smart and Odegard and Thompsons Griggs County Bank.

First Bank of Cooperstown

In September of 1891, The First Bank of Cooperstown purchased the building and lot formerly owned by Clark and Smart, Block 73, Lot 8. Here they operated with Mr. Buck as cashier for about five years. In February of 1896 Cashier Buck purchased the lots belonging to Knut Thompson on the corner facing Burrell Avenue and Church (Ninth) Street. A brick bank 25' x 60', two stories high was constructed by the proprietors of the First Bank of Cooperstown. It opened for business in August of 1896.

It was built of solid brick, doors and windows having brown stone trimmings. Customers entered the vestibule, turned left and entered the spacious banking office, with hardwood fixtures and furniture.

A large office was occupied by Mr. Cooper to the rear end of the building with a front facing Church Street.

The First Bank commenced business as a National Bank July 2, 1900. The "First National Bank" was sold to C.J. Weiser of Iowa and Robert Jones of Chicago in June of 1901. The bank continued as a National Bank with H.A. Langlie as cashier.

Over the years, the upstairs was occupied by various families as living quarters and housed the Griggs County Telephone office from about 1926 until dial service was installed in 1942. The old Bank building was taken down in 1965 and replaced by the new First State Bank.

State Bank of Cooperstown

The State Bank of Cooperstown opened its doors for business June 15, 1900. Mr. Garborg was its first cashier. The bank was located in John Syverson's brick building on the corner opposite his store. This building was completed by August of 1899.

The State Bank of Cooperstown operated until April of 1924.

Through the years this building has housed dental and medical offices. The upstairs has been occupied by Dentists Rose, Gabriel, Belyea and Jackson. The downstairs south end office by Drs. Kerr, Brimi, Burnap and Drs. M.D. and Kent Westley. Presently the building is owned by Art Skramstad and is used as an apartment building.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 182

BARBERING

J.C. Yancy, the first tonsor, arrived in Cooperstown April of 1883. He conducted his first business at the Union House. Another barber of that year was Edwin Bradley who occupied a shop in the Holliday building east of the Palace. The early barbers moved often to different business places, but mostly occupied chairs at hotels until they built their own shops. Many stayed but a short time.

Frank Smith came in 1884. Silas Black came from Minneapolis in 1886. He operated his chair in many locations. The later years, from 1898 to 1909 he had his shop in the old Clark and Smart Bank building (73-8), more recently occupied by the First Bank of Cooperstown. Black purchased the building and lots in 1900. (The same barber shop today is owned and operated by Al Douville)

In 1887, Nicholas Green was here for a short time, also J.W. Breakey. Len Martin came in 1890, J.L. Geske and W.P. Riley in 1891. Del Irysh and G.A. "Gus" Luther came in 1893. The latter was also the agent for Fuller Steam Laundry. John Morris arrived in 1894, barbering until about 1903. During those years he employed Robert Sansburn, Martin Evjou, Albert Cole, Perry Carol, C.B. Jungck and Albert Martinson. Morris also owned a cigar factory.

Scott Hall arrived in 1903. He employed Frank Smith of Minneapolis from 1905 to 1906. Ed Milan and I.W. Maulsby worked for him beginning in 1906. He operated two

shops for a few years with Maulsby in charge of one, he the other. Hall left Cooperstown about 1940.

Some of the other barbers here before 1940 were Andy Hyman, Joe Salisbury, P.C. Paulson, and Art Reierson.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 183

BICYCLE

The "bridge" between horse and automobile was the bicycle. It came in slowly. In the 1880's it was a novelty with a big front wheel and small rear wheel. By the '90's with its two wheels of the same size, it came into common use by both men and women. Her bicycle had special style because of the very long dresses of the time. (Ladies slacks were unknown and pants were "forbidden"). The bicycle was for use of the adults not for kids.

In 1890 a bicycle club was organized in Cooperstown. At that time F.B. King set up the first bicycle repair shop.

By August of 1897, there were over 70 bicycles owned by Cooperstown people. With the heavy use of bicycles, Theodore LaForest also established a bicycle repair shop in 1899 about a half block west of the F.A. Mayer and Company Store, which was then housed in Union House. By October of 1900, he had moved his bicycle hospital and was located next door to Hanson the shoemaker, Block 59, Lot 17. For a short time about 1900, O.H. Hougen had a tin-shop and bicycle repair shop in a building on lots near the rear end of P.E. Nelson's hardware store.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 184

BLACKSMITHS

The first blacksmith shop, Moore and Sansburn, was opened by Sam Sansburn and Robert Moore in March of 1883. These men came to the area with R.C. Cooper, doing blacksmith work on his farm until they started their shop. The blacksmith shop was located near the corner of Roberts and Tenth, on Block 61, Lot 10. Robert Moore retired in April of 1888, and Sansburn remained to run the business. In May of 1902 he built a new blacksmith shop on the corner west of the first shop. The building, 28' x 60' with sixteen foot posts, was covered with steel. Cap Hartman worked for Sansburn starting in 1903.

In 1905, a capital stock company, the Farmers Blacksmith and Supply Company, purchased the business, retaining Sansburn as manager. He worked for the company until 1907 when Robert Pratt became manager. Robert Pratt was with the company until 1911.

Henry Otteson opened the blacksmith shop in the old Farmers Blacksmith and Supply building November 1, 1916. He was blacksmith in that location for many years selling

out in 1940. The original building was moved to the airport south of Cooperstown in 1947 and burned in 1950 or 1951.

Otterholt and Voxland built a blacksmith shop on Lenham just south of Biorn and Borgerson's Livery in April of 1899, Block 74, Lot 13, later selling it to Rasmus Olson in 1902. Peter Lima worked for Rasmus Olson and bought a half interest in the business in 1903. By 1904, Lima was sole owner. Through the years Lima operated the shop and later his son, Lorents, joined him. Peter turned it over to Lorents in 1936. Lorents Lima operated his blacksmith business there until shortly before his death in 1977. The Griggs County Historical Association bought the shop and contents in September of 1977 with intentions of restoration.

Other early blacksmiths were: Nelson Keil, A.S. Gray, J.H. Montgomery, Tollef Olson (in 1893 he built a shop located just east of where the old Jackson saloon building used to be) and Nordhougen.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 184

BOWLING ESTABLISHMENTS

Courier February 24, 1900: "P.K. Moe is building a bowling alley in the building formerly occupied by N.A. Ness and will equip it in good shape. The alley will be 70 feet long." This is the first mention of a bowling center in Cooperstown. The building was previously occupied by Ness Bakery (59-17) in 1898. By 1902 it was known as the Klondike Restaurant and Poolroom. In 1938 Tang Brothers installed a set of lanes in the basement of the same building. The lanes operated until the late 1950's when Bob Mack was operating the establishment. They were dismantled and removed in the early 1960's. This building is presently occupied by the Sons of Norway Hall.

Another set of lanes was said to have been located in the building east of Allen's Jewelry for a time. It was run by Scott Hall and was probably run in the other half of his barbershop building.

About 1932 a set of lanes was installed in Walt Nelson and Thomas Irgen's Recreation Parlor located below the Penney Store (present Coast to Coast). The recreation parlor was later known as Cobb's Place. The lanes and equipment were removed in 1970, but had not been used for quite some time. The Atchison Rifle Club now occupies the basement of the building and has since 1976.

Crescent Lanes was built in 1959 and operated by Willmar and Merle Haerter. The building housed six lanes and a restaurant. The restaurant was operated by Nellie Stone for a short time, and Paula Haaland. The Crescent Lanes and Cafe closed in 1968. The building is now owned by Eric Berdal and presently houses the Administration Office, Adult Farm Management, Building Trades and Welding of the Sheyenne Valley Vocational Center.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 185

CARPENTERS

The hammer and saw of the artisan made the prairies resound with the melody of their incessant music in 1882 and 1883 when the newly platted Cooperstown was being built.

The first building constructed on the townsite was the Dakota House. It was built by the Townsite Company for the purpose of housing and feeding the carpenters of the fast growing town. Carpenters and crews were sought and buildings seemed to appear overnight.

By the end of 1883 over 50 buildings had been completed including: hotels, an elevator, schoolhouse, lumberyard, livery barns, several business establishments, depot, section house, round house and others. These buildings not including "shack" houses, sheds, barns and etc.

The carpenters, contractors and builders of the 1882-83 era were: Alex Moffatt, J.M. Melville, A.R. McDonald, C.C. Phillippee, James Muir, J.W. Christie, I.T. Gardner, A.B. Kent, Grant and Pinkerton. Other carpenters before 1900 included Joe McCulloch, Alex Urquardt and C.H. Johnson.

CARRIAGE SHOPS

Joseph Hoggarth established the first Carriage and Wagon Shop in his barn in February of 1883, located on Park Boulevard near his residence. He built a new carriage shop on the corner of Roberts and Ninth, Block 60, in 1886. A painter by the name of M.E. Walks had a shop upstairs in 1887 where he did carriage and sign painting.

Phil Reimer first located his Carriage Shop in the former Hoggarth building in 1896. Within a year Reimer bought the old *Courier* office belonging to A.B. Stewart and moved it to lots at the rear of Sansburns Blacksmith Shop. In 1899, he purchased lots east of Sansburns shop and moved a building onto the site. He operated that shop until 1903.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 185

CIGAR FACTORIES

In 1894, Prof. Scofield of Valley City rented the upstairs rooms of the old Whidden building for a cigar factory.

By October of 1899, Thorvald Olson rented the back end of John Morris' barbershop, which he operated until moving in 1900 to the upstairs of Reier Andersons building. He manufactured "Board of Trade" and "Bugle Call" cigars. In June, barber Morris bought out the business of Thorvald Olson. He employed D. Fout and Mrs. E. N. Purtell. He continued the cigar manufacturing business until about 1903.

D. Fouts severed his connections with Morris in July of 1902, when he started his own factory, operating it until December of 1903 when he decided to move his cigar factory to Dickinson, N.D.

COLLECTION AGENCY, REAL ESTATE AND LAND OFFICE BUSINESS

The land offices were often the business of the lawyers. But other people also dealt in the collection, real estate, loan and land office business. One of the first offices of this type was set up by John O. Ole in 1886. He operated his land and collection business in various buildings until 1891 when he built a small office building just west of the Palace Hotel in Block 60, Lot 18.

Starting in 1897, Reier Lunde worked with Ole for a few years. About 1900 John Ole went into the real estate business and by 1904 had dropped his farm loan and insurance business. He continued in the real estate business until retiring. Ole's small office building was later occupied by Greenland Lunde. (The building still stands today and is occupied by Stoners Bar)

Another prominent man who ran a loan and land office was T.E. Warner. He bought out the collection, insurance and land business of Simington and Miller in 1887. He was elected city Justice in 1891. In 1897 his office was located over Stevens' and Enger's Hardware Store. Here he was associated with Attorney Benjamin Tufte for a short time. By 1899 he had located in John Syverson's new brick building, Block 72, Lot 12, and operated his business in the two front rooms downstairs. He moved from this location in 1900 when the State Bank of Cooperstown opened for business and occupied his quarters. Mr. Warner sold out his North Dakota Collection Agency of Cooperstown in 1903 to M.C. Spicer who was also located in the same building.

Others in early land office business: Earl B. Pinney, Nels Iverson, Reier Lunde, D.F. Nelson and W.T. Munn in Iowa North Dakota Land Company, Elmer G. Opfer and C.F. Nelson in Nelson Opfer Company, Simington and Miller, R.C. Cooper, J.H. McDermott and Berg Brothers.

COOPERSTOWN CREAMERY

The Cooperstown Creamery, later called the Griggs County Creamery, opened for business in the spring of 1925 in the building between Greenland Lunde and the Stromme and Graby livery stable, and continued in business in that location for 45 years, until a fire ended the existence of the creamer.

Elmer Schultz and L.A. Nelson, founders of the business, stayed only a short time. O.P. Shelstad came in 1928 and ran the creamery until the 19,10's. His four sons, Bennie, Clarence, Irvin and Marshall, all worked in the creamery at some time or other. Marshall also ran an ice cream parlor in Cooperstown for a short time.

In the 1940's the business was purchased by Oscar Wendt, who sold to Herman Haugen about 1950. Haugen died about 1954 and two of his sons, Lyle and Herman, Jr., ran the creamery for a short time after his death. Andy Hagle went to work for the creamery in May of 1955, about a month before the Haugens sold to Elroy Lee. Hagle

stayed on and learned the business, and bought it from Lee in the fall of 1964. The building burned September 21, 1970 and Mr. and Mrs. Hagle went into the retail dairy business and opened a restaurant.

Andy remembers that milk was still being bottled in glass & first year he worked at the creamery. He and Frank Pfeifer, who also worked for the creamery at that time, recall that there was a special knack to ha4ing the milk bottles or they would fly out of the bottle washer and smash. Milk was bottled three times a week, and Andy remembers picking up Grade A milk from the Irwin Froiland and Torger Soma farms. There were also cream routes, and the creamery would pick up cream from stations in Hannaford, Binford, Jessie and the Riverside Store near the Cooperstown Bible Camp as well as from some farms along the way. Other farmers brought cream to the creamery.

Churning cream into butter was a daily chore, and the creamery produced up to a million pounds of butter a year. What wasn't cut and sold locally under creamery label was sold to Armour's.

Andy remembers that the creamery processed about 200 cases of eggs per week.

During the time the creamery was in business there were other dairies bottling and selling milk. Among them were Leisures, Bergs and Froilands. Some went out of business and others sold their bottling operations to the creamery.

For a while the Haugens operated a small ice cream machine in the creamery, but that was discontinued. (Herman Haugen, Jr., later went into a dairy in Jamestown with a larger scale ice cream business.)

When Lee switched to paper cartons about 1956, he became affiliated with Land O'Lakes Creameries. In 1960 he switched to Fairmont and Andy Hagle continued with that line of dairy products until 1980, when Fairmont sold to Cass Clay, the line he now handles.

Some of the employees of the creamery in its last 25 years of operation include: Ellis Pittenger, Robert Pottorff, Edna May Hopewell, Paula Bovaird (Olgaard), C. Reiten, Martha Norgard (Goplen), Nora Frigaard, Ruth Haaland.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 186

COOPERSTOWN'S FIRST CREAMERY

Early in 1888 the Cooperstown Creamery, a stockholder company, was organized. A 46'x 66' building was erected on Meadow Brook in Block 15, about three blocks east of the high school. The building consisted of an engine house, receiving room, cream, butter, a churn and cold room. The appliances, according to a newspaper item, were Willard's best. The cream which was measured by the inch brought a price of 150 per pound or 7 ½ ¢ per inch in May of 1888.

A.H. Ward was hired as the first manager and butter-maker by the directors. Mr. Chris Aarestad brought in the first cream to the creamery.

The Cooperstown Creamery operated until March of 1889, when it was rented then sold to Freberg and Anderson of Mayville. By October of 1889 Hammer and Condry had bought the creamery. They rented it to various people.

According to the *Courier* December 22, 1893- "K. Thompson says parties are negotiating for the purchase of the creamery with a view of moving it to Bue." That was the last mention of the first creamery.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 186

COOPERSTOWN ROLLER MILL

The Cooperstown Roller Mill was built in 1897 by W.H. Phipps of Minnesota. He operated the mill until 1902 when John C. Cussons of Stewardville, Minnesota closed out the deal whereby the Cussons Milling Company became owners of the firm. Mr. Phipps retired.

Marsar Cussons took over the mill in October of 1902. At that time the mill was operated by steam. Flour was taken by the exchange system, 100 pounds of flour for three bushels of wheat. The name of the flour was "New Style".

In 1922 Cussons discontinued the milling business and started a seed and feed plant. Both Mr. Cussons' sons, Barton and James joined him in business. Barton was with the business from 1932 to 1965. The Cussons Seed house was sold to Melvin Larson in April of 1965. The building was torn down in 1978.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 187

DAKOTA HOUSE

A boarding house was built by the Townsite Company in the fall of 1882 to be used by the carpenters while they were building the business places on the townsite. The Dakota House was operated by H.P. Merrill and was sometimes referred to as the "Hotel de Merrill". Mr. Merrill had also built a bakery, confectionery, and restaurant on Lenham Avenue opposite his boarding house and hotel in 1883. By August of that year Merrill sold his restaurant and property to William Lenham. For a short time H.H. Retzlaff ran the hotel and restaurant in addition to his hotel on Burrell.

Alex Urquardt opened up a carpenter shop in the building in 1891. From 1892 until about 1901, the house was used as a residence for I.E. Mills and Joseph Tiller. In 1901 F.W. Johnson moved his family into the residence and also operated his tailor shop there for a short time.

About 1902, Mat-tin Lunde purchased the residence.

Other early boarding houses included: Thomas Knutson's Boarding House on Lenham in 1884, Mrs. Zimmerman's Boarding House in the old Newell Drugstore building on Lenham and Tenth in 1885, and Henry Hougen's Boarding House in 1885.

In 1981, the building once again became known as the "Dakota House". It is presently used by the Griggs County Arts Council

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 187

DRUGSTORES

Dakota House.

Cooperstown's first drugstore was built on Block 73, Lot 24, and occupied by Dr. Newell in June of 1883. Dr. Kerr's medical office and the Cooperstown post office were also located there by mid 1883. That was the corner where the old white hotel building stands.

December of 1884, Dr. Newell decided to move to a corner lot on Burrell and Ninth, Block 74, Lot 1. Here he built a new drugstore and had moved into it by July of 1885. His old building on Lenham was to be occupied by Mrs. Zimmerman's boarding house. Dr. Newell operated his drug business here until he sold to S. Almklov in 1888.

The Excelsior Drugstore was the name of a drug firm owned by C.O. Krogstad and B.A. Clausen in 1885. The firm was located in the Christie building on Block 60, Lot 15. C.G. Lande, a jeweler, had his shop in part of the store. The partnership of Clausen and Krogstad dissolved in 1886, Clausen remaining sole owner. His drug stock was sold to Dr. Newell in 1887 when he decided to leave for Montana.

Dr. Virgo, the first coroner of Griggs County, purchased the Gillespie building, Block 60, Lot 20. Here he set up his drugstore business in 1887. Dr. Virgo had previously owned and operated a drugstore business at Mardell and in Page. The drug stock and fixtures of Dr. Virgo were sold to John Hamre and Stranahan in 1893, who operated the store for a short time.

The City Pharmacy was located in the Concrete Store, Block 59, Lots 23-24, in 1892 with Kerr and Upton as proprietors. Dr. Kerr was an accomplished physician who was also superintendent of schools for the county in the 1880's. Dr. Kerr purchased the interests of Upton in 1893 and within a year moved his business and joined forces with J.J. Flecker and Company. They located in Block 73, Lot 11 (known as the O. Iverson property) in 1895. In 1897 Dr. Kerr sold out to Sorenson who was there but a short time. Dr. Kerr then continued in his practice of medicine.

In September of 1897, H.H. Bateman and F.C. Gardner of Fargo purchased the old Kerr drug stock and business formerly occupied by P.R. Sorensen. By 1902 they had also purchased the building. Early druggists in the H.H. Bateman and Company drugstore were H.H. Bateman, Andrew Erickson, R.D. Metzger and others. H.H. Bateman and Company carried on their business in the same location until 1918. The Bateman building was used by the People's Store until it burned in the fire of 1929.

In 1923 Patrick H. Costello, a 1917 graduate of the North Dakota College of Pharmacy, was located in the building on Block 59, Lot 22, which is presently the location of the Pop-A-Top bar. He left Cooperstown in 1942 to become executive secretary of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy with headquarters in the Chicago area, a position he held until 1962. Tupper Howden became owner of the drugstore and continued in that building until 1957 when he moved his pharmacy into the former Larson Store building where he also ran a department store. Howden closed his store and retired in 1971.

Almklov's Pharmacy, another early business, is the subject of a separate article.

As a footnote to history, Cooperstown's first neon sign was installed at Costello's drugstore in April of 1931.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 187

EXCHANGE HOTEL

P.K. Moe opened the restaurant and confectionery previously owned by T.O. Torgerson and Peder Johnson in 1897. By July of 1898 he was advertising his "Exchange Hotel". In 1905 he bought Marquardt's property adjacent to his hotel, which he remodeled along with his building to make a larger hotel of them. Moe ran the hotel and restaurant business until his death in 1932. Mollie Moe and John Mack operated the business until about 1942 when Ell Neste purchased the property. It was during the ownership of Neste that the Hotel became known as the "Windsor". Other owners or managers have included: J.B. Pronovost (January-March of 1946), Jack and Evelyn Flemmer (March of 1946-1948), Joe Holter (1948-1954), Clair Wright (1954-1963). Virgil Schothorst purchased the "Windsor" from Clair Wright in August of 1963. Leonard Paintner was manager. The Windsor burned November 4, 1965, in a fire which also destroyed the dry cleaners' building to the west.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 188

GRAIN ELEVATORS

The first elevator built in Cooperstown in 1883 was owned by the Lenham Elevator and Lumber Company. The building was round in style, resembling a huge granary, 75 feet high and had a capacity of 50,000 bushels. It was built by the Barnett and Burdett Elevator Company of Minneapolis, and managed by R.C. Brophy. The site of the elevator was just south of Lenham on the west side of the tracks. The first wheat sold for 82¢ per bushel. By April the elevator was bought and known as the VanDusen, Elliot Company under the management of G.N. Stork. The elevator was purchased by the Cargill Brothers in August of 1886. Within a month the elevator was struck by lightning and burned to the ground. Another elevator was built by the Cargill Brothers later that year. Other managers were: W.D. Marsh, Louis Christianson and later Nate Baker.

The second elevator was also a round elevator similar to the Lenham only larger. It was built by the Cooper Brothers in August of 1884. It burned the fall of 1893.

R.C. Brophy, manager of the first two elevators, decided to build an elevator of his own in 1885. It was known as the Duluth and Dakota Elevator Company. Brophy sold the elevator to E.H. Groven in 1888. Early managers were Mr. Sandburg and W.L. Haupt.

The North Dakota Elevator warehouse was built near the Depot. They reincorporated as the Monarch Elevator Company in September of 1893. This elevator burned in 1903 and was rebuilt with a capacity of 25,000 bushels in the main building. Early workers or managers were: George Bowe, Byron Hazard, S.O. Peterson, J.H. Wilson and H.O. Leibl.

Sawyer and Company built a warehouse in 1886 and converted it into an elevator in 1888. Capacity 25,000 bushels.

Olson and Cox built an elevator in October of 1893 on Section 25 outside the city limits on the site previously occupied by Cooper's round elevator. George Stork was the first manager. This elevator also burned down in 1906 and was rebuilt that same year. Other managers: Al Bliss, Geo. Bowe and later Jno. R. Shirley.

The Great Western Elevator was built in the 1890's. It burned down in November of 1895 and was rebuilt. Early managers: John Moran, A.B. Stewart, J.C. Beith, J.W. Perry, S.H. Hanson and later Aug. Anderson. The Great Western Elevator was located on the present site of the G.T.A. Elevator.

R.C. Cooper's second elevator was square, with up to date machinery, gasoline engine, equipped with double dumps, double elevators and double shippers. One part was built for flax and the other for wheat. The elevator was located on the east side of the tracks on the site formerly occupied by one of Cooper's granaries. The elevator opened for business in August of 1898. This elevator was also struck by lightning and burned to the ground. Cooper immediately set to building his third elevator on that same site in 1899. W.S. Hyde and Fred Beier bought the elevator and took charge January 1, 1903. The same elevator was bought by the Farmers Elevator in June of 1904.

Other early elevators were the Peavey and the Hammer-Halvorson-Beier Elevator. Many warehouses and grain houses were built for buying and storing of grain besides the local elevators. Early warehouses were owned by George Greenlease, Lawrence Brothers, Maynard Crane, Albert Larson and R.H. Beldon.

In 1903 Cooperstown reported to have had five grain elevators and by 1907 boasted of having as many as nine. In April of 1910, the big Farmers Elevator burned, destroying 12,000 bushels of grain. Sparks from that fire ignited the Monarch Elevator, which was also a total loss, and with it went 3,500 bushels of grain. Monarch did not rebuild. The North Dakota State Gazetteer of 1914 listed the following elevators in Cooperstown:

Rollin C. Cooper grain elevator	George Hartman, Agent
Farmers Elevator Company.....	F.D. Williams, President
	Herbert Langford, Secretary
Federal Elevator Company,	
Great Western Elevator Company	Aug. Anderson, Agent
Hammer-Halvorson-Beier Company	H.P. Hammer, President
J.N. Olsen & Sons	Jno. R. Shirley, Agent
Cargill Elevator Company	

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 189

GREENLAND, LUNDE AND COMPANY

In 1909 Mr. Fritjof Greenland opened a business in Cooperstown in the building now occupied by Stoners Bar. The business was farm machinery oriented, selling such items as binder twine, farm seeders, drags, buggies, wagons and related items.

In 1910 Nels M. Lunde went to work for Mr. Greenland and in 1911 a partnership was formed changing the name to Greenland Lunde and Company. At that time the Overland franchise was secured and Indian motorcycles were also sold.

The business remained in that location until 1919 when the company purchased the Jimeson and Olson Mercantile building which was located across the street south of the present Johnson Store. During, this period, Theodore Kittelson was taken in as a partner and developed the cattle buying and horse-trading business also. This was important as cattle and horses were traded for machinery. Steam engines and threshing machines were added and before 1927, Mogul gas tractors and Deering binders were sold. That same year, Greenland Lunde and Company received the franchise for John Deere.

The next year a new building was built to accompany their new Chevrolet franchise.

During the depression years the company barely survived; however, it was the only farm machinery and automobile dealership in Cooperstown to remain intact through the hard times.

Other short line products of interest that were sold by Greenland Lunde were Delco light plants, DeLaval cream separators and milking machines, and later Farmhand hay stackers.

In 1946 the Chevrolet garage was sold to Robert Adam and Joel Moe and was called Adam Chevrolet. A year or two later the implement business was sold to H.W. Hildre and Mr. Vaughn Cowell.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 190

HARNESS SHOPS

The harness shops were a necessity in the early farming areas. All power on the farm except for threshing was oxen or horsepower and harness did wear out.

Mr. Hunter opened the first harness shop in the Hann building, Block 72, Lot 2, in May of 1883.

The harness shop known as "Pioneer Harness Shop" was built just across from the Union House in November of 1883 by A.M. Pease. By December he had sold the shop to J.H. McDermott. McDermott had moved to Dakota in 1881. He had worked with Henry Wold in Valley City and was later in the hotel business there. McDermott remained in the Burrell Avenue shop, Block 74, Lot 11, for three years, moving then to the Johnson Store building where he remained for eleven years. In 1898, he moved to the building formerly occupied by Steen Gunderson's Mercantile Store, Block 73, Lot 9. In this location he conducted his harness business until 1903 when he sold out to Carl Bonde and Anton Christianson. McDermott was also associated with the mercantile firm of Thompson-McDermott in 1906.

George Stringer worked with McDermott for a short time in 1890. He and his brother William as "Stringer Brothers" in 1891 bought the building owned by McDermott on Burrell, Block 74, Lot 11. They operated their harness emporium there for two years. In June of 1893 they had decided to buy Claus Jackson's old saloon building on Lenham and had it moved to a lot on Burrell, Block 74, Lot 6. In later years Stringer Brothers were located on Lot 9 of that same block.

John Fredrickson came to Cooperstown in 1904 and entered the harness business with Anton Christianson who was the city policeman. Fredrickson sewed harnesses by hand

the first years and later sewed with sewing machines. The horses were brought to the front of the shop in order to be fitted properly. Years later Fredrickson became sole owner. Fredrickson's store became a hardware store associated with the Tiger Stores and later became a Gambles Store operated by John Jr. and Ralph, the sons of John Fredrickson, Sr. John Fredrickson, Jr. continued to operate the Gambles Store until his retirement in 1970.

Gradually shoe repair came into the harness shops, phasing out the harness business.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 190

JEWELERS AND OPTOMETRISTS

The first jewelers seemed to be traveling salesmen who stopped to show their wares at various hotels, staying perhaps a day or two and moving on to the next town. Two early traveling jewelers were J.F. Bronson and C.C. Avbell.

A permanent jewelry store was established by C.G. Landie, watchmaker in Muir and Christies store, Block 60, Lot 15, in 1884. He moved his business to various places and in the later years was located in Gust Olson's store, Block 74, Lot 9. He was jeweler here until about 1900.

O.M. Varnson set up a jewelry business in 1899. He was here for three years, selling his stock to I.D. Allen of Valley City and formerly of Minnesota. Mr. Allen is remembered as a fine jeweler, watch repairer and engraver. He entered into partnership with N.J. Evenson who came to Cooperstown at the same time from Valley City. They established their hardware-jewelry store in the Anton Enger store, Block 73, Lot 5. Their partnership dissolved in 1903.

By 1904, Allen had moved his business and purchased the William Glass building, Block 60, Lot 14. I.D. Allen became a registered optometrist in 1905. He ran his jewelry and optometrist office until his sons Robert and Spencer finished optometry school in 1930. After becoming licensed, Robert took over the optometry business. I.D. Allen remained in partnership with his son until he retired. Spencer Allen left Cooperstown and now lives in Crosby.

Robert Allen operated the jewelry-optometry business until 1962 when he sold out his jewelry operation to Kenneth Ellingson, retaining the optometry business. In 1964, Allen and Ellingson moved across the street into a new building which Robert Allen had constructed. (The old building was sold to First State Bank and torn down) Ellingson jewelry occupied the east side of that building until 1970. Allen's optometry office still occupies the west side at the present time. Other occupants of the east side office have been Mel Pantzlaff's Barber Shop and at present Gil Fletschock's Barber Shop.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 191

KING-PIATT and KING-BRUNS

Mr. F.B. King owned and operated a general mercantile store in the early 1890's and an implement dealership in the later 1890's. About 1900 he went into a bicycle repair and sales on the present location of the old city hall with Chester C. Platt as King-Piatt Company. They added the Reo car to their line of Rambler bicycles.

In 1908, Mr. Piatt sold his interest to Otto Bruns and the company became King-Bruns Company. At that time they added the agency for the Rambler auto and a repair department, also the Ford franchise.

In 1927, King and Bruns, together with George Hartman and several other investors, formed a corporation and built the Palace Motor Company. The location for this business was where the old Palace Hotel was located.

From the beginning this new and modern auto agency was in trouble and in 1928, it went out of business. A group which included Theodore Thompson received the Dodge, Chrysler franchise and resumed operation until the late 1930's at which time the Ford dealership was acquired. The new owners, Abe Thime and Otto Rebhahn built up the business and in 1948 sold it to Carrol Torgerson and Gerald Davison who renamed it Main Motors. Their partnership did a flourishing business and in eight years or so, they sold it to Reynold Retzlaff and Everet Aarestad.

Bill Lyche was the last owner of the Ford franchise. Later the building was rented to Melroe plow division, and when they moved on, it became the property of the Coopers-town School district for use of the Sheyenne Vocational Center. They in turn sold it to the Sheyenne Tooling and Machine Company.

In going back to the original location, after King-Bruns moved to the new Palace Motor building, the old building was occupied by several people. Andy Dahlbom had an auto repair garage, Swen Olgaard, an auto agency and repair and Peterson Biddick, cream, eggs and poultry buyers.

Later the city bought the building and the auditor's office and fire hall were located there, until the new fire hall and city hall were built in 1969.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 191

ALBERT LARSON AND COMPANY

Albert Larson took over ownership of the One Price Department Store in 1904 when the firm of Berg Brothers dissolved partnership. After that time, the One Price Department Store was conducted under the name of Albert Larson and Company. Albert Larson died in 1930, and his son Selmer succeeded him.

P.H. Carlson came to work in the store in 1906. He became a partner in the business and remained with the company for forty-two years. Gustav Hanson also became a partner.

Some of the other long-time employees of the store were Mabel Davidson, Clara Lunde, Marie Frigaard, Tom Hartman, Alfred Bolkan, Einar Overby, Delbert Baird, Lloyd Anderson and Otto Johnson.

Albert Larson and Company was the last survivor of the old-time department stores in Cooperstown. Until its closing after the death of Selmer Larson in 1956, the store sold

groceries, hardware, shoes, clothing, sewing supplies and assorted other items. At the time Tupper Howden went into the business in 1957 in the building, there were still high top shoes in the storeroom, and ladies with small feet were able to buy new shoes to wear with the old fashioned dresses they wore for the community's seventy-fifth anniversary celebration.

The dry goods department was in the east half of the building. Shoes were stored on shelves in the center divider, with a ladder on a track providing access to the shoes. (Mothers kept watchful eyes on their children who were fascinated by the ladder). Needle-workers also sold their crafts through the store.

Howden had been in business in Cooperstown since 1942 when he had bought the Rexall Drug Store from P.H. Costello. Howden operated the Howden Rexall Drug on the west side of the building and a dry goods department on the east at the old Larson General Store stand from 1957 until 1972 when he closed the store and retired.

At the present time the building contains the Someplace Else Furniture Store managed by Harvey Benson.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 192

LARSON'S CREAM STATION

After Emil Larson lost the farm in Steele County, he moved to Hope, North Dakota where he operated an Armour cream station. From there he moved to Cooperstown in 1934 where he operated an Armour cream station until he retired at 82 years of age. He died in 1952 at the age of 88 years.

The building in which he had the cream station was across the alley south of the Syverson building. That building was the original Thompson-Odegaard store, first one in town. Originally it faced north and stood on Lot 7, Block 73, on Burrell Avenue, but it was moved back when John Syverson built his brick store. At one time it was used as a warehouse for the Syverson store. This building has been torn down and a new building owned by Cooper Motors now stands there.

Larson would buy cream and eggs from farmers. Every so often a truck from Armour would pick up the cream, which was in ten gallon cream cans, and egg crates. During this time the stores in Cooperstown were open Saturday nights, and most Saturday nights he would be open until 1:00 a.m.

The cream would be tested for the butterfat content and the farmers would get paid according to the butterfat in their cream. This would vary, as all the cream brought in did not have the same butterfat content.

All the eggs would have to be candled to see that they were all fresh. This would take considerable time. Mrs. Larson would work in the station Saturday nights to help candle eggs.

This station closed in April of 1946.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 192

LAWRENCE BROTHERS CONCRETE STORE

A general mercantile business with butcher shop was established in the Concrete Store which was built in 1886 at the corner of Ninth and Burrell. A bank was operated in the store by the Lawrence brothers from 1886 until 1891. For a short time Clark and Smart operated the bank there. Hammer, Condy and Peter E. Nelson bought the business of Lawrence Brothers in 1888, buying the building in 1891. The business continued there until 1904 when Thompson Brothers purchased the business and Thompson-McDermott in 1906.

The Thompson-McDermott Store closed in the thirties. The building was later occupied by a succession of grocery stores, and at present houses the Cooperstown Hardware Store.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 193

LENDE'S CREAM STATION

Thorvald Lende and family moved to Cooperstown in 1919 from their farm in Steele County. He did dray work, hauling coal, and other items for business places and other people for a couple years, keeping four horses in town.

About in 1922 he opened a cream station in the back of the Farmer's Store for a year or so, then moved across the alley and for a short while bought cream in the barn behind Benson's Photography. He bought the place from Benson and rented the entire upstairs to him for his studio at \$15.00 a month rent. He moved the station into the front part of the downstairs and did business there. In 1926 he bought two new Model T trucks and did his own trucking. In 1927 he poured a concrete floor on the entire east half of the building, had the cream station back there, and used the front half for candling eggs and other purposes.

Lende bought cream for R.E. Cobb Company in St. Paul, Minnesota and had a big cream business going. The Cobb Company closed up in St. Paul and moved their entire creamery to Valley City, North Dakota where Lende hauled cream. After a few years when the Cobb Company quit in Valley City, he bought cream for North American Creamery at Oakes and Valley City. Lendes used to fill one hundred ten-gallon cream cans on a Saturday and Saturday night, and also bought lots of eggs which had to be candled. The twelve Lende children each had work to do in the cream station. They also had an egg route to neighboring towns and picked up the large thirty-dozen cases of eggs, too. Lendes also bought lots of furs, hides and iron.

Lende bought many carloads of wool and hauled it to Grand Forks and New Rockford. He bought dressed turkeys and shipped barrels of turkeys and chickens to Peter Fox Company in Chicago. Nobody was buying live turkeys so Lendes bought live turkeys and sold to the Fox Company in Portland, North Dakota as they opened a place there.

