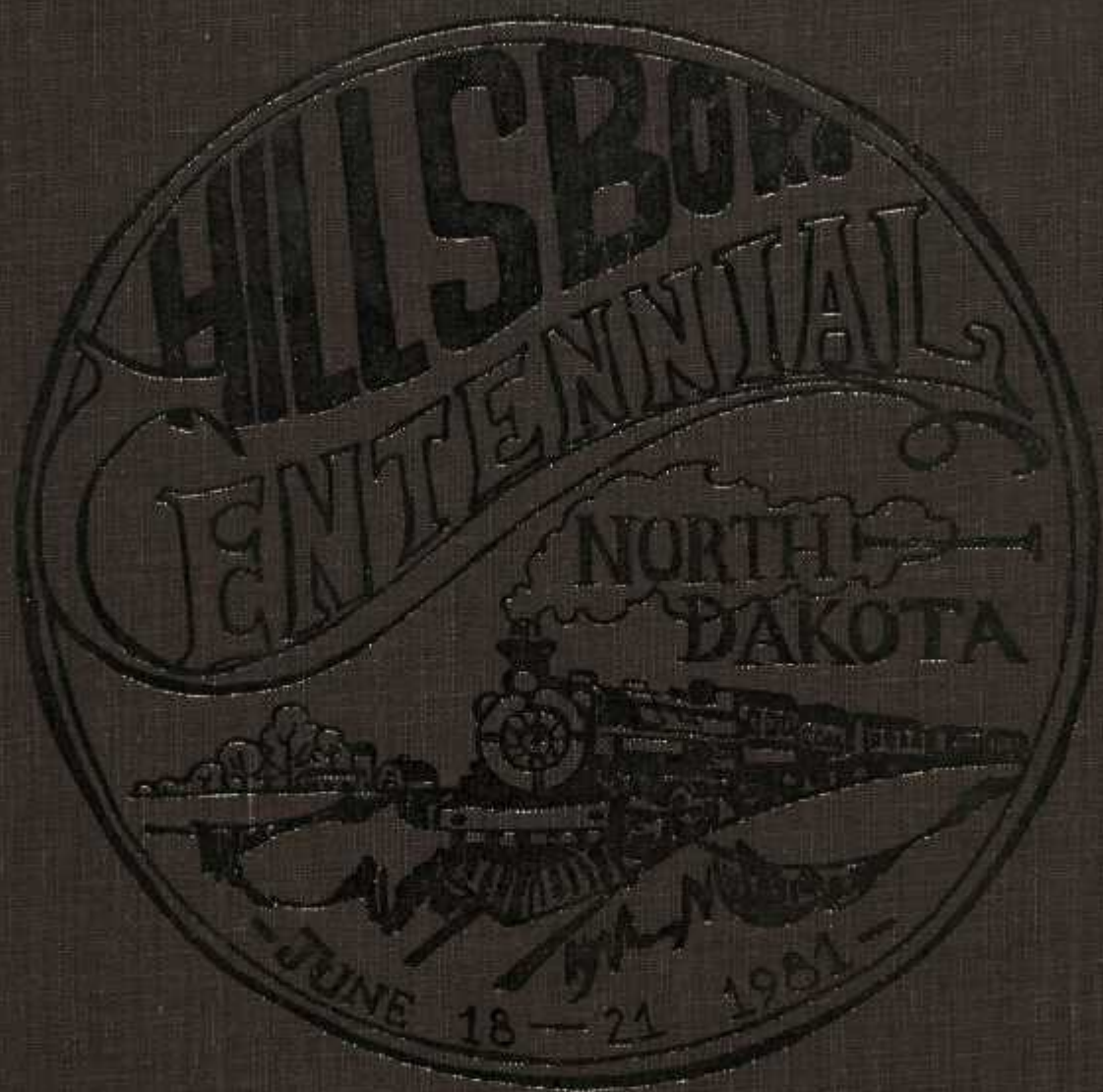
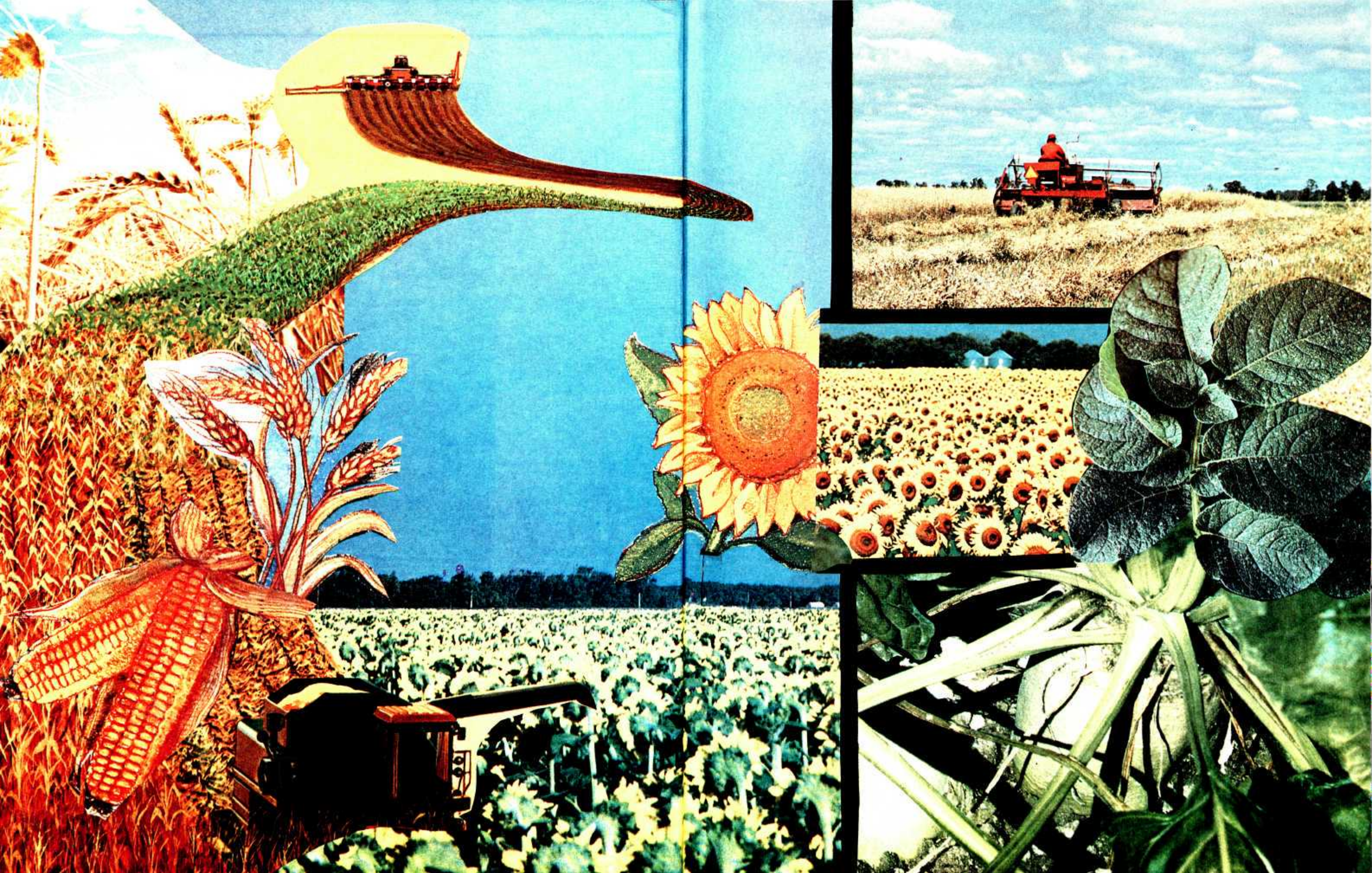


*Hillsboro, North Dakota*  
*The First Hundred Years*









NORTH DAKOTA  
BOOK OR AUTHOR



# Hillsboro, North Dakota

## The First Hundred Years



North Dakota State Library  
Bismarck, N. D. 58505

## ***Dedication***

As the pioneers of every place and age are an uncommon people, so too were the nineteenth century pioneers of Hillsboro. The transformation of the vast desolate Northern Prairie, into towns and farms of culture and enterprise, required much more from life than ordinary folk are asked to give. The transformation required the quiet heroism of perseverance and the calm courage of an independent spirit. This book is dedicated to those men and women pioneers: the immigrant homesteaders, the frontier merchants, the itinerant preachers, the skilled artisans, the young schoolmarms, and the great entrepreneurs. This book is dedicated to the "prairie people."





## *Message From The Mayor*

As President of the Hillsboro City Commission, it is my privilege and pleasure to invite the returning sons and daughters and friends of Hillsboro to join with us in commemorating our First Hundred Years. May your reunions be joyful ones as you greet old friends, recall past events, indulge in a little nostalgia, and look forward to Hillsboro's next hundred years. For those of you who could not return for the celebration, we hope your perusal of this anniversary book will evoke many fond memories of the days of your lives in Hillsboro, and hope you will join with us as we look forward to our Second Hundred Years.

*Winston Marsden*

Men who have served as Mayors of Hillsboro from 1881 to 1981.

John DeGroat  
G. McLain  
James Rodgers  
O.C. Sarles  
J.L. Skrivseth  
A.W. Ellis  
E.Y. Sarles  
John Carmody

A.L. Plummer  
J.F. Selby  
Fred L. Goodman  
E.C. Haagenon  
Theo. Kaldor  
John E. Paulson  
L.E. George  
W.H. Schram

H.M. Anderson  
Julius Overmoe  
H.F. Lund  
John Hovet  
Nels Brakke  
Ronald Stuart  
Kenneth Erickson  
E.J. Baumgartner  
Winston Marsden



# Acknowledgements

This book has been written and compiled by the people of Hillsboro: each has told his own story and many have assisted in the research, writing, and assembling of its many parts.

To Clarence Anderson, our Hillsboro historian, we are primarily indebted for his extensive historical research, which has been used with his permission. The synoptic early history written by Steven Kaldor has been approved by him as to its accuracy.

We wish to express our gratitude to all who have in numerous ways been a part of the formation of this book.

Jean T. Kaldor  
Co-ordinator



. . . .

*We wish to include a special dedication to the memory of Eldora Kraby, who during the year and a half before her untimely death, was responsible for much of the original impetus and inspiration for the formation of this book.*

. . . .

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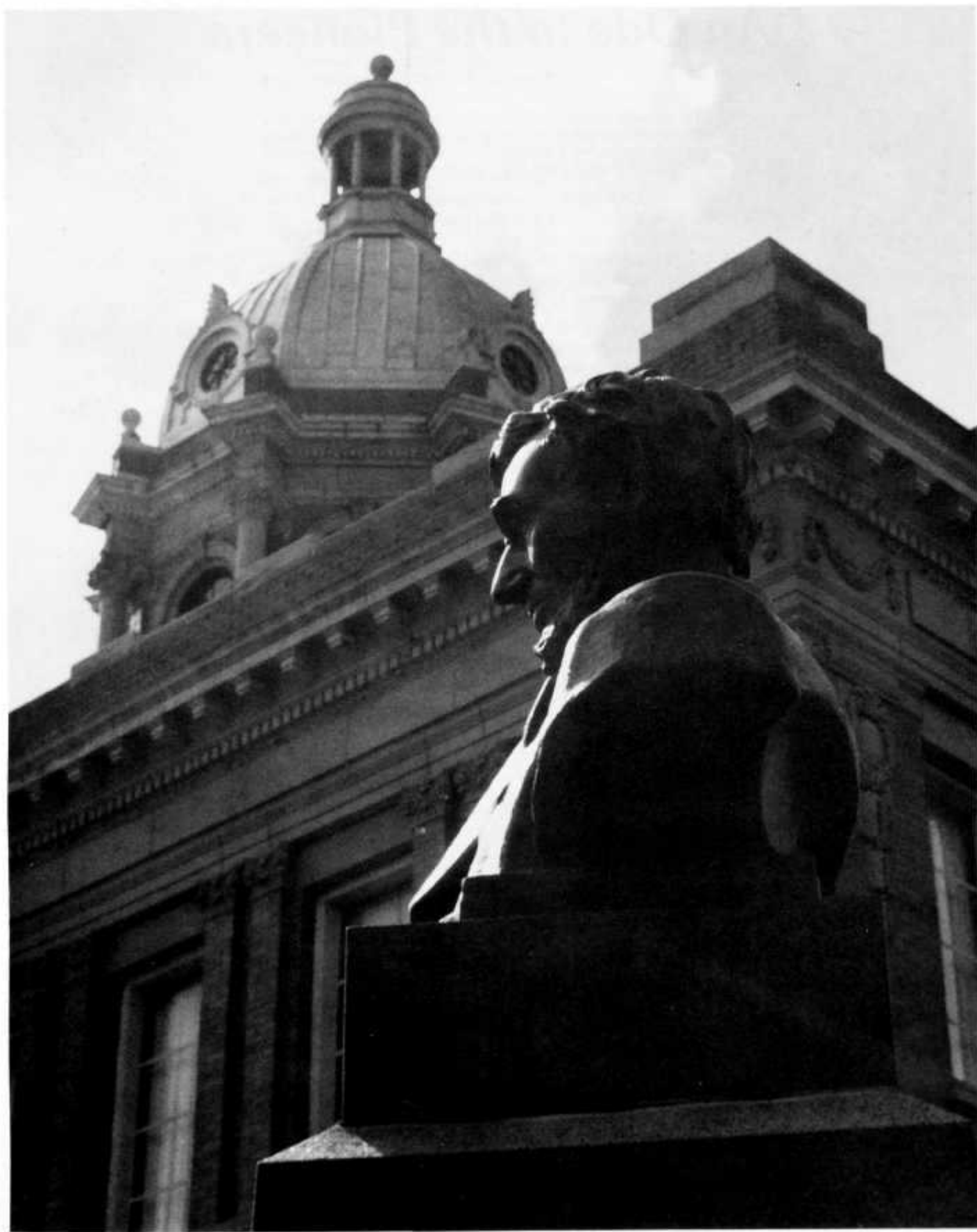
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# An Ode to the Pioneers

The following poem was written for the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee Celebration of the Settlement of the Goose River country, by Simon Johnson, who was raised in Norway Township in Trail County and who has been editor of the "Decorah Posten," and the author of a number of splendid books.

*Let us linger for an instant  
and recall the Red Man's tales  
of the free and fragrant prairies,  
scorning borderlines and trails;  
ocean-like 'neath sun to sun,  
its growth by Time's own spindle spun.*

*A vast, silent land . . . .  
The land of the Great Spirit;  
the land of lofty skies;  
the land of silent rivers;  
the land of the buffalo;  
the land of whispering grass,  
the land of fertility—  
a Goshen-land, rich but unharvested,  
until the tillers of the toil came  
to release its treasures, to give it a name . . . . .*

*There was the Red River of the North,  
sired by the once mighty Lake Agassiz,  
and long known to adventurous souls,  
dreaming of fortunes and distant goals.  
Bearer of trader's vessels,  
skirting a hunter's paradise,  
it rolled on and on,  
slow, inscrutable and wise . . . . .*

*And there was the Goose River. Mild-mannered,  
it calmly made its winding way  
amid smiling prairies, knowing full well  
that the men who came, came to stay.*

*. . . There's a quaint tale about this:  
A travel weary scout, looking for land,  
had stumbled into a sheltered nook  
to sleep the deep sleep of exhaustion.  
Awakening, refreshed, at sunrise,  
to view what the night had denied him:  
Ah, this was the land!  
Creation's own handiwork,  
spreading its rich promise before him,  
so that his eyes saw and his heart felt  
that this was more than a morning for him—  
vicariously, a morning for mankind . . . . .  
And to the glory of the morning,  
to the sweep of the virgin prairies,  
to the unpolluted sky,  
in his native Northern tongue,  
the man spoke simply:  
"The fairest view my eyes have ever seen!"  
—And his quest was ended.*



*Then came the prairie schooners' day . . . . .  
No flying flags here, no gleaming sails,  
but straining oxen and rumbling, creaking wagons—  
houses on wheels, with chests, stoves, pails,  
followed by cattle and shorn sheep.  
Yet, this was the fleet that brought brawn and brain,  
bands and skills, voices and laughter, planning and doing to the  
husbed land.  
Fair skies, whispering grass, murmuring waters  
welcomed the intrepid band.*

*The fleet spread out, each unit finding  
a friendly cove among towering elms—  
the leafy giants of centuries' growth  
in the winding valley of the Goose River.  
Here were the sites for cabins and stables,  
cozy and sheltered 'gainst wintry weather,  
while onward, farther than the eyes could reach,  
ran stretches of fertile, unbroken prairie,  
awaiting the plow, the drag and the seeder,  
eventually, the reaper. And the extent of it all  
was not for men to grasp or limit.  
The limit rested in the will of each  
to plan, to build, to work and accomplish.*

*These were the days of growth unstinted—  
and days never to be known again;  
for the sense of taking over where God left off  
can be known only once to men.*

*And the men, women and children of those days?*

*The men were mostly young, but bewiskered—  
such was the style of their day.  
They moved slowly, for they carried much—  
not on their shoulders alone, but in their hearts;  
and for common folks to shape a community of folks,  
every move and act instinct with future,  
is no light burden. Besides—  
slowly moved the oxen that pulled their plows.*

*And the women? From the last, tearful good-bye,  
drawing a veil over homes and faces they knew  
to rattling on and on in their wagons,  
with children tired, scared and fretful  
and no kindred near to help and cheer,  
cooking in the open, sleeping in the open;  
and the long hours of terrifying silence  
when night finally came—such was their journey.  
And, with the goal reached, a shed or cabin built,  
came many a day of stark worry,  
with the husband away on work or errands,  
his fate unknown, her security uncertain;  
for Indians still roamed the wooded valley,  
their moccasined feet as silent as a cat's paw.  
There were, also, the dangers of childbirth  
and illness striking those already born.  
And many a wife had left near kin in the old country,  
parents, brothers, sisters, with word of their fate months old.  
And beyond the trackless leagues of the frontier,  
and the expanse of a great region between  
stretched the heaving Atlantic and the North Sea.*

*And the children? Ah, the carefree hearts of children,  
The yesterday gone and the morrow coming  
hold no dread for them. A vast landscape  
and a bee in the chalice of a flower  
alike bring pleasure to their untroubled eyes.  
So the tow-headed children of the valley,  
their old-country cries rising in the still air,  
romped among the trees, swam the river,  
gambled in the dew-jeweled meadows,  
their fair skin darkening from sunburn,  
their bones growing, their muscles hardening.  
And, with an evening task or a lesson done,  
dropped into the calm oblivion of sleep.*

*As the months passed on and swung into years  
more prairie schooners loomed in the east,  
drew nearer, ever nearer—and stopped . . . . .  
Settler greeted stranger with a word of welcome,  
and the stranger was a stranger no longer.  
For thus ran a part of the frontier's code:  
A stranger for a minute, a companion in an hour,  
and neighbor when the wheels stop turning . . . . .  
So, on and on rolled the wagons  
until every cove had its cabin  
and sheds of poles and butts of sod  
dotted the fertile plains beyond—  
and the prairie people came into being.  
The men broke sod of century texture,  
harvested, broke more sod, harvested more,  
ever planning and building.  
Building while the harvest ripened,  
building when the harvest was over,  
making tighter the walls about themselves  
and ever warmer the shelters for their animals;  
for in those days animals were dearer  
than the per pound stock of today.  
And, thinking of their children and their souls,  
they built schoolhouses that also served  
as temporary places of worship.  
They built bridges, too, bewing timbers,  
as they bewed for their houses and stables. All told  
they built better than they oftimes knew,  
for they also built communities . . . . .*

*By and by came the towns . . . . .  
For years, Caledonia and Belmont had been there,  
nourished by the Red River traffic.  
And soon, on the banks of the Goose River,  
appeared Hillsboro, Portland and Mayville.  
And with Kelso, Buxton and Clifford,  
Hatton, Blanchard and Cummings,  
and a country store in between,  
came the names that also marshaled  
pioneer groups in other fields.  
Trades and skills, schools and churches,  
roads, bridges, railroads, telegraph,  
opened the world once more to the many  
who once had parted with the world  
to gain what the world had denied them.*



*And today, with three-fourths of a century gone,  
forget not the highly significant fact  
that a group of people—just plain folks,  
striving each by each to better themselves,  
unconsciously lifted their humble efforts  
to the realms of true achievement.  
For in the brief span of some ten years  
they turned an eon-old wilderness  
into a picturesque world of their own,  
as life-renewing as a morning sun  
and the wind-cleaned air of the prairies.  
The subtle alchemy of it may puzzle still.*

*But we do know what they felt and wrought  
was felt and wrought in freedom—  
the scout's morning coming true in their hearts.*

*... Gone are the trail-blazing pioneers,  
even many who followed later.  
Let us honor their vision, their struggles, their tears—  
few laid their life path straighter.  
O'er the stream of life, in the whirl of the years,  
may their lodestar gleam ever brighter!*



# Hillsboro Today

Hillsboro is a nice place to live. The city is ideally located on Interstate Twenty-nine midway between North Dakota's principal eastern cities of Grand Forks and Fargo, and in the heart of the prosperous agricultural land of the Red River Valley. The people have long been noted for their friendliness and good government, being recently designated an "All American City" and North Dakota's most progressive city.

As in the past, Hillsboro is still noted for its numerous churches, fine school system, and extensive health-care facilities. With the advent of the American Crystal Sugar processing plant, the population has expanded to over 1600. Accompanying the increase in population has been new residential and business construction. The demand for housing has been taken care of by the erection of numerous new private residences,

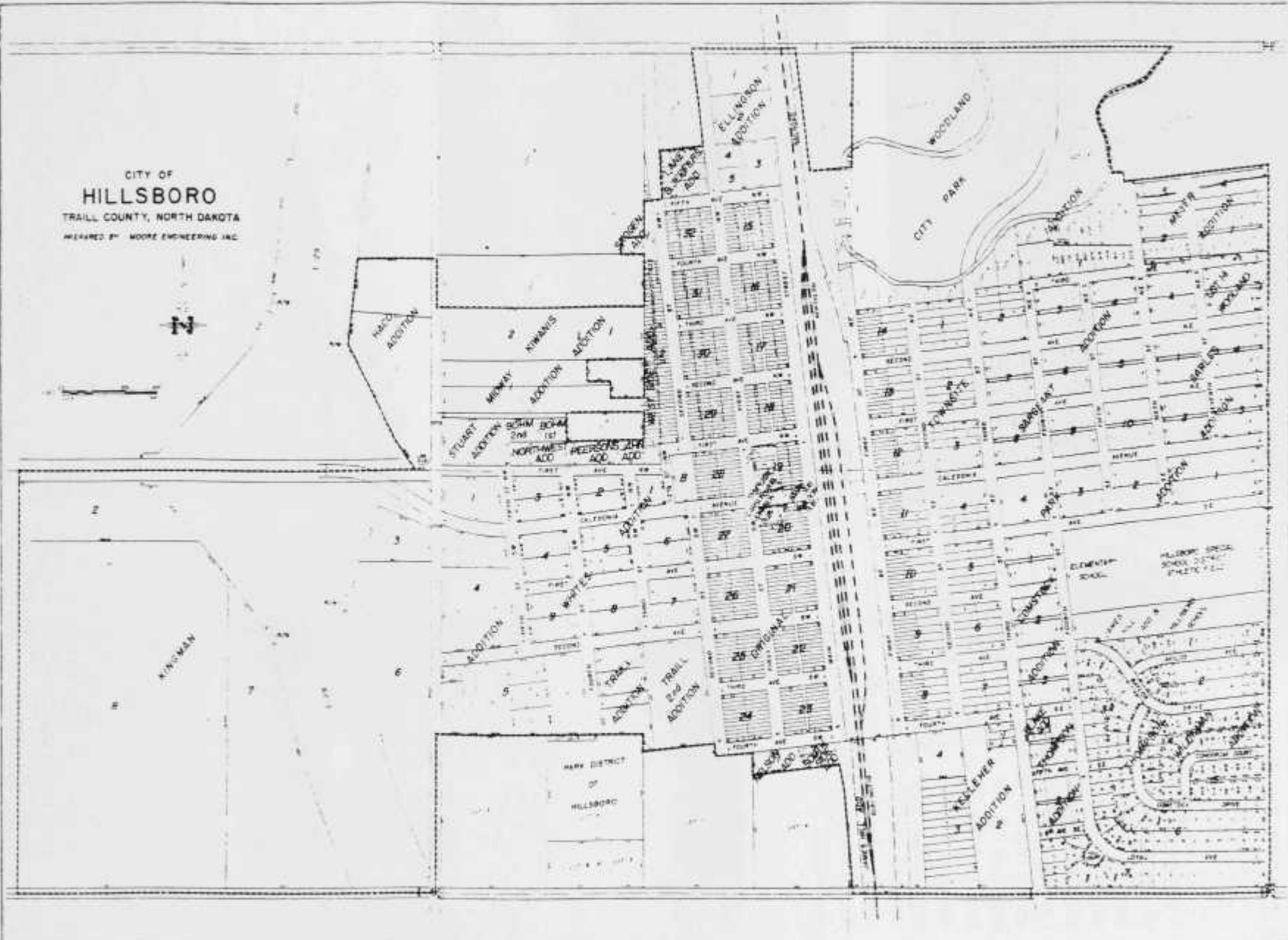
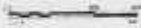
eight apartment houses, and a number of housing units. The past decade has also witnessed the construction of new restaurants, banking establishments, and a refurbishing of the commercial center. There are several civic and veterans organizations striving to promote the growth of the city. Throughout the state, the name Hillsboro evokes images of the Hillsboro "Burros" High School Basketball teams, which have won the State Class B Championship in four out of the last nine years.

The present City Commission is composed of the President, Winston Marsden, and four other commissioners: Fred Peerson, Orville Overmoe, Harold (Dick) Rachow, and Merrill Knodle. Each has assigned to him his own portfolio to assure that the city is run in as efficient a manner as possible. Kerwin Kostad is Auditor and John Frohrip is City Planner.





CITY OF  
**HILLSBORO**  
 TRAIL COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA  
 PREPARED BY MOORE ENGINEERING INC



13

Views of Hillsboro from the top of the Courthouse. Below: Looking west on First Avenue NW with Interstate 29 and the Kingman road in the background and in the distance is the Gale Boedeker farm. Top right: Looking north with the golf course on the left and the Beet Plant in the distance. Middle right: Looking northeast with Woodland Park behind the water tower. Bottom right: Looking south toward Kelso with Highway 81 and Interstate 29 in the distance.







Looking west on Caledonia Avenue.



Looking east on Caledonia Avenue.



Main Street



Intersection of Caledonia Avenue and Main Street.



Intersection of Caledonia Avenue and Main Street.



Looking south on Main Street.





**Community Hospital**



**Nursing Home**



**Hillsboro Clinic**



Housing for the elderly.



Kiwanis Apartments



New Housing

WINTER  
SCENES



Caledonia Avenue in winter.



Caledonia Avenue in winter.



Frosted trees along the Courthouse.



Snowmobiling on the Roger Diehl farm.

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PARK  
SCENES



Playground in Woodland Park.



Bandstand in Woodland Park.



Railroad Park.



Traill County Museum.



Old 81 (River Street)



Armory



Hillsboro Fire Department and Ambulance



Caledonia Avenue



Hillsboro from the north.

# 1870-1880: The Decade of the Immigrant Homesteaders

The Hillsboro area was first settled by German and Norwegian immigrants. A group of German families came up from Yankton, South Dakota. They were led by Carl Mergenthal, who had selected the Goose River as a settlement site while working for a surveying team in 1869. The Carl Mergenthals and the Henry Gronkes, two newly-wedded couples (a brother and sister married to a sister and brother), came to the area in 1870. The Hausman and Kuhlman families joined them the following year. The Germans located themselves along the Goose River east of what is now Hillsboro. A Norwegian group, known as "the Kaldor-Moen caravan," journeyed here from Albert Lea, Minnesota in 1871. They were led by Simon Kaldor, who had explored the area on foot a year earlier. This group settled along the Goose River northwest of what is now Hillsboro.

Many more pioneers entered the region in 1871, some only a few days after the first settlements. They also chose to make their settlements close to the river. Most of these immigrant families were Norwegians and included such names as John Anderson, Andres Peterson, Ole Engebretson, Ole Hovde, Anders Johnson, M.O. Christ, Harry Cooper, Ole and Andrew Ydstie, E. Halvorson, A.M. Anderson, John Olson, O.L. Hanson, O.O. Lee, J.A. Sorum, and Ole Johnson.

As can be imagined, life for the early settlers was extremely arduous. Many families found shelter in caves along the banks of the river before the sod was cut to build the huts. Later, log-cabins were built from the elm trees along the river. Clearly, the Goose River, although only a stream, was extremely important

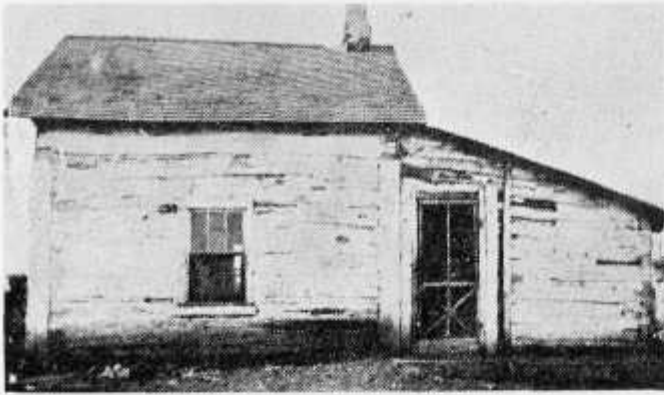
to the pioneers. River water was obtained for cooking, washing, and for the livestock. Fish were plentiful and served to replenish their larder. The river-bank trees not only provided heating fuel and lumber, but also provided some protection against the fierce Dakota wind. Perhaps most importantly, the wooded slopes along the river gave them some emotional escape from the vast emptiness of the prairie.

The Hillsboro area of the 1870's was painfully remote: transportation was by foot, with supplies being carried over long miles on wooden "Red River Ox-carts" from the steamboat villages along the Red River. Cash money was often very scarce, and the early settlers welcomed a chance to earn a few extra dollars to lay in supplies to carry them over the long cold winters. One extra source of income was selling buffalo bones. These remnants of the vanishing herds of bison were used by the eastern sugar refineries to make carbon black.

The settlement of the Hillsboro area in the years immediately following these early homesteads was relatively slow compared to what was to come when the railroad arrived. But other settlers did come, all hardy souls filled with determination and expectation. And indeed hardy souls were needed, for the 1870's were hard years for the early settlers, years of almost overwhelming adversity. Summer after summer, many of their crops were destroyed either by swarms of grass hoppers or by the dreaded prairie fires that swept across the grassy plain. Still, most survived, and slowly they conquered the land. Soon the railroad would arrive and with it, civilization.







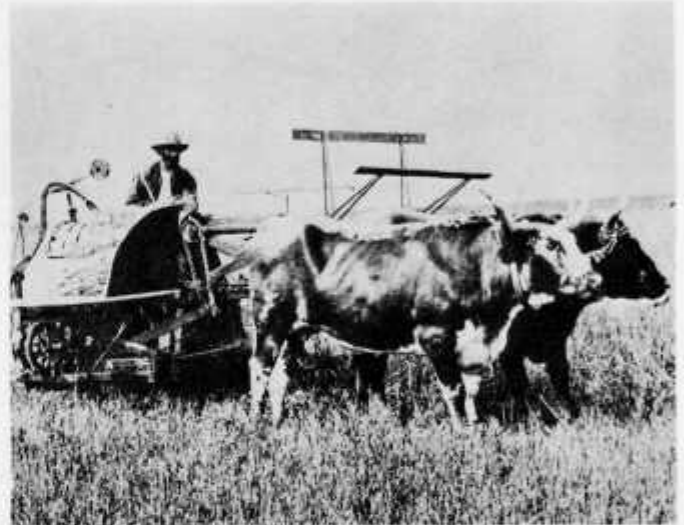
First log cabin in Goose River Valley, home of Christian Kaldor.



North Dakota sod house, 1870's.



Robert Stanley, an ox-train freighter, stagecoach teamster, and early settler of Caledonia.



An ox-drawn binder in the Red River Valley, 1877.



Red River Ox-cart Train carrying trade items from St. Paul to Pembina.



Red River Ox-carts from Pembina, 1858.



The Carl Mergenthal Family. Standing: Herman, Henry, Mrs. August (Amelia) Henka, August Henka, Freda, and Mrs. W.C. (Sara Hanson) Mergenthal. Sitting: Mrs. Henry (Bertha Kruger) Mergenthal, Carl Mergenthal, Fred, Mrs. Carl (Dorothy Gronke) Mergenthal, and W.C. (William).

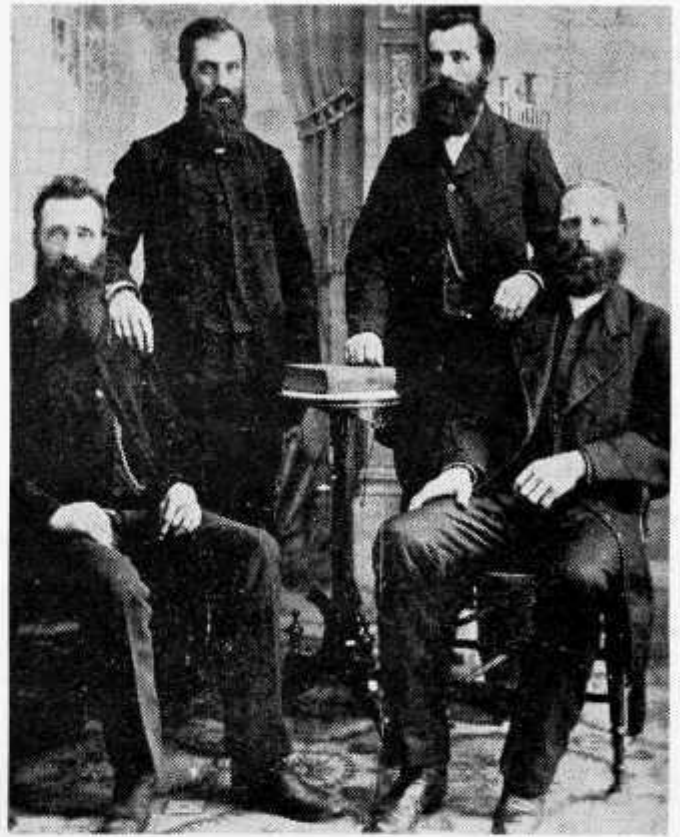


The Henry Gronke Family. Standing: Mrs. Otto (Wilhelmina) Strassburg, Mrs. Dan (Ida) Engel, and William. Sitting: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gronke.

## SIMON, THE SCOUT

Simon Kaldor was born April 24, 1838, in Oyer, Gudbrandsdalen, Norway, the third-oldest child of Ole and Anna Kaldor, and immigrated to America to Freeborn County, Minnesota.

He was a man who loved to walk and he was the scout who walked from Freeborn County, Minnesota, and came to Georgetown, Minnesota. Here he asked a half-breed Indian where the best land was. The Indian replied, "Go to the Goose River; if you don't find good land there you can just as well go home." It was June, 1870, when he reached the Goose River. He crossed the stream on the trunk of a fallen tree and got to the south side of the river. There he walked into heavy forest. Beyond the trees the land here, too, consisted of endless prairies. Heaps of buffalo bones were all over and in the distance he made out a herd of antelope feeding on new grass growing through the brown carpet made of last year's grasses. That evening the prairie scout followed the Goose River westward to the place where Hillsboro now stands. As he was sitting on the present site of what now is Woodland Park at Hillsboro a large buck plunged out of the tree thicket on the opposite side and crossed the river on a large beaver dam. Simon sensed something had scared the buck and he was not deceived in this surmise, for in a few moments four Indians emerged from the same place carrying two deer poles between them. The Indians crossed the river on the beaver dam. This was a warning to Simon; from then on he took care not to show himself in the open. When he camped he never went to sleep by the campfire but crawled into the brush nearby and slept there. He knew it



The Kaldor Brothers: (L to R) Simon, Christian, Mathias, and Anders.



Simon the Scout.



was a habit of the Indians to crawl up to campfires at night and attack at dawn. With a bag of provisions and a gun, a steel and flint, Simon walked several hundred miles alone, planting a cross to mark choice sites.

Simon told about the beautiful roses he saw on his exploratory trip to Dakota Territory. Someone wrote a poem about his trip and at his delight in seeing the roses. Later the wild rose was named the official North Dakota state flower.

He returned to Benson, Minnesota, and told his relatives about the wonderful land he had seen. They spent the winter preparing and planning a caravan to go to the Dakota Territory in the following spring.

They arrived in Dakota in August of 1871. Mathias and Simon, being bachelors, built a little shack on Mathias' land where they existed the first winter. They broke up a little patch of ground. Then Mathias and Simon drew straws to see who would stay in the shack and help look after things in the

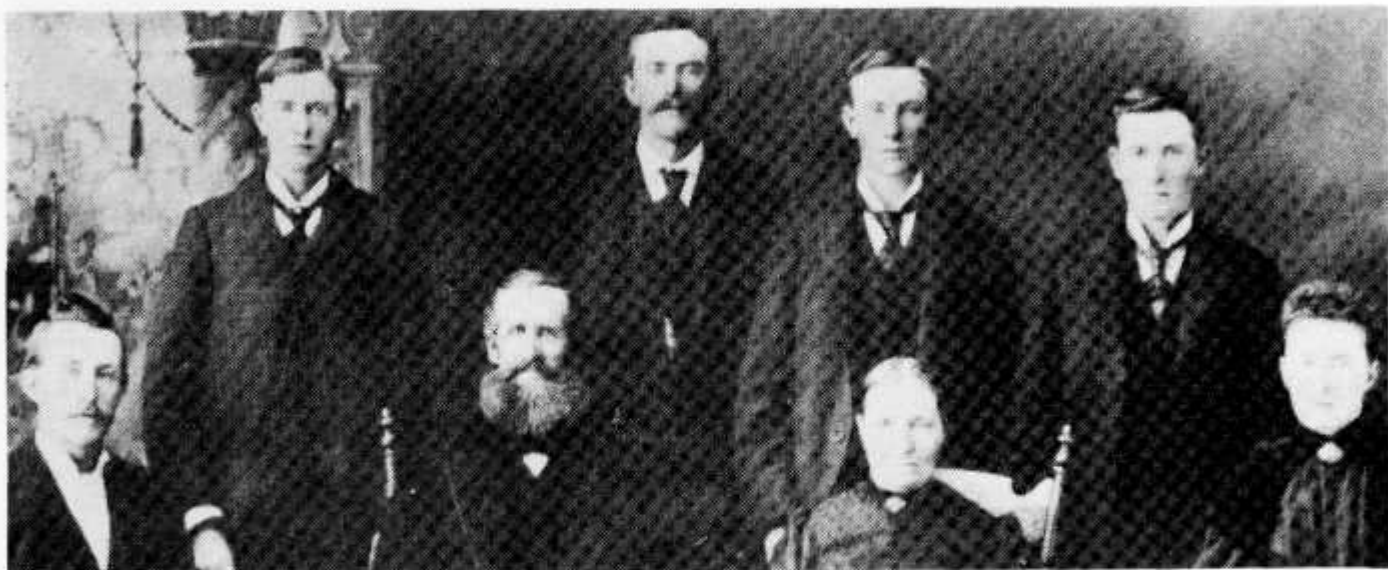
settlement. Mathias went to Moorhead and worked for the railroad; Simon remained on the claim. Simon homesteaded on a quarter of land, now the Vernon Kaldor farm. He later sold this quarter to Torger Jahn. He kept out ten acres of land and built a house there. This later became the home of the Carl B. Kaldor family. It is now torn down. Here Simon lived. It was once ransacked and after that Simon never slept there again. He slept and ate at one or another of his brothers'.

Simon did some cabinet work using hand tools. There are several of these pieces in the Vernon Kaldor home.

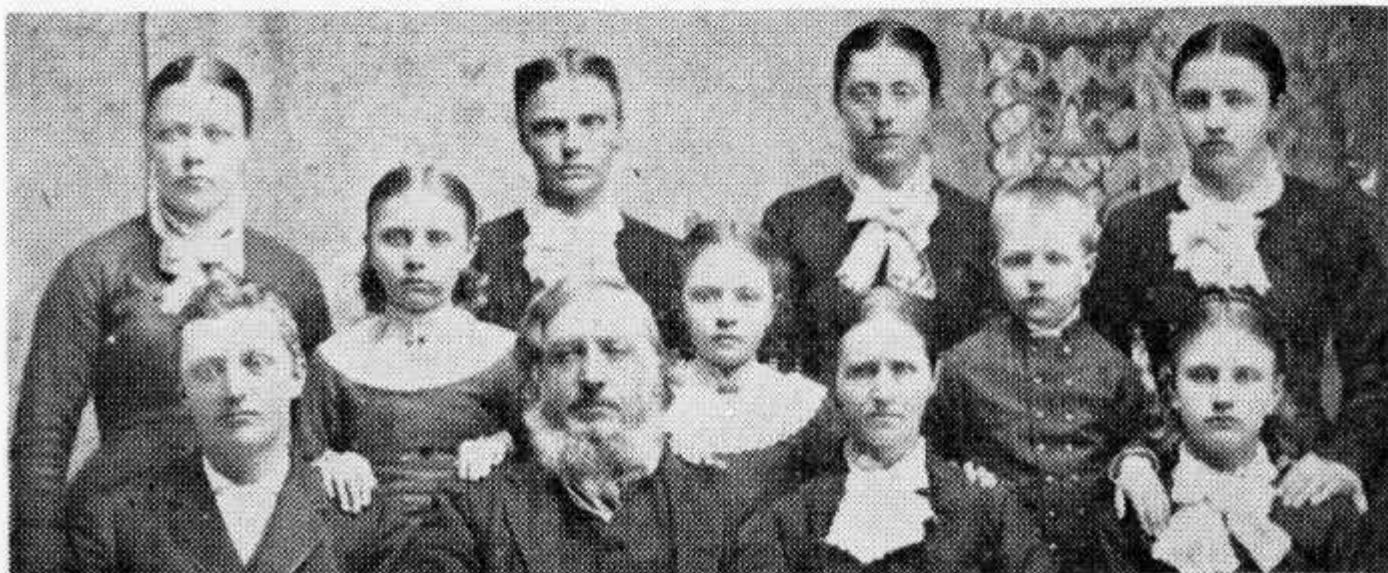
Simon was a charter member of Aal Church and lived here his entire life. He had a good ear for music. He could pick up a sheet of music and sing it on perfect pitch.

Simon died on June 22, 1912, at the home of his brother, Mathias, and is buried in Aal cemetery.

*Marie Rendlen*



Hans Arneson Moen and Family.



The Lars E. Moen Family, his wife Gjoren, and children Evan, Gjertrud, Ingrid, Gjoren, Marit, Arne, Maria, and Inger.

## FATTIGGUTEN FRA TUNHOVD



Portrait of Herbjorn H. Strom taken in 1893.

*"The poor boy from Tunhovd who became a senator in America"*

*"Fattigguten fra Tunhovd som ble senator i America"*

Two countries honor the memory of Herbjorn H. Strom, his native land of Norway and Hillsboro, North Dakota, U.S.A. As recently as August of 1979, the people of Nove parish, Tunhovd, Norway, honored his memory with a stone commemorating his contributions to and interest in his native land.

Born in Norway in 1846, into a world that was poor in worldly goods, he learned early that there was a direct connection between hard work and having enough to eat. He was not very old before he had to be out in the forest and the fields tending the sheep.

In his memoirs he tells that he often climbed up to the highest mountain peak and blew on his shepherd's horn (Alphorn) so that it echoed throughout the valley. In the winter he had to help in the barn, and it was his responsibility to see that there was enough wood in the house.

"When it was time for him to begin school, he could only go now and then. So, he made pens from bird feathers, and from the soot in the chimney, he made ink. For paper he used birch bark. His teacher wrote down the alphabet for him, and during the long winter nights, he sat down and practiced writing and reading. As soon as he was confirmed, he had to go to live with strangers in order to earn his daily bread. Although his greatest wish was to continue his education, he could not find a way to manage it."

When he traveled to America in 1869, "he had nothing with him but his two empty hands." But, by his own diligence and persistent study, he became a leader in his new country. He learned the language unbelievably fast and also acquired some schooling.

Two years later he went to South Dakota hunting for land. After much hard work on the railroad, almost at the cost of his health, he came to St. Olav, a town with many people from his native country. He married Guri Halvorsdatter, another immigrant from Turnhovd, and they went in a train of 14 covered wagons to North Dakota, where they homesteaded in what is now Eldorado Township.

In the words of his only daughter, Clara (they had five sons), "the Valley was prairie country, no trees except by the rivers, no roads, no bridges, no railroads, no town or schools or churches, just open prairie as far as one could see,"

Also in his daughter's words, "There was work to be done to organize and build up the country and Strom took an active part." His contributions to his adopted country were many. In 1889 Herbjorn Strom became a member of the North Dakota Legislature and continued for seven terms, three of which were in the Senate. Locally, he was School Clerk, County Coroner, Assessor, and County Commissioner. When St. Olaf Church was organized, he donated the land on which it is located (which remains virgin prairie). He also served as congregational treasurer until his death and was the "klokker" or songleader for twenty years.

For his tireless work in organizing the histories into book form of the people of his native land, his memory was honored with the monument at Turnhovd dedicated in 1979.

A touching foot-note to the life of Herbjorn Strom is written in his daughter Clara's hand, "In his last years he was interested in planting apple trees. He had planted twenty-six trees of different kinds of apples, but they did not produce fruit until the year he died, so [he] did not get to taste his apples."



The Herbjorn H. Strom Memorial Stone at Tunhovd, Norway, dedicated August 14, 1972.



The Original Herbjorn H. Strom farm in rural Hillsboro.

## MATHILDA, THE PIONEER MATRIARCH

Mathilda Hanson Collard Haugen was a unique personality. One would like to say she was the typical Pioneer Woman, but this would not be true. Her story is not the usual one.

She lived 95 years; outlived two husbands and six sons, and remained to the end of her life a vital, dynamic personality. Possessed of a warm and friendly nature, she had also a remarkable memory and a keen wit, and was "a veritable information center regarding events and inhabitants of early Hillsboro."

And well she might be, since she was born in 1880, before Hillsboro became a city. Her pioneer mother, Mathea Sorum, travelled over land from Iowa in a covered wagon to Dakota Territory. She married John Hanson (the uncle of Olga Kamesch) in 1873 and settled on a claim three miles north of her father's farm, in what is now Eldorado Township, where Mathilda was born in a log cabin (which is still standing on the John Mergenthal farm).

Mathilda was extremely interested in the town's history and wrote about it. This history is still preserved, in her original handwriting, by her daughter, Mrs. Henry (Frances) Talmo.

She was the oldest of seven children when her father died by drowning in the Goose River. Her mother later came to Hillsboro as owner of the Scandia House, an early day hotel, located east of the present day Court House.

Mathilda's accounts of pioneer life are vivid. The hardships, the frightening prairie fires, the threat of passing Indians and surviving on prairie chickens and jack rabbits (which, luckily, were in abundance) remained sharp in her memory.



Five generations of the Matilda Haugen family. Great Great Grandmother Berta Sorum, Great Grandmother Mathea Sorum Jepson, Grandmother Matilda Hanson Collard Haugen, Mother Frances Collard Talmo, and daughter Margaret Avis Talmo Lindeman. Photographed in 1917.



Mathilda attended the first school in Hillsboro (built on lots now housing the Greg Harvey home and which later became Hillsboro's first hospital). Her first husband was Frederick Collard, the father of Frances Collard Talmo. After his death, she was married to Erick Haugen and outlived the six sons born to the union.

She was possessed of a high degree of social consciousness, and worked with enthusiasm in her church (Our Savior's Lutheran) and the Daughters of the Pioneers, of which she was a charter member. She was also a charter member of the Royal Neighbors Hillsboro Chapter, of which she was secretary for 35 years, during which time she assisted in organizing several lodges in the area, among them Grandin, Hunter, and Cummings.

She was ten years old, when, during a bitter cold night in January 1891, a fire broke out on Main Street in Hillsboro. A blizzard with a northwest gale was raging at the time. Mathilda remembered it all! Starting upstairs over the present Rexall Store, it continued south to the bank, turned the corner and then westward to the present site of Johnson Ceramics. With no adequate fire-fighting equipment by the next morning every building lay in ashes. But the town would not die.

As soon as spring came the re-building was begun. Only the first floors of the new buildings were finished that summer. The second floors and the inside finishing were not completed until more money was available.

Mathilda remembered this, too. In her history, written in 1948, she said, "The big fire of January 21, 1891, was at the time considered a serious blow. It proved, however, a blessing in disguise and all the wooden buildings burned were soon replaced by solid brick structures."

Mathilda's boundless enthusiasm and optimism enabled her to both cherish the past and look to the future. We cherish the memory of Mathilda Haugen.



Frederick Collard, Husband of Mathilda Haugen, and father of Francis Collard Talmo.



Four generation: Great Grandmother Berta Sorum, Grandmother Mattea Sorum Hanson Jepson, Mother Matilda Hanson Collard Haugen, and daughter Francis Collard Talmo (eleven years old). Taken in 1909.

## ESTEN HALVORSEN, HORSEMAN

Esten Halvorsen died in 1900, but his legacy lives on in the memories of his two surviving daughters and in the contributions he made to Hillsboro.

Esten was only 17 years old when he traveled from Norway to Elgin, Iowa. When he traveled to Caledonia in 1877, he brought a number of horses with him, and as he studied the countryside, he must have decided that this would be a good place to live, for in 1878, he left Iowa for good and settled permanently in Hillsboro.

After settling here, Esten farmed land which is located 7½ miles northeast of Hillsboro and which is still owned by members of the Halvorsen family. In addition to the farmland, Esten maintained a small acreage near the river, just as other farmers in the area did. It was from this wooded land that the farmers obtained firewood.

Esten also established a sales barn in Hillsboro. Through this sales operation, Esten introduced horses to Traill County. "He sold his horses all over Traill County," recalls his youngest daughter, Esther Halvorsen, who still lives in Hillsboro.

Oline Ness, Esten's 95 year old daughter who now resides in the Hillsboro Nursing Home, adds, "My father tended to two businesses. He not only farmed more land than anyone else in the county at the time, but he went into town every day to take care of the horses at the sales barn. He was always bringing horses up from Iowa. In the earlier times, the horses were quite an attraction.

Another Hillsboro resident, Estelle Kelly, who was a very young girl at the time of the sales barn, would really agree to that statement. Estelle remembers the horses very well. "I was really fascinated by the horses. When I went past the sales barn on my way to school, I used to peek through the holes in the fence at the horses," Estelle said.

"Bringing horses into the county at that time was really a big operation," she continued. "Freight travel was really

pretty slow and Esten would ride on the freight to take care of the horses. He would take care of the horses at the stops personally and feed and water them. Bringing those horses in was really a tremendous contribution to the development of the county."

Recalling her father's generosity, Oline says, "He was always easy and willing to help people out. Many of his customers never paid for their horses. He had a policy that if people didn't like the horse which he sold them, they could bring it back. Often times the people only returned the horses after the yearly harvesting was completed."

Oline related that Esten also took oxen as trade for the horses. "We had oxen in the back of our barn. I'm sure my father lost money because he was overly generous."

Another example of her father's willingness to please concerns his name. "My father's true Norwegian name was Osten," said Oline, "but many of the town's people kept after him all the time to change his name. Finally they just started spelling it Esten."

Oline continued, "My father felt sorry for the neighbors because of the deaths in their families. But, he had experienced plenty of death himself."

Esten's first wife, Enga Olson, died the day Oline was born. Three children — May, Henry, and Oline — were born to that marriage. Esten's second wife, Anne Grenet, bore four children: Ida, Josie, Lily, and Esther. Esten himself died in 1900 when Esther was just a few weeks old.

The Halvorsen family lived on the farm in the summers during their father's lifetime, spending the winters in Hillsboro. "During the wintertime we usually didn't go out to the farm until we went back in the spring. I really don't know if it was good for us just to come into town and go to school for just a few months," said Oline. She did recall that her father cared "if we had some brains — and more importantly — that we were honest." Following Esten's death, the family stayed in Hillsboro year round.



## THREE GENERATIONS ON A HOMESTEAD

Like many other pioneer families of this area, the Halverson saga had its beginnings in Norway, when Thore Halverson and Kari Larsdatter were born in 1842 and 1847. They were married in 1871 and the next year came to America in a sail boat, a six week's trip during which twin boys were born, died, and buried at sea.

After stopping for several years in Iowa, Thore came first by wagon to Dakota Territory in 1879, and Kari came later with three children. They lived in a sod shanty until they built a log house. Later they built the frame house on the farm where Kenneth and Dorothy (third generation) now live. Thore homesteaded this quarter of land through the land office at Fargo, Dakota Territory. The deed was signed by President Grover Cleveland the twentieth day of December 1887, and

filed with Asa Sargeant, Register of Deeds, Traill County April 10, 1890.

Thore and Kari had six children, one of whom was Theodore, born in 1884 and died in 1960. He was father of Kenneth, the present occupant of the farm, and Helen (Halverson) Koering. Thore died in 1909.

Theodore married Ida E. Miller in 1919. They were the second generation to live on the homestead. Theodore died in 1960 and Ida in 1973.

Kenneth is married to Dorothy (Munter) Halverson, and they are the parents of four children, and seven grandchildren.

The Halverson land produces a variety of small grains, also sunflowers, pinto beans and soybeans. For the past seven years, sugar beets have proven to be a very satisfactory crop.

Although Kenneth and Dorothy have increased their land holdings, they continue to live in the original frame house, extensively remodeled, on the original homestead.



The pioneer Halverson family: Bottom — Thore, Theodore, Halvar, Kari, and Andrew; top — Maria, Rachel, and Bertha.





The second generation: Theodore and Ida (Miller) Halverson.



The third generation: from top to bottom, Kenneth, Nancy, Dennis, Dorothy, Mary, and Marvel.



A threshing scene on the Theodore Halverson farm, August 21, 1937.



Sawing wood on November 12, 1919, on the Halverson farm.



A threshing scene on the Theodore Halverson farm (note the lunch in the foreground).



Theodore and daughter Helen with their new Oldsmobile in 1927.

# THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

Homestead Certificate No. 810  
APPLICATION 4682  
of the LAND OFFICE at

Big Lake Dakota Territory where it appears that, pursuant to the Act of Congress

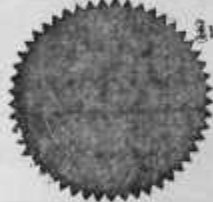
approved 20th May, 1862 "To secure Homesteads to Actual Settlers on the Public Domain," and the acts supplemental thereto, the claim

of Thore Halverson has been established and duly consummated, in conformity to law, for the north east quarter of section twenty four of township twenty one north and range fifty one west of the fifth principal meridian in Dakota Territory containing one hundred and sixty acres.

according to the OFFICIAL PLAN of the Survey of the said Land, returned to the GENERAL LAND OFFICE by the SEVEREN GEORGE:

Now know ye, That there is, therefore, granted by the United States unto the said Thore Halverson the tract of Land above described: To have and to hold the said tract of Land, with the appurtenances thereof, unto the said Thore Halverson and to his

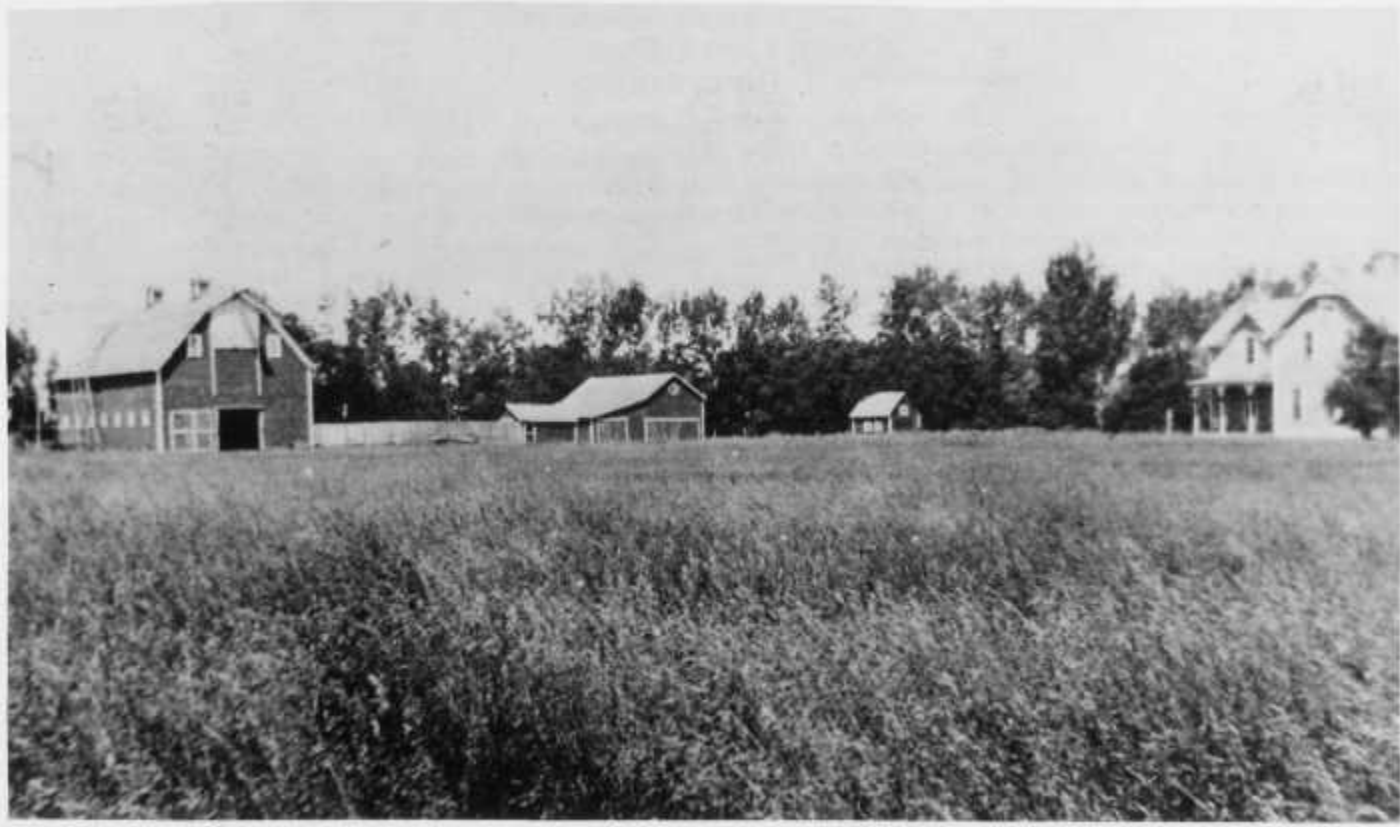
heirs and assigns forever; subject to any vested and accrued water rights for mining, agricultural, manufacturing, or other purposes, and rights to ditches and reservoirs used in connection with such water rights, as may be recognized and acknowledged by the local customs, laws, and decisions of courts, and also subject to the right of the proprietor of a vein or lode to extract and remove his ore therefrom, should the same be found to penetrate or intersect the premises hereby granted, as provided by law.



