

The second son of Helge N. Myran was Henry H. (1857-1914) who built up the farm just south of the Ridgeway Church. Together with his young wife Laura Rachel Rue (1867-1955) whom he married in 1885 in Iowa he came by railroad and homesteaded 10 miles north of Taylor. Their first house was merely a shanty of sod on 3 sides and one of lumber. Some years later an outstanding set of buildings was erected and are presently being preserved by the owner, a grandson, Gordon Hugh Myran and family. Here four children were born and educated: (1) Ole H. was born on March 7, 1888 and remained at home until his marriage in 1916 to Nellie Knutson (1892-1945) of Ridgeland, Wisconsin. Their 3 children were born on the farm



Mr. and Mrs. Henry Myran and family.
Ole, Theodore, Tilda and Lars.

Ole built up on Sec. 23-142-93, the place now owned and operated by his son Henry. Bernice, the eldest is married to Ernest Berg of Wing, N. Dak. They have 4 children: Deloris, Dale, Darrel and Dean. Ardy is married to Myron Jordan of Ridgeland, Wisc. They have two sons: Dwight & Donald. Henry married Doris Hartung, also of Ridgeland, and their seven children were born on the farm of their grandfather before them: Judith, Shirley, Barbara, David, Michael, Larry and Terry.



Mary Knudson, Nellie Knudson, Ole Myran

Ole's wife (a sister of Martin T. Knutson, long time cowboy-rancher who rode on the long cattle drives from Texas north) was an outstanding "Woman of the church" who gave generously of her time and resources to her family and community. Ole was affiliated with the Augustana Academy at Canton, S. Dak. in 1946-47 and was one of the founders of Dakota Lutheran Academy at Minot from 1948-1954. In 1953 his aged mother fell and broke her hip, from which she never recovered. While confined to her bed her youngest son Ted died suddenly and Ole came home to care for his mother.

Henry H. Myran died at the age of 57 from a lingering illness, leaving a capable wife and four grown children. The fine, eight room house he had watched being built was scarcely finished when he passed away. Of their early school life or "book learnin'" took place in their own home, with text books brought from Iowa. Miss Bessie

Rue (an aunt) was hired as teacher. Drinking water was hauled many miles as it is still today, for few wells have been found on "Vaagen Flat." Henry raised outstanding draft horses, black Percherons, some of which weighed up to a ton. One stallion he had imported direct from France. During the hard times of early years, the boys gathered buffalo bones from the prairie and trapped white owls and sent them to a taxidermist at Mandan. Indians camped not far from their house enroute to Taylor to trade.

The Myrans were instrumental in establishing the church and cemetery in the center of the, then, active community. The only daughter of Henry Myrans, Tilda (1896-1950) remained a cripple for life after a horse and buggy accident when she was about 16. Her mother waited on her diligently until she married Jalmer Anderson in 1940.

Theodore Burton (1890-1953) remained a bachelor all of his life, helping his mother operate the ranch until his death. He was an outstanding horseman, and his many escapades are common knowledge for miles around. He had no fear of wild horses, which the animals seemed to sense, and he also had respect for their judgement on such occasions as the time he rode through the Little Missouri Badlands at night. The territory was unfamiliar and he didn't realize he was going through such rough country in the pitch blackness of the spring break-up. Finally, after much slipping and sliding the horse refused to move ahead another step, so Ted let him go on his own. He was overwhelmingly amazed when daylight came and he found himself following the bank of the flooding river, full of floating ice chunks. Ted was always courteous to his elders and a great friend of children.

Lars H. Myran (1894-1969) the third son of Henry H. married Esther Anderson, a neighbor girl on June 28, 1917. Nine children were born to them, 3 sons died in infancy.



Golden Wedding Anniversary
The Lars Myrans, June 28, 1967

From a humble beginning, through drought and despair, Lars Myran lived to see his dream of a great herd of registered Herefords and a modern, well equipped ranch a reality. As a young cowboy he rode the range for good pastures and had many a page on his book of experience that taught him the "do's and don'ts" of stock raising. His sons and grandsons profit from his teachings. His son Norman has carried on the stock raising business on the home place.

The third son of Helge N. Myran was John (1858-1940) nicknamed "Johnny-on-the-spot" for always being where he was needed in an emergency. A single man, he divided his time among his relatives, helping out where he could. He homesteaded a tree claim north of the present Ridgeway Community Center on Sec. 22.

Torger Myran (-1951) married Lena Rue and homesteaded in the Vaagen Slough area, 3 miles east of the present Joe Enderle place. He also operated a hardware store and cream station in Taylor. One daughter Laura died while they lived there. Their other children are: Hilmer Otto now of Miles City, Thresa (Mrs. Howard Alguire) of Washington state, and Lila, who married Francis Sope of Dickinson.

Caroline Myran (1861-1952) became Mrs. Henry G. Helgeson - story elsewhere. Anna (1863-1898) became Mrs. Egge and had a small ranch on Spring Creek. She died quite young, leaving four children: Ida, Minnie, Eric and Albert. Her husband traveled about and Albert was taken in by his Uncle Torger Myran and was educated and confirmed in Taylor.

Tilda Myran (1870-) never lived here but came on occasions to visit the relatives.
Bertina (1875-)