They used to go to Warroad, Minnesota and get truckloads of fresh fish on lee in summer every week and sell.

They were in big I ton wooden boxes with lee. One winter they bought a carload of frozen herring from Duluth, Minnesota. It was a rough winter with an awful lot of snow and they had to haul it home with a stone boat. Daughter Beatrice Fogderud remembers, "We had that fish all winter, but finally sold it all."

In about 1944 Lende went into the used car business for a few years and other small things until about 1955. He died in 1958.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 193

LENHAM LUMBER COMPANY

The Lenham Lumber and Coal Yards were built in 1883 by the corporation of George, Nate and Louis L. Lenham. The yards were located just due north of the Lenham Elevator.

The yard included a lumber shed, office, lime and coal sheds at a cost of \$1,500. The manager was Maynard Crane, a nephew of George Lenham.

In March of 1885, Crane bought the yards. The firm was thereafter known as Maynard Crane and Company. Within a month, Crane had decided to build his own yard and sold the property to the Gull River Lumber Company. E.W. Blackwell became manager.

The Gull River Lumber Company was owned and operated by the Blackwell Brothers until 1919 when it was bought out by the Salzer Lumber Company with H.L. Tasser as manager. The Salzer Lumber Company property in Cooperstown was purchased by Crane Johnson in the thirties and the buildings were sold, moved and remodeled as residences.

The Crane Johnson history is the subject of another article.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 194

LIGHTS

The first lights were homemade candles, a wick or rag in fat, or kerosene oil lamps and lanterns. But some were a little afraid of the lamps because some of the earliest kerosene contained more of gasoline than of that sold later.

The earliest mention of street lighting is October 14, 1887. "John Syverson and Company's 216 candle power lamps illuminate Burrell Avenue like an electric light," and November 26, 1897 "The new street lamps have arrived and have been set up at different places around town." Otto Marquardt remembered when some person went around, climbed up to the streetlight and lighted each one individually every evening.

The earliest mention of acetylene lighting says on November 19, 1897: "Cooper has acetylene gas in his office and wears a pleasant smile because he is now through filling lamp."

November 29, 1897: "The county commissioners bought acetylene gas plant to light the court house and jail - cost \$285." They liked it so well that in 1899 they bought a big generator for the courthouse, and then had two small ones for sale.

Business places put in acetylene at about 1899 as Emil Marquardt and Reier Anderson both put them in September 1899.

September 20, 1895, "Emil Marquardt sports an electric light in front of his place of business," the first mentioned electric light in Cooperstown.

It was not until 1905 that the Platt Electric Company brought electricity to Cooperstown (direct current). He established his own plant. In 1905 he put up a building of cement blocks. This building still stands as apartments across the street east of the grade school. Mr. Piatt later rebuilt west of the railroad track squarely across Burrell Avenue. This building later was remodeled into a turkey dressing plant used by the Kimball Bros. and was torn down in the 1970's.

The courthouse put in electric lighting in 1908 with arc lights in the courtroom. These were replaced in 1915 by "improved incandescent lights."

Mr. Platt sold his holdings to C.S. Christianson in 1915.

In 1926 the change was made to alternating current.

Otter Tail Power Company based in Fergus Falls, Minnesota has served the town since the early 1940's.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 194

LIVERY STABLES

The work of the livery stables was a very important business in early Griggs County. Before Cooperstown was started some settlers even walked to other towns and carried home their groceries, including flour, because they had no team. After Cooperstown was started people came from as far away as 20 miles, over the prairie without roads, with horses and oxen and had to stay overnight. Their teams needed feed, water and rest before the long trip home. The livery stables filled this need.

Doctors often hired a rig to take him to visit the sick. A young man would use one to give a young lady a "buggy ride", or maybe take her to a dance at Mardell.

Three livery barns were started with the foundation of Cooperstown. Others came later.

Al Shue built a livery stable just north of the Palace known as the "Cooperstown Livery". By July he had sold half interest to Robert Pinkerton, and by December the remaining share to Manley Davis. Owners or managers of the Cooperstown Livery were:

1883-Davis & Pickett

1885-Hunter Brothers "Pioneer Stables" 1886-Hammer and Condry

1888-Owned by Green Mountain Stock Ranching Company

1890-J.H. McDermott & J.N. Michaels "City Livery Barn"

1891-Michaels sold half interest to Reier Anderson "Reier Anderson & Company"

1891-McDermott sold half interest to J.N. Syverson "Syverson & Anderson"
 1891-R. Anderson sold out to J.N. Syverson
 1891-Syverson sold Livery and Dray to Louis Berg
 1892-Hammer and Condry owners
 1892-R.J. Biorn took charge of "Pioneer Stables" formerly owned by Berg Bros.
 1895-C. Johnson sold half interest to A. Monson "Biorn & Monson"
 1896-R.J. Biorn sold half interest to A.I. Monson
 1897-"Monson & Johnson"
 1898-C.O. Johnson sold interest to James Johnson
 1900-James & Ernest Johnson owners
 1903-Martin Rood
 1905-Johnson & Rood
 1907-Ernest Johnson sold to Mason Knapp
 1911-Jacob J. Seibold
 1911-John Campion
 1912-John & Marton Campion "Campion Bros"
 1913-Arthur Graby "Stromme & Graby"
 1915-Livery of "Stromme & Graby" burned to ground April 9, 1915.

Shue and Pinkerton had a second livery on Burrell for a short time which was located in Block 60, Lot 14 and bought out by R.C. Cooper in November of 1883.

Manley Davis started a livery in early 1883 that was located on Burrell (Block 61, Lots 23 & 24) opposite Thompson's Machine Office. Davis and Pickett operated this Livery and Feed Sales until April of 1885 when they converted it into a residence. The residence was bought by J.A. Lawrence in 1886.

I.E. Mills erected a livery barn 28'x 66'with 18 foot posts on Lenham Avenue just east of the Dakota House (Present day Masonic Temple site) in October of 1891. It was enlarged later. This livery barn was owned or managed by the following:

1891-I.E. Mills 1893-Hammer & Condry 1893-Archie Gorthy & Richard Bowers
 1894-Bowers sold his interest to Archie Gorthy 1894-A.E. Shue, prop. of "Archie Gorthy Livery 1898-A.E. Shue
 1907-A.E. Shue sold to Frank Killeran & Son

As the "Killeran Barn" it was moved to Block 75 (present site of Wil-Rich Company) when the Masonic Temple was built in 1916. Later this livery barn was owned and operated by Stromme and Graby. It was damaged by a windstorm and torn down in 1955.

Another livery was built opposite the Union House in October of 1891. It was owned by Reier Anderson. It was a 26'x 60'building known as "Reier Anderson Livery". (Block 74, Lots 11 & 12) The livery was leased by Messrs. Chirs & Syvertson and then the Moore Brothers in 1894. Other owners or managers were:

1895-"Anderson & Sundeby Livery" 1896-J.C. Thingstad
 1897-R.J. Biorn "Biorn & Sundeby Livery"

1899-Geo. Sundeby half interest sold to Borgerson "Biorn & Borgerson"

1900-Borgerson Brothers 1900-Thinglestad

1901-Shue & L. Rhodes 1905-J.C Flynn

1909-Otto Retzlaff

1912-Erick Erickson

1913-John Arstad

The management of various livery stables changed hands several times in the first years, but they were busy and useful until the automobile replaced the horse.

One of the first Auto Liveries was owned by Peter Larson and Charlie Hall in 1915. It was located on Burrell Avenue just west of the Palace, on the site of present Benders L.P. Gas.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 194

MACHINE DEPOTS

"Buchheit Bros" The machine dealers Joseph and F.H. Buchheit built a neat office and machine depot on Lenham Avenue in 1883. (Block 59, Lots 1 & 2). Joseph came here at the time the Cooper Brothers did. F.H. Buchheit had been employed by the McCormick Company

The Buchheit Brothers sold their business and building to Messrs. Holland and Rukke in April of 1884. "Holland & Rukke" moved the machine office to Burrell Avenue next to Davis and Pickett's store. These machine dealers were in business for a short time.

Other machine dealers from 1886 to 1890 included: Knud Thompson, Ford & Lucken, Merrill & Luce and Reier Anderson. Dealers after 1891: Berg & Erickson, Claus Jackson, Reier Anderson & Company, C.J. Lucken, F.B. King, and J.I. Case Threshing Machine Company, LaForest & Abbott, A. Rhodes, Hammer & Condry, S. Hamilton & W.H. Butler, Greenland Lunde.

Albert Larson and Rollef Berg, both farmers, came to Griggs County in 1882 and 1883. Larson settled on a farm north of Cooperstown and Berg on the prairie near Ottawa. In 1884, they began the machine business of Berg and Larson with headquarters in Cooperstown and a branch office at Ottawa. The machine depot was located on Block 59, Lot 22. The firm became known as Berg and Erickson in 1892. In 1895 Albert Larson, Andrew Berg, Lewis Berg, Erick Erickson and C.H. Johnson formed a partnership known as Berg Brothers and Company. They erected a brick block building 50 x 110 feet on the lots adjoining their original business (59-19 and 20), where they ran a general store. By 1897, C.H. Johnson sold his interest to Louis Berg and the firm consolidated the two businesses.

In 1904, the firm of Berg Brothers dissolved and divided the businesses. Albert Larson retained the One Price Department Store; Erick Erickson took the machinery business while the other partners took over the firm's business enterprises at Binford and Hannaford. Land interests were also divided.

Erick Erickson ran the machine business until January of 1907, when he sold his business to Hammer and Condry. The deal included the stock, good will and the vacant lot next door to Albert Larson's store (59-21) and lots 4 and 5 in the same block facing Roberts Avenue on which Erickson had his livestock barns.

Other early machine depots included: Buchheit Brothers, Knud Thompson's, Boyum and Holland-later Hoiland and Rukke, Ford and Lucken, Reier Anderson's, Claus Jackson's, Olson, Cox and Company, LaForest and Abbott, A. Rhodes, Hammer and Condry, Hamilton and Butler.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 196

MEAT MARKETS

The Upton and Johnson Meat Market was a first class meat market built on Roberts Avenue in 1883. The owners, B.A. Upton and Andrew Johnson had owned the first meat market in Griggs County at Mardell. They dissolved their partnership at Cooperstown in May of that year. Johnson retained the business. He operated a general store and meat market on Burrell Avenue in 1885 until he sold out to J.N. Jorgenson in 1886.

The Retzlaff Brothers built a meat market on Burrell (74-2) in 1884. They operated until 1899 when Hammer and Condry bought the market with Charles Bauer in charge as butcher. In 1902, E.E. Downe purchased the meat market. W.D. Marsh leased the market for about three years. Downe returned to run the meat market again in 1907 and continued in business there until about 1918.

G.B. Edmondson and Abe Thime purchased the Cooperstown Meat Market from E.E. Downe in 1918. Edmondson left the business in the mid 1920's, Thime retaining with the business. He put in a line of groceries about 1935. Thime's daughter, Ann took over the business in 1936 and continued until 1959.

In 1899, F.O. Besuchet purchased the building and real estate previously occupied by Divers and Olds Laundry (74-10). Here he opened the Model Meat Market. In 1905 he sold the market to T.R. Jones. By 1908 Abe Thime had bought and operated the meat market. The Model Clothing Company has occupied that site from 1925 to the present date.

William Hoffmeyer operated a meat market on Burrell (74-9) from 1926 to 1932. It was known as the City Meat Market. The building had previously been occupied by Edmondson's Variety Store and Reier Anderson's Pool Hall.

By World War 11, meat markets began to disappear and later became meat departments in grocery stores.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 196

MILLINERY AND DRESSMAKING

The ladies who designed and made ladies hats and were dealers in ribbons, lace, gloves and other finery were known as milliners. Gradually the ladies of millinery also expanded into the dressmaking field.

Cooperstown's first known millinery, established in 1886, was owned by Mrs. J.N. Jorgenson and Miss Emma Henry, in the Jorgenson residence.

Christine Hammer operated a millinery shop on Burrell (74-3) from 1895-1898. In 1898 Mrs. E.E. Downe purchased the business of Christine Hammer, and operated her shop in that location until 1903 when she sold out her stock to Julia Stevens.

Julia Stevens, a widow at age 27 with four children to raise, opened her millinery shop in 1899, later expanding the business with a line of women's and children's ready-to-wear-clothing. By 1903 she had bought out the stock of Mrs. Downe and had moved her millinery and building to her lots (73-7) on Burrell between Gust Olson's Clothing Store and Si Black's Barber Shop. Her shop was known as the "Style Store". She continued in the millinery until her death in 1916.

Other early milliners or dressmakers were: Mrs. O. Ford, Miss Edith Brown, Mrs. Stringer, Mrs. CW. Hodge, Miss Dobbin, Miss Hovey, Mrs. S. Gores, Helen Brown, Mrs. J.N. Brown, Mrs. F.A. Mayer, Miss Haugen, Clara Beer, Clara Wilds, Emma Johnson, Miss Henry, Edith Speaks and C.O. Dunnam. Later milliners included Ella Bergstrom and Caroline Halvorson who operated their shop in the vicinity of P.J. Tang's Restaurant and the City Bakery. Also the Lindgren Sisters had a millinery on Burrell in Block 73. Nora Black was also an early dressmaker.

Anna Halvorson established a hat and dress shop known as the "Halvorson Shoppe" in 1930. She first located in the area of the present Benders L.P. Gas or Senior Citizen Center, later moving to the building (60-15) first door east of I.D. Allen. In 1950 Anna Halvorson rented her shop to Lillian

Bolkan, Nina Nelson and Esther Nelson. These partners ran the shop until 1957. In January of 1957 Mrs. Ann Adam purchased the Halvorson Shoppe, changing the name to "Ann's Town and Country".

Orpha Cussons purchased Ann's shop in June of 1962, and operated her dress shop in the same building until about 1964 when she moved into the west half of the old Penney store building owned by Carrol and Maxine Torgerson. Maxine Torgerson bought the stock and business of Orpha Cussons in 1965 operating her shop there until 1976 when she moved across the street to the store formerly occupied by Coast to Coast. In 1979 Maxine sold her dress shop and business to Patricia Erickson of Cavalier, N.D. The shop is presently managed by Diane Cushman, and is known as "Patricias".

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 197

MORTUARY & FUNERAL BUSINESS

F.A. Mayer and Company Furniture Store of Cooperstown purchased a Culver Hearse in 1898 which was rented for funerals at moderate rates. The carriage, pulled by horses, could be used on wheels or put on a bobsled in winter. At that time coffins may have been made by family members of pine boards or could be purchased through the local drugstores, furniture or hardware stores. Bodies were usually cared for at home by the family and kept in cool areas until buried.

By 1888, when S. Almklov bought out the drug and coffin stock from Dr. Newell, he set up a display and storage area over the drug store. The early coffins were six sided and broader at the shoulder level. Shipping crates were used as stands and later as rough

boxes. Many early coffins contained zinc trays in the bottom, where a layer of ice was placed, the clothed body then laid in the coffin, thus the saying "Put them on ice".

Types of coffins included pine boxes. Later coffins were covered with printed cloth or mohair. Coffins became obsolete as caskets came into use, many of them made of metals: copper, bronze and steel, or of wood.

S. Almklov purchased his first motorized hearse from King-Bruns on a Ford chassis in about 1923. The first known embalmers were Fred Keeper, Art Oslo, Vincent Goodrich, Erving Stead, O.A. Carlson, P.H. Farager and W.H. Cook.

S.J. Quam came to Cooperstown, April 9, 1934 to start a funeral home business. He rented the Martin Garlid residence which was then on the site of Quam's present day home. Mr. Quam served in the armed forces in 1944. Mrs. Quam kept the business going in Cooperstown that year. In the fall of 1945, Mr. Quam bought out the complete stock of 19 caskets and a 1933 Ford Hearse from Dr. Leif Almklov.

Mr. Quam was a licensed trade embalmer, and he traveled to other towns in the area to do embalming for John Knapp at Binford, Billy Sinclair at Hannaford, Greenland at Sutton and E.S. Duea at Sharon.

In 1956, Quam went into business with Mrs. E.E. Boe at Finley, buying a share of the Boe funeral home in Finley.

Glen R. Plaisted bought out Mrs. E.E. Boe's interest in July of 1959. Five years later he bought half interest in the Cooperstown Funeral Home from S.J. Quam and they joined the two homes into a corporation. In January of 1974, S.J. Quam went into full retirement, selling the remaining portion of the corporation to Plaisted.

July 1, 1981, Plaisted sold the corporation to a newly formed funeral home corporation with Rick L. Cushman of Cooperstown, as partial owner and manager. Mr. Plaisted is still associated with the new corporation.

Going back in the records to 1911, funeral costs ranged from \$250 to \$300, compared to today's average costs of about \$2175.00.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 197

NELSON AND LANGLEIE

April of 1883, S.A. Nelson had purchased Lot 6 of Block 73 and began operations on a 25' x 50' two-story building with a flat roof. Nelson and Langlie opened their spacious general mercantile store for business in May of 1883. They remained in business until July, when Syverson and Company bought out their business and building.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 198

NELSON'S BARBER SHOP

Bill Nelson was born at Sharon, North Dakota. Before coming to Cooperstown he worked in Sharon and Bismarck.

In 1929, Bill Nelson worked for Art Reiersen's Barber Shop in Cooperstown. This shop was located next to Nelson's Hardware Store. These buildings were destroyed by fire in 1929. After the fire, the barbershop was located in the basement of Marquardt's Cafe.

In 1931, Bill left Cooperstown and moved to Lehr, North Dakota, where he purchased a shop and worked there for four months. During this time, Orlo Erhardt had a barbershop in Cooperstown. Orlo wanted to return to Lehr, so he and Bill decided to exchange shops. Bill returned to Cooperstown at the end of 1931 and rented Erhardt's facilities for his barbershop.

During the depression, Nelson's Barber Shop had three barbers

Edward Nelson, Art Reiersen and Bill Nelson. The shop also boasted a Shoeshine parlor with three men employed to shine shoes.

In 1935, Bill bought Lindgren's Millinery Shop building.

Bill Korst barbered with Bill Nelson for many, many years. Bill Nelson left Cooperstown May 1, 1943 and worked as a payroll clerk in the shipyards at Vancouver, Washington, during the war, until his return to Cooperstown in October of 1944. During this time, Bill Korst was head barber in Cooperstown.

In 1952, Albert Nelson joined his brother Bill Nelson in the barbershop.

Bill Nelson served the community of Cooperstown as barber until his death in 1965.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 198

PETER E. NELSON HARDWARE

Peter E. Nelson opened a general mercantile store the spring of 1885. In 1890 he moved his business to the Ross Building in Block 60, Lot 14, where Fred Hodge joined the firm and it became known as Nelson and Hodge. This partnership lasted about 21/2 years. By 1891, Mr. Nelson had traded stores with William Glass, moving his business to the corner of Ninth and Burrell. Here he remained in the hardware business until 1929, when a fire burned out a section of stores in that area. Stores burned in that fire included The People's Store, Nelson Hardware, Newgaard Studio, Marquardt's Palace of Sweets and Lindgren's Millinery.

Throughout the years, the upstairs of this store housed the offices of David Bartlett Law Office and Attorney, M.W. Duffy. The telephone office was housed upstairs from 1907 to 1927.

After the fire, the hardware business was run for a few years in the warehouse just south of the original building, the present *Sentinel - Courier* office.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 198

PETERSON BIDDICK COMPANY

Henry and Elsie Winning came to Cooperstown in 1941 and managed the Peterson Biddick Produce Store. They came here from Wimbledon, where they had operated a cream station business. They were originally from Iowa, where they were married in 1914.

Three of their four children have lived at Cooperstown at some time. Lester lives here now; Myrna is Mrs. Waldo Wells, now of Binford; Dolores and her husband, Raymond Monson, live near Dazey; Melvin, of Jamestown, has never lived here.

Among the people who worked in the station for them were their daughters, as well as Delores Lockner, and Florence Fiebiger. Fred Baker, retired from running his own station, also worked there. The building was heated by coal. Eggs were candled in a dark room in the rear of the building. Mrs. Monson remembers her mother holding six eggs at a time while she was candling. They paid cash for eggs and cream.

On Fridays and Wednesdays before the cream was picked up by the truck, there would be cans of cream lined up, sometimes in two lines, from the front door back to the cream room. Baby chicks, feed, seed and block salt were sold. Garden and flower seeds were sold in bulk, by the ounce.

Mr. Winning died in 1976 and Mrs. Winning died in 1977.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 1

RESTAURANTS

The first restaurant and bakery was built in 1883 just north of the Dakota House by H.P. Merrill. By August it was sold to William Lenham who leased it to M.F. Skinner. In 1887 Henry Retzlaff purchased the business and ran it along with his hotel for a number of years.

E.C. Ward ran his Farmers Home Restaurant on Lenham Avenue. In 1887 he sold it to Emil Marquardt who moved the building in 1892 across the block to Burrell

Avenue (73-10). Here he operated the Farmers' Home Restaurant for years, changing the name of his restaurant and confectionery to Marquardt's Palace of Sweets about 1900. During the 1920's Emil Marquardt retired, leaving the business in charge of his son Otto. Marquardt's remained in that location until 1929 when a fire burned out a section of stores on the block, including the Palace of Sweets. Otto operated the restaurant in a small building (60-18) across the street for a short time, while a new brick building was being erected by Knut and Mandius Bolstad. The Palace of Sweets again moved back to the old location and was run there until about 1945. Marquardts left town for a few years, returning to Cooperstown in the later 1940's. They operated a restaurant in the Old Perchert building (59-18) and by the early 1950's Marquardt's restaurant was located in the Lende building (73-13) across the street east from the present Coachman Inn. They ran that for a short time and then retired.

Otto Perchert and family arrived in Cooperstown in January of 1892. Perchert, a brother-in-law of Marquardt, was a stonemason by trade. By April Perchert had moved into the building formerly occupied by Miss Emma Henry's Millinery Shop (59-18). Here he and his wife opened up their restaurant, running the business until 1895.

In 1905 O.E. Sommers and George Van Kleek opened the Hub Restaurant in the old Perchert building. Later that year Van Kleek became sole owner. The Van Kleek family ran the restaurant for two years. Other occupants of that building have been: Lewis Walters Tin Shop, H.H. Hanson Shoe Shop, Otto Marquardt's Restaurant, Frank Smith's Barber Shop and Bill Skjolden's Griggs County Mutual Office. A new building was erected in 1976 and is still occupied by Griggs County Mutual.

Other early restaurants and owners have included: Mrs. Lloyd's Restaurant, Ole Olson's Restaurant, the Germania House by Fred Schmidt (59-15), Frank Buck and Tom Carver, Model Restaurant by Alex Iverson and Theodore LaForest, Reier Anderson's Restaurant and Pool Hall 1893-1918 (74-10), Peder Johnson's Restaurant 1892-96 (74-7), T.O. Torgerson's Restaurant (74-7) later owned by P.K. Moe, J.H. Wilson, Chris Olson and P.J. Tang.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 199

NEWELL HOUSE

John Syverson began building the Newell House hotel in August of 1896 completing it by September of 1898. The Newell House was named in honor of Dr. G.F. Newell, a civil war veteran. It is situated on the site where Newell's first drugstore stood in 1883, the corner of Lenham and Tenth.

The hotel contained twenty bedrooms upstairs, a spacious dining room, office, kitchen, parlor and other rooms downstairs.

P.M. Johnson purchased the hotel in 1898. Other people who leased or managed the Newell before 1900 were: Henry Blocker, Mrs. M.E. Percival, John P. Blocker, Shue and Parker.

In May of 1904, Syverson had bought back the hotel. He sold it to Joe Isreal later in 1904, and D.J. Campbell leased the hotel in November when it became known as the Arcade. Since that time the Newell House has also been known as: The Andrews Hotel, Commercial Hotel, Baldwin Hotel and the Rebecca Home.

In 1918, during the flu epidemic the city council designated the hotel as a hospital, known as the Andrews Hospital.

Mathilda Baldwin, who later was Mrs. Guy Cannon, owned it for many years. The Baldwin Hotel was purchased in 1954 by Alfred and Hilda Rebecca Rusten. It was run as the Rebecca Retirement Home by their daughter and son-in-law, Ruby and Gerald Kimbrell until about the time the new Griggs County Nursing Home opened in 1971.

The building has remained vacant since that time and was purchased by Duane Anderson about 1980.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 2

OPERA HOUSE

Emil Marquardt built his opera house in November of 1901. It was located in Block 74, Lots 20 and 21, about where the Coachman Inn Motel is now located. At the time the opera house was being built, it was expected to accommodate 200 people comfortably. A stage was built at the rear and a raised platform built for the musicians. By the spring of 1903, Marquardt had decided to build an addition to the Opera House and put in a new drop curtain and scenery.

The first dance at the new Opera House was held November 28, 1901. In December of 1901, "Ingemar," billed as one of the greatest plays of modern times, was played by Mr. Sanford Lodge and Company. Beattie Brothers were among the first to bring in their moving pictures to the Opera House about 1905.

The Sons of Norway purchased the building about 1930. The City of Cooperstown took over the Opera House in 1943. They sold it to the American Legion in 1948.

Throughout the years the building had been used for a variety of community functions including roller skating, adult and teen dances, revival meetings, dramatic and theatrical productions, besides being used as a meeting hall for the Sons of Norway, and later the American Legion.

The American Legion sold the building in 1952 to David Eslinger and Alfred Tenneson. Part of the Opera House building was moved to the Tenneson farm (present farm-site of Allen Hoverson, Sr.) near Sutton, North Dakota and the other part to the Eslinger farm (present farm-site of Emil Eslinger) west of Hannaford, North Dakota.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 200

OLGAARD PLUMBING

Swen S. Olgaard lived and worked in Cooperstown 65 years, from 1906 until his death, at age 86, in 1971. Among other things, he worked as a mechanic and plumber and was in an automobile dealership and served four terms as sheriff of Griggs County. For the greater part of 45 years, his main occupation was the plumbing and heating business. He and his wife, the former Hilma Erickson were parents of five sons. The youngest, Kenneth, went into partnership with his father after World War 11 and continued the Olgaard Plumbing business until his death in 1981. He held a master plumber's license. Oswald Olgaard, second son of the Swell Olgaards, also occasionally worked in the family plumbing business.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 200

PALACE HOTEL

The Palace was a spacious three-story hotel built by the Cooperstown Townsite Company early in the winter of 1883 at a cost of \$21,000. The architectural beauty was constructed with a front of 75 feet and on two streets, 150 foot of frontage in all, the shape of a square angle.

The main entrance was on the southeast corner. From the entrance of the hotel, the office was on the right, ladies' lower parlor to the left, and the stairway ahead. The stairs were circular with expansion at both base and landing. The upper parlors and the halls into which the sleeping apartments opened were entered from the main landing. The halls ran to the north and west. The third story was reached from the first landing by a flight of circular stairs, at the top of which were two more halls, running the same as the lower ones.

The 42 rooms were large enough for two or three beds during the crowded season and could accommodate as many as 250 people if necessary.

On the ground floor the 20'x 28' dining room was located near the west end, the billiard room was entered by a hallway from the office, or directly from Tenth Street, and the office was entered from the main hall or billiard room.

There was an arched coatroom, washroom, and a baggage room connected.

August 17, 1883, the "Palace" first opened its doors to the public. It was operated by Mr. H.C. Fitch. The Palace was a lavish first-class hotel and had the reputation of being the best hotel in North Dakota.

Other managers of the hotel from 1888 to 1892 were: A. L. Bowden, John Pashley, Elmer Smith, C.C. McDonald, the Arneson Sisters, A. Haskell and J.A. McCulloch.

F.J. Stone purchased the Palace in May of 1893. Through the years, rooms in the hotel were used by various salesmen to display and sell their goods, a tailor shop, barbershops, dentist and doctor offices.

The Palace was located on the corner of Burrell and Tenth Street. It was torn down in 1924.

The Palace Motors was built on that site by Bert Parsons and C.S. Christiansen in 1928. It was later known as Main Motors. At various times was owned and operated by Abe Thime, Otto Rebhahn, Reynold Retzlaff, Carrol Torgerson, Gerald Davison and Bill Lyche. The Sheyenne Vocational School owned the building until it was purchased by the Sheyenne Tooling Company, the present owner.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 201

SALOONS AND PROHIBITION

"Allen Pinkerton moved his claim shanty into town and another 'club' now exists," reported the *Courier* March 30, 1883. This is the first evidence of a saloon in Cooperstown.

By mid-April, Pinkerton had bought the newly built but not yet occupied building of the *Courier* editor for his saloon located on the corner of Burrell and Ninth, present site of First State Bank.

Early in 1883, Gillespie and Blow were the proprietors of a sample and billiards store first located on Roberts, Block 59, Lot 12. By August of 1884 the building was moved to Burrell Avenue west of the Palace.

Jackson and Knudson built a two-story 24'x 40' business structure in May of 1883 on the corner facing north on Lenham and Tenth. Here they carried on the saloon business,

until 1886. For a couple of years the building was used for a school while the school was closed in a legal dispute. The building also became a community social hall at that time.

After much objection by Temperance people, a county vote was taken to determine whether saloons should be allowed in Cooperstown. The results were "Yes", 242 votes; "No", 110 votes. The County Commissioners issued the first liquor licenses in June of 1883 to Gillespie and Blow, Robert Pinkerton and Grant (aka Pinkerton and Shue), and Jackson and Knutson. Other licenses issued were to H.C. Fitch of the Palace November 21, 1883 and to Henry Retzlaff of the Union House April 7, 1884.

Griggs County voted saloons out November 8, 1887, but had been kept without them since January of 1886 by the refusal of the County Commissioners to issue licenses, and so continued until North Dakota became a state with prohibition in its constitution.

After the saloons closed down some of the proprietors continued with billiard halls and poolrooms, many being closed down from time to time as they were illegally selling intoxicating "soft" drinks.

About 1890, druggists were issued permits to sell liquor for medical purposes. Many people were "not feeling well" in those years. The alcohol lamp of the era also provided an excuse to purchase "The White Man's Burden".

Throughout the years of prohibition, there were problems with the "blind pigs", then the "bootleggers", stills, and the home brewers. During those times legal steps had to be taken locally, so establishments were closed down, people were thrown in jail and penalized for selling the illegal beverage. The not-so-legal steps taken were when ladies of the households decided they could put a stop to the "saloons who were taking the money needed for food and necessities". In some places women organized and marched into saloons using hatchets and would wreck them. Though the temperance movement was strong here, no such tactics were recorded.

During the 1890's Cooperstown practiced the Original Package rule, whereby the state could not prohibit a liquor dealer from importing liquor for resale in original packages. In October of 1897, little square boxes were being sent C.O.D. labeled hardware, vinegar or cough medicine to the depot. Here the addressees could pick up their wholesale whiskey consignments. After some time the local W.C.T.U. issued an injunction on the depot agent, R.M. Cowan, stopping some of the bootlegging.

Prohibition ended in the United States with the repeal amendment, and in 1933 the City began to issue beer licenses. Hard liquor was permitted in 1936 and an off-sale license was granted to the newly established municipal store.

The old saloon buildings soon had new owners and other businesses were established in them. Mr. Jackson's building was sold in June of 1893 to the Stringer Brothers, who moved it to Burrell Avenue between Colson's and Hazard's "Bargain Store" and Peder Johnson's restaurant.

The Stringer Brothers used the building as a harness shop. Peder Rousteun and Syver Koloen operated a poolroom and lunch counter for a time after 1896. In 1897, C.J. Tang remodeled the interior of the old Jackson building and operated a lunch counter. This building was used for grocery business and taverns for many years. Its last business was "Ros's Tavern". The building was razed in 1958 by Clair Wright, who used the lumber for a building project.

In 1979 the garden club made a mini-park on the site.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 201

SHOEMAKERS

Cooperstown's merry cobbler, E.C. Ward came in September of 1883 setting up his shoe shop in Whidden's Store. Other early shoemakers were H.L. Walen, Charles Hall and M. Simenson. The shoe shops were set up in barbershops, hotels and various business houses where a small nook was available to rent.

October of 1894, H. "Shoe" Hanson of Mayville opened up his shoe shop in the old *Independent* building. He moved his business and sometimes his buildings to several different places through the years. The later years he had his shoe shop in the old Perchert building (59-18) Hanson retired in 1940 when he sold out his stock to Nels Sandvik located a few doors west.

Rasmus Wagle came to Cooperstown about 1908 first working as a carpenter and later had a job at Stringer's Harness Shop. Wagle opened his shoe repair shop in 1909 and remained in that small shop until 1938. He was located in Block 74 the north half of Lot 24, on the present location of the Coachman Inn. Wagle had learned the shoe repair business in Norway and did all work by hand. The shop building was later occupied by Olson's Restaurant and Orpha's Cafe.

Nels Sandvik first came to Cooperstown in 1931 when he worked for Stringer's Harness Shop. He left Cooperstown in 1935, returning in 1937. He operated a shoe repair at Stringer's for about two years. In 1939 he moved across the street to a small building (59-15) formerly occupied by John Berg's Farm, Cattle and Business Office. Sandvik bought out the stock of H. Hanson in 1940 and remained in that same small building on Burrell until about 1967 when he moved the building to his residential lot in the northwest part of Cooperstown. There he operated his shoe repair business until his death in 1972.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 202

STEVENS AND ENGER

The second oldest business house of Cooperstown was temporarily quartered in the Odegard and Thompson store in January of 1883. The hardware firm of Julius Stevens and Anton Enger built their store, 25'x 50', two stories high, on Block 73, Lot 5 in April of 1883.

After the death of Julius Stevens in 1889, Mr. Enger continued the hardware business until April of 1902, when he sold the store to N.J. Evenson, a hardware merchant, and I.D. Allen jeweler.

Other early hardware and tins-hops included A.N. Adams Tin-shop of 1883. He sold his small store to Greenleese and Company in 1884, but continued in hardware business until March of 1889. Merrill and Luce had a hardware firm in 1883.

STROMME-GRABY DRAYLINE

Olof Stromme came to Cooperstown in 1904 from Zumbrota, Minnesota. Stromme and Arthur Graby from Hortonville, New York purchased the dray-line about 1910.

During World War I and later years, Stromme and Graby spent long hours and days taking their sled and buggy teams for the local doctors on farm calls.

The dray-line provided ice⁷ for the community up through the 40's. In the early years the ice was hauled by horse and bobsleds from the Sheyenne River and stored in the icehouse across the tracks.

In the earlier years, Saturdays were a busy day at the livery barn. Horses were boarded and the sleds were parked while the farmers conducted their business in town.

Mr. Stromme was well known in the area as a horse buyer. They were not only for his own use but he often shipped carloads of horses out by train.

The dray-line office closed when Stromme became ill in 1948 and he died in 1949. Graby returned to New York in 1962 and died in 1963. The original transfer office is located on the Vogt property west of Cooperstown. Bill Detwiller and Marvin Walen bought the trucks and continued the dray business.

The Stromme and Graby business occupied the northwest quarter of Block 75 at the corner of 7th and Burrell, now part of the Wil-Rich plant.

The partners bought the business from Ben Killeran, who had bought the livery stable from Al Shue, one of Cooperstown's first businessmen. The barn was moved from its original site where the Masonic Temple now stands.

ROMNESS COUPLE MARRIED IN PUBLIC CEREMONY AT SYVERSON'S HENRY SKRAMSTAD, ALICE OLSON WED

In a public ceremony read by Rev. C.L. Cooley of the First Presbyterian Church, Miss Alice Olson and Henry Skramstad were united in marriage at Syverson's store at 11 o'clock Wednesday morning, June 6.

The bride and groom are both residents of Romness Township. Mrs. Skramstad being the daughter of Mrs. Martin Olson while the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Hans Skramstad.

The wedding ceremony was performed on a balcony landing in the store while a large number of friends watched from the main floor and from the balcony above. Pink and white honeysuckles and trailing birch were used in decorating for the affair.

Miss May Christopherson attended the bride while best man was Arthur Johnson. The wedding march was played on a Victor Electrola.

Following the ceremony the newly wedded couple was presented with a bedroom set as a wedding present, which had been offered by the management of Syverson and Sons to the couple that would be married in the store.