In testimony whereof, Grover Cleveland, President of the United States of America, have caused these letters to be made Patent, and the seal of the GENERAL LAND OFFICE to be hereunto affixed.

Given under my hand, at the City of Washington, the twentieth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty seven, and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and thirty fifth

By the President: Grover Cleveland  
By Wm. M. Evans Secretary.  
Robert D. ...



The Homestead of three generations of Halversons: Thore and Kari, Theodore and Ida, and Kenneth and Dorothy.



Kenneth and Helen Halverson waist deep in native prairie grass about 1930.

## MY PRAIRIES

by Hamlin Garland

*I love my prairies, they are mine  
From zenith to horizon line,  
Clipping a world of sky and sod  
Like the bended arm and wrist of God.*

*I love their grasses. The skies  
Are larger, and my restless eyes  
Fasten on more of earth and air  
Than seashore furnishes anywhere.*

*I love the hazel thickets; and the breeze,  
The never resting prairie winds. The trees  
That stand like spear points high  
Against the dark blue sky  
Are wonderful to me. I love the gold  
Of newly shaven stubble, rolled  
A royal carpet toward the sun, fit to be  
The pathway of a deity.*

*I love the life of pasture lands; the song of birds  
Are not more thrilling to me than the herd's  
Mad bellowing or the shadow stride  
Of mounted herdsman at my side.*

*I love my prairies, they are mine  
From high sun to horizon line.  
The mountains and the cold gray sea  
Are not for me, are not for me.*



# 1881: James Hill and The Birth of a City

## HILLSBORO

*A town was born and got its name,  
In eighteen eighty the railroad came,  
Paulson and Rogers saw its worth,  
And builded here on this rich earth.  
Hotels and stores and others many,  
They came to share this spot of plenty.*

*So fine a spot they could not choose,  
Than on the prairie and near the Goose.  
Tree lined and green in all its glory,  
Drove out the doubts and every worry.  
The soil so rich brought forth its wealth,  
The air so fine gave them their health.*

*The people came and more and more,  
To build a home or build a store.  
The streets were laid, long and wide,  
With stately trees on every side.  
From far and near to this new land,  
Came farmer, preacher, and common man.*

*In pride and glory the town did grow,  
Through fire, storm, and heavy snow,  
They built anew and builded better,  
With faith and hope they worked together.  
A town was born, they saw it grow,  
And named the new town "Hillsboro."*

—Clarence Anderson

### 1881: JAMES HILL AND THE BIRTH OF A CITY

Hillsboro was named to honor James Hill. This was eminently appropriate, for James Hill's Great Northern Railroad was largely responsible for the founding of Hillsboro; and moreover, it greatly contributed to the development of the entire American Northwest. James Hill was an entrepreneur *par excellence*, and exemplified the best of America's capitalist tradition. Unlike many other railroad men of his era, James Hill owed his fortune to his personal ability and courage, not to federal and state legislation. To quote from *The Story of American Railroads* by Steward H. Holbrook: "In a little more than two decades, three transcontinental railroads were built with government help. All three wound up in the bankruptcy courts. And thus, when James Jerome Hill said he was going to build a line from the Great Lakes to Puget Sound, without government cash or land grant, even his close friends thought him mad. But his Great Northern Arrived at Puget Sound without a penny of federal help, nor did it fail."

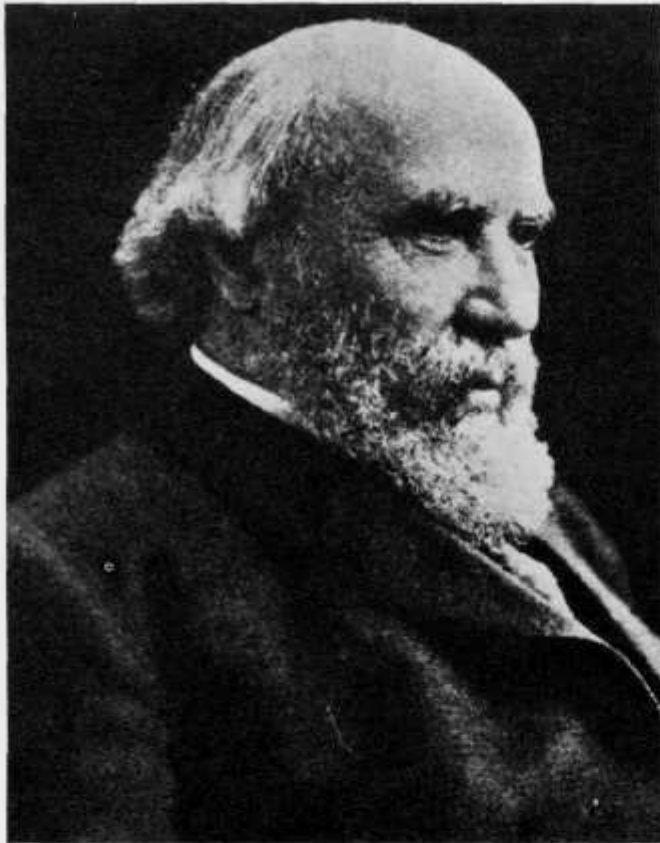
James Hill was successful because he saw, more clearly than others, the great potential in the American Northwest. The success of the Great Northern Railroad depended upon convincing would-be settlers that this vast and desolate land, once called the Great American Desert, could be made into a prosperous agricultural land. He promised them a means of transporting their products to market, and only by making good on his promise after the homesteaders arrived would more settlers

come. His railroad and the pioneers would depend upon one another and would succeed or fail together.

He knew first hand this part of the country, and sincerely believed in its future. He had once been owner of a Red River steamboat company and had crossed Minnesota, Dakota, and Montana on foot and by horse to plan his railroad. A tale is told of how James Hill, ragged and weary from walking through Traill County on a surveying expedition, was inhospitably turned away from a hotel in Caledonia because of his shabby appearance. Some disgruntled Caledonians would later contend that this was the reason Caledonia did not get the railroad.

Before the railroad, Traill County was overwhelmingly a wilderness area, with only a number of settlements along the Goose River, and small Red River steamboat villages at Frog Point (Belmont), Goose Rapids (Caledonia), and Quincy (Elm River). But James Hill's railroad arrived in 1880, and he ordered a new town platted by the surveying firm of Comstock and White of Moorhead. Albert Potterud donated twenty acres of his land for use as the original townsite; he also owned a wooded area called "Potterud's Grove" which was to become Woodland Park. Originally the town was known as "Comstock," but it was platted as "Hill City" and soon changed to "Hillsboro" in honor of James Hill.

The growth of Hillsboro in 1881 was phenomenal. Where only a year before the area had been virgin prairie as far as the eye could see, now suddenly there was a town. Wrote one



James Hill

pioneer: "Language cannot exaggerate the rapidity with which these communities are built up. You may stand ankle deep in the short grass of the uninhabited wilderness; next month a train will glide over the waste and stop at some point where the railroad has decided to locate a town. Men, Women, and children will jump out of the cars and their chattels will be tumbled out after them. From that moment the building begins."

In Hillsboro, the building activity started soon after the platting finished. According to Hillsboro historian Clarence Anderson, "crude one story frame buildings on 25 foot lots were erected with amazing speed on Main Street west of the railroad, on River Street east of the tracks, and a few on Caledonia Avenue and Sargeant Street." By September of 1880, James Rodgers had erected a hotel on the corner of Caledonia Avenue and Sargeant Street where the Hillsboro Auto Company now stands. About the same time Howard Morgan built a store on Main Street. He had been a proprietor of the Hudson Bay Store in Caledonia but sold his business to his brother to come to Hillsboro. The fact that many of Hillsboro's founders were merchants who left Caledonia to come to the new town on the railroad, presaged Caledonia's future decline as Traill County's "first city."

John E. Paulson was another "founding father." Although he served three terms as mayor and represented Traill County in the state legislature, he will always be known as "Hillsboro's first merchant." While awaiting completion of his two story frame building (situated on the corner where Olsen Hardware now stands), Mr. Paulson sold the first goods in Hillsboro from



Railroad construction in Dakota.



An old coal burner partakes in festivities in Hillsboro in the 1930's. Note the "cattle catcher" in front of the Train.



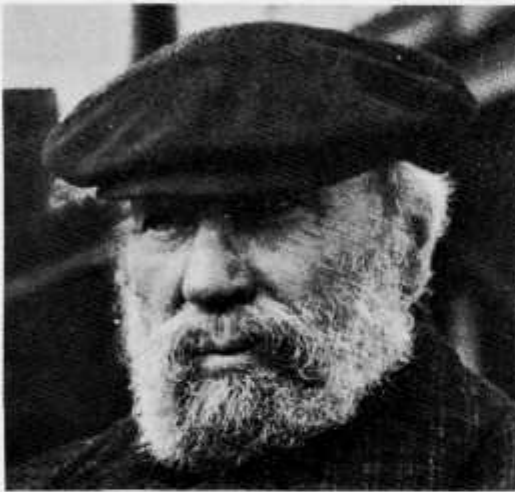
The Great Northern arriving in a new Dakota prairie town. 1880's.

a hastily constructed warehouse filled with a stock of merchandise brought over from Caledonia. A few years later he erected a two story brick building to expand his business, and the original building was moved to the back of his lot and turned to face Caledonia Avenue. Incredibly, this building still serves as a business establishment! It is now the property of Mrs. C.L. Ferguson and is rented to Oscar Nelson's Shoe Repair. It is Hillsboro's centennial building.

Clarence Anderson has compiled an extensive list of businesses started during Hillsboro's boom year. Some of the names include: Erick T. Jahr, hardware; Carl Heger, boarding house; William Martin, hardware; Gunder Howard, farm implements; and Peter Morris, livery stable. Nels Acker and Albert Potterud opened the first saloon, Mike Kelly was the first wheat buyer, and E.S. Kneeland was the first railroad depot agent. L.E. Francis was the first attorney, and looked after the interests

of Comstock and White, who had kept the best lots of the town-site for themselves.

During the next two years Hillsboro continued its rapid growth. In 1882 the city was organized as a municipality and John DeGroat became the first mayor. The Traill County Bank was organized by O.C. and E.Y. Sarles, and the Hillsboro Bank was established by A.L. Plummer and A.L. Hanson. Reverend Jens Lonne became Hillsboro's first minister in 1881 when he began to preach for the Norwegian Lutheran Church; Reverend Ostlund was a farmer and Lay-pastor of the Methodist Church. Some of the early merchants were A.L. Lien, druggist; G.W. Foggman, Jeweler; Ole Anderson, meat market; Christian Arneson, contractor; C.M. Clark, saloon keeper; and Mrs. A. Hager, store keeper. Some other frequently recalled names are Ole Sorum, Ole Baglien, Christ Baglien, John Halverson, Doctor George McLain, Attorney John Carmody, Lewis Larson, Martin Hanson, and C.F. Gilcrist.

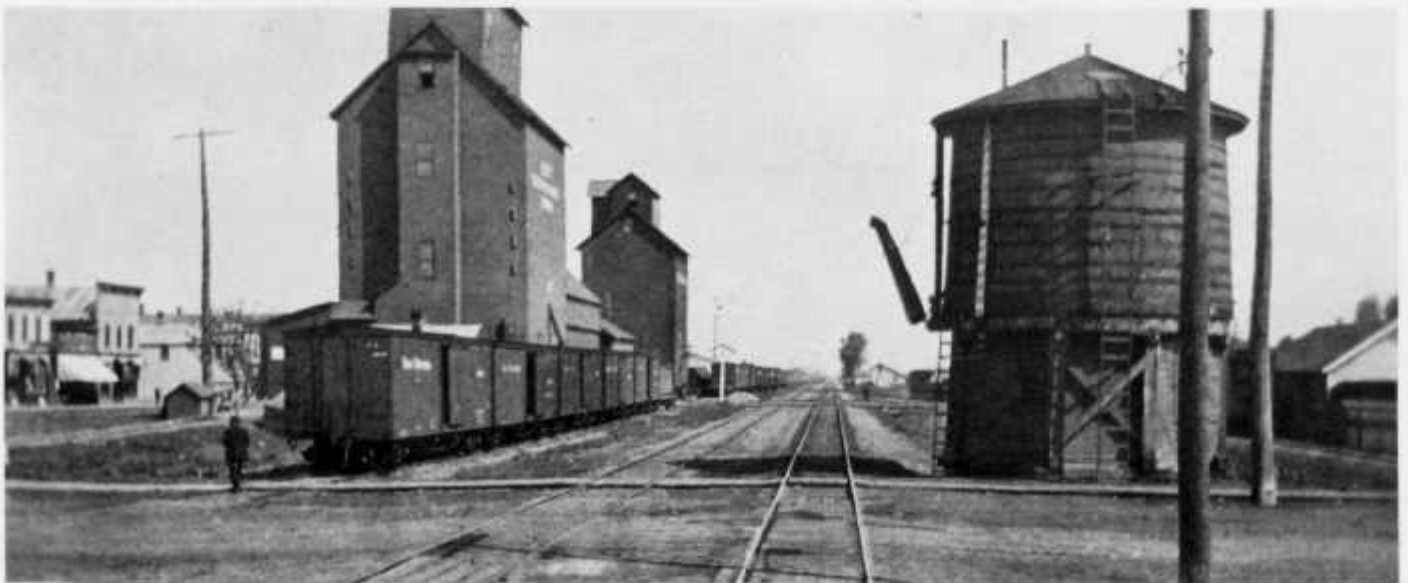


**James Hill**

When the Great Northern Railway was being surveyed through Traill County, James Hill often stayed at the home of Carl Mergenthal. They were good friends.



This Photo, taken in 1907 at the Legislature in Bismarck, show James Hill and O.J. Sorlie (right), Oscar Sorlie's father, who was a state representative.



**The Railroad's water tower in Hillsboro.**





Looking south from the Caledonia Ave. and Main Street intersection, showing John E. Paulson's building on the right and Gunder Howard's building (Opera House) on the left.



Gunder Howard was a farm implement dealer. His building also contained the Opera House.



John E. Paulson, the first merchant in Hillsboro. It was said that "he did more for the town than anybody." He served three terms as mayor and represented Traill county in the state legislature. He "lost everything" during the depression years in the middle twenties and "died of a broken heart."



Earliest picture of Hillsboro taken from the Caledonia Ave. and Main Street intersection. Note the John E. Paulson building on the left: it has been moved, and is today Oscar Nelson's Shoe Repair Shop. Hillsboro was built on marsh land as can be observed from the grassy area in the middle of the picture. The gazebo-like structure in the middle of the street was one of the town's water wells.



Early Hillsboro townspeople taken February 22, 1896. Standing: Ed F. Kelly, Manager of W. U. T. Company; Con N. Ronning, Tonsorial Artist (barber); Prof. H.B. Pardee; Theodore E. Ostlund, Hardware Merchant; Oluf Hagen, Deputy County Auditor; and Barney C. Boyd, Loan Agent. Sitting: Ferdinand J. Oeltjen, Foreman for the *Banner*; Elias F. Hov, Head Clerk for John E. Paulson; Mrs. Ida Kuhmichel, Land Lady; and George Kuhmichel, owner of Meat Market.



Doctor George McLain, Practiced medicine in Hillsboro during the 80's and 90's.



Lewis Bekkedahl was both a farmer and merchant. He built the old "Halverson Store." He was married to Mary Forde.



Mr. Ronning, an early Hillsboro barber. The early barbershops were an important part of the socializing of early Hillsboro.



Fred L. Goodman started an insurance business with his half-brother, Tom Farr.



P.G. Swenson, an early Hillsboro attorney who later became District Judge.



Albert Potterud owned the land on which Hillsboro was first platted. His land also included the Woodland Park area. He was Agnes Paulson's father.



Doctor and Mrs. B.C. Taylor, early Hillsboro veterinarian.



Mrs. Skrivseth



The original studio of J.L. Skrivseth, who made many of the Photographs in this section of the book.



## LARS H. LARSON, ENTREPRENEUR

Lars H. Larson was born near Christiania, Norway, May 7, 1853. He came to America with his parents in 1854. They settled in Minnesota where he grew up, obtained his education and farmed before moving to the Hillsboro area in 1879.

Mr. Larson married Ingeborg Halvorson in 1873. They were the parents of twelve children. The only surviving child of this marriage still is a resident of this community who many of you will know as Mrs. Tillie Thompson.

Mr. Larson was not only a successful farmer, having acquired nine quarter sections of land in Bloomfield Township, but had contributed to many improvements and businesses in Hillsboro. In addition to farming, raising horses for sale was a large part of his ventures.

In 1890 under the firm name of Larson & Johnson, Mr. Larson and Mr. Ole Johnson established a machine business in Hillsboro. In 1891 the Hillsboro National Bank was organized and Mr. Larson was one of the first directors. Later the bank built a building on Caledonia Avenue which is now occupied by Conrad Kamesch. At about the same time Mr. Larson and his partner Mr. Johnson erected a fifty foot building next to the

bank where they continued their machinery business. After the business was discontinued Mr. Johnson took the eastern part of the building and Mr. Larson took ownership of the western part which now houses the Coast to Coast store. Mr. Johnson later sold his building to Elias Hov who operated a general store. Mr. Larson also operated a general store in his part of the building and also conducted a bowling alley for a short time.

In 1892 Mr. Larson was elected to the North Dakota State Legislature as a representative. He was active in the county seat fight in Traill County and did efficient work toward securing the same at Hillsboro.

In 1907 Mr. Larson became the owner of Hillsboro Hospital. He equipped the building and leased it to various doctors who practiced in Hillsboro, among them Dr. E. Haagenon and Dr. Busch.

Mr. Larson's last business venture in Hillsboro was as President of Peoples State Bank which operated in the building now used by Coast to Coast store. Larson died in 1910 at the age of 57.

*Sandy Wright  
Great-Granddaughter of Lars H. Larson*



L.H. Larson General Store (site of present Coast to Coast Store) in 1905. From right to left: Christ Baglien and L.H. Larson.



L.H. Larson "Machine Hall" where Coast to Coast Store and Sport Bar are located.



Early Hillsboro with L.H. Larson building plainly visible.

# 1880-1890: The "Frontier Days" of Hillsboro

Like all frontier towns of this era, Hillsboro possessed a definite ambiance of "the wild West." There was a constant migration of transient laborers into the Valley to work the Bonanza wheat farms; some of these men came from lumber camps in Minnesota and Wisconsin. The railroads also imported a vast number of workers, many of Greek and Italian descent. The original Scandinavians and German homesteaders were complimented by an influx of Scots, Irishmen, French-Canadians, English-Americans, and even a few Chinese, to give Hillsboro a rather cosmopolitan flavor. According to a newspaper account in the 1880's, the town was frequented by "gamblers, swindlers, thieves and prostitutes." Saloons were kept busy: "beer was five cents a glass; poker games ran day and night; and drunken brawls and bashed heads were common as were knife fights and robberies." These were days when "mud was ankle deep in the street when it rained, and most of the men wore boots."

The most extraordinary story during Hillsboro's "frontier days" was the notorious "county seat battles" that occurred between the towns of Traill County. The principal antagonists in this conflict were Hillsboro and Caledonia.

Caledonia had been named county seat when the County was organized in 1875, but it was not long before Hillsboro, Mayville, and Buxton residents cast covetous eyes towards Caledonia, and each town began plotting ways of securing the county seat for themselves. The advent of the railroads only aggravated the conflict, as the new railroad cities became more insistent in their demands that they deserved the courthouse, while the old steamboat village of Caledonia, fearing eventual extinction, became more recalcitrant in their desire to keep the courthouse.

The 1880's was a decade of political intrigue, rigged elections, and constant vituperations and recriminations in the newspapers over the county seat issue. Hillsboro finally

managed to win a county-wide election on this issue, but the Caledonians, known as "the tigers of the jungle," obtained an injunction against Hillsboro, and refused to give up the courthouse records. Without waiting for the case to be decided, the Hillsboroites decided to take matters into their own hands. On an early March morning in 1891, they set off for Caledonia on sleds, raided the courthouse, took possession of the records, and returned to Hillsboro by sunrise. It was not until 1896 that the final verdict on the matter was handed down by the North Dakota Supreme Court awarding the county seat to Hillsboro.

A synoptic history of early Hillsboro would not be complete without mentioning the spectacular "Bonanza Farms" that suddenly appeared in our section of the Red River Valley during the 1880's. There was at the time, and there continues to be, a fascination with the picturesque aspects of these immense farming operations that has engendered many romantic myths and misconceptions.



A view from what is now the First Federal Savings and Loan. Pictured is Henry Miller, grandfather of Helen Koering.



Hillsboro in 1890 looking northeast on Caledonia Avenue.





The famed "Tigers of the Jungle," a political group dedicated to keeping the county seat located at Caledonia. Front row: Dr. E.N. Falk, H.M. Shuttleworth, Peter Herbrandson and Colonel Plummer. Standing: A.A. Corliss, Pat Kelly, John Little, John Anderson, John Brenneman, Joe P. Clark, Dr. W.P. Cleveland, T.H. Lee, and Louis John. Despite their efforts, the battle was lost and the county seat was moved to Hillsboro in 1890.

As Hillsboro was created by a railroad, so too were Bonanza farms a creation of a railroad. In this case, however, it was not James Hill's Great Northern; it was the Northern Pacific. The Northern Pacific had an immense government land grant of forty sections for every mile of track. After it went bankrupt in 1873, a financial scheme was devised whereby its stocks and bonds could be exchanged for its land grants. By use of this exchange privilege, land could be acquired for as little as 16 to 37 cents an acre by Northern Pacific investors. Instead of facing a loss on their deflated bonds, wealthy eastern investors opted for the land exchange, and then hired people to raise wheat. As an example, the Grandin brothers of Pennsylvania, using Northern Pacific securities, acquired about ninety-nine sections (64,000 acres) along the Elm and Goose Rivers. Another "Bonanza" in Traill County was the Blanchard farm, owned by S.S. Blanchard, a brother-in-law of the Grandins.

These one crop "mass producing" Bonanza farms attracted tremendous publicity, and national attention was focused on northern Dakota. Articles appeared not only in farm journals, but also in several "literary" magazines, and even in the London *Times*. Yet in actuality, Bonanza farming was not so much an agricultural phenomenon as the consequence of a financial contrivance whereby investors tapped the federal subsidies of the Northern Pacific. Once the scheme had "paid off" the Bonanzas disappeared almost as quickly as they appeared. Eventually the land was sold off to free-enterprising North Dakota farmers.

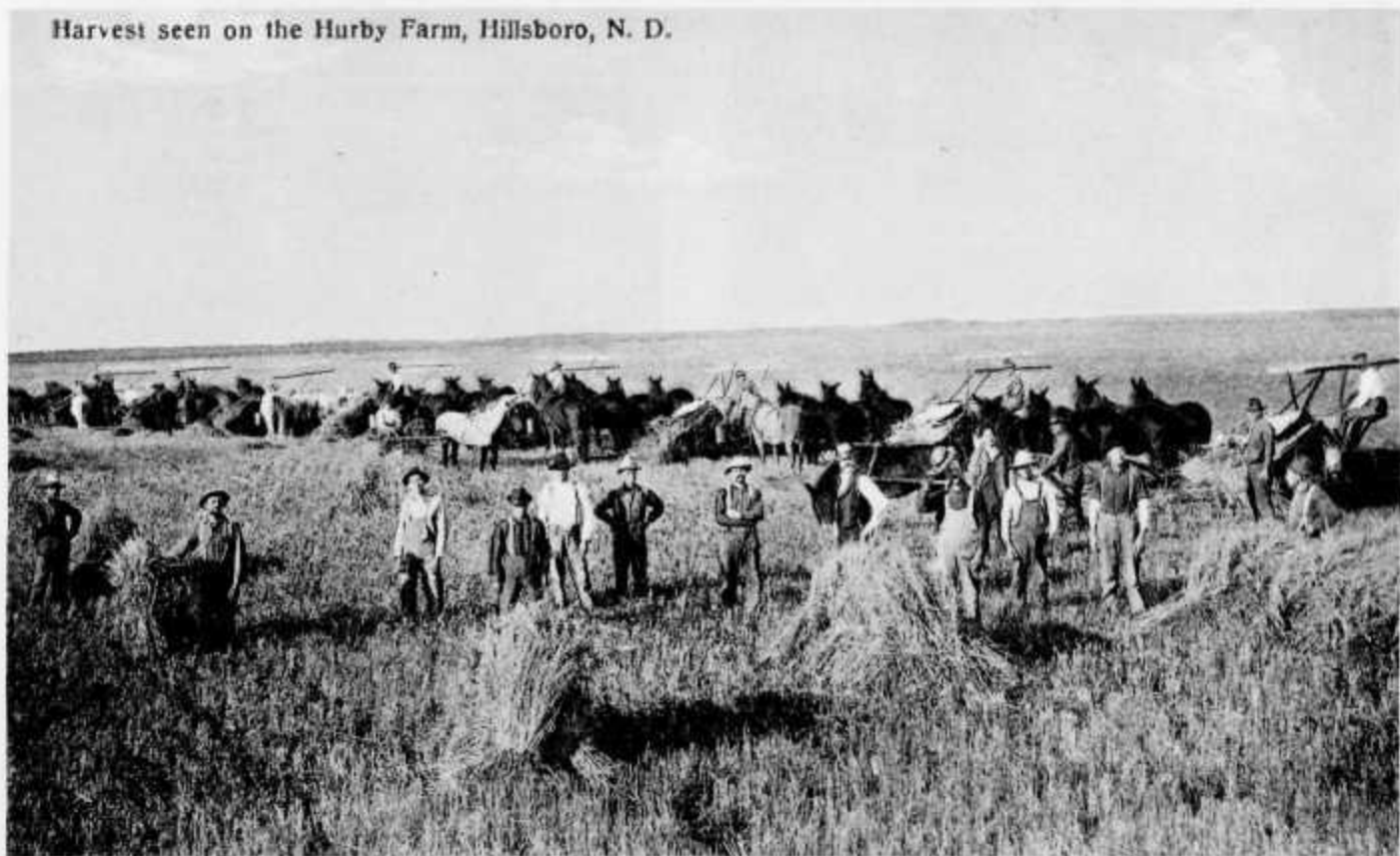


John Bohnsack, wife, and grandchildren; the namesake of Bohnsack Township, who came in 1878.



Grandin Farm number eight. Alton Elevator is in the distance.

Harvest seen on the Hurby Farm, Hillsboro, N. D.



# 1890-1930: From the "Golden Age" To the Depression

## THE NEW GENTILITY



Gay Blades of the 90's: Charles Fuller, Ray Carley, Harry Gilchrist, Harvey York, Jess Sarles, and Tom Farr.



Front: Julia Kaldor Berg, Hilda Rostad Dammen, Nettie Larson Kaldor. Back: Unidentified, Jennie Kaldor Bakkum.



Anna Fleischer standing on the wooden "brick-yard bridge." She was the grandmother of Helen Koering.



Doris Sarles, taken in December of 1910. She was daughter of E.Y. Sarles.



Clara Overmoe (Mrs. Oscar Moen), Ida Miller (Mrs. Theo. Halverson), and Emma Kruger.





A.L. Plummer House, built with brick from the Hillsboro Brick Yard, is now the Trall County Museum.

## EARLY HOUSES



The house of E.Y. Sarles, who served as governor of North Dakota shortly after the turn of the century.



The A.A. Engebretson house in rural Hillsboro, now the Hjelstad brothers' farm.



The Barney Boyd house, now the Connie Kamesch residence.

# LOOKING AT HILLSBORO IN 1910

Looking northwest with Opera House and the old Martin Hotel in foreground.



Looking north from courthouse.

Looking southwest with the race track and grandstand in the distance.





Simon and Carl Anderson in their store in the early 1900's.



Brick Yard workers. The brick yard once stood along what is now the third hole of the Hillsboro golf course.



The P.P. Miller Shoe Store.



Hillsboro in the twenties.



Elaine Anderson and Mercedes Baglien stand in Caledonia Avenue in 1923.



The footbridge to Woodland Park with the Potterud house in background.



Birdseye view of Hillsboro, N.D.

The "city of spires" with the school seen on the right.



# 1920's



Palmer E. Rudrud in his baseball uniform in June of 1922.



Mayor John E. Paulson throws out the first ball at a baseball game at the grandstand. Clarence Anderson looks on.



Conrad Leraas, World War I veteran.



In the days of good hunting . . . Nels Brakke, Ted Wold, Chauncey Kaldor, and Dick Jahr.



Lloyd Best and his wife, Mildred, dressed up for a July Fourth celebration in 1924.



Dr. Rowan, dentist; Palmer Rudrud, banker; John Flaa, Deputy Register; and L.E. George, editor of the Hillsboro Banner.

# 1930's



Hillsboro in the 1930's.



The burning of the Stern building, originally the John E. Paulson building.



The remains of the Stern building, 1939.



Julius Overmoe, owner of the Gem Theatre, shows off his new 1933 two-door Pontiac.



J.B. Hanson, Arne Klemetson, and Albert Anderson pouring cement in the 30's.



Trail County Pioneer Association 1946. Front row: Mrs. Haakon Lund, Mrs. Otto (Gunhild) Skogen, Mrs. Gilbert Moen, Unidentified, Mrs. Olei Hanson, Mrs. Herman (Sarah) Mergenthal, Hartvig Floberg. Second row: Mrs. Anton Strom, Unidentified, Mrs. Anton Almo, Mrs. P.M. Paulson, Unidentified, Mrs. Evan Nelson, Mrs. Chris Hong, Alfred Anderson. Back row: Theodore Kaldor, Unidentified, Ole Arnegard, Mrs. Emil Hausman, Judge Bagstad, Chris Lindeman, Unidentified, Unidentified, Martin Thingstad.

(Photo by Alice Olain)

According to historian Clarence Anderson, the Hillsboro of the Gay Nineties was a "Golden Age" for the town. The "Big Fire of 1891" destroyed many of the businesses of Hillsboro. Although it caused terrible misery at the time (some even thought the town might die), years later the residents looked back on the fire as a blessing in disguise, for in place of the ill-constructed frame buildings were built modern brick buildings. During the 1890's, Hillsboro began to lose much of its frontier flavor. The buildings of the town and the dress of the people began to take on a more genteel look.

Leonard Beal, a retired Hillsboro banker, aptly depicted this new gentility in his booklet, *Centennial of Trail County*: "The new homes [in Hillsboro] now had bay windows, cupolas and stained glass, fireplaces and parquet floors and were furnished with flowered carpets, new furniture, lace curtains, velvet

drapes and fine cutglass and china. The first mayor of Hillsboro, John DeGroat, built a new home, and the Hillsboro *Banner* reported the house was furnished "in a most elegant manner." The ladies organized societies for drama, elocution, musicales, lectures on history and literature, and group reading of poetry. On the lighter side there were evenings of box socials and strawberry and ice cream festivals for young men and women. Tennis and croquet were in vogue and many homes had private courts. There were many gay young bachelors who in their leisure time, according to the seasons, organized hunting parties, baseball teams and skating and sleigh ride parties. An organization named the Hillsboro Rangers was formed to display horsemanship. Formal dances and masquerade balls were attractions that interested many."



At the turn of the century, Hillsboro already had a reputation as one of North Dakota's most progressive towns. There were eight churches, and the city was sometimes called the "city of spires" for they so dominated the sky-line of the prairie town. There were three newspapers: the *Hillsboro Banner*, established in 1879, and two norwegian language newspapers, the *Folkets Avis* and the *Alpholds Basunen*. J.L. Skrivseth and C.E. Fuller were known throughout the Valley as excellent photographers.

At times there were as many as ten trains passing through the city, and travel was easy, for they all stopped here.

The city had an opera house (where the Paddlewheel Restaurant now stands) which was built over the Gunder Howard "Buffalo Pitts" machine shop. It had a seating capacity of 600, a large stage, and all the accouterments of a good theater. The city boasted of a community band second to none, a good orchestra, a fine school, and an elegant fair grounds with a racing track. The city built a sewer system, electric light system, and a water-works. An excellent hospital was kept by the different church societies. At the turn of the century, the professions were represented by seven lawyers, three physicians, one dentist, and a veterinary surgeon, all enjoying a lucrative practice.

The birth of Hillsboro one hundred years ago was a difficult period in which to live, but it was also a period of excitement and challenge. Clarence Anderson succinctly summarizes the early history of Hillsboro when he says that "in a short period of thirty years, from 1870 to 1900, a trackless prairie had been

explored and settled; a railroad had been built to link the new land with the rest of the country; and a city had been born, struggled through it infancy, and finally established itself as one of North Dakota's most progressive cities."

The "golden age" of Hillsboro lasted well into the twentieth century. But unfortunately, propelled by forces beyond their control, the people of Hillsboro were on the verge of a new era, an era of "hard times." In the 1920's, Hillsboro began to experience the nascent pains of what was to be a chronic malady for the whole country.

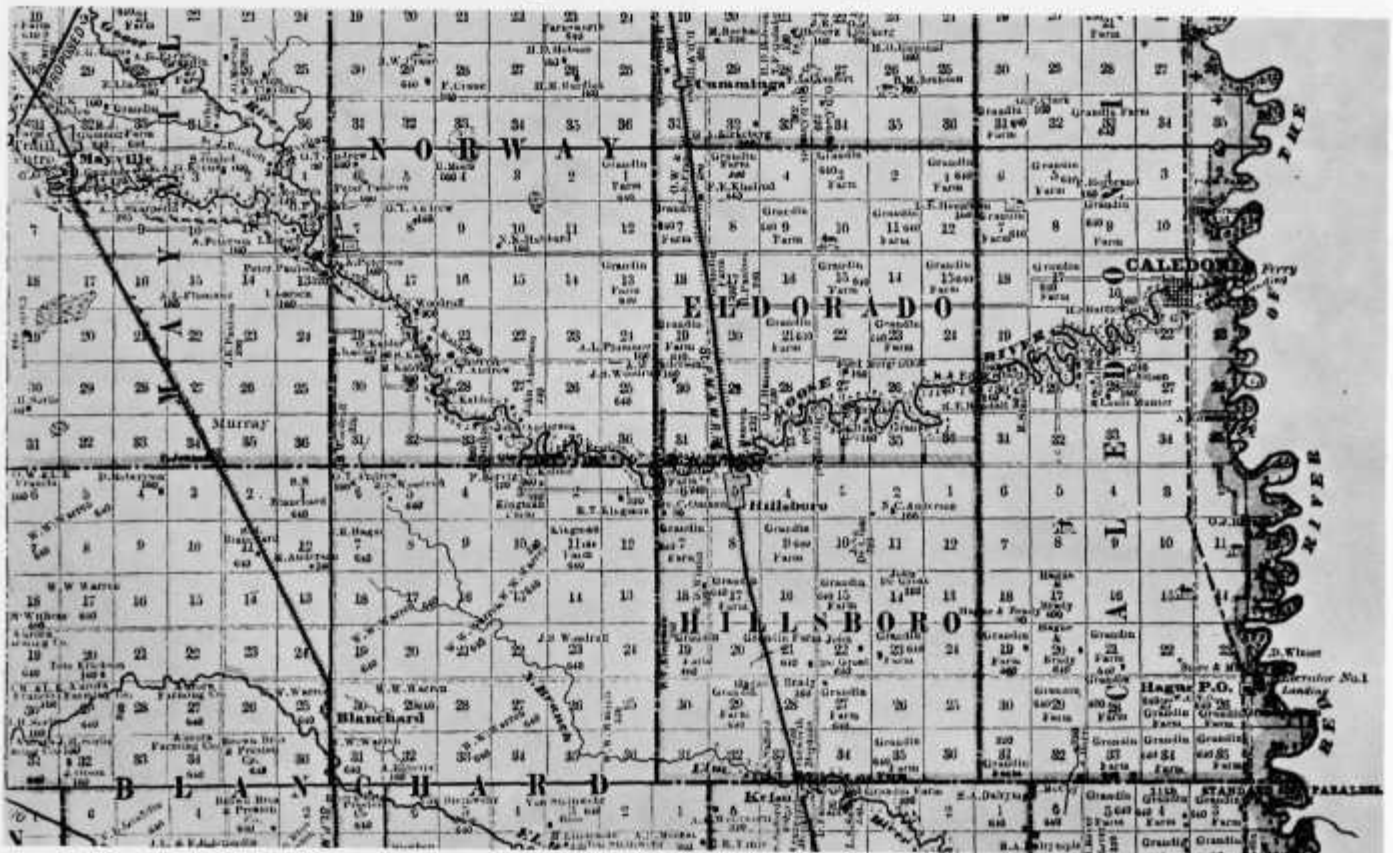
For years it had been a common practice of Hillsboro merchants to extend credit to farmers throughout the year and then to collect after the Fall harvest. But in the 1920's, the prices for crops plummeted and many of the farmers could not, or would not, pay their bills. Consequently, several of Hillsboro's established merchants, many of whom had been "founding fathers," were completely wiped out. Eventually the hard times hit almost everybody. Farmers and merchants alike faced the anguish of bankruptcy, and the population of Hillsboro, like the population of North Dakota, began to decline.

During the "hard times" of the 30's and 40's, when they were in the grips of a world-depression and a world-war, perhaps a knowledge of their heritage gave many people of Hillsboro a bit of moral encouragement. Perhaps it helped some of them to garner the necessary will to prevail, for in the end they finally did prevail and added another chapter to Hillsboro's heritage, a heritage deserving of honor.



Hillsboro in the 1940's.

# Townships and Agriculture



Hillsboro Area, circa 1890's.



## A TIME FOR NOSTALGIA

By Jerry Nysveen

A Centennial is a time for nostalgia. That is what this story is all about. In a small, rural community such as Hillsboro, everyone, whether directly involved in farming or not, sooner or later gets caught up in the magic and excitement of raising a crop and bringing it to market. The magic begins as you watch the spring sun and rain prepare the good, black soil for spring seeding. The magic continues as the farmer plants the seed in the ground and waits for those first shoots to appear. Then comes a period of waiting and watching, often anxiously, as rain clouds and hail clouds pass over the summer sky. But the real excitement begins to mount as the waving fields of grain begin to turn from green to amber, and the farmer begins to lay plans for "The Harvest."

Today's farmer may go to the ripened fields with a swather which cuts the grain and lays it in neat windrows to dry and cure. A few days later he will return with a combine which picks up the swathed grain, threshes it, and loads it into a waiting truck. The combine operator, whether he is running a self-propelled behemoth or a smaller pull-type combine pulled by his farm tractor, probably rides in a glass-enclosed air conditioned cab which has an air filter to keep the dust and chaff off his neck. As the day passes he may alleviate his boredom by listening to the news and markets on the radio or chat with his neighbor on the C.B.

This, however, was not "the way it was!" Getting ready for harvest, to an early pioneer, meant sharpening the scythe and making sure the cradle was in good repair. It also meant getting together with the neighbors so they could plan to work together at this crucial time. Many of the early pioneers did not have access to a machine that could separate the grain from the straw and chaff. They merely piled it up and used flails to loosen the kernels. Then they would use a fork to lift the straw, letting the grain fall to the ground, and the wind would blow the chaff to one side. The grain was put into sacks and stored on the farm where it was ultimately consumed by those who produced it.

Their early harvests probably weren't anticipated with too much enthusiasm as the work was hard, hot, and dirty and often the results were meager. However, as time went on the McCormick horse-drawn reaper came on the scene and the stationary threshing machine powered by horse power made separating the grain from the straw and chaff a much more efficient operation.

It is the period from the late 1800's to the late 1930's that brings back the strong feelings of nostalgia to those who spent their youth in this era. It was the advent of the machine age to agriculture, the period of the huge steam engines puffing black smoke and the shrill call of the steam whistle calling the crews into the fields in the early morning hours. The early threshing rigs, as we remember them, were large. The owner of the rig usually charged a few cents per bushel, but also credited his neighbor for men, teams, and bundle wagons which he furnished to the run.

The threshing crews resembled a small army as they moved from farm to farm. The steam engine and thresher lumbered down the narrow country roads and were followed by the water tank and coal tender, then a dozen or more bundle wagons and several grain wagons, often followed by a



The "pre-centennial" wheat harvest north of town in 1980 — Jerry and Bob Nysveen.



Cutting wheat on Blanche Iverson's field with eight-foot John Deere Binder.



Ed Olsen and Erv Koering "spike pitching" into a twenty-eight inch McCormick Deering threshing machine owned by Vernon Strand.



John Deere "Model D" tractor used in threshing bee.





**Vernon Strand, owner of the machine, checking grain tally.**



**Jim Leum "checking out" the threshing.**



**Jerry Nysveen lining up the drivebelt to the separator in preparation for the Pre-CENTENNIAL Threshing Bee.**

buckboard or lunch wagon. This procession was often over a mile long.

These huge machines had a voracious appetite. The bundles were fed into the feeder from both sides and often needed "spike" pitchers to assist the regular bundle haulers in keeping a steady flow into the machine. With this pace, spike pitchers were also needed in the fields to help the bundle haulers load their wagons.

Most farm homes had no accommodations for a crew of this size. As a rule, the hay loft became a bunk house and many of our fondest memories are of burrowing into the hay with an old horse blanket for cover and smelling the aroma of new mown hay. There were usually many itinerant hired men in a

crew of this size and naturally the setting was conducive to yarn-spinning and tall tales of far away places. The atmosphere was usually laced with the scent of Prince Albert and Bull Durham tobacco.

The day started before dawn with grooming, feeding, and harnessing the horses. The engineer usually began to fire the boiler at four a.m. Breakfast was at six and then on into the fields by seven. The women also cooperated with their neighbors in the preparation of food. The task of preparing three large meals each day and also bringing forenoon and afternoon lunch into the field was staggering and usually required about 18 hours of constant work per day.

It is natural when we reminisce to remember the good things, the camaraderie, the good food and all the lasting friendships made during these times of hard work together. Faded are the memories of chaff and barley beards sifting inside a sweat-soaked shirt. Also forgotten are aching muscles on those first days of a threshing run, or the searing August sun that sent temperatures up to 100° to 115° in the shade. It is much easier to remember the bread baskets full of sandwiches spread with cheese and homemade jam, the huge, home-made doughnuts, white cookies, and frosted cake chased by gallons of coffee that had real character boiled into it.

In the 1920's and 1930's the threshing scene changed. The big disadvantage of the huge threshing runs was that they lasted well into late fall. The farmer at the end of the run ran the risk of losing his crop to late fall rain and snow. It also meant if he wanted to get his fields plowed he must stack his bundles in



Lloyd Lundeen giving "future farmers" a ride on the grain wagon.



Albert Oie tossing bundles to Morris Smith (80 years old), who is setting up the base for wheat stacks to be used in the Centennial threshing bee.



Lundeen Brother's horses from Blanchard used in 1980 threshing bee. The boy on the right is Chad Nysveen.



Two bus loads from Halstad Lutheran Memorial Home came over to watch the threshing and treated some of the hungry crew to coffee and cookies. The crew members on coffee break were Kenneth Thompson, Erling Weng, Ed Olsen, and Morris Smith.

large round stacks, which meant handling the bundles twice, but it also protected his grain from the elements. Consequently, as the years rolled by the machines became much smaller and more numerous as many family farms acquired their own machine. These small runs then often included the next-door neighbors so that enough help could be found to drive the half-dozen bundle wagons and the early grain trucks.

The steam engine gave way to the early gasoline and kerosine-burning Oil Pull, Case, Mogul, and Hart Parr tractors. These were large and clumsy brutes, but they were efficient for their time and needed little maintenance. These large tractors in turn gave way to the smaller farm tractors which served many purposes on the farm as well as providing power for the threshing machine. It is from this later era that we found the threshing rig to be used in our Centennial mini-threshing bee.

We can never relive those times, but we thought it might be appropriate during this Centennial celebration to try to bring back some of the sights, sounds and excitement of those by-gone days. Consequently, in early 1980 this writer, with the encouragement of the Centennial committee, began looking for machinery which would allow us to stage a small "threshing bee." A John Deere eight-foot binder from 1930 or earlier was found in a shed on the John Mergenthal farm, now the home of Allen Goshinska. With the replacing of a few wooden parts, some paint and much tender loving care, the machine came back to life and cut 15 acres of wheat on the northwest edge of Hillsboro.

Finding genuine parts for a machine of this vintage can be a real problem. However, Andy Elton who has a farm west of Kelso, came through with a back-up binder and a full set of well preserved canvasses. He was also persuaded to draw on his experience as a binder operator and soon we had row after row of neatly tied bundles waiting to be shocked.

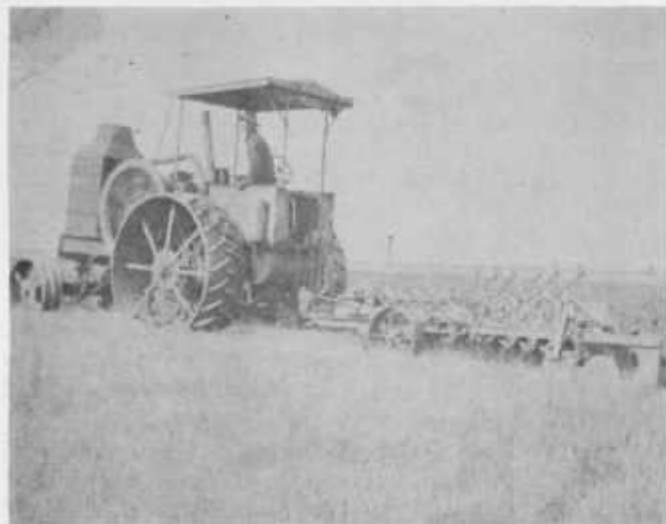
Many local residents came out to help shock the grain. Later a fresh crew under the tutoring of Morris Smith, 80, who learned the art in Williston as a young man, proceeded to gather in the shocks and build them into two large weatherproof round

stacks. These stacks were placed at the south edge of Blanche Iversons land and must weather the elements until June, as the 1981 crop will not mature in time to be used in the Centennial demonstration. Morris gave the entire crew "E" for effort. The time spent was measured in the number of blisters acquired. This writer also wishes to thank the volunteers for their time and effort. It was greatly appreciated.

The McCormick Deering threshing machine, owned by Vernon Strand of Moorhead, was brought out of retirement on his farm near Cummings. It was in remarkably good condition and needed only a few adjustments and a good grease job. We had Jerry Nysveen's John Deere tractor, Oie Bros hayrack and Gale Boeddeker's grain wagon pulled by Lundeen Brothers' team of horses. We were ready to thresh. There was only one hitch: the Centennial was nearly a year away. Patience not being one of our greatest virtues, we looked around for an excuse to thresh even a little bit, just to see if the machinery would work. We finally decided it was time to publicize the 1981 Centennial and to stir up the enthusiasm of the committees who were involved in the planning.

In mid-August on a warm and sunny afternoon we finally belted up the machine and threshed three acres of wheat. The only thing needed was the steam whistle. Everything else was just as we remembered it. The bark of the tractor's exhaust as the bundles began going through the machine, the dust, the chaff, and the clank of the grain tally as it measured off the half-bushels and elevated them into the wagon box. There, also, was the warm fellowship of neighbors working together, with young and old taking turns at pitching bundles. And to make it all worthwhile, the cooks were there, too, with their baskets of sandwiches and the aroma of hot coffee floating on the autumn breeze.

## THE OLD RUMLEY WENT CHUGACHUGACHUGACHUGACHUG



The Old Rumley

Sometimes a thought or recollection from out of the past will send my mind back over the years, and I hear it again — the sound that would awaken me to tingling, joyous expectation on a crisp morning in the late summers of my North Dakota childhood.

I hear it now. First faint and sputtering, then stronger, more rhythmical. Chug . . . chug . . . chug . . . achug . . . achug . . . chugachugachug . . . chug . . . chugachugachugachug . . . chug . . . chugachugachuga . . . chugachugachugachugachug . . .

The cadence of sound signaled the start of another threshing season. Chuga . . . chugachugachugachugachug . . . The big, old Rumley tractor was cranked up and gathering momentum. The Burnett threshing rig was ready for another run.

For a 12-year or-so-old tomboy, threshing season was excitement almost beyond containment. Riding with Bill in the cab of the big iron monster as it trembled and shook its slow way out of the farm yard into the pasture; watching the men line up the tractor and separator so the big drive belt could be slapped into place with just the right tautness to start the pulleys and gears in motion; waiting for the loaded bundle racks to pull along each side of the gaping feeder; seeing the first bundles of grain being pitched, head first, onto the feeder rack to be devoured into the maw of the rattling, shaking vibrating marvel known as a grain separator — these were the anticipations that flooded over me as I heard those first booming sounds of the old Rumley heralding another threshing season.

Into a pair of bib overalls and canvas sneakers and I was down the stairs and out the door into the bustling farm yard. Breakfast could wait. I had to run to catch up with Bill and the Rumley.

I'd perch myself on the tool box in the cab of that shaking, teeth-jarring iron behemoth, chew on a stick of Old Favorite licorice from the supply I stashed among the clean cotton waste Bill used to wipe oil and grease from the engine's parts. I'd lean against one of the posts supporting the rumbling Rumley's canopy and let my body shake with the vibrations of the thumping, chugging engine. From there I could survey the passing scene. Grain bundles were swallowed up by the separator; chaff and straw spewed out of the blower. A golden waterfall of grain poured out of the spout, piling into the grainbox in a great mound that had to be shoveled and leveled for the trip to the granary. Bundle teams stamped their feet and swished tails at flies as they waited turns beside the separator.

When I felt as though my insides had almost shaken loose, I would climb down from the tractor cab and either coax my way into a ride on a bundle wagon, or clamber into the grain wagon for a trip to the farm granary or the grain elevator in town. The "price" for that ride usually was a workout at the business end of the grain scoop. It wasn't until years later that I realized I really shoveled a lot of grain when I was an undersized and underweight 10 or 12-year-old. But an ice cream cone on the way home from town and a chance to drive the team then seemed ample reward.

In retrospect I know it was a time of grueling, back-breaking work that began at sun-up and lasted long after the fire-red glow from a North Dakota sunset had faded into darkness. Everybody worked against the weather; the goal was to get the crop in before rain damaged the grain.

Women worked no less hard nor any shorter hours than the men. Appetites grow big in harvest season, and threshing crews of 12 to 16 men had to be fed bountifully at each farm included in the run. There was a sort of contest that went on among the farm women, with the threshing crews reaping (rather eating) the benefits. It was no secret that the men often let it be known



among themselves at which farm the meals were the best. Many a rig move was scheduled for morning or afternoon, depending upon that noon's meal prospects. Some of our crew were our own hired hands, who, like Bill, worked at the farm most of the year. Others were hired just for the season, and still others came from neighboring farms. The latter would go back to their own farms for supper and next morning's breakfast, but the whole crew ate dinner and lunch at whatever farm the rig was threshing that day. And farms were rated "good" if lunch came both morning and afternoon, the coffee was consistently good, and dinner included two kinds of meat and pie for dessert. I have yet to eat a doughnut that matches those from the threshing days, or a brown molasses cookie like Hannah used to bake.

But I was a tomboy, and the farm yard and pasture were my forte, not the kitchen and meal preparation. Fortune was with me in that respect, for Mother and Grandma had Hannah, and with Hannah the house was in good hands. Only in my high school days, when Hannah no longer worked for us, did I have to share the labors of the farm kitchen. Then I really learned what "women's work" was all about.

Progress caught up with the old Rumley. It rusted in a corner of the pasture, along with a couple of old steam engine relics that preceded it, until they all were sold for scrap iron during World War II. Combines replaced the grain separator, and the big threshing crews dwindled to a couple of men, with perhaps an extra hand to drive a grain truck. The changes came in the name of efficiency, but the new scene they created never held the fascination of the old threshing rigs. I never could get the same thrill out of watching a self-propelled combine turn a grain field corner as I got when the first chugachug of that Rumley tractor broke the stillness of a long ago early morning.

Maybe it's just because I grew up.

Technology has transformed farm life in North Dakota.

Today there are no work horses drinking at the water tank by the creaking, pumping windmill; no chickens, pigs, cows, or turkeys.

The oil furnace in the basement has replaced the hard coal heater with its isinglass doors that stood in the front parlor.

Automatic laundry equipment has turned the copper wash boiler into an antique artifact.

Butter comes from the supermarket, and ice cream no longer is reserved for the Fourth of July.

Meat comes wrapped in tidy packages; home butchering is a lost art.

Remnants of harnesses hang in dusty, vacant barns, and implements once pulled by the horses that wore them rust in pasture corners.

So today there are memories.

A rich heritage flows from these and other childhood experiences that form the memories. It gives a sense of continuity amidst a fragmenting society, strengthened in the realization that five generations of Burnetts have lived on the same piece of Traill County land that once was called "home" by my great grandparents nearly 100 years ago.

*Joyce Burnett Lang*

## EARLY NORWAY TOWNSHIP HISTORY



On June 22, 1871 a small group of pioneers arrived in the Goose River area and staked their claims along the south banks of the river. Having travelled by wagon train from Freeborn County, Mn. they had traversed much uninhabited prairie free for the settling, but they decided the Goose River area to be their destination. One of the settlers, Simon Kaldor, had scouted the area the summer of 1870 and had been told by the Indians the Goose River area had the most fertile soil. The claims they staked were in part of the area which later became known as Norway Twp.

Other groups of settlers came a few days later and settled farther up the river. To the group who settled in Norway Twp. area goes credit for being the first settlers in the Goose River area of the Red River Valley. There were mainly two families involved: the Kaldors and Moens. There were the Christian Kaldor family of four and Christian's two bachelor brothers, Simon and Mathias. Also there were the Hans A. Moen family of four and the Lars Evenson Moen family of ten.

On May 12, 1882, eleven years after the first settlement, a meeting was held at the Edward Barnes home. Ole Hegg presided as chairman. At this meeting Norway Twp. was organized and officers were appointed. To act as supervisors with Ole Hegg would be Alexander Holmstad and Ole Loben. J.L. Skrivseth was appointed clerk; Peder Paulson, treasurer; Andrew Peterson, highway overseer; and E.J. Stoa, poundmaster.

At this time Norway was 72 sections in size, since it included the present Norway Twp. and all of what is now Wold Twp. Norway continued to function as such until 1889, the year N.D. became a state.

In March of 1889 the northern half of Norway Twp. decided to organize as a separate twp. It would be called Logan

Traill County was first settled by Norwegians in 1871.



Steam plowing on the Andrews Farm, Mayville, N. Dak., Norway Twp.



Crew and visitors at the end of a day of threshing. Arnt Nysveen in cab of the 1912 Model 20-40 Case Tractor pulling a 28" Case Threshing Machine.



Cutting wheat in Norway Township about 1932. Henry Nysveen on a 1927 Fordson Tractor pulling a Minnesota eight foot binder with Ottar Sliper at the controls.

Twp., now known as Wold Twp. March 19, 1889, representatives from the northern and southern areas met in schoolhouse #7 to act on the proposed division. Torger Jahr, John H. Johnson and Gustav Axner represented the southern half and B.S. Skrivseth, Elling Stoa and Mons Johnson, the northern half. The division was unanimously approved by both boards. G.A. Harstad of Norway clerked the meeting.

Early twp. board had many concerns regarding its constituents. Boards and elected officials included not only supervisors, clerk, treasurer and assessor, but also constable, justice of the peace, roadmaster, and for a time, an overseer of the poor.

The original large twp. of Norway was laid out in 8 road districts 3 miles square with an overseer over each area. Roads were laid out along section lines as they were petitioned for. Specifications for roads and bridges were set up by the township. Norway's first specifications were that any road or bridge must be no less than 14 ft. wide so as to permit two teams and their drawn vehicles be able to meet. These specifications were set at the June 12, 1882, meeting.

All roads and the first bridges were built by the townships. All male residents ages 21 to 50 years of age were to put in one (1) day's road labor as their poll tax.

The first property tax levy set was: 2 mills to Twp. General fund and 1 mill for roads and bridges. This road tax was in addition to the day's labor required by each male resident. It was possible however to work off the 1 mill road levy at \$2.00 per day for every day so worked.

Since the township built its own roads and bridges it needed some equipment. The first equipment being horse drawn scrapers, bought in the fall of 1882 for \$10.00 per scraper. From time to time more scrapers were purchased. Every year more and more roads were laid out as they were petitioned for. More roads being built demanded additional equipment. In June of 1902 Norway purchased an elevator grader from Austin Western company. This grader was driven by horse power, usually using 14 or 16 horses, six or eight in the back as pushers and 8 in front pulling.

It wasn't until the early 1920's that mechanized motor drive grading was done when the township bought a large "Oil Pull" Rumley tractor and a fairly large Russel Grading Company grader. The Twp. was now capable with its own equipment to build and repair its roads without each male resident spending a specified time doing road work. Twp. residents still maintained the roads however during the summer months with horse drawn road drags. Residents were paid at a rate of \$1.50 per mile for furnishing horses and dragging the roads.

For the first 10 years the township board met in some designated official's home. Elections also were held in the same manner. In 1892 residents of the township decided there was need for a township meeting place. Soren P. Langos was successful bidder with a bid of \$425.00 for a town hall 18 by 28 ft. The building was completed in time for the fall general election. The township continued using this town hall as their meeting place until 1951 when it took over Norway Schoolhouse #1 as its town hall.

Since the company building its first telephone lines in the area hadn't approached the township board for permission to construct lines in the township, the board objected strongly. At a meeting on May 26, 1888, the township supervisors passed an ordinance instructing the township clerk to send a notice in writing to the secretary of the telephone company which had constructed a line through Traill County that "the wire and poles shall be removed wherever it runs on or along the public highways of Norway Twp. within 15 days of this notice, dated May 26, 1888.

Within 4 years, in 1902, a permit for telephone lines was granted to the Buxton, Reynolds, Belmont, Climax telephone company. This marked the beginning of telephone service to Norway Twp.

As early as 1889 the board took action passing an ordinance concerning noxious weeds, that they must be kept



(L to R) Nennor "Buddy" Nelson Jr., a hired man, Nennor Nelson Sr., and another hired man.



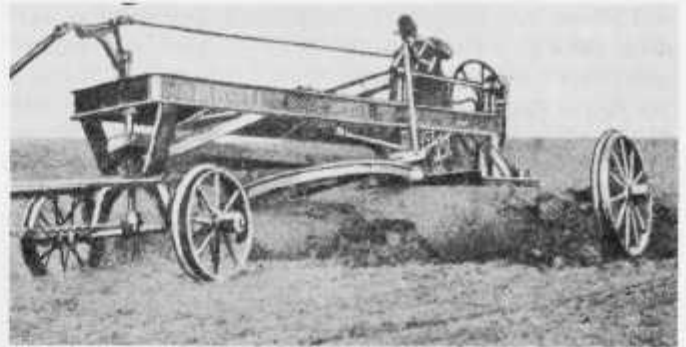
Duane, Myron, and Henry Nysveen, Marvin Nelson, Elias Nysveen, and Pete Arneson.