Mr. and Mrs. Skramstad are at present making their home with the bride's parents in Romness, not having fully completed their plans for the future.

(From an account in the *Griggs County Sentinel - Courier*. The wedding took place June 6, 1928).

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 203

SUNNY SLOPE DAIRY

The Sunny Slope Dairy was owned and operated by the James Hazard family from about 1926-1940. James said they sold milk to McDonalds Bakery and Restaurant; they also delivered ten gallons of milk to the P.K. Moe hotel every morning. Milk was 10¢ a quart and 2 quarts for 15¢. When the Hazard boys were old enough to carry the milk, they did the delivering. Bruce said his favorite customer was Mrs. Ayrea because she always gave him cookies.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 203

SYVERSON AND COMPANY

July of 1884 Syverson and Company had bought the store of Nelson and Langlie in Block 73, Lot 6, for a general mercantile store, and early in 1887, bought out the store of Odegard and Thompson already occupied by them as a furniture store. They connected these two stores with an archway and operated the two businesses as one large store.

By August of 1892, Mr. Syverson decided to build a larger store for his increasing business. He bought more lots to the east and moved the first store to the rear for a warehouse. The basement of his new block was built the first year and the store was completed in 1894.

The interior of the store was finished throughout with maple flooring. It had a balcony on two sides, one where the bookkeeper worked, and the other where furniture was first displayed. The store contained a grocery department, furniture, shoe and clothing department.

The firm continued in business until 1929. The Syverson Block still stands and now contains Westfalls' Cooper Crafts.

The store building stood vacant for a few years after the Syverson Store closed. Except for an occasional dance or poultry show, it was unused until 1935, when it was remodeled, partitioned into three sections, and new stores opened. The east corner

section was a grocery store. Carl Moothart and Bill Swanke opened the C and B market in October of 1935, Cooperstown's fifth grocery store at the time. They were later joined by Bernard Amble. The three men's wives were sisters. After World War 11 the store was sold to F.H. Carter and Gerald Davison and renamed C and D. Carter left after a short time and Mr. and Mrs. Davison continued in the market until 1952, when they went into the automotive business with Carrol Torgerson. Irvin Korst was the next grocer in the building, followed by Perry Haaland and then Einar Overby.

The center section was home to variety stores, first Kelly's then from 1938 to 1960 by Sheldon and Edith Gorseth, who sold their business, in 1960, to Maxine Torgerson. She moved out of the building in 1965.

Dates are harder to find for the Farmers Supply Store which occupied the west side of the building and closed about 1950. Carl Brudwick was the manager. An automotive supply business, managed by Harry Reese, was the next tenant. H.E. Everson Company was the successor.

Maurice and Judy Haugen ran a combined grocery and restaurant business in the building in the mid 1960's.

Russell Edland later had an engraving business in the building.

A cold storage locker plant was opened in the south end of the building in the late 1940's. As far as can be determined, Wally Spooner operated it first. Later it was operated by James Rich and afterward Maynard Norgard.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 203

TELEPHONES

The telephone was a new invention of the 1870's. There was a bit of good advertising of how up to date the new town of Cooperstown was when on December 14, 1883 Editor Stair wrote, "Some of our enterprising business men are joining issues and erecting a telephone line from the depot to the Palace Hotel." And by January 25, 1884 the Editor could boast, "Two telephones have just arrived in town and will be put into immediate operation. One wire will extend from the Palace to the depot, and the other from the Bank of Cooperstown to the Cooperstown Livery." By February 22, they were up and in working order.

In 1899, a telephone company was organized and headed by Messrs. Goff and Cole. By June they were setting poles and stringing wires. The first telephone office, or "Central" was located in T.E. Warner's office over Stevens and Engers Store. The first "Central" was a man, Andrew Patrick. At this time the exchange was local in town only, with no long distance connection.

By September of 1900, the long distance telephone poles were set up on Burrell on the south side. October 4, 1900, the *Courier* reported, "The long distance telephone people completed stringing wires to Cooperstown last Friday morning - the instrument and booth had not arrived, and when they get here we will be in direct communications with the outside world."

The Exchange was moved in July of 1901 to occupy the ground floor of the Von Blon's Photography Studio, known now as the Lende building.

The October 17, 1901 *Courier* reported that a phone line had been built between town and the Cooper farm and on May 22, 1902 one had been built to "Ranch 7". This was followed by a rapid extension of rural phone lines in every direction from Cooperstown.

The Griggs County Telephone Company was organized in November of 1906 and took over the business December 1. Mr. Goff was retained as the manager. By May of 1907, they had received their new switchboard and installed it in their new quarters over Peter E. Nelson's Hardware store in the office formerly occupied by Bartlett and Gladstone.

Harold Brown went to work for the telephone company in 1907 and later that year married Clara Francis. They moved to Binford where he was a combination man and Mrs. Brown operated the switchboard. By 1909, they had moved back to Cooperstown. Shortly afterward Mr. Brown resigned and later managed the McVile Company. Brown was rehired as manager of the company in 1913. In that year many rural lines to the east, south and northeast of town were sold to farmers groups and were switched by the company for many years. The last of these were bought back by the company approximately sixty years later.

In 1923, Mr. and Mrs. Brown purchased the company. In that same year the McHenry Telephone Company became a part of the Griggs County system.

Many improvements have been made over the years. As early as 1926, several aerial lines were replaced by underground cable. After that same year the office and switchboard were moved to the upstairs front rooms of the old First National Bank building. The office remained there until dial service was installed. The company then moved into a new building at the rear of the bank lot.

Binford first had dial service in 1940, Cooperstown in 1942, and McHenry in 1957. In the sixties and seventies more aerial cables were replaced with underground cables, and now the rural system is completely underground.

New buildings containing the new equipment were completed in Cooperstown in 1971, Binford and McHenry in 1974.

In 1974, subscribers of the Griggs County Telephone Company had available to them direct distance dialing (DDD) extended area service (EAS), serving the three exchanges.

In 1945, Willis Nilson and his wife Lucille, daughter of Harold Browns, came to Cooperstown and started working for the company.

After the death of Harold Brown in 1953 his son, Gordon of Enderlin became president of the company. At the present time Gordon Brown and his son, Ray are managing the Moore and Liberty Telephone Company in Enderlin. Harold Brown, son of Gordon Brown, is manager of the Western Telephone Company at Faulkton, South Dakota.

Since the death of Clara M. Brown in 1976, Mr. and Mrs. Nilson are managing the Griggs County Telephone Company.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 204

THOMPSON AND ODEGARD

The first store on Burrell Avenue was built in January of 1883. The "Pioneer Store" was built by Knud Thompson and John T. Odegard, a building 24' x 64' located on Block 73, Lot 7. John Syverson bought into the business in 1884. Mr. Odegard was a brother of Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Syverson, who were twins.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 205

UNION HOUSE

Henry H. Retzlaff's hotel, built in 1883, was described as a snug hostelry, a 24' x 40' two-story building, large enough to accommodate about forty people. It contained a billiards and bar room until prohibition in Griggs County began in 1886. The Union House was conveniently located on Burrell (59-13). The rates were \$1.25 per day.

Reier Anderson ran the hotel in 1891. In 1892 Retzlaff sold the hotel to Leonard Flick. It was managed by Sam Clark in 1896 and H.J. Maurer in 1897. F.A. Mayer opened a furniture store in the building in 1898. About 1900 W.C. Jameson and Arnt Olson had their general store there until 1905 when their new building was finished. The building later housed a variety store by Edward Guttormson. The Farmers and Merchants Bank was built on that same site in 1918.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 206

WHIDDEN STORE

Whidden Brothers of Nova Scotia came to Cooperstown in May of 1882. They built themselves a commodious store building and started a general mercantile business in April of 1883. Their first building faced south on Lenham Avenue located on Block 74, Lots 16 and 17, east of Lima's Blacksmith Shop. It was described as a picturesque old pile, built like a feudal castle full of corners and semi-detached additions and a general lack of oneness.

By 1886, when Burrell Avenue was becoming the main business street they moved to the north side of the same block buying out the stock and building of Bowden and Buck. The old building on Lenham was used later as a schoolroom and a rooming house.

Whidden Cash Store was closed out in June of 1893 and sold to Haskell and Patrick. By October C.T. Whidden was once again in business, purchasing the stock and building formerly owned by Colson and Hazard. G.C. Koyle was associated with C.T. Whidden in 1902. The Whiddens were in business for about 20 years and located in several different places, including the present day Cooper Theatre and former Stones Cafe building, about 1905.

March 1, 1895 Hard times prices at Whiddens:

Tomatoes, per can	10¢
Corn	5¢

String Beans	5¢
2# Good Table Strawberries	10¢
2# Table Gooseberries.....	10¢
Heavy unbleached sheeting	5¢ per yard
Good serviceable calico	3¢ per yard
Splendid quality outing flannel	5¢ per yard

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 206

Cooperstown Businesses in 1982

AL'S BARBER SHOP

Soon after Cooperstown was platted, block 73, lot 8 was bought from R.C. Cooper by Emanuel Kiser in 1883. In 1884 Charles Jorgensen bought the lot and built a land office' John Jorgenson, a clerk of district court, purchased the building in the same year. In 1886 George Clark owned the building. The first barbershop was put in the building in 1896 and for most of that time since the building has been a barbershop. Silas Black barbered in the shop from 1896-1915. Paul Paulson purchased the shop in 1915 and was in it until 1923. Art Reiersen owned the shop from 1924-1930. Paulson and Reiersen were also barbers.

In 1930 Alma Lindgren and Mathilda Lindgren opened a millinery shop in the building after their store was destroyed by fire in 1929. In 1935 William J. Nelson re-opened a barbershop. Bill purchased the shop in 1940 and owned it until 1966 when Dennis Olafson bought the shop and barbered until 1970. Allen Douville then purchased the shop in 1970 and has been the barber until the present date.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 207

ALMKLOV'S PHARMACY

Almklov's Pharmacy is one of the oldest drug and pharmaceutical enterprises in North Dakota and for 89 years remained under the management of direct family descendants of the founder, Mr. S. Almklov.

Mr. Almklov purchased the store from Dr. Newell in July of 1888, during territorial days. Consequently, Mr. Almklov and his drug store were among the first to be licensed in the state of North Dakota.

The first store was a wood, frame building and served until 1906 when a fire damaged a part of the building. Mr. Almklov then decided to build a new, larger store. The old wooden building was moved into the street (9th street) and continued to serve as a drug store until the present cement block building was completed.

This building was erected by local workmen using cement blocks fabricated in Hannaford and hauled to Cooperstown by horses and wagons.

The new building was furnished with new fixtures and equipment and the business occupied the new quarters about August 1, 1906.

The frame building then vacated was moved to the north part of town in block 9 (about lots 7-8-9) and converted to a residence.

Mr. Almklov remained in active management of the pharmacy until 1935 when he suffered a heart attack and retired.

During his nearly 50 years in the drug business he developed many private formulae. The best known and widely used was the X-E-M Salve which was sold nationwide as well as in Canada, Norway and Sweden.

Upon the retirement of Mr. Almklov the business was continued as a family partnership with Dr. L. Almklov and a grandson, Norman Hoel in charge of the operation.

When Dr. Almklov retired and moved to California in 1951, Norman Hoel assumed management. He and his wife Marie bought the business from the partnership. The store was enlarged and remodeled. Norman and Marie Hoel continued to operate the pharmacy as the third generation link in this pioneer establishment.

In 1977, after 47 years with the firm the pharmacy was sold to Loren and Leon Paczkowski.

Norman and Marie, now retired, continue to live in Cooperstown, in the house once owned by his grandfather, Mr. S. Almklov.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 207

ANDERSON FLORAL

The first Cooperstown floral shop was opened in November 1966 by Marion and Gilman Olson. The building was purchased from Ann Thime and had housed grocery stores and butcher shops. Olsons sold their business to Robert Gowan of Minot in May of 1976.

Joyce and Oliver Anderson purchased the building and business in 1977. Joyce had been an employee of Olsons during the time they were in business. Their son Richard, a student at the University of North Dakota, works part-time at the store. Their daughter Julie graduated with a degree in nursing from the University of North Dakota.

Andersons have a Hallmark and Gift Shop next door to the original flower shop. They purchased the building in 1976 from Gary Olson. This building was originally owned by Frank Smith, a barber. The Soil Conservation Office, Chiropractic Clinic and Griggs County Mutual Insurance were also located in the building at other times.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 208

ANDY'S DAIRY AND CAFE

Andy and JoAnn Hagle purchased the Griggs County Creamery from Elroy Lee November 1, 1964. They operated it until it was destroyed by fire on September 21, 1970. They then moved to the former Post Office building and opened a Pizza Shop in conjunction with the dairy business.

In 1973 the pizza shop was converted to a cafe featuring full meals and has been in continuous operation since that time.

The dairy business features a full line of Cass Clay dairy products, a retail route and a wholesale delivery route.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 208

BENDERS LP GAS, INC.

Benders L.P. Gas, Inc. is operated by Jim Bender and family. (Mary, Steve and Debbie) The business was incorporated in 1968.

Jim started in business working for his dad in 1955. Paul Bender worked in the business from 1970 to 1976. Richard Bender also worked during summers and weekends in the business. Paul and Richard are brothers of Jim Bender.

The business was started in Cooperstown in June of 1947 by Ralph and Agnes Bender. It was first named Propane Gas and Appliance Company.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 208

THE COACHMAN INN

The Coachman Inn was built by Clarence Pramhus in 1965-66. It was managed by him and then Earl and Mary Cross until Duane Miller purchased it in May of 1968. It was closed from 1970 until Don Page bought it in July of 1971. Apache Corporation owned it from February of 1974 with Glenn Flatt and Elizabeth Hanson, and later Glenn Flatt alone managing until September 1, 1978, when it was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Kjell Haaland, the present owners.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 208

COAST-TO-COAST STORE

In 1940 the Coast-to-Coast Hardware Store was purchased by Barney E. Bakken from Mr. Wilson. It was owned by him until 1963 when his son, Roger and daughter-in-law Myrleen, purchased the business.

On January 31, 1976 the Coast-To-Coast Store moved across the street into the former J.C. Penney Store building and was completely remodeled. Previously the store had been in the building across the street now occupied by Patricia's Dress Shop.

At the present time, the store is run by Roger, Myrleen and their son, Dan Bakken, who joined the business in 1975.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 208

COOPER CLEANERS

Thomas Irgens and L.G. Olson, owners of the Model Clothing Company, opened a cleaning plant in the rear of their store.

Peter Overby, dry cleaner and tailor, was a long-time employee of the establishment. Dry cleaning was done in a building across the alley to the south. Sometime in the 1940's the cleaners moved into the building east of the Model Clothing, and the two buildings were connected by a doorway. Peter Overby's daughter, Alyce (Lura), who worked there for a time, remembers that Christine Wagle did alterations. Jim Donahue was another employee of the cleaning business for a time. The cleaning business was sold to Richard Engbrecht about 1949.

Among the employees of the shop at the time he owned it were Lydia Solfield, Helga Soma and Sarah Sandvik. The cleaning plant across the alley was destroyed by fire in 1958. In 1959, Engbrecht sold his business to Walt Kerbaugh, who built an addition to the rear of the building and installed new equipment. Mrs. Solfield and Mrs. Soma continued to work for the establishment.

The building was destroyed by fire in November of 1965, at the time the hotel burned. A new building was built a block east, and the cleaners moved into it in March of 1966.

Kerbaugh sold the building to Grand Forks Federal Savings and Loan and closed out the business in July of 1974.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 208

COOPER CRAFTS

Cooper Crafts started as a small ceramic shop in 1973 under the ownership of Edward L. and Sandra M. Westfall. They poured most of their own green-ware for the shop and held painting classes during the week. They started pouring green-ware for other shops, also selling flowerpots to floral shops and other ceramic pieces for gift shops. Cooper Crafts quickly grew into a wholesale outlet for the eastern half of North Dakota.

During the Bicentennial of the United States in 1976 they started decorating plates with the names of the towns printed in gold on the front. They received many requests to do custom designed plates for the anniversaries of churches and towns. The orders grew in number as people talked about their work and by word of mouth they grew to the point where they discontinued all ceramic operations and devoted all their time to decorating plates, bells, mugs, and ashtrays.

The decorating they do is all custom designed. The artwork is drawn by local artists and the screen-printing is done by Mr. Westfall. The design is printed in china paints and then fired to over 1300 degrees Fahrenheit to make the work permanent.

The business is located in the brick Syverson Block building at Tenth Street and Burrell Avenue.

Sandra is the daughter of Dr. R.A. Allen, and the granddaughter of the late I.D. Allen, who had a jewelry store here for many years.

COOPER DRAY

Cooper Dray, a business which has its roots in the I.E. Mills livery barn of 1891, is owned by Dennis Paintner, who bought it in 1968 from Oscar Hogie. At that time an important part of the work was hauling freight from the depot to the stores. There was also coal to haul. At present the services offered by the dray include garbage collection from homes and business places in Cooperstown, Binford, Jessie and Sutton, and a few farms; maintenance of a sanitary landfill; snow removal, demolition, excavating: a sort of lack of all trades business.

Oscar Hogie, who sold the business to Paintner, bought it in 1964 after the death of Gordon Olson. Olson had owned it a short time. He had bought it from Maynard Freitag, who went out of the business of local draying and continued with hauling freight from Fargo doing business as Valley Truck Line. Freitag had purchased the dray from Bill Detwiller in 1957.

Detwiller and his brother-in-law, Marvin Walen, bought the Stromme and Graby transfer business in 1948, from the surviving partner, Art Graby.

At that time they had the contract to haul mail from the depot to the post office. The other work they did was mostly hauling freight, coal, and some trash. There was also furniture to move, grain and gravel to haul.

He remembers that Ralph Chapman, Alfred Bailey and Oscar Bailey were also in the dray business at that time when people were still using a lot of coal.

Stromme and Graby and other earlier dray and livery businesses are mentioned in other articles.

COOPER MOTORS

In the fall of 1961, Mardell Grandalen bought the Busy Bee Garage from Vernon Fuglestad and changed the name to Cooper Motors.

He started selling and servicing used cars and trucks. Richard Therkelson worked with him from the beginning.

In 1962 he expanded to selling new cars, too. The old shop soon became too small so he built a new shop across the street in 1963.

In the period from 1963 to 1968, several other men worked for him. Some of them included: Roger Hanson, Arnold Helm, Richard Helm, Bennie Eide, and a few others who worked part time.

In 1968, he started selling sporting goods in addition to the cars. The sporting goods included boats, motors, and other equipment.

By 1972 he was selling sporting goods only. To boating equipment he added snowmobiles and hunting equipment.

In 1974 motorcycles were added as the transportation costs were increasing and people were looking for economical ways of transportation.

After Mardell's death in December of 1978, Cooper Motors is owned by his wife, Audrey and two sons, Morris and Larry. Larry is the present manager.

The original shop building was the first store built by Thompson and Odegaard in 1882. It has since been torn down and replaced with a steel building used as a warehouse for the Cooper Motors business.

COOPER SUPER VALU

Larry and Doris Pavlacky bought the Cooper Super Valu in February of 1979 and changed the name to Larry's Super Valu.

Pavlackys bought the Super Valu from Louie and Jan Stetz who had owned it from 1976 to 1979. Prior to that, Stetz had been a partner in the business with Earl Anderson for eight years.

Cooper Super Valu originated in 1963 after Erick Berdal built and leased that part of the building to Anderson and Bob Bundy. Bundy remained in business until selling out to Stetz in 1968.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 209

COOPER THEATRE

November 19, 1894, C.T. and Mary Whidden purchased the lot where the theater is now located. Later, they erected a building which housed the Whidden Clothing Store. In December of 1912, P.K. Moe and Knut Bolstad purchased the store and remodeled it into a theater. Both live productions and movies were shown. There was an orchestra pit in front of the stage which is still there.

There was a Wurlitzer player piano which was used during showing of silent movies. The first talking picture was shown May 22, 1930, and prices went up to 50¢ and 25¢. The Vitaphone system was the first kind installed, which was sound on record synchronized with the film. Some time in the mid-thirties the sound on film was put in. Different projectors and sound systems have been installed in later years.

The establishment went by the name of the Strand Theatre until 1972. In May of 1920, the Theatre Corporation of Cooperstown was formed. Through the years, several people were involved in the corporation, including Cliff and Edith Tang, who in 1946 acquired all of the shares. The Tangs continued to operate the theater until shortly before Cliff's death in 1967.

Bob and Jovone' Mack operated the theater for a short period of time during 1969 and 1970.

In December of 1972, the Industrial Development committee obtained the building in behalf of the non-profit Cooper Theatre, Inc. Original members of the corporation were: Roger Bakken, Francis Dalbec, Dennis Fossum, Bert Hoffman, Kenny Hagen and Dennis Paintner. The Cooper Theatre is presently operated by the Howard Brash, James Bender, Dennis Fossum, Kenny Hagen, Rick Larson, Roger Nelson, and Gil Fletschock and Dennis Paintner families.

The Louie Stetz family and Garfield Rasmussen family were involved in the theater for a time.

In 1981, Stones' Cafe next door was torn down and the west side of the theater had new siding put on. Bathrooms were also installed at that time.

The theater is still operating on a non-profit and volunteer basis.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 209

COOPERSTOWN FARMER'S ELEVATOR COMPANY

The Farmers' Elevator Company of Cooperstown, North Dakota, was incorporated in 1917 and has been the major grain market in Cooperstown ever since.

The firm is one of the larger Gold Label and Peavey feed dealers in the area and with the installation of a 100 horsepower hammer-mill does custom grinding for a thirty-mile radius for cattle and hog feeders.

Bernard Zimprich is the President

Gene Loge, Vice President

William Hazard, Secretary. Other directors are: David Sola, Donald Retzlaff, Donald Dahl, and Gerald Dahl. The elevator has been managed by Norman Heisz since 1952 and has been paying a dividend every year. The elevator has increased its storage capacity from 42,000 bushels in 1917 to 300,000 in 1975.

Other employees are Magnus Haaland and Steve Johnson.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 210

COOPERSTOWN HARDWARE

Ray and Barbara Walker bought Cooperstown Hardware from Virgil and Julie Sorlien in July of 1981 and in September they moved the business into a different building.

Cooperstown Hardware had its origin in 1932, when Hammer Condry Company deeded to Cooperstown Hardware Company Lot 21, Block 59. Henry G. Hammer, whose father, Halvor P. Hammer, was a founder of the Hammer Condry Company, was in hardware business until 1966, when he and his wife Lois sold the business to Eugene Paintner.

Aldo Iverson bought the store in 1968, and sold it to Virgil and Julia Sorlien ten years later.

After the Walkers bought the business they moved it two doors east to the corner of Ninth and Burrell. The building, constructed by Lawrence brothers in 1886, was known as the Concrete Store, and in the course of time it has housed the Jack and Jill grocery store, the Red Owl grocery store, Thompson and McDermott Company, a bank.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 210

COOPERSTOWN HOUSING AUTHORITY ORGANIZATION

The Cooperstown Housing Authority Committee was appointed by the City Council on December 14, 1970. Roy L. Solberg was appointed chairman. Other members were Robert Baker, Art Mathisen, Gordon Irwin and Agnes Vigesaa.

The 24-unit structure now referred to as the South Side Apartments was completed for occupancy in the spring of 1974. They were all one-bedroom apartments with electric heat and furnished with a stove and a refrigerator. They were to be considered low-income housing for the elderly with part of the rent subsidized by HUD, a Housing Agency of the Federal Government.

John Hovey, Myron Birkeland, James Williams and Ross Watson from New Rockford were the original developers and owners of the housing unit.

Present occupants of the unit are Marian Hogenson, Selma Rise, Myrtle Koloen, Nellie Johnson, Alfred Rusten, Alma Riste, Marie Dahlbom, Ruth Nelson, Mildred Brown, Jessie Yeager, Ellen Kopperud, Violet Chapmen, Art Monson, Mr. & Mrs. Harry Solfield, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Honaker, Amanda Johnson, Irene Arneson, Mr. & Mrs. Conrad Bork, Melvin Melby, Bertha Heisz, and Oscar Bailey, 1. Lahren, B.C. Bue and Tillie Hare.

Carrie Hanson was hired as the first administrator in 1974. She was followed by Solveig Haaland. Lorraine Sandvik is the present administrator.

Gehard Basol is chairman of the present committee. Serving with him are Roy L. Solberg, Edith Hildre, Agnes Bender and Allen Hoverson.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 210

COOPERSTOWN MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

North Dakota had been a dry state for many years. The sale of liquor was authorized by an initiated measure adopted at the general election in November of 1936. As soon as that act became effective, the City of Cooperstown established a municipal liquor store and operated the off-sale establishment. The Cooperstown Municipal Association was incorporated April 17, 1946. The incorporators or first board of directors and officers were: S.F. Gorseth, Edwin Reiten, M. Mosher, and M.W. Duffy as members. According to the Articles of Incorporation, the purpose for which the association was formed is to support the local hospital and other public organizations. The first manager hired was

M.N. Johnson. In 1949 the present building was purchased and on-sale was added to the store operation.

The manager's responsibilities have been shared by E. Zutter (two different periods), Russell Bergen, George Perchert, and Bob Bunde. The present manager is Gordon Knutson. Since June of 1971, Edgar Multer, LPA, has served the association as their accountant.

Since the association was formed, a total of \$397,000.00 has been donated to local groups as follows: Griggs County Hospital and Nursing Home, \$180,944.00

City of Cooperstown, \$97,934.00

Cooperstown Park Board, \$54,200.00

Griggs County Library, \$21,050.00

American Legion Junior Baseball Program, \$10,775.00

Cooperstown Municipal Golf Course, \$9,700.00

Griggs County Fair Board and Community Building, \$9,400.00

Other community projects, \$12,997.00

Direct monetary contributions are not the only way the association has helped the community. One of the investments in the community was made by purchasing and having a clinic building available for the incoming medical doctor.

The association has been a good neighbor in the Cooperstown community in sharing the tax burden at all levels of government, local, state, and federal. The greatest share of the taxes paid has been to the City of Cooperstown.

The present building was constructed in 1930 and was used as a restaurant before the liquor store moved into it. The first restaurant in the building was Marquardts.

The 1982 officers are:

Carrol Torgerson, president

Robert Allen, vice president

Clarence Sandvik, secretary-treasurer.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 210

COOPERSTOWN OIL COMPANY

Cooperstown Oil Company is owned and operated by Lyle Guscette. The bulk and filling station was bought by Mr. and Mrs. S.L. Lemna from Mr. Johnson in 1934 or 1935. The filling station was known as Phillip's 66.

The old tin building has been moved to Ed's Body Shop.

The long building was bought from Lonnie Rhodes. This building was originally owned by Leland and Alonzo Rhodes in the 1920's and 1930's. Peterson Biddick was in the east end of this building. Bruce Wright had a welding shop and general repair shop in the middle of the building.

The west side of the building was a fix-it shop run by Lonnie Rhodes, father of Maxine Rhodes Torgerson. Lonnie Rhodes also built snowmobiles called Snow-Sleds. These sleds had long heavy runners, wood and metal frames covered with muslin fabric and a lacquered finish, and airplane engine propellers in the back.

Lonnie Rhodes also operated a crude oil refinery for several years. He recycled oil of good quality.

Lemnas sold the filling station to Orris Reinhart in the fall of 1970. Orris added a car wash.

The bulk station, which is now located north of Farmers 011, was bought by Lyle Pfeifer in 1969. It was sold to Lyle Guscette in the fall of 1973.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 211

COUNTRY FRAME SHOP

James and Gretchen Hazard opened the doors of the Country Frame Shop October 31, 1980. The shop was to serve two purposes: first, to offer custom framing and matting services to local clientele, including stitchery, stretching and framing, oval and round glass and mat cutting, shadow boxes and other types of matting and framing; second, to promote, frame, sell and exhibit the Polish paper cuttings produced by Gretchen Hazard.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 211

CRANE-JOHNSON LUMBER COMPANY

Maynard Crane opened the first lumber plant on Griggs soil, in Cooperstown, March 1, 1883. It was one of the first business enterprises of the town.

Crane operated the business alone for almost a decade. In 1887, however, he had employed a farmer-settler from southern Nelson County, John E. Johnson, whose interest in the business was no whit less than Crane's. In 1896 Johnson became a partner in the business and the company was reorganized under the firm name of Crane and Johnson.

In 1890 Crane-Johnson, Inc. expanded further to Hannaford, North Dakota and set up a yard there under the management of Archie Sinclair. Twelve years later when the Sanborn, Cooperstown and Turtle Mountain Railway had been extended to McHenry another yard was established at that point and the manager's job was given to F.C. Potter of Sanborn. Potter was later brought to Cooperstown in 1907 and seven years later became general manager of the corporation, a position he held until his death in November 1935. Mr. Potter was also named vice-president upon the death of one of the original partners, John E. Johnson.

The corporation of Crane-Johnson Company, Inc. continued to expand its operations to include yards in many other communities. In 1920 the working capital was increased to \$250,000. The general office was moved to Fargo, North Dakota in 1932.

The Cooperstown Yard

In 1883 the original yard was established in Cooperstown by Maynard Crane. John E. Johnson joined the company and became a partner in 1896 and the company was reorganized under the name of Crane and Johnson.

Crane-Johnson Company, Inc. was formed as a result of a reorganization achieved in April of 1903 with a capital stock of \$100,000.00 by Maynard Crane, John E. Johnson, G.E. Maconnel and E.F. Crane.

F.C. Potter was appointed manager of the Cooperstown yard in 1907 and served in that capacity for seven years at which time he was made general manager for the firm.

A.K. Sorvik was the next manager and the Cooperstown yard continued to grow and improve. Jim Hovern succeeded Sorvik and served as manager until 1938.

In the spring of 1938 a new office was built onto the yard and was almost completed when a fire broke out June 10 and the entire yard was destroyed.

The company began to rebuild immediately and the new yard was completed and open for business August 27 the same year. Leonard Thorson was the manager of the new yard. At that time it was one of the most modern in North Dakota.

Leonard Thorson served as manager until 1946. He was then transferred to the Yard #2.

Ben H. Fink was brought in to replace Leonard Thorson as manager in 1946. Ben served as manager until 1967, when he retired.

Ted Sonderby took over as manager in 1967 and served until 1978. The Cooperstown yard was remodeled in 1970 and is the same today.

Bill Jandt took over as manager in the spring of 1978 and served for one year.

Arlie Strand then came to Cooperstown and has managed the yard to the present date. Working with Mr. Strand are Thomas Machart as Assistant Manager, Donald Arneson as truck driver, and Peggy Strand as part-time bookkeeper.

Next year, 1983, Crane-Johnson Lumber Company, Inc. will celebrate its 100th birthday.

Presently Crane-Johnson serves ten communities: Cooperstown, Enderlin, Fargo, Hope, Lidgerwood, Mayville and West Fargo in North Dakota and Hallock, Pelican Rapids and Perham in Minnesota.

Present Officers of the Company are: Lee Briggs, President

Dick Borkenhagen, Vice-President

Wylie Briggs, Secretary-Treasurer

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 211

D AND L CONCRETE

Doug Edland and Larry Reese began their first year of business in the spring of 1975 as a partnership doing concrete slabs. The following year they expanded into pouring concrete walls for basements, dairy barns, etc.

DAKOTA HOUSE

In the summer of 1981, the Griggs County Council on the Arts rented Dakota House from Alph Overby to use as its headquarters.

Dakota House is used mainly as a shop to serve as an outlet for the work of local artists and craftsmen (The Calico Cupboard), a collectible shop (The Pickle Crock), and a nearly new shop (The Bottom Drawer.)

All goods are on consignment. The house is also a meeting place for board and business meetings and is used for workshops.

A permanent home and a shop had been in the minds of the Council members almost since the Arts Council began, however it wasn't until this building was available that plans began to form.

In July of 1981 it was decided to rent the building. Some painting and clean up were done, publicity put out, consignments taken, and the building was opened on September 17, 1981.

The house was desirable not only because of its location close to the business area, but because it was a house with a history. It is the oldest house in Cooperstown, and the first permanent building on the townsite. It was built in 1882, and has been a rooming house, apartment house, and private residence. Many of the customers who come in tell of visiting friends or relatives who lived in the house. One woman even said that she remembered learning to cook in the house.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 212

DALE'S JACK AND JILL FOOD CENTER

On February 20, 1970, Ralph's Jack and Jill was purchased by Mr. Ron Coleman and Mr. Dale Severson, both from Jamestown, who, as partners, changed the name to Jack and Jill Food Center. The store was located on the corner of Burrell Avenue and Highway 45, the present location of Our Own Hardware. (Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Mueller were the owners in 1970 and before.)

For twenty-six months the business was run by the partners, Dale in the meat department and Ron in the produce department with the grocery department being shared by both.

In April of 1972, Coleman purchased a store in Iowa and sold his share of the Jack and Jill Food Center to Dale Severson, his partner, who became sole proprietor.

Dale expanded the business in February of 1973 by adding an in-store bakery department. Without a bakery in town, the service was very well accepted by Cooperstown and the surrounding trade area.

Dale continued doing business in the corner store until the need for expansion arrived. He purchased the north half of Block 59, and built a store where Loder Implement used

to be, on the corner of Ninth and Roberts. On September 12, 1979, Dale relocated in his new grocery superette newly named, Dale's Jack and Jill Food Center.

Dale and his wife, Terri, and three children reside in Cooperstown and are involved in community organizations.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 212

DENNY'S TOOL AND BOLT

Dennis Olafson, his wife Delores and son Steve moved from Fargo to Cooperstown after purchasing the barber equipment from Frank Smith in February of 1960. Dennis established his barber business in the Windsor Hotel until October of 1965 when the hotel was destroyed by a fire. He then purchased the barbershop formerly owned by Bill and Albert Nelson which was sold to Allen Douville in 1970. Dennis purchased Tang's Recreation in 1970, the building which now houses the Sons of Norway. He later moved the business into the Hochberger Furniture building at which time he sold the business.

Dennis now has a farm supply sales business called Denny's Tool and Bolt Company.

Two daughters, Sandy and Jodi, were born after they came to Cooperstown.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 212

DETWILLER OIL COMPANY

On February 1, 1960 William H. Detwiller was employed as an agent for Standard Oil Company for the city of Cooperstown and surrounding area. On June 29, 1976 he purchased the bulk oil business from Standard Oil Company and at present is still owner/operator of the Detwiller Oil Company. He also operated Bill's Standard Service Station for many years in conjunction with the bulk oil business.

Vernon J. Kirkeby was agent for Standard Oil in the Cooperstown area from December 1939 to February 1, 1960 and prior to that date Carl Solberg was an agent.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 212

DON'S SALES AND SERVICE

Don Kirkeby has always been a "trader" all of his life but he officially went into business in February of 1969. Bicycles are the main item we sell: new, used, and reconditioned. We also do a lot of repair work.

He also sells guns, reloading supplies and miscellaneous sporting goods. His wife, Bev, helps in the shop.

He still "trades" most anything. He once traded a gun for a pig. (Living in town, I didn't know where he was going to put a pig.) The hardest thing he ever traded off was an accordion. No one wanted it.

The single car garage, which is the bike shop, was built out of and sits on the same site as the old red barn he used to deal out of as a kid thirty years ago.

Many people ask us why we went into the bicycle business. The truth is, our daughter had trouble with a new bike we had bought her, and we had to fix it.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 212

EDLAND ENGRAVING COMPANY

They are producers of high-quality, custom-made award plaques and metal pictures using reproductive, rotary, and metal engraving process. The plaques are sold to trophy companies, schools, clubs, and individuals for gifts and for business awards.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 213

EDLAND INSULATION COMPANY

The company was established in 1976 to fill a need in the area as a result of rising heating costs and is geared to installing wall and attic insulation in old or new construction and homes.

Many older homes with back-plastered walls have been re-insulated which resulted in a considerable fuel saving for the homeowner.

The Edland Insulation Company operates in an area approximately fifty miles surrounding Cooperstown, and is owned and operated by Russ and Lorraine Edland.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 213

ELLEFSON TRUCK SALES AND EXCAVATING

Terry Ellefson established an excavating business on Lenham Avenue in Cooperstown in 1967. He obtained the original two lots on which the business is located from Edward Larson. These lots had been owned by Emil Lai-son, grandfather of Terry's wife Beverly. Through the next several years, he purchased six more lots from three individuals, Raymond Cardin, Lorents Lima and Marie Dahlbom.