Norway Township's Tractor.



Road Grading — Norway Township in the 1920's.



Norway Township's Grader.



Elevator grading using horses for power

cut and under control by all landowners. Weeds mentioned were specifically; wild mustard, cocklebur and Canadian thistle.

Another concern in the early years was non-resident hunters. In 1899 an addition to the by-laws was passed which read: "It shall be unlawful for anyone but residents of Norway Twp. to hunt within its boundaries. A \$5.00 fine shall be assessed for each violation." The township could enforce their non-resident no hunting law because they had their own Constable and Justice of the Peace. The Non-resident hunting law remained in effect for quite a number of years.

It is interesting to note that the part of road now known as N.D. #200 which separates Norway and Wold Twps. was petitioned for and subsequently designated public highway by the two mentioned townships in 1889 at a joint meeting of the two township boards.

The early settlers' interest in developing their community took its first direction in providing for spiritual needs. The first organization of any kind founded in the area was a congregation. This organization took place at the Lars E. Moen cabin August 11, 1872, ten years before the area became officially known as Norway Twp. This congregation took the name Aal Evangelical Lutheran congregation. As far as can be determined, Aal was the first Lutheran congregation organized in the state of North Dakota.

. . . . .

In June 1871 Christian O. Kaldor built the first house west of Caledonia on the Goose River, seven miles northwest of Hillsboro.

. . . . .

The first wheat was sown in Trail County in 1872.

. . . . .



In short order two more Lutheran congregations were organized within the township namely, Gran Lutheran and Norway Lutheran. All three congregations are functional and meeting regularly to this day. Norway Twp. has the distinction of being the only rural township in Traill County and perhaps in the state with three congregations within its boundaries.

Education of the local children was another of the top priorities of the township's founding fathers. Norway operated 4 elementary rural schools which were located geographically so as to be as close as possible to all residents. These schools continued operation until the reorganization of school districts in Traill County in the latter 1950's. The last of these schools to close down was Norway #3, which discontinued operation with the close of school year 1961-62.

Norway Twp. like other townships of the county has operated successfully and progressed favorably. Roads, perhaps the chief concern of township boards in later years, have been built and well maintained. At present every resident has, adjacent to his or her land and running past his or her driveway, a gravelled road.

In the 99 years of the township's existence, many boards and officials have given of their time and talents to further the township's growth and development. Space does not permit naming all those residents who have faithfully served in various official capacities. The present township officials are: supervisors John Kaldor, Nennor Nelson, and Peder Simengaard, treasurer James Solberg, clerk Alf Berg, and assessor Vernon Kaldor.

—Compiled by Alf Berg, Norway Twp. Clerk

The first sheep were raised by Anders A. Johnson on his claim on the Goose River near Hillsboro, 1874.

The first school in Norway Township, about 1874, was held in a little log school house on the John Anderson farm, with Ingeborg Harstad, a sister of Rev. B. Harstad, as teacher.

## TRAGEDY AT SEA — THE TITANIC SINKS



Johannes and Kristiana Nysveen and family. Children John, Arnt, Caroline, Martha, and Elias. Henry in front.

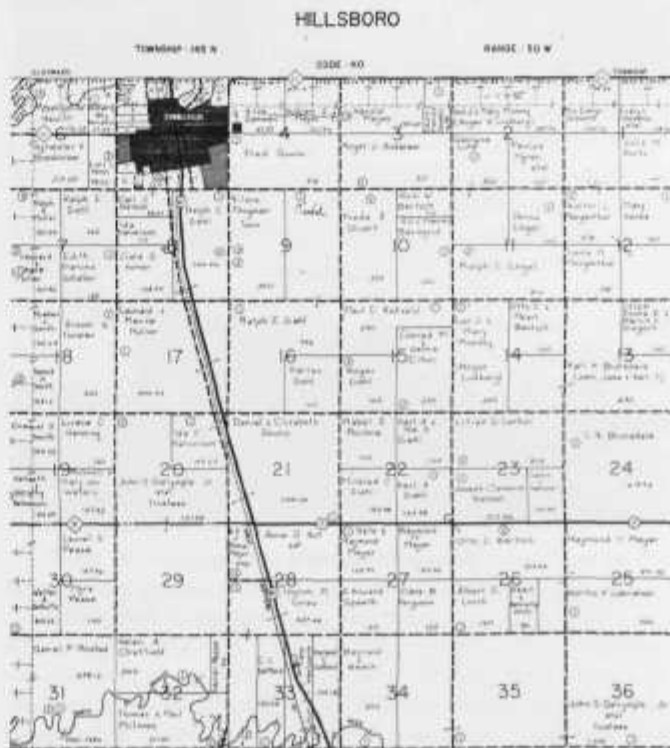
On Sunday, April 14, 1912, at 11:40 p.m. on her fifth day out at sea, the unsinkable Titanic collided with a gigantic ice berg near Newfoundland and began to sink. On April 15, the Titanic was lost on its maiden voyage and the last of 705 survivors had been pulled out of the freezing sea. In the nine hours it took for the ship to sink, 1500 people lost their lives.

Among the passengers who did not survive was Johannes Nysveen of Cummings, North Dakota. He was the father of Elias, Arnt, Martha and Henry. Mr. Nysveen's wife, Kristiana, died in 1901. Sometime later he went to Norway to visit and while there he married Pauline Rognstad. A set of twins, Paul and Jon, were born. A son, Johannes, was born after Mr. Nysveen's death.

He was returning home to America on a business trip and was booked to leave Southhampton for New York on another ship, but changed his passage to the Titanic. It was a \$10,000,000 steamship built by the White Star Line, a British company, with all the latest equipment. The Titanic was to be the most luxurious ship ever to cross the ocean. It was said to be unsinkable.

Henry Nysveen, who died recently, was the father of Jerome, Duane, and Orella (Pat) Nysveen Woods, all of Hillsboro.

## HILLSBORO TOWNSHIP



## ANECDOTES FROM THE POST FARM

Dan Rosted's parents came to Dakota from Buffalo, New York. Dan's grandfather had arrived here first, and had sent for his wife and daughter, Dora, to join him. They travelled by train to Fargo, only to find that a railroad strike was in progress. Dan's mother, Dora Post, being an enterprising woman, arranged with some railroad workmen, to bring her and her



Phoebe-Ann Pratt Post  
(Mrs. Daniel).



Daniel Post.



Dora Post Rosted (Mrs. Anton).



Anton H. Rosted.

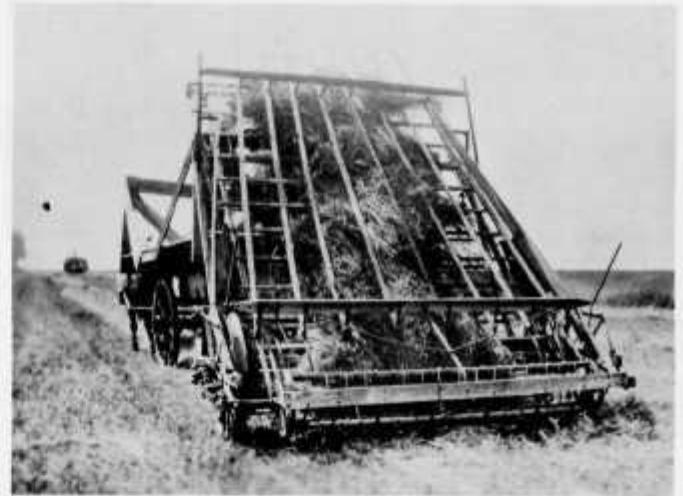
mother the rest of the way on up to Kelso. They arrived, triumphantly seated on orange crates on a hand car! For some reason her father, Dan'l, wasn't too pleased with her choice of mode of travel.

The Posts lived in hotels in Buffalo, New York. As a consequence young Dora was not too proficient in culinary skills. After her marriage to Anton Rosted, and assuming the role of farm wife, she was faced, some years later, with cooking for a threshing crew, in the absence of a cook. When Dora asked her husband what to do, he told her not to worry, just to cook up some rice and they would get along.

But the girl who had been brought up in a hotel and knew little about cooking, decided to make a generous amount, and used a cup of dry rice for each man, plus a few extra cups to be sure they would have enough. As could be expected, she ended up with rice in every kettle in the house!

That she eventually became more proficient was vouched for by her son Daniel, who, when the children in school were comparing their mothers' cooking skills, always maintained, "My mother can make good *hash!*" Which was true. She always used the best meat, chopped by hand, and with plenty of butter. It *was* excellent!

—Mabel Rosted



Haying on the Post Farm



Early day picture of the Post farm; home of Dan and Mabel Rosted.



Threshing on the Post Farm, Dan Rosted on the tractor.



Storing hay on the Post Farm.



Spring flood on the Post Farm.

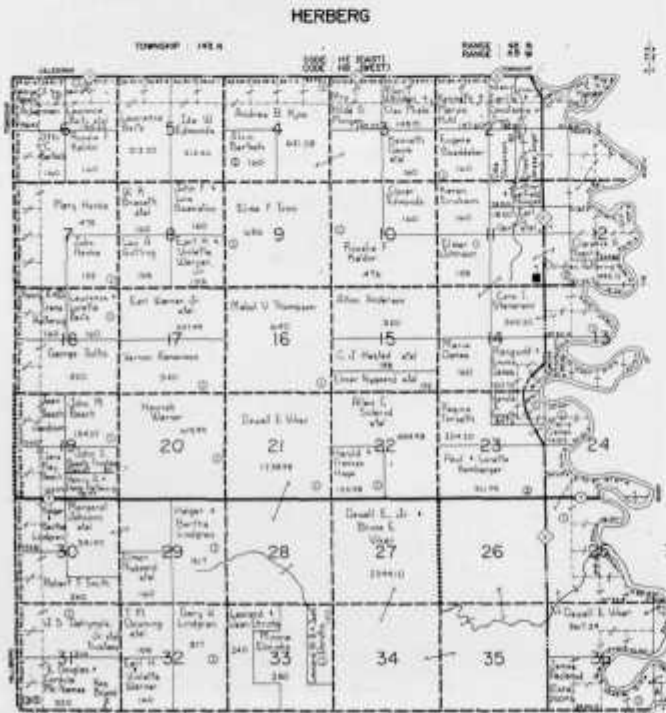


Threshing on the Post Farm in the 40's.



Early threshing scene from Herberg Township.

## HERBERG TOWNSHIP



A petition was filed with the County Commissioners of Traill County, North Dakota, praying for the division of Caledonia Township, North Dakota. The County Commissioners of said Traill County in compliance with said petition on the second day of November, 1909, after due notice given, made their order dividing said Caledonia Township by creating Herberg Township and part of Bingham Township out of part of said Caledonia Township. Herberg consists of Township 145, Range 49 west.

It is named after John Michael Thommesson Herberg, one of the original settlers of the township. Mr. Herberg was born in Norway in 1839 and married in Norway in 1863; then migrated to the United States in 1870. First living one winter in Fairbault, Minnesota, they came to Dakota Territory and homesteaded in what was then Caledonia Township in the southern part. This part is now known as Herberg Township and was so named in his honor. His homestead was located in the extreme southeast corner of the township in section 36, in the southern half of said section. His homestead was bordered on the east by the Red River and surrounded otherwise by the Grandin Farms, bonanza farms. Some of the early settlers of this township were Mrs. J.M. Herberg, Peter G. Rognlie, Nels A. Herre, Grant Baxter, Nesfelt, and Ole J. Rognlie.

The first township meeting was held November 16, 1909, in Herberg Township at School House #2. A.G. Holstrom was unanimously elected temporary Chairman. J.M. Herberg, B.O. Bye, and John Langaunet were elected Judges of Election. John Steenerson was elected temporary clerk. B.O. Bye was chosen to preside as moderator. The following officers were then nominated and duly elected Supervisors: Jalmer Harre, until next meeting; B.O. Bye - 1 year; G. Steenerson - 2 years; Treasurer - J.M. Herberg; Clerk - Charles E. Thelander; Assessor - B.P. Leirness; Justice of the Peace - Grant Baxter; P.P. Jermstad; Constable - M.B. Bye, O. Steenerson.

Other families moving into the township then were H.A. Boeddeker, 1914; Peter Hage family, 1925; Gottfried Bertsch, 1927. Other earlier settlers were Frank Hemberger, Rangvold Oanes, Joe Bietz, Earl Warner Sr.



Present Officers are: Clerk-Dale Steenerson, Chairman-Randy Paulsrud; Thomas Hemberger, Eugene Boeddeker.

After the township was organized, more schools were set up in various parts of the township; the last being operated in 1966, when the decision was made to still be an independent school district but transport the students to other school districts, which is still being done today.

Other involvements of the township were charitable drives, spraying road ditches, and flood control.



Henry Boeddeker farm.



Henry Boeddeker hauling manure.



Old Bridge across Red River at Halstad.



Threshing rig and Rumley Tractor. Joe Beitz farm.



Joe Beitz farm.



Picking potatoes on the Joe Beitz farm.



Scenes on the Clarence Rognie farm in 1920.



## A PIONEER STORY

On a beautiful but hot summer's day in 1891, on a farmstead about 15 miles southeast of Hillsboro, Mrs. W.L. Forster was alone in her house with two children.

When she realized a storm was approaching, she lifted a trap door over a hole in her pantry floor, and crawled in with her children.

A powerful hail storm struck, breaking nearly every window in the house. After waiting in fear for what seemed like a lengthy time, the storm finally subsided. She attempted to lift the trap door, but all the strength she could muster was not sufficient to raise it, for it was covered with heavy hail.

Her husband was a mile distant with his horse, and did not return until evening. When he finally returned he was forced to shovel away the heavy hail to release them.

The next day they made ice cream with the hail! A happy ending to one of many traumatic experiences in the life of the pioneer family, some of which did not end so happily.

In those days there were no phones, no weather warnings, or no cars to bring help. They had only themselves.

—Myrtle Forster



Gottfried Bertch farm.



Spring flood 1935 on the Gottfried Bertch Farm.

The first mayor of Hillsboro was John DeGroat.

The first hotel in Hillsboro was the Rogers Hotel.



Early farming scene on the Gottfried Bertch farm. 1933.

The first courthouse phone was installed in the Register of Deeds office. Before that all calls for the courthouse had to be taken at a drug store uptown.

The first and only railway line running from west to east was the Hague line of the Great Northern Railway, from Alton to the Red River.

The first white child born within the city limits of Hillsboro was Harry Guy Rustad, son of Andrew and Julia Rustad.

The first minister in the area was Rev. Jonas Ostlund.

The first church to be built in Hillsboro was by a Presbyterian congregation.





Cutting grain with a binder on the Gottfried Bertch farm.

\* \* \* \*

Hillsboro's first name was Comstock, then changed to Hill City and finally to Hillsboro.

\* \* \* \*

Hillsboro's first street lights were gasoline lights, erected in 1886.

\* \* \* \*



WPA workers south of Bertch Farm.



Herberg School Bus circa 1900.

## CALEDONIA TOWN AND TOWNSHIP

### SQUATTING ON THE GOOSE

(To the tune of "Scots wha Hae.")

by Michael O'Flaherty, a local poet.

*If by thieves and doctors bled,  
Half your blood and cash has fled,  
Gather up your stove and bed,  
And settle on the Goose.  
Take the girl whose many charms,  
Have won your heart in willing arms,  
And find your children future farms,  
By squatting on the Goose.  
Though Adam took his wife's advice,  
And got expelled from Paradise,  
You'll find another just as nice,  
By squatting on the Goose.*



Caledonia Roller Mill and dam. Louisa Vettel McDonald sitting on the river bank. (Grace Cotton's mother).

### CALEDONIA



Asa Sargeant Farm, present home of Richard Vettel. Sold to George Vettel in 1908.

Since Caledonia preceded Hillsboro by a few years, it had considerable influence on the town.

In 1870 Walter Traill, chief clerk of Hudson Bay Company, and George Weston took up claims at the mouth of the Goose River. Asa Sargeant was in charge of the Hudson Bay Company, known as the Goose River Post. He had come from Caledonia County, Vermont.

The Hudson Bay Company set up a provision and supply store at the Caledonia site in 1871, and is also credited with opening the "American House" hotel managed by Sargeant. The Company brought in a horse powered threshing machine and built the first water power mill on the Goose River. This made Caledonia a grain market, a steamboat site and a milling center, a marketplace for grain, flour and feed.



Old Mill at Caledonia, flood of 1897.

The first stage coach arrived at Winnipeg, Manitoba in September of 1871. The line had been extended through Caledonia to Frog Point. The stage company usually kept a station at every 15 mile point where horses were changed. It so happened that Caledonia was a logical site and so gained immediate importance.

Beginning at Georgetown and extending north, the stage stations were at Quincy, Caledonia, Frog Point, Buffalo Coulee, and Grand Forks, all roughly 15 miles apart. Later Caledonia became a station for two other staging outfits, the Fargo-Grand Forks line, and the Hillsboro-Caledonia operation. The fare from Caledonia to Fargo was four dollars.

The arrival of the Hudson Bay Company horse-power thresher induced Randolph M. Probstfield, a prominent settler, to plant 15 acres of wheat in 1874. He reported he got 28 bushel to the acre and sold it at \$1.50 a bushel.

Hudson Bay Company also built the mill in Caledonia about 1883, on the Goose River about two blocks south of the present center of the town, and a mile from the mouth of the stream. Some of the pilings of the mill dam still remain.

Tradition has it that after a grasshopper scourge, the Manitoba government purchased 12,000 bushels of grain for seed in 1875. Several grain warehouses were put up on the Red River at the Weston place a mile northeast of the mill. Steamboats made it a stopping and landing place. C.H. Graves of Duluth built the grain handling facilities and Weston became his commission agent. Weston also became the agent for the two steamboat companies, the Kittson Line, and the Merchants International Line. This gave travelers the choice of stage and boat in traveling to and from Caledonia and also provided double facilities for moving freight.

James Paton taught at the first school opened in 1872, in the building later to become the home of Angus McDonald, when the school was moved into the court house building.

In 1872, when the town was still known as Goose River, the first voting took place to choose territorial delegates. The area was then Pembina County.

With the formation of Traill County in 1875, the town received a tremendous boost by being named the county seat. A county board was formed and the following year the first courthouse was built, but only large enough for two offices, the Register of Deeds, and the Treasurer. Next, a two story courthouse was erected. The furniture came from the Luger Furniture Company of Fargo.

Chester M. Clark, the stage station keeper, was named the first sheriff and assessor. One of the county board's first acts was to grant John Shelly a charter to operate a ferry across the Red River. For ten dollars he received a ten year franchise and had exclusive rights "for three miles." His brother, James, was associated with him. The town of Shelly bears their name.

The first Traill County tax list in 1875 indicated the Hudson Bay Company's property to be worth \$16,777. The Company "pulled up stakes," withdrew from Caledonia, Frog Point, and Georgetown, and sold its interests to the highest bidder. Many area settlers were indebted to the company for provisions and supplies. The U.S. government said the company, a Canadian concern, had no right to do business here, and that the settlers need not pay what they owed (and a lot of them didn't!).



Caledonia High School, burned Jan. 13, 1909.



Caledonia School built in 1909.



Burt Corliss and Jack Severson trapping on the Goose River near Caledonia in 1909.





Mr. and Mrs. Ed Braseth.

Asa Sargeant, having been the company's storekeeper for four years, bought out that establishment in partnership with A.H. Morgan, the Frog Point storekeeper. Morgan was the first chairman of the Traill County Commission and also Caledonia's first postmaster.

Other early settlers in the town were A. A. Corliss, harness-shop; Michael Madigan, carriage and wagon business; B.C. Taylor, veterinarian; Patrick Kelly, livery stable; Fred Puhler, publisher of the Traill County Times; and Doctor W.P. Cleveland.

F.W. Ames opened a law office and Iree C. Miller opened a meat market. Storekeepers included Lewis Olson, H.M. Little, J.P. Clark, A.W. Frendberg, and Charles Paulson.

The name "Goose River" was changed to Caledonia in 1875, probably at the suggestion of Asa Sargeant, a native of Caledonia County in Vermont. This was the same year that Caledonia was named the county seat. One reason Caledonia lost the county seat was because the railroad went through Hillsboro instead of Caledonia. Stories are told that James J. Hill, the president of the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba (later the Great Northern) Railroad, tried to get a room at the "American House" in Caledonia. It was a cold and stormy night and he was driving a team of dogs. The clerk at the hotel said they had no room for him and his "dirty dogs." James Hill had to seek shelter at the home of a widow named Johnson. He vowed then and there that as long as he lived his railroad should never be built to Caledonia. The line to Grand Forks was soon built via Hillsboro. Thereafter, most of the Caledonia businessmen moved either to Hillsboro or to Shelly, the nearest communities on Hill's railroads, and most of the town's buildings eventually were removed or demolished.

The county commissioners proceedings of 1878, show that a vote was taken on the removal of the county seat to Mayville. The vote stood 287 "no" and 238 "yes." At this time Traill County was larger and had seven precincts with Mayville in the middle. Later two tiers of townships were cut off the western edge to help form Steele, and Mayville withdrew from the race. Now the competition was clearly between Caledonia and Hillsboro. Caledonia formed a group of citizens called "Tigers of the Jungle." In 1890 there was an election in which Hillsboro won the vote. Tradition has it that the "Tigers of the Jungle" carried arms thereafter and posted guards around the village in

an effort to prevent the removal of county records. Having consulted with several law firms the "Tigers" found a legal loophole and went to court, attacking a recently enacted statute dealing with county seat removals as "special legislation" and unconstitutional. Taylor Crum, a well known lawyer, was a member of the "Tigers" staff. Judge William B. McConnell ruled in favor of the "Tigers" but the newly elected county officials, who were the defendants, took the case to the Supreme Court and obtained a reversal. By the next year Caledonia surrendered most, but not all, of the records to Hillsboro. The "Tigers" threw a guard around the courthouse and jail to forestall removal of the furniture and equipment. Finally most of it found its way to Hillsboro and the furor eventually died down.

In 1876 Asa Sargeant and C.M. Clark rented the Caledonia flour mill and later purchased the plant. The mill was sold some years later but was re-purchased by Mr. Sargeant and Edward Braseth. Braseth's brother, Ole, ran the mill at Climax and they would trade back and forth.

After the county seat was moved to Hillsboro the school was moved from the McDonald house to the courthouse. This building was burned in 1909 and a new school was erected the next year.

\* \* \*

Alexander Henry visited present Traill County as representative of Northwestern Fur Company to take possession of trade in the region, making him the first white man to set foot in this area. This was in 1789.

\* \* \*

Burbank Stage Company makes first trip through Red River Valley over old Half-breed Trail in 1859.

\* \* \*

In May 1859, the first steamboat, the Anson Northrup, appears on the Red River enroute to Pembina.

\* \* \*

On October 2, 1863, the first act barring liquor in Traill County is established when the Chippewa tribes of Northern Dakota sign a treaty with the United States Government.

\* \* \*

George E. Weston, first white settler in Traill County, homesteads at the junction of the Red River and the Goose River in 1870.

\* \* \*

Walter J.S. Traill, for whom the county was later named, builds the first permanent establishment in Traill County, a trading post of the Hudson Bay Company, at Caledonia in 1870.

\* \* \*

The first home in Traill County was a sod house, built by three men at Caledonia, in 1870.

\* \* \*

The first election in the region was held at the American House in Caledonia in 1872.

\* \* \*

The county was first created by an act of the Territorial Assembly, January 12, 1875.

The first county officers to be appointed for Traill County consisted of George E. Weston, Register of Deeds and County Clerk; Asa Sargeant, Judge of Probate and County Treasurer; C.M. Clark, Sheriff; James C. Patton, Superintendent of Schools; Thomas Watts, Coroner and County Surveyor.

The first county commissioners meeting was held at Caledonia, February 23, 1875.

The first Board of County Commissioners was appointed by Governor Howard and consisted of A.H. Morgan, Chairman, Jonas Ostlund, and John Brown.

Caledonia was chosen as the first county seat of Traill County in 1875, by legislative act.

The first bank in Traill County was the Bank of Caledonia, J.H. Sarles, president, and E.Y. Sarles, cashier.

The first newspaper, the *Caledonia Times*, was published at Caledonia.

The first road through Traill County was the Red River Ox Cart Trail running west of the Red River.

The first telegraph line to be built in the county was located about twenty rods west of the Red River Ox-Cart Trail, running north and south.

The first threshing machine to be used in Traill County was owned by the Hudson Bay Company and the crops of the early settlers were threshed by this machine. This was a horsepower machine.

The first school was established at Caledonia in 1872, James C. Patton, teacher.

The Hudson Bay Company built the first store in Traill County and also the first flour mill in 1872 at Caledonia.

Dr. W.P. Cleveland received the first license to practice medicine in 1879, residing at Caledonia.

The first Odd-Fellows Lodge in North Dakota was organized at Caledonia.

E.E. Nestos was the proprietor of the first business house in Caledonia Township.

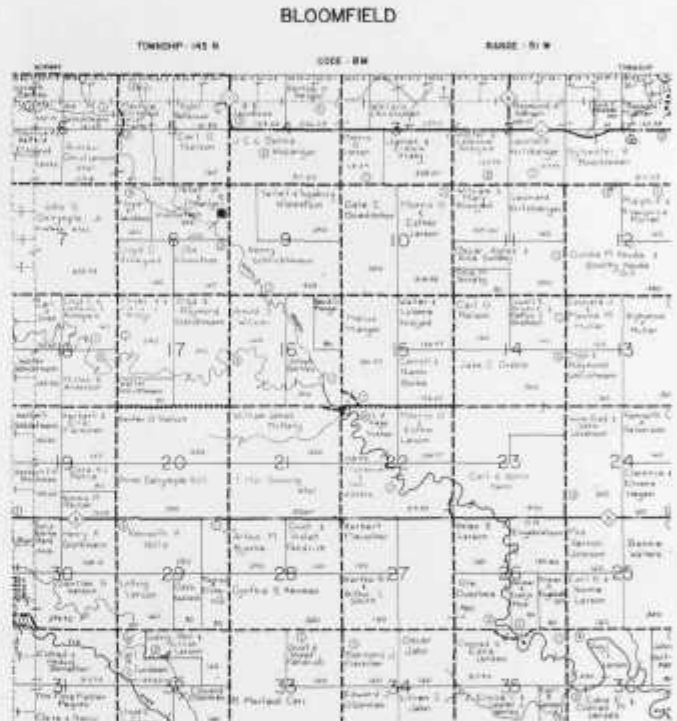
The first school in Caledonia Township, exclusive of Caledonia proper, was taught by Belle Hildebrand in the summer of 1883.

The first election in Traill County, a village election, was held at Caledonia.

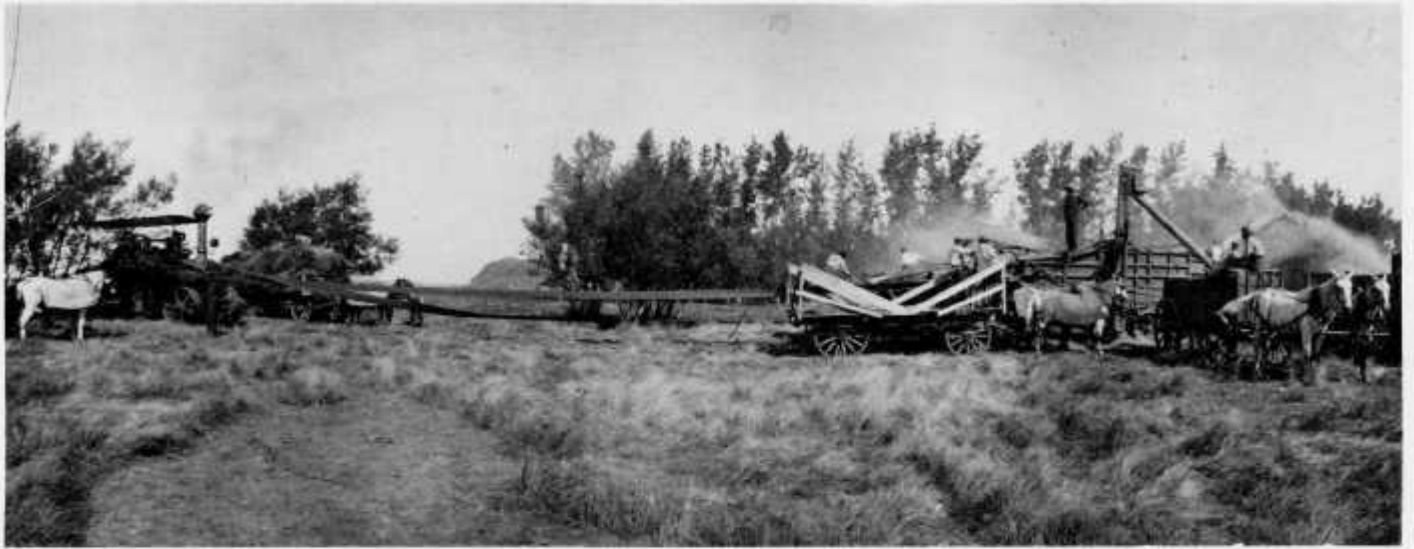
The first white child born in Traill County, in 1872, was Kate Gordon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Gordon, near the Red River in Bingham Township.

The first church in Traill County was organized August 11, 1872, in section seven, Norway Township, Reverend B. L. Hagboe, minister.

## BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP



Threshing scenes from Bloomfield Township.



## ELDORADO TOWNSHIP HISTORY

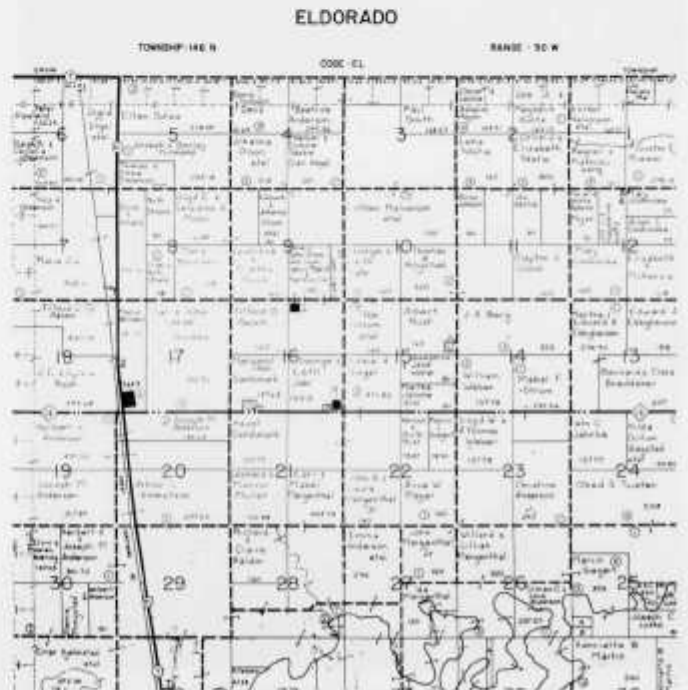
The first meeting of Eldorado Township was held on Jan. 19, 1882, in a school house by the H.H. Strom farm, with first elected officers: O.D. Comfort, Chairman; Carl Mergenthal and Thorvald Lee. Remaining officers elected at the second meeting were: Clerk, Annulf Steenson; Justice of Peace, Bergen M. Johnson; Constable, George L. Lilleberg; Treasurer, H.H. Strom; Road Supervisors, Henry Gronke, H.H. Strom, Ole J. Lilleberg, and H.C. Smitte.

On March 20, 1883, the Traill County Commissioners divided Eldorado Township in two, now known as Eldorado and Ervin Townships.

Five one-room school houses were built in sections 8, 9, 13, 29, and 34. Transportation was mostly walking. In 1930 three larger school houses were built. In later years two were torn down and one sold.

The first church services were held in sod houses. In 1883 the local school house was used. The first church building was the St. Olaf Church built in 1892 on the site of virgin prairie donated by Herbjorn Strom. This church was destroyed by a cyclone in 1900, but rebuilt in 1901.

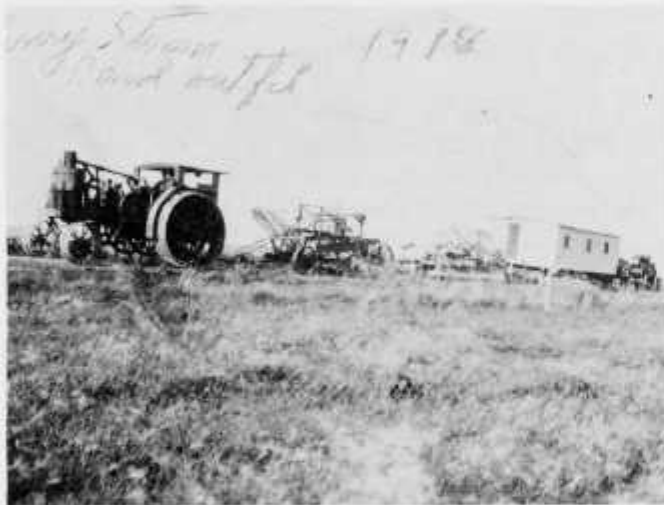
Present officers of Eldorado township are: Supervisors: Norman Oie, Chairman; Harlum Ydstie, and Marvin Siegert; Clerk-Treasurer, Lloyd Weber.





Eldorado Township was one of the first townships to be settled, Carl Mergenthal coming in 1870.

\* \* \*



Henry Strom road building outfit, 1918.



Henry Strom and Gerald Grove on grader. Joe Strom in tractor.



Henry Strom's road building outfit, 1920.



Joe Strom in tractor. Henry Strom in grader.



Halstad Highway Road crew in 1935.



Henry Strom, Joe and son Lyle with grader and tractor.



Putting up new bridge.



New Bridge during 1969 flood.



Demolishing old bridge on County Road 4 on border of Eldorado and Caledonia Townships.



J.C. Lusso farm during 1979 flood. White lines on bottom left is Goose River Bridge on Co. road #4.

## GROWING POTATOES: THEN AND NOW

Then, in the 1930's, seed potatoes were all cut by hand; now, they are cut by machine.

Planting was with one- or two-row planters, now, four- or six-row planters.

They were cultivated with one- or two-row cultivators, now, four- or six-row cultivators.

Then, they were picked and put into bags. The bags were loaded onto trucks and hauled to storage, where they were emptied, all by hand!

Now, the digging is done by mechanical harvesters, which deposit them into potato boxes on trucks that move alongside the harvester. These boxes unload themselves, mechanically, onto elevators that deposit the potatoes into storage.

In the 30's the marketing procedure consisted of running the "spuds" over a grader, in many cases, hand cranked, put into bags, sewed by hand, and loaded onto railcars, all by hand.



Letnes brothers, Lawrence (on combine) and John (on tractor) using the 1938 John Deere combine "5A" — in use for 20 years.



Jens Letnes and son Lawrence planting potatoes in Hillsboro in 1947.

Now many potatoes are loaded into rail cars and trucks in the bulk, all done mechanically by telescoping elevators. The only hand labor used is in the packaging of consumer packs.

In the 30's the digger crew had to start digging at about five in the morning in order to have enough potatoes ready for a crew of up to fifty pickers. When enough bags were picked, the haulers would begin, and many times they would be kept busy until late at night, sometimes until 10:00 P.M. or later.

Now, when the mechanical harvester stops, the potatoes are all loaded, and in an hour or two are all in storage.

These are the very great changes in the last fifty years in the potato farming business.

My father, Jens Letnes, who came to this country from Norway, started growing potatoes in 1916. He farmed first the Ole Arnegard land. In 1929 he farmed the Preston farm south of Blanchard. In the early 30's he raised potatoes on the Sutton farm, and in '33 he moved to the Elmwood farm northeast of Hillsboro. There he established the Letnes farms where he spent the remainder of his life.

With the exception of only one year, 1929, Jens grew potatoes every year until his retirement, with acreages of up to 400 acres. Another pioneer potato grower in the Hillsboro area was John Bagstad (Traill County Judge) who grew certified "cobbles."

—Laurence Letnes



Hauling potatoes.





Cultivating spuds.



From basket to bag.



"Champion" potato digger and John Deere tractor.



Loading the trucks.



"Picking by hand.



Army surplus truck, in the 40's.

# Life in Hillsboro

## HILLSBORO HISTORIAN



Hillsboro historian Clarence Anderson.

There are those who simply remember our history. There are others who not only remember our history but who also keep written records of it. And then there are those who remember our history, preserve our history, and who, in retelling that history, make it sing. Such a man is Clarence Anderson. For 46 years now, Clarence has researched this area and written about it.

Clarence was born September 3, 1898, on a farm near Hawley, Minnesota, the 7th in a family of 13 children. On February 20, 1902, the Andersons moved to Hillsboro, where father Simon bought a half interest in a hardware store, which stood where the Dumas cafe is now. After some time he sold his interest to his partner, Theodore Ostland, and then Simon Anderson went into business on his own, running stores in various locations in town, until he settled his General Store in what is now the Johnson Store location.

"I can remember when I was a kid," reminisced Clarence. "In the kitchen we had a real long table, and the whole family was strung along the table. My dad sat at the north end of the table, the head end. I never saw my mother sit down and eat with the family. She was always working. I can remember that so plainly."

"Dad felt that we kids should get out and work," Clarence continues. "I remember the first job I ever had. I got 25 cents a week to deliver meat for Christ Wilhelmsen. At that time we delivered every time an order came in, anywhere in town. I can remember one day the county fair was in town. I asked Christ if I could take the afternoon off, and he said, 'No,' so I quit." Clarence's next job came along in 1912 when he was 14. He

earned \$1.00 a day helping build a sewer line which ran south from the *Banner* office.

"I graduated from Hillsboro High School on June 9, 1918," recalls Clarence, "and on the 12th of June I was in St. Louis in the army. I even had my graduation suit on." Following World War I, where he fought overseas, Clarence returned to Hillsboro and volunteer taught Typing I in high school. Next he attended Dakota Business College, Concordia College, and graduated from Mayville State College.

On October 19, 1923 he married Florence Roberts of Cummings. Their union produced five children, two of whom — DeForrest and Carol Ann — died in childhood. Two sons, Warren and Gary, are Certified Public Accountants in Fargo, and a daughter, Jean (Mrs. Jim) Dickens, lives in Upland, California. The Andersons have 15 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

After teaching in various towns for a period of ten years, Clarence returned to Hillsboro. As he says, "I was teaching at Greenfield. That's over near Hunter. I'd signed up for two more years when the Register of Deeds (Guri Wambheim) came down to the house. She wanted to know if I'd be her deputy. Well, a 12 month job per year was better than a 9 month job, so I took it." Clarence served as Deputy Register of Deeds from June 19, 1943 until he was elected Register of Deeds in 1948. He retired from that position on April 1, 1968.

In addition to his job and his interest in history, Clarence was active in community affairs. Over the years he was the first president of the Historical Society, was Commander of both the American Legion and VFW posts, served as secretary of the Park Board for over 25 years, and also was sexton of the Hillsboro cemeteries.

Clarence's interest in the history of this area began in the 1930's. In 1935 he started writing, compiling histories of both Traill and Steele Counties for a Federal Writer's Project. "Then when that was through," says Clarence, "I started to dig around in different things. I've written city histories for all the cities in the county, for all the townships, Indian history, the Battle of the Little Bighorn, the life of Custer, and around 2300 biographies."

"A lot of my writings have been published in newspapers. I had one article once which was published in five national papers. That was the story of Frog Point. They changed the title from 'Frog Point' to 'The City That Never Was'," Clarence relates as he notes that area papers such as the *Fargo Forum*, *Grand Forks Herald*, *Mayville Tribune*, *Valley Journal*, and *Hillsboro Banner* have also published his work. Five tabloids of his have also been printed. Besides all the historical stories, Clarence has also written over 25 historical poems, one of which was published nationally. That poem was about General Custer.

Clarence has consumed a prodigious amount of information about Hillsboro, Traill County, and the Red River Valley. When he is asked a question about our area's past, he can literally go on for hours recounting engaging anecdotes and stories that comprise the untold interstices of history. Every town should have a Clarence Anderson.

— Sally Thompson

## SIMON JOHNSON: NORWEGIAN-AMERICAN AUTHOR AND POET



Simon Johnson, noted Norwegian-American author and poet, formerly of Norway Township.

Simon Johnson was born in 1874 in Gudbrandsdalen, Norway and came with his parents to this country at the age of eight. They homesteaded in Traill County, North Dakota. He began writing poems and stories quite early, using his native tongue, Dano-Norwegian, to make literature of the life around him. Johnson did not go far in school; for a long time he stayed on the farm and did not marry. Yet his work appeared frequently in the Norwegian-American press, reaching thousands of homes, and he became an accepted writer in spite of his remote circumstances. On the death of his mother in 1919, he took up the editorship of *Normanden*; the newspaper, located in Grand Forks, was then trying to disengage from the conservative Republicanism into which its battles with the Non-Partisan League had drawn it. Johnson held his desk until 1925, when he married and left North Dakota.

He was to live many more years in Iowa, working as associate editor of *Decorah-Posten* and continuing, always, to write, yet it seems that by 1925 he had done most and the best of his work. Norwegian-American literature had its one growing season between the date of his first published novel (*Et Geni*, 1907) and the appearance of his last (*Fribetens hjem*, 1925); soon the number of people who were able to read the language diminished and there was no reason to go on. King Haakon of Norway made Johnson a Knight of the Royal Order of St. Olav in 1954, but such honors in his old age, like those still accorded him by a few scholars and historians, were no compensation for the readership he had lost. At his death in 1970, Simon Johnson was a literary unknown.

In 1916 an early novel "*I et nyt rige*" (From Fjord to Prairie) was published in English translation by C.O. Solberg. Since then nothing had been translated until Rodney Nelson "re-discovered" his works and published his translations of five Johnson stories in *Free Passage*, a journal of prose and poetry published quarterly, and funded by grants from the Coordinating Council on Literary Magazines, North Dakota Community Fund, and the North Dakota Council on the Arts, and printed by Truman Wold of Larimore, North Dakota.

Two of his sisters still live in the Hillsboro area, Miss Tina Steenson, Hillsboro, and Julia Nelson, rural Hillsboro. Another sister, Anna Dahl, lives in Watford City, North Dakota.

## HILLSBORO PHOTOGRAPHER



Mark and Alice Olson on their Golden Wedding Anniversary on June 27, 1976.

Alice Olson came to Hillsboro from Twin Valley, Minnesota, in 1930 to join her husband, Mark, who was employed by the Pioneer Telephone Company. A former teacher, Alice was also an avid amateur photographer, and in a town without a photographer, there was soon a great demand for her services. As her skill improved, she soon rose to the professional ranks, using her prize winning award money to buy better cameras and equipment. She became a member of the North Dakota Photographers Association and was asked to join Photographers of America.

As the years passed and her reputation grew, there were few happenings in Hillsboro and the surrounding communities that were not covered by her ubiquitous camera. Children, family groups, weddings, confirmations, school grades, basketball, baseball, and football teams, buildings, farm animals, scouts, parades, visiting dignitaries and reunions — all were faithfully recorded by her cameras for posterity.





**The family of Photographers: Roy, Alice, Marlowe, and Mark.**

As demands for her work increased, she purchased two German lens cameras from a photographer of World War II in Germany. The quality of her pictures won her many prizes and awards. Her pictures have been cited for their composition, naturalness, and quality of workmanship. Her pictures have hung at various fairs including Marshall Field in Chicago during the World's Fair, at the Valley Forge Freedoms Foundation, the Minnesota State Fair, and the St. Paul Winter Carnival.



**Marlowe wearing the Sioux Indian head-dress given to her by Judge F.A. Zahn of Fort Yates.**

Her husband Mark was always a willing assistant, and as her children grew, they, too, became her assistants (and subject matter for many prize-winning pictures).

Her son Roy continued to assist all through his college years. Her daughter, Marlowe, developed her own career as Drum Majorette, and Alice travelled extensively with her daughter. From Drum Majorette for the Hillsboro High School Band (winning state first place for high schools for four consecutive years), she went on to become majorette for the UND band, the Elks Purple Band, the State Veterans of Foreign Wars Bugle Corps and the American Legion State Band.

She led many parades including the Jack Frost Winter Carnival Parade in Fargo in 1947, and the National American Legion Parade in Washington, D.C. in 1954.

While in Hillsboro she also taught twirling classes in Hillsboro, Grand Forks, and Fargo. A special recognition was given Marlowe when Judge F.A. Zahn of Fort Yates presented her with an Indian Headdress made by the Sioux Indians. She wore this when she led many parades around the nation. She has been written about in many national magazines, such as *Marching Bands* and was the cover story for the magazine *Twirling*.

Roy is now a Labor lawyer in Chicago, has two children, and lives at Lake Forest, Illinois.

Marlowe (Mrs. William Arnold) is an English and Literature college instructor, has three children and lives at Vero Beach, Florida, where Alice and Mark are currently spending the winter.

Alice attempted to reduce her photography load but the Bicentennial Year of 1976 and the Traill County History Book found her busier than ever copying pictures. A heart attack in 1976 forced a temporary retirement. However, 1980 found her anxious to begin a photographic display of her numerous pictures, the results of the past forty years as Hillsboro's photographer.



**Marlowe leading the National American Legion Convention Parade in Washington, D.C. 1954. The North Dakota Legion Band lead the parade.**



Marlowe Olson's Baton Twirling class 1950. Front row: Maureen Sorum, Kay Letnes, Barbara Faulkner, Jensine Overmoe, Janet Grove. Second row: Linda Nelson, Marilyn Grage, Barbara Ellingson, Connie Jeffers, Barbara Thompson, Phyllis Turco, Melva Jane Sorum. Third row: Nancy Kuhle, Sandra Seim, Marlene Bjerke, Kay Kritzberger, Marlene Dickoff. Fourth row: Kay Diehl, Donna Buethner, Unidentified, Julietta Stenberg, Janet Iverson, Rosalie Lien. Top row: Marlowe Olson, Lilas Mergenthal, Roslyn Olson, Yvonne Johnston, Barbara Arnegard, Marlene Muir, Unidentified.



Mrs. Olson's Photograph of Dr. Vinje.



Mrs. Olson's prize-winning photograph of her mother.



Mrs. Olson's prize-winning photograph of her son, Roy.

## OSCAR NELSON



Oscar in front of his shop.

Oscar Nelson reigns supreme as the oldest, still actively working pioneer businessman in Hillsboro. Appropriately, it so happens he is holding forth in the oldest building still in use in the city. (Built in 1881, it was originally the Dry Goods store facing the tracks on Main Street and belonging to John E. Paulson, who, when he built a new store, moved the wooden building to the back of his property and turned it around to face Caledonia Avenue, in its present position.)

Both the building and Oscar are still "in use," though Oscar is not as old as the building, which also has its Centennial this year. Oscar is only 86.

Every year he threatens to retire, but, luckily, returning Hillsboroiters will be gladdened to find Oscar still holding forth in the old place in this centennial year.

Oscar's shop has become a unique institution, the only full time one of its kind in Traill County.

There is still a need for shoe repairs, and customers come in a steady stream to his shop, where Oscar works from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Demand for his service seems constant, but he says, "Nobody wants to get into business for themselves. It's a rewarding business, but you've got to put in 10 hours a day." Oscar has been doing that for 44 years. "You can make a good living, but you have to keep your nose to the grindstone," he says. He supported a family on the business.

His wife, Ruth (Boettcher), died eleven years ago. He has one daughter, Mrs. Eila Logan of Rapid City, South Dakota, and four grandchildren.

His father was a shoemaker in Norway for 30 years. Oscar was two years old when the family came to "the land of the free and the home of the Democrats," as he describes it. They settled in Benson County and farmed.

Oscar met his wife, a school teacher, at Baker, North Dakota. She also taught in Hillsboro. He founded his shop on Caledonia Avenue in 1936.

For 45 years he has held forth at the same place, the meeting place for many of his old cronies, who pass the time of day and swap stories while Oscar works.

Oscar spends about 50 per cent of his time on cowboy boots and workshoes. When he was in his prime, some 25 years ago, says Oscar, he once put on a full set of soles in 13 and one-half minutes. There is a well-known saying around town, "Bring it to Oscar," when it comes time to repair purses, jackets, belts, and zippers.

Luckily for Hillsboro, Oscar is still around to greet old friends who will return to celebrate the town's hundredth birthday!



## I THINK YOU ALL KNOW STELLA

By Kay Kelly Dean



Estelle Murphy Kelly

Would you like to know about your forebears? Ask Stella Kelly. I believe she remembers every person who inhabited this fair city from 1900 up to the advent of the sugarbeet plant. Would you like to know where they lived? How they helped their neighbor? Or what good character traits they had? If you ask Stella, she'll show you the exact site of their home. Ask Stella and you'll hear revelations about particular kindnesses they had shown a neighbor, what good persons they were, and how they subscribed to a "good life." Anything more than this will remain in the past, for you see, Stella adheres to a principle taught to her by her mother, Grandma Murphy: "If you can't say something good, don't say anything at all."

Stella claims to have come to the Courthouse "with the first load of bricks." Actually it was just after World War I when County Auditor Gerhard Olson asked her to become the first woman Deputy County Auditor. Later she became an Abstractor of Titles. 1981 marks Stella's forty-sixth year as an abstractor for Traill County, and for forty-four of those years her office was in the Courthouse. Her profession has given her the singular opportunity to experience first hand the history of Hillsboro and Traill County. Stella delights in relating the details of that history to those who ask.

According to Stella, there were few social problems during those years in which she was a young girl in Hillsboro. In those days the children obeyed the 9:00 P.M. curfew that was tolled by the bell in the "rickety-old" City Hall. The tolling of the bell called to an end the children's games of baseball in the

vacant lots of all the neighborhoods. (Her vacant lot was called Rattlesnake Hollow.) A youngster's spare time was delightfully filled by such things as skating, playing group games, participating in basketball and football games at the High School, and attending dances where hardly anyone dated, but everyone attended.

Stella was schooled in education, and she dearly loved teaching. She taught in the Bingham School north of Caledonia, in Hillsboro, and in Yakima, Washington. She spent one season with a Chatauqua Company before returning to North Dakota to teach in Grand Forks. She felt a need to return so that she could help her mother, who was alone, care for her semi-invalid brother, Bill.

It was following this year in Grand Forks, that she married my father, Clarence C. "Bud" Kelly, who was the Abstractor of Titles and, for a time, Register of Deeds. Four children and ten years after their marriage, my Father unexpectedly died. Stella was then forced to meet the responsibilities not only of being a loving mother, but also of being a strict father and sole provider for the children, her mother, and her brother. Stella was forced to "learn from scratch" her husband's abstract business. She successfully met all these challenges, even giving each of her children a college education. In fact, she so valued education that she cadenced every beat of our hearts with a desire to question, to learn, to explore, to enjoy and appreciate, and then to give Thanks for the occasion.

What a lady my Mother! Those of you who have only had occasion to know Stella the businesswoman, as Abstractor of Titles, missed knowing the tender and very human lady of quality, kindness, and charity. Those of you who have only known her as a caring mother or dear friend, perhaps did not appreciate her astute business mind, which knows every "wood lot" along the Goose River of Traill County almost as well as she knows her own back yard — a back yard filled with feeding birds. Indeed, it is indicative of her character that she seems to know and care about every bird that feeds in her yard.

In my earliest childhood memories of my Mother, I see her up early in the morning walking to work, and yet seeming to be everywhere at once, she would help each of us with our individual needs. I see her returning to the office in the evening along with one of the children for company, to finish her work.

Always busy, never wasting a minute, she seemed to fit more living into life than anyone I have ever known. Somewhere in her busy schedule she found time for contributions of personal effort to the American Legion Auxiliary, to the Church as Organist and Choir Director for twenty-five years, and to the Pioneer Daughters. She did all this while never missing a chance to go to church for Mass, for Devotions, or just by herself, to pray.

Because her one great love in life was music, she never missed the opportunity to expose her children (and any other child who expressed an interest) to the performing artists who appeared on stage in the Fargo-Moorhead area. We went early, stood in line for "rush seats" because they were the cheapest, and thoroughly enjoyed the concerts. They would be the topic of conversation at home for the next several days. And there was always music in our home. If it didn't come from one of us singing or playing an instrument, it came from the sound of laughter which was abundant.

As her Mother left a philosophy for her, Stella gave one to us: "Never regret the past or the present, for yesterday will never come again and eternity may be only a heartbeat away. But if you occasionally look back and profit from your mistakes, you may live every moment well."

If age is defined as a state of mind, then my Mother will ever remain in her prime. Although she may be limited by physical disabilities, she will never be old, for she will be as young as the laughter that fills her heart. This woman's sense of humor and love of life brings optimistic feelings and a sense of good will to all who are around her. Those who know her know what I mean, and I think you all know Stella.

## JOE'S



First location of Nelson's Cafe.



Third location of Nelson's Cafe. Joe Nelson, Mercedes Baglien, Customer, Elaine Anderson, Joel Nelson, and Harvey Kaldor.

Joseph N. Nelson started in the restaurant business in Hillsboro shortly after the turn of the century — about 1905. This was located on the south side of Caledonia Ave. just west of Main St. in a one story building now occupied by "Harold's Cafe." This was the first of three locations.

After a few years he moved to a second site on the north side of Caledonia Ave. into a building later occupied by Halvorson's Furniture Store.

About 1919 Mr. Nelson purchased a building (Larson and Johnson Block) from Theo. Jahr and again moved his business across Caledonia Ave. to this place next to the Hillsboro Bank and which later became the post office. He remained in business in this building until his retirement in 1935.

Mr. Nelson called his restaurant the "Palace of Sweets" but the public never called it that. It was best known as "Joe's Cafe" or just "Joe's" and sometimes as "Nelson's Cafe."

However, it was more than a restaurant. In the third location the lunch counter and booths were in back. On one side, in front, was a soda fountain and cigar showcase and tobacco back bar. Also on this side was a wide selection of newspapers and magazines. On the other side were a few shelves of canned goods as convenience to the public as well as supplying the kitchen. In front of these were two candy show-



Second location, note the popcorn stand. Helmer Hanson and Palmer Rudrud.



Anna Hustvedt, Joe Nelson and Employee.

cases. One of these had a wide variety of penny candy for the children who sometimes would have to deliberate long and hard before making their selection.

Lodging was also available as the second floor had been converted to hotel rooms. A night's lodging could be had for one dollar.

Joe's was a gathering place for many. Sometimes the 'old-timers' would sit around the heating stove for hours engaging in small talk and politics, after having their coffee. The younger people met there too over their sundaes and sodas and some just 'loafing.'

It was a different era, meals were 40¢ (plate lunches 25¢), sandwiches or pie a dime, coffee 5¢ (seconds free), ice cream sodas and sundaes 15¢, cones 5¢ (sometimes free to a youngster who brought in a bouquet of violets).

—Hiram Nelson

## KNUTE



Knute and his wife Louise.

Knute Fossom was a 15-year-old orphan when he went to work in 1905 for the *Hillsboro Banner*.

During the 56 years that ensued, with few days off and even fewer formal vacations, he continued under six different publishers of the *Banner*, first as "printer's devil," later as compositor, and finally as shop foreman.

When Knute Fossom, a mere youngster out on his own, began working for the *Banner*, the work was done under kerosene lamps, the type was "hand-spiked" letter by letter, and job presses were operated by "foot power." The newspaper press was run by a gasoline engine.

Later Knute was put to work on one of the first type-setting machines, known affectionately as the "wire baby," and still later he adjusted to the use of modern, high-speed typesetting machines. The old press, with its gas engine, was soon replaced by the faster, more efficient machines of today.

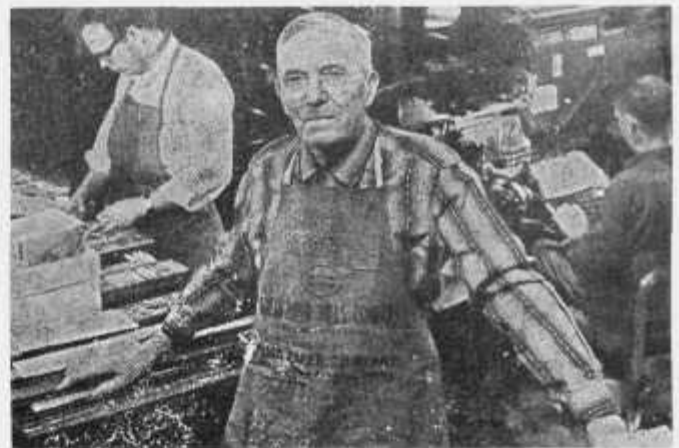
During these years, Knute had no narrow, specific list of duties to perform. His job, when the need arose, "was from the front of the shop to the back," waiting on customers, writing an occasional news story, setting type, and making up pages, casting mats, even sweeping the floor, if there was no one else to do it.

Quoting from a front-page feature article in the *Grand Forks Herald* which appeared when he retired, Knute said: "We didn't pay much attention to the clock in those days. The hours depended on the work there was to do. If the work was there, we got at it and cleaned it up. Vacations were always a rarity, and so were days off."

In 1962, at age 72, a heart attack forced Knute into a permanent vacation, such as he would never have chosen for himself. After his recovery he was often found back at the *Banner* office checking on "the shop," for the newspaper had been Knute's life.

Many times, for no other reason than that there was work to be done, Knute was at the *Banner* office until after 2 A.M. Then, with a system like a built-in alarm clock he was up again and on his way downtown for breakfast at 6 A.M.

His death in 1970 marked the passing of one of Hillsboro's true "institutions." He was totally dedicated to his life's job; and, in the words of Gene Carr, the last publisher for whom he worked, "Dependable is a small word for a man like Knute."



In the shop — where Knute could always be found. On the left is Warren Hamre.

## THE PEDERSON BAKERY



The Pederson Bakery in 1906. Shown are Martin and Bertha Pederson, and their children Lloyd, Myrtle, William and Evelyn.



Mr. Martin Pederson emigrated to America in 1888 from Bergen, Norway, where he had learned the bakery trade.

After coming to Fargo, he worked as a baker for a restaurant, where he met Bertha Melby who was also a baker there. They were married February 9, 1898, in Fargo and shortly thereafter moved to Hillsboro to establish the bakery business.

They first purchased the bake shop owned by Martin Rude, which was located where the courthouse now stands. He baked the bread there, then carried the bread in a basket to the post office where Mrs. Pederson sat in one corner of the lobby and sold the bread. The bread was wrapped in newspapers. It wasn't long before the postmaster gave her orders to vacate. On July 8, 1901, Mr. Pederson purchased the post office building and converted it into a bakery and restaurant. He built a large brick oven that would hold 100 or more loaves of bread at one baking. It was fired by tamarack logs purchased in Minnesota and shipped by rail and later by truck.