In 1968 the business was expanded to include the rebuilding, sales and service of trucks. A new building was constructed in 1970 to accommodate the truck sales. In 1972, Ellefson purchased a commercial trailer and began custom hauling of machinery in addition to the other areas of his business.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 213

EVELYN'S BEAUTY SHOP

During September 1954, Evelyn Rothert purchased Edna J. Swendseid's beauty shop located in then Nelson barbershop. Evelyn began working there November 1.

November 1, 1968, Evelyn moved to 875 Park Boulevard where she has been since looking forward to her ladies coming and enjoying it.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 213

H.E. EVERSON COMPANY

In the fall of 1962 H.E. Everson Company bought Cooper Auto Supply, located in the Syverson building, from Harry Reese. Darrel Opsadahl and Roger Jelsing were the first managers. In July of 1964 Frank Fritel became manager. December 1971 they bought the business from Home Office and built a new store in its present location. Ernie Fritel then became manager and still is at this time.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 2

FARM BUREAU

The first Farm Bureau was in Broome County, New York October 10, 1914.

North Dakota Farm Bureau came into existence in November of 1942. Griggs County organized in 1943. Griggs County received recognition for membership progress at the national convention in December of 1945.

The Farm Bureau women organized November 1949. North Dakota Farm Bureau Young People made an attempt to organize in November of 1950 and finally came into existence in 1952.

A uniform cooperative agreement between Griggs County and the North Dakota Farm Bureau came in March of 1950. The president was Irwin Froiland.

Griggs County incorporated October 7, 1955. Directors were James Hazard, Archie Marson and Arthur Smogard.

Ralph Bender became the first agent for Nodak Insurance in 1953. He served on the county board up to his death, June 12, 1974. Arthur Smogard, Carrol Retzlaff and George Vigesaa became Nodak agents in 1964. Since that time, Steve Meldahl and Bruce Sedler have also become Nodak agents for Griggs County.

November of 1980 the Farm Bureau was moved from the Fossum, Inc. building to the Overby Law building. December 15, 1980 a public meeting was held for the purpose of adopting new by-laws and to amend the articles of incorporations.

A list of presidents is as follows:

Alfred Retzlaff1943
Casper Aarestad1948
Irwin Froiland 1949
Richard Qualey..... 1953

James Hazard 1955
 Bjorn Fuglestad 195
 Elmer Iverson 1958
 Art Torgerson 1960
 Ted Monson 1961
 Art Torgerson 1962
 Myron Erickson..... 1963
 Carrol Retzlaff..... 1964
 George Vigesaa 1965
 Arthur Smogard..... 1969
 Robert Berge 1973
 Ralph Fuglestad..... 1975
 Trygve Thompson 1978
 Richard Loge 1981

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 213

FARMERS & MERCHANTS BANK

L.A. Sayer and family arrived in Cooperstown in 1929 at which time Mr. Saver was employed by the H.P. Hammer Company. In 1933 he formed the Livestock Credit Company for the purpose of making farm loans and later expanded into car financing through his privately owned L.A. Sayer Company. Originally his office was in the northwest corner of the Fladeland Building (now Skramstad Apartments). In 1944 he bought the building originally owned by the defunct Farmers and Merchants Bank.

Clarence Sandvik began working for the L.A. Sayer Company and the Livestock Credit Company in 1950 and was principally in charge of the insurance department.

In January of 1952 Roy L. Solberg moved to Cooperstown and purchased stock in the Livestock Credit Company and the insurance business.

L.A. Sayer purchased the Binford Bank from Emil Olson in 1954; and that same year his son, Leon Sayer, returned to Cooperstown to become affiliated with the Binford Bank, the Livestock Credit Company, and the insurance business in Cooperstown.

In 1964 the Security Trust Company was organized, in which the present banking business had its beginning. L.A. Sayer, Leon Sayer, Roy L. Solberg, and Clarence Sandvik were the principal stockholders, directors, and officers of the Security Trust Company.

In 1966 the North Dakota State Banking Board approved the merger of the Binford State Bank and the Security Trust Company to be called the Farmers and Merchants Bank with headquarters to be located in Cooperstown. An addition was added to the Cooperstown headquarters in 1966 to make room for the expanded operation. L.A. Sayer, Leon Sayer, Roy L. Solberg, and Clarence Sandvik were the principal stockholders, directors, and officers of the newly formed Farmers and Merchants Bank.

Since the death of L.A. Sayer in 1975, Roy L. Solberg, Leon Sayer, and Clarence Sandvik have been the principal stockholders and directors with Roy L. Solberg serving

as president, Leon Sayer as vice-president, and Clarence Sandvik as vice-president and cashier.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 213

FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION

Farmers Home Administration dates back to 1918 when the first federal seed loans were made. Seed loans were made in 1918 through 1931. In 1932 the Emergency Crop and Feed loan office was established. This agency continued activity until 1946.

The Resettlement Administration was created in 1935 and was succeeded by the Farm Security Administration in 1937. The Farm Security Administration continued to administer federal loans until 1946 when Farmers Home Administration was created and took over the activities of its predecessor agencies.

In 1935 a Resettlement Administration office was established in Cooperstown under the direction of Arnold Stine. In 1937 Oscar J. Nasset was named to administer the activities of the newly created Farm Security Administration. Mr. Nasset served as county director until 1942 when Archie Seebart became County Supervisor and continued until 1946 when the agency became Farmers Home Administration.

County Supervisors since 1946 include William Nelson, Harold Aasmundstad, LeRoy Naves, William Slingsby, Ray Scheetz and Dale Rostberg.

Office locations since 1935 have been the Griggs County Courthouse, the Syverson Building (Skramstad Apartments), Sayer Building (Torgerson Auctioneer & Real Estate) and the present USDA Building which was built in 1968.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 214

FARMERS OIL COMPANY

Farmers Oil Company was organized April 5, 1932 with the following Board of Directors: Harry Kolpin, Alfred O. Retzlaff, Bjorn Fuglestad, Nels J. Thune, M.J. Leininger, R.H. Pratt and Theo. Stone. Omund Soma replaced M.J. Leininger when he became manager.

Theo. Stone became manager June 27, 1932. In 1946, Roy Ashland became manager, and on January 1, 1950 Robert W. Baker assumed this position and currently holds this position.

In recent years a bulk plant at Hannaford, anhydrous ammonia plant at Walum and Cooperstown, and a self service station, car wash, and laundromat have been added.

Present officers are: President Ronald Hegvik, Vice President Allen Hoverson, Secretary-Treasurer Charles Gruman, and Directors Myron Erickson, Raymond Odegard, Art Beattie, and Art R. Anderson.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 214

FIRST BANK COOPERSTOWN

In 1890 First Bank Cooperstown was chartered as a national bank under the name, The First National Bank. The first recorded President was H.P. Hammer.

On August 31, 1929, First Bank Stock Investment Company purchased the assets of the bank. Total deposits at that time were \$267,000. First Bank Stock Investment Company then applied for a new national charter and changed the name from The First National Bank to The First National Bank in Cooperstown. H.P. Hammer retired from the bank at this time and L.A. Almklov became President with H.A. Brown, Vice-President, and R.A. Hammer, Cashier of the newly established bank.

On March 11, 1930, The First National Bank assumed the deposit liabilities of the Farmers & Merchants Bank of Cooperstown as they had discontinued business.

The bank then applied for a state bank charter, which was approved on September 1, 1938. The bank name was changed from The First National Bank in Cooperstown to the First State Bank of Cooperstown.

In January of 1953, new management was elected to run the bank. George H. Johnston became the new President, H.A. Brown, Vice-President, and Carl O. Johnson, Cashier.

Upon the resignation of George Johnston in July of 1954, Roy Christensen was elected President and Carl O. Johnson, Vice-President and Cashier.

In June of 1964, Roy Christensen resigned and the board elected L.E. Herzog, President and A.L. Mathisen, Jr., Vice-President and Cashier. Under this management a new bank building was constructed at the old bank site on Burrell Avenue.

L.E. Herzog resigned in September of 1972, to take a new position with a bank in Litchville, Minnesota, and the Board elected Howard E. Brash, President. Brash has retained that position and A.L. Mathisen, Jr., continues as Vice-President and Cashier. The present assets of the bank are \$17,700,000.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 214

GENE'S STUDIO

George Benson came to Cooperstown in 1917. He operated the photographic studio up until 1928 when Lars Newgaard from Binford purchased it and operated it until 1946. Earl Jarret purchased the studio in 1946 and operated it until 1951. Russ Edland operated the studio from 1951 to 1956. Gene and Ruth Trautman purchased the studio in 1956 and are the present owners.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 214

GIL'S BARBER SHOP

Gil Fletschock is owner-operator of Gil's Barber Shop. He bought the business from Melroy Pantzlaff in August of 1977.

Pantzlaff had run a barbershop in that building since May of 1970.

Before that, it was the location of Ellingson's Jewelry Store.

The west half of the building is occupied by the owner, R.A. Allen, optometrist.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 214

GRAIN TERMINAL ASSOCIATION

The Grain Terminal Association has been part of the Cooperstown community since 1943. Its original facilities here, however, go back before the turn of the century.

GTA joined the Cooperstown community in 1943 with its purchase of the St. Anthony & Dakota Elevator Company. The Cooperstown St. Anthony elevator was one of 135 elevators acquired by GTA in the purchase.

That elevator was built in 1898 and remodeled in 1936. According to old records, it was considered one of the best elevators in North Dakota when it was built.

Today that elevator is still part of GTA's grain-handling facilities in Cooperstown. A new main house - with which most visitors are familiar - was built in 1959. Appearances, however, had changed before then. An annex had been added to the old elevator in 1955.

The old facilities got another new look when they were tinned over in 1964. That was the same year a roller mill shed was built on the premises. A steel warehouse was erected in 1967. Drying facilities were added in 1975.

Sunflower seed became a new major crop in the Upper Midwest during the 1970's and more storage was needed. A quonset warehouse for sunflower storage went up alongside the elevators in 1979.

A pinto bean receiving station was erected in 1980.

Three men have managed the elevator facilities under GTA. R.I. "Bob" Thorn was manager at the time of the sale in 1943. He retired in 1946 after 22 years service.

Thorn's successor was Melvin Larson. He served as manager until 1962 and was succeeded by present manager Del Chaput. Chaput will complete two decades as manager August 15.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 215

GRAND FORKS FEDERAL COOPERSTOWN

Grand Forks Federal Savings and Loan Association was founded in 1886 in what was then known as Dakota Territory. It has been in continuous service ever since. The company received its federal charter in 1955. Grand Forks Federal is the strongest savings and loan association in the State of North Dakota having reserves above the national average.

The first branch office to be established out of the city of Grand Forks was opened in Cooperstown in December of 1974. Since then offices in Larimore, McVille and Grafton have been opened.

James Sott and Beverly Ellefson have been employed continuously with the association since the fall of 1974, serving as manager and teller respectively.

Grand Forks Federal purchased the former Cooper Cleaners building and remodeled it for its present use.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 215

GRIGGS COUNTY ABSTRACT COMPANY

Nels P. Nelson started making Abstracts for the Griggs County Register of Deeds in 1898. At that time the Register of Deeds made all Abstracts of Title.

In 1900 Nels P. Nelson took over the abstracting in the name of Nels P. Nelson, Abstracter. He continued under this name until 1926 when he incorporated under the firm name of Griggs County Abstract Company.

He continued the business under this name until his death in 1937. At that time a son, Melvin H. Nelson took over the business until 1943 when he was called into service.

His sister Nora (Nelson) Nesti operated the business until the return of Melvin H. Nelson when he again took over the business and has operated it since that time.

This is probably the oldest business passed on from father to son now operating in the city.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 215

GRIGGS COUNTY ASCS

ASCS was born on May 12, 1933, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed into law the original Agricultural Adjustment Act (AAA). The Triple A Act of 1933 was invalidated in January of 1936, followed by The Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act of 1936. This act authorized acreage controls and payments for certain soil conserving practices.

The Griggs County office was originally located in the courthouse. Gilbert Mourn, the County Agent, was the secretary. In the early 1940's Henry Herigstad was named manager and worked in that capacity until his retirement in 1962. Norma Nelson was hired as a clerk in 1934 and worked until her retirement in 1967.

Area farmers who have served as county committeemen include: Harry Kolpin, Albert Johnson, Thomas Boe, Oscar Idsvoog, Alfred Holland, Clarence Steffen, James F. Hazard, Herbert Sonju, C.A. Brown and Allen Hoverson. The present committee members are Wallace Ethen, Rueben Weber and Lester Erickson.

The present staff is Jerry Ronningen, manager, Mercedes Tang, Ernestine Paulsen, and Delores Olafson as Program Assistants and Ronald Edland as field-man.

The office moved to its present location at the corner of Fifth and Rollin, west of Farmers Oil Company, in 1968. Prior to that the ASCS was located in what is now the

Griggs County Library from 1955 to 1968. Other locations have been the Fladeland building, the Propane Gas building and the Griggs County Court House.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 215

GRIGGS COUNTY MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

On June 10, 1916 a group of farmers gathered at the County Court House in Cooperstown, North Dakota to organize a county mutual insurance company in Griggs County, for the purpose of insuring the property of its members against loss from damage by fire and lightning on the county mutual plan. At this meeting W.P. Houghton was named chairman, Louis Berg, Secretary, and H.P. Hammer, Treasurer. Twenty-two farmers paid a \$2.00 membership fee to become members. The name chosen for the company was Griggs County Mutual Fire and Lightning Insurance Company.

During the following winter M.F. Washburn and Louis Berg secured \$25,000 worth of insurance applications, enough to allow them to secure a charter from the state.

At a meeting held in Berg Brothers office on March 10, 1917 the first board of directors was elected as follows: T.A. Huso, Gunder Trostad, P.E. Iverson, Henry Asmus, A.O. Retzlaff, B.W. Hazard, C.K. Stromme, G.H. Rohlwing, M. Mogaard, E. Savre, H.J. Langford, Wilmot Houghton, Fred Detwiller, M.F. Washburn and Frank J. Pfeifer. Following this meeting the directors held a meeting and elected the first officers to serve for a one-year term. E. Savre was elected President

Fred Detwiller, First Vice President

B.W. Hazard, Second Vice President: M.F. Washburn, Secretary and Louis Berg, Treasurer.

With its home office and principal place of business located at Cooperstown, North Dakota, the Company commenced business May 15, 1917. On this date the first policies were issued, with the first policy being issued to Louis Berg.

The Articles of Incorporation have since been amended changing the name of the company to "Griggs County Mutual Insurance Company." Additional insurance coverages have also been added to the farm policy.

This company is controlled by its membership consisting of persons or organizations having insurance in force therein. The management of its business affairs is vested in a board of directors composed of nine members elected at the annual meeting of the membership held on the third Friday of June of each year. Directors are elected for staggered terms of three years each and the directors elect from their members a president and vice president. They also elect a Secretary and Treasurer who may or may not be members of the board and also appoint an adjuster inspector.

The home office building was constructed in 1976 and is a modern, one story, cement block structure with a brick faced front and is located on Main Street in Cooperstown.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 215

Griggs County Sentinel - Courier

Cooperstown's plat was filed in October of 1882, officially putting the town on the map. Three months later the first edition of the Cooperstown *Courier* rolled off the press.

The *Courier* also did all it could to put Cooperstown on the map. From the first copy January 26, 1883, it devoted a lot of space and ink to telling the world about the fertile soil and great opportunities of the region. Ed Stair, the first owner-editor, sold the paper to F.H. Adams, who later sold to Percy Trubshaw, a *Courier* employee.

Meanwhile, in 1899, a rival newspaper, The *Sentinel*, was begun by Democrats in the area. J.H. Sinclair was the first editor. No copies or records of the earliest *Sentinels* survive, so information is sketchy; however, H.S. Rearick took over the paper in 1904. In 1912, Rearick and his partners, O.A. Lee and Bill Schannach purchased the *Courier* and The *Griggs County Sentinel - Courier* came into being. (Schannach lives in Leavenworth, Washington in 1982).

By 1919 the Nonpartisan League had become a strong political force in North Dakota and was in the process of buying newspapers. Shares were sold in the Griggs County Farmers Press and they bought the paper and hired a young man with political inclinations, Gerald P. Nye, to run it. Nye was appointed U.S. Senator in 1926 and stayed in the Senate until 1944. Harry L. Thompson took over management of the paper when Senator Nye left for Washington and was editor most of the time until his death. Kermit Overby, Bremen Johnson and Oswald Tufte were all associated with the paper in the thirties and forties. Harry Thompson bought up the stock owned by farmers in the cooperative, and by the time of his death in 1948 was the owner of the paper.

Ken and Gerry Anderson ran the paper for Mrs. Thompson until the spring of 1949, when it was sold to Nora Frigaard and her sons, Gordon and Alan. Alan Frigaard was editor until 1954, when he moved to Minnesota. Gordon "Boosty" Frigaard took over the management at that time. Nora Frigaard continued to be associated with the paper until her death in 1972. Since that time Gordon Frigaard has been sole owner and manager. He has been associated with the Cooperstown paper longer than any other person in the paper's history. His wife, Eugenia (Duna) Frigaard has been working on the paper continuously since 1954, and is editor. Daughter Lisa and sons Karl and Mark do occasional work for the paper.

At one time there were newspapers in Binford, Hannaford and Sutton. Now only the *Sentinel - Courier* remains in Griggs County.

The changes in means of production are of equal importance with the changes in management. In the early years, metal type was set by hand for each week's paper and put back into the type drawers by hand afterward. Automation after 1910 meant typesetting machines, and hot-type technology. The linotype machine clanked, jangled and spit out galley after galley of hot type. In the seventies, offset printing came into its own and in a quiet revolution North Dakota's hundred weekly newspapers converted to the photographic process in less than a decade. Photo-computers are used to set the copy, and the *Sentinel - Courier* presently is printed in New Rockford in the central plant of Prairie Press, owned by the five publishers who print their papers there. G.J. Frigaard is president of Prairie Press.

The *Sentinel - Courier* is the oldest surviving business in Cooperstown.

GRIGGS COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT #33

On January 30, 1945 the Griggs County Soil Conservation District completed its organization. The initial supervisors were Perry Haaland, chairman, Kenneth Curtis, Arne Goplen and George Simons, secretary. Present supervisors are Don Larson, Chairman, David Stokka, Dale Zimprich and John Swenson, secretary. Other SCD supervisors since the origin of the district were Raymond McCardle, Manvil Anderson, Obert Tharaldson, Edgar Krogsgard, Rudolph Olson and Casper Aarestad, Jr.

Soil Conservation Districts are organized throughout the nation to work with the Soil Conservation Service in promoting soil conservation practices and developing a soil stewardship ethic.

Common conservation practices in the county include shelterbelt and windbreak plantings, stock ponds, grassed waterways, grass seedings, pasture management, crop residue use, animal waste systems and flax buffer strips.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 216

GRUMPY'S

The original drive-in building was built in 1951 on the north side of Rollin Avenue between 11th and 12th Streets by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hanson from Binford. At that time Highway 7 went through town on Rollin Avenue.

In September of 1954, the business was sold to A.W. Wright and was called the Dairy Dreem. In 1955 the menu was expanded to include chicken and shrimp, besides the soft ice milk and hamburgers.

Gary Bryngelson bought the business June 1, 1958, and he and his wife, Shirley, ran it for eighteen years.

In the summer of 1976, Ron Hensler bought the business. The name was changed to Grumpy's, and extensive remodeling and expansion now make indoor seating possible.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 217

PAUL HAGEN INSURANCE AGENCY

Paul J. Hagen farmed near Glenwood, Minnesota, where he was born, until the fall of 1966, when he moved to Cooperstown in September. He began selling insurance in 1965 part time with his farming. After the fall crops in 1966 he sold insurance full time in North Dakota, living in Cooperstown. He had his office in his home until 1970 when he rented the present office from M.W. Duffy, Attorney. Hagen then bought the building the next year.

Originally built by Arnold Skofstad, he had a cream station and gas pumps there, and later a hatchery and poultry supply business, the building later was converted into a restaurant, and operated under three different owners. In 1962 a bakery was opened and operated there about a year. Later Wedg-Cor Steel Buildings had an office there. When M.W. Duffy bought the building, he made it into three offices and paneled it. A.C. Bakken, his partner, also had an office in the building.

Originally the building had white blocks in front. In 1979 the Hagens remodeled the front with dark panel board and a shingled overhang.

Paul's wife, Marilyn (Hanson), grew up near Estherville, Iowa, where they were married in 1952. They have five children, Pamela, Vicki, Judy, Jerald, and Kathy.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 217

HAZARD CONSTRUCTION

Hazard Construction was started in 1953 to do soil conservation work and bury rock piles. The original piece of machinery consisted of a 1950-D-6 dozer cat with a scraper added in 1954. A dragline was purchased in 1958 to use in digging waterholes for farmers under the Soil Conservation Service; a large number of these waterholes were dug in Griggs, Steele, Wells, Barnes, Stutsman, Grand Forks and Nelson counties.

In 1964 a second dragline was added; both of these were sold in 1969. A loader cat, dump truck, and backhoe were purchased and these are the pieces of equipment that are presently being used to haul gravel and fill, dig sewer and water lines, bury rock piles, clean barnyards and level and fill building sites.

James Hazard, Jr., is the owner.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 217

HILDRE IMPLEMENT COMPANY

Cowell-Hildre Implement Company came into being in 1946 when H.W. (Bo) Hildre, Petersburg, North Dakota and Vaughn Cowell of Valley City purchased the Greenland-Lunde Implement Company, the John Deere dealership in Cooperstown since 1925, from Nils M. Lunde.

Several years later, Vaughn Cowell decided to devote full time to his dairy farm north of Valley City so Bo bought him out of the partnership and the name was changed to Hildre Implement. He continued to do business in the tin-covered, two-story building on the corner of 8th and Burrell. In 1967, Bo retired and Jon, his son, became president of the Corporation.

In 1969, 13 acres were purchased on the southwest edge of town and Hildre Implement moved into their new home in March of 1974.

In 1979, Robert Norwood from Valley City joined the management of the Corporation. Present stockholders are Edith Hildre, Jon Hildre and Robert Norwood.

HI-WAY BEAUTY SHOP

The first beauty shop I recall was located upstairs in the Gamble store with Hazelle Otteson owner. It was later moved to a building just east of the Windsor Hotel. She had an apartment at the back of the shop. Mae (Flaagen) Sanderson was employed at that time which was about 1937. I came in 1939 and that year the shop was moved to the basement of what is now Patricia's shop. During this time Mae had bought the shop and she also owned the shop in back of Bill's Barber Shop. She sold out about 1943 or 4 leaving for Oregon.

I had left the shop in 1941, returned and opened the Hi-Way Beauty Shop in 1947 in my residence where it still is in business.

It was a one-operator shop about fifteen years. In 1962 I enlarged it to a three-operator shop for several years. After Jean Sanderson Savre came to work, she bought the business about 1976, but I am still putting in my time; together we are six operators, several of us part-time.

From 1935-1936 when I was in beauty school, a variety of hair dressing has been done from marcelling, round curling done by iron, spiral permanents given by a machine using electrically heated clamps, then to croqanell perm using only heat activated pads which were more comfortable because of lighter weight and freedom to move about during curling. Then followed pin-curl sets and French braiding and pro curling done by small rollers, fastening each with bobby pins. Later came cold-waving perms, magnetic and brush rollers, used to this time. We also went back to curling irons, but the latest is blow dryers used in combing and brushing set in place.

Remembering my aunt speaking of her first permanent wave which she had to drive from Hatton to Grand Forks to have, cost her \$25.00 and it took all day. My first at sixteen cost \$6.50.

Prices in 1936 while I was employed at Mayville, North Dakota were as follows:

Permanents	\$2.50 to \$5.00
Shampoo and sets .....	.60
Marcelling and finger wave.....	.35
Manicures .....	.35
Facials.....	.75 and \$1.00

My salary was \$8.00 a week, six-day week, fifteen-hour day in the busy season, plus my room and breakfast. We carried all water used in the Mayville shop from the basement cistern and heated it on a kerosene stove.

-Rudha Sanderson

JERRY'S BODY SHOP

Jerry's Body Shop is owned and operated by Jerry Hohertz. He rented from the Iverson brothers in August of 1978.

Jerry bought the business from Lynn and Lee Iverson in January of 1980. It was then known as I.B. Automotive.

Lynn and Lee Iverson bought the business in 1975 from Earl Vogt. It was then known as Earl's Motor.

Earl Vogt began the first dealership in used cars in 1937 uptown in the Henry Otteson Blacksmith Shop, diagonally across the street, across from the grade elementary school. (This building was moved out to the airport.)

Earl Vogt started a Texaco Gas Station in 1940. He tore down the building in 1946 and put up the present building (Jerry's) in 1946. It was called Earl's Motors. He began a car dealership, selling Kaiser-Fraiers, Henry J's, Studebakers, and Willis Jeeps. The first new Kaiser-Frasier car was sold to Ebert Carlson in 1947. Olive Lien still has a 1951 Kaiser. Eddie Larson is rebuilding a Henry J car at the present time.

Earl Vogt's son, Irvin Vogt, now has junk cars located along Highway 200 west of Cooperstown on the north side of the highway on land bought from Mrs. Arndt.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 218

JOHNSON STORES

Johnson Stores originated in Michigan, North Dakota in 1906. As years went by, other stores were opened in surrounding towns. In 1946 the Johnson Stores built and opened a new large two-story building in Larimore, North Dakota. This was the new headquarters office and merchandise storage and distribution center for the stores.

In 1957 Johnson Store moved to Cooperstown taking over the store building that had been occupied by the J.C. Penney Company. Erick Berdal, manager of the store located at Hope, was also given the Cooperstown operation to manage. Berdal commuted between the two stores until fall when his family moved to Cooperstown so their children could start the new school term.

In May of 1959 the Berdals bought both the Hope and Cooperstown store operations and continued with Johnson Stores.

In 1963 Mr. and Mrs. Berdal built a new 100 x 100 foot store building in Cooperstown at the corner of 8th and Burrell which is where the store is still located. Mr. and Mrs. Berdal operated franchise stores in New Rockford and Maddock, North Dakota but continued to have Cooperstown as the headquarter office location for their stores.

In 1976 Erick Berdal was appointed executive vice-president and general manager of the Johnson Stores, Inc. headquarters and buying office at Larimore, North Dakota which services seventeen stores in eastern North Dakota.

The Berdals have five children: Mary (Mrs. Gladwin Lynne), Charlotte, Leslie, Dan and James.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 218

KEN'S SERVICE

Ken's Service is located at the corner of Ninth Street and Rollin Avenue.

The business was started in approximately 1932 by Maurice Mosher. At that time it handled Pure Oil products.

In 1956 the building was destroyed by fire and rebuilt.

In 1959 the station changed from Pure Oil to Texaco.

In 1968 Mosher sold out to Donald Anderson who operated the station until 1971.

In the fall of 1971 the station was reopened by Wayne Anderson.

In 1978 the station was again changed from Texaco to Amoco.

September 1, 1979, Wayne Anderson sold the business to Kenneth Anton.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 218

LODER IMPLEMENT

In 1900 a two-story building was built on the corner of Ninth and Roberts. It was used by Hammer-Condy Company who were in the business of selling horses and farm machinery.

International Harvester Company of Chicago, Illinois established a company store at that location in 1933. Clarence Arneson was hired as manager of the implement business and Clarence Njaa was hired as parts man. They were engaged in the business of selling McCormick-Deering farm equipment and parts.

On December 1, 1934, Albert Loder, who owned an IH dealership at Juanita, North Dakota and Clarence Arneson purchased the implement dealership from International Harvester. They operated the business a total of 32 years and it was known as Arneson-Loder. During the 1930's most of the farming was done with horses and when the farmers began purchasing tractors in the late 1930's and early 1940's, many horses were traded in on sale of a tractor or other equipment.

Some of the employees of Arneson & Loder during their thirty-two years were Clarence Njaa, Andy Dahlbom, Orville Sondreal, Axel Simenson, Archie Flick, Alfred Bailey, Helger Andersen, Wilson Forbes, Ed Hagglund, Don Gisvold, Don Loder, Wally Persons, Nilai Holo, Ellsworth Brekke, Richard Mueller and many others who worked part time setting up machinery.

Don Loder and Lyle Guscette of Wimbledon, N. Dakota purchased the dealership from Arneson & Loder January 1, 1967. The name changed to Loder-Guscette. Lyle Guscette sold his interest in the business to Donald Loder in 1970, and the name changed to Loder Implement Inc. Helger Andersen and Clarence Njaa remained with Loder Implement until their retirement in 1977 and 1978 respectively.

In 1975 Loder Implement moved to a new 70' x 225' building at their present location on Highway 200 West. In addition to International Harvester equipment, they also sell Steiger tractors, New Holland and Hesston farm equipment.

Loder Implement is owned by Donald & Phyllis Loder. The present employees are Richard Mueller, Larry Wathne, Russell Zimprich, Dennis Erickson, Marvin Kuklok, Gehard Basol, Ivar Haaland, Gary Delfs, Andreas Haaland, Julius Suess, Kenneth Sandvik, and Ethel Lokken.

Many changes have taken place during the past 45 years, from horses to tractors, from steel wheeled tractors and equipment to rubber tires from binders and threshing machines, to windrowers and combines, from shocks of grain and straw stacks to windrows of grain.

Today our engines are diesel powered and use hydraulic systems, monitors, and other advances in technology. Also our farmers are using chemicals, herbicides, fertilizers, soil testing, and soil conservation practices to make them better farmers, in order to feed the world.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 218

LUMBER MART

Lumber Mart of East Grand Forks, Minnesota, went into business in Cooperstown in 1970. Howard Surerus was manager of the building supply business until 1974. After his resignation, Les Winning Jr. became manager and continues in that position.

The building was constructed in 1964 by Meland Lumber Company of Northwood. Reuben Meland managed that business in Cooperstown until it closed.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 219

MIDLAND FERTILIZER PLANT

The fertilizer plant is located in the southwest part of Cooperstown. It was built in the winter of 1977-78 and was open for business in the spring of 1978. The main office is located in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

They have dry and liquid fertilizer, chemicals, seeds, equipment and do custom applications and soil testing.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 219

MODEL CLOTHING COMPANY

Model Clothing Company started business in Cooperstown in September 1917 as a branch store of Model Clothing Company of New Rockford, North Dakota. The owners were Thomas Irgens, J.E. Forstein of New Rockford and H.R. Noftalin of Elbow Lake, Minnesota. In 1935 Thomas Irgens purchased his partners' interest in the Cooperstown store and in the same year entered into partnership with Ludvig Olson who had purchased his partner's interest in the Olson and Nelson Clothing Company. These two business

concerns then consolidated, retaining the name of Model Clothing Company. In 1948 Irgens purchased his partner's interest.

The original Model store was housed in the Stevens building, which later housed the photography studio. The building was torn down in the summer of 1975. The Model moved to its present building in 1925. Since the time of the original building, which was occupied in 1917, an addition of fifty feet has been added on and a complete remodeling of the store was done in 1979.

Thomas Irgens died in 1961 and his wife, Mary Irgens, assumed ownership at that time. The business was managed by his son Donald Irgens and son-in-law Julian Mrozla. In 1964 Donald Irgens left Cooperstown and the Model was managed by Julian Mrozla until July of 1973, when Julian and Donna Mrozla purchased the store from Mrs. Irgens.

Donna Mrozla is the youngest of the Irgens family so the Model Clothing has remained in the same family since its establishment in 1917.

Julian and Donna Mrozla have been associated with Model Clothing Company from 1951 until the present date.

The Model Clothing is celebrating its 65th year in business under the same family name and management.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 219

MOLINE CAFE

The Moline Cafe is located on the east side of the Farmers Oil Company. The cafe was first opened in February of 1963. It was operated by the manager of the Windsor Hotel and Cafe. Marvin Myers bought it in the fall of 1965. Mike and Lillian Sorbo bought the cafe in May of 1967. Lillian is manager of the cafe.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 219

EDGAR MULTER, LICENSED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

Edgar Multer with his wife Ellinor and daughters Tiina Mal and Ell Piret arrived to USA and Griggs County in August 1949. Their homeland Estonia was occupied by Soviet Union in 1944 and Edgar and Ellinor Multer left to Western Europe. After the United States Congress passed the special Displaced Persons Immigration Law in 1948 the Multer family arrived to the U.S. as farm workers sponsored by Arne and Mildred Goplen, Binford, N.D.

After getting more familiar with English language, Ellinor started to work in 1956 as clerk for U.S. government in Cooperstown and 1960 Edgar accepted the job as accountant for the local new car dealership, the occupations they both had held for many years in their native land.

After 1964 Edgar gradually moved to the public accounting field and in 1973 passed the Federal exams with the right to represent taxpayers before the Internal Revenue Service. About that time Ellinor joined her husband's office as clerk and bookkeeper. In

1975 the license was issued to Edgar to practice Public Accounting in North Dakota. He also holds membership in National and North Dakota Society of Public Accountants.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 219

OTTER TAIL POWER

Otter Tail Power Company, which presently serves customers in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota, acquired the electric distribution rights for the City of Cooperstown from Central Electric and Telephone Company, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, October 1, 1943. Cooperstown was acquired along with eighteen other nearby North Dakota communities.

Otter Tail had served five communities in the area on a wholesale basis since 1926. The five included Cooperstown, Gackle, Hannaford, Medina and Streeter.

Of significance to this overall purchase, in 1943, was Otter Tail's acquisition, also on October 1, 1943, of the Jamestown Gas Plant, additionally purchased from Central Electric and Telephone Company, Sioux Falls.

In 1944 Otter Tail Power was serving Cooperstown under the franchise previously held by Central Electric. In 1948 the City of Cooperstown and Otter Tail Power agreed on a twenty-year contract for electric service. As part of the provisions in the contract, Otter Tail agreed to own and operate overhead street lighting, consisting of brackets and incandescent lamps. The company also agreed to furnish electrical energy to operate motor-driven pumps at the town's pumping plant. '

In 1948 Otter Tail Power worked closely with O.F. Kopperud, city auditor; and L.A. Sayer, Mayor of Cooperstown. In the 1940's Otter Tail's territory included approximately 70,000 square miles.

In its early years of operation, Otter Tail Power was served by hydro stations, small steam plants and diesel generators. As the customer need for electricity grew, the smaller steam plants were retired. Large steam plants, relying on North Dakota lignite coal, were brought on line. Today, coal-operated plants account for 99 percent of Otter Tail's generation of electrical output. The other one percent is divided between two small hydroelectric plants and fuel-fired peaking system.

Today Otter Tail Power Company supplies electric service to 464 communities and 3,000 farms in western Minnesota, eastern North Dakota and northeastern South Dakota. This area is equivalent in area roughly to the size of the state of New York.

Otter Tail Power Company service representatives in Cooperstown during this period have included George Reed, 1943 through 1959; George Paulson, 1959 through 1965

Bert Hoffman, 1966 through April of 1978 and Arthur Perleberg, Jr., April of 1978 to present. There have also been a number of trainees who have trained here in Cooperstown and moved up to become full-service representatives and then have been stationed in areas of their own. Some of these trainees include: Gordon Solee, Pat Caulfield, Bert Oberlander, Gary Klinger, Don Kitzman, Gary Siverson, Tom Miller and Dennis Zorn.

As mentioned before, Arthur Perleberg, Jr. is the present service representative and Dennis Zorn is the service representative trainee.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 219

ALPH OVERBY

Alph Overby was born at Finley and attended Finley schools. He opened a law practice in Cooperstown in 1964 after being employed by First National Bank of Minneapolis for eight years.

Mr. Overby has served as Griggs County States Attorney since January of 1967. In addition to his law practice, he has farming interests and owns Gateway Realty in Cooperstown.

His wife, the former Meriel Douly, grew up on a farm near Gilby, North Dakota where she attended schools. Mrs. Overby is a graduate of Concordia College and taught school at Cass Lake, Minnesota and North Dakota State University.