In 1936, they converted the old oven to a modern oil heating system. I remember roasting turkeys, twenty-five to thirty roasters, for the church bazaars, in those ovens. We usually had to get our baking done early so we could roast the turkeys.

Mr. Pederson, after fifty years of baking, decided to retire and turn the bakery business over to his son Lloyd, who ran it until his death in 1968. I, his wife, continued to run the business until September 1970 when I sold the bakery to Paul Whiteman. The business had been in the same family for 71 years and in the same building for 70 years.

The Martin Pedersons are parents of six children: Lloyd, Myrtle, William, Ebba, Evelyn, and Bernice. Lloyd and I have one daughter Romie and a granddaughter Erin.

Mr. Martin Pederson was presented a fifty year membership certificate and a gold pin for his fifty years of service to the Hillsboro Fire Department.

— Florence Pederson

## FIRST-CENTURY OILMEN

Since the beginning of time, heat, light and transportation have needed some form of energy to sustain them. In the early days of Hillsboro, much of the heat used in the home was derived from wood-burning stoves and fireplaces. Coal oil (kerosine) fueled the lamps and lanterns, and hay and oats were the prime source of energy for the ox and the horse.

As we moved into the 20th century, coal became popular for heating as it was easily procured, it burned more efficiently than wood, and it eliminated many of the labor and storage problems for the home owner. The local grain elevators and lumber yards shipped in large quantities of hard and soft coal in the fall and in turn sold it to the consumer who either loaded it into his wagon to haul home or, if he had no equipment for hauling, would hire the drayman to deliver it to his storage bin. The kerosine used for lighting was shipped to the local grocery and hardware stores in steel drums and the consumer brought his own container to be filled at the store.

Gasoline was also dispensed from the early hardware and grocery stores. The cross-country motorist had to search at times to find a merchant with a tank of gasoline on a stand in the warehouse. Together they would fill a five-gallon can by straining the gas through a chamois cloth to catch the dirt, rust



The first service station in Hillsboro operated by Jim McNamee in 1921.

and water. Then they would fill the car using a funnel and check the oil by removing an inspection plug on the side of the crankcase.

As automobiles and other fuel-burning equipment became more common in the early part of the century, it became apparent that the old way of dispensing petroleum products was obsolete and oil companies began to build large storage facilities on property leased from the railroad. Kerosine and gasoline were shipped in by tank car and pumped into the bulk storage tanks.

The early "gas stations" were hardware stores and auto repair shops. The gasoline was stored in underground tanks with a capacity of 300 to 500 gallons. Only one tank was needed as there was only one grade of gasoline used in the early auto engines. Some time later, an unleaded "hi-test" gasoline was marketed for use in lamps, stoves, and automatic irons.

One of the first gas pumps in town was installed at the Murphy Boiler Shop. This was located at the corner of First Street and First Avenue Southwest in Block 21 on the site where the A.S.C. building now stands. Another early pump was installed at the site of the Stai livery barn, which was then occupied by the Steve Steenson Motor Company selling Maxwell and Graham Paige cars. John Deere Implement later occupied this site with Harry Anderson as Proprietor in the 30's followed by John Hovet of Hovet Implement in the 40's and 50's. The location was Block 27 across the corner from the Boiler Shop on the lot now occupied by Arnie's Fairway Store.

There was another pump on the curb at the Johnson Brothers' McCormick Deering dealership located on the first floor of the old opera house which was originally built by Gunder Howard. Later Roy Ashland had the Minneapolis Moline dealership there. This was also in Block 21 at the corner of Main Street and First Avenue Southwest. This lot was later occupied by the Municipal Liquor Store which has now been changed to the Paddle Wheel Steak House and Lounge.

Two other pumps which stayed in service until 1968 were removed when the streets were improved and new curb and gutter was installed. One was located on the curb at the



**Elroy Schultz, Standard Oil agent from 1921 to 1936.**

Henning Hardware Store on Main Street in the center of Block 19. The other pump was first installed inside the building at the Ford Garage on the corner of Block 20 on Caledonia Avenue and First Street Southwest. Later this pump was moved outdoors to the curb at the front of the building.

These early pumps were durable and trouble free and many would still have been in service had they not been made obsolete by the relentless turning of the wheels of progress.

The early gas pumps used for retail trade were usually of the hand-crank variety and would dispense one gallon at a time. Later, in the 1920's, the more modern gas stations began to use the tall gas pumps with cylindrical glass globes. These pumps also were hand operated. The globe which held ten gallons was marked in one-gallon increments. The new pumps were a great improvement as the station operator kept the globes filled and needed only to put the hose into the customer's vehicle which was quickly filled by gravity. The customer was pleased with the quick service and the fact that he could see what he was getting as the glass bowl emptied into his car. In 1921 the first "modern" gas station opened on Caledonia Avenue on the site where the post office now stands.

As time went on the upright pumps lost their popularity. The station operators found that when the gasoline was exposed to the hot sun, there was much evaporation which resulted in a considerable loss of product. Also, when the heated gasoline was delivered into the customer's tank, the fumes were very volatile and often caused serious fires. During this period customers' equipment was getting larger and filling the fuel tanks especially trucks meant the operator had to refill the globe by hand pumping at least once or twice, and this was time consuming.

In the 1930's and '40's most of the oil companies began dispensing gasoline through electric pumps which registered the sales in gallons. From these early electric pumps evolved the present-day computer pumps which register the gallons and total cost of the sale as well.

The early bulk oil salesman needed only a good team of horses and a 300-gallon tank on a wagon. The tank was usually divided into three or more compartments of various sizes. When he made deliveries into the station underground tanks, he used a "drop" hose and gravity did the rest. As farmers and contractors began to store fuel in drums the bulk deliver man needed to move his product uphill. To measure the product he used five-gallon cans and kept a tally on the back

door of the wagon which he moved one notch for each can he emptied. If the customer had an overhead tank instead of the usual drums, he often needed a ladder to reach the top.

As the demand for fuel increased, the horse-drawn equipment became inadequate. In the post-World War I years, trucks began to appear on Hillsboro streets. There were Model T Fords with open cabs and side curtains, Chevrolets with wooden cabs, I.H.C. six-speed specials and Reo Speedwagons. The earliest trucks rolled on hard rubber tires. This was the case of the first Standard Truck. It was named the Traffic Truck.

Weather was a big factor as the roads were often just trails, and a spring thaw or heavy rain would immobilize the trucks and the bulk man would have to resort to the old wagon and a four-horse team to get him through the mud.

There was no power equipment on the early trucks but soon large hand-operated pumps were mounted on the side rack of the truck. These were similar to the pumps used on the water wagons for the steam thresher rigs.

The next step in fuel handling was the gas-engine-driven pump. These were also mounted on the side rack and eventually came equipped with calibrated meters and dials. It was not unusual for the delivery man to get caught in a rainstorm enroute to a delivery and find the magneto and wires on his pump engine soaked. After exhausting himself trying to start the engine he would then have two choices: either bring his load back to town or resort to the five-gallon cans he nearly always carried in the back of the truck.

The post-World War II years saw many changes in fuel demand and the equipment used to dispense it. Many farms went from small two- or three-bottom tractors to two or more large tractors and many other fuel-powered units. Local contractors began road building and drainage projects and many of the more heavily travelled highways were being hard surfaced. Many homes were converted from coal stoves and furnaces to oil heaters and oil furnaces. Diesel fuel was needed for the new larger tractors and #1 and #2 fuel oil were needed for heat. By this time most bulk plants were marketing three grades of gasoline: a low-grade farm tractor gas, regular, and ethyl.

The bulk plants grew from two tanks with a total storage capacity of about 25,000 gallons to multiple-tank units which could store from 50,000 to 100,000 gallons. The railroad tank cars which brought products from all parts of the country often required one to two weeks for delivery after the order was placed. These were gradually replaced by large pipeline ter-



**Elroy Schultz with a 1930 Ford gas truck in front of the bulk tanks in south end of town.**

minals in Fargo and Grand Forks and semi-trailer tankers that specialized in over-night delivery from these terminals.

As the demand for fuel used on highways and farms increased, the equipment needed to deliver it also changed dramatically. The little red gas trucks that hauled 500 to 800 gallons were replaced by large streamlined trucks capable of carrying 2000 gallons. These trucks were painted in various "company colors," and featured high-speed pumping and metering equipment capable of unloading the entire load in less than an hour.

During the past 100 years, Hillsboro has had an abundance of petroleum products. However, the 1970's brought change and we were suddenly faced with shortages and allocations. Also in this period we saw the price of tractor fuel delivered to the farm drop to \$.07 per gallon during the depression years of the 1930's. Now we find ourselves a half century later paying \$1.40 for gasoline at the pumps and anticipating that it may go much higher. Many of the families who switched from wood and coal to fuel oil for heat in the '39's and '40's are again chopping wood and shopping for fireplaces and wood-burning stoves.

Down through the century Hillsboro has been served by many oil companies, some large, some small. Some were national branded, some were privately owned independents, and some locally owned co-ops.

The first oil company to operate in the area was Standard Oil. The horse-drawn tank wagon was seen delivering kerosene, axle grease, and harness oil just after the turn of the century. Competition in the teens and early twenties came from such new-comers as Mobil Oil, Texaco, and Skelly. In 1930, the Farmers Union Oil Company of Kelso was organized, and later moved to Hillsboro in 1938. Other signs that appeared in the '30's and '40's included Pure Oil and Tydol followed later by Champlin, Phillips 66, Ben's Cash Supply, Cities Service, Farmland Co-op, W.N.A.X., and S.O.S.

Although records are incomplete and in some cases non-existent it may be interesting to note some of the early oil companies and the approximate tenure of the operators. In some cases service stations such as Champlin, Phillips 66, Pure Oil, Cities Service and Tydol were serviced by Bulk plants from other towns.

The Standard Oil lease for the bulkplant on the Great Northern right of way was signed in 1910. Jim McNamee was the first agent operating from this plant and continued until 1921 when he turned the business over to Elroy Schultz. From 1921 to 1928 Mr. McNamee operated the new gas station just south of the courthouse. However, there are indications that Standard Oil products were sold prior to 1910 by Ole Sandmark. It is believed he may have shipped in steam cylinder oil, lubricating oil, Mica axle grease, kerosine and harness oil and distributed them to local merchants and shops.

Elroy Schultz continued as agent until 1935 when Tobe Thompson became agent and remained until 1946. Arnold Sorum began delivering product for Tobe in the spring of 1946 and later that year became the agent and remained until 1976 when he retired. By this time Standard Oil had changed their operations to locally owned distributorships and the business was purchased by Merle Sorum who is the present owner.

The Standard Oil station pictured was first operated by Jim McNamee in 1921, followed by Bud Hempel, Howard Kaldor



Jerome Nysveen's 1970 Chevy truck when all gas trucks were painted red.

and Al Buehner who ran it until it was closed in about 1950. The station on old Highway 81 known as Sorum Oil Company was built in 1948 and operated for a short time by Merle Hazeldahl. In 1949 Duane Sorum became manager and remained until 1972 when he became manager of Bud's Interstate Standard on Caledonia and the I-29 exit.

The Texaco bulk plant began operating sometime before 1920. The first owner was John Stutz who sold the business to Paul Steen in 1927. Paul continued the business until 1958 when he retired and the plant was closed. Both men also operated the Texaco Service Station which was first located on the corner of Second Street and Caledonia south of the clinic. At this time Highway 81 was routed through the park, then west on Caledonia Avenue and south on Main Street. Later the route was changed from Main Street to Third Street South and Paul Steen had to relocate his station at Caledonia and Third Street.

The Skelly bulk plant and station was originally called the Hillsboro Oil Company. The original owners were Bill Meyer, Ole Ingebretsen, Charlie Major and a Mr. Butson, later joined by Carl Meyer. The operation began in the 1920's and was purchased by Alfred Jahnke in the late 1930's. Jahnke Oil Company continued until 1969 when Arnold Gilbertson became agent for Skelly Oil. In 1977 Farmland Co-op of Grandin purchased the business and retained Mr. Gilbertson as agent until 1979. The bulk plant was recently purchased by the Bertsch Trucking Company.

Farmers Union originated in Kelso in 1930, later moving the bulk plant to Hillsboro in 1938. B.N. Johnson was the first manager and he also built a station in 1934 on South Main Street, Block 22, at the present site of the Garden Center, through which he sold Farmers Union products until 1950, when the Co-op purchased the Tydol station in Block 21 from Sig Lindgren who had originally purchased it from Jens Olson. Mr. Johnson resigned as manager in December, 1949, and was followed by Henry Nedrebo from 1950 to 1951, Leland Dullum from 1951 to 1960, and Zane Stigen from 1960 to 1963. Ed Olsen, the present owner of Olsen Hardware, was manager from 1963 to 1969, followed by David Jenny from 1969 to 1980. The present manager is Greg Aasmundstad. The old Tydol station building was razed and a new, modern station, warehouse and office erected in 1968.



Mobil Oil began locally in the 1920's with John Hong as its first agent. He continued until 1940 when Ed Berdahl became the agent. In 1942 Mr. Berdahl left for military service. At this point the agency was operated for a short time by Joe Weir who owned the Chevrolet garage in conjunction with the Mobil service station. Allen Spittler was bulk agent during the later war years and Ed Berdahl became agent again in 1947. In 1948 Jerry Nysveen became the agent and continued until August 1, 1977, when he retired from the oil business and the plant was sold to L and M Oil Company as a Mobil distributor.

The Mobil station which was operated in conjunction with the Chevrolet garage at Main Street and First Avenue North was first opened in 1929 by Bill Schwalbe. Later John Hong operated the station for a couple of years followed by Blake Kelleher and in the late 1930's and early '40's by Joe Weir. The Hubachek Brothers ran it for a short time during World War II and sold to William and Henry Talmo in 1943, who continued until 1967 when the business was closed. The building was later sold to the Hillsboro School District for use as a bus barn.

When Highway 81 passed through Hillsboro on Third Street East, a Mobile station was built and operated at the south side of Hillsboro by Carl Korup. He opened in 1942 and closed in 1948 when the highway was again relocated, this time passing through on East First Street, its present location. The Interstate Mobil Station on Caledonia Avenue and I-29, was first operated by Howard Volden in 1972. Robert Rike was the manager from March, 1973, until the fall of 1977. At this time the station was purchased by the L. and M. Oil Company, Max Peterson being the present owner.

The Champlin Service Station was built in 1949 at the north edge of Hillsboro on highway 81 by Clyde Muir and Carl Korup. Jerry Nysveen purchased this site in 1952 and converted it to a Mobil station called Jerry's Hi-way Service. The south end of the building housed the Coffee Cup Cafe. The business continued until 1972 when the opening of I-29 left Highway 81 with virtually no through traffic. During the 20-year span the following people were managers: Jerry Nysveen, Howard Volden, Lowell Melsby, Harold McDonald, Paul Beltz, Dennis Jacobson, Palmer Smith, Henry Nysveen and Myron Nysveen. Some time later the station was sold to the Dux Sand and Gravel Company to be used as a repair shop.

In 1930-32 the building which now houses Wright Repair had gas pumps fronting on Caledonia Avenue just east of First Street. It was called W.N.A.X. Oil Company, later changed to S.O.S. (Sorum, Osmon, Sorum). In the early 1940's Herman Holzkamm operated the repair shop and the pumps were Standard Oil.

Across the street on the lot just west of the Hillsboro Clinic, M. and H. Oil Company opened a station in the '30's which was operated by William Meline and Harold Bovaird. Later it was purchased by Simonson Oil Company and was also a Pure Oil Station for a time. Farmers Union Oil Company also leased it for a short period before they purchased the Tydol station. Tobe Thompson also used this station as headquarters for the Standard Oil Agency and Pyrofax gas sales. The building later became the Hillsboro Dry Cleaners.

Roy Thorson purchased the Cities Service station in 1933 which was on the lot just south of the Hillsboro Body Shop on south Main Street. Henry Talmo also ran an auto repair shop at

the rear of the service station. They remained at this location until 1943 when Sig Lindgren purchased the station which by then had been changed over to Standard pumps. Sig later moved to the Tydol station where he remained until 1950 when it was purchased by Farmers Union Co-op.

Lindgren Buick came on the scene in 1950. The car and implement dealership was located at the corner of First Street and First Avenue Northeast in the building now occupied by Halverson Furniture. This was also a Mobil service station fronting on Highway 81.

Also in 1950, B.N. Johnson formed a privately owned oil company called "Ben's Cash Supply." He operated this bulk plant as an independent non-branded jobber until his death in 1955.

Tallman Oil Company of Fargo built the Phillips 66 station on south Highway 81 in 1950. The first operator was Claude Smith, followed by Faye Smith and Lynn Soholt who ran it through the 1950's. In 1960 Richard Berg leased the station with Llewellyn Rauser as operator and it was closed in 1963. It was later sold to Hillsboro Auto Company and is now being used as a body shop.

Of the dozen or more oil companies that have served the Hillsboro area in the past 100 years, three remain as we go into our second century, namely Standard Oil, Farmers Union, and Mobil. The oil business as we know it, whether it be a two-pump corner service station or a large bulk plant serving a wide trade area, has always been service oriented. It has been confronted with drought, depression, floods, fire, and mountainous snow drifts. In the past decade they have had to face inflation and oil shortages, but as in the past, the diligence and ingenuity of the people who deal in energy will prevail. The public will surely be served as well in Hillsboro's second century as in the first. It remains to be seen if the "Oil Man" of the future will be as adept at finding new sources of energy to fill our ever-growing needs as did the pioneers who went before him.

—Jerome Nysveen

## HOTELS



The Sunset View Motel

While today there are only two motels in Hillsboro, prior to 1900 there were as many as five hotels at a time, augmented by several boarding houses, serving the needs of the traveling public and local citizens.

These hotels had a reputation for excellence. The majority of the traveling salesmen who called on local merchants would pass up other towns, even Fargo and Grand Forks, in order to take advantage of the fine foods served in their dining rooms.

The dining rooms were often used for conventions, high school alumni reunions, political gatherings, etc. Their Christmas and Thanksgiving dinners were noted, with the menus being published in the local papers.

Most of the hotels had large sample rooms where salesmen could display their goods for local merchants. This made it unnecessary to go to Minneapolis to look over the latest in fabrics and fashions.

Among the early hotels in Hillsboro were the Rogers Hotel, the Plummer House, The Weston House, The Scandinavian Hotel, The Leeland Hotel, The Farmer's Home and the Hotel Martin.

The Rogers Hotel was erected in September 1880 on the corner of Caledonia Avenue and Sargeant Street, where the Hillsboro Auto Company is now located. James Rogers purchased the lots from S.G. Comstock and A.A. White for a sum of \$500.

The Plummer House was owned by A.L. Plummer of the Hillsboro National Bank. He built the structure on Lots 4 and 5, Block II, of the Original Townsite, after purchasing the land from A.W. Morgan for \$500.

The Plummer House was noted for its comfort and excellence. Plummer hired attendants who catered to the needs of the traveling public, and his cook could produce a meal which would rival the best the Delmonico could offer. Mrs. George A. Weston managed the hotel in 1895. On March 24, 1901, a Sunday morning, The Plummer House, one of the landmarks of the city, was destroyed by fire.

In 1890 meals could be purchased for 25 cents, and in November of that year, the hotels were overflowing. Transients were unable to find a cot on which to sleep. In July 1892 there were 450 people registered at the Plummer House. In May 1893 422 guests were registered in that hotel.

Mrs. George E. Weston became the proprietress of the Merchants Hotel in 1885. She and her husband planned to

build an addition to the hotel so that they would have a total of forty guest rooms, spacious sample rooms, and all the other niceties found in the first-class hotels of the day. By 1891 the hotel was known as The Weston House.

For Thanksgiving Day, 1892, both The Weston House and The Plummer House served extra bills-of-fare. Nearly every business place was closed and family re-unions were the order of the day.

Patrons of Weston House, with more than 200 dining there that day, could choose among roasts, sirloin beef with brown gravy, ribs of beef with brown potatoes, pork with apple sauce, mutton with jelly, turkey with cranberry sauce, roast goose with dressing, and stewed chickens with dumplings. Other foods available ranged from New England style baked beans to coconut ribbon cake.

The Scandinavian Hotel was located on the present Court House grounds and was commonly referred to as "Scandia House." Martha J. Jepson purchased the property from Solomon G. Comstock for \$300 in 1896, and in April of 1905, she sold the property to Traill County for \$3,250.

The Leeland Hotel was located on north Main Street and later became the Farmer's Home Hotel. Regular meals, good beds, and prompt service were advertised. A lunch room in The Farmer's Home served ice cream and cake with a separate ice cream parlor open to the ladies.

The Hotel Martin was located on property which now shelters the Fire Hall. On May 17, 1911, a special Norwegian dinner was served at the Hotel Martin by Mrs. O.B. Olson, the new landlady, with the assistance of waitresses wearing national costumes imported from Norway. Among the delicacies which were served were flodegrod, lutefisk, lefse, flatbrod, fiskeboller, kjodboller, rullepolser, spigekjod, dravle, sildsalad, fattigmand, potetkager, and pultost.

All of the hotels and eating places in the city in 1917 observed Wheatless and Meatless days, during the first world's war.

## THE VIKING

In 1929 the Viking Hotel was built by Nels Larson adjacent to the new Chevrolet Garage. It was a modern brick structure and shared a common wall with the garage, which had been built earlier by Bill Schwalbe. The first floor contained the kitchen and dining room and also the registration desk and lobby area. The guest rooms and bathroom facilities were on the second floor and also in the basement.

The lobby area was a gathering place for travelers and also local guests who made their home at the hotel. Many yarns were spun in this area and recreation consisted mostly of reading and card playing. Television had not yet been invented and radio was in its infancy. Engine heaters and jumb cables were also unheard of at this time and during cold weather most of the travelers used the garage next door for overnight storage for their cars. This service cost one dollar.

In 1932 the owner of the "Viking Hotel" in Fargo, Mr. Christ Losness, purchased the hotel of the same name in Hillsboro and kept it until 1945 when he sold it to Arnt Ronning. Mr. Ronning remained one year and in 1946 sold his business to Oliver and Frances Melting. The Meltings sold out to Everett and Delores Lemm in 1949.



The Hillsboro Inn

In 1956, Mary Goshinska purchased the Viking from the Lemms and in 1974 sold it to Ben Garcia, who sold it to his brother Silvera in 1976. The hotel has been closed since 1979.

## FROM HOTEL TO MOTEL

During the late 1930's, as the motor cars became more popular and people were taking longer overnight trips, a new type of hotel began to appear along the nation's highways. Basically they were hotels for motorists and became known as the "motel." They were usually a one-story cabin with a car port attached. Later they were refined to a long one- or two-story building with many rooms and ample parking for the vehicles.

In 1955 as U.S. Highway #81 was becoming established as a main highway to Canada, there was a need for accommodations for not only tourists but also visitors and business people who came to Hillsboro. It was then that Jerry and Aagot Nysveen felt the time had come to build Hillsboro's first motel on property they owned north of the city. The Sunset View Motel was built in the summer of 1955, and had its grand opening on September 18th of that year.

In 1960 the motel was expanded from eight to eleven units and a home was added to the South end of the structure. As the 1970's approached and the new highway I-29 was being constructed, it was obvious that the Sunset View Motel would no longer fulfill the needs of the traveling public on the new highway. In 1972 the Nysveen's opened a new motel, the Hillsboro Inn, just off the interchange of I-29 on the West edge of Hillsboro. This is a modern brick structure with 21 units and a home for the manager.

## HILLSBORO COMMUNITY BAND



Christiansen and sons: Leif, Sverre, George and Gunder. 1912.

Hillsboro was one of the few small towns in the state to organize and support a community band in the early days of its history. During those early years every one who could "toot a horn" was recruited and no public gathering was complete without an appearance of the band.

Leif Christianson organized the band and became the first bandmaster. The businessmen of Hillsboro purchased instruments and gave other financial support to the band. Later Leif Christianson became a member of the High School faculty and gradually the band became a school organization.

In 1936 Leif left Hillsboro to become head of the Concordia College Band Department. He was ably succeeded by Bill Euren, who was director of music in the Hillsboro school from 1936 to 1945, and later became Band Director at North Dakota Agricultural College.

Highlights of band appearances through the years are the many state and district contests at which the band received top honors, the many send-off concerts for departing soldiers in World War I and II, the concert for Crown Prince Olav and Crown Princess Martha of Norway on their visit to Trail County, the many trips to neighboring cities when roads and transportation were not what they are today, appearances in Fargo and Grand Forks and the many local appearances at celebrations and public gatherings.



Hillsboro Community Band 1927.

Front row: Alice Mergenthal, Mildred Harstad, Bertha Ellingrud, Unknown, Bernice Pederson, Grace Hong, Leif Christianson. Second row: A.L. Halverson, Herman Rudrud, Palmer Rudrud, Unknown, Lynn Saries, Bert Dux. Third Row: Hiram Nelson, Chauncey Kaldor, Walter Haugland, Francis Fuller, Mr. Hilstad, Lowell Hilstad. Top row: Teddy Osmon, Mr. Gilbertson, Herman Koering, Unknown, Jim Dunlevy.



Hillsboro Band, Earl Halverson Drum Major.





Hillsboro School Orchestra, 1923.



A Funny Band? Top row: Palmer Rudrud, Glenn Torgerson, Earle Ahrlin, Jim Lund, and Webby Rowan. Second row: Lyle George, Ralph Rudrud, and Kolan Fossum. Front row: John Peterson, Bill Euren, and Bill Schwalbe.



Loyalty Day, 1980. Last band conducted by James Holo.



Community Band 1926.



**HILLSBORO'S DIAMOND JUBILEE  
BEARD COMPETITION IN 1956**



Front: Milton Aasen, Enoch Pederson, Mandley Johnson, Ray Mueller, Elmer Solberg, Roy Ashland. 2nd Row: Arnt Nysveen, Paul Rotvold, Jack Preston, George Dunn, Ray Hanson, Art Magnuson, Ralph Diehl, Carroll Borke. 3rd Row: Ralph Rudrud, Ralph Engel, Jim Oelrich, Earl Ellingson, Richard Berg, Robert Flieth, Harry Eisenbeis. 4th Row: Punky Melsby, Elroy Schultz, Freddie Forde, Paul Steen, Harry Anderson, Carl Diehl. 5th Row: Albert Engel, Alvin Svaieson, Toby Thompson, Alfred Buringrud, Earl Henn, Douglas Mergenthal, Alvis Rohman.

**THE BEARDS OF 1971**



Front row: Roger Wright, Jerry Nysveen, Sarge Sorum, Forest Tronson, Ralph Engel, Eddie Ebbinghausen, Frank Weber, and Herb Anderson. Second row: Verle Peterson, Mandley Johnson, Gary Smith, Gene Kjos, Ed Olson, Dale Blackburn, Charlie Pariseau, David Manger, and Art Grove. Third row: Darrel Rotvold, Harry Eisenbeis, Kenneth Erickson, Roy Ashland, Merton Svaieson, Art Magnuson, Irvin Biel, Ray Berg, Lawrence Letnes. Fourth row: Albin Thomson, Kenton Nelson, John Bartell, Tilman Anderson, Tim Meyer, Melvin Rindah, Mervin Freeland, Alvis Rohman. Back row: James Kress, Lynn Larson, Gene Oelrick, Vernon Johnson, Roger Flieth, Alvin Svaieson, Mark Olson.



WHEN ROYALTY CAME TO TOWN



His Royal Highness, Crown Prince Olav of Norway.



Her Royal Highness, Crown Princess Martha of Norway.

THE VISIT OF  
CROWN PRINCE OLAV AND CROWN PRINCESS MARTHA  
Hillsboro, N.D.                      April 26, 1942

Program

Norway's National Anthem . . . . . Audience  
"Ja, vi elsker dette landet,  
Som det stiger frem  
Furet, veirbitt over vandet  
Med de tusind hjer,  
Elsker, elsker det og tenker  
Paa vor far og mor  
Og den engannet som tenker  
Drømme paa vor jord."

Invocation  
Address . . . . . Crown Prince Olav  
Benediction  
Hymn - 519 . . . . . Audience  
"God bless our native land  
Firm may she ever stand  
Through storm and night;  
When the wild tempests rave,  
Ruler of wind and wave,  
Do Thou our country save  
By Thy great might."

(No applause, please)



"— nor lose the common touch!"



Roses from the ladies of Hillsboro.



Jean Kaldor singing for His Royal Highness "Kan du glemme gamle Norge?" Myrtle Jahr accompanying.



## SCIENTIST-INVENTOR



Louis Schornack

Louis Schornack, son of Lorine and Arnold Schornack, acquired his interest in things scientific fairly early in life.

In his own words, "My interest in electronics began the day I walked into Walt Peter's office to take a code test to pass the requirements for my scouting First Class work. From that day until I was almost through college, Walt was my mentor. When I was a freshman in high school, my scoutmaster, Garland Sagan, loaned me a radio-T.V. correspondence course, containing all of the fundamentals of electronics of radio and television operation. This course formed the foundation of my understanding of electronics. I was very fortunate to have had that opportunity."

He began by using his new-found knowledge to construct a Super-Regenerative Receiver. This took him for the local to the district science fair, where he won the Naval Cruise Award, which was a week's trip to San Diego as a guest of the Navy to tour many electronic facilities and spend a day on an aircraft carrier out at sea.

Transistors were then popular, and, possessing an amateur radio license, he built a Transistorized Communications Receiver to use in his hobby. New and unique at the time, it was entered in the science fair by Louis when he was a senior in high school, which project took him all the way to the National Science Fair at the Seattle World's Fair.

Being valedictorian of his Hillsboro High School graduating class gained him entrance into the four year Honors Program at UND. To continue as a Junior in the program required passing a difficult sophomore comprehensive examination. Graduation

required writing a thesis on some original approach. His thesis on *A Two-State Amplifier/Modulator* he recalls as the most difficult of his undergraduate work, but which enabled him to be the first to graduate from the program with a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering.

His first job was with Collins Radio Co. in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where he worked for five years while obtaining his Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering at Iowa State University at Ames, Iowa.

Due to the hard times of 1971, Collins was about to close, so Louis found a job at Motorola in Schaumburg, Illinois, where he spent the next four years.

When next he joined Dynascan, his career began to escalate. It was 1975, the time of the CB boom, when the company was selling a million Cobra CB radios. At the same time the FCC was increasing the number of channels from 23 to 40, while trying to regulate CB out of existence.

Louis was promoted to Chief Engineer and became the technical interface for Dynascan in the Electronics Industries Association and with the FCC. He spent the next two years flying around the country participating in the EIA meetings to assemble technical information to be given to the FCC in reply to a proposed rulemaking. During this period Louis put together a private study at Dynascan which resulted in the setting aside of an impossible regulation by the FCC concerning the "talkpower" of CB's. During this time he was also making weekly trips to Washington, D.C. to obtain FCC approval for all new 40 channel radios made by his company.

When the CB activity subsided, Dynascan formed an R & D group under Louis' direction. Their first discovery was a new way of signaling. The utilization of this is a user self-installed intrusion detection system for the home, that can be marketed cheaply, which they are now perfecting. Of the three inventions making this possible, two are Louis' contribution.

One March morning in 1978, the Nite Sentry Timer product was conceived. Two and one-half years, a million dollars, and 7 patent applications later, the Nite Sentry was brought to the market-place. The heart of this product is an integrated circuit specially designed for this application, which "chip" Louis designed. He was responsible for 6 of those



Louis Schornack at Seattle World's Fair in 1962.

patent applications, the result of extensive work and the solution of many difficult problems associated with the timer.

To quote Louis, "One of the benefits of having such great power at the disposal of those who are designing an integrated circuit dedicated to doing just one job is that virtually anything can be accomplished by the "chip" if it can be properly defined. Most of the development of the timer was spent on defining how to make this integrated circuit 'genie' a docile and willing servant of those whom it serves. It is known as 'human engineering' in the industry. The difficulty is that a nicely human engineered system becomes very complex. The problem that develops is that even after some seminars are given on exactly how the timer works, there are only three of us who understand what is in the "chip". We become slaves to that which we mastered since it becomes only three of us who can work with it and change it when problems develop. Worse yet, only two of us understand how the total timer system functions. The bright side of the story is that Dynascan has a product that will be hard to compete with since the technology is rather esoteric, and the patent coverage will ultimately be comprehensive, hence it would be extremely difficult for another company to hurdle the obstacles without gross violation of the patents."

Recently Louis learned that the Nite Sentry Timer is being sold in Hillsboro. He says, "This news makes me rather happy since for the first time I am able to indirectly affect the lives of those in my home town through my work." That the timer has met with national acceptance also pleases him.

Ever since his science fair days in Hillsboro, Louis has dreamed of the possibility of a new type of radio eliminating the problems of the old "super-het" which has gone unimproved for the last forty years. Since his college days he has been toying with the problem.

About a year ago he stumbled on a concept that is beginning to show promise. Since the concept is his own, Dynascan is allowing him to pursue its development on his own, which is considerably slowed by having to use only his own limited resources and work on it during his "spare time." The near future may bring the knowledge of its effectiveness. He calls it a "Frequency Translator."

In 1975 Louis married the former Connie Gicewicz. They are the parents of a two-year old daughter.

## THE AGRI-PILOT



Crop Dusting.

It all started with a ride in a plane flown by the parish priest.

Ron Deck's dream of flying had been in the back of his head even earlier, but the flight had settled it. "Right then and there I decided I was going to learn to fly," the Hillsboro flier remembers. He guesses his age at the time to be about 12 years old. But, the Harvey native had to wait for a few years until the dream was realized.

Deck nearly became a Navy pilot, after being accepted into flight training during his hitch with the service. But that would have been the long way around and meant a lot of years in the military. "I just didn't like the service for a way of life, so I decided not to take it," he explains with a grin.

Instead, Deck spent weekends at the local airport in Washington. "We were in drydock for six months, so that was my chance," he states matter-of-factly, then adds, "I got my license in about a month."

After his 1965 discharge from the Navy, Deck earned his commercial license, later getting licensed for multi-engine, helicopter and flight instruction.

With a wall full of license certificates, why choose the aerial spraying business, Deck is asked. There are other avenues for pilots, such as the commercial airlines, aren't there?



Ron Deck taxis past his hanger after a trial run in the Ag-Cat, rebuilt last winter by the Deck Flying Service crew.

"That never did appeal to me. I always thought of those guys as glorified taxi drivers," he explains. "I drove taxicab for a while when I was getting my commercial license and I thought, 'That's probably what these airline pilots feel like.' And I didn't like being a taxicab driver."

Deck went on, "I looked at (flying) and said, 'Where can a guy make some money?' You can't make it flight instructing. The spraying end of it always fascinated me, and you could make some money at it, too."

Following three years which was spent working for an aerial application firm in Kansas, Deck spent a year in Bismarck, where he worked for Agrichemical Aviation and gained more experience in the spray business. Then Deck decided to go out on his own.

Explaining that he needed to find a locality in which he could make spraying pay, Deck added, "In Traill county, there weren't any sprayers at all at the time. It looked to me like a guy could set up a spraying business. So I came here with a J-3



More than 8,000 hours have been logged by Ron. He has completed 11 seasons of spraying in the Hillsboro area.

Cub and an old pickup with a rented water tank. We just about starved.”

Starting in 1970, Deck flew out of the old Hillsboro airport which was located east of town. “It took a lot of hard work, saving and scrimping. The first year I did all the spraying myself. My wife flagged for me or my dad at Harvey. I was the operation. I don’t think we sprayed a total of 10,000 acres that first year,” he said.

With the aid of a financing program through Cessna, Deck bought a brand new 1970 Cessna 150. He then added flight instruction to his business.

Opportunity knocked for work flying sky divers so Deck decided to buy a used Cessna 180. “I bought that with a little help from my friend, the (former) mayor of Hillsboro,” Deck says as he explains that he traded his J-3 Cub and the mayor traded some machinery, leaving Deck with only \$2000 to raise. “That was all the money in the world, almost all the profit I had made from the summer,” he remembers. He also bought a P-18 105 Cub that first year, with more help from the mayor.

As can be imagined, this meant Deck had some payments to make each month. “I’d fly from early morning to late at night flying students when I wasn’t spraying. I spent about every minute out at the airport. At that time I really probably deprived my family quite a bit. I didn’t spend any time with them at all,” he says thoughtfully. “I guess that is what it takes to get started, but I’m glad I don’t have to do it again.”

Now Deck has his own airport north of Hillsboro. Along with the Deck home, the hangar and chemical storage, the airport has a 1,100 foot hard-surfaced runway.

Ron also became the Gulfstream American agent in April 1980. “I did it to sell a few airplanes, maybe get more maintenance work. That way I can justify keeping good help around,” he says.

Deck employs two mechanics, Rich Altendorf and Dan Drengson, and states, “I think that good mechanics have a lot to do with the safety and accident rate. Some of these guys fly airplanes with really poor maintenance. I think we’ve got a good attitude, good pilots in Ray Fanning and Ron Kurtz, good equipment and well-maintained equipment. Our accident rate has been nothing really.”

To round out the operation, Deck’s wife Barb does the bookkeeping.

Starting with one man and one plane in 1970, the Deck Flying Service has expanded to fill a need in the community.



Ron Deck’s airport, north of Hillsboro, which has a 1,100 foot hard-surfaced runway, along with the Deck’s home, the hangar, and chemical storage.

## THOSE OTHER HILLSBOROS

At least twenty-three towns, cities or communities in the United States are named Hillsborough or Hillsboro. Populations vary from 135 in Hillsboro, Virginia, to 18,800 in Hillsboro, Oregon.

How each got it’s name provides interesting reading. Hillsboro, Maryland was named for Lord Hillsboro of the Calvert family in the sixteenth century. Hillsboro, Illinois, was founded in 1823. There are two versions regarding the derivation of its name: That it was named for hills on which it was established or after Hillsborough, North Carolina, from which many of the settlers came. Hillsboro, Wisconsin, was named for Vientia B. Hill, one of several brothers who made the first improvements there in the 1850’s. It was also the site where “Hillsboro Pale Beer” was brewed.

Some of the “other Hillsboros” have various “claims to fame.” Hillsboro, Ohio, was platted on 200 acres of land, bought for \$100 in 1807, and is famous for Daniel Boone having been taken prisoner by the Indians there in 1778. The second most populous Hillsboro (pop. 9,650) is “in the Heart of Texas” 62 miles from Dallas and 53 miles from Fort Worth, and is the county seat of Hill County. Hillsboro, Kansas, was founded in 1874 by Mennonites. Located on Route 56, the Old Santa Fe Trail, it boasts of the Pioneer Adobe House and Museum, listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Hillsboro, Virginia, the smallest Hillsboro (pop. 135) dating back to the eighteenth century, received its first charter in 1803. Just before the Civil War it voted by nearly two-to-one



## HILLSBORO, OREGON



Largest of the Hillsboros: 18,800.

to leave the Union, but had men serving on both sides in the war. Hillsboro, West Virginia, was settled in 1765 and was also the scene of Civil War battles. The birthplace of Pearl Buck, whose family (the Stullings from Holland) settled there in the early 1850's, is now restored to the year 1892, and is open to the public daily as the Pearl S. Buck Birthplace Museum.

Hillsborough, North Carolina, dating back to 1754, was named after Lord Wills Hill, Earl of Hillsborough (born 1718) who never set foot in America, but was Britain's Commissioner of Trade and Plantations. "Every square foot, over 400 acres, has historical significance." Hillsborough's active Historical Society lists over 65 existing historical sites.

Hillsborough, New Hampshire, covers a whopping 44 square miles (pop. 2,775). The town was originally founded in 1742 by a Col. John Hill, and called Hillsborough. However, the federal government, in establishing a post office, dropped the "ugh." Its legal title is still "Hillsboro." Franklin Pierce, the 14th President of the United States was born in Hillsborough on November 23, 1804. The Pierce Homestead, built by Benjamin Pierce the year his son Franklin was born, is completely restored today.

Hillsboro, Oregon, the largest of the Hillsboros, is located near the center of the broad rolling Tualatin Valley in the northwestern portion of the state, and called by the first settlers, who arrived in 1834 the "garden of the world." It was founded in 1842 by David Hill who became the first postmaster in 1850, the same year the town became the county seat. Their most famous anecdote concerns Ulysses S. Grant, a then poorly paid lieutenant of the quartermaster corps at Fort Vancouver, later general of the armies of president of the United States. Being unable to pay for supplies he had purchased, he was arrested in Portland (about 20 miles to the east) and was brought to trial in Hillsboro. "Grant won acquittal but he was held overnight and thus became the most distinguished prisoner ever incarcerated in the Washington County jail."

Hillsboro Beach, Florida, a town of 948 with a winter population of 1800, boasts the Hillsboro Lighthouse, marking the

northern end of the Florida Reef, which at 5,500,000 candlepower is the most powerful light on the east coast of the United States.

Hillsboro, Tennessee, was first called Pond Spring, but being in the hill country and surrounded by the Cumberland Mountains, the name was subsequently changed to Hillsboro.

Hillsboro, Indiana, founded in 1826, around a water powered saw and grist mill, is located on a small river known as Coal Creek. Population is 600 on 300 acres. The town is noted for the signs it has erected at each end of town, which read: "WELCOME TO HILLSBORO, THE HOME OF 600 FRIENDLY PEOPLE AND A FEW OLD SOREHEADS."

There are also Hillsboros in California, New Mexico, Mississippi, Alabama, Kentucky, and Georgia. In addition to the towns, cities, and municipalities bearing the name there is also a Hillsborough River and county in Florida, a Hillsboro Canal in Florida, a Hillsboro County in New Hampshire, and a Hillsboro-Northeastern Railway which connects the Hillsboro, Wisconsin, and a main line of the Chicago.

Hillsboro(ugh)s, U.S.A., are, for the most part, communities with deep roots steeped in history, relatively small in size and population; communities where one is apt to see friends and acquaintances on a stroll on Main Street.

## HILLSBORO NICKNAMES

Every town has its share of peculiar nicknames, and Hillsboro is no exception. Here are some of the most choice!

- "Spot" — Vernon Acker
- "Tabasco" — Lowell Hilstad
- "Brom" — Roy Blom
- "Beans" — Ordean Stai
- "Hicks" — Hilmer Stai
- "Taxi" — Maxwell Stai
- "Babe" — William Stai
- "Chatta" — Ray Anderson
- "Sparky" — Leon Anderson
- "Spike" — Carroll Gordon
- "Shrimp" and "Coco" — Kolan Fossum
- "Flop" — Melvin Kolstad
- "Dreamy" — George Wiseth
- "Punky" — Lowell Melsby
- "Zeke" — Herman Rudrud
- "Shark" — Hilbert Potterud
- "Friday" — Ralph Hempel
- "Pud" — Eugene Kaldor
- "Onabee" — Orlin Thompson
- "Mahatma" — Howard Kaldor
- "Piggy" — Hilmer Hanson
- "Tussa" — Pearl Rudrud Weller
- "Tibby" — Garda Rudrud
- "Hula" — Roland Gilbertson
- "Chick" — Karl Diehl
- "Louse" — Wilton Ludwig
- "Nit" — Harley Ludwig
- "Twinks" — Albert Osmon Jr.
- "Nip" — Adolph Arneson
- "Duddy" — James Anderson
- "Cardboard" — Ronald Stuart

# Trail County Courthouse

## TRAIL COUNTY COURTHOUSE



Present day Courthouse enhanced by Jim Oelrich's plantings.

In this year of 1981 as Hillsboro celebrates its 100th anniversary, what could be more appropriate news than that the Trail County Courthouse has been named to the National Register of Historic Places? This is the nation's official list of structures deemed worthy of preservation. Truly the Courthouse belongs to the whole County, but because of its situation in the heart of Hillsboro, it is uniquely ours and we are proud to have it here.

Everyone, young and old, surely has heard the colorful tale of how in 1891 the courthouse records were literally "stole" from Caledonia which was the first seat of the county government. In 1890 a group of residents of Hillsboro pledged that if Hillsboro were chosen for the county seat in the November election, they would give the county \$7500 in cash and furnish title-free a block of land for the site of the buildings. After the Supreme Court handed down a decision upholding the election of 1890 when voters chose Hillsboro as the site of the courthouse, construction of the first courthouse and jail was begun in 1894.

Later this building proved too small and in 1907 a new and finer building of brick and stone was constructed and dedicated; this stately old and beautiful building still stands proudly in a square block of well-cared for lawn surrounded by beautiful trees, where in summer flowers bloom in profusion. Many interested people and dedicated caretakers over the years can take credit that it is in such good repair, still retaining its original beauty inside and out.

The most interesting and unusual features of the building are the paintings on the ceiling in the rotunda, often not noticed by people going in and out. The four panels depict Mayville Island Park; Hillsboro Park; and threshing and grain-cutting scenes from former Bonanza farms in the Hillsboro and Mayville area. The contract for decorating was awarded to a firm in Clinton, Iowa, at a cost of \$2750.00; one of the three painters an artist; one artist did the actual drawing and the other two filled in colors. Though painted almost 80 years ago, they still are easy to identify. All the paintings are unsigned and the artists unknown. In the 1950's the County Commissioners felt these paintings had to be painted over or renovated and at that time some of the decorative stencils which adorned the offices were painted over and lost forever. Fortunately the painters were stopped from painting the rotunda ceiling and the panels were covered with a preservative. In the Courtroom on the top floor still remains the painting of the three goddesses, one in the center, blind-folded holding scales; one holding a book labeled "law" and a third one looking in a mirror. A possible interpretation is that the one with the scales might be Justice weighing the claims of opposing parties. This painting was done by painters whose specialty was capitols, churches, cathedrals and courthouses.

Over the years the Courthouse has been the location of many agencies besides the regular designated county offices and was becoming crowded. So in 1955 an addition to hold the Sheriff's offices, and the jail and several smaller offices, was



Esther Miller,  
Supt. of Schools.



Gerhard Olson, Deputy Auditor  
1909-1917, Auditor 1917-1961,  
and Deputy Auditor 1961-1964.

built and attached to the main building on the south side. This building also houses the Sheriff's residence and one for his deputy. Eventually the original jail building which had been the home of the Sheriff and his family, was demolished in the late 1950's, to make way for a parking lot. The Sheriff's office space had been in the courthouse basement; thus the end of a colorful old building, built sturdily of stone and brick, made way for progress.

The first elected offices which made up the County Government were, besides the County Commissioners, Register of Deeds and County Clerk; Judge of Probate and County Treasurer; Sheriff; Superintendent of Schools; Coroner and County Surveyor; and over the years many different people have served as county officials for various lengths of time, some for many terms in succession such as Gerhard Olson who served as Deputy Auditor and Auditor for over 50 years; and Chauncey T. Kaldor who served as States Attorney for 26 successive years; and A.J. Osmon who served alternately as sheriff and deputy sheriff from 1907 through 1937.

Now, besides the regular offices, the Courthouse holds the office of the County Agent, Public Health Nurse, Veterans



**Traill County Officers 1970. Sitting:** Register LaVerne Skogen, Treasurer Donna Oelrich, Commissioner Roy Ashland, Auditor Mildred Olson. **Standing:** States Attorney Dewell Viker, Judge Howard Carver, Commissioner Hartman Ulland, Supt. of Schools Esther Miller, Commissioner Gilman Westvedt, Commissioner Milton Eliason, Commissioner Erling Groth, Sheriff Richard Fisher.



**County Treasurer's Office 1942. Marriage of Thomas P. Strand to "Betty Crocker."** Anna Anderson, Judge Bagstad, Ernie Johnson, Mildred Olson, Delores Henning, Unidentified, Gerhard (in doorway) Olson, Roy Johnston, Stella Kelly, Alpha Logsten, Lizzie Balkan, John Flaa, Anton Benson, Ernie Iverson, Judge John Cole.



**Traill County District Court Room. Pictured are Judge Charles A. Pollack, Sheriff Albert Osmon, Clerk of Court Barney Boyd, Judge of Probate Court Jorgen Howard, County Attorney Charles Lyche, and Attorney T.W. Ames.**



**Courthouse Officers 1934: Top row:** Judge J.E. Bagstad, Thomas Strand, Rudy Nelson, Pete Balkan, Alma Wentworth, Guri Wambheim, Christie Hagen, Alfred Wallen, John Flaa, G.D. Olson, Joe Simey, Ernest Iverson, John Cole, Albert Osmon. **Bottom row:** Bertha Forde, Evelyn Ellingrud, Cecile Hagen, Myrtle Thorson.

Service Officer and Civil Defense Officer, Tax Director, Drain Board, Juvenile Court, Special Education and Social Services.

On the lawn at the Northeast corner of the Courthouse is a statue of Abraham Lincoln. The money for this statue was raised from donations by individuals and businesses over the County, but perhaps of most interest were the donations from school children all over the county who gave their small amounts and signed their names to subscriptions dated February 1915 which read in part, "In Commemoration of our Martyred President, Abraham Lincoln, on this 50 Anniversary of his death." The presentation of \$1857.00 was made to the County by State Senator Theo. Kaldor who was Chairman of the Lincoln Committee at a dedication service held September, 1918. The Statue, designed by Paul Fjelde, a former North Dakota boy, stands 8 feet high and is made from red granite from a Granite Company of St. Cloud, Minnesota. It is a replica of the Lincoln bust presented in 1914 by the people of N.D. to Norway on the 100th year of their independence.

The City of Hillsboro is proud of the beautiful, stately Courthouse in the center of our city, and proud of the people over the years who have been instrumental in keeping its traditions and upkeep intact to be used and enjoyed by the whole County.

*Myrtle Jabr Rudrud*



## TRAIL COUNTY COURTHOUSE NAMED TO NATIONAL HISTORIC REGISTER



Courthouse and Jailhouse circa 1912.

The Traill County Courthouse at Hillsboro has been named to the National Register of Historic Places, the nation's official list of structures deemed worthy of preservation. One of thirteen county courthouses in North Dakota that were designed by the St. Paul architectural firm of Buechner and Orth between 1904 and 1919, the structure is an impressive, durable, and beautiful part of the state's heritage of public buildings.

Resources eligible for the National Register consist of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant for their historical, architectural, or archeological value. Integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and association are the criteria applied to such resources. Once a resource is placed on the National Register, it receives limited protection from damage or destruction resulting from federally financed, assisted or licensed undertakings on the property. National Register properties are eligible to be considered for historic preservation grants-in-aid monies administered in North Dakota by the State Historical Society.

Built in 1905, the Traill County Courthouse is an example of the Beaux Arts Neo-Classical architectural style. The courthouse features a tall domed tower with bull's-eye windows. An operational skylight and well-preserved murals highlight the interior. Set on a full city block, the courthouse is constructed of brown brick over a white stone foundation. Rich woodwork and marble wainscoting add to the cool and stately interior atmosphere. The only major interior alteration since 1905 was interior repainting in the 1950's that covered stencils on the first and second floor walls.

The architects who designed the courthouse were Charles W. Buechner and Henry W. Orth, both of whom came to the United States in the late 19th Century. Buechner, a native of Germany, settled in St. Paul in the 1880's and in partnership with John Jacobson formed an architectural firm in 1892 that designed both public and private buildings. After Jacobson's death in 1902, Buechner associated himself with Henry W. Orth, a native of Norway. Their firm drew the plans for at least nineteen county courthouses in Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota, and North Dakota. Few other architectural firms

have left such an indelible imprint upon the landscape of the Upper Midwest.

The Buechner and Orth courthouses amount to a major era in the architectural heritage of North Dakota. In recognition of that fact, all thirteen were named to the National Register of Historic Places on November 25, 1980, by the Secretary of the Interior. Like the Traill County Courthouse at Hillsboro, all the structures are still serving their original function, and all play a significant role in the history and daily life of their individual communities.



Original Courthouse built in 1894.

## LINCOLN MONUMENT DEDICATED IN 1918



Lincoln statue bought with pennies contributed by Traill County children.

The Traill County Commissioners went on record as favoring the erection of a bust of Abraham Lincoln on the Court House grounds, a duplicate of the one presented to Norway, sculptured by Paul Fjelde, at a cost of \$1,000, the money to be raised by public subscription.

The bust was to be of bronze and the base was to cost \$200 for a total of \$1,200.

All school children were asked to contribute anywhere from a nickel to 20 cents.

April 15, 1915 was the 50th anniversary of the death of President Abraham Lincoln. The committee appointed by the County Commissioners included Theodore Kaldor, chairman, Miss Guri Wambheim, secretary, and Nels O. Lindaas, treasurer.

The monument was unveiled on Sunday, September 8, 1918. Chief Justice Andrew A. Bruce, of the Supreme Court, was the speaker.

The sum of \$57.10 was collected as the local school's share toward the fund for the monument.

## THE SHERIFF'S WIFE



Martin Anderson



Anna Carson Anderson

Strange as it may seem, my first home in Hillsboro was at the Traill County Jail.

I was married to Martin Anderson shortly after he was elected sheriff and it was customary for the sheriff's wife to be the Matron of the Jail. The living quarters were a part of the jailhouse.

I remember the first days of living in the jail with one family moving out and another family moving in. The biggest problem getting settled was hanging curtains in the different rooms, as the windows were very high. The problem was solved by an unusually tall prisoner we had in jail, who was on "good behavior" and allowed to help around the house. He hung all the curtains for me by reaching up with his long arms. These long arms also helped scrub the floors.

I remember one of the prisoners who asked for my recipe for fried potatoes. "The best fried potatoes I ever ate," he said. When all the alcohol got out of his system, he developed a sharp appetite.

I also recall one night, Martin was called out about midnight. He had been warned to be careful and protect himself, but when he arrived, he found the man sitting on his suitcase in the middle of the road, waiting for Martin to take him to jail.

One time Martin was called downtown in Hillsboro, to take a man to jail for disturbing the peace. He had been a former prisoner, and Martin ordered him to go to the jail. I met him at the door with the big key in my hand; I jailed him and locked the door.

One morning the door bell rang. I opened the door and a man came in with a gun in his hand. Needless to say I was frightened, but all he wanted was a permit to carry the gun. I directed him to the sheriff's office.

I was appointed to finish Martin's term of office after his death April 17, 1951. I am the only woman to have served as sheriff in Traill County. Howard Kaldor, who became the next Sheriff, served as my deputy.

*Anna Carson Anderson*

## THE SHERIFF'S DAUGHTER OR GROWING UP IN THE JAILHOUSE



Old Jailhouse.

We, the children of Sheriff and Hannah Osmon, led a very happy and enjoyable life in the residence area of the Traill County Jail.

Due to the limited term of office (two years), election time became a very dramatic part of our lives. Would Dad "make it" so we could move back to the place we all loved so dearly? When Dad was out of office, we would move to the house across the street, while he served as Deputy. Dad served as policeman, Deputy, or Sheriff from 1909 to 1939, which were our "growing up" years. We loved living in that wonderful place, which was our home for so many years.

The living quarters of the "Jail House" were exceedingly spacious, ample setting for Sheriff Osmon's family of thirteen children. We remember every inch of it.

There were both a downstairs and an upstairs jail, a padded cell for the "insane," and a single room (with bars) for the "ladies." The women were mostly incarcerated for only a short time.

We recall many of the prisoners, a number of whom were "repeaters," whom we learned to know as friends. Some became "trusties" and helped with various duties around the kitchen. Some were the "automatic" dishwashers, others mopped floors, and some peeled vegetables — to fill soup kettles of enormous size!

Back in the days of Prohibition, many attempted to make a living by "bootlegging," but were often caught. The lenient Judge usually allowed those prisoners their freedom to work in the spring, summer and fall months, and to return to serve their sentence in the winter.

Often there were enough men to form a "band," using crude instruments such as combs with tissue paper, pans for drums, and mouth organs of all descriptions. What a racket they made as they marched and marched around the cell block! One could hardly say they put Sousa to shame, but it served as their recreation and helped to pass the time. On occasion they were allowed to march on the road west of the Jail. I don't recall Dad ever lost a band member en route! Dad, who loved to play the violin, sometimes even joined in the "music" making.

In addition to housing our large family, we also rented two bedrooms, one to Dr. Fisher, the veterinarian, and one to



Albert Osmon, Sheriff, and Pete Balkan, Deputy, 1927.

Tommy Strand. Regardless of the time of day or night, or how inclement the weather, when the telephone rang for Dr. Fisher he was on his way to treat some sick animal. Tommy Strand, who was the Traill County Treasurer, we remember as a happy and very congenial man.

The Jail House was heated by hot water radiators. I will never forget the endless amounts of apple sauce we girls cooked on those radiators with our little tin dishes which we had received for Christmas. I can smell the cinnamon yet!

Dad's first job when he came into office was to transfer a "deserter" from Hillsboro to San Francisco, California. What a venture! That was back in 1909, and so while he was there he saw much of the results and scars of the 1906 earthquake.

As my brothers and I reminisce together in this year 1981, we recall many memorable happenings. One night while sitting in the living room, we heard a tremendous commotion and racket in the jail area. Dad was out of town so the Deputy was called. As he unlocked the door a very big "insane" man broke past him, ran the full length of the residence hall, and out the front door! Down the street he ran, past the homes, and finally hid in a field on the west edge of town. He had done a thorough job of wrecking the jail, breaking all the wash basins, toilets and even some pipes! A posse was formed and he was quickly captured.

Hoboes and gypsies were a big nuisance in those days, and the Sheriff often had to dispense their "gangs." The hoboes would gather along the banks of the Goose River, where they would steal vegetables from nearby gardens, whose owners complained bitterly. (One of their bad habits was drinking "canned heat" for liquor.)

The gypsies came riding into town in their old cars packed with people, also for the purpose of stealing and "fleecing" the townspeople. One call to the Sheriff and they were politely but firmly sent out of town — in a hurry!

Dad was a colorful Sheriff. He was never without his badge, gun, holster, billy club or hand cuffs. It was all a part of his dressing and getting ready for the day. We children were warned repeatedly never, never to touch that gun; which so impressed us that we held it in a fearful respect. On the streets of Hillsboro there was a common saying, often heard amongst the "bad guys": "Look Out! Here comes Osmon!"

We cherish many unforgettable memories of our lives in the Jailhouse, some pleasant, some sad; but the saddest of all was to see it demolished to be replaced by a "modern" building.

Sheriff Osmon's badge is now resting on a shelf at the Museum in Hillsboro.

*Ida Osmon Diehl*

Acknowledgement: We wish to thank the Traill County Tribune for the use of pictures and material by Craig Nienaber of the Tribune staff.

## THE COURT HOUSE PAINTINGS



Three colorful Greek goddesses guard the courtroom from the wall behind the judge's bench.

One of the most alluring tales of the county courthouse in Hillsboro is the history of the rotunda paintings.

Perhaps too few courthouse visitors glance up at the paintings on the inside of the dome, two floors above their heads. If they did peer up through the dim light, they would make out the dominant blue and green tones of four triangular paintings.

The artwork depicts local scenes, including Mayville's Island Park, Hillsboro's Woodland Park, and two threshing scenes from Grandin bonanza farms southeast of Hillsboro and near Mayville.