The Overbys have four children: Signe Nelson, Oshkosh, Wisconsin

Peter, Edmond, Oklahoma

Eric and Sonja, Cooperstown.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 220

PATRICIA'S

Patricia's women I s apparel shop is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Roger Erickson of Cavalier, who purchased it from Mr. and Mrs. Carrol Torgerson in November of 1979. Diane Burt (now Mrs. Rick Cushman), formerly of Cavalier, came to manage the store. Other employees are Mrs. Helen Askelson, Mrs. Marie Olson and Kristen Knudson, all of Cooperstown.

The shop is located in the building on Lot 11, Block 73, formerly the location of the Coast to Coast hardware store.

The dress shop, under various owners, can be traced back fifty years.

Maxine Torgerson bought the shop from Orpha Cussons, who bought from Ann Adam. She had purchased the store from Lillian Bolkan and Esther Nelson, former employees who bought the shop from Ann Halvorson, who started Halvorson's Shoppe in 1930.

The original location was almost directly across the street from the present store.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 220

POP-A-TOP BAR

The Pop-A-Top Bar is owned and operated by Rollie Jewett and Ben Bendickson. They purchased the beer tavern September 20, 1980 from Benders.

Previous owners of the tavern are: Paul and Linda Bender

Gordy Knutson and Jerome Hagen

Dennis Olafson

Bob Mack.

Before it was occupied by taverns, the building housed other businesses. Hammer and Condy operated a garage there. In 1923 they sold the building to P.H. Costello, who owned and operated a drugstore

Tupper Howden bought from Costello and operated Howden Rexall Drug until he moved into the Larson Store building in 1957. Furniture store businesses were run by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Bjornson, Mr. and Mrs. Hugo Hochberger, Mr. and Mrs. Clair Wright after 1957.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 220

PRODUCTION CREDIT ASSOCIATION

The Production Credit Association of Larimore, (later to become The Production Credit Association of Grand Forks) was organized in 1934 under the Farm Credit Act enacted by Congress to provide short and intermediate term credit to farmers of the area. The association was established with the help of Government bonds, which were repaid in full in the late 1960's.

The first annual meeting was held January 4, 1935. Griggs and Steele counties joined the association shortly afterwards. In 1945 the association's total loan volume was \$284,875.00.

On November 1, 1981, the association had an outstanding loan balance of \$144,421,449.00 serving 1721 member borrowers - of which Griggs County had \$20,023,783.00 with 191 member borrowers.

Director representatives from Griggs County have been:

Reynold Retzlaff, served during the 1940's

Carl Erickson, served during the 1950's

Donald Retzlaff, served during the 1960's & 70's

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Cooperstown was a contact office until association established its first branch office located in the Farmers Oil Building serving both Griggs and Steele counties.

The General Manager was H. Harlow Thompson, who is currently Senior Vice President of Association Administration at the FICB of St. Paul, Minn. Russell J. Barr was hired as branch manager, Mary Jo Langford as office assistant. She is currently secretary to the President of the PCA of Fargo, ND.

A new office building was constructed and opened in 1979 across from the Post Office. The Cooperstown Office also handles 81 Agrifax (Computerized Farm Records) accounts, tax preparation, hail insurance sales, credit life insurance, federal crop insurance and disability insurance.

Present Association President is Lloyd K. Well.

Current Directors are:

Vernon Schumacher
Raymond Driscoll
Carl Thompson Jr.
Philip Edman
Hollis Ericksrud
Marland Rue.

Current Cooperstown employees:

Russ BarrBranch Manager
Stan ChaputLoan Officer
Roger TwedtAssistant Loan Officer
Caryl BednarOffice Assistant
Jo Claire PaintnerAgrifax Tech
Jean ForsOffice Assistant

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 220

REITEN'S, INC.

In 1938, Ed Reiten bought Bruce Wright's Repair Shop and started his repair shop for area farmers. Reiten's, Inc. also produced numerous agricultural products, some of which were: steel tanks, steel hay-stacking teeth, swathers, grain augers, aluminum grain boxes, field sprayers, steel buildings, E-Z friction throttles, machinery trailers, snow buckets, a corn and other row crops harvester, grain drill packers and the famous moldboard plow. The original plant burned down in January of 1954. Dies for producing Reiten swathers and grain augers were also destroyed in this fire.

The Cooperstown plant was rebuilt, and began supplying parts to Melroe Company of Gwinner, N.D. In 1960, Reiten's Inc. introduced the reset plow. A dealer organization was established in 1963 to market Reiten plows, and Reiten's became the first company in the world to offer a pull-type 8-bottom plow.

In 1967, Melroe Manufacturing Company purchased the Reiten Firm.

Richard Reiten, Ed Reiten's son, built Reiten's Machine Shop in 1967 and specialized in farm repair. His company is now known as Reiten's, Inc., and is located along the west business loop of Highway 200.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 221

RON'S HEATING & PLUMBING

Ron's Heating and Plumbing opened for business in Cooperstown on April 6, 1981. It is owned and operated by Ron and Carol Schindele. They are located in the Burk Building next door to Model Clothing.

The Schindele family came from Grand Forks, ND, where Ron was employed as a heating and plumbing service man for many years.

The building was occupied by Melroe Manufacturing for its drafting department in the seventies, and Burk Implement in the fifties and has also housed restaurant and automotive businesses, among others.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 221

SHEPARD FARMERS ELEVATOR COMPANY

Shepard Farmers Elevator Company was first organized in 1904. The elevator was built the fall of 1904. First board of directors was as follows:

Jorgen Soma	president
Martin Ueland.....	vice-president
F. Greenland	secretary
Edward Michaelis	treasurer
Ole Lima, Duncan Sinclair, Carl Lende	Directors

The capacity of the elevator was approximately 34,000 bushels at the cost of \$6,800 or about twenty cents per bushel. According to the minutes, the mortgage was paid off in the year of 1908. Grain prices at Shepard July 9, 1906 were: Wheat 70¢, Barley 38¢, Flax \$1.05 and Oats 32¢.

The organization was reorganized in 1945 in that anyone who would sell grain and earn a dividend would have the right to a membership providing the elevator made a profit. The first commission company to help finance the elevator operation was McCarthy Brothers of Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1904. They financed the elevator until it merged with Atwood Larson Company in the middle 1960's. Atwood Larson Company is presently serving as commission company for the elevator.

In reading through the minutes it is difficult to determine who the different managers were and how long they served the elevator up until Andrew Sharpe started July 8, 1912 and managed the elevator until June 1, 1923. A.M. Hausen then served for one year. Gabriel Sharpe served until October 1, 1936. V.F. Bunde managed from July 5, 1937 to December of 1939. Roy Ashland began in February or March of 1940, and served until March 1, 1946. Carrol Torger son served until March of 1952. Al Boe then took over and managed until the later part of 1957. Orville Eckert man aged until June 1, 1961. Wally Rislov took the manager's job beginning July 1, 1961 and as of December 1, 1981 is still managing. Allen Klipfel is assistant manager. As of this date and writing the Shepard Elevator Company complex consists of the main original elevator plus one flat storage Butler bin north of the elevator, capacity about 61,000 bushels, two round steel bins next to the driveway, each about 9,500 bushels, three round steel bins southeast of the elevator, each about 9,500 bushels, five round steel bins south of the elevator, each about 4,000 bushels, are used mainly for seed. There are two wooden warehouses used

mainly for chemicals and sack seed. A sunflower complex was erected in 1978 north of the Butler building along the sidetrack. It consists of two steel legs with a steel tower approximately 115 feet high with two steel flat bottom bins, one 57,200 capacity and the other 15,000 bushels, both with aeration, a dryer with a 4,200 bushel holding bin above, and a concrete driveway with unloading conveyor. Shepard is now in the process of building a machine shed for trucks and tractors. The manager lives in the elevator dwelling across the tracks to the west of the elevator. The current board of directors is:

Clarence Bednarpresident
Frank Pfeifervice-president
Carrol Retzlaffsecretary-treasurer
David Saxbergdirector
Bennett Michaelisdirector
Leland Harveydirector
Leonard Johnson.....director

Current prices: (as of December 1, 1981)

Wheat\$3.60
Durum\$3.75
Flax\$6.90
Oats\$1.75
Sunflowers\$10.15
Barley\$1.75

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 221

SHEYENNE TOOLING & MFG., INC.

In 1977 when Clark Equipment Company of Cooperstown announced its closing Curtis Stokkeland, Nell Fisher, and Raymond Walker (employees of Clark Equipment Company) formed Sheyenne Tooling & Manufacturing. They conducted their business in the rural Cooperstown community. Tool and die work was the main product, with some manufacturing of components for a new type of bearing puller built by Posi Lock of McHenry, North Dakota

In 1979 the Main Motors building was purchased from the Sheyenne Valley Vocational School. The manufacturing department was then moved in. A zinc plating system was also installed for the finishing of the bearing puller components. Later on the tool and die department was moved in, putting everything under one roof.

With increasing sales of the Posi Lock bearing puller, a heat-treating system was also installed.

In 1981 Nell Fisher and Raymond Walker sold out to Curtis Stokkeland and James Broten who are the present owners. James Broten operates a farm by Dazey.

The building, constructed about 1925 on the site of the old Palace Hotel, was originally the home of Palace Motors.

It is located on the corner of Tenth and Burrell.

SHEYENNE VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. - Finley, ND

Recognizing the need to extend central station electric power to the rural areas of the United States, Congress passed legislation known as the Rural Electrification Act of 1936. Because of the large investment required to bring electrical service to the sparsely populated rural areas, cost of service to subscribers would have been prohibitive, so relatively little progress was made.

Several years later Congress passed legislation known as the "Pace Act", which provided for low cost financing to any entity that would provide electrical service to anyone within the area upon their request. This legislation made possible the formation of cooperatives to construct their own electrical systems.

During and in the years immediately following World War II, material for construction of facilities was not available; however, interest in central station power for rural areas was active. A group of nine farmers from the Cooperstown, Finley, and Tolna area were chosen to lay the groundwork for the present cooperative.

Sheyenne Valley Electric Cooperative was incorporated under the laws of North Dakota on September 16, 1944. The first Board of Directors were: John Oxtun, Jr., Joseph Finell, L.B. Tweed, A.J. Pare, E.D. Beckman, Alfred Retzlaff, C.B. Herigstad, Oscar Idsvoog, and Abel Vig. By the end of 1947 financing had been obtained from REA and two hundred and fifty-nine members were receiving central station power.

Construction continued until most of Griggs, Steele, and Nelson and portions of Eddy, Benson, Ramsey, Grand Forks, and Traill counties are now served by the Cooperative. Currently the Cooperative provides service to 2710 members.

Average monthly kilowatt-hour usage per farm has increased from 100 kilowatt-hours in 1947 to 1518 kilowatt-hours in 1980. The average cost per kilowatt-hour has decreased from 6.6¢ in 1947 to 3.3¢ in 1980.

Sheyenne Valley is one of twelve distribution cooperative receiving wholesale power from Minnkota Power Cooperative of Grand Forks, North Dakota. This has proven to be a reliable *Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial of power with some of the lowest cost wholesale power in the nation.*

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 222

SOMEPLACE ELSE

Someplace Else is a furniture and carpet store. Harvey and Pat Benson started the business in June of 1972. The store is located in the original Larson Store building, which was vacant at that time.

Some of the occupants known to have been in the Larson Store prior to the vacancy were: Tupper Howden: who moved from Costello's Rexall Store to the Larson building in 1957. Mr. Howden had a drug and department store. The store sold out in 1971. Larson

Store: In 1905, Albert Larson had a general merchandise store. Pete Carlson and Gustav Hanson also became partners. Pete Carlson was bookkeeper and accountant with controlling interest. Albert Larson's son, Selmer Larson later was in the store. He died in 1956. The grocery department was on the west side and dry goods on the east.

Prior to this Eric Erickson, Albert Larson, Andrew Berg, and Lewis Berg had a general merchandise store known as Berg Brothers and Company in 1895.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 222

STONERS

Nell Fisher owns the present Stoners Beer Tavern. He purchased it from Ricky Stone February 1, 1981. Ricky Stone bought the business from Jeff Sedler, who bought it from Dumpy Loudon who called it Dumpy's Beer Garden.

Prior occupants in this building were as follows:

Ted and Orpha Pladsencafe and beer

Helen Sharpecafe

Adam Sardotzcafe

Bernice Lovelacecafe

Selma Overbyecafe

Jerry MartinBlue Moon

Marquardt's Cafe(moved over for a short time after the fire of 1929)

Norma's Beauty Shop

Original Greenland Lunde Farm Implement (they moved out of the building when they bought the Jimeson-Olson building)

John Oie Land Officereal estate, land, and farm loans.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 222

STOREY INSURANCE AGENCY OF COOPERSTOWN

Storey Insurance began operation in Cooperstown June 24, 1981, with Tony Storey owner and operator.

Prior to this time, Mr. Storey had been employed as Secondary Principal in the New Rockford, North Dakota school system.

Storey Insurance is located in the Burk Building next to Model Clothing. Janelle Hoffman is secretary for the agency.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 222

STRAND READY MIX

Strand Ready Mix was started in Cooperstown in 1972. It was purchased by Strand Ready Mix, Finley, North Dakota, Sanford Strand, owner, from Braunberger Brothers

Construction of Finley. The business was managed by Douglas Strand until 1979. Doug and his two brothers purchased Strand Ready Mix from Sanford Strand and incorporated the business. There are also plants in Finley, Mayville and Lakota.

Doug is married and has three daughters, Kimberly 11, Laurie 6, and Nicole 2. A fourth child is expected in 1982. His wife Kathy is also from Finley.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 222

TORGERSOON'S Real Estate - Auctioneering - Builders

Carrol Torgerson was raised in Lenora Township, Griggs County where his parents, Herman Torgerson and Margaret Huso Torgerson were farmers. His grandfather, Torbjorn Huso, was an early pioneer in Griggs County.

Maxine Rhodes Torgerson is a native of Cooperstown. Her parents were Alonzo Rhodes and Louise Tabeaux Rhodes. Her grandfather and great-grandfather were early settlers in Griggs County where they farmed and owned Rhodes Hardware in Cooperstown.

Carrol farmed and was employed by the Griggs County ASC prior to enlisting in the U.S. Navy. After serving three years during World War 11, he came home to a job as manager of Shepard Farmers Elevator in 1946. Six years later he entered into a partnership with Gerald Davison and they purchased the Ford dealership from Otto Rebhahn and Abe Thime. The business was located in the Palace Motor Garage where Sheyenne Valley Tool and Die is now doing business.

The dealership was called Main Motors and they continued until 1960 when Carrol and his wife, Maxine, purchased Gorseth's Variety Store and Carrol attended the Reisch School of Auctioneering in Iowa. Maxine tended the store while Carrol went into the auctioneering and real estate business. In 1965, Maxine Torgerson purchased the J.C. Penney Store building and moved the variety store to that building. This building is now the present Coast to Coast Store. Maxine purchased the Mamselle Dress Shop from Orpha Cussons and renamed it Maxine's. Soon after that she sold the Variety Store to Orrin Hammerschmidt from Minot. From 1970 to 1976, she also owned and operated a fabric shop.

In 1976 she moved the dress shop into the building across the street adjoining the Oasis and owned by the Cooperstown Municipal Association. In late 1979, Maxine sold the clothing store to Patricia Erickson of Cavalier who operates it under the name of Patricia's.

Carrol has his real estate - auctioneering - builders office in the building just north of the Farmers and Merchants Bank. Michael Torgerson, son of Carrol and Maxine is also associated with the Torgerson Builders business.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 223

TROSTAD APARTMENTS AND TRAILER COURT

The Trostad Apartments were built in 1952 by Bob Smith. Leonard Trostad bought the apartments April 3, 1954. Mr. Trostad built the trailer court in July of 1955. It was Cooperstown's first all-modern court with water, sewer, and electricity. The new trailer court was built in 1970.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 223

TWILLA'S CUT 'N CURL

Twilla's is located in back of Al's Barber Shop on Burrell Avenue. Twilla Hagen is the present operator of the shop. She began renting the business in 1974.

Prior to Twilla, the following beauty operators worked in the shop: Margaret Seim

Evelyn Rothert

Mildren Kinn (married George Lockner)

Melva Thompson, McHenry

Hjerdis Stalvik (Mrs. Wallace Iverson)

Ruth Seldahl

Esther Zuelsdorf (1932 to 1941)

Gudren Kastet worked there when Bill Nelson bought the barbershop.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 223

VALLEY TRUCK LINE

Valley Truck Line, Cooperstown, is a common carrier providing motor truck transportation of general commodities. It serves Cooperstown and about 20 other communities. It was established in 1954 at Cooperstown by Maynard Freitag. Its present owner, Allen Kenninger, has been part owner and owner since 1969.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 223

V-W MOTORS, INC.

Gene Wuflestad and Ted Vigesaa purchased the former Sarsten Motor Company from Art Sarsten In July of 1960. Mr. Sarsten had owned the business with a Chrysler-Plymouth franchise for 27 years. The new business was named V-W Motors, and started with sales and service of Chrysler and Plymouth cars. In late 1961 the Rambler franchise was added to the line of cars.

Gene Wuflestad left the business in 1962 to resume his teaching profession. His interests in the business were purchased by Ted Vigesaa some time later.

In the winter of 1964 the building burned down, with the loss of four new cars and all parts and records. By the fall of 1964, a new building was finished. At that time the Rambler line was dropped and the Dodge car and truck franchise was added. Since that

time V-W Motors has continued with sales of the full Chrysler Corporation line of cars and trucks.

The business was incorporated in 1972. The present employees are Ted Vigesaa, President, Agnes Vigesaa, Secretary-Treasurer, Laurence Loge, Parts Manager, Art Erickson and Duane Loudon, Sales, Bill Wallace, Shop and Service Manager, Larry Lien, Dale Hagen, Jeff Knapp, and Rusty Thompson, Mechanics.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 223

WEST SIDE MOTEL

The West Side Motel was built by Fred and Alice Paintner in 1956 and was ready for business the spring of 1957. They did the building themselves, although Fred died in February of 1958 before the house was completely finished. Alice later added a garage to the south end of the motel, and the garage on the west side of the house was made into a combination family room and office.

The motel has nine units plus Number 10, which was made into a one-bedroom apartment. Alice and her five children lived at the motel throughout their school years and Alice stayed on alone after her family all graduated, and operated the motel single-handed. In 1977 Alice's daughter Delores and her husband Verle Vigen bought the motel. They owned and operated it for a little more than a year at which time Carol and Maxine Torgerson bought it. Torgersons owned the motel until July of 1979 when they sold it WIL-RICH and the house to Eldon and Clara Jo Conant and their three children: Jodi, Tony and Kyle. They are the present owners. Conants have made a few additions and improvements. The graveled parking lot has been paved and at present a combination garage, workshop, and breezeway are being added on the north side of the house. The present garage will be used to accommodate more customers by being made into a kitchenette unit.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 223

WONDER REST MOTEL

Wonder Rest Motel was built by Otto Rehbahn. Mr. and Mrs. William Ohman purchased it in the spring of 1955. Mr. and Mrs. Kjell Haaland purchased it November 1, 1968 and are the present owners.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 224

WILKENS ELECTRIC

Wilkens Electric is owned and operated by Walter Wilkens. Wilkens has been a licensed master electrician since 1951. The business was moved to Cooperstown from Finley in 1973. A new building was constructed in 1974 in the west business area.

Business activities include commercial, industrial, farm and home wiring. Wilkens has served two terms as president of the North Dakota Electrical Contractors Association and is presently on its board of directors.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 224

Wil-Rich

Production of parts for the Wil-Rich Moldboard plow was started December 1, 1979 and the first plow rolled off the line the last week in January of 1980.

Pictured on page 207 is the crew that produced the first plow. Pictured from left to right are: Robert Chapman, Al Boe - Plant Manager, Paul Bender, Mike Hoglund, Kenneth Gaden, Mervin Haugen, Stan Edland, Jr., Ken Schwartz, Bob Auren, Mel Schneider, Mike Torgerson, Tom Stockeland, Terry Short, Jim Lentsch, Richard Kuklok, Jon Clark, Wayne Reinhart, Henry Trondson, Ron McKee, Doug Gronneberg, Chuck DeHoff, Allura Jones, Secretary, Jim Smaaland, Gary Sorenson, Welding Foreman, Dean Ostenson, Jim Broten, Production Control Manager, Bill Rahlf, Fabrication Foreman. Employees not pictured were Darrell and Robert Geiger.

Wil-Rich is a farm products manufacturing company.

The building was originally built by Ed Reiten in the fifties. Reiten sold to Melroe Manufacturing, which was later sold to Clark Equipment. The Cooperstown Melroe plant was closed and later the city became owner of the building, which is leased to Wil-Rich.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 224

Community Institutions

COOPERSTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT

The old fire hall stood about where the new one is, but faced north. When workmen excavated for the new hall's foundation, they found the old foundation and an old cistern. Cooperstown's first fire department was organized in the spring of 1895, when the business people and others interested met to discuss the matter of fire protection for the village.

Following that meeting, the town board ordered from the Waterous Fire Supply Company of St. Paul one steam fire engine with a capacity of 325 gallons per minute, together with two hose carts and 1000 feet of hose. The town board also provided the necessary engine house and storage cistern for water. The whole outfit complete cost the town about \$3,600.

At the May meeting in the Palace Hotel, Maynard Crane was elected chief and F.J. Stone assistant chief. Four companies were formed, the engine company with a member-

ship of twenty men, Hose Company Number 2 with sixteen men and Hook and Ladder Company with a membership of fourteen men.

On July 23 the engine arrived at Cooperstown. J.C. Flynn's dray team was hitched to the engine, and with other teams drawing the hose carts, the equipment was tested.

"Engineer W.M. Gibson touched a match to the fuel. In moments she had twenty pounds of steam and her pumps working. In four minutes she was sending a strong stream through 100 feet of hose, to which was attached a one-inch nozzle. She threw water over 100 feet high," it was reported.

No mention is made in the early accounts of the good-looking uniforms, which perhaps came later.

The engine is still in the possession of the fire department and has been used for such jobs as opening culverts in the spring. It has also been an attraction in numerous parades.

One other piece of equipment shown in the old picture has been brought out of retirement and now is once more in the public eye.

The bell, which hung atop the old hall, is now occupying a place of honor in front of the new one. It was repainted and set in an ornamental frame just before the dedication of the City Hall building. Melroe Company donated the work on the bell and frame. It is a heavy one, intended to remain stationary while the clapper is pulled from side to side. In the original, ropes on a pulley apparently swung a wooden lever to activate the clapper.

Firemen's clothing has become more casual and more functional over the years, too. The splendor of brass buttons, double-breasted coats and caps has given away to waterproof slickers and hats.

Incidentally, the village population was about 500 when the 69-man department was organized. Cooperstown now has about three times as many residents, and less than half as many firemen. Automation has created changes.

The late Swen Olgaard, who was a member of the fire department 60 years, recalled that when he first belonged, they had running teams who competed regularly. (He complained that one time the Cooperstown team had the ugliest looking uniforms in the race, but ran the fastest in spite of it all.)

Fire Department Notes of Interest

In 1966 the rescue squad was organized and the fire department increased its membership from 25 to 28 members.

In 1968 a party was held for Swen Olegard who was an active fireman for 60 years.

In 1969 the city hall was completed and the fire department held its first meeting in the new hall, December 2, 1969.

In 1971 contracts were signed with the townships in Griggs County for fire protection.

Major fires in the last 25 years: county highway shop, 1969

VW Motors, 1964

Windsor Hotel, and Cooper Cleaners, 1965

New equipment added to the fire department: 1970, a red pumper was brought from California

1973, the fire department designed and built a GMC pumper
1977, a rescue van was purchased
1980, the fire department designed and built a four-wheel drive pickup with portable pumper.

1982 Membership

Honorary members: E. Larson, P.C.

O. Tang, P.C.

M. Mosher, P.C.

W. Nelson, P.C.

H. Saxerud

S. Quam

Q. Dahl

A. Hagle

W. Detwiller

K. Johnson, 1. Berdal

N. Heisz.

Active members: Chief M. Myers

Assistant Chief, R. Hanson

Secretary M. Salzwedel

Treasurer, E. Fritel

R. Baker, P.C.

K. Saxerud, P.C.

J. Bender, P.C.

A. Thompson

A. Stokkeland: J. Flaagan

E. Conant

R. Nelson

D. Rostberg

D. Dahl

G. Fletschock

G. Dahl

D. Bakken

D. Monson

D. Rhone

D. Chaput

R. Walker

D. Strand

B. Wallace

L. Lien

A. Douville

L. Reese

D. Edland

D. Severson.

P.C. stands for Past Chief.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 225

COOPERSTOWN AIRPORT

The city council of Cooperstown purchased a quarter Section of land south of town in May of 1946 for airport purposes. Two hangers were constructed by a group of aviation enthusiasts. They were to house the planes owned by Lorents Lima, and the other jointly by Robert W. Baker, C.H. Pramhus, Ingram Walen, and Melvin Nelson. Two runways were bladed, an east-west runway extended nearly across the quarter Section, and a north-west south-east, which provided good ground for landing and take off. Another plane was then purchased for flying instruction and taxi service.

In March of 1947 Skyways, Inc. was formed to conduct a flying school at the local airport and to promote aviation in the locality. Incorporators of the organization formed were, Robert W. Baker, Melvin H. Nelson, A.C. Seebart, and Lorents Lima. By May of 1947 the runways were completed and the former Otteson blacksmith shop building was purchased and moved to the field to be used for a hangar, shop, and office.

The Cooperstown Airport Authority was organized in 1966. It consisted of two city council members, Leon Sayer, and Ralph Bender, and three appointed members, Robert Baker, Lorents Lima, and Al Thompson, to oversee the upkeep and management of the municipal airport. In 1967 a hardtop runway was built with local funds, the next year, 1968, runway lights were installed to aid in night flying. The runways were lengthened and made wider with the help of federal and state funds. In 1979 a pilot's lounge was built for transit and local pilots, with rest rooms and telephone for their use. There are now several larger buildings on the airport to hangar about 14 planes.

Cooperstown had one of the most active Civil Air Patrol squadrons in the state for about 25 years, until it disbanded. The airport today gives service to a large area in crop spraying, charter service, plane rentals and airplane repair service. Those followers of aviation have seen many changes through the years from the two place cubs to the seven place twin-engines, and the electronic equipment used on the airport today.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 226

COOPERSTOWN COUNTRY CLUB

In the early 1920's, early golfers played golf on a course located at the site of the fairgrounds. Officers were Walt Nelson, president, and Gust Hansen, Secretary-

Treasurer. Membership at that time was around twenty. The course was discontinued in the middle '30's.

In 1942 or '43, land was purchased northwest of Cooperstown from Arneson. Nine holes with sand greens were put in and a clubhouse was built. The golf course was about half the size of the present golf course. Clare Olson and Milton McMillan were particularly active in organizing the course.

In 1956, most of the greens were rebuilt.

About August 1973, the nine-hole course was re-designed and grass greens were established. Maynard Langford was hired as the first caretaker at that time. Also, an automatic sprinkler system was installed, fed from the city water system.

A new clubhouse was built by the Vocational School in 1974.

In the spring of 1979, a golf cart shed was built. This shed provides shelter for about thirty golf carts.

At the tee-off on #6 fairway, a large stone with an inlaid memorial marker was donated by Don Loder as a memorial to the family of Gary Brown.

Present membership is around 184 members. The clubhouse facilities can be rented for special community occasions. Many trees have been planted on the new golf course, donated by individuals from the community. Much credit to Don Loder for promotion of this project. Several tournaments are held during each year, along with a ladies night and men's night every week.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 227

COMMUNITY PARK AND SWIMMING POOL

The Community Park and Swimming Pool started in 1955 when a group of interested citizens set out to raise funds. The committee in charge included Willmar Haerter, Duna Frigaard, Mrs. H.W. Hildre, Roy L. Solberg, Oscar Tang, Ed Reiten and Al Boe. The city set aside Block 20 as a park.

By mid summer of 1955 sufficient funds had been collected and pledged to assure the success of the project. Construction was begun and by the fall of 1955 all had been completed except the bathhouse. In the spring of 1956 the bathhouse was completed and by mid-July of 1956 the 40 x 120 foot pool was opened for business.

The total cost of the pool came to \$19,500.00 and it was constructed almost entirely by volunteer labor. When the pool was completed all bills were paid in full with all cash donations coming from individuals, clubs and various organizations in the community.

In 1956 many old willow trees were removed to make room for new trees. A cookhouse was added along with many pieces of playground equipment.

The Community Park and pool operated without any tax income. They operated from the income from the pool and donations from the municipal liquor store that varied from \$1000.00 to \$1500.00 per year.

In 1970 a city park board was organized and they took over the operation of the pool.

The first elected members of the newly formed Cooperstown Park Board were Ing Berdal, Lester Winning, Jr., Bonnie Irwin, Edith Skarp, and Ted Sonderby. The Cooperstown Park Board began levying four mills to help support its operations.

Research was started in 1972 on the feasibility of building a new swimming pool. Plans were drawn for an I-shaped pool, 75'x 43' with a 30'x 32' diving bay. In 1973 a 50 percent matching grant from the North Dakota Board of Outdoor Recreation was obtained in the amount of \$72,000.00. A community effort was launched on a fund drive, which brought in an additional \$72,000.00. The new pool was constructed during the summer of 1974 on a new site east of the high school. The old pool was demolished. In 1975 donated funds were obtained to construct a camper hookup and restroom facility near the site of the old pool. The mill levy was increased by vote to eight mills in 1977 to help pay escalating operating costs.

It soon became apparent that the new pool had structural defects and a major repair project would be necessary. It took two attempts to obtain a "yes" vote on a \$30,000.00 bond issue to repair the new pool. The pool remained closed for the summer of 1978 and the necessary repairs were made. Legal action was taken against both the contractor and the engineer. The contractor's bonding company has settled their part of the suit for \$17,000.00. The suit against the engineer is still pending.

The Cooperstown Park Board also takes an active part in a summer baseball program for youngsters.

In addition to the tax levy and user fees the Park Board still relies on private donations to help meet the operating budget.

The current members on the Park Board are: Dale Severson, Duane Lura, Pat Knight, Jo Conant, and Ron Hensler.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 227

GRIGGS COUNTY FAIR

The Griggs County Fair Board is the governing body of the Griggs County Fair. The current members include: President, Dr. Vernon Knudson

Vice-president, LeRoy Jungels

Secretary, John Swenson (Griggs County Extension Agent)

Treasurer, Dale Donat. Other members include: Mrs. Carrol (Maxine) Torgerson, Mr. Barry Olsen, Mrs. Kenny (Mae) Monson, Mrs. Curtis (Bebe) McCardle, Joe Zimprich, Ingvard Haugen, Harvey Benson, Rodney Brekken, and honorary member, Aldo Iverson.

The fair consists of two main divisions. Participants may enter their exhibits either in the open class division or the 4-H division.

The open class division is open to any resident of Griggs County and includes a variety of classes, including livestock, home economics (canning, baking, arts, crafts, and textiles). There were 101 entries in the open class division for the 1981 fair.

The 4-H Division is open to any enrolled 4-H member of Griggs County. Classes in the division include livestock crops, home horticulture, woodworking, electricity, arts and

crafts, photography, health and safety, home economics. There were 439 entries in the 4-H division in the 1981 fair.

The Griggs County Fair is held during the second weekend in July. Various events, which are scheduled during the fair days, include the Ladies Luncheon and Style Show, Livestock and Home Economics Judging Contest, Tasting Bee, Hobby Show, Fiddlers' Contest, Carnival, Parade, Square Dancing, and the 4-H Premium Sale. A large event scheduled during the fair is the Miss Griggs County Pageant. The queen chosen at this event reigns over the festivities of the fair and participates in the Miss North Dakota Contest. The pageant was started in Griggs County five years ago.

The fair barn is the only remembrance of the early fairs. It was first used in 1919. At the early fairs, horse racing was a major attraction. The racetrack can still be seen, but the grandstand burned in 1962. The Griggs County Fair has gone through many changes in its long history and still remains a social gathering place for farmers and townspeople.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 228

THE FIRST GRIGGS COUNTY FAIR

An attempt for organizing a fair association was made in July of 1897 without much success, but by June of 1899 the Griggs County Fair Association was organized; articles of incorporation and bylaws were adopted.

A twenty-acre tract of land in the southeast part of town was purchased from H.P. Hammer. By the end of July a grandstand 80' x 18' was built and the racetrack was ready for business. Early in 1900 horse sheds were built and a water well was dug on the grounds.

July 4, 1900 teams laden with pleasure seekers came into town from every direction and the town was soon filled with 3,000 to 4,000 people. The celebration of the National Holiday began with a bicycle parade at 9 a.m. Following the parade, the crowd went to the fairgrounds to witness the five-mile bicycle race in which a dozen different riders started. Holton of Larimore came in first, with Theo. Marquardt a close second. A baseball game between Hope and Cooperstown was called, a close game with Hope winning.

In the afternoon horse and pony races were held. Cattle exhibits included shorthorns by A.A. Booth of Rogers and Messrs. E.C. Butler and Benjamin Upton. Other exhibitors receiving premiums included: Geo. Newberry who showed guinea fowl and buff Cochins, Gus Evers with Brahmas, J.G. Mills with Poland China pigs, Will Sansburn with a Clydesdale stallion, Neal Stewart with a Percheron stallion, and J.N. Brown with grade Shorthorns.

This celebration was probably Griggs County's first fair and would have been a grand success had not the rain put a stop to it, the indications pointing to a very large crowd on the second day.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 229

GRIGGS COUNTY LIBRARY

Attempts to establish library services in Cooperstown began almost as soon as the town was founded. Collections were found in many of the early homes. Reading rooms were established for a period of time, and then discontinued. Later the State Library sent out Traveling Library collections to be circulated. In 1926 the Congregational Church had a collection. For a time the Evangelical Lutheran Church maintained a small lending library in its basement. This was a permanent collection and most of the books were donated.

Continuous public library service in Cooperstown dates back to 1944. A group of interested women, realizing the need of a permanent service invited delegates from the men s and women's religious, civic, and fraternal organizations in the city to meet at the Windsor Hotel February 5, 1944 for the purpose of forming a library board. Mrs. M.D. Westley explained the necessary procedure as outlined by Lillian B. Cook, of the State Library Commission.

The first board members were:

Mrs. M.D. Westley Chairman
Mrs. Carl Johnson..... Vice-chairman
Mrs. Pat Morrissey Corresponding Secretary
Mr. E.E. Tracy recording and financial secretary

Mr. George Reid of Central Light offered space in their building to house the library and the offer was accepted. The first librarian was Mrs. Selmer Larson, followed by Mrs. William Barr.

As the library grew it needed more money for its operation. In 1964 the library board requested and was granted an operating mill levy from the city. At that time other changes in the organization were made to bring the library into conformity with state laws dealing with libraries. A small grant was received from the State Library Commission to bring the collection up to standard. This made the library eligible for grants and assistance under the Library Services and Construction Act.

Frieda Hatton and Nora Mohberg from the State Library Commission made several visits here to explain the LSCA and the processes for qualifying for aid in improving the library facilities. Federal monies were available. The board and SLC representatives appeared at the city council meetings to explain the procedure to them. If the city library would sponsor a demonstration they would be eligible for funds to purchase a building. The council gave its approval and voted to appropriate \$10,000 toward a building. In July of 1968 application was made for funds to the State Library Commission, and in August the demonstration was approved. The funds in the amount of \$13,000 were received from the state in November to supplement the \$10,000 from the city to purchase the building (which formerly was used by the ASCS). The library move was made the week of October 18, 1968. The multi-county demonstration began in 1969 and continued until 1971.

In July of 1971, the Griggs County Commissioners, upon presentation of petitions signed by 51% of the qualified voters of Griggs County, levied a tax of I mill for county library support. The new library was known as Prairie Bookmobile Library. Prior to this

any county library service was furnished by the city of Cooperstown on a limited basis. From this time on the library collection and services have grown rapidly. The two libraries operated as separate units until the spring of 1975 when they combined their facilities to form the Griggs County Library.

An indication of the growth of the library is seen in the increase in circulation and the hours open to the public as shown by the following: Circulation:

1946	493 books loaned
1954	2990 books loaned
1964	7674 books loaned
1974	21,331 books loaned
1980	40,469 books loaned

The hours the central Library is open for service have increased from 2-3 hours a week to the present schedule of 42 hours a week (seven hours a day, six days a week). A bookmobile serves the rural area.