The story of how those paintings were completed by an artist with unusual working habits, how much of the other courthouse art was destroyed, and how the paintings were saved is nearly as colorful as the paintings themselves.

Construction on the courthouse began in 1905, and a contract for \$2,750 was given to the William G. Andrews Decorating Company of Clinton, Iowa. That sum wouldn't pay for decorating a living room today, but in those years, it paid for an artist and two other painters to travel up from Iowa. Only one was a true "artist," the other two his helpers. Even their names are forgotten today, for the paintings are unsigned. At that time there was a class of painters whose specialty was capitols, churches, cathedrals, and courthouses.

The late Jorgen Talmo of Hillsboro remembered being hired as a boy of 15 as a "flunkie" for the painters, cleaning brushes and running errands. He remembered the artist as being a colorful character, not very talkative, but one who consumed a considerable amount of "spirits" each day as the source of his inspiration.

Perhaps the most impressive example of this rare and now archaic artwork is found on the wall painting behind the judge's





Horse-drawn bundle wagons and a steam threshing machine are reminiscent of bonanza farming in this rotunda painting. The scene is taken from Grandin Farm No. 8 south of Hillsboro.



This threshing scene was modeled on a Grandin farm near Mayville. The land is now part of the Elmer Brunsdale farm.

bench in the courthouse. It portrays three Greek goddesses, arrayed in flowing robes and holding an array of symbolic accessories. According to the late Gerhard Olson, county auditor for many years, the goddess on the right is probably Themus, wife of Zeus, weighing the claims of opposing parties. One of her daughters, Eunomia (Good Order) is looking in a mirror to see that everything is in good order. Another daughter, Irene (Peace) is the central figure holding a law book, the foundation of lasting peace.

Auditor Gerhard Olson, during his 52 year reign as deputy auditor and auditor, beginning in 1909, took a personal interest in the paintings, and it was because of him the artwork was saved from destruction.

In the early 50's the county board decided that cleaning and restoring the decorative painting would be too expensive and chose to paint over it.

A dark deep green paint went on, covering almost all of the decorative work on the walls and ceilings of both the first and second floors. The scaffolding was set up to do the rotunda, also, when, just in time, Gerhard Olson stepped in, saying, "Those paintings are original Traill County scenes, and they are to be preserved." So instead of being lost forever under a layer of green, the Traill scenes received a coat of preservatives.

The last chapter in the story of the Courthouse paintings came in 1965 when newly hired custodian Jim Oelrich began a four year project of painting the walls an eggshell white. He also restored some of the former splendor to sections of the wood trim, spray painting them gold. Morris Smith, former custodian, who remembered the original colors, gave him the idea. Mr. Oelrich has also been responsible for the spring plantings which, every year, turn the Courthouse grounds into a scene of great beauty.

For anyone who likes to recapture period art, the courtroom is all (besides the rotunda Traill scenes) that survives from the original decoration. The pale green walls, stenciled ceiling, floral crests and back wall painting can all still be enjoyed in the stately silence of the old room.

But, there are ghosts alive in the hall, according to the late Walt Peters, who said, "On certain days, if the light happens to be just so, you can see reflections in the wall panels."

On those days the hidden designs reappear like shadows of the courthouse's colorful past.



Jorgen Talmo, recently deceased, was one of the last local residents who remembered working with the painters as a boy of fifteen back in 1906.

# Churches

## OUR SAVIORS LUTHERAN CHURCH Hillsboro, North Dakota



**Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 1981.**

Lutheran Church work among the people of this area began in 1870. From this early religious interest, two Lutheran Congregations of Hillsboro were formed. These merged in 1917 to form the present Our Saviors Lutheran Church. These two mother congregations were the Hillsboro Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Immanuel Lutheran Church. In 1883 Reverend Jens Lonne was called to be the first resident pastor of Hillsboro Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church. Following him were Pastors Anders Houkom and L.M. Skunes. In 1884 the congregation built the church building used by the congregation until the 1917 merger. It was then sold to Zion Free Lutheran Church, and subsequently, to St. John Lutheran Church.

The other parent church, Immanuel Lutheran, was served by Pastors Harstad, Hoff, J. Halvorson, H. Allen, J. Tingelstad, and J.R. Rorvik. During Pastor Rorvik's pastorate the congregation built a very fine church located on the present site of Our Saviors Lutheran Church. This church building was used until it was destroyed by fire in 1924. Pastor Rorvik was succeeded by Pastors G.O. Lane, L.A. Haatvedt, O. Turmo and S.K. Tollehaug.

With the formation of a new church body in 1917, named Norwegian Lutheran Church in America, the time seemed propitious for consummating union on the local level. At a meeting held on June 25, 1917, the two congregations voted to unite in accordance with the policy of the new church body. The name of the newly formed church, was Our Saviors Norwegian Lutheran Church. The first officers of the church were: B.T. Nedland, Ole Rudrud and Theodore Jahr, deacons; John Johnson, Hans Klette and Lawrence Melsby trustees; Ivan Nedland, Secretary and J.H. Hanson, Treasurer. Forty three members are listed as Charter Members of the newly formed congregation. In August, 1917 Pastor O.P. Stavaas was called to serve the congregation.

The January 1919 Pastors report reveals that the congregation consisted of 560 "souls" as members, 389 confirmed

and 158 voting members. During 1919 there were 39 Norwegian Services, 26 English Services, 35 Devotional Prayer Meetings, 18 Baptisms, 15 Confirmations, 81 had partaken of the Lord's Supper, 7 Weddings, 14 Burials (only 2 were members of the congregation), 81 Confirmation Classes (40 Norwegian, 41 English), 1 month of Parochial School and 150 pupils in Sunday School. This compares with the following 1979 report: 1,119 baptized members, 894 confirmed members, 12 Weddings, 14 Burials, 31 Baptisms, 19 young people were confirmed, 561 Communicants (once or more during the year). 216 pupils enrolled in Sunday School.

In the 63 years as Our Saviors Lutheran Church, the congregation has been served by five pastors. The first pastor to serve the new church was the Reverend O.P. Stavaas. He served until 1920 and was succeeded by Pastor N.G.W. Knutson who served until 1926. Because of failing health, Pastor Knutson tendered his resignation and was succeeded by Reverend A.T. Tjornhom who served the congregation until 1941. On December 7, 1941, C.F. Saveriede became pastor of Our Saviors and served the congregation until December, 1976. Pastor James A. Hanson from Valley City accepted a call to serve our congregation and was installed in February, 1977 and continues to serve the congregation at this time.

On January 13, 1924, the church building was destroyed by fire. For a time, the congregation assembled for worship and Sunday School classes in the Gem Theatre in Hillsboro. However, the congregation soon took steps which resulted in



**The first Our Savior's Lutheran Church.**



Our Savior's Loyalty Dinner, Nov. 1, 1954.

the construction of a church basement to hold 360 people on the site of the old structure. This basement facility served the congregation for about two years. In April 1928 the congregation voted to complete the building. The Dedication ceremonies were held on July 7, 1929. Total cost of the project was approximately \$45,000. It was noted that the ladies of the church were very instrumental in earning the money necessary to pay off the mortgage on the basement area making it possible for the congregation to go on with plans for the main church building. Members of the congregation were generous in their gifts of money for the completion of the church and in 1944, a special day was held for the burning of the mortgage.

On July 4, 1935, the congregation narrowly averted a great disaster. On the evening of July 3rd a heavy thunderstorm struck the city. A bolt of lightning struck a nearby pole and followed the wire to the gable of the church. Flames did not break out, but continued to smolder all that evening and night and almost all of the next day before being noticed. Fortunately the damage was not great. The pipe organ, because of the water, was most heavily damaged and there was a considerable loss of hymnaries and heavy smoke damage.

Throughout the years there have been many projects for improvement of the church building. The installation of the beautiful stained glass windows and the symbolic meanings of each of them added much beauty to the church nave. On October 12, 1958 the congregation was proud to dedicate the addition of the Parish Education Building. On May 18, 1969 there was a dedication of the newly installed Pipe Organ system. In 1971 the Parsonage, directly across the street from the church was completed. Extensive remodeling of the kitchen was done and is being paid for by the ladies of the church. May 6, 1979 the "new entry" addition was dedicated. Through the

years, many improvements to the furnace and heating system have been made. The most recent of these, is the conversion to total electric heat of the nave and dining hall in 1980.

The congregation is proud to have had sons of the congregation enter the ministry. The following pastors have been members of Our Saviors during their youth: Richard Baglien, ordained in 1951; Elmo Anderson, ordained in 1959 and Roger Rotvold ordained in 1980. Ervin Ydstie, a member of St. Olaf Lutheran Church was ordained at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in 1951.

Due to the efforts of the 700 Missionary group, the congregation supports the work of Pastor and Mrs. Viesturs Pavašars who are Missionaries in Columbia, South America.

The congregation is involved with the Internship Program from Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa. We have been associated with them for the past four years. Interns serving our congregation have been: Mike Grabenstein, Terry Cosier, Doug Mathison, and Debra Collier. Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota provided us with the following Interns in the sixties: W. Jennings Mergenthal, Arthur Hoium, and James Erickson.

Music plays a big part in the Worship Service at Our Saviors Lutheran Church. We have an active senior choir, a junior choir, and a young peoples group called, The Seekers, all of which add much enjoyment to our services. The Annual Christmas Concert is attended and enjoyed by the entire community.

The local Nursing Home enjoys the monthly programs that the ALCW has for them and they very much appreciate the weekly church services and communion services that the pastor and intern provide for them. We are proud of the opportunity to





"... Even when steeples are falling."

have a Worship Service broadcast on KMAV Radio Station each Sunday morning.

Current church officers are as follows: Harlum Ydstie, President; Gerald Boeddeker, Vice President; Violet Grove, Treasurer; Elaine Beyer, Secretary; Morris Larson, Peter Lovas, Vernon Olsen, Truman Swendsied, and Reed Qualey, Trustees; John Knutson, Bryan Dahlstrom, Kathy Larson, and Mayo Hanson, Deacons.

Before bringing this brief history of Our Saviors Lutheran Church to a close, something should be said about its organizations. Most active of the organizations is the Ladies Aid. A brief history of the Ladies Aid will appear following this article. As previously mentioned, the Ladies Aid has contributed in large measure to the development of the congregation and its facilities. The Ladies Aid consists of eight individual circles. Circles meet each month for Bible Studies and also serve the congregation in many ways.

At the center of the congregations Christian Education Program is the Sunday School and Confirmation classes. Mrs. Samson Lier, nee Serine Forde, was instrumental in helping to organize the Sunday School and served as Supt. of Sunday School for many years. The congregation is aware of the impor-

tance of the Sunday School to the life and growth of the church and is grateful to all who contribute time, talent, and means to this indispensable department of the church.

The Senior Luther League dates back to the early years of the congregation. The Junior League was organized in 1942. The aim of the leagues is: "To win and to hold young people for Christ." In 1934, the Luther League raised sufficient funds to purchase a Pipe Organ for the church.

Through the many years since its beginnings, the members of Our Saviors Lutheran Church have been keenly aware of God's presence and blessing. The congregation has ever sought to be true to its two-fold commission: "To seek and save the lost, to feed, and tend the flock." Through these many years the work of God has been taught in truth and purity. Eternity alone will reveal the full fruits gathered from the efforts of this Christian Congregation which has so faithfully, under God, served the cause of Jesus Christ and His Kingdom.



Our Savior's Lutheran Church in the thirties.



Our Savior's Ladies Aid: (L to R) Hannah (John) Ludwig, Bertha Lindgren, Hannah (Harry) Ludwig, Emma Peterson, Wilma Peterson, Karen Lilleberg, Alice Olson, and Alice Lindgren. Circa 1945.



1932 Confirmation Class

Front row left to right: Ellen Eidem, Agnes Hanson, Orell Anderson, Hazel Hagen, Rev. Alexander T. Tjornhom, Clara Haugan, Pearl Foss, June Larson, Eleanor Thompson. Second row: Orrel Olson, Borghild Rotvold, Ellen Rotvold, Julia Haugan, Frances Ludwig, Helen Lindgren, Doris Tronson, Elsie Spenser. Third row: Ella Elton, Lorraine Dunlevy, Natalia Tjornhom, Winifred Peterson, Merle Klette, Lois Helgoe, Verna Jahr. Fourth row: Burton Graalum, Olaf Lokken, Orlin Ydstie, Lloyd Mergenthal, Sigurd Hanson, Orville Overmoe, Milton Viker. Fifth row: Wallace Olson, Wallace Engel, Lowell Melsby, Raymond Engebretson, Paul Ydstie, Omer Rudrud, Tifford Aasen.

## HISTORY OF THE ALCW OF OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The ALCW (American Lutheran Church Women) of Our Savior's Lutheran Church had its beginning when the Immanuel Lutheran Church (Old Norwegian Synod) and the Hillsboro Evangelical Lutheran Church of the United Lutheran Church merged on June 25, 1917, to form Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

The Ladies Aid auxiliary was organized on July 17, 1917 when the officers of each of the above organizations tendered their resignations, and new officers were elected. They were: President, Mrs. Theodore Jahr; Vice President, Mrs. John Hanson; Secretary, Mrs. Hilbert O. Lee; Treasurer, Mrs. Herman Stai.

These officers, together with the following women constituted the charter members of the organization. Mesdames, Ole Baglien, Nels Evenson, W.O. Christianson, Robert Evans, O. Aastad, J.T. Kiland, A.J. Osmon, Andrew Swenson, John Lilleflore, A.L. Halverson, Carl Rosted, J.H. Olson, Henry Olson, Ole Ydstie, Anna Halverson, J. Haugland, Ole Rudrud, Christ Arneson, R.M. Hjermsstad, L.O. Rudrud, Arnt Thomson, Christ Hagen, A. Skogen, J.N. Nelson, Oluf Skogen, J.M. Hanson, S.K. Swenson, E.A. Viker, Roy V.

Hanson, A. Engebretson, Ed. Larson, Ed. Arnegard, Gilbert Strand, John Forde, T. Overmoe, A. Olmo, Simon Anderson, Otto Skogen, J. Molstad, Ole Elton, Christ Elton, P. Haaland, L. Helgo, J. Bagstad, H. Klette, W.C. Henning, E.J. Vang, J. Lilleberg, A. Sorum, Stina Hovet, G. Kolstad, Matt Olson, Julius Overmoe, P. Rudrud, L.E. Melsby, E. Fingarson, E. Haugen, Hilmer Hanson, Christ Hanson, Martin Pederson, L. Thorsrud, O.I. Hanson, W.C. Mergenthal, Ole Engebretson, Thos. Forde, E. Hagen, Anna Myren, Oluf Sorum, Nels Leras, G.D. Olson, Christ Krohn, John Hong, Julius Larson, Lars Anderson, Karen Olson, John Johnson, H.F. Swalstad, Lars Bakkum.

A very unfortunate fire on Sunday, January 13, 1924, destroyed the church and with it most of the early records of the church together with all the Ladies Aid equipment. (We do have a Treasurer's Book with reports from 1892 to 1929.) This was a hard blow, as the church structure had just been completely remodeled at an expense of thousands of dollars.

By December, 1928, a new superstructure had been completed. Records state the Ladies Aid had a membership of 130. The meetings were held on alternate Thursday afternoons. The Pastor almost always had the Devotions. At first, they were in Norwegian, then in both Norwegian and English. January 3, 1930, Rev. Tjornhom announced that he would continue

having a short devotion in Norwegian at 2:30 p.m. and in English at 3 p.m. By 1938 the English language was mainly used. The Ladies Aid meeting was followed by a lunch and supper beginning at 5 p.m. They charged 25¢ for these suppers.

The Ladies Aid took part in the activities of our Synod and contributed to its charities, Christian education and missions, as well as local needs of the church and community. The proceeds from one meeting each year was set aside especially for missions.

Two food sales were held annually, one before Easter and one before Christmas. Also a Rommegrot supper was held in the spring each year. Two suppers (lutefisk, first evening and chicken, the second) and a bazaar with a dinner the third day, were held each fall! Proceeds for the year ranged from \$1500 to over \$3000.

On October 15, 1931 a motion made and carried to charge 50¢ for adults and 25¢ for children under 12 for these suppers. Somewhere along the line, the price had been raised because on Oct. 16, 1941 the price for the lutefisk supper was changed from 60¢ to 50¢ per adult. That year lutefisk was 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ a pound and hamburger 25¢ a pound.

The Ladies Aid also served for functions outside the church. On November 13, 1941 they voted to serve the Football Banquet; the Civic Club guaranteed 100 plates at 65¢ a plate. They cleared \$57.01.

Until 1933, the organist had been paid by the Ladies Aid. In 1929, Mildred Harstad received \$72 for playing. On April 13, 1933 it was voted that the Trustees of the church hire the organist.

On December 7, 1941 Rev. and Mrs. C.F. Savereide, together with their three children arrived in Hillsboro. Both Pastor Savereide and Vera gave unselfishly of their time and leadership to the Ladies Aid until his resignation in 1976.

Oct. 8, 1942 it was decided to discontinue the fall suppers and have each member give a donation instead of serving the suppers. This seemed to work out well. Fall supper donations in 1943 were \$520.95. By comparison, the total amount cleared Nov. 14, 1940 for the two suppers and dinner, fancy work, candy, etc. was \$517.36.

As the Ladies Aid membership grew, the members were divided into Circles, mostly as serving groups it seems. In 1935 there were 19 Circles with 7 members in each.

On January 22, 1942 Pastor Savereide proposed a plan to have the Ladies Aid membership divided into six Circles, with each Circle having its own officers. The members voted to adopt this plan. The Circles planned to meet in members' homes and were to serve only two things for lunch. Each member was to pay 15¢ per meeting. A Bible study was given by Pastor Savereide at each Circle meeting. At this time the Ladies Aid meetings were held once a month with devotions usually by the pastor, a program of interest (Cause of the Month), a business meeting and lunch.

The number of Circles varied over the years from 6 to 4 to 10 to 8. An evening Circle for women who worked and young mothers was added in 1955. Also, since 1975, there has been a morning Circle for those who prefer that time.

A church library was begun in 1959 through the efforts of Mrs. Miles Tate, Mrs. Cliff Hanson, Mrs. Herman Holzkam and Mrs. Ann Henning. The Ladies Aid contributes annually

toward good books for the library and many fine books have been donated or given in memory of loved ones.

1960 marked an important milestone in the Church as it was the year of the great merger and formation of the American Lutheran Church (ALC). The churches that united were the ELC, the ALC and the UELC. The Lutheran Free Church joined in 1962. So as of January 1, 1961, the ladies' auxiliary of our church is known as the ALCW — American Lutheran Church Women.

Article II of the Constitution follows: Purpose: As a member of the Mayville Conference of the Eastern N.D. District of the ALCW, it shall be the purpose of this auxiliary to KNOW and to DO the will of our Lord Jesus Christ by:

1. Inspiring in the member a deeper consecration to our Savior.
2. Developing stewardship of time, talent and treasures.
3. Disseminating knowledge of the program of the Church of Jesus Christ and particularly of the American Lutheran Church.
4. Spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the world.

The ALCW has attempted to carry out these aims through the programs of the general monthly meeting of the ALCW and through the Circles. A Circle is responsible for the ALCW program each month which consists of devotions by members, a program that emphasizes some aspect of the Church, social concerns, stewardship, worship, seasonal topics, missions, etc. We often use materials and skits prepared by the ALCW headquarters in Minneapolis. Sometimes we have guest speakers.

The ALCW performs many services too, either through the ALCW or Circles. We serve at weddings, funerals, fellowship dinners, banquets, assist with anniversaries, S.S. Rally Sunday, host conventions, provide equipment and furnishings for the dining room, kitchen, lounge or wherever needed in the church. We gather used clothing for Lutheran World Relief, and have sent layettes, Kiddie Kits, childrens' garments, soap and a great number of quilts and blankets to needy people overseas.

Circles provide music for Friday afternoon services at the nursing home, visit the nursing home each month and provide altar flowers for Sunday worship.

Each month, except in November, we send 40% of our offerings to the ALC headquarters in Minneapolis. In November we send our entire Thankoffering to the ALC. We also support Concordia College, Oak Grove High School, Lutheran Social Services, American Bible Society, Red Willow Bible Camp, several missions, as well as the Community Hospital and Nursing Home and other charities.

Since 1973, members have been asked to donate \$10 or what they are able instead of serving a big fall supper. However, we do have a fall Bazaar with baked goods, produce, craft items, fancy work, quilts, etc. We serve a light meal (soup, salad, sandwiches, dessert) in conjunction with the Bazaar. The net profit in 1979 was \$2886.84.

Pastor Jim Hanson and his wife, Kari Jo, and family (Tim, Karis and Julie) arrived in February, 1977. They have both been most helpful to our members and officers. We appreciate their enthusiasm and leadership. Each month Pastor meets with the Bible Study leaders (volunteers who lead the study in each



Circle) and helps them prepare the lesson from *Scope*, the official magazine of the ALCW.

Over the years we have grown in our knowledge of the Word through studies in Acts, Hebrews, Exodus, Luke, Peter, the Catechism, Ephesians, Revelation, "Shalom," Romans and many others.

In 1977 our kitchen was completely remodeled and modernized. We now have a stainless steel garbage disposal and dishwasher, new cupboards, stove and refrigerators, new flooring, lights and other equipment. The cost was about \$33,000 which has been reduced to \$9500 as of October, 1980.

The ALCW Officers for 1980-81 are: President - Mrs. Peter Lovaas; 1st Vice President - Mrs. Lester Satrom; 2nd Vice President - Mrs. Glenn Holland; 3rd Vice President - Mrs. Gerald Boeddeker; 4th Vice President - Mrs. Vern Messner; Secretary - Mrs. Joe Anderson; Treasurer - Mrs. Art Magnuson; Stewardship Secretary - Mrs. Vern Johnson; Education Secretary - Mrs. Jeannette Overmoe.

## ST. ROSE OF LIMA CATHOLIC CHURCH



St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church built in 1979 showing rectory, bell tower, and church.

The early catholics of Hillsboro had a "Station" status from about 1884 until 1893; meaning they had visiting priests who celebrated mass in someone's home rather than a formal church. This area was under the care of Bishop Martin Marty of Yankton, South Dakota from 1879 to 1889. Bishop Marty came to Grand Forks to dedicate a church in 1883. Hillsboro was visited by Father Lorenz Spitzenberger of St. Joseph's, Moorhead; Father Sylvester Maddock of St. Mary's, Fargo; Father Charles Metzgar of St. Michaels, Grand Forks. In 1887 Father Edward J. Conaty of St. Michaels became quite regular with visits to Hillsboro and other close by towns. He would have mass at the home of John Carmody in Hillsboro on a weekday about twice per month.

In 1891 the catholics of Hillsboro purchased two lots from Albert Potterud and one lot from John Carmody in the northeast corner of block 3 of Hillsboro's original townsite, that same year a foundation for a new church was laid by a Mr. Rinnert. In 1892 a wood frame church seating about 100 people was built by Matt Rudrud for approximately \$3000. This church was dedicated by Bishop John Shanley of Fargo in

1893. This church was put under the patronage of St. Rose of Lima of Peru; thus the parish takes its name as St. Rose of Lima's Catholic Church of Hillsboro. St. Rose of Lima's parish was officially organized in 1895 with Bishop John Shanley of Fargo, Rev. Thomas Egan of Jamestown, Rev. Edward J. Conaty of Grand Forks, Mr. John Carmody of Hillsboro and Mr. James Burke of Blanchard as incorporators. Although St. Rose of Lima had been functioning as a parish since 1891 or 1892, a state law made it necessary to incorporate in 1895.

St. Rose of Lima's parish was now considered a "mission" since it had a church but not a resident pastor. From 1895 until 1915 the church was served by priests from Reynolds, North Dakota. These priests were Rev. Benno Kauer, Rev. Bernard Fresenborg, Rev. Edward Geraghty, Rev. Stephen Landholt, and Rev. John Koelman. Father Koelman became the first resident pastor of St. Rose of Lima in 1915; after having supervised the building of a new and much larger church in 1914 and a rectory in 1915 in Hillsboro.

Some of the very early catholic residents in Hillsboro and surrounding area were: Michael Murphy, Anne Pendergast, Mr. & Mrs. John Carmody, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Gleason, Joseph Kennedy, Mrs. Heger, the Hadler family, Mrs. George Weston, Mike Sheridans, Michael Flahertys, Edward Flahertys, Matthew Rachacs, Edward Burke, James Burke, Williams Brothers, Thomas McCoys, John McNamees, James McNamees, Michael McNamees and Mrs. Charles Peterson.

Around the turn of the century and up to the 1920's other catholic families coming to Hillsboro were: Andrew Nicklawskys, Alexander Mullers, George Vettels, James Mooneys, Jacob Pulskamp, Murray Brothers, P.J. Casserlys, Tom Jordan, Henry McDonalds, Frank Kritzbengers, John Kritzbengers, Frank Witte, the Fortman families, Joseph Boeddaker, Frank Boeddakers, M.J. Kingman, Tom Powers, Joseph Kelly, James McGunn, Ted Early, James Brady, George Henn, Joseph Beitz, J.J. O'Gorman, Frank Hemkerger, Jack Waters, Matt Klountz, Les Zerk, Andrew Schreiner, John Peter Kneip, James Staska, George Gerck, J.P. Hanrahan, Frank Fritz, Joseph Ballard, Henry Bohm, Frank Eblen, Henry Schafer, John Taylor, Matt Corrigan, George Schell, M.M. Fitzgerald, Frank Cerka, Frank Egan, B.P. Weir, Fred Downs, Theodore Rohman, Matt Mueller, August Mueller, John Kozojed Sr. and Ackermans.

Many of these names have disappeared from the community and many others are represented to the 4th and 5th generation.

The large influx of catholics from Iowa, Minnesota, Illinois and Wisconsin in the early 1900's prompted the parish to build a larger church which was the 1914 church built of block and wood construction. Mr. V.P. McCoy of Fargo was the general contractor for this church. This church was sufficient until in 1941 a new foundation was put under the building and a new front was added which increased the size of the church by one-third of its original size.

St. Rose of Lima has been fortunate from its beginning to have pastors who were men of God to foster and promote the spiritual character of our church members. To this guidance we attribute our ability to grow as a parish and to build a new church.



**The First St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church built in 1892 in Hillsboro, North Dakota.**

Fr. Fay was assigned to St. Rose in 1938 staying until 1945. During his tenure the 1914 church was remodeled by pouring a new foundation and increasing the length of the church with a new vestibule facing east. This addition increased the seating capacity to approximately 250 people.

Fr. Ludwig came to St. Rose in 1961 from Geneseo, N.D. He was very concerned about the religious education of the children and using the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine program organized a parochial school system. Towards that end the parish built a new Catechetical Center in 1964 designed with classrooms, social hall and kitchen to serve the needs of teaching and other parish uses. This site was furnished by a generous member of the parish.

Fr. Binder arrived in Hillsboro in 1969 from Selz, N.D. His most immediate concern other than being our "pastoral Father" was to erase a debt which the parish had incurred by building the center. Equally concerning was the deteriorating condition of the rectory and to some extent the church itself. By systematic parish support, the debt has been erased. In 1977 Fr. Binder and the parish council started planning for a new church and rectory. From generous bequests, children's collections, and parish pledges, a building fund was accumulated sufficient to allow a building program. The proper committees were formed and after several parish presentations by the Finance and Building Committees, a decision to build was made. Ground-breaking ceremonies took place on July 9, 1978. The new church was sufficiently closed in to allow winter work and the new cornerstone was inserted on June 3, 1979, with Bishop Driscoll officiating. The cornerstone was donated by the Wildeman Funeral Home of Hillsboro. The old church was sold as of July 20, 1979, and mass was celebrated in the social hall at the center for the next six weeks.

The first masses in this new church were celebrated the weekend of September 2, 1979, which was fourteen months from groundbreaking, but only a little over one year from the time work was actually begun.

This new church has seating capacity for approximately 250 worshippers with expansion room for 100 more. The pews

and the altar furniture including large cross are of solid oak manufactured in North Dakota. The corpus mounted on the cross is from the old church. The chapel is furnished and decorated with equipment from the old church to preserve some of the sentiments that may be attached to that age. The new church is adjoined to the pre-existing center to make dual use of certain facilities present there. The massive laminated ceiling beams were manufactured in Canada, and the brick is from Hebron, N.D. The rectory was built by Thompson Construction Company of Hillsboro. This church is electrically heated and well insulated. We have taken every consideration possible to build a church that is suited to the conditions of a northern climate, and what we feel is a religious atmosphere in which to worship to the honor and glory of God.

The ladies of the parish have been the "heart of the church" since the beginning. They were the early catechism teachers and choir members, and they served bazaar dinners and sustained the altar society, and yes, gave birth to the children that keep the parish growing. The ladies at the present time function as a group called the Christian Mothers of St. Rose of Lima.

The present officers of St. Rose of Lima Christian Mothers are: President Margaret Mooney, Vice President Betty Vettel, Secretary Rose Boeddeker, and Treasurer Elizabeth Kritzberger. The Group Leaders are: Chairwoman Dorothy Bittner of Hillsboro (St. Anne), Chairwoman Maxine Muller of Kelso (St. Elizabeth), Chairwoman Beverly Mooney of Caledonia (St. Rose), and Co-Chairwomen Pat Kozojed and LaVonne Kozojed of Cummings (St. Cecelia).

Church officers for 1980 are: St. Rose of Lima Church Council: Father Binder - Executive Office, Bill Schumacher - Trustee, Dick Georgison - Trustee, Betty Vettel - Christian Mothers President, Howard Cotton - President, Dallas Boeddeker - Vice President - Finance, Margaret Preston - Charity, Anne McLean - Liturgy and Music, Dr. Don Breen - Pro-Life, David Eblen - Stewardship, Francis Kritzberger - Vocations and Youth, Bernard Beach - Adult Education, Ron Deck, - Confraternity of Christian Doctrine - Assistant, Douglas Abentroth - Finance Chairman, Edward Baumgartner - Finance Secretary, Jim Kozojed - Finance, and 1981 additions are David Eblen - Trustee, Winston Marsden - Trustee, Rudy Reinbold - Member, and Richard Mueller - Member.



**The second St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Hillsboro, North Dakota built in 1914 and the Catholic rectory built in 1915.**

Pastors of St. Rose of Lima and their years of service are: The Reverends John Koelman 1915-1922, John Garland 1921-1938, Charles Fay 1938-1945, Ulric Proeller 1945-1951, August Bogdanski 1951, Joseph Dennert 1952, Frank Hannaher 1953-1961, Roman Ludwig 1961-1969, and Julius Binder 1961 to present.

## THE WOMEN OF ST. ROSE OF LIMA CATHOLIC CHURCH



Altar of St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church

It has been said that history begins in the heart of a man or a woman. Records show that the first Catholic woman in Hillsboro was a Mrs. Anderson, wife of a pioneer Hillsboro business man. They had two daughters. Mrs. Anderson opened her home for the first Mass that was said in Hillsboro.

However, the history of the first Catholic Ladies group of record began in the heart of Mrs. John Carmody, when Mrs. Carmody and her husband, an attorney who later became a North Dakota Supreme Court Judge, established a home in Hillsboro.

The Catholic Church in Hillsboro was built in 1895 but there was Catholic activity in Hillsboro before that time. The Carmody's opened their home for the first masses said by Rev. Fr. Conaty of Grand Forks which were said irregularly, usually on week days. The ladies were delegated to perform many duties. They would meet the priest at the depot, drive him by horse and buggy to visit the sick, usually in the country. The ladies would provide food and return the priest to the depot for the trip back to Grand Forks after Mass was read.

The building of the church brought many new members from the Kelso, Cummings, Blanchard and Caledonia areas. During the summer months the opening of the church fell to the ladies since Mass was on work days and the men folk were busy. As the swallows were returning to Capistrano, in the Hillsboro church the pigeons were nesting in the Steeple of the church. A shoveling team was needed to prepare the entry of the church. Emotions were high but the birds of peace were not molested and the cooing of the birds as one entered the church brought joy to many a weary heart. The birds returned year after year and because the church was cared for more regularly, the problem was under control.

Mrs. Carmody met with the ladies in a prayer service followed by a meeting of fellowship. Gradually Ladies Aid meetings were held in the homes and bake sales and lunches were given. Yearly, bazaars were held lasting three days. Merchants would donate various commodities and the bazaar would end with an auction sale. All towns-people would look forward to these events as entertainment and supported them just as Catholics participated in the activities of other Churches.

Because the congregation had outgrown the small church on the corner of the lot, the second church and rectory was built in 1914. A resident priest was assigned to Hillsboro with Mayville as a Mission. Again the ladies were given more opportunities to serve the parish.

During summer depression days the ladies served Sunday dinners in Woodland Park — A complete beef roast dinner for 50 cents. The meat and other staples were donated. Money was scarce and this gave many an opportunity to donate to the church by giving food stuffs they could not sell because of the depression.

After World War II, a local priest sponsored a group of displaced persons from Europe. They were housed in the rectory until work and homes were found. This was a large undertaking but the ladies assisted the priest by providing clothing, food, and friendly associations. One Ladies Group provided a splendid wedding for two who wanted to marry by providing a wedding dress and suit, flowers (garden) and a delightful wedding breakfast. Yes, even snap shots for the home folks were made. All of these people eventually left this area.

The building of the Catholic Center gave the ladies, now known as Christian Mothers, an additional opportunity to serve. The new building contains a large hall and a modern kitchen making ample room to serve banquets, weddings, breakfasts, funeral groups, and youth groups.

Over the years the ladies have been a valuable part of the church life — serving as teachers, choir members and organists. They sponsored bridal showers and funeral lunches and house cleaning of the rectory.

Christian Mothers have responded to community needs, individually and in groups, by furnishing a room in the Community Hospital sponsoring annual Valentines parties for the nursing home, providing gifts of food for the needy and taking part in various community groups.

The Christian Mothers who sanded and stained the wood-work in the new Church and rectory typifies the works of Love the Ladies gave throughout the years and gathers them to God on the tide of His own infinite mercy.

— Stella Kelly

## ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

In April, 1879, the family of John Bohnsack from Mecklenburg, Germany, homesteaded on the south bank of the Elm River about ten miles west of the Red River in what is now Bohnsack Township in Traill County. In the years immediately following, more families of German descent moved into this territory. Into this small settlement of Lutherans, Missionary Engel of Ada, Minnesota, came in 1881 to minister temporarily to their spiritual needs.

In 1882 this group of pioneers, consisting of six families, joined with Immanuel congregation on the Goose River in





**St. John Lutheran Church  
Hillsboro, North Dakota**

extending the call to Candidate J. Frick, who served as Pastor of the two groups until 1885, when he was forced to resign because of ill health.

For about a year these two groups were without a resident Pastor, until in the fall of 1886, Rev. E. Stroelin, then in the state of Kansas, accepted a call here. Under his leadership St. John congregation of Bohnsack Township was organized, and a constitution adopted which was signed by nine charter members including Charles Bohnsack, formerly of Grace Lutheran Church of Fargo.

In 1888 Pastor Stoelin accepted a call into Minnesota and the parish again extended a call for a graduating candidate to Rev. G. Potratz of Concordia Seminary, Springfield, Ill.

Pastor Potratz served this parish faithfully for fourteen years. It was during these years that both congregations were accepted officially into membership of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Both congregations showed a healthy growth and soon the school houses in which services had been held proved inadequate, and each congregation erected its own church building, Immanuel on the property of the Goose River near the parsonage and St. John on a corner of the Bohnsack homestead near the Elm River. Both churches were erected and dedicated in 1890.

After the death of Pastor Potratz in October, 1902, the two congregations were served as a parish by the following pastors: 1903-1908 Rev. G. Sebald; 1908-1911 Rev. C.H. Burmester; 1911-1912 Candidate E. Riess; 1912-1918 Rev. W.C. Hitzemann; 1918-1920 Rev. F.H. Rotermund; 1920-1924 Rev. P.T. Schuman; 1925-1929 Rev. M.T. Hank.

On November 7, 1929, Pastor R.T. Schuricht, formerly of New Salem, N.D. was inducted into office as Pastor of the two congregations of this parish.

At this time German and English services were conducted in both congregations on alternate Sundays, but in January of the following year, a schedule of double services on each Sunday in each congregation was inaugurated.

On Thanksgiving Day, November 27, 1930, joint services of St. John and Immanuel congregations were conducted in German and English at the armory in Hillsboro. This arrangement was continued on an experimental basis until in April, 1935, plans were completed to relocate St. John Church in the

City of Hillsboro. In July of that year preliminary steps were taken to purchase a church home from the Lutheran Free Church. Negotiations were completed the following year and on October 4, 1936, the newly acquired church was dedicated and the 50th anniversary of the congregation was celebrated.

From 1936 to 1947 Immanuel congregation continued as a separate congregation served successively by Pastors P. Blucher, and T.N. Teigen. After Pastor Teigen accepted a call to South Dakota the congregation disbanded and its membership joined St. John Lutheran Church in Hillsboro.

After renting a parsonage for a number of years, St. John congregation in 1940 purchased a parsonage — the former A.G. Foogman home.

Pastor Schuricht retired in 1962 and Pastor Biberdorf of Victor, Iowa, accepted the call to our parish later that year. He was the first pastor to occupy the present parsonage at 322 Third Avenue S.E. Pastor Biberdorf passed away in 1969. His wife, Helen, and their children, Richard, David, and Nancy still make their home in our city.



**St. John Lutheran Church Altar**

Pastor Steenbach of Bottineau was called and served until 1975. During his pastorate a new house of worship was built and was dedicated in 1973. Pastor Steenbock accepted a call to Coos Bay, Oregon and our present pastor, Rev. Terrill Bramstad assumed the pastoral care of the parish.

The education program of St. John Church includes a cradle roll department, eight grades of Sunday School and vacation Bible school, two years of confirmation instruction, and a junior Bible class.

Organizations of St. John are: The Lutheran Youth Fellowship, The Christian Fellowship Club, The Lutheran Women's Missionary League, affiliated with the national organization of the same name sponsoring a specialized program of worldwide missions.

St. John Congregation is a charter member of the Dakota Boy's Ranch Association, and of the Hillsboro Community Hospital Association.

The present membership of St. John congregation is 342.

## ST. JOHN LWML

The forerunner of St. John LWML, St. John Women's Missionary Endeavor was organized Oct. 7, 1937. A constitution was adopted and the following were the first officers: Mrs. Henry E. Meyer, President; Mrs. John Tonn, Secretary and Mrs. Charles Hausman, Treasurer.

St. John's Endeavor was among the groups in N.D. which helped to organize the N.D. District Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) in January, 1944. Their purpose was threefold: Missionary Education, Missionary Inspiration and Missionary Service and these remain the objectives of the League in 1980.

In the beginning St. John Endeavor was divided into four groups. The groups met separately in the homes of members for two months. The third meeting of each quarter involved all groups; a unit meeting. All members were given Mite boxes, and voluntary offerings were brought to each meeting. Early projects included sewing for the Red Cross, donations to Lutheran Child Welfare, medical kits for relief work, beautifying the church parlors and supplying kitchen utensils, caring for altar linens and arranging for altar flowers at all services.

Present day activities are similar, and along with those mentioned above they also include helping with devotions weekly at the Nursing Home, sponsoring birthday parties at the Home and helping to supply furnishings there. Also devotional booklets and materials are supplied for all members of the congregation. The LWML ministers to sick and shut-ins by means of cards and calls, takes care of culinary arrangements for conventions, rallies, mission festivals and other church functions.

Officers of St. John LWML at the present time are: Mrs. Walter Schlichtmann, President, Mrs. Terrill Bramstedt, Secretary and Mrs. Eugene Oelrich, Treasurer.

## WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH Hillsboro, N. Dak.



Wesley United Methodist Church

Pioneers who came from neighboring states to the Red River Valley and settled in log houses in 1871 were the founders of the Wesley Methodist Church. This was the first church in Hillsboro which lasted through the years. The following names are listed: Anders Johnson, Ole Varnson, Olaf

Sweberg, Z.L. Munter, O.O. Hovde, Peder Pederson, Julius Manger, and Isaac Wilson. The group was led by Jonas Ostland who worked as a missionary in a circuit of four to six places. He became a local deacon. In the fall of 1881 the Presiding Elder from St. Paul, Minn. came here and organized a group of twelve members and eight trial members. A local pastor was stationed here by the Methodist Church with services being held in the prairie homes and later in a hall over the livery barn. Five trustees were elected on Jan. 11, 1882. These men decided to build a church, letting the contract to a member for \$525. Other accomplishments that year were the building of a parsonage and the organizing of a ladies' group, and a Sunday School. In 1890 an Epworth League (youth group) was formed. In June each year camp meetings were held along the banks of the Goose river. In 1884 Garret Theological Seminary at Evanston, Illinois received from the Hillsboro church by subscription \$2000. This was the first contribution made to the school and the largest from one place. Later Rev. J.A. Jacobson, one of the first graduates of this school became a pastor in the Hillsboro Church.

In 1898 the building was enlarged, and since that time it has been well maintained. A new indoor entry and stairway were added in 1965. Other improvements include a new sanctuary floor, church and parsonage furnaces, kitchen cupboards, indoor plumbing, refrigeration, carpeting and air conditioning as well as new altar furnishings, piano, and electric organ being purchased. Figures of finance that prove interesting are in the insurance policy of 1910 which states that the property of church, contents, parsonage, barn and sheds of First Norwegian Methodist Episcopal church of Hillsboro was insured to the amount of \$2500 with annual premium of \$14.45. A permit to use electric lights is attached. In 1933-34 the annual meeting states the property as valued at \$7000 for the church building and \$3000 for the parsonage.

Rotation of leadership was a policy of the Methodist Conference, thus many pastors have served our church. Families of our congregation have provided four persons to full-time christian service, all of whom did not remain in this denomination. They are pastor's wives Thelma Klemetson, and Helen Stenberg; missionary, Eva Hewitt; and pastor, Stanley Anderson.

There was a long time in our history when elaborate Sunday School Christmas programs were presented. Individual pieces were given by memory, lots of singing was done and the Christmas Story reading from the book of Luke was an honor bestowed on some older child. The pageantry was exciting with costumes for angels, wise men and the like taking hours of time to make. Practice would be after school and Saturday afternoons during the month of December. It was all fun and instructive for the children and the full-church audience who came to enjoy it. The traditional "bag of candy" is still given out at our programs.

From the materials and writings available our church has always been a vital part of the lives of its members. In the winter when morning and evening services were held, the family would stay at church all day, and if a storm came up, the family would spend the night at church.

The Ladies Aid has ever been an industrious, active group. In the early years fall suppers lasted several days with the men helping with the heavier kettles, coffee pots, and dishes that

were necessary to serve such a large crowd. In summer folks looked forward to ice cream socials on the parsonage lawn or at one of the farm homes. Ladies from town would sometimes encounter muddy roads when they attended Aid meetings in the country during summer. After the lesson had been given quilt pieces were worked on. In winter quilting frames would go up in someone's living room and all would gather there to quilt and visit. An interesting menu listed for the October supper in 1935 was mock turkey legs, mashed potatoes, escalloped corn, apple and cabbage salads, cranberries, pickles, lefse, white and dark bread, Lady Baltimore cake, and coffee. The charge was 35¢ to adults and 20¢ to children. In spite of cold snowy weather the proceeds amounted to \$60.55. In the late forties the Womens Society of Christian Service was formed. This meeting has always been held in the church with emphasis being placed on lessons from the Bible and the various global concerns of the church. This group has sponsored many things: Golden Circle awards, youth camping experiences, fellowship dinners, concerts, bridal showers, etc. They also do much in local and foreign missions. All this has been made possible by such fund raisers as meatball dinners, stew dinners, craft days for bazaar, and the like.

The youth groups have been a source of pleasure to many over the years. During the 1930s when families were larger and transportation less available the members recall having so much fun attending campfires along the Goose river on a summer evening or skiing Kingman Hill many a Saturday afternoon in winter. Later years have brought roller skating parties, swimming parties, Christmas carolings, and outings to Wesley Acres camp near Jamestown, N. Dak. Vacation Bible school along with regular Sunday School attendance taught the children well.

In 1944 the Methodist church at Caledonia, N. Dak. dissolved and joined our church, enlarging the membership considerably both in numbers and in active leadership participation.

A pleasant evening for the ladies for a number of years was the Sweetheart dinner put on in February by the mens group. The mens group has been very responsible for the care of our property, and have sponsored some interesting evenings of speakers and films. God's Acre plan was begun in 1952. Farmer members agreed to set aside a given number of acres to donate to church finances and building. A fellowship dinner was held and this has continued to be an annual event. The first one in 1952 brought in a total of \$2300 above the regular giving to the yearly budget.

We have been a congregation that likes to sing. In the early years while waiting for the pastor to come from his other charge, the parishioners would take their hymn books and spend the time singing. This proved very inspirational to them. Through the years childrens, youth and adult choirs have been maintained whenever a group could be put together. On Easter 1961 we presented a lovely cantata with only eight singers, a director and pianist. Solos, duets, and quartets have contributed much to our service of worship, as have the chimes which have been our most recent addition to our sanctuary.

We have been a church in mission through the years, supporting both home and foreign missions as well as maintaining our own needs. We have been a blessed church. Blessed by founding fathers of intellect, imagination, and faith. We have

been blessed by the land and it's bounties provided to us. We are blessed when familiar faces return to visit during their summer vacations, and blessed when old members and new members join in harmony to work on whatever project needs doing at the time. We have been blessed by consecrated pastors, and participating lay people. Now part of the Hillsboro United Parish, the Wesley United Methodist Church continues to thrive and grow and to work in cooperation with the members of the Congregational United Church of Christ for a very successful Hillsboro United Parish.

## FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



First Congregational Church

Several histories of the Congregational Church have been written and are recorded for various celebrations throughout the years. The latest being written in 1967 for our 75th anniversary. Now, having united with the Methodist Church of Hillsboro and having built a new church together we take a bit of recorded history and add to — bringing us to this present day.

The organizational meeting of the Congregational Church was held in the Methodist Church of Hillsboro in 1891. Rev. Geo. Curtis of Mayville seemed instrumental in organizing this church. The roll call of charter members are — S.W. Shields, Mrs. E.F. Shields, C.E. Leslie, Mrs. M.J. Leslie, E.M. Pierce, Mrs. E.M. Pierce, Oliver P. Clark, Mrs. O.P. Clark, Miss Ines Millard, Mrs. Asa Sargent, Miss Vie Sargent, A.L. Plummer,



Mrs. A.L. Plummer, Mrs. L.J. Anderson, Mrs. H.L. Lien, Mrs. Della Hyde, Miss Flonnie Banister and Miss Alice Banister. The minister's salary was set at \$800 a year. In 1894 the two year old Congregational Church building was rented to the Baptists for Sunday afternoon services for \$1.25. The Kelso and Hillsboro parishes shared a minister in 1895 and 1896. The Presbyterian and Congregational members joined together for evangelistic meetings in 1902. In 1904, a union was proposed between the Congregational and Presbyterian Churches but never materialized.

A pipe organ was purchased in 1905, some say from a Baptist Church in Fargo and others say from a theater in Fargo. This was a large organ, having over 600 pipes made of wood and pewter, 2 full keyboards, 16 ft. in height and manually pumped as late as the early 1950's. The congregation has always been proud of this organ. A member of the parish remembers his job when he was an assistant to the organist, doing the pumping to supply the air, the organist had to keep a probe which was used to keep the assistant awake! Another pride of the parish, were the beautiful stained glass windows.

A home was purchased for a parsonage in 1906 for \$1000. A terrible debt was shouldered with these two purchases — the organ and the home. Quoted from the 1908 business meeting we read — "debt on parsonage — \$600, debt on pipe organ — \$450, debt on fuel bill — \$75, monies owed to members who helped pay for organ — \$114." We paid our pastor during the year \$483. Records show that many times the pastor was short on his salary. The organ required tuning in 1917 at the cost of \$20.40. Association dues were 8¢ per member at one time.

Records show the men serving an oyster stew supper in 1934. A tradition still carried on and enjoyed today. The men's fellowship, starting in 1959, presented Bibles to all confirmands, flowers to Mothers on Mother's Day, serve a torsk dinner to entertain their wives, and have a very successful pancake supper every year.



**First Congregational Church**

The Hillsboro Congregational Church was proud to have George Robinson, a member, become ordained into the ministry in 1945.

Lenten services in 1948 were held jointly with the Methodists. The same year vacation Bible school was held jointly with the Methodists, the Nazarenes, the Presbyterian Church of Blanchard and the Congregational Church, with about 100 children attending.

In 1948 the Congregational Christian Church merged with the Evangelical and Reformed Churches, nationally to become the United Church of Christ. A mortgage of \$500 from 1892 was paid off in 1958. Numerous memorials gave us the communion table, baptismal font, brass candleholders and cross, which are being used in our new church and fellowship hall. We were a yoke church with the Mayville Congregational Church for approximately 16 years. The congregation added a new entrance to the church with double oak doors which are presently in our fellowship hall.

In March 1961, we adopted a constitution for the Hillsboro United Church of Christ. We removed the wainscoting and the window casings and replastered the interior of the church.

In the year of 1962, we had the possibility of sharing a minister with Gardner-Argusville.

On to the big year of 1963. We were a yoke church with Gardner. The old parsonage of 1906 was sold for \$5000. On June 28, the trustees purchased 1½ lots in Sarles Addition on which to build a new parsonage valued at \$25,000 — of which \$10,000 was borrowed, payable in 10 years. Fuel oil was 12½¢ per gallon at that time.

The amount of \$934 was collected for CROP. These monies were used to buy 3 carloads of pinto beans which were sent to Latin America. For Lenten services in 1964, we used a reciprocal program of trading pastors with other Congregational Churches. First mention of breakfast being served after Sunrise Services was in April of 1965. The annual meeting of 1966 shows the election of a new treasurer — the retiring treasurer, Mrs. John (Lurene) Henning, having served 12 years.



**Altar and organ of the First Congregational Church**

1967 brought about the 75th anniversary of the Congregational Church — "a really great day." The UCC hymnals, at times still being used, were given in memory of H.W. and Ruby Engel. At the annual meeting in 1968, a reorganizational and working agreement with the United Methodist Church was read. Rev. Keith Ferguson met with the trustees for the first time in December.

In 1970 a copy of the parsonage mortgage was burned at the annual meeting — it was paid for in seven years! It must be mentioned that the Womens Fellowship contributed greatly to paying off this mortgage. Many other financial burdens have been lifted by our hard working womens groups. The church elected to have a float in the 90th anniversary of Hillsboro in 1971. It won first place.

In reading the past history from the trustee meetings and the annual meetings, it will be noted that the church, consisting of PEOPLE, — maintained and improved the church and the parsonage, voted in favor of Pilgrim Park, paid the special assessments on the church property, bought the lot east of the parsonage for \$200, had discussions of one church service for UCC and UMC and we increased Mission giving.

In August 1976, the Parish Council was instructed to proceed with a proposal and by-laws regarding uniting the UCC and UMC Churches. the church procedure was not to be changed until both church congregations approved same.

First annual meeting of the Hillsboro United Parish UCC-UMC was held November 21, 1976.

Thus we close one book of history and open another book — it's pages also to record a history.

## HILLSBORO UNITED PARISH United Church of Christ Wesley United Methodist Church



Hillsboro United Parish  
United Church of Christ  
Wesley United Methodist Church

In 1968 the United Church of Christ learned that they would be without a minister at the end of October. Their pastoral committee had been unable to secure a minister so arrangements were made with the Methodist Church for their pastor to serve both churches. The working agreement that was formed stated that each church would function separately. A "Parish Council" was formed, consisting of five members from

each denomination, which acted as the governing board. Those appointed from the United Church of Christ were John Beach, Abe Svobodny, Ervin Koering, Margaret Gunderson, and Robert Woods. The appointments from the United Methodist Church were Ray Abentroth, Kenten Nelson, George Sander-son, Lloyd Abentroth, and Ethel Skyberg. The council referred back to their respective congregations for the final decisions on the more important matters. Each church held a separate service, but on special days joint services were held because neither congregation was large.

March of 1970 brought need for a new pastor. The finding of a minister was to alternate between the two churches. The pastor was to live in the UCC parsonage. Appointed to the parish in 1970 was Rev. Donald A. Andrews and wife Carolyn.

A meeting was held on July 7, 1976 in which the district superintendents of both churches attended, approving the uniting of the two churches in Hillsboro. On August 1, a vote was taken for the congregations to combine. The church was to operate under the name "Hillsboro United Parish-UCC-UMC." Each was to carry out the obligations and responsibilities of its former church. The agreement was made that in five years we would make a decision as to remodeling our sanctuary, build a new sanctuary, or remain as we were. To economize fuel, one church building was used. The Methodist parsonage was sold with the proceeds going to a building fund. A decision was made in 1978 on the three options. The following building committee was formed: Fay Abentroth, chairman; Helen Koering, secretary; John Nelson, treasurer; and Karl Diehl, Arlyn Ebbighausen, Richard Hutchinson, and Larry Thompson. It was voted by the congregation in 1979 to build a new sanctuary. This would be immediately west of the Methodist Church and adjoining it as a new addition. The old building could be remodeled to a new fellowship room and kitchen upstairs and Sunday School rooms downstairs. Group meetings were held in the homes to informally go over the plans and make suggestions.

Ground was broken for the new sanctuary July 5, 1979. Also in this month Rev. Andrews, Carolyn, Christa, and Darin moved to serve in Bismarck, N.D. and Professor Arnold Marzolf became our interim pastor. During the following weeks a professional contractor built the shell and professional people laid the bricks. All other work including laying of the foundation, interior construction, interior finishing, decorating, furnishing, and landscaping was completed by dedicated, hard working church members. From the words of the chairman, "It was a rewarding experience for all of us to build a house of God." Our first service in this new sanctuary was held Palm Sunday, March 30, 1980.

From this parish, also in 1980, James and Mary (Patty) McConnell and Michael and Daniel left to attend Garrett Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois.

It is with great anticipation that we as a United Parish look to the future in the service of Christ under the leadership of Rev. S. Thomas Mitchell, wife Mischelle and Christene and Samuel who came to serve our parish in July of 1980.

## NORWAY LUTHERAN CHURCH

On January 28, 1892, a group of men and Pastor Jens Lonne met at the school house, known as School No. 1 of Norway Township, to organize a congregation called the



Norway Lutheran Church  
Norway Township

Norway Norsk Evangelisk Lutherske Menighed. Later it was to be known as Norway Lutheran Church. Thirteen members were chartered: Halvar Anderson, Andreas P. Waslien, Peter S. Paslien, Ole Haarstad, Soren P. Waslien, Knut Tofsrud (also known as Knut Swenson), Peter Sundby, Syver Lonberg, Johannes S. Bergumshagen, Johannes H. Nysveen, John O. Haarstad, Christian Ellingson and Nels H. Wold.

A committee consisting of Soren P. Waslien, Knut Tofsrud, and Johannes Bergumshagen were appointed to draw up a constitution, and they also agreed to hire Jens Lonne to serve as pastor until a pastor could be called. He was later called as pastor and served the congregation from 1892 until 1897.

Services were held in the school house from time of organization to 1904. This building was often too small to accommodate the members, especially at time of funerals when many friends of the deceased gathered. When weather permitted they would meet in front of the school house on the steps. The upper part served as the rostrum and the lower part as a resting place for the bier, placed on a pair of saw horses.

In 1904 the congregation built the church at a nominal cost of a little over \$1500.00. A lot of labor was donated by members and the first seats were parts of pews salvaged from the tornado-wrecked St. Olaf Church.

In 1949 a church basement was built across the road from the old site on land donated by Elias and Arnt Nysveen. The church was moved to its present site and dedicated on October 23, 1949. A new entrance was completed in 1966 at a cost of \$4,170.00. Funds and labor for this were donated by members of the congregation.

Since the congregation, newly formed in 1892, did not have a musical instrument, Nels H. Wold was chosen as the first "klokker" or leader of hymn singing; he was later relieved by Soren P. Waslien who served until the first organ was purchased in 1908.

The first organist was Josie Waslien. Mrs. Henry Nysveen (nee Mina Waslien) was organist from 1915 until 1979. she served for over 60 years except for the period of 1940-1948 when Corrine Waslien was organist, assisted by Mrs. Nysveen. At the present time the organist is Jennifer Nysveen, granddaughter of Mrs. Henry Nysveen.

In 1917 the congregation voted to become part of the organization known as the Norwegian Lutheran Church and later the Evangelical Lutheran Church. In 1960 it became the American Lutheran Church.

Pastors who have served the Norway Congregation are: Jens Lonne, 1892-1897; J.R. Rorvik, 1897-1902; George O. Lane, 1902-1908; L.H. Haatvedt, 1908-1909; Olaf Turmo, 1909-1910; S.J. Tallehaug, 1910-1917; J.C. Hjelmervick, 1918-1920; Conrad Christianson and Pastor Knudeson, 1920-1922; Karl Stromme, 1922-1925; O.H. Brodland, 1925-1939; A.A. Nelson, 1940-1950; John D. Kronlakken, 1950-1957; Elmer O. Anhalt, 1957-1965; Fred Crozier, 1965-1969; Edward Johnshoy, 1969-1972; and presently Allan Turmo.

The present pastor, Allan Turmo of Portland, North Dakota, began serving in 1972. At that time, Norway Church and Aal Lutheran Church became part of the Bruflat Parish of Portland. Norway and Aal alternate Sundays for services, the members of both churches attending services in either church. Each church maintains its own Council and A.L.C.W. group, but have joint Sunday School, Choir, Men's Club and Fellowship.

The 1981 Church officers are as follows: Albert Oie, President; Nancy Nelson, Secretary; Jerome Nysveen, Treasurer; Aagot Nysveen, Norman Oie and Marvin Nelson, Trustees; James Solberg, Duane Nysveen and Myron Nysveen, Deacons; Stephanie Solberg, head usher and Mr. and Mrs. James Solberg delegates to Luther Memorial Home at Mayville.

A very important part of the Norway Church is the Ladies Aid, now known as the Norway A.L.C.W. It had its beginning in 1893 when nine women met together to organize a group called "Sy Foreningen." They were Mrs. John Haarstad, Mrs. Andreas Waslien, Mrs. Peter Waslien, Mrs. Peter Sundby, Mrs. Christian Ellingson, Mrs. Johannes Nysveen, Mrs. Halvor Anderson, Mrs. Johannes Bergumshagen and Miss Julia Waslien.

Money was needed to organize, so these women paid one dollar each to start a treasury fund. The men, who also came, paid five cents each for lunch. This "lunch" consisted of a full meal.

The first officers were: President, Mrs. John Harstad; Secretary, Julia Waslien and Treasurer, Mrs. Christian Ellingson. The regular meetings were held in the homes, where they gathered early to sew, knit, crochet and quilt. These items were sold at a bazaar or sale and the proceeds were used to further Gods Kingdom through mission work, support childrens homes, orphans and etc. In 1914 "lunch money" was introduced, and a charge of ten cents per person was made.