The board chairman since the library's origin have been:

Mrs. M.D. Westley	1944-1950
Mrs. Editha Holter	-1950-1952
Mrs. J.O. Fredrickson	1952-1963
Mrs. Hamlin Saxerud	1963-1967
Mrs. G.J. Frigaard	1967-1968
Mrs. Lester Winning, Sr.	1968-1969
Mrs. Peter W. Patton	-1969-1971
Mrs. G.J. Frigaard	1971-1975
Mrs. Donald Larson	1975-1976
Orville Tranby	1976-1979
Mrs. Torrey Berge	1979-1980
L.C. Larson	1980-1981
Mark Lunde	-1981.

Librarians who have served the library are: Mrs. Selmer Larson, Mrs. William Barr, Mrs. S.L. Lemna, Mrs. John Edward Erickson, and Mrs. Allen Larson.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 229

AMERICAN LEGION

The three days from March 15 to 17, 1919 mark the American Legion's birthday. The formative caucus in Paris convened on those dates and from the caucus, the American Legion emerged. In 1921, a group of 70 local veterans organized and received their American Legion Charter. On its inception, the Post was designated as Gordon Lindgren Post 143 in honor of Gordon Lindgren, the first Cooperstown boy killed in action. He was 23 years old when he gave his life on the battlefields of France. Gordon M. Lindgren was one of the first North Dakotans into action and he took part in many of the American advances. A newspaper report at that time stated, "Gordon Lindgren was a young man whom everybody liked and his death was the occasion for sincere sorrow not only among relatives but among his many friends here. He will be remembered as a

happy, cheerful boy, a willing worker, and steadfast friend, and he died bravely fighting to make the world a better place in which to live".

The first officers of the Cooperstown Post were as follows:

Commander	Jack Syverson
Vice Commander	D.B. Martin
Adjutant	Robert Widstrom
Finance	Oscar M. Olson
Historian	Albert Bolkan
Chaplain	Dr. M.D. Westley

The first State Commander was C.L. "Dad" Dawson of Beach, North Dakota

Much of the information on the activities of the organization and its accomplishment during the early years is untraceable. The Cooperstown Post has been active in Community, State, and National projects such as Legion Baseball, Boy Scouts, Boys State, Oratorical Contests, Americanism, and many other worthwhile programs.

One of the first youth programs sponsored by the organization is American Legion Baseball, which locally and on a State and National basis holds the top spot in all youth sporting activities. The local Post has been in the midst of Junior Legion Baseball during this entire period with the year 1931 as a highlight, when the local players under Coach Oswald Tufte returned from the State Tournament as Champions. Cooperstown's American Legion had many good baseball players. Two outstanding baseball players were Floyd Stromme and Richard (Dick) Johnson. Stromme went on to play in the major league and Dick Johnson had the opportunity to play in the major leagues, but instead chose to serve his country as a combat pilot in World War 11.

At the present time we have four living WWI veterans who have been active Legion members. They are Jens Ashland, Martin Turnquist, Max Borchert, and Ed Dahl. The Cooperstown Post has awarded four Life Memberships to its members. They are to Norman Edland (Deceased), Jens Ashland, Martin Turnquist, and Carrol Torgerson.

The Cooperstown Post has had several State Officers: Vernon Kirkeby and Maynard Freitag as State District Commanders

Carrol Torgerson has served as State District Commander, State Vice Commander and was elected as North Dakota State Commander for the year 1959-1960. Torgerson also served as State Committeeman and also served several years on the National American Legion Legislative Commission.

Down the years, as the community went with the times, the great depression dealt the Legion a severe blow. Memberships lagged, many members not able to belong because of finances, others left to seek jobs in other communities. Only a handful of men held and slowly gained strength until today this Post ranks as one of the strongest in the State with 132 members.

During early days, meetings were difficult, as the Legion had no home; they met at hotel dining rooms, lodge halls, and private homes. The first step to remedy this was the purchase of the Sons of Norway Hall. The building served as a meeting place, also a *Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial of revenue. Dances, card parties, raffles, and smokers were held regularly in the dance hall downtown.* The sale of the Sons of Norway Hall provided part of the funds for the erection of the present Legion Hall. Using voluntary labor, the

construction started in September of 1951 and the building was completed and dedicated in May of 1952.

The 1982 officers are:

Commander	Lyle Pfeifer
Vice Commander	Larry Iverson
Adjutant	Russell Pfeifer
Sgt. at Arms	Rick Spilovoy
Finance Officer	Lawrence Peterson
Chaplain	Jerry Ronningen
Historian	John Edw. Erickson
Service Officer	Helen Cushman
Executive Committee	Steve Zimprich
“	Jim Zimprich
“	Clarence Sandvik
“	Carrol Torgerson
“	Bill Cushman
“	Bruce Hazard
“	Jeff Meester

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 230

THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Gordon Lindgren Post #143

The Auxiliary to Gordon Lindgren American Legion Post #143 was organized October 21, 1943 at the Windsor Hotel in Cooperstown. Charter members were:

Effie Anderson
Myrtle Ashland
Marie Dahlbom
Elma Edland
Nora Frigaard
Mary Irgens
Lise Johnson
Claire Johnston
Gudrie Lee
Rose Loder
Vivian Morrissey
Ann Nelson
Eva Olson
Hanna Perchert
Greta Sorvik
Nellie Sorvik
Geraldine Stringer
Genevieve Thompson
Clara Thorn

Berniece Turnquist.

Officers installed by District President Mrs. Morris Hanson from Mayville were:

President: Lise Johnson

Vice President: Nora Frigaard

Secretary: Berniece Turnquist

Sergeant-at-arms: Myrtle Ashland

Chaplain: Claire Johnston

Historian: Nellie Sorvik.

The families of Win. Schmidt, Sutton

Paul Overby, Binford

Ed Ressler, Jessie

and Claude Fallen, Sutton had lost sons in the war and were remembered with cards.

Later,

Mrs. Ed Pousette, Mrs. William. Chamley and Mrs. Taletta Johnson were adopted as Gold Star mothers. Through the years, the Auxiliary has sponsored health clinics, Girl Scout groups, style shows, blood donor clinics, and sent a child to Camp Grassick. A record kit was bought and placed in a hospital aboard ship in 1945. During the war, Christmas parties for service men's children became routine.

To encourage the study of history, a \$5.00 award was granted and won by Eugenia Hagen (Duna Frigaard.)

Community improvement was stressed. Donations given included \$25.00 to the new library, \$200.00 to the new hospital, \$100.00 towards the Boy Scouts building, \$60.00 more for the hospital raised by selling magazines, \$14.00 to the Brownie group, placed books in the new library, and made arrangements for the first tennis court.

The Auxiliary helped the Legion furnish its Club Rooms. A stove was bought in 1951, dishes were furnished in 1958 and presented at the annual birthday party, and a flag was bought for the Clubroom.

Flag codes were sent to all the schools in the county in 1948, toys were collected for Europe, warm clothing was collected for Save the Children Federation, and a white elephant sale was conducted to raise money for the All Faiths Chapel at Grafton.

During the war years, local service men were remembered with cards. It is noted that 33 were remembered in 1952 and 38 in 1967.

The Auxiliary was active in promoting the sale of war bonds and received a citation in 1951. Since 1947, 93 girls have been sent to Girls State to participate in the American Legion Auxiliary's Americanism program. Lise Johnson served on the State Girls State Board from 1954 through 1978 and was installed as President of District I in 1961.

A local veteran was adopted and was remembered every week with food and visits until he moved to the local nursing home. Besides caring for veterans, assisting as needed at the hospital, serving lunches at Girls Scout fairs, giving groceries to needy families and needy children, the Auxiliary has stood ready at all times to promote the programs of the American Legion both financially and in deed.

ATCHISON RIFLE CLUB

Reiten's Rifle Club was begun in 1960 by Ed Reiten. It is located a mile west and 1 1/4 miles north of Cooperstown, and is now called the Fort Atchison Rifle Club. The club now has around eighty members.

The Rifle Club boasts a club house, 200 yard firing line, covered firing points, trap shooting, and it hosts state championships during the summer months; two outdoors and one indoors.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 231

BOY SCOUTING IN COOPERSTOWN

The history of Boy Scouting in Cooperstown goes back more than fifty years. Cooperstown has had all branches of scouting: Cub packs, Scout troops and Explorer posts. Very few records are available about the earlier years. One thing is sure, people in Cooperstown community and specifically

Cooperstown Commercial Club, Trinity Lutheran Church Brotherhood, Gordon Lindgren American Legion Post 143, and Cooperstown Jaycees have been strong supporters of scouting. Cooperstown is the only community in North Dakota with its own Scout house located in the city park.

Hundreds of boys have been members over the years in the local scouting units. Thirty-four scouts and explorers have reached to the highest rank in Scouting, Eagle Scout. They are Boyd Larson, Herman Haugen Jr., Richard Howden, Glenn Solberg, Dennis Dahl, Donald Dahl, Lawrence Ryan, Lance Cussons, Larry Ellingson, Jerry Haugen, Harold Kjølgaard, Robert Ohman, Larry Ostenson, Robert Syverson, Blair Cussons, Dale Svaren, Michael Mack, Greg Retzlaff, Fred Weispfenning, Roger Askelson, Larry Tang, Lyle Detwiller, Ronald Dahl, Elliot Haugen, David Sayer, James Lentsch, Larry Hall, Leslie Berdal, Michael Torgerson, Bradley Olgaard, Jeff Mathisen, Don Mrozla, Greg Curtis and Rob Hoffman.

The Scout House has a trophy case full of trophies from District and Council activities where the local explorers, scouts and cubs have been successful in competition. Several scouts have attended national Jamborees and our scouters have served as leaders in national and world jamborees.

Seven Explorer Scouts have earned the high recognition from American Lutheran Church receiving the Pro Deo et Patria Scout Awards. They are Robert Syverson, Glenn Solberg, Robert Ohman, Larry Ellingson, Jerry Haugen, Larry Tang and Elliot Haugen. Three scouters from Cooperstown, Edgar Multer, L.A. Sayer and Bert Hoffman, are the recipients of "Silver Beaver" awards, highest recognition the local Boy Scout Council can bestow on a scouter. Those fifty years of scouting in Cooperstown have been possible only thanks to the many men and women in the community who were willing to serve as

unit leaders, den mothers, committeemen, merit badge counselors, commissioners and members of the district committee.

COOPERETTES

The Cooperettes originated as a young women's community organization. In the early years, they were associated with the national Jayceettes but now the club is strictly local.

The Cooperettes organized around eight years ago, and present membership is around eight members. They meet once a month in members' homes. Cecelia Fritz is president and Lana Douville is secretary at the present time.

The Cooperettes assist the community in many projects. Some of these projects are as follows: School - playground equipment, two riding horses at elementary playground; a bulletin board at the elementary school for listing of current events; supplies such as tagboard, etc. Assist County Health Nurse at the Pre-school Vision and Hearing Screening and also the Weight and Measurement Clinic.

They assist the Jaycees when they need help such as the "haunted house" during Halloween. They made a quilt for the Girls Scouts to raffle off. They have had style shows, and also assisted in drives for the swimming pool such as "Splash" and "Smash" events. The last three years, the Cooperettes have also held a Christmas bazaar at the Coachman Inn.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 232

COOPERSTOWN AMBULANCE

Ambulance? What's that? Just call the doctor and get him out here.

So it was in days gone by. Doctors used to go to their patients and treat in the home. No need for an ambulance then. But when one was needed to get someone to the hospital, Dr. Almklov or Dr. Westley was called and he would often go and pick up patients and accompany them to the hospital.

In 1934 Selmar Quam came to town and with his remodeled four-door Chrysler he provided ambulance service for years. He removed the front passenger seat and also the upright support post of the car and replaced it with a bolt lock, double opening door. Service with comfort is what he gave. As the years passed, Selmar updated to a combination hearse ambulance and after thirty-four years of service decided to turn over the ambulance work to the city. March 11, 1968, a new Dodge van was purchased from VW Motors in Cooperstown, North Dakota for \$2,375. The van was then insulated, paneled and equipped and served as the Griggs County Ambulance with Sheriff Kenneth Johnson as its main coordinator. The service was manned by all volunteer people with emergency Red Cross training.

In 1972 the City saw the need for a back-up unit to take secondary calls and standby when the main ambulance was gone on a run. February 14, 1973 the City purchased a 1968 Pontiac ambulance-hearse combination at a cost of \$5,040.00 and the service began to grow.

The state and federal laws were becoming more demanding on ambulance services and the North Dakota legislature passed a state law for ambulance services to meet certain standards of equipment and trained personnel in order to be a legally licensed service. Because of this the training of ambulance people intensified. The first E.M.T's (emergency medical technician) in Griggs County were Sheriff Johnson and Ron Grandalen.

Ron Grandalen took over as squad leader and intensified his and all other volunteers training. In 1976 the Griggs County Ambulance had seven full federally registered E.M.T's to give the best possible emergency care available. In 1977 Ron Grandalen moved from Cooperstown and Dale Severson was elected new squad leader. A class of E.M.T. training began for the first time in 1978 with Dr. Pierce as instructor. Sixty community-minded citizens took the course and boosted the ambulance squad to over twenty registered E.M.T's.

The next project for the Ambulance Squad was a drive to obtain a new ambulance, which cost approximately \$25,000.00. An application to the State was made by the squad leader, city mayor and all of city council, for a new ambulance. The first application was refused but one year later the second application was approved for seventy percent matching funds up to \$16,000.00 maximum. March 11, 1980, exactly twelve years to the day, since the service was started, they purchased from Forman Bus Company a 1980 Ford Maxi-van Ambulance, fully equipped for \$25,755.00. Federal funds covered \$16,000.00 worth and the Cooperstown community supplied the rest through memorials, contributions and fund-raising events.

In April of 1980 the Cooperstown City passed a citywide, five-mill levy for the ambulance service. At that time the Ambulance Service was renamed the Cooperstown Ambulance.

The staff has dwindled in numbers some because of people moving and loss of certification of E.C.T., but the volunteer squad still has fully registered E.M.T.'s to serve our community well.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 232

COOPERSTOWN COMMERCIAL CLUB

The April 27, 1888 edition of the Griggs *Courier* refers to a Board of Trade meeting to be held on May 1, 1888. "The Board of Trade will in all probability discuss the question of incorporating Cooperstown as a village." This group was likely the forerunner of the Cooperstown Commercial Club.

On February 15, 1904, the Cooperstown Commercial Club was formally organized. The bylaws consist of fifteen paragraphs detailing the officers, their duties and dues -\$1 membership and \$4 annually thereafter. Paragraph 9 states; "any citizen of Griggs County of good moral character may become a member by signing the bylaws and paying the fee." A.M. Baldwin was elected the first President.

There was a period of years during the 1920's and 30's that an acting chairman was appointed in advance monthly.

The minutes of April 7, 1932 show 50 members present. Mention is made of establishing a park board, however no action was taken. Reference is made on plans for the 50th year celebration. The American Legion bought the dance privilege for that day for \$150.

The Exchange Hotel was a popular meeting place for the club's supper meetings. Later the Marquardt basement dining room was mentioned as a frequent meeting place. For many years after that, the club met in the Windsor (formerly Exchange) Hotel.

During the 70's a popular feature of the Commercial Club was the annual chicken barbecue held in conjunction with Cooper Days in July. The chicken was basted and cooked over outdoor charcoal pits. The dinner was served to the public in fire hall for a nominal fee.

The Cooperstown Commercial Club continues to function in promoting the Cooperstown community and to serve the citizens of Griggs County.

Carrol Torgerson is the 1982 president, Doug Strand vice president and Charlotte Haaland secretary-treasurer.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 233

COOPERSTOWN JAYCEES

In March of 1964, a delegation of Jaycees from Fargo met with a group of young men at the Windsor Hotel with the purpose of organizing a chapter in Cooperstown.

Ernest Walde, Charles Turnquist, Harvey Hochhalter and Jerry Lyngby were the chapter's first officers.

The Cooperstown Jaycees were incorporated by the State of North Dakota April 13, 1964. The purpose of the organization was to involve the efforts of young men between the ages of 21-35 in the community to promote the welfare of the community and its citizens. The efforts of the young men would provide membership training in leadership to better their understanding and usefulness as citizens.

In the past 17 years, the Jaycees have donated thousands of dollars and man-hours to worthwhile community projects.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 234

EAGLES CLUB

The Cooperstown Eagles Club, Aerie #3965 was officially instituted October 26, 1980, and received its charter April 8, 1981. The original membership was comprised of 112 charter members. The first slate of officers: Worthy President, Kim Gutenkunst

Worthy Vice-President, Stanley Chaput

Past Worthy President, Robert Norwood

Secretary, Dennis Erickson

Treasurer, Oliver Anderson

Trustees, David Sola, Douglas Strand, Louis Stetz
Chaplain, Harvey Benson
Auditor, Larry Pavlacky- Inside Guard, Dennis Monson
Outside Guard, Mike Sorbo
Conductor, Russell Zimprich

Presently the club rents space from the American Legion to hold meetings and other activities.

The Eagles Club is part of a nationwide, non-profit fraternal organization promoting fellowship and activities for community betterment.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 234

EASTERN STAR

On April 14, 1905, the following parties met at the Odd Fellows Hall in Cooperstown, North Dakota, for the purpose of organizing a chapter of the Eastern Star: Mrs. Sarah Purinton, Miss May Retzlaff, Mrs. Thea Upton, Mrs. Tillie Burseth, Miss Edith Sinclair, Miss Grace Houghton, Mrs. Emma Rose, Miss Sigve Widlund, Mrs. Nellie Marsh, Mrs. Minnie Johnson (admitted on a demit from Prairie Chapter No. 7, Order of The Eastern Star, Sanborn, North Dakota), Mrs. Anna Thompson (admitted on a demit from Fidelity Chapter No. 1:3 Order of The Eastern Star, Hope, North Dakota), Mrs. William Glass, Mr. Oscar D. Purinton, Dr. Fred Rose, Mr. W.D. Marsh, Mr. Charles Burseth, Mr. Theo G. Thompson. Mr. Thompson being absent was declared elected to be initiated at any regular meeting of the chapter.

Honorable John F. Selby, Worthy Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star of North Dakota was present with a dispensation.

Northern Light Chapter, U.D. was duly organized.

The working team of the Hope chapter was requested by the Grand Patron to take charge during the opening and initiation ceremonies.

Elected to office in the newly organized chapter were: Mrs. Minnie Johnson, Mr. Oscar Purinton, Mrs. Anna Thompson, Miss May Retzlaff, Miss Edith Sinclair, Mr. William Glass, Mr. Charles Burseth, Mrs. Tillie Burseth, Miss Grace Houghton, Mrs. Stella Cussons, Miss Sigve Widlund, Mrs. Thea Upton, Mrs. Nellie Marsh, Mr. W.D. Marsh.

The membership in the chapter increased very rapidly during the early days. Every meeting reported at least one petition, and as many as eight were read at a single meeting. Many of the Masons entered petitions along with their wives or soon after.

O.D. Purinton of Northern Light Chapter was chosen as Worthy Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter O.E.S. of North Dakota.

The Masonic Temple was built in 1917 and dedicated July 7, 1917, and the Eastern Star conducted money-raising projects to furnish the OES lounge. Most, if not all, of the original wicker furniture still remains in the building and in good condition at the present time.

The chapter later voted to sponsor a Rainbow Assembly, and continued to do so until 1963.

There were numerous functions such as basket socials, card parties, and dancing parties. Some were sponsored by the Masons and others by the chapter.

In earlier years great values were available at moderate cost. During these times the purchasing power of the dollar is almost unbelievable to us now. The following examples are an illustration: In February of 1935, it was voted to hold a dancing party, inviting the Masons. The charge would be twenty-five cents a couple. Later that same year the chapter hosted a school of instruction, with a charge of fifty cents for the dinner.

In the late 1940's, the community began planning for a hospital to be constructed in Cooperstown and the chapter and the members became involved in this project.

In 1955 the chapter observed its fiftieth anniversary, and in 1970 its seventy-fifth.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 234

4-H CLUBS IN GRIGGS COUNTY

With the passing of the Smith-Lever Act of 1914 the Cooperative Extension Service came into existence with 4-H as an integral part. Since its beginning, 4-H has provided a developmental program for youth which utilizes a variety of programs and areas of interest (known as projects) to reach and teach all youth 9-19 years of age regardless of race, color, national origin, residence or membership in any other organization.

Griggs County established its first 4-H Club in the Karnak community April 14, 1934. Gilbert I. Moun, first Griggs County Agent, in Cooperation with Miss Sylvia Kerber and Mrs. Alma Brown as leaders founded the Peppy Peppers Clothing Club. From this small beginning of eight members the county 4-H program steadily grew to a high of 26 clubs with over 300 members in the late 1950's. With the declining rural population throughout the 1960's and 1970's the 4-H program has become smaller but not less active. In 1981 the 4-H program includes eight clubs with 117 members.

In the early years of 4-H the main emphasis areas were livestock and home economics. At the present, livestock and home economics play a large role, but the program has expanded to include over 250 projects. Today a 4-H member can find a project in almost any field of study.

October is the beginning of the 4-H year. At this time 4-H members are re-enrolled or recruited and officers are elected from the club members and serve a term of one year. The club will plan to meet once a month at either an established meeting room or at the members' homes. 4-H is intended to include the whole family and parents are encouraged to attend any or all the club meetings. The meetings usually include a business meeting, an educational program and time to help members with their projects.

Numerous county and state events are conducted during the year: camps, trips, judging contests, speech and demonstration contests and many others, held on a county and state level. Achievement Days are a summary of each 4-H member's club work throughout the year. The first Achievement Days were held by each club, but as the 4-H program grew a county achievement day was established and for the most part has been held in

conjunction with the county fair. At the Achievement Days 4-H members bring their completed projects to be judged and are awarded a grand, reserve, blue, red, or white ribbon. Any county member receiving a blue ribbon or higher is eligible to attend the North Dakota State Fair Achievement Days, which were first held in Fargo and now are held in Minot. Griggs County has been well represented at the state achievement days and has received numerous blue ribbons, reserve and grand champion awards.

4-H Achievement Days have concluded with the 4-H Premium Sale, which involves the auctioning of a project for a monetary premium. The member is not required to give up the project in order to receive a premium. The money is divided by the 4-H member and the 4-H Council, and is one of the main *Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennials of income for the 4-H Council*. County merchants, farmers, and auctioneers have generously supported this sale over the years. Without their support 4-H would not be able to keep viable.

Griggs County 4-H members have had uncountable personal triumphs and also some impressive county achievements. Members have been awarded national trips, judging teams have gone to national contests, and individuals have received state and national recognition. The county program has seen thousands of young people come and go, but it has been the 4-H leader who has stayed. 4-H leaders can be credited with much of the success of the county program.

Three present leaders of the Jolly Haymakers Club have served a total of 70 years:

Oscar Huso, Jr.,	has led the club 26	years		
Thoris Huso			“	“
“	“	25	“	
Mrs. Oscar Huso		“	“	“
“	19	“		

Harley Fogderud and Ingvard Haugen each served 20 years with the Peppy Peppers.

There have been several leaders over the years and each has contributed towards the betterment of Griggs County youth. Without the dedication and support of the voluntary leaders, 4-H would be no more. The following is a list of county 4-H leaders who have served ten or more years as either a leader or assistant leader:

Mrs. Arnold Adrian, Jessie Lakers	17 years
Mrs. James Michaelson, Dover Livestock	17 years
Dr. Delbert Clark, present leader in Sheyenne Valley	15 years
Dolar LaPlant, Kingsley Climbers	15 years
Mrs. Gerald Nierenberg, Cooper Troopers	15 years
Arnold Adrian, Jessie Lakers	13 years
Art Skramstad, Romness	13 years
Mrs. Kathy Larson, present leader in Cooperstown Honeybees	12 years
Gordon Michaelson, Dover Livestock	12 years
Harold Michaelis, Prairie Bells and Beaus	11 years
Mrs. Melvin Stokka, Shy Anns	11 years
Mrs. Bernard Zimprich, Lovell Lads and Lassies	
and Jessie Lakers.....	11 years
Mrs. Richard Bailey, Sutton Go-Getters	10 years

Mrs. Chester Bjornson, Lucky Cloverleafs and Red Willow Laker Girls	10 years
Mrs. Alma Brown, Peppy Peppers Clothing and Happy Lassies	10 years
Norman Dahl, Red Willow Laker Boys	10 years
Mrs. Beatrice Fogderud, Flying Needles	10 years
Mrs. Palmer Fors, Helena Huskers.....	10 years
Mrs. Wallace Myers, Kingsley Climbers	10 years
Mrs. Vernon Peterson, Prairie Bells and Beaus	10 years
Arnold Sletten, Grand Valley and Ottawa	10 years
Mrs. Ralph Tweed, Sheyenne Valley Girls	10 years

The county agents, and the years they served:

Gilbert I. Moun	August 1933-July 1939
George B. Simons	July 1939-Mary 1953
Irvin D. Morrison	June 1953-October 1955
Victor W. Legler	November 1955-March 1958
Paul Owen	April 1958-November 1959
Billy B. Rice	December 1959-September 1964
Donald Aelston	October 1964-December 1964
Robert Harris	December 1964-April 1969
Pat Carpentier	May 1969-July 1976
Carlton Wendel	July 1976-April 1980
John D. Swenson	June 1980-Present

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 234

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Friends of the Library was organized August 4, 1965 by a group of women interested in promoting library service. Mae Saxerud was acting chairman. The members decided to meet four times a year, on the fourth Monday of January, April, July and October at 2 p.m. Four committees were chosen: publicity, clean up, program and membership. Story Hour was to be started on Saturday for one hour. Dues were \$1.00 a year. Bookmobile service was investigated at this time.

Presidents have been as follows, for one-year terms unless otherwise indicated:

Mrs. Allen Larson	1965, 1966, 1967
Mrs. Ethel Lemna	1968, 1969
Mrs. Alph Overby	
Mrs. Carlos Eggermont	
Mrs. Arlo Neumiller	
Mrs. Vernon Knudson	
Mrs. Ted Stone	
Mrs. Dennis Fossum	
Mrs. Howard Brash	1976, 1977

Mrs. Robert Nelson

Mrs. David Lunde.....1979, 1980, 1981

Some of the things Friends of the Library have done in the past years are: serving for open houses, dusting, promoting displays, raising money for film strips and craft supplies for Story Hour, selling used books and promoting the library in the community.

The group now meets the second Monday of January, April, July and October at 2 p.m. Membership is open to any interested person.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 235

GIRL SCOUTS

Girl Scouting in Cooperstown is flourishing with a current girl-adult membership of 45. Leadership includes twelve adult members, one association chairman, and several businesses that sponsor local troops. Association Chairman for Cooperstown is Jo Conant. Jo is not new to scouting; she was a co-leader for her daughter Jodi's Brownie troop ten years ago. Today, the Brownie leaders are: Teri Severson, Pauline Kenninger, Judy Rahlf, Linda Haaland, Bernice Froiland, Diane Lund, and Judy Carpenter. Junior Scout leaders are three-year veterans Janice Therkelsen and Lana 'Douville. Cadette Leaders are Patricia Knight and her husband Jim. The Knights have been Girl Scout leaders for five years and their team approach to the Scouting program incorporates the entire family. Christine Cook is registered with the council as an artistic program consultant for the Cooperstown Association.

Records of Scouting in Cooperstown go back to 1949. At that time the leaders were:

Mrs. H.W. Hildre, Mrs. Barton Cussons, and Mrs. Del Baird.

Other former leaders were:

Mrs. Fink

Mrs. Carlton

Mrs. Lima

Mrs. Wells

Mrs. Tidemann

Mrs. Hook

Mrs. Vigesaa

Mrs. Jan Stetz

Mrs. Betty Ament

Cooperstown Girl Scouts are part of the National organization, Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. The first Girl Scout troop was organized in March of 1912, since that time the organization has grown to exceed three million members. Pine to Prairie Girl Scout Council covers 20 counties in North Dakota and Minnesota. The Board of Directors for Pine to Prairie Girl Scout Council is composed of volunteer men and women who reflect the varied geographic, economic and ethnic groups within the council. Cooperstown is represented on the Board of Directors by Patricia Knight who has served in this capacity for one year.

The Scouting philosophy is best reflected by the Girl Scout Promise and law:

*On my honor, I will try:
To serve God,
My country and mankind,
And to live by the Girl Scout Law*

The Girl Scout Law

*I will do my best:
to be honest
to be fair
to help where I am needed
to be cheerful
to be friendly and considerate
to be a sister to every Girl Scout
to respect authority*

to use reSource: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennials wisely to protect and improve the world around me

*to show respect for myself and others
through my words and actions.*

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 235

GOLDEN AGE CLUB

November 28, 1967 a group of people interested in organizing a senior citizen club met at the Legion Hall in Cooperstown. The history of senior citizens clubs and the role that North Dakota Lutheran Welfare was playing in its statewide project was explained.

The club received \$300 from Lutheran Welfare to launch a senior citizen club. Officers were elected and there were eleven charter members, five still living. Golden Age Club was the name chosen. By-laws were drawn up but the club was not incorporated until June 30, 1975.

A scrapbook was started and has been kept up to date of pictures and special events. A gavel from Norway was presented to the club by a couple of the club members who brought it back from a visit to Norway.

Contributions, memorials and other gifts have been received from the members as well as the public.

Over the past years the club had many activities

Christmas, Halloween, Mothers and Fathers Day, Easter, and Valentine parties, tours, picnics, bake sales, hobby shows, and booths at fair. The club observed older American month of May, honored its charter members at special party, visited other senior citizen clubs, taken part with floats in parades, had special birthday observances and decorated cakes for members' 90th birthdays, attended conventions.

Many outsiders gave their time to come to the club to entertain. The Legion Hall, City Hall and Sons of Norway were the meeting places, before the Senior Citizens Center, located on Main Street, was acquired.

A countywide senior citizens mill levy was passed in 1978 and was used as a matching fund for a government grant for the purpose of buying this building. A building committee was in charge with a few volunteers that started renovating this building the winter of 1978-79. The members of the club officially used the building for the first time at their meeting May 7, 1979 and the grand opening was held May 30, 1979 with 175 attending.

At present there are sixty-one members. The center is open five days a week from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 236

GRIGGS COUNTY COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

The Arts Council began with a conversation between Duna Frigaard, Maxine Torgerson and Christine Cook. They felt that there was a need in the area for an organization to promote the cultural arts, and placed an advertisement in the paper requesting interested persons attend a meeting. The first meeting in August of 1980 was not well attended. Only three people, Russ Dunker, Russ Edland and Katie Bailey came that night. A second meeting was more successful. The first few meetings were spent getting organized.

It was decided that the first project would be something for Christmas. The result was the first Madrigal Christmas Feaste. With the money made from this project and from memberships, the Council was able to begin other programs.

A logo was designed with the initials of the Council intertwined, which represented the Council and the community working together. Some of the activities of the first year included the Madrigal Dinner

Polish paper cutting exhibit

poetry workshop

Polish paper cutting workshop

exhibit of Russian artists in the financial institutions of Griggs County

juggling in the park

street theater

participation in the parades in Binford, Hannaford and Cooperstown

Leo Wilkie, sculptor and story teller

weaving workshop

knitting workshop

the start of a recorder choir

and the opening of Dakota House, the Council headquarters.

The Arts Council has been well received in the community, and has received support from businesses and residents. They have supported the Council not only with membership, but also with time and ideas.

The council is growing and will continue to serve the area as long as a need and interest are present.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 236

GRIGGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Griggs County Historical Society was organized October 19, 1960 at the home of F.A. Helland with 21 charter members. F.A. (Fritz) Helland was elected president of the organization

Walter Bohnsack vice president and Miss Irene Pratt, secretary-treasurer. Mrs. Myrtle Porterville was made an honorary member of the society.

Objectives of the society were to create an interest in the early history of Griggs County, and to secure and publish records and historical accounts worthy of preservation in permanent form.

The constitution recommended by the State Historical Society for the county group was read by Mr. Bohnsack, who acted as temporary chairman. It was accepted with minor changes.

Five directors were appointed, one from each commissioner district in the county. They were: Millard Frigaard, Edgar Krogsgaard, E.B. Ressler, A.L. Peterson and Clarence Bakken.

The historical society played an important part in having historical markers erected and maintained within the county. An impressive marker had been erected by the State Historical Society in 1958 at Lake Jessie and a dedication held June 21, 1959. A similar marker was dedicated on July 21, 1963 on the site of Camp Atchison two miles south of the junction of Highway I and Highway 65 south of Binford.

A Sibley Trail marker had been erected in 1963 by Dana Wright and a group of local citizens on Highway 1, on Section 10 in Bald Hill Township. On Section 23 in Bald Hill is a monument in memory of a member of Sully's forces who drowned nearby. A little over a mile farther south is a monument in memory of Mr. Petterson, a member of Sibley's forces who died here on their return trip from Camp Atchison.

The historical society built its first museum building in 1970. It was erected by Orlando Tenneson with members doing the interior work the following winter. The second museum building was erected in 1976, purchased through the Lumber Mart, the cement work was done by Mr. Bredeson and the steel work erected by Mr. Henrich's crew from Glenfield. Since 1966 the society has received a levy from the county, varying from .15 to .25 mills. The society relies heavily on donations in labor and finances.

On Memorial Day, 1976, a Helge Olson family monument, sponsored by the historical society, was dedicated in Pilot Mound Township. Another abandoned cemetery in which the society is very much interested is the Opheim Cemetery located in the Sheyenne River Valley. It is believed to contain 32 graves, including those of Mr. and Mrs. Opheim who settled on this land in 1879. The first monument in Griggs County is located here.

The society, through its heritage book committee, published the History of Griggs County, a volume containing 528 pages, in 1976. More than 1100 copies have been sold to date with more on hand for the centennial in 1982.

Present officers of the society are:

Rudolph Helland, president

Edward Johnson, vice president

Mrs. Monroe Pittenger, secretary

Archie Marson, treasurer

The directors are:

Howard Steiner

Walter Michaelis

Walter Hochberger

Lawrence Rix and Hamlin Ellefson.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 237

GRIGGS COUNTY HOMEMAKERS

As stated in the constitution of the Griggs County Council of Homemakers' Clubs, the object of this organization is "to unify the interests and efforts of all Homemakers' Clubs of Griggs County, and to cooperate with the County Extension Agent and the Extension Division of the Agricultural College in planning a program which will reach the greatest possible number of homemakers in the County, and promote the highest type of home and community life."

On Friday, March 9, 1934 the county's first two Homemakers' Clubs were organized. At that time the ladies of the Lovell Community met at the home of Mrs. Harold Detwiller and organized the Lovell Homemakers Club. (Irene Pratt, a charter member of this club is currently enrolled in a homemaker club.) Later that day, the ladies of Washburn Township met at the home of Mrs. Nels J. Opheim and organized the Sheyenne Valley Homemakers Club. * (Mrs. Albin Arneson, and Mrs. Melfred Monson, charter members of Sheyenne Valley are still members of that club.)

Other Homemaker Clubs that have been organized in Griggs County include:

Karnak Homemakers	August 29, 1934
* Progressive Homemakers	November 1, 1934
Bartley Homemakers	November 8, 1934
Revere Homemakers	November 26, 1934
Hill & Dale Homemakers	September 19, 1935
Sutton Homemakers	April 30, 1938
Hannaford I Homemakers	May 3, 1938
Hannaford 11 Homemakers.....	June 1938
Cooperstown Homemakers	May 18, 1938
Clearfield Homemakers	November 1, 1938

Bald Hill Homemakers	1939
Kingsley Homemakers	1939
* Prairie Land Homemakers	August 14, 1940
* Lenora Homemakers	March 7, 1942
West Prairie Homemakers	February 17, 1944
Walum Homemakers	October 25, 1944
Windy Hill Homemakers	July 23, 1947
* Binford Homemakers	September 1, 1948
* Tyrol Neighbors	August 27, 1949
* 49'ers	September 23, 1949
Club 15 Homemakers	1950
Ottawa Neighbors	1950
Bald Hill Home Advancers Homemakers	1950
Beaver Club Homemakers	1950
* Clothespin Homemakers	September 1952
Green Barts Homemakers	September 1952
* Busy Bee Homemakers	April 13, 1954
* Pilot Mound Harmony	1957
Homemakers Country Side Homemakers	June 6, 1957
* Top Ten Homemakers	1961
* Willowette Homemakers	1962
* Pins & Needles Homemakers	1975

**Still In Existence*

The Griggs County Homemakers Council was organized on June 1, 1935 with the first officers being:

Mrs. C. Sansburn, President

Miss M. Armstrong, Vice President

Miss O. Pfeifer, Secretary.

Council Officers for the 1981-1982 club year are: Mrs. Marjorie Erickson, President

Mrs. Betty Sola, Vice President

Mrs. Deane Haugen, Secretary

Mrs. Dorothy Lura, Treasurer.

Throughout the club year, homemakers are trained in four major areas including: Food & Nutrition, Home Management, Clothing, and Family Life. Homemakers are also involved in a large way with the Griggs County Fair.

Following is the homemaker creed, which summarizes the individual purpose of each member.

I believe my home is sacred; a place where love, faith, hope, and devotion have their beginnings; where each has his rights respected by others; where joys and blessings, sorrows and disappointments are shared in common; where God is revered and honored, fellowmen respected, and love is law. I believe it is my duty to live up to the best that is in me to attain this, to fear things unworthy, to conquer difficulties by daring to attempt them, to be companion as well as

counselor to my family, and to teach and live, love of home, country, fellowmen and God. "

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 237

GRIGGS COUNTY WILDLIFE

The Griggs County Wildlife Club was organized about 1936, but no minutes are available from the beginning. Club records from 1950 show that C.J. Sutter served as chairman until 1958 when Fred Oakley was elected in his place. Presidents after that and years they served:

Gerald Anderson.....	1959
S.J. Quam.....	1960-1961
Walt Bohnsack.....	1962
Gordon Olson	1963
Bruce Hazard	1964
James F. Hazard.....	1965
Leland Harvey	1966
Art Simenson	1967
Barry Ronningen	1968
James Hazard Jr.	1969
John Francis Jr.	1970
Ted Monson.....	1972
Lewis Berg.....	1973
David Saxberg	1974
Jerome Arneson	1976
David Saxberg	1978
Monty Salzwedel	1980-1981
Kenneth Eli	1982

In the beginning, club met about four times a year until 1958 when they started to meet monthly and used to alternate meetings between Cooperstown and Hannaford. In the early forties the club held a joint picnic with the Finley club at the Ueland Dam. They also held annual fishing derbies in the vicinity of the Ueland Dam. They also held rabbit drives in the early fifties and later fox drives. One drive netted seven fox, which were sold for \$6.00.

Crows were considered one of the chief pests of game bird nests and the club had crow hunts.

In May of 1954 they began to get interested about establishing a camp site at Lake Ashtabula and the next year C.J. Sutter was named chairman along with Casper Aarestad, Fred Knauss, Fred Oakley and Elmer Kjormoe on a development and building committee and a cabin was built that same year with volunteer labor. The club was incorporated in 1956. Meetings were held in the cabin during summer months and S.J. Quam donated a light plant in 1958 but that wasn't always so dependable as September minutes show that no lunch was served due to failure of the light plant. Also, the fall of 1958 the National Guard built a better road into the site.

Members were complaining of poor fishing in 1960 and the club went on record urging the Game and Fish Department to try to do something so fish couldn't escape from the lake in the spring of the year.

Gravel was hauled onto the ice in the winter of 1961 and 1962 to try and create spawning beds for fish. The club also hosted the state Wildlife Convention in June of 1961.

In 1961 the cabin was hooked up to REA and the cabin wired for \$50.13. The monthly light bill was \$3.63. Trees were planted in the spring of 1967 as a project along with the Barnes County Club north of the Ashtabula Bridge and in the hills above the cabin. In 1964 the club raffled off a pickup truck and contributed profits to the Carlson-Tande Dam project. In the winter of 1964, concern was expressed about heavy winterkill of fish and the hardship big game was having to survive. Longer fishing seasons were often requested for the lake. A game advisory meeting was hosted in 1966 and a fish supper was served. The club raised and released pheasants in 1967 but the results were not very good.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 238

HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

The Griggs County Hospital Auxiliary organized May 20, 1949 at Berg Memorial Gymnasium, W. Ray Radliff presiding.

Charter members were:

Miss Olga Standal
Miss Borghild C. Bue
Mmes: Albert Evers
Art Sarsten
James Hazard
Lucius Hazard
Roscoe Winterer
Clarence Arneson
John Fredrickson
Oscar Idsvoog
M.A. Frigaard
Norman Edland
Carrol Torgerson
Barney Bakken
George Johnston
W. Ray Radliff
Hamlin Saxerud
Maynard Langford
Fred Oakley
Casper Overby
Ray McCardle
Kenneth Hanson

Nora Frigaard
Einar Overby
Kenneth Monson
Otis Knutson
Perry Haaland
Melfred Monson
Ed Gilbertson
Carl Brudwick
Thelmer Olson
Ralph Bender
Givan Brown
Henry Herigstad
Inga Ueland
Carl Johnson
William Phelps
Manley Torgerson
Maynard Loge
Harold Hall
Fred Rose
Severin Sola
Roy Ohman
Max Borchert
Andrew Urness
Nels Urness
Henry Hammer
Selma Overbye
Al Loder
Gerald Nierenberg
Thos. Boe
Henry Nelson
H.W. Hildre
William Barr
Marie Kittelson
A.E. Dahlbom
Borghild Stromme
Charlie Groff
Oscar Huso
A.T. Huso
Arthur Larson
A.C. Brown
Vina Njaa
L. Anderson
Edith Skofstad
Gina Udgard

Officers elected 1949-50-51 were Mrs. A] Loder, president, Mrs. William Phelps, vice-president, Mrs. Thos. Boe, secretary, and Mrs. Oscar Idsvoog, treasurer, and three

additional members for executive committee: Mrs. Albert Evers, Mrs. Kenneth Hanson, and Mrs. Carrol Torgerson.

Meetings were held in various churches the third Friday of every month with three hostesses and plate collection for lunch. Dues for all members are \$1.00. A magazine subscription project was handled by Lise Johnson, who is still active in 1982.

The first project was to sew curtains and bathrobes for the hospital by Mrs. Fred Oakley, chairman with Mrs. Mae Saxerud, Mrs. Clarence Njaa, Mrs. Givan Brown, and Mrs. J.F.

Hazard and Mrs. Maynard Langford.

Money projects were washing hospital windows, coffee parties, recipe sales, bake sales, lunches at basketball games, wildlife derby, flight breakfast, Jamestown College choir, Strand Theatre benefit show, picnic suppers, ice cream socials, softball game, Farm Bureau banquets, purses made by Mrs. Gina Soma, rugs woven by Marie Kittelson, birthday calendars, bazaars.

Money projects paid for: bed linens, dish towels, pan-holders, curtains, materials, baby shirts, baby blankets, tray favors, 1964 isolette incubator, oxygen tent, bedside tables, serving carts, ice makers, fans, TV's, tray carts, sleep chair, air conditioners, sump pump and gauge, foot stools, bedspreads, pictures, sewing machines, trees, shrubs, grass, Christmas trees, waiting room furniture, venetian blinds, wheel chairs, refrigerator freezer, slicer, 30" range, cupboard, Whirlpool massager, knife sharpener, coffee pots, blender, food carts, mirrors, activities center, volunteer pins, drapes, gifts for children and gift counter, wallpaper and labor for the nursing home rooms.

Thumb sponges are made by members at meetings when needed.

1980-81-82 officers are Mrs. Grace Knapp, president, Mrs. Esther Hinschberger, vice-president, Mrs. Helen Bender, secretary, Mrs. Miranda Pittenger, treasurer.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 239

KEYSTONE COPS

The "Keystone Cops" of the silent movie era appeared in Cooperstown and Finley the summer of 1975.

Glen Plaisted, of Finley, involved in the funeral business which is sad and very serious, decided he would like to see people laugh a little, so he bought an old Model T truck and had farmer Dale Steffen of Cooperstown create the old truck into the Paddy Wagon. By the spring of 1975 the Paddy Wagon was ready. He had authentic Keystone Cop uniforms made and ordered helmets. Later a trailer was built to haul the Paddy Wagon and a motorcycle with sidecar was created.

During the Bicentennial season of 1976, Plaisted and his "Keystone Cops " were booked for parades every weekend plus. Since that time Plaisted has added a Calliope to his parade group. About half a dozen "cops" patrol the parades.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 239

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

Cooperstown Lodge Number 45, Knights of Pythias, Domain of North Dakota, was instituted February 12, 1902 with Mr. Thomas Moffitt in charge.

There were 25 charter members at the time of institution, and by 1903 the membership had grown to 39. In 1928 membership in the organization reached 160, an all-time high.

Oliver Zentz, a current member of the lodge, is a Past Supreme Representative.

50-Year Life Members:

Dr. L. Almklov	Deceased
Andrew Tufteland	“
John D. Erickson	“
Sven S. Olgaard	“
Clarence P. Dahl	“
Walter W. Flick	“
Clay Knapp	still a member

Past Grand Chancellors:

Theodore A. Marquardt
R.J. Lockner
James Bender
Oliver Zentz.

Past Chancellors: (living and deceased):

D. Fouts
F.O. Besuchet
John Moffat
Geo. Van Blon
G.B. Clark
J.A. McCulloch
W.L. Stringer
F.A. Thompson
Fred Detwiller
Theo. Marquardt
A.M. Detwiller
G.B. Edmondson
A.G. Hall
Win. LaPlant
Adolph Thompson
Ben Killeran
Ole A. Lee
E.J. Collette
Frank Collins
N.C. Baker
S.A. Rekedal

C.A. Porterville
Martin Turnquist
Nels P. Nelson
Win. L. Wandke
Geo. Severtson
R.J. Lockner
Thos. Irgens
H.O. Nelson
Albert J. Ashland
William Turnquist
S.S. Olgaard
Robert Thorn
Henry B. Nelson
C.P. Dahl
S.J. Quam
Martin N. Johnson
Kenneth Flick
Clarence Paintner
Melvin H. Nelson
Kenneth Olgaard
Hjalmer Johnson
Gilman E. Olson
Darwin Erickson
John Edward Erickson
Oliver Zentz
William Ohman
Clifford Anderson
Ralph Bender
Deland Marson
Robert Nelson
James Hazard
James Bender
Lyle Bender
Robert Bunde
Willmar Haerter
Clarence Sansborn
Paul Bender
Garfield Rasmusson
Bill Cushman
Warren Peterson.

Two well-known members from the lodge were Gerald P. Nye who served as U.S. Senator from North Dakota for quite a few years, and C.P. Dahl who was interested in politics and served as Lieutenant Governor of North Dakota for sometime.

Cooperstown K.P. Lodge made some substantial gifts of money to the Griggs County Hospital and the Community Building, also sent boys to Boys State, gifts of money to the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. Our oldest member to date is Clay Knapp, who has been a

member since 1924. Ralph Bender was Mayor of Cooperstown from 1952 to 1970 and a member in Valley City Lodge #26 in 1939 and transferred to Cooperstown Lodge #45 in 1947.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 239

NORTHERN LIGHT MASONIC LODGE #45

Masonry in Hope, North Dakota was established six years prior to Cooperstown and drew candidates and affiliates from this territory. The long horse and buggy rides to the meetings and the rivalry between the towns prompted the idea of a Masonic Lodge in Cooperstown.

The first recorded meeting of Northern Light #45 is dated July 5, 1895 and was held in the I.O.O.F. hall in Cooperstown. The hall was situated over the Bateman drug store occupying Lot 11 in Block 73. There was a charge of six dollars for the two informal meetings to discuss the establishment of the lodge and the meeting of July 5, 1895. The charter members were:

W.D. MarshWorshipful Master
J.E. JohnsonSenior Warden
David BartlettJunior Warden
J.N. Brown.....Secretary
B.A. Upton.....Treasurer
M.W. BuckSenior Deacon
George StringerJunior Deacon
E.C. ButlerChaplain
B.B. BrownTyler
Glen Dyson
William L. Stringer
S.B. Langford
Rollin Cooper
F.J. Stone
C.H. Mosely
Charles Houghton
Knud Thompson
Alex Curry
W.C. Jimeson.

By 1905 the need for larger quarters was apparent and an opportunity presented itself. In June of that year a contract was entered into with the Jimeson and Olson Company to add a second story to the building then under construction on lots 1 and 2 in Block 75. The Masonic Lodge agreed to pay \$30.00 a month and pay \$1000.00 as advance rent in order to finance the construction. Furnishings and decorations had to be supplied so a subscription list was circulated and \$1965.00 was raised. The lodge used those quarters until 1916.

For several years the lodge sponsored a lyceum course. Dances and card parties were a regular feature and supplied entertainment.

In 1904 the lodge loaned its moral support and \$25.00 to help organize an Order of Eastern Star.

In 1905 building plans were discussed. R.C. Cooper offered to donate a large equity in a Section of land. A Masonic Temple was incorporated, in which practically all of the members took from one to ten shares of stock at \$100.00 per share. The cornerstone was laid on June 23, 1916, while T.S. Syverson was master. Dedication was July 6, 1917.

By 1915 the membership had grown to 150.

This Masonic Temple still stands on the northwest corner of Block 80 on Highway 45 running north and south through Cooperstown. At the time of its erection it was the largest exclusively Masonic structure in a town this size. The building is made of greyish brick with sandstone trimmings. The main lodge room, 34' x 54', is located on first floor. At the west end of the room is a balcony filled with opera chairs, which has a seating capacity of 65. This balcony is reached by a flight of winding stairs, consisting of three, five, and seven steps and ornamented with columns representing the five ancient orders of architecture.

The ceiling of the main lodge room is twenty feet high, paneled with heavy oak beams. In the east end of the room is a stage 34' x 20' equipped with curtains, drops and wings.

The room is finished in the symbolic Masonic color of blue, the floor covering, a blue rug, the windows of leaded blue glass. The woodwork and furniture are of dark fumed oak. The room is indirectly lighted.

A club room 20' x 70' in size, divided in the center by a big colonnade, is also located on the first floor. This room has a fireplace, bookcases and lounging chairs. Billiard tables, ping-pong tables and card tables are also there.

Upstairs is a ladies' parlor, also containing a fireplace and furniture.

On this floor is also the Red Room of the building, designed for the Lodge of Perfection. It is finished in red, and oak furniture is used in the room.

Its basement houses the furnace room, kitchen, dining room, and two property rooms beside a large vault. The building was valued at \$50,000.00 at the time of construction.

John Syverson landscaped the grounds.

The temple was the Red Cross headquarters of Griggs County during World War 1. Thousands of items were assembled, made, packed and shipped from this base.

Membership by 1930 had grown to over 200. The membership was 140 in 1935.

In 1982 the building and furnishings are valued at \$425,000.00 and membership is 73 members.

The temple association maintains the building. Its members are:

Bruce G. Hazard.....Chairman

Clarence SandvikSecretary-Treasurer

Steve Dahl

James Hazard Jr.

Helger Andersen

Don Loder

Norman Hoel

The officers of the Northern Light #45 Masonic Lodge are:

Steve DahlWorshipful Master
Rick Dahl.....Senior Warden
Rick HazardJunior Warden
James SottSecretary
Clarence Sandvik.....Treasurer
Bruce Lee HazardSenior Deacon
Peter Overby
Junior Deacon
Erik Overby Tyler.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 240

PARENTS' CLUB

The Cooperstown Parents' Club was formed in May of 1981.

A new organization, it aspires to be a communication link between parent and child, parent and parent, and parent and school. The objectives include providing parental involvement and support for the school system, entertainment for school age children and youths, and providing or supporting activities and programs that interest and benefit the community.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 241

P.E.O

Chapter W of P.E.O. was organized in Cooperstown on May 21, 1936 at the home of Mrs. M.D. Westley. Chapter M of LaMoure, the original chapter of P.E.O. in North Dakota, was the sponsor. Charter members were: Mrs. Westley, Mrs. L.J. Overby, Miss Mildred Udgaard, Mrs. S.H. Larson, Mrs. O.J. Thompson, Mrs. H.G. Hammer, Mrs. L.A. Sayer, Mrs. Thos. Irgens, Mrs. Gabriel Sharpe, Mrs. R.O. Miller and Mrs. Harry L. Thompson. Mrs. Westley was our first president and was elected president of the North Dakota State Chapter in 1949.

P.E.O. has several philanthropic projects. One is the Cottey College, a junior college for girls, located in Nevada, Missouri. Also, an Education Loan Fund, Continuing Education Fund and an International Peace Scholarship. Three girls from Cooperstown have attended Cottey; they are, the former Marilyn Hammer, Audrey Simons and Dianne Hildre.

Chapter W was instrumental in starting the city library and still contributes \$100.00 each year to it along with several other local projects that are donated to. Each year, we also entertain our high school senior girls to a tea.

Present officers are:

Mrs. Roger Bakken.....president

Mrs. Alvin Boevice-president
 Mrs. Arnold SolaReceptionist & Secretary
 Mrs. Alph OverbyCorrespondence Secretary
 Mrs. Arlo Neumillertreasurer
 Mrs. Gary Cowdrychaplain
 Mrs. LaVerne Larson.....guard

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 241

QUARTERBACK CLUB

The Cooperstown Quarterback Club began in the fall of 1974 with forty members. The first president was Aldo Iverson. The club now has around fifty-five members. The 1982 president is Walt Kerbaugh and secretary-treasurer is Duane "Dumpy" Loudon. Members meet at Andy's Cafe every Saturday morning. Moneys are fed back into the community for athletic recognition.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 241

SONS OF NORWAY

Ueland Lodge #149 of the Sons of Norway was organized in the fall of 1913. The first meeting place was the Odd Fellows Hall. Later the Lodge met in the old opera house located about where the Coachman Motel now stands.

The original lodge disbanded in 1933.

Two members of the old lodge joined the new one when it organized in 1967. Swen S. Olgaard also served a term as president of the new organization. Ludvig G. Olson was the last surviving member of the original lodge. He died in 1981.

Cooperstown Sons of Norway reorganized December 2, 1967, under charter number 480. Carrol T. Juven of Fargo, Regional Manager of North Dakota for Sons of Norway, Martin Haugen, and Jack Haugen of Valley City were the organizers and 95 charter members were initiated.

The first president was Irvin Haaland. The first meetings were held at the Knights of Pythias Hall. Later they moved to the American Legion. The next presidents were:

Swen Olgaard for the remainder of 1968
 Osborne Galde 1969
 Gordon Ashland..... 1970 to 1977
 Thilford Walsvik 1978
 Carl Larson 1979-1980
 Robert Evenson 1981-1982

They rented the Masonic Temple for meetings and social events the winter of 1971 and part of 1972. Sons of Norway purchased the old Tang recreation building from Mrs. Wally Tang in September of 1972. They remodeled it inside and outside.

The lodge has sponsored dance bands from Norway and dance groups from Stoughton, Wisconsin. Fund raising events include lutefisk, kumla and pancake dinners. Every year close to May 17 (Norwegian Independence Day) the lodge puts on its Syttende Mal Fest.

The lodge has sent children to Norwegian language camp at Bemidji, Minnesota. Regular meetings are on the second Monday of every month. There are also social events every month.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 241

TOWN AND COUNTRY GARDEN CLUB

The Town and Country Garden Club was organized in 1967 with assistance from County Agent Bob Harris.

Mrs. Melfred (Margaret) Monson was the first president, and is still a member.

In 1969, the club became affiliated with state and national garden clubs.

The 1969 members, many of them still in the club: Caspara Aarestad, Ruth Arneson, Genevieve Detwiller, Mrs. Clara Eide, Ruth Fredrickson, Duna Frigaard, Gladys Hanson, Selma Helland, Evelyn Hoganson, Agnes Jensen, Esther Knutson, Inga Loge, Mae Monson, Marion Olson, Alice Opheim, Shirley Stokka, Ann Thime, Inga Ueland, Amy Winning.

The first flower show was held in connection with the Griggs County Fair in August of 1967 with 23 exhibitors. In 1973 the first standard flower show was held at city hall. For many years there were two shows: a standard show in summer or late fall, and the fair show, until in 1981 it was decided to have the fair event a standard show.

Over the years the garden club has launched many civic beautification projects. In 1976 club members worked on the Opheim log cabin. They built a new roof, plastered holes, cleaned the inside, made curtains and planted flowers.

By 1979 they were ready for another big one. That year they built a mini-park in the space between Stone's Cafe and H.E. Everson Company. At the grand opening of the little park, Inga Loge, oldest member of the club, cut the ribbon and Mayor Leon Sayer spoke.

In 1981, when the cafe was demolished and the ground leveled, they extended the park to that space as well.

Both the cabin and the park won recognition for the club, second place in state competition for the cabin; second place in the Sears E.I.D. competition along with a \$500 prize for the park.

Club members have relied on donations from members and others to carry on their work. Produce sales in the fall and plant sales in the spring have helped to pay for club projects.

Every year they plant flowers and keep up the flower beds at several public places including the Griggs County courthouse and the log cabin, the museum, the nursing home, city hall and the mini-park.

The garden club sponsors two junior groups, the Weeders and Seeders, started in 1977, with members mostly from south of Cooperstown and the Prairie Rose Club, new in 1981 for children in the Sutton community.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 241

V.F.W. POST NO. 3379

Back in 1935 a group of 16 overseas veterans organized a chapter of the National Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

At the time it was chartered it went by the name of Griggs County Post 3379. Years later after the death of Alex Armstrong the post name was changed to William A. Armstrong Post in honor of that faithful member.

The first commander was Lester J. Christianson, and the membership grew until after World War II it had reached over 100 members.

The building it had purchased became too small so it was sold, and meetings and other activities are being held at the American Legion post's clubrooms.

The main aim of the V.F.W. is to help needy veterans, their wives and children. The National Home at Eaton Rapids, Michigan is maintained by the V.F.W. to provide a home for the veteran's widows and children, also the home community.

They sell Buddy Poppies to help the disabled veterans. They also recently donated a microscope to the hospital, also television sets. They donated to the ambulance. They also have sponsored the girl's softball team, Voice of Democracy contests and sent boys to Camp Grafton.

Present officers are: Commander Richard Spilovoy, Vice-Commander Sanford Brekke, Quartermaster Dallas Larson, Adjutant Les Nierenberg, Chaplain Rev. Evan Clarke, Service Officer Larry Hinschherger.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 242

Going Places

TRAVELING TO DAKOTA

The Johannes Qualey family came from Dodge County, Minnesota to Griggs County, North Dakota in 1880 and the trip took three weeks. I was nine years old at the time and the rest in the party were Father, Mother, sisters Dorthea and Julia and brothers Edwin, Nels and Sever.

The folks left Kasson in May with their covered wagons; father drove one, the other one being driven by Uncle Tom Gilderhus and a cousin, Claus Himle. We had three teams of horses starting out but traded two of the teams for two yoke of oxen at Willmar, Minnesota, where we three youngest children had gone by train to join the company. We had several cows and other stock, which were driven and led. Edwin and Nels were

responsible for seeing that the cattle did not stray. There were also pigs and chickens and geese in crates attached to the sides of the wagons.

When time for evening camp came, a place had been picked out where grass and water were found. Then they would unload the household goods, pigs, chickens and geese so that we would have a place to sleep. There were no roads to follow and we had to hunt for shallow places to cross rivers and creeks. Sometimes it was hard to get the cattle to go into the water. At noon the oxen had to be given time to graze as this was their only feed. In the evening the cows were milked. The milk was used for cooking and drinking and what was left was fed to the pigs and chickens.

During the entire trip all were blessed with good health and of course we youngsters had the time of our young lives. At the end of our journey of about 400 miles north and west, we settled down and built a log house and barn on the place now known as the Qualey farm about nine miles northeast of what is now Cooperstown. At that time the nearest town on the railroad was Valley City, about 40 miles south.

The first spring the high water drove us out of our first house so we had to build on higher ground,

While father was looking for land to locate on we all stayed at Omund Opheims who had lived on their place for about a year. We lived in our wagons while our house was built.

(This account was written many years ago by the late Mathilda Qualey Monson.)

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 243

TRAILS, ROADS AND HIGHWAYS

Before Griggs County was settled there were two well-known trails through the area. The Fort Totten trail came southward from Ft. Totten, near Devils Lake, along the west side of the Sheyenne to Fort Ransom, passing west of Valley City. Edward H. Lohnes, a soldier, helped erect temporary buildings at Fort Totten about 1868. After his discharge from the service in 1870, he returned to Fort Totten and carried mail between the Fort and Sibley's Crossing on the Sheyenne. He used ponies in the summer time and a dog sleigh in the winter.

The Sibley trail had been formed in 1863 when General Sibley's expedition came from Ft. Abercrombie and built a temporary camp, known as Camp Atchison, about two miles south of the present town of Binford. It crossed the Sheyenne at Ashtabula and passed east of Valley City.

After the surveyors came in the early eighties the roads followed the Section lines and ran east and west or north and south wherever possible. Low areas were filled in with horses and scrapers and large bodies of water were bypassed. Snow removal was no problem the first years as the snow-road became packed and built up by the horses and sleighs and the wind blew the snow across these high roads.

There were no bridges the first three years of the county's existence. Not until the fall of 1883 was the first public bridge built over the Sheyenne River. It was known as the Fluto Bridge as Amund Fluto had homesteaded nearby. The present bridge on Highway

200 is close to the location of the original bridge. T.T. Fuglestad and Emil Krogsgaard were among the local men working on the fill east of the bridge. They were paid 15 cents per yard using their wheelbarrows and spades.

Prior to the building of the bridge the farmers along the river had located the most suitable places to ford the river, these usually had graveled bottoms and gentle sloping banks on both sides. One crossing in Sverdrup Township, on the road between Cooperstown and Hope, was called Peddler's crossing because Arne Luckason, who used to peddle goods among the settlers, lived near the crossing. Another good crossing was near Mardell in Washburn Township. The town of Mardell had its best business before the Fluto Bridge was built.

A few years after the turn of the century, automobiles came upon the scene. The first ones were not used in the winter to any extent. These were touring cars, which came with side-curtains to be snapped in place when the passengers were caught in a rainstorm, and also helped a little in cold weather. Glass enclosed sedans were not in common use until the 1920's. The first ones had trouble with broken glass as the tires carried more air pressure and the spring system did not provide for the smoothest ride.

A great improvement in transportation came when the state highways were built through the county. Highway Number One provided a good north and south route while Number Seven, now known as Two Hundred, provided a good east and west route.

Three different roads leading up the east side of the Sheyenne river valley are still visible on the south side of the present blacktopped road on Highway 200. The first one on the south side was used by horses, the second one about World War I days and the road farthest south was used until World War II days when the present road was built. This last one shortened the road going east by about two miles, as the previous one had been built two miles farther southeast of the river, before it turned north to continue east in Steele County.

For a number of years prior to World War II, and after the war, Cooperstown had good bus service to Fargo on a daily basis. Fred Oakley, a competent driver, drove this bus for a long time and later served as rural mail carrier out of Cooperstown. Mr. and Mrs. Oakley continue to make their home in Cooperstown.

With the increased year-around use by motor vehicles the graveled highways were blacktopped to withstand the heavy traffic. Snow removal equipment has been greatly improved since World War II days and the roads also built with the winter travel in mind. When highway seven was first built through the valley horsepower was used. Mr. Hans Skramstad had the contract and with horses and smaller equipment the present large fills were not attempted.

The last few years one of the great changes has been the large trucks, especially those hauling grain to the terminals, Farm trucks have more than doubled in capacity with doubled-axle trucks carrying 600 bushels quite common. Most bridges off the highway are not built for these loads and have a load limit placed on them.

Since the 1930's most livestock has been transported by trucks. First it was farm trucks, but soon commercial haulers with bigger and better trucks, loading equipment and insured coverage, took over most of the business. The last few years there has been a large increase in the use of cattle trailers drawn by farm pickups, especially to the local veterinarians, for treatment of farm livestock. Merchandise, of all kinds, is delivered by

motor vehicles, which rely heavily on well-maintained highways. Many of these use the highways on a daily schedule, such as the bread trucks and postal service.

With the reorganized school districts, buses haul the elementary and high school pupils a long distance. It is the responsibility of the Township officers to see that the township roads are plowed open as soon as possible after a snowstorm for the safety of the children. Consolidation has also taken place on many rural mail routes and the carriers have seen their routes doubled in some instances. With bus roads and mail routes kept open nearly all farm families are able to get to their town whenever they wish. Only a few days in a winter does the weather prevent mail delivery and school attendance.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 244

MAIL BY SLEIGH

It was a bitterly cold and snowy winter in the 1930's with snowdrifts high as telephone lines. Roads and railroad tracks were blocked.

There had not been any mail or freight into Cooperstown for over a week and storekeepers were concerned.

Finally they had a meeting and decided to contact someone with good horses and sleigh who would be willing to brave the cold and snow to the railroad main line at Hannaford.

Oscar Erickson agreed to drive his team of horses and sleigh.

In early morning the sleigh was loaded with full cream cans, freight and mail for the thirteen-mile trip to Hannaford. Oscar walked most of the time to lighten the load for the team on the long slow trip.

After getting the load on the train, he gathered the incoming mail, empty cream cans and freight and started the trip back to Cooperstown. It was getting dusk, but he returned safely.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 245

AUTOMOBILES

The farmers often had trouble in breaking their horses to go past a threshing engine, which was stationary, but noisy. That was nothing when compared with their driving troubles when the first automobiles appeared on the roads. These first cars usually were fire engine red, and very noisy. If they had mufflers they did very little muffling, and they were moving at race-horse speed, often as much as 15 to 20 miles per hour. They could be seen and heard for long distances. Country teachers dismissed classes when the first automobile went by their schoolhouse so that their pupils could watch it pass.

The wise driver took to the fields as soon as the team showed sign of fright. The ditches then were shallow, and the road deeply rutted if in the prairie trail stage and many a broken wagon or buggy marked the place where a driver stayed too long on the road.

The most dreaded place of meeting a car was on the narrow hillside roads leading to the Sheyenne River.

No records have been found which definitely date the first automobile in Griggs County. The most accurate seems to be from the early papers.

Courier, May 19, 1902: "Why! Zip! Rub your eyes and look again! Can't you see what it is? Why, it is Langdon and his little red steam wagon going, 'steen miles an hour. Mr. Langdon now has a Locomobile steam carriage using gasoline as fuel."

May 7, 1903: "We understand that our genial and popular photographer, George Von Blon has ordered an automobile of the Olds make."

June 4, 1908: "Elmer Matheson made a phenomenal trip to Sanborn last Friday, with a Reo automobile belonging to King-Bruns Company. He made the round trip of 80 miles in just four hours and fifteen minutes, and taking into the deal the poor condition of the roads on account of rains, we are inclined to think that he went some."

August 6, 1908: "P.P. Idsvoog had a severe stroke of automobilitis last week and got relief when he purchased a new Rambler touring car. He went up to Binford with his new purchase last Saturday, as proud as a boy with his first pair of red topped boots."

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 245

THE ROAD TO TOWN

*A treacherous hill
that Sanderson Hill
with curves as crooked as Sodom
But it's a delight
in your memories' flight
to think of that bridge at the bottom
To hit it full speed, on wheel or on steed
will give the valley a volley.
But you better not miss on your aim in the rain
or the river will claim you its folly.
The road winds slow, past Loges and then
It'll get you again, er you're carefu4
The Elias Hil4 past the creek that runs still,
Might be muddy, and spiteful and scareful.
You're out of the woods and headed for town,
An escape from the pastime of labor.
The path from there on, is up-down, up-down,
Past Berges, past campground and crossin'.
Watch out for the mud hole that lies at the corner.
It's full, now that rain has been fallin'.
Hit it right, not left but just right
And you'll make it up out of the bottom.
It's a horrible thing, to get stuck on the way,*

*Much better, when town has been sampled.
The road thru Otto's is somewhat asunder.
Watch out for that dog as he comes ...
running pell-mell and barking as well.
He's after the wheels of our old Chevrolet ...
What happens if caught, I wonder ...
Gillys and Lundes are on up ahead
long side bends and the winds of the road,
And then a hill, a two bumped hill,
The Gullickson Hill, to behold.
If we make it up that, we're out on the flat.
Clear sailing from then on, we know,
to highway, and pavement and all the delights
that wait at the end of the Road.*

-Larry Vigesaa

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 247

THE MAN WHO RACED THE TRAIN

Simon Johnson Ouren (also known as Simon Johnson Auren) was born in Totten, Norway, September 10, 1850 and died October 5, 1937. By the time he was 11 years old he had his first job as shepherd at Hammerstead, but it was without wages. At 21 he got the "American Fever" and as a result arrived in New York in August of 1871.

His first journey to America was marked by an event, which has gained a place in history. He arrived in Chicago September 10, 1871 just at the time of the great Chicago fire. The result was that he had to return to Buffalo, New York and from there go to Milwaukee and LaCrosse, Wisconsin, and later to Fillmore County, Minnesota where he worked on a farm, and later married his boss's daughter, Sophia Brusrack. She died October 14, 1891. Later he married Bertha Johnson Rood of Tonsberg, Norway, who emigrated to the United States. She died April 26, 1945.

In 1881 he and his family set out for Valley City using horses and a prairie schooner for transportation and settled on his homestead June 15, 1881.

Buffalo bones sold in Cooperstown for \$15.00 a ton, and he sold many loads.

In addition to his farming operations, he freighted from Valley City until the railroad proved too tough competition. On these trips he crossed the river near the Ashtabula crossing. In those days wolves caused trouble in the winter by attacking the horses and driver. Simon had poles sticking out of the sides of the sled to protect himself.

He was known as a good horseman and a man with a well-developed sense of humor. He was proud of his horses and declared he could drive a mile in three minutes with a pair of his favorites. One story he liked to repeat was of his race with the train from Hannaford to Cooperstown in 1893. When the train arrived in Cooperstown, Simon stood on the depot platform waiting - he had won!

Another time he made a trip from Grand Forks to Cooperstown in one day. He was driving a team that he did not like. A cousin of Mr. Hammer rode home with him from

Grand Forks and wanted to buy that team that could make such a trip in one day and Simon sold the team to him.

Another story was told of him and his horses. He and his family were driving to Sisseton, South Dakota to visit relatives. Somewhere along the way they met up with an Indian lady driving a team and the spirit of competition started. She just could not pull away from his team. When they arrived in town, she talked to her husband who was the police chief and said she wanted him to buy that team which could run so fast so far even after such a long journey. Of course, Simon would not sell them.

In 1925 a news item appeared in the paper saying Simon was taking the same harrow into the field for the fifty-first year. He used a hoe drill for all his seeding operations except flax for which he used a shoe drill. He used a walking plow during his farming operations up to the time he was 76 years old in 1926.

He planted many of the box-elder trees by the courthouse.

Living descendants of Simon Ouren include:

- Lester Fogderud
- His son Gordon
- His daughter Mrs. Reynard Lyngby (Marilyn),
- Mrs. Senora Ryan
- Mrs. Lila Torson

And the children of Oscar Ouren:

- Clifford
- Marvin
- Bernice
- Thelma (Mrs. Otto Watne)
- Glenn
- Claire (Mrs. Kenneth Lunn)
- Stanley
- And their families

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 247

COOPERSTOWN, SANBORN AND TURTLE MOUNTAIN RAILROAD

In 1881, before the Sanborn, Cooperstown and Turtle Mountain Railroad was built, mule teams were used by the Cooper Brothers to haul lumber and supplies from Sanborn to Cooperstown, a distance of forty miles.

By February of 1883, a freighting train of 50 to 60 mules made trips bringing building supplies from the end of the tracks (12 miles south of town) to the booming Cooperstown. The rush of settlers was brought by two four-horse teams.

Monday, August 27, 1883, the railroad was completed and the first train came gliding into town. A grand parade and celebration followed the arrival of the "Iron Horse".

The railroad was constructed by the Sanborn, Cooperstown and Turtle Mountain Railway Company, which was owned and controlled by the Cooperstown Townsite

Company. It was generally known that the Northern Pacific was behind the operation. The Northern Pacific had a gentlemen's agreement with Great Northern that they would build no branch lines north of their main lines if the Great Northern would build none south. Buying of the railroad line after its construction was completed did not seem to violate this agreement.