The Ladies Aid purchased the church bell in 1915 for \$148.68; helped support the remodeling of the church, and paid a large sum toward building the basement, plus numerous other activities.



In 1960 when the ALC, ELC, U.E.L.C., merged and formed the American Lutheran Church, the Ladies Aid became known as the American Lutheran Church Women or A.L.C.W. Bazaars, serving for auction sales and 4-H Achievement Days, plus quilting for Luthern World Relief are some of the projects engaged in. The A.L.C.W. gives financial support to Red Willow Bible Camp, Oak Grove High School, Lutheran Social Services, the local Nursing Homes, our Bible School and Sunday School.

Present officers are: President, Lillian Thompson; Vice President and Secretary of Education, Shirley Nysveen; Treasurer, Aagot Nysveen; Secretary of Stewardship, Marlene Oie; Historian, Shirley Nysveen; Contact Lady to Luther Memorial Home, Phyllis Solberg.

## AAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



**Aal Lutheran Church  
Norway Township**

Aal Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Congregation, now known as Aal Lutheran Church, was organized in Traill County, Dakota Territory, August 1, 1872, with the help of Rev. B.L. Hagboe. The first eleven years of services were held in pioneer homes. In 1883 the present structure was built on home hewn logs as sills and has been in continuous use ever since. It is the oldest Lutheran church in North Dakota still in use.

In honor of courageous pioneers, devoted workers, and dedicated Pastors, Aal Church celebrated it's Hundredth Anniversary in 1972.

The first organizational meeting of the congregation was held in the Lars E. Moen cabin. Nine families and two bachelor brothers, Simon and Mathias Kaldor, were charter members. Five church services a year were conducted by Rev. Hagboe, an itinerant minister. His salary was one and one half dollars from each family, with offerings and ministerials.

Aal Church has always been known as a singing church. People who visit the Church usually comment on the beautiful

singing by the congregation. Choirs were organized almost as soon as the Church was built. The church has had a choir almost continuously to the present day.

The Church originally faced south, but in 1922 it was put on a foundation and basement and moved to face west. In the early nineteen seventies a front entry addition was built by the men of the congregation. The altar was the work of pioneer artist Knute Lee, who later became a member of the congregation. He had learned the art of wood carving in Norway. Incorporated into the altar design is much biblical symbolism: the Ark of the Covenant, the Lamb of Sacrifice, the dove of peace, the fruit of the vineyard and the olive leaf.

Pastors who served through the years were: B.L. Hagboe, Martin J. Waage, Jens Lonne, Anders Houkom, L.M. Skuner, M.B. Sveen, H.A.B. Winther, J.S. Halvarson, C.J. Christianson, O.J. Flagstad, Alfred Anderson, Manly Gjerde, Waldemar Anderson, Thomas Steenberg, Golon Ose, M.E. Arneson, and Allan Turmo.

## HIGHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH Cummings, N.D.



**Highland Lutheran Church, Cummings, North Dakota**

It was at a meeting at the Ole Lilleberg home, December 8, 1879, that a group of pioneering Traill County farm people who had settled in what is now Ervin Township, organized Highland Lutheran Congregation.

Charter members who signed the congregation role as an outgrowth of that first meeting were: Mr. & Mrs. Ole J. Lilleberg and family; Mr. & Mrs. George S. Lilleberg and family; Mr. & Mrs. Elias Lilleberg and family; Mr. & Mrs. Christoffer Tronson and family; Mr. & Mrs. Gulbrand Nielson and family; Mr. & Mrs. John K. Alstad and family; Mr. Tollef Finneseth; Mr. Andrew Iverson, Mr. Christian Sandvig; Mr. John E. Lilleberg and Mr. Halvor Smette.

The first pastor of the congregation was Reverend B.J. Harstad, who served between 1879 and 1884, in the parish which included Highland, St. Olaf, Hillsboro and Gran Churches. Later the parish was changed to include Highland,

Walle, and Rosendal Churches with Reverend S.O. Braaten serving from 1884 to 1920.

The main church structure was built in 1895 and is in use today. The sacristy was added in 1912, the basement in 1926 and the dining room, kitchen and Sunday School rooms in 1959.

Another change was made in 1920, when Highland, Buxton, Hyllestad, North Prairie and Norway became the churches in the parish. They were served by Reverend J.C. Hjelmervig and B.M. Lokkemoe in the years 1920 to 1922.

From 1922 to 1925, Reverend Carl Stromme served the parish consisting of Highland, Salem, St. Petri, and Scandia Congregations. They were served by Reverend O.H. Broadland from 1925 to 1939, Reverend H.M. Finstad from 1940 to 1946, and Reverend O.A. Lee from 1947 to 1955. Then it was changed to include Highland, Immanuel at Buxton, and Norway of Hillsboro. They were served by Reverend John Kronlokken, 1955 to 1957; Reverend Elmer O. Anhalt from 1957 to 1965 and Reverend Fred S. Crozier from 1965 to 1969.

In 1970 the parish was changed to include Highland and Immanuel of Buxton. They were served by Reverend Floyd Anderson from 1970 to 1977 and the present pastor is Reverend Arlington T. Mitskog.

The church, today, has about 150 members and the congregation celebrated its 100th Anniversary in 1979.

## ST. OLAF LUTHERAN CHURCH



St. Olaf Lutheran Church, Eldorado Township, in 1910.

The St. Olaf Lutheran Church came into being on December 28, 1878, organized by the Rev. B.A. Harstad. H.H. Strom donated the land to the congregation on which the church and cemetery are located. This land was untouched by plows and still remains the original North Dakota prairie grass.

The first services were held in sod homes. Later, in 1883, the local school houses became the setting for the worship services. The first church building was erected in 1892. This was destroyed by a tornado in 1900. The present church was



A view of St. Olaf Lutheran Church, Eldorado Township, showing the plot of original North Dakota prairie grass upon which it was built in 1892.

built the following year, 1901. The name St. Olaf was chosen because it had been the name of the church in Iowa which the homesteaders had attended.

The Women's Missionary Society, now known as the St. Olaf L.C.W. was organized in 1891. The pioneers were mission-minded and in those first years to express their mission concern began sponsoring an annual mission festival, the proceeds of which were given to missions. It was through the efforts of the St. Olaf L.C.W. that the church annex was built in 1953. This structure serves as a kitchen and dining room.

St. Olaf has been served by eleven pastors, B.A. Harstad, John Tingelstad, J.R. Rorvik, George Lane, L.A. Haatvedt, O. Turmo, S.K. Thollehaug, O.P. Stavaas, N.G.W. Knutson, A.T. Tjornhom, and C.F. Savereide, the present pastor who has served St. Olaf since 1941. Laura Olson, a daughter of the congregation, served in the mission field in Madagascar for 36 years. The Rev. Ervin Ydstie, a son of the congregation, serves an A.L.C. parish in Fertile, Minnesota.

A fine monument which graces the north side of the St. Olaf Cemetery grounds was erected in 1978, a gift to the church given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Ole H. Olson by their children.

On October 1, 1978, St. Olaf Lutheran celebrated its 100th anniversary.



Early picture of St. Olaf Lutheran Church, Eldorado Township.

## BLANCHARD LUTHERAN CHURCH



**Blanchard Lutheran Church  
Blanchard, North Dakota**

Rev. O.J. Malkewick of Galesburg, a very sincere worker for the Lord, became interested in the Lutheran people of Blanchard who had no church services. He announced a service to be held Sunday, Sept. 6, 1908.

In October of 1908 Rev. Malkewick discussed the organization of a Ladies Aid. The ladies: Mrs. Presbo, Mrs. Louis Stockmoe, Mrs. Andrew Peterson, Mrs. Sunby, Mrs. Ole Grimstvedt, Annie Seim, Mrs. A. Olson, Mrs. Digre, Mrs. J. Olson, Mrs. Arnt Melting, Mrs. John Reinan and Mrs. Annie Peterson, along with other members pledged membership and drafted a constitution, selecting the name "Hauge Norske Evangelical Lutheran Kvinde Forening." The first meetings in the homes were conducted in Norwegian. The hymn books purchased contained both Norwegian and English. Rev. Malkewick attended all the meetings, making the trip with horses from his home in Galesburg.

With the growing interest in the church, came a desire for a building. The bid of \$301 for the schoolhouse was accepted and Mr. Gale Hunter donated the lot where the church now stands. Organizing a congregation was dropped because of the several denominations, so the Ladies Aid incorporated so they might hold property. A charter was signed July 14, 1914.

The building was remodeled, and through the years has been enlarged and improved many times. A beautiful altar picture, "The Good Shepherd" was painted and given by John and Martin Anderson. A stove was purchased from the Roseville congregation and they presented Blanchard with a pulpit. An altar was made and donated by Mr. H.J. Olson. The Young People's Society bought the little pump organ.

After Rev. Malkewick left, Rev. Sveen of Portland conducted services. Later Rev. Hanson and in 1931 Rev. Gullixson of Mayville served the Blanchard Congregation.

A reorganization aid meeting was held in 1929. Mrs. W.E. Holland, Mrs. Henry Hanson, Mrs. J.D. Cormack, Mrs. Ivar Seim, Mrs. C.B. Froke, Mrs. John Reinan, Mrs. Clarence Reinan and Mrs. Harry Stigen revised and adopted the former constitution. For some years the church was called Evangelical Lutheran, but now we are members of the American Lutheran Church, having merged with other denominations.

The price of the delicious suppers went from 15¢ to 35¢, then to 50¢ and up to \$1.00 as the years went on. Now we prefer a free-will offering.

Rev. Tjornhom of Hillsboro served the congregation from 1935 to 1941 when Pastor C.F. Savereide of Hillsboro was called. When Pastor Savereide retired in 1976 Pastor Jim Hanson from Valley City was called to lead the Blanchard flock.

LeVerne Mattson, with the help of the men of the church, remodeled the entire kitchen and at a later date built a whole new altar. The latter was dedicated in 1960. There have been many improvements in the following years with our expert men doing the bulk of the work.

The Ladies Aid continued to take care of the church business — buying everything with the help of donations — until the building was deeded over to the congregation in 1950. The American Lutheran Church Women still continue to help the congregation with financial support, but concentrate now on donations to Foreign Missions, church schools, Red Willow Bible Camp, rest homes, Sunday School, Parochial School, Indian Missions, etc. We also give of our time and friendship to those close to us; and so the work of Blanchard Lutheran goes on.

*Merilla Brasel*

## EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH Cummings, North Dakota



**Evangelical Free Church  
Cummings, North Dakota**

The history of the Cummings Church dates back to 1885. It was then a Congregational Church organized by several local men, among whom were E.M. Smith, F.A. Kindred, W.J. Burnett, and Frank Crane. In the early days Rev. C.H. Phillips of Virginia came to Dakota Territory as a missionary. He pastored the church for about ten years.



The building was purchased by the women of the Cummings community for conducting Sunday School and Ladies Aid and in the summer of 1958 the group became affiliated with the Evangelical Free Church of America.

Rev. Earl Eveland served as the first pastor of the newly organized church. Shortly after, the old church was torn down and a new structure was erected. This building was dedicated in May, 1959. In 1975 a new sanctuary was built and the former sanctuary was remodeled to serve as fellowship hall.

Pastors who have served the church are Rev. Earl Eveland 1957-1966, Rev. Dean Johnson 1966-1968, and Rev. Don Matheson 1968-1978. Rev. Paul Phair, the current pastor, began his ministry in February 1979.

Rev. Paul Phair and his family reside in Mayville in the Church parsonage which was purchased in 1972.

We thank God for the accomplishments of the past and as a congregation anticipate His blessings as we continue to serve the community as a place of worship.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HILLSBORO

In July of 1978, the birth of a new Chapel came — the Hillsboro Baptist Chapel. It started from a series of Bible studies directed under the teachings of layman Leonard Storey from

Texas and pastor Chuck Wilkerson of the Temple Baptist Church in Fargo. As a sponsor of the Bible studies, the Temple Baptist Church in Fargo steadily gave the hope of having a Baptist Church someday in Hillsboro.

To serve as pastor of this chapel, Ron Renfro with his wife Debbi, moved from Texas on September 1, 1978. Although the attendance during the first several months was that of six, Pastor Renfro knew that numbers didn't matter, but that the Christian Spirit of the people did. This thought gave him the determination to go on with his work in Hillsboro. During this time, the Chapel services were being held in the Hillsboro Fire Hall.

After several public decisions, new members and stronger commitments toward the Baptist Chapel, meetings were held that soon led to the purchase of a church building which was formerly the St. Rose Catholic Church. This eight thousand dollar purchase opened many doors on June 20, 1979. The attendance then rose from six to a rejoicing fifteen members.

Officers were soon chosen from the pool of charter members including: Pastor — Ron Renfro; Treasurer/Clerk — Sue Semmens; and Women's Missionary Union Director — Debbi Renfro. Other charter members were Karen Meir — pianist, Terry and Kathy McInteer, David and Mary Knudson, Bob and Elsie Thompson, Michelle Thompson, Sherry Thompson, Larry Semmens, Wyatt and Joyce Tisdale, and Aaron Tisdale.



# Schools

## HISTORY OF HILLSBORO SCHOOL



The new high school

In the summers the southern winds played among the tall grasses and rustled the cottonwood leaves. In the dry seasons great fires swept through the area, finally being extinguished when they struck a water barrier or were quenched by rain.

The inhabitants of the area were the wild creatures elk, deer, buffalo, the great grey wolves and the bear, waterfowl and beaver thrived in the streams and marshy areas. Bands of Indians, hunter-gatherers occupied the land; harvested to meet their immediate needs and moved on. The grasses quickly covered the sites of their fires, and the only indications of man's passing were the bones from his buffalo kills which slowly blended with the earth. Enduring evidence of man's presence were the arrowheads, spear points and stone hammers but the grass covered these and the land was undisturbed, waiting.

The first Europeans to enter the area were the French. Verendrye passed to the west in 1738, but this had little effect. Fur Traders bartered with the Indians and the harvest of animals increased. Far to the east a new nation was forming whose concept of land and its use radically differed from that of the Indian, it focused on individual or family ownership. They were farmers; status and power rested upon the production of a surplus of food and fibre which could be sold to obtain desired comforts and services or more land which in turn would increase the power of the individual. The intricacies of this system required education. To do this and to identify land ownership, the congress in May of 1785 adopted the rectangular survey system. All land was to be surveyed into townships six miles square, each containing thirty six (36) sections of 640 acres, one mile square. Section number sixteen in each township was reserved for the maintenance of public schools.

The new nation expanded rapidly, acquiring title to the lands to the west. Included in this acquisition was the fertile area known as the Red River Valley, a potentially rich agricultural area of the North. In 1861 this area was surveyed, but the land had little appeal, for there was no transportation system to deliver a surplus of agricultural produce to buyers. Following a fratricidal war, the new nation embarked on dynamic expansion and consolidation of its territory by binding the nation together with railroads. In 1871 the Northern Pacific extended its line to the east bank of the Red River at Moorhead. The vast promise of the great valley of the north was about to be tapped.

A virtual explosion of immigrants occurred. The first settlers to the Goose River area came in 1871. This was an influx of families not single men. Scandinavian and German peasants, entrepreneurs from the East, acquired blocks of the fertile grasslands. Oxen and horses pulled the breaking plows, turning the landscape black. In the dugouts, cabins and shacks, babies were born and grew. To cope with the land and its development they needed to learn to speak English — to read, to compute, to be exposed to a limited amount of the wisdom of the ages. This required a school.

No formal school existed in the area during the 1870's. It is presumed that those parents who were literate attempted to teach their children simple mathematics, reading and writing but the rigors of pioneer life would drastically limit this instruction. There is a report that Jonas Ostlund, a lay Methodist Minister who settled on the site of the present Carroll Burke farm, conducted classes for children. This however cannot be substantiated — we know that Ostlund had a small store and operated a postal service.

The first public school opened in 1881 with a Miss Lizzie Kelley as the teacher. There were fifty nine pupils enrolled. Attendance was a problem; the report filed December the first 1882 listed an average daily attendance of thirty-four pupils. This was an ungraded school and had students grouped into categories of A, B and C. The basis of this grouping is not specified but indications are that group C was for children who first had to learn to speak English. An additional problem was the diverse ages; some of the students were twenty years old. The school did not run on a yearly schedule but was divided into sessions of fall, spring and summer during periods when the demand for work on the farms was lightest. School sessions were from thirty to sixty days.

In January of 1885 an advertisement in the *Banner* stated that there were seventy school districts and seventy school houses in the county. The Hillsboro school had two teachers; students were still grouped into A, B and C categories. Grades presently are a privileged communication but in 1885 each student's achievement was publicly reported in the *Banner*. Grades were given for Reading, Arithmetic, Geography, Attendance and Deportment. The Hillsboro school was not unique in being ungraded. The territorial Governor reported to the legis-



The elementary school.

lature that there were only sixty nine graded schools and one thousand nine hundred and thirty ungraded. In addition he stated that the average cost of tuition for each student was two dollars and twenty cents per month. The average monthly pay for male teachers was thirty eight dollars and fifty three cents. Female teachers received an average salary of thirty one dollars and seventy two cent. The qualifications for teaching were apparently an ability to read, write and compute. The superintendent of Schools conducted an examination of applicants who were required to be eighteen years of age and capable of satisfactorily completing a test which he administered.

The difficulties encountered by these teachers must have been horrendous. Their training was extremely limited, their students had great disparity in age and language ability. Supplies and equipment were minimal and attendance was a constant problem. In the session which ended 13 March, 1885 forty eight students were enrolled but the average daily attendance was only thirty seven.

It was a beginning — there was no athletic program, no library, no music, no art, home economics or shop, none of these — yet learning was taking place and it would expand and grow.

Competition between schools had an early beginning. A spelling contest was held at Hillsboro on the 20 of February, 1885 between the Norway township school and Mayville. The students of Norway township were the victors.

In November of 1885 the editor of the *Banner* called for the formation of a high school; he stated that the Fargo schools provided music and vocal training and the same was needed at Hillsboro. An explanation of the composition of the population is in order.

The most influential people in the area at this time were affluent easterners who operated bonanza farms in the area, holdings ranging to 2000 acres. They were the principal business men in the town, were themselves educated to a degree and desirous of having their children prepared to attend institutions of higher learning. To this end some of them had their children boarding in either Fargo or Grand Forks where greater educational opportunities existed. Meanwhile one of the two teachers in Hillsboro, a Miss Sallee had fifty one students who ranged in age from nine to nineteen or twenty, found them, "very difficult to govern and instruct." Three math levels were being taught, elementary, intermediate and higher;

the latter was defined as a group ready to start algebra. In addition to these problems the facilities were overcrowded.

Classrooms were added in 1886, the enrollment rose to sixty pupils and a teaching principal was hired to, "provide high school level training" for students able to assimilate it. It was decided to limit this instruction to ninth grade level for the 86-87 school year. The school was changing to meet the needs of the student body.

The town had built an Opera House in 1886 and the primary recreational activity for young adults was roller skating. In November of 1886 the school conducted a program of entertainment for the community. This consisted of "Musical and literary presentations;" a door charge of twenty five cents for adults and fifteen cents for students was assessed. By this means \$10.65 was raised and was used to purchase books to form the nucleus of a school library.

The Hillsboro School Board decided to add a complete high school course commencing with the 1891-1892 school year. The new department was to operate independently. The total school enrollment stood at 125. In March of 1893 the School Board made a major decision when they decided to construct a new school at a budgeted cost of \$25,000. This was to be a three story brick building and was completed in November of 1893; the enrollment was 300.

The first commencement exercises for the Hillsboro high school were conducted on the 24 of May, 1895. The evolution continued. In 1897 a reorganization of the school curriculum was undertaken to provide for a logical progression in the various grades. One of the problems encountered was that there were a number of students who attended only during the winter term, consequently they did not fit into any particular grade and were being taught in an ungraded room. The high school was classified as a second grade school because it only offered 27 units of work as contrasted with 36 units for a first class high school. The fledgling status of the school is indicated by the number of volumes in the school library — fifty.

By 1899 ample course work had been provided and five students graduated with first class certificates. The high school was now firmly established. The opera house was used for athletic activities such as girls and boys basketball, the presentation of plays, graduations, etc. Courses in pedology and psychology were offered to high school students. These courses were preparatory classes for future teachers; upon graduation a student would attend one year of normal school, (teachers college) training. They would then be eligible to teach in schools throughout the state. Teachers in the Hillsboro system were required to have two years of normal school.

Domestic Science Training for girls existed in the period 1910 to 1914; this was restricted to instruction in sewing and allied arts as no facilities existed for cooking and food preparation.

In 1915 the district was bonded and a new wing was built on the south side of the school; this provided class rooms and a high school assembly at a cost of \$8,000. Girl's gymnastics were conducted in a house north of the school and organized basketball both boy's and girl's teams competed with area schools. The only practice area for these teams were the Opera house and later the Company I. Armory. In fact all physical education during inclement weather was conducted in this facility until 1949 when the present gym was built.



The old school building.



The Domestic Science classes were expanded to include cooking, and Manual training was begun.

These courses were discontinued after 1932 due to lack of funds during the great depression.

It would be an error to suppose that once the school acquired first class status the bulk of students would complete four years of high school. National statistics for 1941 indicate that half of public school students only completed the eighth grade. Hillsboro may have had a higher percentage graduating than the national norms but there were many who did not complete the full twelve years of schooling.

In 1958 there was a reorganization of the school district and a bussing system was developed to effect the consolidation. The Home Economics classes were restored in 1960 and cooking facilities were provided. The school at this time was overcrowded and a new building was occupied in 1966. A vocational Agricultural class was initiated and a full time counselor was hired.

Changes continued to be gradual, in 1968 a full time kindergarten was started and continues to the present. In 1976 a full time Art teacher was hired and in 1977 the position of counselor was eliminated. This position was reinstated on a part time basis in 1980.

For the 1980-81 school year the Hillsboro school has an enrollment of 275 pupils K through 6 and 260 pupils 7-12. There are 36 professionally qualified teachers administering to the perceived needs of the students.

The school has existed for a hundred years — the landscape has changed; the Goose River is no longer, "a clear fast flowing stream, one foot deep — suitable for a Mill." The Pasque flowers do not turn the prairie blue in the spring — there is no prairie and the whirr of the prairie chicken's wings are lost in the warp of time. It is not a question of, was that better or worse than the present geometric panels of earth cultivated, and impregnated with chemicals to produce maximum yields, to feed the burgeoning maw of mankind. It is. It is what exists.

The school continues to train those young minds presently in attendance to cope with a future that is uncertain as it has always been.

How well have the students coped over the years? The great grandsons and great granddaughters of Miss Lizzie Kelley's classes have families of their own now.

Continuity — survival are the marks of coping. The students from the school in Hillsboro have qualified. They have obeyed the call of the nation in three wars and two police actions. They have endured the fluctuations of nature and the economy. Some have tilled the land, some have pursued the crafts, some have been priests, ministers, missionaries — some have been shopkeepers, nurses, doctors — lawyers — teachers, an admiral of a fleet, colonels of regiments, professors in great Universities — a senior scientist in the jet propulsion laboratory at Pasadena, Ca. working on vehicles for the journey to the stars. There are many whose life callings have been humble — housekeepers, day laborers; the people that are as necessary as the engineers if the system is to function.

Many will feel, as they read this brief account of the school, that athletics have been slighted. Over the years organized athletics have been the major entertainment of the community. The out-pouring of elation and anguish are phenomenal. Athletics, individual and team sports have served to unify and provide esprit for the system. To our knowledge no graduate of Hillsboro has become a professional athlete, but that is irrelevant. Participants have enjoyed the program as has the community. It has helped very much in forming a sense of belonging and that is a positive good.

The school as an institution exposes its students to fields of knowledge. It is the hope of every educator that the young minds entrusted to his or her care will benefit from the association. For the past hundred years most have. We look to the future with confidence.

*Thurston Nelson*



Trail County School Officers, 1956, Hillsboroites identifiable are: Serina Forde, Irvin Bohnsack, Thomas G. Johnson, Eunice Dally, Dolores Porter, Paul Rotvold, Pearl Weller, Myrtle Olen, Dr. J.J. Breen, Christie Bagge, Lizzie Balkan, Alpha Logsten, Cecyl Hagen, Herman Koering.



Everybody's Eighth Grade teacher, Mrs. W.A. (Lizzie) Kelly.



Football team of 1916. Back row: Charles Hempel, William McCain, Jesse Sorum, Grant Spiering, Coach Campbell. Second row: Teman Hanson, Arthur Johnson, Elmer Bekkedahl, Clarence Anderson, Harold Clefstad. Front row: Orlin Baglien, John Mayall, Harley Swenson, Lynn Viker, Roy Howard, and Samuel Baglien.



Football team of 1927. Top: Connie Howard, Chauncey Kaldor, Bill Mjogdahlen, and Johnny Fisher. Bottom: Howard Kaldor, Harvey Gifford, Robert Hewitt, Harold Quenild, Jimmy Berdahl, Ollie Hong, and Archie Kaldor.



Football team of 1934. Front row: Alton Graham, Leonard Sveen, Tifford Aasen, Maurice Ellingrud, Ray Lindeman, Wallace Engel, Bernie Halverson, Walter Gadberry, and Conrad Kamesch. Back row: Jerome Nysveen, Harlem Waslien, Howard Haugen, William Kelly, Arther Kolstad, Franklin Mayall, Olaf Lokken, George Keller, Irvin Ydstie, Palmer Waslien, and Clarence Ellingson. In the background was a stack of straw bales which was later shipped to western North Dakota to alleviate the drought stricken ranchers in 1934. It was dubbed "the worlds longest straw pile."



1938 Basketball Team. Top row: Donald Hanson, Albert Osman, Oliver Baglien, Orlin Thomson, Merlin Hagen, Fred Eisenhardt, and George (Jug) Newgard. Middle row: Connie Kamesch, Ray Lindeman, Lloyd Moen, and Albert Rowan. Bottom row: Bernie Halverson, Harley Ludwig, Wallace Osman, Jack Beck, and Tom Kelly.



The sophomore class of 1946. Front: Blenda Skansgaard, Romie Peterson, Ruth Peterson, Dona Rusted, Alice Overboe. Second row: Lyle Pederson, John Hoveland, Donald Mergenthal, David Steenson, Roy Olson, Gwendalyn Kozojed. Third row: Howard Riemer, Dorothy Meyers, Margaret Johnson, Janet Jacobson, Barbara Engle, Wilma Mollerstrom. Fourth row: Mary Balkan, Kay Kelly, Jean Forster, Arlene Brideson, Ruth Schlickmen, Gladys Larch. Fifth row: Phylis Ludwig, Kathryn Hanson. Sixth row: Harold Sorley, Betty Talmo, Agatha Kuntz, Vernon Rust, and Anton Gunderson.



Fourth Grade, 1949. Front: Margaret Meyer, Muriel Pederson, Gale Boeddeker, Eleanor Foss. Second: Bryan Peterson, Jon Brakke, Jack Halverson, Eileen Heckman, Sonja Korup, Russel Boeddeker, Teacher Lois Hanson. Third: Richard Klemetson, Doug Falkoner, Judy Benson, Duane Peterson, Marlene Muir. Fourth: Melford Smith, Mary Ann Hovet, Janice Strom, Sylvia Engel, Eileen Henning, Rosalyn Olson. Top: Gerald Malley, Georgia Kaldor, Dick Breen, Gloria Smith, Mavis Goshinska.



1974 Class B Champions: (Row 1) Manager Mike Mooney, Keith Burck, Keith Meyer, Tom Olsen, Manager Randy Aasen. (Row 2) Coach Dennis Nelson, Rich Blackburn, Andy McLean, Devin Lusso, Jim Ludwig, Larry Waters, Gary Haisley, Tom Klemetson, Mark Eblen, Bob Kress, Coach Ed Beyer. NOT PICTURED: Manager Steve Henn.



1952 Baseball Team. Top row: Jackie Halverson, Larry Staska, Allen Gunderson, Curtis Gabrielson, Dallas Boeddeker, Tom Stuart, Dale Engel, and Darrel Willison. Middle row: Don Miller, Neil Pederson, Don Nelson, Ron Gadberry, Ray Wentworth, Glen Holland, Jack Kuntz, Wayne Ader. Bottom row: Russel Pauls, David Grove, Norman Lerass, Myron Swanson, Fred Forde.



1977 Class B. Champions: Paul Eisenbeis, Tod Volden, Scott Kelly, Mike Burck, Dave Helland, Joe Henn, Wayne Grothmann, Randy Beyersdorf, Dave Nelson, Trygve Letness, Kevin Morehart. Managers Daniel Dumas, Tom Cotton, and Paul Breen and Coach Ed Beyer.



1973 Class B Champions: Manager Randy Aasen, Rick Blackburn, Tom Klemetson, Tom Olsen, Larry Waters, Roger Bohnsack, Keith Meyer, Kent Bruun, Keith Burck, Jim Ludwig, Andy McLean, Bob Kress, Manager Brad Johnson, Coach Denis Nelson, Coach Ed Beyer, and Manager Steve Henn. NOT PICTURED: Terry Klemetson.



Hillsboro gymnasts competing in the state and regional tournaments included: (front, l. to r.) Shawn Kjos, Roxanne Riemer, Susan Diehl, Molly McLean, Faye Eisenbeis, Coach Bonnie Harvey, (second row, l. to r.) Monica Rotvold, Kristen Diehl, Jan Boeddeker, (top, l. to r.) Jill Boeddeker, Debbie Beyer, Nancy Johnson. (Missing from photo) Louise Detwiller, Eileen McLean and Roberta Riemer.



# Organizations

## KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS



Hillsboro Lodge No. 30, Knights of Pythias

The Order Knights of Pythias is one of the older lodges having arrived in Dakota Territory in 1878. Hillsboro Lodge No. 30, Knights of Pythias, was instituted May 13, 1896 with the following charter members: Thomas S. Farr, Adolph G. Foogman, Ole P. Gonstad, Fred L. Goodman, Edward C. Hoogenson, Jorgen Howard, Albert B. Landt, John E. Lasham, Charles E. Leslie, Carl A. Nelson, Mark H. Norman, Ernest M. Pierce, Douglas Robertson, Peter G. Swenson, Edward E. Wheeler, James L. Skrivseth, Sam C. Amlie, Duncan Cameron, Clark C. Dalrymple, Syllas Dalrymple, Anund Halverson, Peter L. Pritchard, Alvin Schmitt, and Harvey R. York. The first Chancellor Commander was Charles E. Leslie.

After organization the Lodge met a few times in the old courthouse, and in the fall of 1896 moved to the hall over the A.G. Foogman store, where it met for several years. They then moved to the rooms over what was the Ole Evans Store. These rooms became the K.P. Hall and were furnished and maintained by this order.

The membership in 1939 was around sixty, and the officers were: Chancellor Commander, H.F. Lund; Vice Chancellor, Jorgen Talmo; Prelate, Tom S. Farr; Master of Work, Ralph Diehl; Keeper of Records and Seals, E.A. Iverson; Master of Finance, E.A. Iverson; Master of Exchequer, A.L. Lien; Master of Arms, Lyle George; Inner Guard, Morris Stern; Outer Guard, H.H. Paulson; Trustees: J.T. Hong, C.A. Ellingson, W.A. Schroalbe; Grand Lodge Representatives: Tom S. Farr and J.T. Hong.

The Lodge flourished in the early years of the century, with the highest membership year being 1935 with 85 members. Last members to join were Ralph Diehl, Harry Sorum, and Harry Tonn in 1935, and Tracy Kaldor, John Mecham, J.S. Hegge and Edward Johnson in 1936. The Lodge was declared defunct in 1952 showing 42 members.

There have been approximately 90 subordinate lodges in the state of which five active lodges remain. The highest membership was in 1921 with 3,791 and 36 active lodges. There are presently five remaining active lodges, and the present membership (1981) is 300.

## PIONEER DAUGHTERS OF HILLSBORO

### THE PIONEER

*Upon this marble bust that is not I  
Lay the round, formal wreath that is not fame  
But in the forum of my silenced cry  
Root up the living tree whose sap is flame  
I, that was proud and valiant, am no more;  
Save as a dream wide and late,  
Save as a wind that rattles the stout door  
Troubling the ashes in the sheltered grate  
The stone will perish, I shall be twice dust  
Only my standard on a taken bill  
Can cheat the mildew and the red-brown rust  
And make immortal my adventurous will.  
Even now the silk is tugging at the staff;  
Take up the song; forget the epitaph.*

*Edna St. Vincent Millay*

The Hillsboro Chapter of North Dakota Pioneer Daughters was organized to perpetuate the memory of the pioneer mother. Eligibility for membership was any daughter or granddaughter of a woman who established a home in North Dakota before North Dakota became a state. The state was organized in 1890.

The Hillsboro Chapter of Pioneer Daughters of North Dakota was organized on May 13, 1947 by Mrs. E.A. Minard of Fargo, assisted by Mrs. Walter Holland of Mayville. Fifty seven charter members joined the Chapter. Mrs. Fred Peerson became the first President, Mrs. Alfred Jahnke, Vice President; Mrs. B.N. Johnson, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Herbert Paulson, Treasurer; Mrs. David Ebeltoft, Historian.

On May 17, the Pioneer Daughters of Hillsboro and the Pioneer Daughters of Mayville were entertained by the Fargo Pioneer Daughters at a tea and they were given a tour of the museum in Emerson School of Fargo. From that day the Hillsboro Pioneer Daughters had a dream of some day having a museum in Hillsboro.

Over the early years of the organization the daughters of the Pioneers held regularly meetings in the various homes, but as the membership increased it was necessary to find a larger assembly room. At times they would meet in the assembly room of the City Hall or the American Legion Auxiliary room.

It would be impossible to list the many activities in which the members became involved. Being a member of the North Dakota Federated Club their suggestions were carried out. Their motto, "Strength through participation" was carefully followed. As the local need became greater the Hillsboro club dropped that membership. Community wise, the various members became involved in charitable work in the City. They planted flowers in a bed in the Woodland Park and tended flower gardens in the railroad park.

Wedding dress pageants were sponsored and memorial services for deceased members were conducted. The Pioneer Daughters kept in touch with legislative matters and often contacted their legislators by phone.

September 1, 1965

In 1951, the Pioneer Daughters became participants in honoring our Local Company L. by joining other women groups which sponsored a banquet for all members of Company L and their mothers. President Truman alerted the company to quarters in Camp Rucker, Alabama, when we were about to enter the Korean Conflict. The banquet was given in the old armory and Mr. John Hovet, Mayor of Hillsboro was toastmaster. The Forty-seventh Division and the Thirty-first Division were alerted. President Truman announced that these two divisions were selected as the best units in their respective areas. Among the members were Captain Orville Overmoe, Master Sergeant Clarence Bakkum, Sergeant Adolph Arneson, Eugene Brenden, George Dunn, Robert Dunn, Walter Koering, Paul Steen and Albin Thompson.

Two outstanding lectures which were open to the public were given on Pioneer Heritage. Mrs. Holsclaw of Mayville State was the first speaker and Beatrice M. Johnson, a former Hillsboro teacher, then an instructor at the University of North Dakota was also a speaker.

Over the years, the Pioneer Daughters collected many artifacts. Storage of these articles was always a problem. Among the rooms used for this purpose was a basement in the City Hall, a room on the second floor of the old armory, and the rotunda of the Court House. At one time a representative of the King of Norway who was sent to North Dakota to discover articles of culture was greatly impressed by the collection of antiques brought from Norway by Mr. Sampson Lier. This collection is now on display at the museum.

Public smorgasboards given by the Pioneer Daughters was the main source of income in the early 1960's. These were held in the City Hall Assembly room.

When the City Hospital was built the Pioneer Daughters paid one half of the cost of the furnishings of a room. They also obtained the money from a defunct pioneer account in the city bank, that paid for the furnishings of one room in the hospital.

A museum in Hillsboro had been the hope of the Hillsboro Unit of the Pioneer Daughters for many years. Much effort was spent in making money to be used for that purpose. Not until the 1965 legislature passed a statute providing for the levy for historical purposes did that hope vision a reality. Up to that time, the statute provided for a levy which was limited by the county levy and as Traill County levy always exceeded the necessary limit, Daughters of Pioneers never dreamed of help in that direction. In 1965, an offer for acquiring the Plummer House in Hillsboro was made to the Pioneer Daughters by Mr. and Mrs. William Meline. The building was built in 1895 from brick which was made at the first Hillsboro brick factory. In its day, the house was a show place. Its sixteen rooms were still in fair condition. The offer was made to give title to the Pioneer Daughters provided they would make the last payment on a contract in the amount of \$500.00 and make the last payment on the current real estate taxes. The organization provided the money and a deed was obtained.

In order to obtain the county tax levy the statute provided for the organization of an Historical Society.

The Pioneer Daughters of whom Tina Steenson was secretary sent the following letter on September 1, 1965 to all organizations interested:

"PROJECT MUSEUM" has been undertaken by the Daughters of the pioneers by the purchase and also a gift of the Wm. Meline's, of what was originally the "Plummer House," which has great historical value, being built in the year of 1895.

Preserving the articles of culture and industry brought to Traill County by the early Norsemen, Germans and Scots, is a noble and splendid contribution to this Community.

IT HAS BEEN SAID:

"History is forever sounding the Laws of right and wrong. Opinions alter, manners change, creeds rise and fall but the Moral Law is written on the tablets of eternity."

We must form an Historical Society, obtain membership, and give immediate attention to the house. We need financial help and personal interest. Therefore we are contacting each organization to appoint one member to have representation on an organization committee. In order to have the approval of the State Historical Society we must have representation from all community organizations. Approval means that the County Commissioners will then contribute to the upkeep.

(Chapter 11-11-53 approved March 1, 1965)

Your donation and the personal interest of each member of your organization will be appreciated.

Please return the name of the Committee member in the envelope enclosed.

Respectfully

Tina Steenson, Sec. (Signed)  
Daughters of the Pioneers

Representatives of all organizations assisted with the project. After the constitution and by-laws were obtained, it was necessary to obtain the approval of the North Dakota State Historical Society and the North Dakota Attorney General. This approval was obtained by the Pioneer Daughters. The County Commissioners were then petitioned to make the necessary levy. The Pioneer Daughters gave a deed for the Plummer House to the Historical Society.

The Hillsboro Fire Department sent the Pioneer Daughters a check for \$125.00. They also gave the Pioneer Daughters the opportunity to make extra money by serving lunches at their dances.

Mr. Leonard Beal and Mr. A.L. Halverson took up a collection from business people for the Historical Society. All the Historical Society moneys have been deposited to the Historical Society's account.

The Pioneer Daughters moved all the articles and did most of the cleaning in the museum. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Eisenbeis restored the beautiful hardwood floors. The Pioneer Daughters made two rugs, and the Kiwanis members and the Jaycees assisted with hammer and saw in the building.

For several years the Pioneer Daughters continued their interests in the Historical Building.

Eligibility requirements for membership in the Pioneer Daughters have been lifted and any woman can become a member. The influx of new people in the area and the demise of older women have lessened the membership. Pioneer daughters still honor the memory of the Pioneer woman. The living honorary members of the Hillsboro Pioneer Daughters are:

Olga Kamesch, Minnie Bahnson, Tillie Nelson, Ida Lilleberg, Oline Ness, Clara Olson, Tina Steenson and Josephine Lien.

Pioneer Daughters salute Mr. John Beach an early president of the Historical Society for his untiring energy and patience, collecting and mounting many artifacts. The Pioneer Daughters also thank Mr. George Sorlie for obtaining the corporate existence for the Historical Society. Esther Halvorson is the present President of the Pioneer Daughters of Hillsboro.

—Stella Kelly

## TRAIL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Traill County Historical Society Museum.



Traill County Museum once the old Plummer House.

The Traill County Historical Society was organized November 10, 1965, at the Hillsboro City Hall. The first Board of Directors elected were: Clarence Anderson, Estelle Kelly, Leonard Beal, Chauncey T. Kaldor, Daniel P. Rostad, George E. Sorlie, John Beach, Mrs. Joseph Moen, and William Stanley. The first officers elected were: President, Clarence Anderson; Vice President, Estelle Kelly; Secretary, Chauncey T. Kaldor; and Treasurer, Leonard Beal. Other charter members included: Tina Steenson, Esther Miller, Mrs. Conrad Lerass, Mrs. Olga Kamesch, LaVerne Skogen, Esther Halvorson, and Mrs. Oscar John.

In 1966 the Society received the first monies of the one-half mill levy approved by Traill County for the "use and benefit"

of the Society. This supports the upkeep and restoration of the Museum, which was purchased for the Society by the Hillsboro Pioneer Daughters. The house was built in 1895 and was the home of A.L. Plummer, an early day banker and businessman.

Subsequent years have been concerned with upkeep and renovation, and the acquiring of antiques and artifacts. In the summers of 1979 and 1980, a CETA grant enabled the Society to complete a re-cataloguing of all items in the Museum. Considerable repair work was completed in the summer of 1980; the exterior brick was sand-blasted, re-painted and glazed, chimney overhang, foundation and basement stone walls were repaired and all exterior wood, windows, trim, etc. were painted. The Society hopes to continue its program of restoration to the original condition of the house.

Past presidents of the Society have been: Clarence Anderson, John Beach, Fred Pearson, James Oelrick, Carroll Burke, and Einar Marken. The 1981 Officers are: President, Charles Hanson; Secretary, Jean Kaldor, and Treasurer, Marilyn Holo. Other current Board members are: Dr. Merwyn Lyng, Lee Kaldor, Aagot Nysveen, Clarence Anderson, John Beach, and Morris Smith.



Early Hillsboro resident A.L. Plummer is shown outside his west Caledonia home which later became the site of the Traill County Historical Society's museum.



Plaque of dedication to Mrs. and Mrs. William J. Burnett for gift of lot east of Museum.





Stella Kelly, Liz Nelson, and Jean Kaldor with a china and silver display.



Mrs. Fred (Jo) Lien displaying the wedding dress worn by her mother, Mrs. George Cowles, married in 1885 in Candor New York.



Charles Hanson, President of the Traill County Historical Society, displaying his Norwegian artifacts.

### SONS OF NORWAY and DAUGHTERS OF NORWAY Solheim Lodge # 461 DN, Sons of Norway

The original Sons of Norway of Hillsboro, North Dakota, known as Dolen Lodge No. 76 was organized on March 31, 1908. The following were charter members: Theodore Kaldor, Ole J. Dammen, Albert Bakkum, Carl Nelson, Ole K. Hovet, Nels M. Lindaas, Oscar M. Kaldor, Ole A. Hong, Ulrich Frederik Busch, Ole E. Nelson, Ole Howard, Julius Bakkum, Gilbert Skonsberg, Jerman J. Nedland, George Skogen, Torbjorn Rue, Hjalmar Klabo, Albert E. Mohen, Knut Berge, Erik Haugen, Martin J. Nelson, Oscar Bekkedahl, Edwin Swenson, Carl S. Anderson, Gunder Berge, and Gustav Sveen.

The Daughters of Norway, under the name of Solheim Lodge No. 49 of Hillsboro, North Dakota, was organized Feb. 1, 1913. The following were charter members: Britha Olson, Mathilde Haugen, Tillie Olson, Oline Kaldor, Anna Elisabeth Wulff, Jennie Bakkum, Karen Olson, Inger Reitan, Eline Acker, Katherine Trytten, Sina Bagstad, Berstine Skogen, Carrie Christianson, Louise Otilia Kjos, Inga Kaspara Anderson, Augusta Skogen, and Torina Sorum.

On the 8th day of October, 1951, a new charter was issued to Solheim No. 461 DN, formerly Solheim No. 49, Daughters of Norway and as such organized February 1913. The lodge became a local lodge of Sons of Norway in accordance with the merger agreement between the Grand Lodge, Daughters of Norway, and the Supreme Lodge. Sons of Norway dated December 31, 1950, and all members of Solheim No. 49 in good standing as of that date are hereby declared to be charter members of Solheim No. 461, Sons of Norway.

The first meeting under the new lodge number was held on April 25, 1951. The main officers for 1951-52 were Alma Thomson, President; Josephine Gilbertson, Secretary; Ragna Strand, Finance Secretary, and Hazel Pederson, Treasurer.

At their March 12, 1970 meeting, it was announced that all men who wanted to become members should come to their next meeting. At their Nov. 12, 1970, meeting, the main officers for 1971 were Lillian Larson, President; Hazel Bird,

Secretary; La Verne Skogen, Financial Secretary; and Lawrence Letnes, Treasurer.

The Lodge met for many years in the KP Hall and in the VFW rooms. Then for a number of years they met at the armory, and from January 1978, they have been meeting at the Senior Citizens Center.

The Present Officers for 1981 are Violet Grove, President; Duane Nysveen, Vice President; Helen Gadberry, Secretary; La Verne Skogen, Assistant Secretary; Melvin Rindahl, Financial Secretary; Lawrence Letnes, Treasurer; Palmer Smith, Social Director; Ellen Rostad, Assistant Social Director; Caroline Smith, Inner Guard; Alice Letnes, Outer Guard; Norman Oie, Marshal; Fred Smith, Assistant Marshall; Josephine Gilbertson, Counselor; Arnie Elton, Trustee for 3 years; Myrtle Elton, Pianist; and Beatrice Anderson, Assistant Pianist.

There are five living life members. They are: Josephine Gilbertson, Hazel Pederson, Lillian Mergenthal, Alice Letnes, and Clara Baglien.

## ROSE-BUD ROYAL NEIGHBOR CAMP #4061



Royal Neighbor's float took first prize in 1915.

The Rose-Bud Royal Neighbor Camp #4061 was organized on February 21, 1905, at the K.P. Hall in Hillsboro, North Dakota, by Matilda Haugen, who served as the first Oracle.

The twenty-seven charter members were:

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Anna Hemple            | Marcus Norman     |
| Martha Jepson          | Charlotte Hemple  |
| Lena Acker             | O.O. Sylte        |
| Gena Sylte             | John Harstad      |
| Gust Ankrud            | Christine Harstad |
| Nellie Larson          | Martin E. Bratley |
| Ella E. Bartlett       | Syre Bratley      |
| Eliza Rudrud           | Selma Anderson    |
| Matilda Collard Haugen | Leila Knutson     |
| Mary Baglien           | Christine Larson  |
| Mary Olson             | B. Christianson   |
| Betsy Skogen           | A.O. Anderson     |
| Anna Anderson          | D.E.C. Haagenson  |

The main purposes of this Royal Neighbor Camp, the largest fraternal organization in America are Fraternal, Charitable and Benevolent Activities such as State and National

Scholarships, Orphan Benefits, Patriotism, Disaster Aid, (fire and flood), Rehabilitation, and Parade Participation.

The name "Royal Neighbor" was derived from the "Good Samaritan" story found in the 10th Chapter of St. Luke.

The present elective officers are:

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Oracle —         | Lillian Mergenthal                            |
| Past Oracle —    | Cordula McNamee                               |
| Vice Oracle —    | Violet Melsby                                 |
| Chancellor —     | Pearl Ashland                                 |
| Recorder —       | Marian Koering                                |
| Receiver —       | Cecelia Nelson                                |
| Marshal —        | Olive Bailey                                  |
| Inner Sentinel — | Jeanette Ellingson                            |
| Outer Sentinel — | Lilas Mueller                                 |
| Managers —       | Kathryn Floyd<br>Barbara Deck<br>Pearl Hanson |

Appointive officers are:

|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Faith —         | Beverly Hamre   |
| Courage —       | Eleanor Foss    |
| Modesty —       | Clara Wentworth |
| Unselfishness — | Hazel Howard    |
| Endurance —     | Violet Grage    |



RNA float, July 4, 1924, made by Henry Talmo. Riding on float are Carrie Shultz, Frances Talmo, Helen Engebretson, Edna Shultz, and Martha Knutson.

## HILLSBORO WOMEN'S CLUB

Thirteen Hillsboro women who felt the need for a woman's organization met in the assembly room of the Court House on November 4, 1932. The decision to form the Hillsboro Women's Club was unanimous. Officers elected were: Mrs. Oscar Johnson, President; Mrs. Leif Christenson, Vice President; Mrs. A.L. Halverson, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Herman Holzkamm, Corresponding Secretary; and Mrs. A.C. Hagen, Treasurer.

Other charter members were: Mrs. W.C. Henning, Mrs. G. McLain Johnson, Mrs. S. Vinje, Mrs. Morris Stern, Mrs. John Glenn, Miss Anna Nestoss, Mrs. Jack Henning, Mrs. W.H. Cuthbert, Mrs. P.B. Peterson, Mrs. E.E. Johnson, Mrs. L.E. George, Mrs. George Newgard, Miss Vila George, Mrs. D.D. Kelly, Mrs. Fred Mergenthal, Mrs. A. Anderson, Mrs. J.C. Kopanger, Mrs. H. Engel, and Miss Christie Hagen.

The Club was organized for the consideration of cultural and educational topics, community service and social enjoyment. Annual teas, Christmas parties and picnics have been highlights each year.

In 1936 the Club began to raise funds for the sponsorship of a city library. The Women's Club Library was first established in the J.C. Penney Store (presently the Johnson Store) and was later moved to the City Hall. This project was financed by rummage sales. After a city library was established in conjunction with the School Library, the Women's Club has continued to buy books and periodicals for adult patrons.

Other endeavors have included distribution of Christmas gifts to needy children, sponsorship of youth groups, raising funds for the Community Hospital, helping to organize a local PTA, judging of events and contests, and promoting local charity drives. During World War II the Club shared community responsibility in helping to sell War Bonds, and assisting the Red Cross Activities.

In recent years the Club has continued to purchase books for the Library and provide scholarships for students attending Music Camp at the International Peace Gardens. The Club will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in 1982.

Current Officers are: Orella Woods, President; Adele Carr, Vice President; Mildred Paxson, Secretary; Myrtle Rudrud, Treasurer. There are 33 members.

## HILLSBORO MASONIC LODGE



Hillsboro Masonic Temple

One hundred years ago, late in the fall of 1881, a group of ten Master Masons living in and around Hillsboro, petitioned the Grand Lodge of Dakota Territory, for a dispensation to form a Masonic Lodge in Hillsboro. The petition was granted the following spring and Hillsboro Lodge #32 of Dakota Territory held its first regular meeting. In 1889 when Dakota Territory was dissolved and North Dakota and South Dakota became

separate states of the union the Grand Lodge of Dakota Territory was in like manner divided into separate jurisdictions and Hillsboro Lodge #32 became Hillsboro Lodge #10.

The ten charter members of the Hillsboro lodge were John F. Selby, William De'Argent, Edgar S. Kneeland, Asa H. Morgan, Elmore Y. Sarles, James R. Cook, Joseph P. Clark, Henry S. Easton, William Barclay and Henry C. Sherman. For this purpose all were required to demit from their mother lodges. Passage of time dims the memory of those men of a hundred years ago and due to the destruction of all lodge records in the fire of 1891 research was necessary to identify some of them. It is interesting to review the record of those early citizens and their stations in the life of the community.

1. John Franklin Selby demitted from Edinburg Lodge #550 of Pennsylvania and became the first Master of Hillsboro Lodge. He was a lawyer of wide reputation, a leading member of the Constitutional Convention, United States District Attorney, member of the State Legislature and in 1891 Grand Master of all Masonic Lodges in North Dakota.

2. William De'Argent demitted from Hiram Lodge #1342 of Ontario, Canada and was minister of the Congregational Church at Caledonia.

3. Edgar S. Kneeland demitted from Herman Lodge #47 of Minnesota and was the first depot agent at Hillsboro.

4. Asa H. Morgan before moving to Hillsboro was a Hudson's Bay Company agent at Frog Point, under Walter J.S. Traill, a merchant at Caledonia and first chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Traill County.

5. Elmore Yocum Sarles demitted from Kane Lodge #61 of Wisconsin. He was the first cashier of the Traill County Bank of Hillsboro, Governor of North Dakota in 1905 and Illustrious Potentate of El Zagal Shrine in 1913.

6. James R. Cook demitted from Hartland Lodge #211 of Michigan and was a butcher by trade.

7. Joseph Prime Clerk demitted from Passumpaic Lodge #27 of Peachem, Vermont. He was a merchant at Caledonia before moving to Hillsboro where he was engaged in the farm machinery business.

8. Henry S. Easton demitted from Merrickville Lodge #55 at Ontario, Canada. He was a farmer in the Hillsboro area.

9. William Barclay demitted from St. Andrews Lodge #465 of Scotland. He was a wheat buyer at Hillsboro.

10. Henry C. Sherman demitted from Eagle Lodge #67 of Vermont. He was a harness maker by trade.

These were the dedicated Masons who organized the Hillsboro Masonic Lodge. Since its organization hundreds of men have sought the benefits of its fellowship and philosophy of life and the membership included business men, artisans, farmers, educators, lawyers, doctors and ministers of the gospel. Many achieved prominence in their various fields of endeavor and in Masonic service. In the Hillsboro Masonic Temple are displayed photographs of all Past Masters of the lodge, valuable additions to the history of the community and of great interest to relatives and visiting Masons.

The lodge has had seven different locations during its existence. The first lodge room was in a small one story warehouse situated on the lot now occupied by the telephone exchange and it soon became necessary to find larger quarters. The second floor of the A.H. Morgan building adjoining the



old bank building being available, it was rented and furnished and remained the lodge home until the big fire of 1891 when nearly all buildings in the block were destroyed. The lodge lost not only its furnishings but all original records. The city fathers offered quarters in the Firemen's Room in the City Hall building which was a frame building situated north of the Arne's Fairway market. There it remained for a time until the new Union Block was completed in 1892 when it rented the second floor of that portion of the Union Building owned by J.H. Hanson. This location could now be described as the second story of the Johnson Stores building. The lodge grew rapidly in the 1890s. There were many applications for membership, not only from Hillsboro but from Buxton, Caledonia, Reynolds, Cummings, Grandin and Blanchard as well. In the early 1900s it became necessary to procure larger quarters and Mr. A.L. Plummer offered the second floor of the Hillsboro National Bank Building with a fifty foot frontage. The site is now the Jack and Jill store. Here the lodge was comfortably located in a large lodge room, adjoining banquet hall and kitchen, and lounge. Older members today still remember with pride the

unusual black and red Masonic carpet that covered the entire lodge room floor, the settees with red upholstery, officer's hand carved chairs and the Spanish leather chairs in the lounge. It all went up in smoke and flames in the fire of 1939 together with all business establishments and offices in the north half of the block. Mr. Ole Evans came to the rescue and offered the second floor of his grocery store. It was small and quite inadequate but was home number six. A building fund was authorized for the construction of a new Masonic Temple. Members were generous with their contributions and when \$35,000 had been accumulated, construction was to begin. World War II and the war effort caused a long delay but home number seven was completed, furnished and occupied in 1951 clear and free of all debt.

The lodge has passed through many trying situations. There were the good times of peace and prosperity, the unhappy times of fires and depressions. Hillsboro Lodge #10, however, weathered all storms and has an outstanding record in the Grand Lodge of North Dakota and in the life of the community.

## ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR



**Gertrude Diehl, Worthy Grand Matron of North Dakota, Order of the Eastern Star.**



**Jean T. Kaldor, State Mother Advisor, Order of Rainbow Girls in North Dakota.**



**Orella Woods, State Mother Advisor, Order of Rainbow Girls in North Dakota.**

The Order of the Eastern Star is a Fraternal Organization and is founded upon the Holy Scriptures. The lessons the members receive are given to assist them in building their own individual character and to be of service to humanity.

Hillsboro Chapter No. 18, Order of the Eastern Star was organized on May 15, 1895 with Mr. L.A. Rose of Fargo acting as Worthy Grand Patron, who installed the officers. There were sixteen charter members, including Della L. Hyde, Worthy Matron and John E. Paulson, Worthy Patron. The other members were Sarah Fagundus, Elbert W. Kneeland, Carrie Morgan, Margaret Cameron, Mabel Paulson, Mary Cameron, Kate Elliot, Minnie H. Kneeland, Kate Schuler, Francis Harrison, John Schuler, Charles Morgan, James E. Hyde and Thomas Harrison.

During the years the Chapter has had three members serve as Worthy Grand Patrons of the Grand Chapter, Order of the

Eastern Star of North Dakota — Thomas Harrison served in 1901; John F. Selby in 1903-1904 and Roy W. Johnston in 1941-1942 and one member, Gertrude Q. Diehl served as Worthy Grand Matron of North Dakota in 1960-1961. In 1935 Thomas Johnson, Past Grand Patron and Mildred Johnson, Past Grand Matron affiliated with Hillsboro Chapter No. 18.

The members were busy during the war years helping with Red Cross work.

On February 10, 1939 fire destroyed the Masonic Temple and all of Hillsboro Chapter's properties. Only the records were saved. For a time the meetings were held in homes and from 1940-1952 in the Knights of Pythias Hall. Since 1952 the meetings have been held in the new Masonic Temple.

In 1937 Hillsboro Chapter No. 18, Order of the Eastern Star assisted in organizing Hillsboro Assembly No. 30 Order of

the Rainbow for Girls and sponsored the Assembly until 1972. The Assembly is now sponsored by Hillsboro Lodge No. 10, A.F. and A.M. Hillsboro Chapter also assisted in instituting Mowidosis Chapter of Hendrum, Minnesota on October 3, 1950.

The Diamond Anniversary of Hillsboro Chapter was celebrated on May 16, 1970 when Orella Woods was Worthy Matron and Ralph Diehl, Worthy Patron.

Through the years various gifts and memorials were given to the Chapter: Battery-powered candles, in memory of Roy W. Johnston; Pedestals, in memory of Nellie MacFarland; silver pitcher, in memory of Laura Harstad; new Jewels, in memory of Thomas Johnson; Bible and gavel from A.L. and Dagny Halverson and silver service from Nettie Kaldor.

Hillsboro Chapter No. 18 officially closed its books and surrendered its Charter on November 11, 1972. When the Chapter closed it had seventy-eight members and an active Past Matrons Club with a membership of twenty-eight.

## ORDER OF THE RAINBOW FOR GIRLS

Order of the Rainbow for Girls is a Fraternal Organization for girls from age twelve to twenty and it promotes training for graceful leadership, poise, loyalty in service, self confidence, good character and high moral standards.

Twenty-five girls were initiated when Hillsboro Assembly No. 30 Order of the Rainbow for Girls was organized on June 4, 1937 and was sponsored by Hillsboro Chapter No. 18 Order of the Eastern Star.

Blanche Lynn Whittmore, Supreme Deputy of Order of the Rainbow for Girls of North Dakota was a special guest at this meeting. Joyce Ferris, Grand Worthy Advisor installed the officers of the Assembly, with Margaret Ann Sarles-Sorum, as Worthy Advisor and Florence George as Mother Advisor.

The Assembly has had two State Mother Advisors, Jean Kaldor and Orella Woods. Several girls of the Assembly have held State elective Grand Offices, Melva Jane Sorum-Engel, Grand Worthy Advisor; Geraldine Jeffers-Hatfield, Grand Recorder; and Nancy Carr-Kaler, Grand Treasurer.