While the railroad was being built a disagreement arose between members of the Townsite Company who were building it, as to where to put the depot, at the end of the track, and, just where will be the end of the track? As first planned, it was to end on Lenham Avenue, one block inside the limits of the townsite. Here Mr. Lenham planned to build an elevator, and locate a lumberyard on his avenue.

But Mr. Roberts planned to build a flourmill on his avenue two blocks further north. So here the depot was built and completed by the end of October 1883.

During this time, a large surfacing gang was at work hauling in gravel and leveling the railroad yard. Work had commenced on the engine house located just south of the Lenham Elevator. The structure was to be 36' x 60'.

A very commodious section house was erected by the railroad company at the foot of Rollin Avenue. The main part was 30' x 36' and the wing 20' x 16', two stories high.

Outside the south end of town the railroad built a turntable. For several years the train left Cooperstown at 5 a.m. went to Sanborn and returned to Cooperstown the same day.

By November 2, 1883, the N.P. Express Company had established an office here with R.M. Cowen as agent and within two weeks a temporary electrical connection was made with the Sanborn office.

The pioneers and homesteaders were very dependent on the trains in these early years for carrying their freight, building supplies and general merchandise. Trains also brought immigrants to their destinations and carried mail.

Sometimes trains ran for special occasions such as: baseball games with close neighboring towns, 4th of July events, early county fairs and circuses. People needing medical attention or hospitalization were many times taken by special train to larger towns.

Throughout the years the Northern Pacific operated the railroad line and eventually the tracks were extended to Jessie and Binford in Griggs County and to McHenry in Foster County.

Parades And Celebrations

3,500 VISITORS

Tarry in the Terminal Town Independence Day.
A Magnificent Procession Over Two Miles Long.

Honest Races, Fine Address and Pleasing Music.

A Red Hot Ball Game and a Skillful Gun Shoot

Followed By a Grand Ball.

At 10:30 a.m. the parties taking part in the parade commenced to gather on the common between the Union house and the depot - four horse teams, traction engines with their train of farm machinery, multitudes of Calithumpian maskers, equestrians, unique single handed representations, gaily caparisoned horses, with the busy marshals Thompson, Stork, Simington and Frost darting hither and thither arranging the details of the parade. At 10:30 the train arrived from the south with three full carloads of visitors from Valley City, Sanborn, Dazey, Odell and Hannaford. The crowd had been nicely guaged so that while there was no room to spare, all parties were made comfortable. After a well-rendered selection of music by the Valley City band under the leadership of Prof. Aasgaard, the procession started for the driving park a half-mile distant. The grand stand had been rebuilt and enlarged; the track placed in perfect order, and all that was lacking for the races were horses. Messrs. Knapp, Miller and Adams were the judges. The first race was the free for all running race, half mile and repeat. Ike, a bay gelding of Hope, Nigger, and Pashley came to the scratch. Ike at once took the lead and held it to the end without being crowded, Pashley second, Nigger a bad third. The second heat was a repetition of this one. Time 1 minute.

The pony race bid fair not to fill until Mr. Hammer, to keep the fun going, paid entrance fee on the bay mare Lizzie, owned by Ben Chime, besides his own cream. The cream took the first heat in 59 seconds. Lizzie took the next two heats - best time 58 seconds - and the race, the Hammer pony being winded.

The trotting race was a hippodrome between a poor defenceless cripple and Johnson's Old Gold. Old Gold won the first heat, and by a mistake of the driver Fanny took the second heat. The third heat was a beauty. Fanny running the entire distance and then getting left. Old Gold won the heat and race. Time 3 minutes.

It was then announced from the judge's stand that the rest of the exercises would be held on the common in the centre of town, and the procession again started. At noon the hotels, restaurants, peanut stands, etc., were filled with a dense struggling and hungry mass of humanity.

Great pains were taken by the townspeople to feed the hungry and after some time all were properly filled and returned to the campus. This place had been turned into a cool shady campground. A grand stand accommodated 500 people, a tented bowery 100 x 16 feet, tents, booths, etc., arranged in a semi-circle about the ball grounds, afforded shade for about 2,000 people.

The male quartet, Messrs. Whidden, Brown, Stork and King, assisted by Mr. Enger upon the cornet, sang the Star Spangled Banner, after which the orator of the day, Mr. David Bartlett, was introduced by Mr. Adams, and made a cool, matter of fact speech, devoid of buncombe and which was frequently applauded. The quartet then sang Banner of Victory when the speaker's stand was removed and the ball game between the Sanborn

and Hope nines was called. The game was close and interesting and won by Hope by a score of 18 to 12.

Some tall kicking was done against the umpire who was from Hope, and this added rather than detracted from the interest of the game.

The gun contest followed, ten entries being made from Steele, Barnes and Griggs counties. J.M. Burrell and Geo. W. Bathy divided first money - \$30, while H.B. Simington captured the second money - \$15.

The great bowery was in the meantime alive with dancers - the Cooperstown orchestra furnishing the music. In the evening the display of fire works, lasting about an hour and a half, delighted young and old. And then the grand ball and home. The Valley City orchestra furnished the music for the ball and it was unusually good.

All in all it was the most successful celebration we ever witnessed in so small a town, the attendance being variously estimated at from 3,500 to 6,000 people.

-THE COURIER July 8,1887

CELEBRATING IN 1907

As far as is known, Cooperstown and Griggs County did not have a celebration formally celebrating the twenty-fifth year of their founding.

In early July of 1907 the eighth annual county fair was held at which time an auto parade took place. An Old Settlers picnic was held toward the middle of July.

The Old Settlers Association had planned a parade, which was called off because of a heavy rainstorm the night before. The storm put the roads in bad condition, spoiled the racetrack and kept hundreds of people at home. The program of sports advertised for the forenoon had to be cancelled.

Although the parade was called off Gus Rothert got out with a four-ox team and paraded around to the amusement of the people. The reorganized Cooperstown Band furnished music during the day.

In the afternoon the crowd gathered at the fairgrounds where foot and potato races took place followed by a ball game between the old settlers. This was followed by a ball game between Hannaford and Binford. The game took 22 innings to finish. No score was made until the twelfth inning when both teams got a run apiece. There was not another run made until the last inning when Hannaford scored, winning the game 2 to 1. Both teams played fastball and it was said to be the most exciting game ever played and next to the longest ever played in the state in 1907. The longest went to 24 innings.

Later activities included a farmer's trot or pace for green horses, a running race and a tug of war. Griggs County was a little too heavy for the Steele County fellows and pulled their opponents over the line very easily.

A commemorative booklet was put out in 1908 showing many interesting photos of the city, county, the Auto Parade and a story of Cooperstown and Griggs County.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 252

WHEN THE ELEPHANTS TOOK A BATH

It was a beautiful June morning in 1911. As we were finishing our breakfast, our Dad, Anton Carlson, said, "I have a surprise for you. We are going into town to see the circus

parade at 11 o'clock, so hurry and do the dishes. We must leave at nine o'clock." Well, the dishes were not a drudgery that time. We girls always had to do the dishes and it was not exactly what we loved to do the best.

Dad hitched up Birdie and Polly to the double-seated buggy and we were off to town in our best dresses, which Mother had sewed for us. But we needed new shoes, so our first stop was at the Larson Store. There and then I got my first pair of patent leather slippers. How dressed up I felt! Mother and Dad were busy visiting with friends and acquaintances that they had not seen for some time.

To us children, it seemed such a long time before the circus parade finally started to come through Main Street. How exciting to watch the wagons with their lions and tigers locked safely inside of barred cages; the clowns with their funny mannerisms; that loud steam organ; all the nicely dressed-up horses with pretty girls riding them; and last but not least the dozen or more elephants - each one wore a brightly colored blanket and rider too. This was something we children never forgot.

Much later as we drove home past the Dyson place east of Cooperstown, we noticed our horses started to snort and get very excited. Then we noticed in Dyson's slough east of his barn and along the "State Road" - as it was called then, that the circus people were watering their elephants. The elephants not only took a drink but also a bath. What a racket they made as they threw water into the air and over themselves! It was something to behold. Dad had quite a job to settle down the horses, as they were so frightened. But Dad was a good horseman so we never had a runaway and we arrived home again with never-forgotten memories.

- Caspara Aarestad

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 253

COOPERSTOWN'S FIFTIETH BIRTHDAY

Cooperstown's fiftieth anniversary celebration was the first of the big events of that nature in the state. To be sure, there had been others before it, but of much smaller dimensions, in other towns and cities, and they were more or less perfunctory, staged because it seemed to be the thing to do.

But this one was unique. It was widely advertised too with posters displayed into Minnesota and even as far west as Minot and Bismarck. "Come to Cooperstown," the posters screamed, "and you will see a real celebration!"

The parade was gigantic, with endless strings of beautiful horses, steam engines doing their smoking best, wagons carrying floats and scores of pretty girls, clowns doing hand-springs along the route, and bands blaring forth the famous Sousa marches.

The chief difficulty was finding a place to stand. The crowd that came to Cooperstown that day was estimated at 10,000 people. Cars were parked along the highways, as much as two miles out of town.

The platform acts before the grandstand filled the old fairgrounds to capacity. Stands had been set up to feed the crowd, but they were unable to handle the multitude, and many went without food the whole day.

In the late afternoon, the Cooperstown American Legion baseball team, then the state champions, took on Jamestown. It was the first meeting ever between the two. Cooperstown won the game 5 to 0 behind the three-hit pitching of Floyd Stromme, who set a personal record of twenty strikeouts in a single game.

However, the story about that game was not the game itself, but the attendance. The crowd ringed the playing field, from the grandstand, across the racetrack on both sides, and around the outfield. Beyond the crowd was row upon row of automobiles, mostly Model T's and Model A's, and all crammed with people, come to see the state champions play at no charge.

The Legionnaires tried to estimate the size of the crowd. They counted the cars, the people in the grandstand, and as best they could, they estimated the number of people sitting on the ground along the sidelines. The figure they came up with was 5,000.

To this day it very likely is the largest crowd that ever watched an American Legion baseball game in North Dakota.

-Oswald Tufte

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

About 7,000 people commemorated the founding of Griggs County July 7, 1932 on the fiftieth Anniversary of the county.

Exhibits of early day relics were placed in display windows of the stores. Articles shown which played a part in the early history of Griggs County included: ox yokes, grain cradles, early sulky plows, an early day drill, spinning wheels, old chests and several pieces of early house furniture. In the windows of clothing stores, interesting displays of the old fashioned clothing, boots and shoes, and other wearing apparel were found.

The day's program started with a colorful large parade at 11 o'clock, led by the Cooperstown Band under the direction of Ernest C. Meyers. The parade consisted of floats from each Township, including covered wagons, an early day stagecoach drawn by a span of mules, a replica of a sod house, women at spinning wheels and many old timepieces of machinery.

Following the parade, the Valley City Municipal Band presented a concert.

The afternoon session began with a half-hour concert by the Griggs County Concert Band. Percy R. Trubshaw of Valley City, an early Griggs County *Courier* editor was master of ceremonies. Welcoming the visitors were Mayor C.S. Christianson in behalf of the city and Otto Pritz in behalf of the county. Rev. Ludvig Lunde gave the invocation. The main speaker of the day was Congressman Amlie. Other speakers included Howard H. Ellsworth of the N.P. Railway and Prof. W.M. Wemett of Valley City Teachers College. During the program, the oldest man and woman among the pioneers were honored. The pair was Lars Johnson of Sverdrup Township and Mrs. Knut Stromme of Greenfield. Also honored were the first-born man and woman in Griggs. They were Anton Olson of Romness Township and Mrs. O.A. Sloulin of Aneta.

The banquet in the evening honored over 200 people who had settled in the county in 1882 and before. Dr. M.D. Westley delivered the welcome. The main address of the

evening was a review of the history of Griggs County by Prof. Wemett. A group of solos were sung by Mrs. Gertrude Boe Overby, numbers were given by a mixed quartet composed of Mrs. Overby, Mrs. Monroe Berg, Prof. H.C. Rowland of Grand Forks and Alph Westley, and a solo by Professor Rowland.

The final event of the day was the Dividends of Happiness dance sponsored by the local American Legion Post.

DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY

Cooperstown celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary June 27 and 28, 1957, with a variety of events. There were parades both days.

A highlight of the celebration was the honor banquet at the Masonic Temple for persons who had arrived in Griggs County in 1887 or earlier. It was well attended by people who were children at the time of settlement. Greetings were received from some of the older pioneers, who were unable to attend.

Joyce Fiebiger was chosen jubilee queen.

Other events included horse racing, steam threshing, whisker judging, dances, antique and historical displays, and two dances.

Speakers for the occasion were Fred Aandahl, who was then Assistant Secretary of the Interior, and former U.S. Senator Gerald P. Nye, who was a former Cooperstown newspaperman.

In memory of an old rivalry, a Hope-Cooperstown baseball game was played.

Weather

WINTER OF THE BIG SNOW

I was intrigued by the picture appearing in the *Sentinel* of December 10, 1970 and it started a chain of thought in my mind that I am sure you would be interested in and I will try and get it to you before you leave for a warmer climate. We have been getting your overflow cold waves regularly about two to three days after you send them on east. We are not complaining because if we didn't get them through North Dakota they would come from Canada and those are usually colder than your variety which seem to get somewhat tempered down by the time they reach us.

The storm that blocked Main street in Cooperstown in 1896 started on election day, the first week in November and I think it must have been on a Saturday because we kids were not in school but played all day long in Marquardt's ice house while it snowed like the dickens outside. They had cleaned out the sawdust to ready it for the new crop of ice and with the ropes hanging from the rafters; it made a great place to play. The weather was mild and the snow kept coming down about as hard as it could, all day long. This icehouse was later converted into the opera house and was situated on the block back of P.K. Moe's hotel but if I haven't lost track of the time, it then belonged to Pete Johnson.

I would venture the guess that by nightfall there was two to three feet of fluffy white snow on the ground and shortly after dark the wind began to rise and it turned into a

typical North Dakota blizzard and the first of many that followed, some of them of three days duration throughout the rest of the winter. When they dug themselves out they found all roads blocked completely as well as the railroad and the west end of Main street was so effectively snowed in that no attempt was made to clear it out and there was never a vehicle that went up or down it until it thawed out the next spring. Someone carried the election returns from Hannaford on their back by way of the railroad grade and the returns from the rest of the county, especially up toward Aneta were weeks in arriving. You have to remember that telephones were unheard of and even graded roads were almost non-existent. Cooperstown was the end of the ranch line from Sanborn and the Great Northern had not been extended west from Hope so it left a great scope of country northeast, north and west entirely dependent on Cooperstown for supplies and communication with the outside world.

This picture must have been taken after the election-day storm because the snow got above the second floor windows of many of the buildings and a tunnel was dug from the hotel on the south side of the street across to Tang's pool hall on the north and it served as a crossing the rest of the winter.

This storm was only the fore-runner of many, some of them of three days duration and even worse intensity and the snow became drifted so hard that no attempt was made to dig through them but they cut steps in order to go over them. They became glazed on top and we kids could skate any place on them. Of course, bobsleds were the means of travel and the roads became built up so high by spring that they stood two to three feet above the ground level with passing tracks every so far apart. If a sleigh got off of the track it was some job to get it back on and much of the traveling was done in groups so that they could help each other.

W.T. McCulloch and some of his neighbors who lived around Lake Jessie cut tree branches and stuck them in the snow every so far apart the whole 12 miles from Lake Jessie to Cooperstown as a guideline in case of an emergency and nearly every farmer had a rope stretched from his house to the barn. This may sound a little farfetched to some people who have not experienced the full force of a North Dakota blizzard but it can blind a person almost instantly and it comes with a whirling motion that seems to hit you in the face no matter which way you turn so you lose all sense of direction almost at once.

The railroad had just as hard a time as everyone else and the problem of keeping the 32 miles of track open so that the train could get through was more than they could keep up with. The first storm or two was not so bad and the ordinary wedge plow would clear it out but as the cuts got narrower and higher they became useless and the rotary was the only thing that could get through and as it was so much more important to keep the main line open than the branch lines and they did not have very many rotaries on the prairie division, the branch lines were the last ones open. If my memory serves me right, there was one stretch of 13 days that Cooperstown was without a train. Now you can visualize what that would do to the distribution of supplies, especially fuel which had to be all brought in by rail with the result that it was rationed all winter long and many farmers were forced to twist straw and hay to burn to keep from freezing to death.

The long winter finally came to an end and then it was water everywhere. Cooperstown was an island in the middle of a lake and getting in or out was almost as

much of a problem as when everything was blocked with snow and again the railroad grade became about the only route in and of course this ran only to the south. Ills situation lasted for nearly three weeks. One day some of us kids fastened some railroad ties together and launched our raft at the depot. We pulled it clear around the town, down past Glen Dyson's farm to the Langford farm. I suppose that was about four miles.

The snow came so early that fall and so much of it that the ground hardly froze at all so that when it started to go in the spring it thawed from underneath and would leave what looked like a solid bank which in reality was nothing but a hollow shell and if you attempted to walk over it you might fall through and disappear from sight.

Yes, this was well named "the winter of the deep snow" and it is hard to realize that 75 of them have come and gone since and not many are still alive who can remember the discomforts and privations that were experienced by so many.

-Basil Edmondson (Written to Mildred Udgaard Johnson in January of 1971.)

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 261

THE GREAT STORM

The Ides of March are famous in history because Julius Caesar was assassinated on March 15. But they are famous also in the annals of Griggs County and eastern North Dakota because of the Great Storm that swept through the area, killing 500 people.

It came out of the northwest, stealing up with pretenses of balmy weather and gentle breezes. It was 30 degrees above zero at 5 p.m. that March 15 of 1941, and by midnight it was 20 degrees below zero, snow was pouring from the blackened skies and the wind was hitting 85 miles an hour.

I was standing on the corner of Almklov's Pharmacy, where the mercury thermometer and barometer have stood for half a century. The barometer had fallen alarmingly and was still going down. There was a strange lull in the air. Bob Miller and Whitey Johnson drove up in the Miller bread truck and pulled up at the stop sign. Whitey rolled the window down. "What's the temperature?" he asked.

"Thirty above. But the barometer worries me. It's going down fast."

He didn't answer. Bob waved from behind the wheel, Whitey rolled the window up and they took off for Valley City. I stepped off the curb and walked up the street to Frank Smith's barbershop to get a haircut before going home for supper. When I came out, the storm had begun; the wind was rising and snow had begun to fall, building up on the sidewalks. Before I could get home, the darkness was complete, and I had to feel my way from one house to another.

I thought about Bob and Whitey. They were probably out on the road somewhere. Maybe they had turned back before they got out of town. I had barely got into our apartment, when Lloyd Howden staggered in. He was lost and decided he couldn't make it to his own home and had decided to seek shelter wherever he could find it. We didn't have a telephone at the time, so we couldn't call his wife and let her know that her husband was safe. We thought about trying to cross the street to the neighbors, but gave it up. There was no guarantee we could make it, and many possibilities that we wouldn't.

Nine hours later, the storm was over. It died as fast as it rose. But now it was cold, and the pale light of the emerging moon showed a world covered by snowdrifts, as if it was mid-winter.

In the morning the details of the storm began filtering in. Four school children had died by the side of the road near Dazey, all in one family. Scores of cars had been marooned on the highways, and the people who stayed in their cars survived, but most of the others didn't. The storm had lashed through Manitoba, North and South Dakota, and Minnesota, roughly following the Red River Valley. In that area, five hundred people perished. Doctors said that some of them suffocated, the air being so heavily filled with snow that they could not breathe.

The big, local tragedy was the death of Whitey Johnson. He and Bob had only made about a half-mile out of town when they decided to turn back. But in trying to turn the truck around on the highway, they slid into the ditch. The truck could not pull itself out, so they decided to abandon it, and walk back to town, but they did not reckon with the wind, the blackness and the snow.

They lost the road. The wind blew them into the field, and in the snow they could only struggle on with it. They came upon a fence, where a drift had already built up. They tried to follow it in the darkness, unable to see a hand before their faces. Whitey, big and burly, found the going more than he could take. In some places the snow was up to his waist. But they dared not leave the fence, because it was the only guide they had. Bob tried to lift Whitey onto his shoulder, but he was too heavy, and Bob fell down in the snow. He realized then that their plight was desperate; he couldn't carry Whitey, and that meant he needed help. Perhaps the fence led to it.

He propped Whitey against a fencepost and stumbled on alone. Eventually the fence led to a building, a shed. He worked his way around it, found a door and got inside. It was pitch dark in the shed, but he rummaged around and came upon a roll of binder twine. He doubled the twine, knotting it in several places, tied one end to the door clasp, and began working his way once more in the howling wind. There had to be a house somewhere, with people in it. Eventually he found it, tied the twine to the door handle, and barged in.

But there was no one in the house. He realized they were probably all in town, and had elected to stay in town because of the storm. He found some food, and ate it, to gather strength. He found some work clothes, stripped off his own wet garments, and put them on. He also found a pair of boots, and a flashlight. Then, following the twine, he made his way back to the shed, and moved around it to the fence. The snow along the fence line was deeper now, but it seemed to him that the wind was not so strong. He struggled on along the fence until he found Whitey.

But it was already too late. Whitey was dead. Bob, completely spent, sat down in the snow beside him. He said afterwards that he had given up, that he had decided to sit there in the storm and the snow and the wind until he froze to death. But the sky lightened as he sat there, the wind began to subside. And with his flashlight he could see for a few feet around him. He staggered to his feet, followed the fence northward and eventually found the road. When he reached the hotel lobby in Cooperstown, it was 4 a.m. "Whitey's out there," he gasped to marooned guests in the lobby, and collapsed on the floor.

COLD WEATHER

-Oswald Tufte

North Dakotans are always aware of the weather. When the Associated Press announced that January 10, 1982 was the coldest day the nation as a whole had experienced in the twentieth century, they shivered and agreed that thermometer readings in the vicinity of -30 degrees were cold, and that wind chills of -100 degrees were chilly, but in North Dakota, the readings that day were not even close to the lows posted in 1936, a banner year for cold weather in this state.

In that year, a reading of -47 degrees was posted February 15, the coldest temperature ever recorded in Cooperstown. That winter also stands out for the duration of the cold wave and the number of extremely cold days.

Records kept by Postmaster T.A. Marquardt in that year show that in the two months of January and February, the readings stayed at or above zero all day only five times. Low readings of minus thirty or greater were recorded fifteen times, the coldest being -47 February 15. The temperature did not rise to zero from January 15 through February 19. The prolonged cold spell was broken by a storm which brought temperatures up to -2 February 18 and finally to zero a couple days later.

The February 18 blizzard, the third major storm of the year, brought road traffic to a standstill and halted the branch line train.

Earlier, it was reported in the *Sentinel - Courier* edition of February 6 that 42 carloads of coal had been shipped to Cooperstown in January and 11 to date in February, as compared to 30 and 4 the year previous.

On the twentieth of February, the paper reported "To insure having sufficient coal to heat the Central School building, heat was turned down in the gymnasium on Friday of last week. There will be no activities in the gymnasium during the present week or until a supply of coal arrives, school authorities announced.

"About a two-week supply of fuel was on hand at the high school building at the beginning of this week, while at Central School enough lignite was secured last Saturday to assure heating the grade building the present week."

No sooner had the community partially shoveled out from the February 18 storm than another blizzard struck February 26 with the heaviest snowfall of the winter.

The branch line train was blocked by drifts and abandoned. When the track was plowed some rails were broken by the plow and the train was saved from derailment by the fast action of a couple of McHenry boys who flagged down the train after seeing the broken rails.

During that winter the state highway plow, which was supposed to serve this area, was out of commission much of the time. The county snowplow was commandeered by the state highway department and had just completed opening the road from Cooperstown to the junction of highways 1 and 9 north of Rogers, where it broke down in the January 26 storm and was abandoned until the storm subsided. It was reported that North Dakota

roads at that time were more thoroughly blockaded with snow than at any other time since removal of snow from state highways became part of the state highway program.

Eventually the county highway plow was repaired and some roads opened. By the end of the first week in March much progress had been made, but Highway I between Cooperstown and Hannaford was still blocked, as well as Highways 45 and 65 between Binford, Jessie and Cooperstown. The March 12 paper said the county plow was still busy trying to get the surplus snow off the roads before the spring thaw. No further mention was made of snow removal after that date.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 263

JANUARY 1936

Date	High.....	Low
1	2	8
2	5	
3	20	0
4	22	0
5	0	-24
6	0	-18
7	-2	-27
8	20	-9
9	17	-2
10	20	-8
11	22	-9
12	2	-7
13	3	-20
14	3	-13
15	-3	-27
16	-12	-22
17	-8	-22
18	-5	-35
19	-18	-33
20	-7	-25
21	-6	-24
22	-26	-38
23	-16	-33
24	-7	-40
25	-16	-24
26	-8	-26
27	-10	-30

28	.....	-17	.....	-25
29	.....	-22	.....	-32
30	.....	-12	.....	-29
31	.....	-10	.....	-29

FEBRUARY 1936

Date	.....	High.....	Low
1	.....	-5	..... -29
2	.....	-6	..... -24
3	.....	-7	..... -27
4	.....	-14	..... -28
5	.....	-18	..... -44
6	.....	-18	..... -43
7	.....	-17	..... -35
8	.....	-10	..... -18
9	.....	-5	..... -15
10	.....	-5	..... -18
11	.....	-8	..... -32
12	.....	-15	..... -37
13	.....	-10	..... -22
14	.....	-20	..... -38
15	.....	-20	..... -47
16	.....	-12	..... -44
17	.....	-13	..... -31
18	.....	-2	..... -16
19	.....	-4	..... -29
20	.....	0	..... -27
21	.....	6	..... -28
22	.....	20	..... -5
23	.....	20	..... 2
24	.....	20	..... 2
25	.....	24	..... -15
26	.....	5	..... -3
27	.....	3	..... -16
28	.....	3	..... -7
29	.....	12	..... -11

FLOOD

Nearly all the first settlers established their homes in the timber close to the river, not suspecting the threatening floods that endangered them when the Sheyenne River would be swelled by spring thaws. During the winter of

1880-81, a heavy snowfall, averaging about three feet on the level, had fallen. In the spring, the snow melted and swelled the river, flooding the lowlands. John Hogenson, one of the settlers trapped by the waters, later recalled:

"One afternoon I noticed the waters rising gradually and before night it was over the tops of the banks, so we made immediate preparations to move to higher land. We had a tent, which we pitched and moved the family into, drove the cattle out, but left the sheep. A settler by the name of Martin Johnson agreed to remain in the log hut during the night. A gun was left in his charge with instructions for him to discharge it in case the flood should threaten the place."

"Mr. Johnson had arrived earlier in the day from a long tramp through the snow and slush from Valley City, and being weary and tired, thought a good bed and some sleep would be a rare treat to him. During the night we watched the water and noticed it rising gradually, but heard no report from Mr. Johnson. At daybreak we hitched up a yoke of oxen to a wagon and made the trip to the log hut. We peeped through the window and saw the water reaching nearly up to the bottom of the bed, and Mr. Johnson sound asleep. We awakened him, and he, much to his surprise, found himself surrounded by water and had to plunge right into it to get out of the hut. We rushed about to get the sheep moved and also some of the household goods. Among other articles, I noticed a sack of flour which I went to get, and not being aware that the trap door leading to the cellar had floated up, I accidentally stepped into the opening and in I went, flour and all."

During the flood their provisions commenced to run low. They still had some coffee, flour and syrup in their possession, but they were 50 miles from town (Valley City), with water everywhere around them, the higher land being the only dry place. They had to skimp along as best they could until the water receded so that they could go to town for more provisions.

WE NEVER CRITICIZE RAIN

It is hard to imagine a more satisfying set of sounds than thunder followed by raindrops followed by robins singing.

Living in North Dakota, where we are usually no more than two inches of rainfall away from disaster, we have a special point of view.

I remember hearing anti-rain songs and poems, ("Rain, rain, go away, come again some other day, little Johnny wants to play") when I was a child. They absolutely baffled me. I had never heard of a place where rain was not welcomed with joy every time it fell.

Besides, I knew perfectly well that my mother would never have tolerated it if I said terrible things like that.

She didn't wash our mouths out with soap, but she had a way of shushing her daughters that told us distinctly when we were on forbidden territory.

One thing we learned was we didn't criticize rain.

It could fall when there was a picnic, when there was a fair or carnival in Cooperstown, when we were supposed to go camping, or the Fourth of July, or any other time. The other things could wait. Rain you took when you could get it.

She would never have believed her ears if she could hear the television weather reporters forecasting rain for a weekend and apologizing for the disappointing news.

Last summer the weathermen were more cheerful than I have ever seen them before. They smiled brightly as they conveyed the news that the weekend weather was going to be good; no clouds, and temperatures in the high eighties for the ninety-first day in a row.

What brought on this dissertation of course was the good news that there was rain again this week, an inch and fourteen hundredths to be exact. Last week the official report said .99 inch.

Some controlled, well-mannered jubilation is called for I think. It would be in order to comment that some of the dust got washed off the grass, and now maybe the rhubarb will grow, but chances are we will have hail before long.

That's another thing that's right in our bones in North Dakota: don't get too excited about good news, every silver lining has its cloud.

I can picture a typical North Dakotan at the scene of the biblical flood, complaining at the end of the forty days and nights that it had been a nice little shower and it settled the dust, but it probably came too late for the small grains, and it fell so hard it probably was all going to run off without seeping into the subsoil.

- TL by Duna Griggs County Sentinel - Courier, June 3, 1981

COOPERSTOWN'S SIGNAL SERVICE

Postmaster Frank Haskell ran a local weather bureau at the post office beginning in August of 1891. Each day he received a telegram from St. Paul telling the forecast for the next 24 hours. He had a flag pole installed in front of his post office and would raise Signal Service Flags of different colors and designs to indicate weather conditions. The following is a description of the different flags: No. 1, white flag, clear or fair weather

No. 2, blue flag, rain or snow

No. 3, white and blue flag, local rains

No. 4, black triangular flag, temperature signal

No. 5, white flag with black square in center, cold wave.

INTERPRETATION OF DISPLAYS

No. 1, alone indicates fair weather, stationary temperature.

No. 2, alone, indicates rain or snow stationary temperature.

No. 3, alone, indicates local rain, stationary temperature.

No. 1, with No. 4 above it, indicates fair weather, warmer.

No. 1, with No. 4 below it, indicates fair weather, colder.

No. 2, with No. 4 above it, indicates warmer weather, rain or snow.

No. 2, with No. 4 below it, indicates colder weather, rain or snow.

No. 3, with No. 4 above it, indicates warmer weather with local rains.

No. 3, with No. 4 below it, indicates colder weather with local rains.

No. 1, with No. 5 above it, indicates fair weather, cold wave.

No. 2, with No. 5 above it, indicates wet weather, cold wave.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial Page 265

Hunting

PROVIDENCE SUPPLIED THE MEAL

One day in the spring of 1881, a starved hunter, Mr. Matt, came along and wanted to board with the John Hogenson family. He had a gun and some ammunition. As the meat supply was almost gone, they promised to help him out, providing he could get some meat for them. Mr. Matt promised to do all he could although game was not plentiful at that time of the year.

He shot a couple of prairie chickens the first few days, but they did not last long and one morning, when the meat supply was all gone, a large lone goose came soaring through in the air, looking for a place to settle down. (Mr. Hogenson believed that it was Providence that sent it just at that time when meat was needed so badly.) When the goose came over a bluff east of their location, she must have noticed a small lake formed by the melting snow close to their camp, and there she settled. Mr. Matt got his gun and started off, remarking, "There's a dead goose." This was true enough for as soon as they heard the report of the gun, the goose flopped her wings and could move no more.

The next thing was to get the bird on dry land, without getting too wet. At the time, Mr. Hogenson had an ox, which they had trained for bareback riding; so he got the ox

and started out into the little lake to get the goose. When he came close to the bird and reached down to get it, the ox became frightened and started doing some bronco stunts, which flopped Mr. Hogenson off into the water. The ox made for the shore and John Hogenson picked up the goose and started for camp. The goose was roasted, and Mr. Hogenson remembered later that they had a real feast for once, after their first hunting experience in Romness Township.

Source: Cooperstown, North Dakota 1882-1982 Centennial page 266

Recreation

THE SKI JUMP

Casper Oimoen, a former Olympic skier, and winner of more than 400 trophies in his skiing career, returned to Minot for the 1973 Winter-fest to receive the Roughrider Award presented by Gov. Arthur Link. Oimoen at one time competed in ski meets in Hannaford.

A native of Norway, he resided in Minot for some years before moving to Ashland, Oregon, in the mid 1960's following his retirement. Oimoen was captain of the U.S. Olympic Ski team in 1936 in Hamburg, Germany.

During the time the Hannaford ski Jump was in use, many well-known skiers from in and out of North Dakota came here to participate.

Besides Oimoen, another outstanding skier was Pete Falstad. Among the local participants were Ole Kalvik, Pete Kalvik, Otto Olson, Markus Bakken, Art Bakken, Harry Richardson, Johnny Sorenson and Al Lind, and others.

The ski slide was torn down during the 1960's.

-Emily Larson

The Way We Wore

RIGHT IN STYLE

Fashions of the pioneer women were generally hand sewn with much attention to detail. Many tucks and pleats adorned the full-skirted dresses, at the waistline or as decoration around the neckline. Hand crocheted or tatted lace was carefully sewn to the dresses.

The women usually wore their hair long, but piled high on the head or carefully pulled off the neck held by combs and barrettes.

Hats were adorned with feathers and flowers and fur collars were common on coats worn in the early days.

Wedding dresses of the day were often of dark colored cloth so they could be worn later for other occasions. Most were detailed with lace on the sleeves, bodice and neckline. Shoes had high tops with buttons for women and children for many years.

Men's suits were of the three-piece vested style and shirts had high starched collars.

Dresses became shorter as women became more active. In the 1920's after World War 1, a kind of madness hit the fashion world and dresses became knee length or shorter with little or no shape. Waistlines disappeared and dresses were belted at the hipline, sometimes in contrasting materials. Women cut their hair short and covered it with close-fitting hats called cloches. Dancing the Charleston was a favorite pastime. It was the era of the "Flapper."

After the stock market crash in 1929, which brought on the Great Depression, ladies' dresses returned to a longer length, mid-calf at least. Colors and styles were more somber. The waistline returned to its natural position and hair became longer again.

As women had joined the work force from necessity during World War 1, they continued on the job in the decades following and clothes for the workingwomen became more practical. Trousers were worn by women in factory jobs and occasionally for sports participation. Not until many years later would pants become accepted attire for shopping and even formal occasions.

In the 1940's and 1950's came the era of the "Bobby Soxer" when the young people assumed an identity of their own and were called teenagers, teeners, or bobby soxers. Almost a uniform of sorts was worn by the girls: knee-length pleated skirts and baggy sweaters for school and jeans and a man's shirt for weekends. Bobby sox and loafers or saddle oxfords were a part of both outfits. In the 50's, the pleated skirt was sometimes replaced by the full gathered skirt made of cotton and a cotton blouse and still the bobby sox.

Women wore their hair shorter again but with an abundance of curls and waves. Hats and gloves were worn on most occasions. Men's suits were double breasted with wide lapels and loose fitting trousers, pleated onto the waistband.

Ladies shoes in the 1940's and 1950's started with small heels and a rounded toe and gradually the heels became higher and thinner until they were at least three inches high and narrow as a pencil on the bottom with very pointed toes. This style of footwear continued into the decade of the 60's.

Men's clothes gradually became more comfortable and by the early 60's men could buy separates of slacks and shirts for casual wear and for sports. Gradually this type of clothes became acceptable even for some office wear.

In the late 1960's women's dresses took a drastic turn and the mini skirt was born. Most mini dresses were loosely fitted below the bust-line and stopped as much as six inches above the knee. Hairstyles became bouffant with much back combing or teasing and hair was worn no longer than shoulder length.

After the mini skirt, pantsuits became a part of the fashion scene and were worn while shopping, at the office, and even for church and weddings. In our colder climate, they have been a real blessing for the winter months.

Shoes became low heeled again to match the pantsuit era, but there is now a trend back to spike heels and sandal styles for all seasons.

In the late 1970's and to the present, dresses have made a comeback and women once again can be feminine and beguiling. Hemlines fluctuate from just above the knee to two to three inches below the knee.

-Lori Christopherson