To date there are twenty-four girls and they are sponsored by Hillsboro Lodge No. 10 A.F. and A.M.

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Hillsboro Council #4690

The Hillsboro Knights of Columbus started with a few members of Fargo Council #782. As the membership increased, a club was organized in 1946, under the guidance of Fargo Council #782. John (Jack) Kritzberger was elected the first president. An annual Mother's Day Banquet was the major social event of the Club. About 12 years later (1958) the members decided to organize a Council in Hillsboro to gain more of the benefits offered by the Supreme Council Knights of Columbus.

The Knights are Catholic men who are dedicated to Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. Hillsboro Council #4690 was officially chartered with eighty seven (87) members on December 14th, 1958. Dignitaries of the Knights of Columbus from throughout the state attended the event. Mike

McCoy was elected the first Grand Knight. Membership soon grew to over 100 members and the council has maintained that number since. Two thirds of the Hillsboro Members participate in the insurance feature of the order. Hillsboro Council #4690 contribute toward projects such as, Community Hospital, Home on the Range for boys, Gifts to Catholic high school graduates, Christmas party for young folks, Free throw contest for area students, Altar boys outing, and social events for members and their families.

The Knights campaign against drug abuse, for decent literature and support the Right to Life campaign. A national advertising campaign is carried on to offer free literature to anyone interested in learning about the Catholic Faith. They carry on a service program of activities classified as Church, Community, Council and Youth. The Grand Knight for '80-'81 is Howard Cotton. Raymond Mueller has served as Financial Secretary since the Council's beginning.

## VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OSMON-LANE POST



Hannah Osmon, first president of VFW Auxiliary and mother of Albert Osmon Jr. for whom the Osmon-Lane Post was named.

The Osmon-Lane Post of the VFW was named after two young Hillsboro boys killed at Guadalcanal in World War II, Albert Osmon Jr. and Virgil Lane. The Post was instituted in May 1945 with the assistance of Herman Offner of Fargo, the Department VFW Chief-of-Staff.

Charter members were Mark Olson (the first Commander), Eugene Brenden, Walter Ludwig, Orlin Thomson, Arvid Almo, William Moline, William Peterson, Norman Hagen, Lowell Hilstad, Jack Tunum, Frederick Jahn, Oscar Hagen and Dan Mjogdalen.

Meetings were held in a variety of locations until the purchase of the old Allis Chalmers building (next to the present

First Federal Savings and Loan). After the formation of the Auxiliary, the two groups improved the building and met there for several years.

In 1970-71 the American Legion Post #4 and the VFW Post combined to remodel and establish their present meeting place, called the "Vets Club" on Main Street (between Kent's Jack and Jill and the bakery).

The first Loyalty Day was hosted in 1973 under Post Commander Gerald Olson. The post is a National Life Member of the National Children's Home at Eaton Rapids, Michigan, and sponsors the annual Voice of Democracy program.



35th anniversary of VFW Osmon-Lane Post #4172 October 18, 1980. Mrs. Arnie (Joanne) Haugen; Gerald Olson, Post Quarter-master; Larry Young, District 10 Commander; Mrs. Young; Mark Olson, first Commander of the Post; Alice Olson, past State President of the VFW Auxiliary. Standing: Arnie Haugen, present Post Commander; and Eleanor Holland, present Auxiliary President.

The Post has helped furnish two rooms at the Soldier's Home at Lisbon. The Post has been served by 30 commanders, three of whom have received the All State Commander's Award: Albert Oie, Albin Thompson and Leslie Hams. Gerald Olson was District Commander in 1936, State Inspector in 1977-79, and National Aide-de-Camp in 1980. Oswald Bakke is a former District Commander. In 1976 a State Plaque was earned for the largest membership gain.

The Post now has a membership of 192, and participates in all the Memorial and Veteran's Day programs.



VFW charter members: (front) Orlin Thomson, Walter Ludwig, Mark Olson, Eugene Brenden, and Fred Jahn. (second row) District Commander Herman Hoffner, Norman Hagen, Oscar Hanson, Dan Mjogdalen, William Peterson. (back row) Toby Hilstad, Unidentified, Orlin Hagen.

## VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY TO OSMON-LANE POST 4172, HILLSBORO, ND



VFW Auxiliary Charter Picture. Front: Luella Meline, Marie Hanson, Violet Ludwig, Violet Grage, Olivia Euren, Alma Thomson, Lois Bakkum, Marion Koering, Hannah Osmon. Second row: Anne Wold, Hedvig Forde, Ruth Meyer, Olga Rostad, Blanche Eidum, Bernice Fliescher, Ida Diehl, Ada Edmonds, Audrey Waters. Third row: Marie Larson, Marie Brenden, Blanche Iverson, Mattie Ingebretson, Amelia Baglien, Ardis Anderson, Agnes Knutson, Pearl Swenson, Margaret (Stirling) Gunderson. Fourth row: Olga Kamesch, Eleanor Foss, Ina Dullum, Ruth (Flieth) Siegert, Avis Thompson, Lila Smith, Mary Johnson, Ella Zimmerman, Mary Euren. Fifth row: Mary Dunn, Helen Ludwig, Florence Anderson, Lillian Mergenthal, Ciara Meyer, Elizabeth Hanson.



The purpose of the Auxiliary is to work and assist the Osmon-Lane Post 4172 and it's members; and to promote the veterans programs. Their programs and that of the Auxiliary are to uphold and defend our country and safe guard our American freedom by participation in Americanism, legislation, government, community service, citizenship, youth programs, hospital service and remembering our Gold Star mothers and sisters.

To become a member you must be a mother, wife, widow, sister, half-sister, daughter, foster daughter, grand mother, or grand daughter of a veteran who served in any branch of United States armed forces in a foreign war.

On December 3, 1951, the Auxiliary to Osmon-Lane Post 4172 was instituted. Laura Spearl, Department President of VFW Auxiliary and District 10 President installed Mrs. Hannah Osmon as the first president along with the slate of officers. Mrs. Osmon was the mother of Albert Osmon, Jr. for which the Osmon-Lane Post has its name.

The first auxiliary meetings were held at the old city armory. In 1953 we moved to the KP Hall, upstairs over what is now the Rexall Drug Store. Then in 1955 we moved to the building next door to the old Banner building. In 1971 we moved to what is now the Vet's Club.

The auxiliary began with 63 charter members. The membership has grown to a total of 130 members.

Mrs. Alice Olson served as District 10 President in 1957 and as State President in 1958. Mrs. Lillian Mergenthal served as District 10 President in 1977.

As a Post and Auxiliary we hosted District 10 Loyalty Celebration in 1973 and 1980. We co-sponsor Memorial Day and Veteran's Day program each year. We also sponsor the Voice of Democracy Program. In 1978, the state VOD winner was Vanessa Tronson from Hillsboro.

Numerous community service programs have been carried out throughout the years. Some of which are: sponsoring the Girls Scouts, co-sponsoring Girl State, children's Christmas party, Lite-a-Bike and bike registration, Buddy poppies, Christmas gifts to Gold Star Mothers and Fair Acres residents, and Cancer Crusade.

## THE AMERICAN LEGION POST #4 Of Hillsboro, N.D.

About 40 veterans of World War I met at the Hillsboro City Hall on Aug. 4, 1919, organized and became members of the Lynn F. Spiering Post #4 American Legion of Hillsboro.

The following officers were elected: Commander, Duane Y. Sarles; Vice Commander, Casper Arneson; Adjutant, Herbert M. Nash; Historian, Duncan Sorum.

The charter was dated July 21, 1919 and the charter members listed as follows: Duane Y. Sarles, Peter C. Arneson, George Robinson, Ernest O. Nelson, Grant R. Spiering, Orlin Baglien, Harley Swenson, Vernon Boyd, Donovan Bekkedahl, Carl B. Aamodt, Edward A. Gugel, J.P.M. Peterson, Samuel Talmo, Seymour Anderson, Austin Langseth, Albert O. Anderson, Earle R. Sarles, George Clefstad, Edwin H. Olson, Richard Jahr, A. Duncan Sorum, Nick Chester, Thomas Foster, Frederick M. Weber, Clarence C. Simpson, George A. Rudrud, Iver Acker.



**Fifty year recognition for veterans of World War I. Front row: Walter Willison, Bill Jeffers, and Hallie Garrett, and John Gesche. Back row: Mark Olson, Jorgen Talmo, and Oscar Nelson.**

The members decided that their new post should be named after Lynn F. Spiering who was born on Nov. 12, 1897 and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Spiering.

He enlisted in Co. L., 164th Inf., N. Dak. National Guard of Hillsboro and served in France during World War I and was killed in action on July 20, 1918. His body was brought to the U.S. in 1936, 18 years after his death. He was given a military funeral in Hillsboro on May 24, 1936 and the services were in charge of the American Legion and Co. L.

The post erected a monument to the memory of Lynn Spiering in Riverside Cemetery where he was buried. The monument was dedicated on May 30, 1939.

To him and the many other veterans buried here, honor is done to their memory on Memorial Day by the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars. The American Legion has placed white wooden crosses on each grave of the many veterans here buried.

Through the efforts of the American Legion several years ago a wading pool was constructed in Woodland Park, which today is part of the municipal swimming pool. It has also sponsored for many years Legion Junior Baseball.

Following is a list of Commanders of the Post from 1919 through 1980:

Duane Y. Sarles, Clarence D. Kelly, George Robinson, Samuel Baglien, Peter C. Balkan, G. McLain Johnson, Seymour Anderson, Ernest E. Johnson, Ernest A. Iverson, Oscar L. Hanson, Fred Reyelts, A. Hvidston, Paul Tehelka, Clyde H. Knudson, Harry M. Anderson, John S. Flaa, Julius J. Elster, C.L. Covell, Jorgen Talmo, Morris Stern, Conrad Leraas, Clarence Anderson, Richard T. Jahr, Paul Fankhanel, Thomas G. Johnson, Lawrence Hermanson, Robert Bovaird, Gordon Falconer, Orville Sandmark, Harold Bohnsack, Harry Salisbury, O.M. Thoreson, Lloyd F. Thompson, Allan Arneson, Kenneth Matteson, James Kress, Garland Sagen, Earl Fankhanel, Lyle Henning, Oswald Bakke, Hiram R. Nelson, John Nelson, Howard Carver, Gene Kjos, Les Hams, Russel Smith, Art Magnuson, Galen Jeffers, Truman Swenseid, Art Grove, Albert Oie, and Ronald Rotvold.



The military funeral for Lynn Spiering May 25, 1936, whose body was found in France, eighteen years after his death. His mother is seen behind the casket and the bearer in the foreground is Jerome Baglien.



Lynn Spiering, after whom the Hillsboro Legion Post was named. Killed in France on July 2, 1918.

Having always occupied rented quarters, the post during World War II decided to raise funds for the construction of a new building. Shortly after the war construction was started on building on Main Street about a half block south of Caledonia Ave. The Legion and Auxiliary moved into the basement of the new Legion building in 1950. The upstairs or main floor was not finished until a few years later.

Around the early seventies the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars reached an agreement whereby they now share ownership of the building. Together they operate the Vets Club on the main floor.

The American Legion holds its regular meetings on the second Tuesday of every month.

## THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

The Hillsboro American Legion Auxiliary was organized October 25, 1921, by 44 local women who had husbands, fathers, sons, or brothers belonging to the Lynn Spiering Post #4. These women chose Mrs. W.A. Kelly to serve as president, Mrs. Clarence Simpson as vice president, Lizzie Talmo (Balkan) as secretary, and Eleanor Sarles (Goodman) as treasurer.

The charter was issued on May 15, 1922. This charter, together with the flags, history books, etc., was burned in the 1939 fire. A duplicate charter now hangs in the Vets Club. The first club rooms were shared with the Legion in the old Gunder Howard Building. The treasurers book in 1923 shows Mrs. Krum received \$1.25 for cleaning the club rooms. The membership dues in 1921 were \$1.50 per year; in 1981 the annual dues are \$5.00.

The Auxiliary has been active in many local activities. During the depression years, they supervised a free milk program in the Hillsboro school. A pint of milk a day was given to any child unable to buy milk. During the winter months baskets of food were collected and each Saturday they were distributed to the needy. A store room of used clothing was maintained in the City Hall. As Traill County was the last county in the state to receive Federal Aid, the Auxiliary assisted many underprivileged children with dental and medical care.

During the years when Naturalization Hearings were held in Traill County, the Auxiliary gave instructions, presented programs, and gave each applicant for citizenship a small silk flag as a memento of the occasion.

The largest contribution of the Auxiliary was the Hospital Benefit Banquet in 1952. This occasion netted \$2071.48 for the Community Hospital Building Program.

The organization currently helps to sponsor several activities, including Girls State candidates, Cub Scouts, International Peace Garden Music Camp, Poppy Sales, Veteran's Day Programs, Memorial Day Programs, the annual Legion birthday party, Hillsboro Recreation Program, and the Fargo Veteran's Hospital. During the World War II years the Auxiliary helped sponsor the Boy's State candidates and the War Savings Stamp Program in the school.

During the 1976 Bicentennial, an oak tree was planted on the Traill County Courthouse lawn by the Americanism Chairwoman Alice Olson. Each Memorial Day, crosses are placed at the Cemetery. These crosses have been made for many years by Jorgen Talmo, a veteran of World War II. Part of the yearly activities are to honor the Gold Star Mothers. These are women who have lost sons during the wars.

This Auxiliary has won several honors in Americanism and Community Service. In 1981 the members total 135, and junior members total 17. The 1981 officers are: Mrs. Leon (Rose) Dux, president; Mrs. Donald (Becky) Waslien, vice president; Mrs. Art (Violet) Grove, secretary-treasurer; and Mrs. Truman (Edna) Swenseid, chaplain.

\* \* \* \*

The first veterans organization in Hillsboro was the Morgan Post of the GAR; its auxiliary was the Women's Relief Corps.

## THE TRAILLSMEN



The Traillsmen. Seated: Walt Bohnsack, Robert Porter, Kolan Fossum, Myrtle Jahr, Accompanist, Jean T. Kaldor, Director, Victor Horne, Julius Elster, and Julian Harstad. Standing: Morrie Thompson, Jack Henning, Howard (Buster) Brown, Chauncey T. Kaldor, Conrad Leraas, Milton Waslien, Irvin Bohnsack, Clarence Anderson, Lyle Henning, Wilson Forbes, Willard Mollerstrom, Vincent Yahna, Alfred Boe, Clyde Muir, Earl Halverson, Chester Burley, Rudy Nelson, Alphield Lyng, and David Hanson.

An excerpt from the "By George" column of the *Hillsboro Banner*, dated March 21, 1952, put into words the feeling of the whole community when Lyle George wrote: "The Traillsmen are becoming more popular every day. Last Friday night they sang at Arthur, North Dakota, and received one of the finest receptions they have enjoyed. The audience was so appreciative that the Traillsmen literally 'sang their heads off.'" This was only one of the many complimentary articles about this group of men who, through the persistent efforts of Julius J. Elster (then Superintendent of Schools) and other interested men, organized the Hillsboro Community Men's Chorus on July 18, 1949. Because of the wide territory from which the group was drawn, a more suitable name seemed necessary. A "name contest" was held and Mrs. Orvin Anderson came up with the winning name, "The Traillsmen." The Hillsboro Civic and Commerce Association provided the necessary funds to pay for the initial investment of music.

The men came from all over the county, from Grandin, Blanchard, Hillsboro, Kelso, Cummings, Caledonia, and even as far away as Buxton and Reynolds. Their love of singing and fellowship inspired them to be faithful on rehearsal nights, which were set for Mondays at the City Hall in Hillsboro. This attitude brought them together in spite of bad weather in winter.

At their first meeting Mrs. Chauncey Kaldor (Jean) was named Director of the group. As a result of her able guidance and her ability to select music that would appeal to all listeners, the Traillsmen developed into a singing group which was in

demand for many community affairs and became the subject of many "raves" in the local papers. The accompanist for the group was Mrs. R.T. Jahr (Myrtle). The officers chosen at that time were Walter Bohnsack, President; Alphield Lyng, Vice President; and Julius Elster, Secretary. The first program listed the following original members: Orvin Anderson, Simon Aune, Edward Berdahl, Alf Berg, Lloyd Best, Alfred Boe, Henry Boeddeker, Walter Bohnsack, Norman Dahl, Karl Diehl, Julius Elster, Gordon Falconer, Wilson Forbes, Kolan Fossum, Albert Halverson, Earl Halverson, Julian Harstad, Richard Jahr, Chauncey Kaldor, Conrad Leraas, Alphield Lyng, Arnott McCradie, Willard Mollerstrom, Hiram Nelson, Rudolph Nelson, Duane Nysveen, Myron Nysveen, Jerome Nysveen, Arlie Oman, Enoch Pederson, Robert Porter, Ralph Rudrud, Milton Waslien, Morris Thompson, Junior Sundby, Palmer Sundby, and Joe Zimmer. Many of this original group continued throughout, although there were drop-outs as well as additions during these years, as some left the community and others arrived. The nucleus consisted of at least twenty-eight men, yet the total sometimes reached almost forty. Later members of the group included Lyle Henning, Jack Henning, Clyde Muir, Erwin Bohnsack, Clarence Anderson, David Hanson, Vic Horn, Don Horn, Irvin Biel, and Walter Peters.

Rehearsals began in earnest that summer of 1949 in anticipation of their first program, which was presented on the stage of the Traill Theatre on September 20, 1949, to a capacity crowd. This program was followed in December by participa-





Jean Kaldor, Director, and Clyde Muir, 1952 President of the Traillsmen.

tion in the dedication services for the new High School Auditorium, where they sang several selections. The enthusiasm of the audiences at every appearance resulted in the Traillsmen working diligently on other appearances.

In April 1950 the first minstrel show, "Dixie Jamboree," was produced in our new auditorium, where they again played to a packed house. According to the *Banner*, "from the opening curtain until the final song, the show moved along at a pace that made the one and a half hours seem but a few minutes." Adding to the success of the production was the use of colored footlights to show off the blackfaced comedians to best advantage. Soloists were Alpeheid Lyng, Don and Vic Horne, Julian Harstad, Bob Porter, and Walter Bohnsack. Ralph Rudrud performed a tap dance to the tune of 'Chattanooga Shoe Shine Boy,' sung by Don Horne. An encore was needed to satisfy the crowd." This performance was given again in the Caledonia Auditorium on April 18, 1950. That week the "By George" column in the *Banner* stated: "The entire group of entertainers put on a magnificent performance with several outstanding numbers that really brought down the house. The community welcomes the Traillsmen any time."

As soon as one performance was over, plans were made and rehearsals begun on another. The director continued to keep the group in top shape and ready to sing whenever called upon, which was often.

In April 1951 they staged, with a cast of thirty-eight, a "Gay Nineties" show to recapture the spirit of the late nineteenth century. The Traillsmen were assisted by a number of women of the community. The elaborate costuming made it a "gala" event. The men wore outfits of the nineties with blazer jackets, bowler hats, fancy vests, sideburns and moustaches. The women wore dresses of that era, many with original outfits, lent by people of the community. Two shows were presented and the attendance ran to 1500, the first night's audience being the largest crowd ever to attend a function in the new auditorium at that time. The same program was presented later in Mayville under the auspices of the PEO Sisterhood, where they played to a packed crowd. A portion of the proceeds was donated by the sponsors to the Mayville High School Band Uniform Fund. Both performances were praised in the local newspapers.

The Traillsmen continued to sing for many community affairs such as dedications, Flag Day programs, a Landings-lag Convention, and an annual meeting of the REA at the Field House on the University campus at Grand Forks.

In March 1952 the Traillsmen gave a Hospital Benefit performance in the High School auditorium. A review of this concert described their efforts as follows: "It is fitting that one organization with a community-wide membership should undertake to raise funds for another organization which has as its purpose the providing of facilities for the care of the sick of this area. Town and country voices are blended in perfect harmony in the Traillsmen organization. The Community Hospital seeks a similar relationship between town and country people in its organization." This concert netted over \$600 for the hospital; and, in a gesture which was roundly applauded, the organization turned over its concert guarantee of \$100 as an additional contribution.

This same month the Traillsmen gave two concerts, one in Gardner under the auspices of the American Legion Auxiliary, and one in Halstad, sponsored by the Sons of Norway Lodge.

About this time the group was saddened by the death of one of its most dedicated members, and one who was instrumental in its organization, Mr. Julius Elster, who had been in failing health. The Traillsmen were called upon to sing for his funeral. They sang two of his favorites, "Prayer at Evening" and "Seek Ye the Lord."

Rehearsals were in full swing for a new production, "Alabama Jubilee," another black-face comedy in costume, to be presented in December 1952. The feature acts starred Bill Buckingham and Ervin Bohnsack as "The Two Black Crows," and a tap dance by Ralph Rudrud, decked out in a black outfit with reflecting paint to create the illusion of a skeleton, with the group singing "Dry Bones." The Traillsmen frankly admitted the need of funds for more music, so this performance was for their own benefit. After performing two nights to full houses, with special encores to Vic Horne and Ralph Rudrud, Clyde Muir, President of the organization, was quoted as saying, "It was a whale of a success." This performance was followed by request performances in Arthur, sponsored by the Community Club; Gardner, sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary; and Mayville, sponsored by the Mayville High School Band.

In April 1953 the Traillsmen received their Incorporation Charter from the Secretary of State. Incorporators named in the charter of the non-profit organization were Clyde Muir, presi-



"Little Nell" (Ann McLean) and "The Villian" (Ralph Rudrud).



"We have come to sing of "Rig-o-lett"

Walt Bohnsack, Irvin Bohnsack, Milton Waslien, Vincent Yahna, Victor Horne, Alphield Lyng, and Rudy Nelson. In the foreground are Jean Kaldor, Director, and Myrtle Jahr, Accompanist.

dent; Alphield Lyng, Vice President; Willard Mollerstrom, Secretary; David Hanson, Treasurer, and Walter Bohnsack, Business Manager. The petition for incorporation requested the charter for the "purposes of preserving and extending musical appreciation."

Also in 1953 a benefit concert for the Blanchard Polio Benefit Fund was given. When the Bjarne Male Chorus of Grand Forks observed its sixtieth anniversary that year, the Traillsmen hosted that group at their regular rehearsal time and held a joint rehearsal with lunch and a social hour.

As the years passed the Traillsmen continued to add new music to their repertoire and continued to serve and to entertain the public in the Hillsboro area. Old programs tell of their participation in PTA programs. One news article from the Hunter newspaper, described the men as "singing with evident enjoyment that was transferred to the listeners." The group sponsored the Fargo Chapter of "The Barbership Singers," presented a program for the patients in the Veterans Hospital in Fargo, and held another hospital benefit concert in the High School Auditorium. Each December, carols were sung around the "Community Christmas Tree" after which the chorus members and wives enjoyed a Christmas party at the city Hall.

Besides giving concerts, helping with worthy benefits and entertaining the community, a touching act of dedication occurred when eight of the group donated blood to the blood bank at the University of North Dakota campus for our former member Walter Peters, who was a patient in the Dunseith Sanatorium, and who had to undergo major surgery requiring blood — "Proving," the *Hillsboro Banner* said, "the old axiom that the old friends are the best friends."

The Traillsmen continued their rehearsals and programs well into the 1950's before disbanding. Many of the original members continued to be active throughout the life of the organization. At the last business meeting the elected officers were: Walter Bohnsack, President; Erwin Bohnsack, Vice President; Clyde Muir, Secretary; David Hanson, Treasurer; David Kruse, Librarian; Morris Thompson, Board Member; and Myrtle Jahr, Historian.

Jean Kaldor continued as Director of the Traillsmen, and much of the success achieved by the group can be attributed to her efforts. Her impeccable taste in music and her capable direction, combined with the enthusiasm of the loyal Traillsmen, created a musical group that was a source of inspiration and pride to the entire community.

A fitting ending for this history is to repeat the goals set forth at the first meeting of the Traillsmen in July of 1949. These goals were as follows: "The sole purpose is a musical one, in order to provide an opportunity to enjoy the fellowship of singing together, to foster a fine community spirit, and to render a community service." All of these goals surely became a reality for the Traillsmen and for the Community.

*Compiled and written by Myrtle (Jahr) Rudrud, who richly benefited from her years as accompanist for "The Traillsmen." September 1980.*



Gay Nineties Review

Front: Walt Bohnsack, Ralph Rudrud, Arlie Oman, Walt Peters, Kolan Fossum, Morrie Thompson, Rudy Nelson, Don Horne, Vic Horne, Julian Harstad. Back: "Chick" Diehl, "Chuck" Kaldor, Lyall Henning, Dick Warner, Bob Porter, Irvin Bohnsack, Clyde Muir, Clarence Anderson, Wilson Forbes, Julius Elster, Alphield Lyng, David Hanson.

## HILLSBORO BOY SCOUTS

Troop 263



George Burck and members of Troop 163 during 83 Mile hike in 1975.

The first Boy Scout troop in Hillsboro was formed around 1916. Ralph Rudrud of Hillsboro was a member of that troop and recalled a few facts about those early days. The first scoutmaster was Rev. Jockinson and the scouts spent some of their camping time along the Goose River near Kingman Hill west of Hillsboro. Ralph's tenting partner on some of these outings was John McCain. The uniform of the day consisted of khaki shirt and a scout pin. The troop went strong until about the end of WWI.

There are no known records of an active scout troop in Hillsboro again until 1934. The chartering sponsor for the troop that year was the Hillsboro Junior Chamber of Commerce. Members of the scout committee included C.A. Ellingson, Scoutmaster; J.J. Elster, Chairman; Daniel Mjogdalen and R.L. Nelson, Committeemen. Scouts listed were Gordon Johnston, Chester Steenson, Anton Carlson, George Robinson, Vincent Burg, Arnold Sorum, Lyall Henning, Duane Sorum, Joseph Hegge, and John Strom. The troop was originally assigned #163 which has since been changed to Troop #263.

Also in past records is found Troop #164 of Bohnsack Township sponsored by the Bohnsack Community Club in 1940. Scoutmaster for this troop was Chester Cleveland, assisted by Norbert Lemm, T.H. Olson and Ross Dally.

Over the years the activity of the Hillsboro troop has been fairly steady and since the V.F.W. Osman Lane Post 4172 took over the sponsorship over 30 years ago, the troop has been chartered every year up to the present time.

One event in recent history that characterizes the scouting movement was our 83 mile hike undertaken by the Hillsboro troop in the summer of 1975. Scoutmaster at the time was George Burck. The scouts hiked cross-country to Valley City, camping along the way, to take part in a council conclave being held there at that time. Despite the blisters and sore muscles, the scouts lived up to the main ideas of scouting, namely character, citizenship and fitness.

In the spring of 1976, the untimely death of Scoutmaster George Burck greatly saddened everyone in the Hillsboro community, especially the boys of his troop. His leadership and dedication to everything with which he was connected served as a model for others to follow. He was truly a Boy Scout, in every sense of the word.



George Burck presenting Eagle Badge to Richard Jenny.

The Eagle rank is the highest award presented to scouts and is not an easy one to earn. Hopefully without leaving anyone out, these are the individuals that have become Eagle Scouts through the Hillsboro troop:

George Robinson  
Ray Johnston  
Gary Schornack  
Frank Turman  
Devon Johnson  
Charles Morgan  
Robert Nysveen  
Richard Muir  
Robert Cochrane  
Don Cochran  
Mark Baumgartner  
David Anderson  
Bill Mollerstrom  
Terry Larson  
Robert Lasham  
Richard Flieth

David Almquist  
Rocky Rude  
David Carr  
Tracy Wildeman  
Keith Burck  
Chuck Breen  
Jeff Nelson  
Roger Flieth  
Bradley Almquist  
Richard Jenny  
Paul Breen  
Robert Diehl  
Chad Wildeman  
Thomas Tweten  
Pat Breen  
Marvin Almquist

A recent addition to the scout troop is a replica of an Indian tepee that stands about 18 feet across and 20 feet high. It was presented to the Hillsboro scouts by Mrs. Doris Westbrook and her family. It was hand-made and hand-painted by her husband, Delos, and was used by him in his scouting days. It was a welcomed gift and will be seen many times in the years to come as a symbol of the Hillsboro Boy Scouts.

The present troop includes the following boys:

Mike R. Anderson  
Steve Berg  
Greg Beltz  
Loren Booth  
Charles Breen  
Mike Breen  
Richard Diehl  
Mike Evenson

Jaysen Guthmueller  
Barry McDonald  
Kelly Madsen  
Mark Messner  
Curtis Rohman  
Eddie Thomas  
Paul Baumgartner  
Steve Stenerson

Scoutmaster is Mike Beltz assisted by Larry Chandler and Thurston Nelson. Members of the troop committee are Les Hams, Roger Diehl, Roger Anderson, Dennis Guthmueller, James Hanson, Jack Hansen, Don Breen and Ed Baumgartner, Sr.

## HILLSBORO GIRL SCOUTS

The Brownie Scout Troop 401 and Junior Girl Scout Troop 402 were organized in December 1974. The Cadette Girl Scout Troop 403 was organized in September 1975. On December 17, 1974, the first annual carolling by Brownies and Juniors at the Hillsboro Nursing Home was held. The original leaders for the Brownies were Karen Guthmueller, Peggy Mantei, Anita Sapp, and Betty Wright. The original Junior leader was Sheryl Olson. In this Centennial Year the Brownie Leaders are Kari Jo Hanson and Peggy Eblen and the Junior-Cadette Leaders are Gertrude Burck, Anita Sapp, and Sharon Westbrook. The original sponsor for the Brownies was the Traill County NFO followed by the VFW Auxiliary. Through the years Brownie leaders have included: Sandra Mustad, Sandy Johnson, Carolyn Benzinger, Rose Dux, Charlotte McDonald, Audrey Schipper, and Elaine Haisley. Junior and Cadette leaders have included: Diana Punton, Lela Mortenson, Karen





**Brownies.** Front row: Joycelyn Bagge, Stephanie Sundby, Michelle Nelson, and Celeste Hanson. Second row: Tara Qualley, Karla Mooney, Julie Hanson, Karis Hanson, Becky Punton, and Lisa Hamre. Back row: Rachel Holo, Lisa Kozojed, Stacy Hawkins, Darcy Hamre, Stacy Berg, and Tina Bishop.



**Cadettes and Junior Girl Scouts.** Front row: Tara Qualle, Stephanie Sundby, Lisa Hamre, Julie Hanson, Jacelyn Bagge, Celeste Hanson, Michelle Nelson. Second row: Karis Hanson, Karla Mooney, Lisa Kozojed, Tina Bishop, Rachel Holo, Stacy Hawkins, Stacy Berg, Darcy Hamre, Becky Punton. Back row: Jill Westbrook, Joan Sapp, Rachel Munter, Wanda Lorch, Janelle Guthmueller. NOT PICTURED: Greta Burke, Karen Svaleson, Patty Eblen, and Amy Laxdal.



**Investiture Candle-Lighting Ceremony** by Cadette and Junior Girl Scouts. Joan Sapp, Wanda Lorch, Janelle Guthmueller, Jill Westbrook, Rachel Munter and Anita Sapp, Leader.

Guthmueller, and Mary Brunsdale. Cookie Chairmen have included: Liz Nelson, Carolyn Andrews, Barb Deck, Sheryl Olson, Audrey Schipper, and Pat Kozojed.

Many activities have been enjoyed and pursued by the girls during the last seven years: arts, crafts projects, camping, service projects, and learning activities. Speakers to the troops have included Janiece Wiley on the topic of Afghanistan, Harry Hausmann on woodcarving, and Mrs. Mark Olson on the history of the American flag. During the summers, Brownies and Juniors have planted flowers in front of the high school.

Hillsboro Girl Scout milestones:

Girls Scouts reorganized in Hillsboro in December 1974.

First annual carolling at Hillsboro Nursing Home in December 1974.

Scouts attended International Songfest at Grand Forks Air Base on February 22, 1975.

Brownies collected pennies during February 1975 for Northwestern State Bank.

First annual Cookie Sale was held February 28-March 11, 1975.

First annual Girl Scout Banquet was held on March 9, 1975. Each year the Scouts have visited a different church in town on Scout Sunday and then held their banquet at a different church.

Scouts gave a program to the Daughters of the Pioneers for the first time in November 1975.

Brownies donated children's books to the Hillsboro Hospital waiting room in December 1975.

Scouts attended and participated in the Scouts Art Show at Northwood in February 1976 and 1977.

First Annual Day Camp was held in Hillsboro Woodland Park in July, 1975. In the summer of 1980, the Girl Scouts from Mayville, N.D. participated in the sixth annual Hillsboro Girl Scout Day Camp.

Scouts participated in Hillsboro's 100th Birthday Parade in June 1975 and in the Bicentennial Parade in June 1976.

Juniors and Cadettes attended Camp Hiawatha in 1976 and Camp Tonowayo in 1977.

Juniors held babysitting sessions for visitors to the crafts fair in the summer of 1978 and to the flea market in the fall of 1978.

Scouts had booths at the minipark carnival and helped raise money for the minipark in the spring of 1978.

In the fall of 1980, the Juniors manned a booth for the Centennial Carnival.

For the future more of the same plus new ideas, new experience and fun for all.

—Anita Sapp

## HILLSBORO JAYCEES

The Hillsboro Jaycees were chartered February 25, 1970 by the Fargo and West Fargo Jaycees Chapters. The Jaycees are dedicated to the concepts of individual, management and community development. The Jaycees are a youngman's organization, ages 18 through 36, helping to develop leaders for the future. The Installation-Charter Banquet was honored by the

presence of the National Jaycee President, Andre Letendre. Charter Officers were: Mike Beltz, President; George James, Secretary; Francis Kritzberger, Treasurer; Jerry Otteson, Vice President; Gerald Usgaard, Vice President; Jack Hansen, State Director; Roger Diehl, Internal Director; and Lynn Soholt, External Director. Other Charter members were: Gale Boeddeker, Clayton Hoffman, Ken Erickson, Darrell Hanson, Lynn Kritzberger, John Murch, Jack Kuntz, Larry Thompson, Leo Ackerman, Wayne Rohman, Walter Wika, Wally Barch, Gerald Boeddeker, Gene Elhard, Art Fletcher, John Knudsvig, Gary Lindgren, Henry Pietrzak, Norm Prochnow, Russel Smith, Ed Beyer, and Leslie Rotvold.

The first Presidents, Mike Beltz (1970-71), Wally Barch (1971-72), and Rich Flieth (1972-73) experienced a fluctuation in membership; at one point membership dropped to a low of five active members causing some concern that the organization would disband. However, in 1972, a new life was given when a number of young men moved to Hillsboro with interest in the Jaycees. The new found enthusiasm spawned a number of community projects: Assigning and installing numbers on all houses and commercial buildings in Hillsboro, City-wide Halloween party for children; hunter safety instruction for young hunters and Honey Sunday Drive raising funds for North Dakota Mental Health. 1972 also found the members brought together in the activity of building a parade car which has been displayed in over 50 parades since, complete with all members doing time as Jaycee clowns.

Concentration on Community projects continued with Presidents Merrill Knodle (1973-74) Jack Hansen (1974-75) and Reed Qualey (1975-76). In 1973 the Hillsboro Jaycees sponsored a bloodmobile which has been an annual project. Building baseball dugouts and fencing the baseball field was initiated at this time and completed in 1975. Community pride was evidenced in projects in 1974 including: putting up the "Welcome to Hillsboro" sign, a two year remodeling project on the museum where the Jaycees donated their labor, the purchase and placement of trash cans in the downtown areas of Hillsboro and the building and filling of sandboxes for kids in Hillsboro. One project that stands out is the establishment of Hillsboro Charities organization. The Hillsboro Jaycees were instrumental in starting this organization. They carry active



Jaycee Clowns

membership on the Board each year and help raise substantial amounts of money for our local community to benefit the needy. Also during these years, the Hillsboro Jaycees became active in local government with three members running for City Commission: Merrill Knodle, Dick Georgeson, and Brad Bagge with Merrill Knodle being elected and Jack Hansen filing for the local school board and being elected.

The National Bicentennial year brought Dick Georgeson as President (1976-77) and a new annual project of city-wide cleanup to beautify Hillsboro. Money making projects in 1976 included a tractor pull as well as a large farm consignment auction sale. A Punt, Pass, and Kick competition for youth was begun at this time and ran for three consecutive years in conjunction with our local Ford Dealer, Hillsboro Auto, Inc.

Hillsboro Jaycees Chapter has long been active in the North Dakota Jaycees state affairs, but under Georgeson, Dan Christianson (1977-78) and Steve Johnson (1978-79), Hillsboro made a big mark in terms of State Individuals Awards. Winners during this period were: Jack Hansen, State Jaycee Keyman 1977; Wanda Overland, Runner-up Outstanding Young Educator 1978, and Richard Fisher, Outstanding Young Law Officer 1979. The Hillsboro Jaycee Chapter presented itself as a driving force in chartering new Jaycee Chapters in 1978-79 in Mayville-Portland, Reynolds, Drayton and Hunter and thus passing the Jaycee spirit and opportunities to other young men in these communities.

A money making project in 1977, the Hillsboro Jaycees Haunted House has proven to be a "frightening" success in terms of the hundreds of visitors to it each year. Important to the community, was the 1978 establishment of rural mail delivery in town and installation of mail boxes for residents. Also accomplished by the Hillsboro Jaycees over a period of two years was the building and fencing of the tennis courts.

The 1979-80 and 1980-81 years under the Presidency of Donald Hanson, Jr. and Richard Fisher found the Hillsboro Jaycees still active in ongoing community projects and activities. They stayed active in local government with Lee Kaldor running for the North Dakota House of Representatives in 1978 and 1980. Lee also filed for the local school board and



Jaycee Parade Car

was successfully elected in 1980 and Stuart Larson was elected to the Hillsboro Community Hospital Board in 1977.

The Hillsboro Jaycees have served the North Dakota State Jaycees organization through participation throughout its history. Members serving as State Officers were: Richard Flieth 1973-74 District Director; Randy Melaas 1974-75 District Director; Jack Hansen 1978-79 Regional Director; Steve Johnson 1979-80 District Director; Dan Christianson 1979-80 State Chairman and Stuart Larson 1977-78 State Legal Counsel. The State and local Jaycees have honored three Hillsboro Members with the highest Jaycee award, "The JCI Senatorship." These members are Jack Hansen, April 29, 1978; Dan Christianson, May 3, 1980; and Steve Johnson, October 15, 1979. Hillsboro has also been represented at National Jaycees Conventions by Jack Hansen to Seattle 1977 and Nashville 1979.



Jaycee Tractor Pull  
Beet Plant in background.

## HISTORY OF HILLSBORO JAYCEETTES



Charter Members. Back Row: Bev Barch, Marion Zimmerman, Elaine Beyer, Marlene Diehl, and Sylvia Hansen. Front Row: Sharon Hoffman, Ruby Prochnow, Cheryl Beltz, and Kay Rotvold.

The Hillsboro Chapter of Mrs. Jaycees began with an organizational meeting on February 1, 1971, held by the Mayville-Portland Mrs. Jaycees. Those in attendance from Hillsboro voted to charter a group here and plans for the Mayville-Portland Mrs. Jaycees to formally extend the Hillsboro Chapter began. The Mrs. Jaycees were organized as an auxiliary to the Jaycees with the purpose of assisting the Jaycees and improving the quality of life within the community and state. Only wives of Jaycees were granted full membership privileges.

The Charter night ceremonies were held on March 26, 1971, officially beginning the activities of the chapter and affiliating it with the North Dakota Mrs. Jaycees. Officers installed by Regional Vice President, Sandra Cruff of West Fargo were: Sharon Hoffman, President; Ruby Prochnow, Vice President; Elaine Beyer, Secretary; Cheryl Beltz, Treasurer; Marlene Diehl and Sylvia Hansen Directors. Other Charter members were Beverly Barch, Marion Zimmerman and Kay Rotvold. Monthly meetings were held in the homes of members for the first several years and then moved to public buildings as the group grew.

It was feared at one time that the organization would be short-lived. When the Mrs. Jaycees were about one year old, the Hillsboro Jaycees were experiencing difficulty and decided to disband their organization. The Mrs. Jaycees, being an auxiliary organization, had no choice but to also consider disbanding. As this had already become an active group they proposed waiting a bit and after several months of inactivity the Hillsboro Jaycees were reactivated with the help of Jaycees from surrounding towns and the strong Mrs. Jaycee organization was able to assist in strengthening the Jaycee chapter and both went on to a decade filled with much activity.

During the early years, the chapter concentrated on community service projects such as Preschool Survey of Vision and Hearing; purchasing TVs and airconditioners for the hospital and Christmas trees for the elementary school and day care center; sponsoring traveling children's theatre, annual kindergarten picnic, babysitting clinic for young people of the community and blood service donation clinics; completing the Mental Health Drive; Christmas caroling at the nursing home; organizing a New Neighbor's visitation program; presenting a weekly pre-school children's story hour at the library. Money to fund the many and varied projects was earned by selling lunch at dances, numerous bake sales, rummage sales and later on the Ladies Night Out and flea market.

On November 19, 1973 the first annual "Ladies Night Out", an evening with a style show, entertainment and refreshments, was held following much planning and preparation. It has continued annually and become the fall social event for the women of the community and an important money maker for Jayceette projects. In 1979 the evening became a wine and cheese tasting party with a casino night.

As the years passed, the chapter began to focus on developing the talents of the individual members to their fullest potential and nurturing leadership abilities among the members along with the continued emphasis on community service. New projects were added every year along with continuing many of the early ones. Members began participating in Individual Development Courses such as Personal Dynamics, Leadership in Action, Time Management and Family Life Development Courses such as It's a Kid's World Too, Positive Family



Attitude Power, Prime Time, All in The Family and Work and Family Friend or Foe. Also noted was increased participation in public speaking and in regional and state competition.

In January of 1975, the Hillsboro Mrs. Jaycees became the Hillsboro Jayceettes, in conjunction with a name change at the state level and the forming of a national organization. In May 1975 the membership requirements were changed, again in conjunction with the state organization, to include, along with wives of Jaycees, any young woman between the ages of 18 and 36. These changes contributed to the greater emphasis on Individual Development and Leadership Training for members.

A new community service/financial project was begun with the sponsoring of the first annual flea market in 1975. It has been successful in providing an activity in the community which brings people together for fun and business; thus the community has been requesting that the project be run annually in conjunction with some community function.

Over the years a number of members have held Regional, District and State Offices. In 1976-77 Carol Knodle served as State Awards Chairwoman; in 1975-76 Sylvia Hansen served as State Vision and Hearing Chairwoman; in 1973-74 Carol Christianson served as Regional Vice president; in 1978-79 Kathy Hanson served as District Director and in 1980-81 Cynthia Kaldor served as District Director.

In April 1978 Kay Rotvold received the first North Dakota Keywoman Award presented by the Hillsboro Jayceettes. This award is given to members as a special honor for a young woman who has spent four or more years dedicated to Jayceettes, who has been active in all areas of Jayceette commitment and has given of her time and talent to further the betterment of herself, her community and state. In October 1979 Carol Knodle and Sylvia Hansen were recipients of this award.

The Hillsboro Jayceettes have been enthusiastic supporters of the Preschool Survey of Vision and Hearing since shortly after the chapter was chartered in 1971. Sylvia Hansen has been serving for a number of years as the trainer of volunteers in this area of the state and was instrumental in reorganizing the statewide survey in 1980 after a year of inactivity. She was elected to the Board of Directors of the North Dakota Preschool Survey of Vision in August 1980. In 1980 Terry Lee, the Jayceette representative was elected to the Board of control of the Hillsboro Community Hospital and Nursing Home, signaling acceptance of leadership responsibilities on the local level.

In 1978 the Hillsboro Jayceettes introduced a family life program "Begin Early Mom and Dad" (a sexuality workshop for parents of young children) to the North Dakota Jaycees and Jayceettes in cooperation with Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota. In 1979-80 it was promoted throughout the state as the family life education program of the year. Four Hillsboro Jaycees and Jayceettes, Carol and Dan Christianson and Jack and Sylvia Hansen, were involved in making a television tape to promote the sexuality workshops.

In the ten short years since chartering, the chapter has grown from 10-22 members and become involved in a variety of areas of community service, family life education and individual development. This small group of individuals has had an impact on the community far more widespread than its small membership would indicate.

— Sylvia Hansen

## CHAPTER PRESIDENTS:

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Sharon Hoffman     | Charter President |
| Ruby Prochnow      | 1971-72           |
| Kay Rotvold        | 1972-73           |
| Kathy Melaas       | 1973-74           |
| Karla Qualey       | 1974-75           |
| Carol Christianson | 1975-76           |
| Sylvia Hansen      | 1976-77           |
| Carol Knodle       | 1977-78           |
| Kathy Larson       | 1978-79           |
| Cynthia Kaldor     | 1979-80           |
| Kathy Hanson       | 1980-81           |

## HOMEMAKERS COUNTY COUNCIL

A County Council of Traill County Homemakers' Clubs was organized on April 16, 1935. This organization consisted of all the presidents of the local clubs. The County Council was organized for the purpose of promoting homemakers club work. It also acted as an advisory group for the county agent and members of the state staff, and laid plans for Achievement Day, exhibits, etc. of general interest to all clubs.

In 1935 the Traill County Homemakers' County Council consisted of the following officers: President - Mrs. H.W. Engel, Hillsboro; Vice-president - Mrs. Aune, Buxton; Secretary - Mrs. H. Anderson, Hillsboro; and Treasurer - Mrs. W. Willison, Blanchard. Other members were Mrs. J. Berkas, Hillsboro; Mrs. A.C. Gifford, Kelso; Mrs. Raymond Hanson, Hillsboro; and Mrs. M. Pease, Hillsboro.

The first annual Homemakers' Achievement Day was held in Traill County at Hillsboro on June 18, 1935. Eighty-five members were present for the event. The day began with a picnic in Woodland Park at 12:30. Following the picnic in the park, a program was held in the Congregational Church. Exhibits showing the various projects of the clubs, refinishing furniture, first aid, salads, and rugs, were set up.

The program started at 2:30 with a community sing led by Julia Brekke, Extension Specialist. Chauncey Kaldor, representing the Junior Chamber of Commerce and Hillsboro Civic Club, gave a short address of welcome. Virginia Best of Hillsboro sang and Mrs. H.W. Engel, president of the council, gave an introductory talk. Julia Brekke, clothing specialist from the extension division, was the main speaker. Short remarks were made by R.L. Nelson, Agricultural Adjustment Agent.

R.L. Nelson was instrumental in setting up the council and homemakers clubs in the county. The extension office in Hillsboro contains detailed reports of the work he did to aid the women in their organization. The state office sent out people such as Miss Brekke, Grace DeLong, Ruth Dawson, and Miss Freeman to assist the women also.

Some of the early lessons studied by the clubs were "Pep up the School Lunch," "Canning Meat in the Home," "Control of Flies and Insect Pests in the Home," "Poultry House and Equipment," "Making Sauerkraut," "Radio and the Home," "Harvesting and Storing Ice," "Farm Cheese Making," "Women Writers of Present Time," just to mention a few.

There were 16 clubs in the county by the time Achievement Day, 1937, rolled around, and 400 people attended the event. Each club contributed to the program. Kelso Home-

makers presented a play, "Neighbors at the Grocery Store," and Phyllis Larson tap danced for the Bloomfield Homemakers Club.

The annual Homemakers Day in June, 1938, was an all-day affair. It began at 10 a.m. with a county council meeting, followed by a picnic lunch, exhibits and a program at 2 p.m. The pageant, "Our Heritage of Foods," was presented. Each club in five or ten minutes presented something typical of a country, complete with costumes. Does anyone remember the German Band from Kelso or the costumes and dance from Scotland by N.E.W.? Up to 600 people attended this special event.

Five hundred people attended Homemakers Day in Mayville on June, 1942, in spite of tire rationing. It was a "Victory Day" rally. There was a cotton dress revue and a chorus of from 40-50 voices under the direction of Professor Hans Lee, Director of Music at Mayville College. There were 22 clubs in the county at this time.

Homemakers clubs were very active during the war. They planted large gardens, bought bonds, planted hundreds of trees, saved tin cans, and had lessons on "Honey Cooking Saves Sugar" and "Restyling Your Dress." Pressure cookers were rationed so pools were formed to make the most possible use of the limited number of cookers. Much canning and preserving was done. In 1944 homemakers clubs and 4-H clubs joined together for a special day and some records say over 1000 attended.

In 1946 a frolics committee consisting of Mrs. Don Hanson, Mrs. W. Gadberry, Jr. and Mrs. Albert Engel arranged for the presentation of a musical play, "Sourwood Mountain." This was the same year the county council entered a float in the Fourth of July celebration in Hillsboro.

In the late 40's, Olive Opp became the County Home Extension Agent. She gave three demonstrations on paper strip dress forms. Blocked roads and bad weather kept some clubs from meeting during the winter months.

A German woman, Elizabeth Lorentz, spent a year in North Dakota in the late 40's to observe our way of life. This was under the sponsorship of the Homemakers Clubs. She spent six days in Traill County visiting various homes and clubs.

By 1949 three hundred sixty-one women belonged to a homemakers club in Traill County. This year the women went on a tour instead of having a homemakers day. They traveled to Fargo and toured the Red Owl Warehouse, North Dakota Wool Pool, Fargo Forum and Manchester Biscuit Company.

In the early 50's Anne Green became Traill County Home Extension Agent. She guided the women in the county until January, 1979. Barbara Wortham was the Home Economist for a short time and today it is Eunice Hauck.

Women in the county today still follow the main topics of food, clothing, family living, home management, and cultural arts. A Homemakers Day is still held and the council meets twice a year. One-day mini-tours have been started again. Present council officers are Mary Ann Boeddeker, president; Paula Tronson, vice-president; Lori Satrom, secretary; and Lorraine Beach, treasurer. There are 26 clubs in the county with 376 members.

## NORTH DAKOTA HOMEMAKERS' CREED

*I believe my home is sacred; a place where love, faith, hope and devotion have their beginning; 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 a companion as well as counselor to my family, and to teach and live, love of home, country, fellowmen, and god.*

*by Mrs. F. Brudevold  
Page, N.D.*

## HILLSBORO HOMEMAKER'S CLUB

The Hillsboro Homemaker's Club held its first meeting December 14, 1934 at the Traill County Court House in Hillsboro. Twenty-eight women met for the purpose of organizing a Traill County Homemaker's Club. Prior to that time, the only club in Traill County, the Happy Hour Club, was affiliated with Cass County.

Formal organization was postponed when it was decided that two or more clubs should be organized from this initial group. Mrs. Frank Rypka and Mrs. R.L. Nelson presented a lesson on "Christmas Cheer from the Kitchen." Mrs. Oscar Johnson volunteered to give the lesson, "First Aid in the Home," at the January 11th meeting to be held at the court house.

At the January meeting, the seventeen members present became charter members. They were Mesdames Harold Anderson, Ralph Diehl, E.E. Egeland, Alice Forster, John Henning, Casper Hanson, Alfred Jahnke, Oscar Johnson, R.L. Nelson, Jenny Perry, Cliff Roe, Frank Rypka, Bill Schwalbe, Charles Shafer, L.O. Swanson, E.E. Meecham, and Alf Wallen.

Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Diehl and Mrs. Henning are still active members of the club with a continuous membership of more than forty-six years.



Nine Hillsboro Homemakers dressed as Indian Squaws to dance in a parade in Hillsboro in the 40's.

Mrs. Harold Anderson, Mrs. Oscar Johnson, and Mrs. R.L. Nelson were elected president, vice-president and secretary-treasurer of the club and the second Friday of each month was set as the regular meeting date.

During the past forty-six years, the club has participated in many community projects in addition to the regular lessons presented each month.

In the Depression years of the 30's the club helped the Junior Chamber of Commerce with the project, "Toys for Needy Children," and members dressed dolls and provided toys which the Junior Chamber delivered at Christmas time.

During the early 40's the club contributed to the Red Cross financially and members cut and sewed blouses, quilts, utility bags, surgical dressings and pajamas. They also made comforters for the North Dakota Children's Home and contributed money to the March of Dimes, Crippled Children's Home, Iron Lung, Peace Garden, Grafton State School and to our Exchange students.

During war time in the 40's, members took First Aid classes, planted victory gardens, and did extra canning to cooperate with Food Conservation programs. They also took advantage of the canning center at Mayville College, and in 1943, the club produced a book on "Meat Substitutes" to further aid meal planning when meat was rationed.

In the early 50's the club contributed time and money to the new Hillsboro Community Hospital. Together with the NEW Homemaker's Club, they held a hospital benefit food sale.

The Hillsboro Club painted rooms and furnished draperies for those rooms at the hospital in 1952, 1957 and 1962. The club had a float in the Diamond Jubilee Parade in 1956 and members wore their Jubilee dresses to the May meeting.

For several years the Hillsboro Homemakers joined other Traill County Homemakers on two-day train tours to Minneapolis where they attended cultural events and visited points of interest. The club also had exhibits at both the Fargo and Grand Forks fairs, and in 1975 had a display in Hillsboro in conjunction with the Traill County Centennial.

During recent years, more emphasis has been given to consumer concerns, estate planning, health record keeping, low calorie foods, and cultural arts and crafts. Through lessons on nutrition, the Hillsboro Homemakers have become aware of the importance of good nutrition as a means of safeguarding the health of the family. Craft and art projects have encouraged members to use their creative talents.

Present members of the club are Anna Anderson, Beatrice Anderson, Otilda Anderson, Agnes Breen, Gertrude Diehl, Laura Gunderson, Irene Holzkamm, Helen Lange, Dora Rachow, Marie Rindahl, Vera Savereide, and Mae Tate. Officers are Gunderson, Holzkamm and Anna Anderson.

## N.E.W. HOMEMAKERS

October 25, 1935 was the date of organization of the N.E.W. Homemakers Club — so named because "it was the last club organized in '35, and the initials stand for Neat, Efficient Workers." The first officers were Mrs. Maynard Pease, president; Mrs. L.H. Johnson, vice-president; Mrs. Arthur Hewitt, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. B.N. Johnson and Mrs. O.O.



**NEW Homemakers: Lorraine Knecht, Joyce Fankhanel, Ann McLean, Lois Wildeman, Clarice Peterson, Arlene Eisenbeis, Ione Henning, Lileas Thoreson, Willy Sorum, Florence Peterson, Ardith Magnuson, Helen Kuhle, and Eleanor Kress.**

Hovde, project leaders. Other charter members were Mrs. Haakon Lund, Mrs. H. Miller, Mrs. T. Tjornhom, Mrs. C. Covell, Mrs. G. Hovland., and Mrs. J.C. Kopanger.

These women wrote a constitution, selected a club flower (iris), club colors (orchid and yellow) and entered the post-depression era, determined to "Make over, make do, or do without." The years of World War II found them devoting their efforts to Victory Gardens, methods of canning and preserving, making quilts and lap robes for veterans, and sewing garments for the Red Cross. Lessons on home management were given to simplify household tasks so the homemaker would have more time for reading, outside work, and time with families. (It might be noted that outside work meant work in the yard, not employment outside of the home!)

As the years passed, the projects changed. The 1950's and 60's showed a great interest in children's clothing, home improvement, and family living. Recent lessons included cultural tours, gourmet and international cuisine, preparing a will, and information on the stock market. An emphasis on food led to the printing of the N.E.W. Homemakers Club Favorite Recipes in 1960, a cookbook which was dedicated to charter members Selma Kopanger and Clarice Johnson.

Civic enterprises were a part of the club's endeavors, and for several years the members planted flowers and cared for the Great Northern Railroad park. Contributions were made to the Special Education class of the Hillsboro School; members painted a room in the Community Hospital; financial gifts have been given to the International Peace Garden, IFYE program, as well as sponsoring a 4-H club. In 1956 N.E.W. entered a float in the Hillsboro Jubilee Celebration, and looks forward to viewing the floats of the younger clubs in this Centennial celebration.

Charter members still actively participating in the N.E.W. meetings are Clarice Johnson and Selma Kopanger. Current officers are Joyce Fankhanel, president; Florence Sorum, vice-president; Lorraine Knecht, secretary-treasurer. Other club members are Arlene Eisenbeis, Lois Hanson, Ione Henning, Lenice Johnson, Helen Kuhle, Eleanor Kress, Ardith Magnuson, Ann McLean, Willie Sorum, Lileas Thoreson, and Lois Wildeman.



## HAPPY HOUR HOMEMAKERS CLUB



Happy Hour Homemakers Club celebrated its fiftieth anniversary in 1979. The charter members pictured are: Hannah Ludwig and Malinda Thompson (seated) and Alice Bohnsack, Vera Willison, Wilma Peterson, Olive Baily, Lyda Beuthner.



Happy Hour Homemakers Club — the oldest club in Traill County. Members pictured have belonged to the club 30 years or longer: Mae Tate, Grace Porter, Lillian Radebaugh, Mildred McSparron, and Delores Porter.

The Happy Hour Homemakers Club is the oldest homemakers club in Traill County. It was organized in 1928 with 17 charter members. Its objective was to "increase the educational and social advantages of this community by conducting public meetings for the projects in extension work as outlined by this community."

The charter members of Happy Hour Homemakers were Olive Bird, Elsa Bohnsack, Nora Bohnsack, Mrs. Ross Dally, Mrs. L.A. Peterson, Mrs. C.E. Porter, Mrs. J.F. Porter, Mrs. C.H. Radebaugh, Mrs. G.E. Thompson, Mrs. S.D. Willison, Mrs. H.W. Ludwig, Mrs. Walt Willison, Hilda Weible, Alice Krohn, Mrs. Carl Veatch, Mrs. G. Buethner, and Mrs. Ted Olson.

Mrs. H.W. Ludwig was the first president, Nora Bohnsack, vice-president, and Olive Bird, secretary-treasurer.

Monthly meetings were held in members' homes. During the winter in the late 30's and early 40's, family meetings were held. Everyone came for noon lunch and stayed the rest of the

day. The men played cards and the children played games while the ladies held their club meeting.

In 1979 the Happy Hour Homemakers Club celebrated its 50th anniversary. In attendance were former and present club members along with seven of the original charter members.

Present officers of the club are Jan Bohnsack, president; Connie Tate, vice-president; Robin Anderson, secretary; and Charlene Ludwig, treasurer. Other club members are Esther Bohnsack, Peggy Eblen, Gerri Jalbert, Sheila Madsen, Mildred McSparron, Joy McSparron, Grace Porter, Delores Porter, Gloria Porter, Lillian Radebaugh, Robin Radebaugh, Mae Tate, Diane Thorsrud.

## HERBERG HOMEMAKERS

The Herberg Homemakers was organized in September, 1952, with the following charter members: Mrs. Earl Warner Jr., Mrs. John Beach, Mrs. Harold Hage, Mrs. Leland Hage, Mrs. Paul Hemberger, Mrs. Alfred Leirness, Mrs. Dewel Viker Sr., Mrs. Lloyd Hermanson, Mrs. James Paulsrud, Mrs. Halger Lindgren, Mrs. Leonard Ehricks, Mrs. Olive Bailey, Mrs. Joel Leirness, Mrs. Henry Hettervig.

The original officers for the first club year were Mrs. Earl Warner Jr., president; Mrs. James Paulsrud, vice-president; Olive Bailey, secretary; and Mrs. John Beach, treasurer. Mrs. Harold Hage was program chairman.

This club has been active twenty-eight years and during that time has accomplished a number of worthwhile projects.

In 1956 they organized a boy-girl 4-H club. This was unique as it was the first boy-girl 4-H club in the area. Parents served as leaders.

Herberg Homemakers received a township beautification award for taking on the project of painting and beautifying all the mailboxes in the township. They also received a state award for their efforts in Family Living.

In 1963 the Civil Defense program was organized by Mrs. Earl Warner. Regular meetings on survival in any type of disaster were held at the Herberg School or in her home. All members assisted when the 1965 tornado went through the township. They also helped during the disastrous flood of 1969. The Warner home was used as a township post office with the Warners crossing the Red River each day by boat and bringing the mail back to their farm. It was dispersed from their porch by Mrs. Warner who acted as postmistress.

Mrs. Halger Lindgren's original clay sculpture won the state award and entered the national competition. In 1978 Mrs. John Henka's crewel picture won a state award and again in 1980, her crocheted afghan won an award.

All members are honored on their 25th wedding anniversaries. Bridal showers are held for the daughters of members.

This club meets the second Wednesday of every month and is still very active with all members ready to help anyone who needs it.

Current officers are Mrs. Rudy Reinpold, president; Mrs. James Paulsrud, vice-president; Mrs. John Henka, secretary; Mrs. Donald Hettervig, treasurer; and Mrs. Paul Hemberger, program chairman. Other members are Mrs. John Beach, Mrs. Eugene Boeddeker, Mrs. Harold Hage, Mrs. Alfred Leirness, Mrs. Halger Lindgren, and Mrs. Dewel Viker Sr.

## ELDORADO WILLING WORKERS



Eldorado Willing Workers. Front: Rosalie Anderson, Judi Tweten, Marcella Kamesch, Eunice Ydstie, Alice Thykeson. Back: Yvonne Weber, Elizabeth Ydstie, Emma Siegert, Lois Tweten, Arlyn Ebbighausen, Mae Holt (visitor), Cecelia Lusso, and Helen Schultz.

Eldorado Willing Workers was organized as a homemakers club on January 27, 1938. Its charter members were Mrs. W.C. Gadberry, president; Mrs. Otto Siegert, vice-president; Mrs. Walter Engel, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Lloyd Strom and Mrs. John Goshinska.

Some of the special things the club does are to serve lunches at auction sales, help members celebrate their 25th and 50th wedding anniversary, serve dinner for members and their families when a funeral occurs, take trips to art exhibits and other special events, and take part in county achievement days.

Present officers of Eldorado Willing Workers are Paula Tronson, president; Julie Foss, vice-president; Eunice Ydstie, secretary, and Sandi Johnson, treasurer. Other members are Rosalie Anderson, Arlyn Ebbighausen, Pam Gensrich, Marcella Kamesch, Cecelia Lusso, Helen Schultz, Lois Tweten and Yvonne Weber.

## GOOD INTENTION HOMEMAKERS CLUB



Members of Good Intention Homemaker's Club taken in 1937, after the first year. Mesdames Roy Hausmann, Lloyd Arnegard (President), Andrew Wilson, Henry Dammen, John Kritzberger, Sr., Agnes Sundby, Emil Hausmann, Junior Kritzberger, William Kozojed. Children: Robert, Arlene, and Darrell. Dina Sundby took the picture.

The Good Intention Homemaker's Club, rural Hillsboro, was organized June 12, 1936. R.L. Nelson, Traill County Agent, organized the club at the home of Mrs. Andrew Wilson. First officers were Mrs. Lloyd Arnegard, president; Mrs. Andrew Wilson, vice-president; Dina Sundby, secretary-treasurer.

Other members of the club were Mrs. Carl Arnegard, Mrs. Evan Arnegard, Mrs. Emil Hausmann. In October seven more joined the club. They were Mrs. William Kozojed, Agnes Sundby, Mrs. John Kritzberger, Mrs. Nels Leraas, Lena Leraas and Mrs. J.R. Kritzberger.

Club activities include ice cream socials, card parties, and yearly tours to points of interest. The club celebrated its 25th and 40th anniversaries. Good Intention Homemakers Club took part in the 75th anniversary of Traill County, pageants at Buxton, Mayville and Hillsboro, and has had floats in parades for celebrations.

Cards are sent by the club to members of the Armed Services. Christmas gifts are given to needy families and to the nursing home.

There have been 45 members of this club throughout the years. Dina Sundby is still a member after forty-five years.

Current members of Good Intention Homemakers are Orrel Schlichtmann, Dina Sundby, Sharon Schlichtmann, Marilyn Klemetson, Donna Christopher, Dorothy Halverson, Margaret Nelson, Lavonne Kozojed, Mary Kritzberger, Liz Kritzberger, Shirley Nysveen, Audrey Waters, Ruth Miller, Barb McInnes, Hazel Larson, Corlys Hutchins, and Margaret Smart. Officers are Mary Kritzberger, president; Sharon Schlichtmann, vice-president; Liz Kritzberger, secretary; and Donna Christopher, treasurer.

## KELSO HOMEMAKERS CLUB

The Kelso Homemakers Club was founded in September of 1935. Charter members were Mrs. A.C. Gifford, Mrs. Halver Lovas, Mrs. Henry Meyer, Mrs. Fred Bartles, Mrs. Ed Reid, Mrs. Willard Wentworth, Mrs. Fred Johnson, Mrs. Chris Peters, Mrs. Pete Waters, Mrs. George Kounovsky, Mrs. Clara Lindeman, Mrs. Enid Dahlstrom, and Mrs. Ruth Abrahamson. Of these, Mrs. Willard Wentworth still lives in the Hillsboro area and is an active member of the club.

The first officers of the club were Mrs. A.C. Gifford, president; Mrs. Walter Lindeman, vice-president; and Mrs. Pete Waters, secretary-treasurer.

The club's flower is the chrysanthemum and the club colors are black and yellow.

The 1980-81 officers of Kelso Homemakers Club are Mrs. Bernard Beach, president; Mrs. Bryan Dahlstrom, vice-president; Mrs. Tom Eblen, secretary; and Mrs. Wilbur Eblen, treasurer. Other members are Donnie Bird, Vickie Dahlstrom, Bertha Lemm, Liz Lemm, Lorraine Lovas, Margie McInnes, Jeanne Meyer, Dot Reid, Borghild Svobodney, Sharon Thompson, and Clara Wentworth.

## NEIGHBORHOOD HOMEMAKERS CLUB

The Neighborhood Homemakers Club was organized January 11, 1935. Charter members of the club were Mrs. S.H. Boeddeker, Mrs. Robert Bovaird, Mrs. Albert Engel,

Mrs. August Engel, Mrs. Herbert Engel, Mrs. Raymond Henka, Mrs. Henry Hettervig, Mrs. Howard Kaldor, Mrs. Raymond Meyer, Mrs. Alvin Muller, Mrs. Don Sayre, Mrs. L.H. Smith, Mrs. Carl Veatch, and Mrs. Charles Winter.

Officers elected at the first meeting were President — Mrs. Herbert Engel, Vice-president, Mrs. Charles Winter, Secretary — Mrs. Robert Bovaird, and Treasurer — Mrs. Raymond Meyer.

The Neighborhood Homemakers sponsored the Junior Neighborhood 4-H Club.

The club celebrated its 40th anniversary June 13, 1975 with a special invitation to former members.

1980-81 club officers are Mrs. Ingrum Lovas, president; Mrs. Eleanor Seim, vice-president; Mrs. Conrad Elton, secretary; and Mrs. Ralph Engel, treasurer. Other members are Edna Boeddeker, Sally Elton, Alice Mergenthal, Mabel Meyer, Margie Reimer, Mildred Smith, Elise Tonn, Jo Lien, Verna Wiger and Mabel Rosted.



Neighborhood Homemakers Club — 30th anniversary of the club in January, 1965 — Charter members seated left to right — Mrs. Raymond Meyer (first treasurer), Mrs. Orville Wiger, Mrs. Herb Engel (first president), and Mrs. S.H. Boeddeker. Back row, left to right, Freda Stewart, Eunice Meyer, Sally Elton, Lillian Rotvold, Jo Lien, Mary Monney, Emma Lovas, and Mildred Smith.



Neighborhood Homemakers Club - 1958 — Open house for Alvin Smith's 80th birthday — left to right — Mabel Schultz, Eleanor Seim, Freda Stuart, Elise Tonn, Ruby Engel, Ethel Bovaird, Emma Lovas, Emma Kaldor, and Mildred Smith



Neighborhood Homemakers float for the 75th anniversary of Hillsboro, taken by the old jail building — Emma Kaldor, driver; Frances Buringrud, Verna Wiger, Emma Lovas, Elise Tonn and Eleanor Seim.

## RIVERSIDE HOMEMAKERS CLUB



Riverside Homemaker's Club in 1940. First row, left to right - Mrs. Will Cotton, Mrs. Joseph Anderson, Mrs. Gilmer Moen, Mrs. Charles Abentroth, Mrs. Tom Wright, Mrs. Frank Witte. Second row, left to right - Mrs. John Hutchison, Mrs. Bernard Wright, Mrs. Elmo Vettel, Mrs. Walter Vettel, Mrs. Lloyd Abentroth. Third row, left to right - Miss Sara Stene, Mrs. Wilbur Cotton, Mrs. Russel Wright, Miss Griselda Vettel, Mrs. Harry McDonald.

The Riverside Homemakers Club was organized September 25, 1936 at the home of Mrs. Walter H. Vettel in Caledonia, North Dakota. Mr. R.L. Nelson, county agent, took charge of the meeting outlining the work for the new club.

The first officers of Riverside Homemakers Club were President, Mrs. John Hutchison; Vice-president, Mrs. Walter Vettel; Secretary-treasurer, Miss Rosa Johnson. The first project leaders were Griselda Vettel and Mrs. Bernard Wright. Miss Sarah Stene was the first program leader.

The second Thursday of each month was chosen as the regular meeting day. The meetings are now held on the second Tuesday of each month.



Sixteen members enrolled at the first meeting. Four of these charter members are still in the club, Mrs. Walter H. Vettel, Mrs. Elmo Vettel, Miss Griselda Vettel and Mrs. Grace Cotton, who is an honorary member. The name Riverside was chosen at the second meeting of the club.

Riverside Homemakers Club members have enjoyed many years of project lessons, work and fun together. The project lessons have mainly been on foods, clothing and home management. Lessons on foods and crafts were especially appreciated by the members.

The club has been well represented at Achievement Days held in Hillsboro, Central Valley, Galesburg and Mayville. They have used many of the ideas presented at these meetings.

The club has taken an active part in community affairs and helped with various drives for funds in the county. On March 17, 1937 the club, in connection with the Caledonia Club, sponsored a masquerade dance in the Caledonia Town Hall to raise funds for the benefit of flood sufferers. The first silver wedding anniversary party sponsored by the club was in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Harry McDonald on April 20, 1938 at the Caledonia Town Hall. The club has continued to assist with silver wedding anniversary celebrations for its members to the present time. Baby showers are also given for the members.

The first Christmas party was given at the home of Mrs. Ernest Vettel in Caledonia on December 30, 1936. The club has continued the Christmas parties throughout the years.

The club has contributed funds to the Hillsboro Ambulance Fund, Community Hospital Intensive Care, Grafton State School, All-Faith Chapel, Hillsboro Charities for State Diabetic Association and the Opportunity Training Center in Grand Forks.

Some of the members have toured the Hillsboro Museum, Art Center and Simon Furniture Store in Fargo, the Fertile Nursery, and Bonanzaville in West Fargo. The homemakers bus tours to the Peace Gardens, Medora and Winnipeg were also enjoyed by members.

The fortieth birthday of the club was celebrated in September, 1976, at the home of Mrs. George Vettel. Each of the four charter members was presented with a carnation in a bud vase.

The membership of the club has varied over the years. The present enrollment is nineteen. The present officers are President, Mrs. Omer Gunderson; Vice-president, Mrs. John Anderson; and Secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Kenneth Vettel. Other members are Griselda Vettel, Mrs. Elmo Vettel, Colette Cotton, Sue Abentroth, Theresa Abentroth, Lydia Abentroth, Marlene Baatz, Jaunita Bagge, Viola Doeden, Annette Stigen, Betty Vettel, Frances Vettel, Karen Lundby, Melanie Abentroth, Sue Bagge, and Lee Knodle.

## COUNTRYSIDE HOMEMAKERS CLUB

The Countryside Homemakers Club was organized on January 11, 1962. Its 15 charter members were Mrs. William (Hazel) Bird, Mrs. Oliver (Alice) Brenden, Mrs. Alfield, (Kathy) Lyng, Mrs. Nennor (Dorothy) Nelson, Mrs. Myron (Lorna) Nysveen, Mrs. Norman (Marlene) Oie, Mrs. Raymond (Sharon) Schlichtmann, Mrs. David (Norma) Sliper, Mrs. Kenneth (Lillian) Thompson, Mrs. Clifton (Lois) Waslien, Mrs. Glen (Lois) Weigelt, Mrs. Norlyn (Phyllis) Solberg, Mrs. John

(Arlene) Cegla, Mrs. Joe (Shirley) Pulscamp, and Mrs. Leonard (Ida) Overmoen.

The original officers of Countryside were President — Mrs. Norman Oie; Vice-president — Mrs. Clifton Waslien; and Secretary-treasurer — Mrs. Raymond Schlichtmann.

Through the years the club has enjoyed a husband-wife Christmas party, usually celebrated in January. The club also keeps in contact with a young person at Grafton State School and remembers her with gifts, cards, and letters. A family picnic is usually held in the summer.

Current members of the club are Marlene Oie, Lillian Thompson, Phyllis Solberg, Joanne Freeland, Anne Boeddeker, Mary Ann Boeddeker, Aagot Nysveen, Harriet Klemetson, Glenda Smith, Olga Solberg, Gaylene Johnson, Denise Overmoen and Shirley Anderson. President, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer are Oie, Nysveen, Overmoen, and Ann Boeddeker, respectively.



The Countryside Homemakers. A meeting at Phyllis Solbergs, Feb. 1973. Left to right: Phyllis Solberg, Lillian Thompson, Gloria Nysveen, Olga Solberg, Shirley Anderson, Ann Boeddeker, Mary Ann Boeddeker, Glenda Smith, Joanne Freeland, Marlene Oie, Denise Overmoen.

## HARMONY HOMEMAKERS



Harmony Homemakers, Left to right: Ruth Seigert, Connie Anderson, Sonja Diehl, Shirley Poyser, Verna Volden, Joan Svaleson, Sandra Moen, Elaine Beyer, Helen Gesche, Ruth McSparron.

The Harmony Homemakers Club was organized on November 1, 1955. Its charter members were Mrs. Alan Armstrong, Mary Louise Balkan, Mrs. Robert Flieth (Siegert), Mrs. Thor Hertsgaard, Mrs. Donald Kavadas, Mrs. Duane Lemm, Mrs. Louis Lusso, Mrs. Dan Mergens, Mrs. Ralph Meyer, Mrs. Don Miller, Mrs. Walt Ness, Mrs. Harold Rhodes, Mrs. Betty Sorum, and Mrs. Lloyd Thompson.

Original officers were Pat Mergens, president; Liz Lemm, vice-president; Mary Louise Balkan, secretary, and Lou Rhodes, treasurer.

Every year in the spring the club goes out for dinner-theatre. It is an event well attended by everyone. The club also has an annual picnic in the summer at which the husbands are invited. It is an enjoyable event.

On November 1, 1980 the club celebrated its 25th anniversary with an open house at First Federal, Hillsboro. It was an enjoyable afternoon with former and present members in attendance. Many other Traill County homemakers also stopped by to congratulate the club. Charter member, Ruth Siegert, was honored with a special gift.

Current officers of Harmony Homemakers are Shirley Poyzer, president; Connie Anderson, vice-president; Vie Grove, secretary; and Mary Brunsdale, treasurer. Other members are Elaine Beyer, Sonja Diehl, Helen Gesche, Ruth McSparron, Sandra Moen, Ruth Siegert, Verna Volden and Pat Woods.

## HALF AND HALF HOMEMAKERS CLUB



**The Half and Half Homemakers**

The date of the organization of the Half and Half Homemakers Club was February 22, 1961. Charter members were Mrs. James Johnson, Mrs. Art Grothmann, Mrs. Harold Burley, Mrs. Kermit Bruun, Mrs. Henry Grothmann, Mrs. Wallace Hertwig, all of Blanchard, Mrs. Harvey Burley and Mrs. Wayne Garrett of Mayville and Mrs. Clarence Sandbo, Mrs. James Anderson and Mrs. Bea Fleischer, all of Hillsboro.

Original officers of the club were Mrs. Kermit Bruun, president; Mrs. James Johnson, vice-president; and Mrs. Art Grothmann, secretary-treasurer.

The club was called the Blanchard Club until July, 1963, when it became the Half and Half Homemakers. There seems

to be no explanation for the name change though some say it was changed because half of the members live in town and half of them live in the country.

One of the outstanding events of the club was the decision to give a \$100 scholarship. Julie Garrett, a student in home economics, received the scholarship.

The club has also sponsored two workshops for local women. One was on "Breast Self-examination" and the other one was "Scoliosis."

Current members of Half and Half Homemakers Club are Marilyn Aarsvold, Kay Andre, Mary Beckman, Bea Fleischer, Ruth Johnson, Jackie Lovas, Nell Thompson, Ann Thompson, Jeannie Hertwig, Imo Hertwig, Bertha Seim, Carol Manger, Darlene Garrett, Julianne Garrett, Dorothy Mattson, Kathrine Petrie, Sharon Burley, Marilyn Burley and Barbara Olson. 1980-81 president, vice-president, and secretary-treasurer are Mrs. Leonard Thompson, Johnson and Seim.

## 4-H



**FFA AWARDS.** From left to right: Instructor Ken Niclos, Pat McCoy, Brad Stuart, Tim Kelly, Rocky Nettum, Dale Grothmann, Jim Engel, Linda Kimbrell, Scott Thompson, Jon Diehl, Paul Mueller, and Nancy Nysveen, FFA Sweetheart.

On November 24 and 25, 1904, a meeting was held at the Hillsboro Opera House as a result of an enthusiastic campaign that would bring about a program for rural children such as had not been done before.

Mr. J.F. Hetter, who was County Superintendent of Schools in Traill County in the early 1900's, inaugurated a corn-growing contest among his students as a part of a general campaign to interest children in the formal teaching of agriculture and home culture. Until this time rural children were not conditioned in school for life on the farm, but were lead away from it. Children attending rural schools learned little about plants, farm animals or domestic science. As a rule most youngsters in those days were ashamed of their farm environment. They felt a difference between themselves and their city cousins.

The corn-growing contest, called "Farmers, Teachers, and Corn Growers Institute," awarded cash prizes and subscriptions to the prize boy corn grower. The Hillsboro Banner for December 2, 1904, reported the event with full consciousness of its historic importance. The story reads:

"Never before in the history of Traill County, never before in the annals of North Dakota, never before in the history of the world were there called together an

assembly for a like purpose. It is absolutely the first of its kind. Although agriculture is one of the oldest practical arts, never before did the youth of a country attack an art in a like manner."

In the packed meeting house, Superintendent Hetter told his audience that agriculture was a subject that should be a part of modern education.

In 1905 this experiment in boys' corn growing blossomed into a county-wide agricultural and home culture program, encouraged by the North Dakota Agricultural College in Fargo, North Dakota. Some half-dozen counties became interested, but *Trails* County was the only one that carried through to a county-wide exhibit and contest at this time. This led directly into organized extension work at the College and became known as 4-H. The four H's stand for "Heart, head, health, and hands," four topics that would become the basis of 4-H.

Scattered throughout the nation are a few other communities that lay claim to being the birthplace of 4-H, and Hillsboro can qualify as one of these communities.

## NORWAY 4-H'ers

The Norway Township 4-H club was organized in 1945 with the name Busy Bees, and with Joe L. Gadberry and Alex Jacobson as leaders. Officers were: Earle Bakkum, President; Ardell Moen, Vice President; and Donald Johnson, Secretary-treasurer. Members were Dale Bakkum, James Heyen, Floyd Jacobson, Bernhard Moen, Norlyn Solberg, Harlan Solberg, Robert Van Wechel, Neil Leum, and Marvin Hanson, and associate members Dale Peterson and Ronald Gadberry.

This club brought the total number of livestock clubs to eleven. Later in the 60's the name was changed to Norway 4-H'ers. Two charter members' sons are 4-H members today (1981). They are Doug Bakkum and Mark Johnson.

## LITTLE WOMEN 4-H CLUB

The Little Women 4-H Club, which was started in 1959, is 22 years old. The original leaders were Mrs. Jerry Nysveen and Mrs. Leonard Ellingson. Charter members were Kathy Ellingson, LeAnn Fankhanel, Vickie Jeffers, Linda Nysveen, Linda Dickoff, Mary Ellen Ludwig, Ellen Anderson and Shyla Smith.

We now have 20 members ranging in age from 9 to 17 and we have four leaders. This is the only home economics club in Hillsboro.

The Clover I girls are Anita Boeddeker, Darcy Hamre, Brianna Warner, Jessica Warner and Jill Wesbrook. Under the leadership of Shirley Nysveen they have some cooking, some sewing, and some home living.

Lorraine Knecht has the Clover II girls. In this group Tammie Alfson, Nancy Diehl, Wanda Lorch and Cindy Reinbold will cover what Clover I does, only a little more difficult.

Foods I girls, Sharlene and Sherrie Berg, Kim and Lisa Boeddeker, Debby Domier, Elizabeth Holland, and Shyla Smith have been trying their culinary skills under the leadership of Liz Lemm.

The girls 14 and older set their own goals under the direction of Kathy Hamre. This year they are doing an intensive study on outdoor cooking. Girls in this group are Tami Chandler, Sharon Lemm, Janice Knecht and Jennifer Nysveen.

The 1980-81 officers are Kim Boeddeker, president; Sharon Lemm, vice president; Jennifer Nysveen, secretary; Janice Knecht, treasurer; and Tami Chandler and Sharlene Berg, music and recreation chairmen.

Three of our former members received an all expense award trip to National 4-H Congress in Chicago. Linda Nysveen won in 1966, Julie Nysveen in 1978 and Nancy Nysveen in 1980.

4-H brings growth and development to individual personalities.

## BLOOMWAY MAIDENS 4-H CLUB

The Bloomway Maidens 4-H Club was originally known as the Bloomway Rocket Girls Club when they were organized in 1956 under the direction of Mrs. Jake Grable and Mrs. Ray Mueller. The name was changed to Bloomway Maidens in 1964. The leaders at this time were Mrs. Kenneth Halvorson and Mrs. Ervin Koering. The charter members when they took on the new name were: Ramona Borke, Marvyl Halvorson, Mary Halvorson, Nancy Halvorson, Camille Hanson, Claudia Hanson, Nancy Hanson, Priscilla Hanson, Melody Kaldor, Colleen Koering, Karen Kozojed, Cindy Kraby, Cheryl Muller and LaRon Muller. The current leaders are Mrs. James Johnson and Mrs. Ray Schlichtmann. The members now are: Kristi Beckman, Tami Beckman, Denise Petrie, Julie Aarsvold, Missy Johnson, Dian Schlichtmann, and Karen Schlichtmann.

## HOOFBEATS 4-H CLUB

This club was reorganized in January 1980 with twelve members. Hoofbeats 4-H club is a mixed boy and girl group in ages ranging from nine to fifteen. The club's main project is horses and horsemanship, but many members have other projects such as woodworking, dogs, baking, and child care.

Officers for 1981 are: President Pam Wright, Vice President Stephanie Knodle, Secretary-Treasurer Becky Anderson, Reporter Kim Kimbrell, Recreation Officer Bobby Knodle, Historian James Wright. Other members are Theresa Rohman, Scott Vettel, Michelle Trudell. Leaders are Lee Knodle and Betty Wright.

## PEPPY PALS 4-H CLUB

In the middle 50's Burnett Mohn and Clifton Waslien organized a boys 4-H Club of rural Cummings. In 1959-60 it became a mixed 4-H club and took the name of Peppy Pals. The members for that year were: Lyle Brend, Orlin Finneseth, Ray Hedahl, Leslie Holmberg, Len Nelson, Robert Mohn, Lorry Waslien, Linda Brend, Beverly Hedahl, Debra Nelson, and Lynette Mohn. Burnett and Clifton were the ag. leaders and Mrs. Gordon Mohn was the leader for the girls.

Several years later it became a girls club. It now has eight very active members from Eldorado, Norway, and Ervin Townships. They are: Karen Wegge, Cheryl Weigelt, Colleen Vettel,



Stephanie, Stacey and Sandra Solberg, and Vanessa and Melissa Tronson.

The Peppy Pals take part in demonstrations, living exhibits, consumer choices, and last year raised enough money to go to the State Fair at Minot for three days.

Present leaders are: Mrs. Forrest Tronson, Mrs. Gary Smith, and Mrs. Norlyn Solberg.

## HAPPY HAYMAKERS 4-H CLUB

The Happy Haymakers 4-H Club was organized September 1968 by leaders Earl Mueller and Alphiel Lyng. The charter members were: Joe, Ed, Ron and Don Mueller, Kirk Waslien, Ron Wegge, Bradley Vettel, Bryan Gunderson, Mark Smith, Mark Steenson, and Kent Lyng.

Following the death of Earl Mueller in 1972, Norris Smith and Joe Pulskamp assisted Alphiel Lyng as leaders until 1977, when Lyng and Smith resigned. Kent Lyng and Vern Wegge assisted with the leadership until 1980 when Kent Lyng resigned. Present leaders are Doug Ellingson, Vern Wegge and Joe Pulskamp.

The present membership is: Paul and Larry Mueller; Randy and Jeff Smith; Steve Lyng; George, Steve, James, Joel and Mathew Vettel; Neal Pulskamp; Daniel and Bradley Wegge; Mike Deck; Tim Westbrook and Paul Lilleberg.

## HILLSBORO HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

The Hillsboro Women's Hospital Auxiliary was organized in September of 1957 for the purpose of rendering any assistance to the hospital which might lie within its power. This purpose is being carried out through general contact with the public, by such activities within the hospital as meets the approval of the Board of Directors of the hospital, and by raising funds by any means which meets the approval of the governing body.

The Women's Auxiliary was organized at a meeting held in the City Hall Friday, September 27, 1957, with 18 ladies present. The first officers were Mrs. J.J. Breen, president; Mrs. Herb Engel, vice-president; Mrs. Vernon Rust, secretary; and Mrs. Emmet Gunderson, treasurer. Membership fees are \$1.00 annually. Present membership is 35. The officers are elected at the annual meeting which is held in May.

For a time the group met each month except for the three months during the summer, but now meetings are held each month. The meeting opens with its business meeting. Following this a lunch consisting of one thing and coffee is served. Immediately following this the members break up into groups for taking care of the sewing and mending needs, cutting of coupons and visiting the residents.

The activities of the group have been varied. A gift case has been prepared and set up in the lobby of the hospital. Useful gifts are given to all babies born at the hospital. Much of the silverware, coffee urns and utensils for the kitchen have been purchased through the use of coupons. We have provided drapes for some rooms in the Nursing Home and louver drapes for the entrance of the Hospital and dining room in the Nursing Home.

Donations have been given toward building fund, X-ray fund, colored televisions for the home, movie projector, sewing machines for the work room, and a donation towards the ambulance fund. We purchased a Microwave oven for the kitchen and various other equipment. We also purchased a piano for the Nursing Home.

One of the annual events of the Auxiliary is the Bazaar which is held in the spring of the year. This is the main money making project of the year. Since the home has opened some of the ladies have come each week to wash and set the residents' hair and to give permanents when needed, with some of the beauty supplies being supplied by the auxiliary. Each week two ladies come to help write letters, or to do any shopping that might be needed. We also provide fresh flowers for the home's patients on their birthday.

The Auxiliary is called upon to serve for "Open House" and the Annual Hospital Board Meeting.

We try our best to make the hospital and nursing home a more pleasant place.

The officers for the coming year of 1980-81 are Grace Cotton, President; Mrs. Erle (Teresa) Abentroth, Vice President; Dora Rachow, secretary; Mrs. Winston (Gen) Marsden, Treasurer.

—Grace Cotton

## HILLSBORO SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED



Senior Citizen's building (1977).

In April, 1968, several Senior Citizens met to determine the advisability of forming a Senior Citizens Club. Arne Boyum, then district manager, and some members of the Kiwanis Club were present to give encouragement to organize.

The purpose of the club was "To cooperate in making life more meaningful for the elderly and to find better ways to employ the skills and wisdom that so many of the older citizens possess and long to share."

Only discussions were held at the first two meetings and then on May 27, 1968 officers were elected as follows: President, Mrs. Lawrence Johnson; Vice President, Mrs. James Ford; Secretary, Thilda Steenson; Treasurer, Mrs. Hazel Peterson.

The Club was incorporated in January 1975 and was henceforth to be known as the "Hillsboro Senior Citizens Association Incorporated." Again it was stressed that this club

was for all Senior Citizens in Hillsboro and in the surrounding areas and towns.

The first meetings were held in the Armory and the vets Club Rooms and then under the auspices of the City and HUD our own building was built. Then on December 12, 1977 our first meeting was held in our new building.

The Club offers many types of recreation which include programs, games, readings, films, guest speakers, slides, trips, parties, educational talks and classes, group singing, and participating in special events.

At present we are working with the County and State on various projects.

If you are a Senior Citizen you will enjoy joining the Club.

*Herman Holzkamm*

## THE HILLSBORO NATIONAL GUARD



**New Armory on south 81 in Hillsboro.**

In 1898, war with Spain was imminent, a call was sent out to all persons interested in the formation of a military company for Hillsboro. Seventy-three recruits were enlisted from Traill County. The following were elected officers: C.W. Morgan - Captain, W.A. Kelly - First Lieutenant, Harvey H. York - Second Lieutenant. This was not a company of volunteers, but a state militia, subject to service within the state only.

Later Company L was established as a military unit of the North Dakota Infantry. The opera house was rented and converted into an Armory. In 1908 the Armory was built in the west end of town. The Captain at this time was Barney Boyd.

The mustering in of the First Regiment of the North Dakota National Guard began in July 1916, Company L of Hillsboro, being the first company to undergo the test. There was a large crowd on hand at the depot to witness the departure of Company L for the Mexican border. The troops were sent to the border for the purpose of guarding it from the invasions and raids of Pancho Villa, the Mexican rebel. This action was called a "punitive expedition."

They had no sooner returned home when, because of the pending trouble with Germany, they were again mustered into Federal Service in July of 1917. They were sent to Camp Greene, North Carolina to train for World War I.

The 164th Infantry, of which Company L was a part, landed "somewhere in France" on Christmas day, 1917. The

total number of men wounded in Company L was forty. They suffered casualties as follows: Lynn F. Spiering, Rudolph Staska, Roy Nethery, Loyd Silvy, Earl McKinney, Charles Manwaring, Calvin Scott and Roy Mathews. Five members received awards, and thirty-three others received citations.

Company L was organized in World War II for duty in the South Pacific. They trained at Camp Claiborne, Louisiana before being sent to New Caledonia in the South Pacific. The unit saw action in several engagements in which they suffered casualties. George "Jug" Newgard, who was the commanding officer, was killed in the landing of Guadalcanal.

There were a number of casualties in the unit, including the following: George Newgard, Virgil Lane, Albert Osmon Jr., Carl Vettel, Palmer Foss, and Tilman Thomson. Lloyd Mergenthal, also a member, was transferred to the Air Force and was listed as missing in action over Sicily. The unit did not see action in the Korean Conflict.



**The original organization of Co. L prior to the Spanish-American War. In front are W.A. Kelly and Mr. Morgan.**



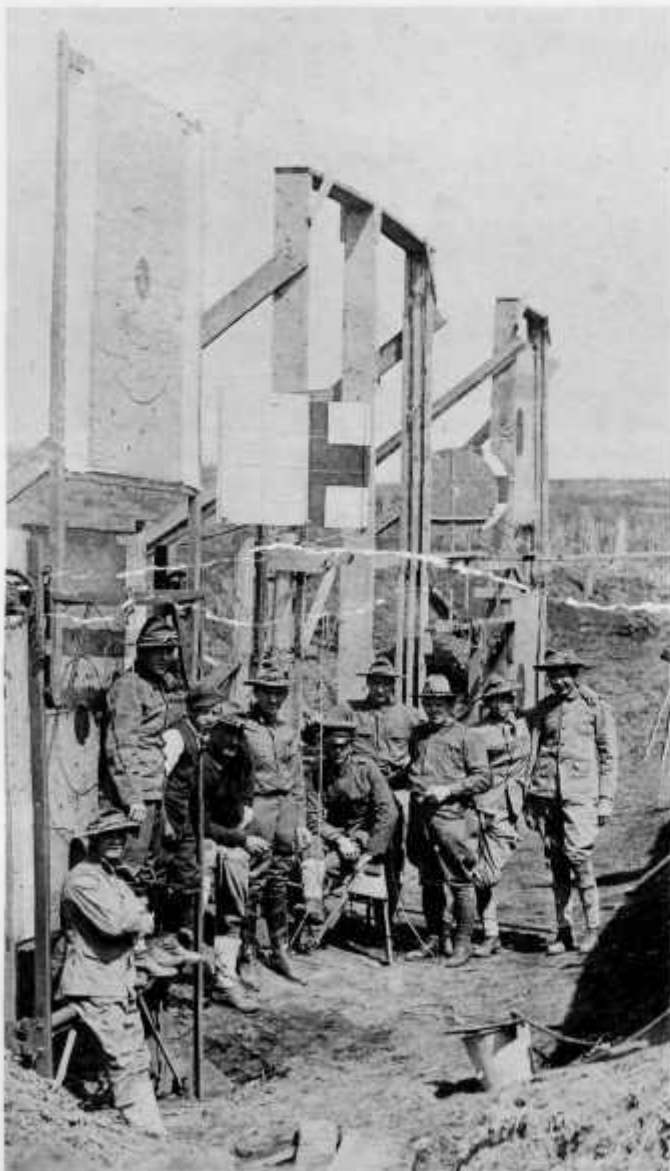
**Company L before leaving for the Mexican border.**



**Company L: Barney Boyd, Captain; Berto Olson, First Lt.; Gunder Larson, Second Lt.**



Members of Company L: (L to R) Ray Taylor, Gunder Larson, Roy Loitwood, Unknown, Oscar Edmonds, Norval Nyhus and Unknown.



On the rifle range: Knok Skogen, Allen Gilbertson, Barney Boyd, Ray Taylor, Oscar Bekkedahl, Norval Nyhus, Bill Talmo, and Jerome Baglien.



Eveline Swenson, World War I nurse. Aunt of Sally Thompson.



Last picture taken of George "Jug" Newgard, before leaving for Guadalcanal, where he was killed.



Ray Taylor, World War I.



Oscar Sandvig, Company L 1917.



The old Armory built in 1907.



## SAM BAGLIEN



The first picture of Samuel Baglien, after he ran away to join the army when he was sixteen years old.



According to his sister Minnie Bahnsen, this is the way Samuel Baglien looked after the army made him "grow up some."

The clipping from *The Minneapolis Sunday Tribune* is yellowed with age and bears the date, "April 18, 1943". "N. D. Outfit Fells 3,000 Jap Troops" proclaims the headline, and the story which follows tells the story of North Dakota's 164th infantry regiment, Lt. Colonel Samuel Baglien, and the Battle of Guadalcanal.

Sammy Baglien ran away from home to join the army when he was a mere 16 years old. Home was in Hillsboro, and his parents were Mr. and Mrs. Ole Baglien. After a few months in the army, Sammy matured into a man, and after fighting in the war, from the man emerged a hero.

Baglien, a Lt. Colonel by then, was in the first army landing party to reach Guadalcanal on Oct. 13. That party was also the last to leave, staying until Feb. 23.

According to Baglien, his command lost only 150 in "killed", a ratio of 20 to one, as they managed to annihilate an entire Japanese regiment.

"They are terrific fighters but poor shots and not as well equipped as we were," Baglien said at the time the *Tribune* interviewed him. "After that engagement we took the offensive and continued to hold it until the last of the enemy was off the island," he continued.

"The Japs always attacked in waves and kept coming in the face of blistering fire. They seldom stopped until their progress was impeded by their own dead who clogged the terrain."

Eventually, the 164th and the Marines on Guadalcanal won the battle, fighting together to gain a decisive victory for World War II.

As a result of the heroism of the men in the 164th, which included Company L of Hillsboro, the unit received more than 169 citations and decorations. It was in the battle of Guadalcanal that the 164th gained the honor of being the first United States Army ground unit to take the offensive in World War II.

Yes, in many homes in Hillsboro can be found yellowing clippings which tell about sons, brothers, or fathers and their bravery during wartime. Hillsboro has had more than its share of heroes, and one of them was Lt. Colonel Samuel Baglien.



Colonel Samuel Baglien, as he looked after many days of fighting on Guadalcanal.

# Commerce

## OLDEST BUSINESS FIRM IN HILLSBORO



Ralph J. Rudrud

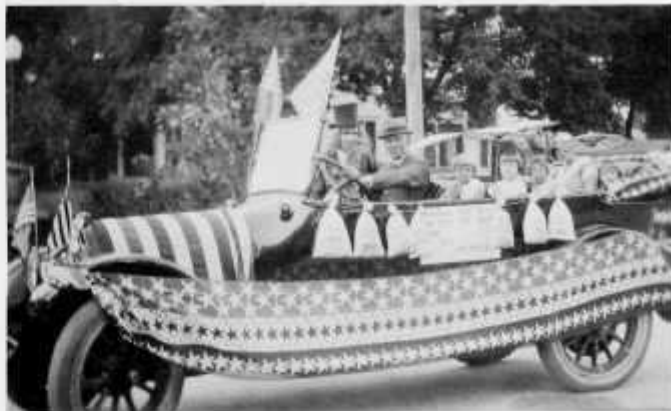
Ralph J. Rudrud, a native of Hillsboro, still operates the RUDRUD INSURANCE AGENCY which he purchased from Earle R. Sarles in 1946.

This agency was organized and established by the late E.Y. Sarles in 1881 who later was Governor of the State of North Dakota; E.Y. Sarles was President of the First National Bank in the city at that time; Earle R. Sarles took over ownership and management in 1913. During all this time this Agency has had continuous representation of the original Insurance Companies during its 100 years of operation.

Mr. Rudrud was employed as manager of this Agency in 1936 and continued in that capacity until 1946 when he purchased the Agency from Earle R. Sarles, and has continued the operation up to the present time, making this business of Insurance and Real Estate the oldest business firm of this kind in Hillsboro, by one of the oldest living natives of Hillsboro.

## HILLSBORO NATIONAL BANK

Shortly after the Traill County Bank, now known as Northwestern State Bank, was established in 1881 Messrs. Amos L. Plummer and A.L. Hanson opened a private bank under the name of Plummer and Hanson on a site adjoining the present Olsen Hardware building, at that time the general store of John E. Paulson.



Hillsboro National Bank float. (L to R) Palmer Rudrud, Julius Overmoe, Jane Arnegard, Margaret Ann Sarles, Peggy Arnegard, Esther Halverson, and Mary Ellen Sarles.

A news story in the *Fargo Record* shows that Mr. Plummer was born in Maine, homesteaded in Minnesota, moved to Iowa and was engaged in general merchandising and had established himself in trade and banking. He was also head of the law firm of Plummer and Woodhull. Successful in all his efforts, and with abundant capital, he pioneered into Dakota Territory in 1881 and again established himself in banking, merchandising and farm ownership. He also built a hotel in Hillsboro, the PLUMMER HOUSE, situated on the east side of Highway #81 across from the Hillsboro Equipment Company. He owned a large farm in the Clifford area as well as other farms in Traill County and business property in Hillsboro. In 1895 he built the 16 room three story mansion now occupied by the Traill County Historical Society.

Old records of the Plummer and Hanson bank are lost or destroyed but from news items in the *Hillsboro Banner* over the years it is learned that the bank building was a one-story frame building and that in 1885 Plummer and Hanson obtained a national bank charter under the name of Hillsboro National Bank. Its directors were: A.L. Plummer, A.L. Hanson, Daniel Patterson, Alvin Patterson, John F. Selby, E.T. Jahr and A.H. Morgan. Plummer was elected president, Hanson vice president, A.E. Hanson, cashier and James E. Hyde, assistant cashier.

In 1887 it purchased the William E. Gilcrist grocery to the south, thus providing a fifty foot frontage, on which it erected a fine two-story brick building, the north half of which was occupied by the bank and the other half by J.M. Moore, Hillsboro's first druggist, and the entire second floor by the Masonic Lodge. The building was destroyed by fire in 1939 and the site now is occupied by the Jack and Jill Food Center.

In 1890 Plummer purchased Hanson's interest in the bank and thus became the major shareholder.

In 1896 the bank assumed the business of the Hillsboro Banking Company, a third bank in Hillsboro, that had opened late in 1891. The merged bank then moved into the Hillsboro Banking Company's new building, occupied by Attorney Stuart Larson.

Mr. Plummer died in 1903 and John E. Lasham, his son-in-law, became owner of the bank.

In 1907 Ole Arnegard and J.H. Hanson purchased the Lasham interests. Hanson was elected president and Arnegard cashier.

In 1929, at the beginning of the great depression, the bank's resources were overextended and it was consolidated with the First National Bank, and the Hillsboro National Bank passed from the financial scene.

## NORTHWESTERN STATE BANK



First National Bank, circa 1891.

In the spring of 1881 two young men in their early twenties descended from the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba train to the wood platform of the depot at the new village of Hill City, Dakota Territory and began their lifetime careers in Traill County. They were the brothers Elmore Y. Sarles and Orlin C. Sarles of Sparta, Wisconsin. Captivated by the opportunities for success in a new land, by reports of bonanza farming, by the blandishments of James J. Hill and the advice of their family, they had selected Traill County and Hill City as the land of opportunity. Many of the Sarles families had long been engaged in the lumber, insurance, real estate and banking businesses; the exception was their father, Rev. Jesse D. Sarles, a Methodist minister. The two brothers had chosen banking and building supplies as their careers with capital furnished by their uncles, John H. Sarles of Boscobel, Wisconsin and Simeon B. Sarles of Minneapolis. They opened a bank and real estate office in a small one story frame building erected on the corner of Main Street and Caledonia Avenue. They built a lumber yard on the east side of the railroad track opposite the bank building. Orlin C. Sarles became the lumber merchant under the trade name "J.H. Sarles and O.C. Sarles." The bank, capitalized at \$25,000, was chartered "Traill County Bank." They knew that savings accounts and time certificates of deposit would be few in a pioneer community and that profits derived from the sale of wheat would necessarily be used by the homesteaders for purchase of farm machinery and building materials. Funds for farm mortgage lending would have to come from private lenders, mortgage bankers and insurance companies in eastern cities, and such arrangements were made. Profits of a small bank such as theirs had to come from the buying and selling of

real estate rather than from business generated by bank deposits and local lending. Hill City proved to be a growing community and both businesses prospered.

Day by day records of a bank reveal the success and failure of businesses and men, the ups and downs of the economy of the area, changes in business and management of a variety of enterprises, and the establishment of new businesses. Unfortunately all such records were lost in the big fire of 1891. Upon inquiry the State Banking Department was unable to furnish any official records of that nine year period as all records were lost when the State Capitol at Bismarck was destroyed by fire in 1930.

However, some information was gleaned from early issues of the *Hillsboro Banner*, cancelled notes and checks of early customers, and the bank's advertising and letterheads. Advertisements show that John H. Sarles was the first president of the bank, O.C. Sarles, vice president, and E.Y. Sarles, cashier. The Sarles also owned a bank at Caledonia, known as "The Bank of Caledonia, Associate Bank of Traill County Bank, Hillsboro, Dakota Territory," and its advertising bears the names of the same officers. There was a daily Concord stage coach line between Hillsboro and Caledonia for the convenience of people of both towns, for transaction of business, and the transportation of mail.

In 1885 the Traill County Bank obtained a national banking charter under the name "First National Bank of Hillsboro." Its incorporators were Simeon B. Sarles, Orlin C. Sarles, Elmore Y. Sarles, Lynn C. Stanford, Guido von Steinwehr, William von Steinwehr, John E. Paulson, Lyman E. Francis, William H.S. Brady, John H. Hanson, Asa H. Morgan, Erick T. Jahr and Albert Potterud. They were an interesting cross section of the community — men who were bankers, lumber merchants, retailers of general merchandise, a lawyer, a hardware merchant and a saloon keeper. One merchant had earlier been a Hudson's Bay Company factor and one of the four bonanza farmers was a German count. Of these incorporators S.B. Sarles was elected president of the bank, O.C. Sarles, vice president and E.Y. Sarles, cashier. S.B. Sarles had replaced J.H. Sarles as president. The bank's capital was increased from \$25,000 to \$50,000. Another member of the Sarles family appeared as a director in the 1890s. He was S.E. Sarles, engaged in the lumber and banking business in Monticello,



E.Y. Sarles





**First National Bank, (L to R) Alma Wentworth, Fred Hauser, E.Y. Sarles, Palmer Rudrud, and Odin Rudrud.**

Iowa. In 1898 The Bank of Caledonia consolidated with the First National Bank of Hillsboro and surrendered its charter.

The year the bank obtained its national charter it entered upon a building program. The old frame building was moved to another location and a two-story brick building was erected. A news story described it as a "two-story brick building finished on the inside with cherry wood, having plate glass windows, tile and parquet floors, furnished with all modern conveniences and as complete and elegant a banking house as to be found anywhere." Its life, however, was short for on January 21, 1891 it burned to the ground together with most of the other buildings in the block. Within twenty-four hours the bank was again in full operation in the O.C. Sarles and Company building; the name had been changed from J.H. and O.C. Sarles and now had lumber yards at Hillsboro, Kelso, Grandin and Cummings. In the spring of 1891 a temporary 24 X 38 one story building was erected at the rear of the bank lot and during the summer a new bank building was built on the original site. The building was described in the Fargo Record as "one of the handsomest bank buildings in the state. It is built of Cleveland pressed brick and Lake Superior brownstone trimmed with Perth Amboy terracotta, the inside of antique oak, Pollard finish."



**First National Bank: O. Rudrud, Cashier; D.Y. Sarles Assistant Cashier; Palmer Rudrud, Bookkeeper; and Flora Nedland, Stenographer.**

From 1881 to 1933 the bank was operated by the Sarles family under presidents, J.H. Sarles, S.B. Sarles, E.Y. Sarles and Earle R. Sarles. In 1904 E.Y. Sarles was elected Governor of North Dakota, an honor to him and the little city on the Goose River. In 1922 his son, Earle R. Sarles, was elected president and E.Y. Sarles became chairman of the board of directors. O.C. Sarles died in 1919, E.Y. Sarles died in 1929, and Earle R. Sarles died in 1970.

In 1920 wheat was still king in North Dakota, but the farm price depression after World War I caused a devastating loss of values in real estate, farm machinery and equipment purchased during the war years. Farm debt was heavy, grain prices were low, and banks deposits fell rapidly; the state guaranty fund proved inadequate and banks called their loans to meet withdrawals; there remained no funds to lend. The stock market crash occurred in 1929 and the economic system of the world broke down. Brokerage houses collapsed, large city banks went into receivership, factories closed as there were no funds available for purchase. All business declined and there was mass



**First National Bank 1933: Leonard Beal, Joe Hegge and customers.**

unemployment throughout the land. The situation was no longer just a farm depression but a nation wide depression. In addition there was the great drought of 1934 and the grasshopper plague as of old in the midwest. There was no European market for farm produce, and a depressed market in the United States with wheat selling for 32¢ per bushel and barley, oats and flax for a few pennies per bushel. The result was foreclosure of mortgages, forced sales, and delinquent taxes; thousands of acres of land passed from private ownership to insurance companies, to the Bank of North Dakota and to the Federal Land Bank. Thousands of farmers in North Dakota and elsewhere abandoned their land and moved west where they hoped to find greener pastures.

Federal and state governments were not idle during the emergency, but there was little they could do to revive the world's economy. Congress authorized the Farm Security Administration, Reconstruction Finance Corporation, Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Civil Works Administration, Civilian Conservation Corps, Resettlement Administration. Even with all these aids, and they were very important, there was no actual recovery until World War II.

Then, as if ordained, rain again fell in adequate amounts, crop yields were big, and farm income was the highest in fifteen years. Statewide, crops were the greatest ever experienced. Farmers were again on a cash basis, loan demands were down, bank deposits expanded rapidly and millions of dollars in War Bonds were purchased; farmers who stuck it out in some manner bought back their land, and the insurance companies, the Bank of North Dakota, and the Federal Land Bank were able to sell the farms they had acquired during the great depression.

The years from 1920 to World War II had been hectic years with great losses for farmers, business men, and banks. Traill County was not drought stricken as was most of North Dakota, but was financially depressed due to low grain prices. It is satisfying to record that Traill County was the last county in the state to receive Federal aid and that was in November of 1935.

Hillsboro did not escape the depression. The Hillsboro National Bank developed financial difficulties and its deposit liabilities were assumed by First National Bank in 1929. The bank reorganized its staff with Earle R. Sarles as president and P.B. Peterson of the Hillsboro National Bank as vice-president. The same year the deposit liability of the bank at Grandin was assumed and that bank was liquidated. The Peoples State Bank of Hillsboro went into receivership.

In 1930 the First National Bank of Hillsboro and other banks at Fargo, Minot, Bismarck, Mandan, Jamestown, Valley City, Grafton, and Wahpeton were purchased by Northwest Bancorporation to strengthen the banking structure of North Dakota.

In 1933 under a management change at First National Bank of Hillsboro, P.B. Peterson, vice president, and E.A. Iverson, cashier, resigned and J.I. Hegge of Maddock, N.D. and Leonard Beal of Valley City, N.D. were elected to replace them. In 1934 Mr. Hegge was elected president and Mr. Beal, cashier. In 1940 it was deemed advisable to obtain a state bank charter and the bank's name was changed to the Northwestern State Bank. In 1951 Mr. Hegge retired and Mr. Beal succeeded him to the presidency. After serving thirty-three years as cashier and president, Mr. Beal retired at the close of 1965 and Harry Eisenbeis was elected president.

The bank's growth continued under the direction of Mr. Eisenbeis.

In 1971 the bank had outgrown its facilities and moved into the new 6200 square foot structure, celebrating its 90th banking year. At this time the bank had 12 employees and deposits of \$7,399,261.82.

Customer Service has been the byword of recent years, and Northwestern Bank's establishment of a Paying and Receiving Station at Grandin, ND is evidence of our involvement in this area.

Bank officers ushering our 100th banking year are: Harry Eisenbeis, President; Jack C. Hansen, Vice President; Norval A. Rokke, Vice President; Orville Thoreson, Vice President; John R. Knutson, Assistant Vice President; Terry Reed, Assistant Vice President and Insurance Manager; Donald K. Foss, Assistant Vice President; Gaylon Anderson, Assistant Vice President and Grandin Manager; Sharon Mueller, Cashier; and Gertrude Burck, Customer Service Officer. Bank Directors in 1981 are: Harry Eisenbeis, Orville Thoreson, Donald Hanson,

Sr., Arnold E. Sorum, Tilman C. Anderson, Kenneth Halvorson, and Ralph Steenson.

In celebrating our 100th year and anticipation of service to the community in our next 100 years, the Northwestern State Bank is undertaking the construction of an addition to its present facility that will approximately double its working space.

Continually serving since 1881 through periods of growth, money panics, global wars, inflation, deflation, through the farm price depression of the early 1920s and the great depression of the 1930s, the Hillsboro bank is an unbroken chain linking yesterday with today. Its first published report of condition extant, dated February 26, 1891, shows its capital, surplus and undivided profits at \$70,134.03, deposits of \$166,340.90 and total resources at \$250,603.16. (An interesting item in that report is of the \$22,833.02 in currency and coin on hand, \$20,145.00 — nearly all of it — was in gold coin.) Today the deposits are \$26,203,029.92 and the bank employs 28 people. Northwestern State Bank is now both the oldest and the largest bank in Traill County. Its total resources are \$28,924,193.65, and it is further supported by over thirteen billion dollar resources of Northwest Bancorporation which owns the majority of stock in 86 midwest affiliated banks and a number of bank related financial service companies. The growth of Northwestern State Bank is just one instance of the great American ideal of private enterprise founded on service and integrity of purpose and principle. We are proud to relate the story in this Centennial Year of Hillsboro.

— Leonard Beal

## HILLSBORO AUTO, INC.



Hillsboro Auto Company

The original Hillsboro Auto Company was founded in 1912 by Theodore Jahr, Martin Oien, a mechanic and Fred Haeger, who was in the clothing business. This Jahr-Oien-Haeger auto company garage was in the present VFW hall with sales and parts in front and repair equipment in the rear. They sold Dart and Oakland autos.

This partnership continued until 1915 when it was dissolved and Theodore Jahr and Steve Steenson, an area farmer, joined forces. This continued until 1918 when Theodore became sole owner.

From 1915 to 1919 the company was a subdealer for the Springen Auto Co. of Mayville which had the franchise for all of Traill County. R.T. (Dick) Jahr became associated with his father, Theodore, in 1919 after serving in the US Navy during World War I. Their original contract was signed February 9, 1919. This contract gave them a full dealership.

The co-partnership between father and son lasted from 1919 to 1947 when Mr. Jahr died. A new family corporation was formed, Hillsboro Auto Co., Inc. with Dick as president and C.T. Hanson as sec-treas. Cliff had been bookkeeper and/or parts man since January, 1935. He is married to the former Claudia Jahr.

The firm's association with Ford dates way back to 1915 when the Dart-Oakland line of cars was dropped and Ford picked up from the Mayville Firm. Mercury was added later.

In May, 1962, after serving the community for 50 years, one of the oldest family businesses in Hillsboro was sold to another corporation, Hillsboro Auto, Inc., headed by Edward J. Baumgartner of Fargo in partnership with R.O. Pitsenbarger of Moorhead. It was reorganized and continued on as a Ford-Mercury dealership engaged in the sale and service of new and used cars and trucks. It is presently located on the corner of 1st St. SW and Caledonia Ave. with a new car lot across the street to the west. It operates with a full service garage, office staff and body shop located at 1st Ave. and 1st St. SE.

In 1970 the HACO Addition was purchased and serves as a used car and truck lot. It borders Interstate 29 on the northwest edge of Hillsboro.

Ed bought-out his partner, Mr. Pitsenbarger, in October of 1980 and is now sole owner of Hillsboro Auto, Inc. With Ed as president, his wife, Cecilia, as vice president and daughter, Mrs. Larry (Jeanne) Chandler, as secretary, the new corporation was formed on October 14, 1980.

Once again Hillsboro Auto, Inc. is a family owned and operated business.

## ASHLAND IMPLEMENT



**Ashland Implement**

One of Hillsboro's oldest businesses is Ashland Implement.

This implement dealership was started in 1886 by Gunder Howard, builder of the Opera House, first home of the business. When Howard was building his business, he agreed to add a second story to the building for concerts and public events and that is where the Opera House name came from.

Mr. Howard owned the business until the year 1920 when it was purchased by Oscar Johnson. In 1943, Mr. Johnson sold the firm to L.D. Best and Ken Tehven. Mr. Best sold his interest to Mr. Tehven in 1947. So the business had several owners and assorted names during the first 60 years in operation.

On July 11, 1949, two men from the Cooperstown area purchased the business from Mr. Tehven and took over management in January 1950. These men, Roy Ashland and Wilson Forbes renamed the business once again, calling it Ashland Forbes Implement, Incorporated.



**Gunder Howard's original building with Opera House above. (1886)**

Not one, but two spring floods welcomed Ashland and Forbes to Hillsboro in 1950. Mr. Ashland remembers thinking, "This is it, I'm losing my life savings" before the business could get off the ground. Planting was late, mostly the end of June and some early July that year. But once the crops were in the ground, there was favorable weather.

What had started out as a disastrous year turned into an excellent season. Mr. Ashland remembers selling 19 combines, mostly Minneapolis Moline G-4 pull-types. The 45 or 50 bushel hopper on that combine seems small by comparison today.

After Forbes sold out to Mr. Ashland in 1954, Mr. Ashland continued to operate the business out of the Opera House for 15 more years. But age caught up with the old building and it was condemned in 1968.

So Mr. Ashland moved the business from the Opera House to the current Halverson Furniture building on Old Highway 81. The business was housed there from 1969 to 1971. At that time, Ashland moved the firm to the former John Deere Implement building. That lot is now the parking lot of Arne's Fairway.

During a Firemen's Dance in March of 1973, the business burned. Most of the equipment was outside, but the parts, garden tractors, snowmobiles and smaller things inside were lost in the blaze.

Since the Halverson Furniture building was available, Mr. Ashland moved operations there after the fire downtown. By 1978, Roy Ashland had decided to retire and sold the business which still retains his name.

Current owners Mike Nesvig of Hillsboro and David Sondreal of Grand Forks built the new Ashland Implement building on the west side of Hillsboro during 1978.

Over the years, the equipment lines handled by Mr. Ashland changed with the times. When White purchased



Minneapolis Moline and Oliver, the White Motor Company turned the dealership over to the Oliver dealer. A replacement tractor line was Versatile, acquired by Mr. Ashland in about 1965.

A four-wheel drive diesel Versatile with a cab is a long ways from the U Moline, the most popular tractor Mr. Ashland sold in 1950. That 40-horsepower gas tractor was sold most often with a standard front, showing the heavy dependence of the local agriculture on grain farming.

Short lines are an important part of Ashland Implement. Some of the lines sold over the years include Melroe, Woods, Gehl and Bohlens. Specialized equipment for the potato and beet farmer was never handled by Ashland, who earned two sales trips from the Bohlens Corporation.

The current owners handle many short lines of machinery and continue to offer parts and service to the customers of this business, which has served Hillsboro for nearly 100 years.

## FANKHANEL VARIETY STORE



Fankhanel's Variety Store

Paul Arthur Fankhanel and his wife Julia opened a variety store in Hillsboro in September, 1929, in what is now the Dalrymple office on Caledonia Avenue. A short time later they moved to the present location on Main Street, where they operated the Variety Store until Paul's death in 1964.

Paul Fankhanel, one of seven children of Moritz and Anne Fankhanel, was born in 1887 in Barnesville, Minnesota, where his father and three brothers had settled after coming from



Fankhanel interior in the 30's. Paul and Julia on the right and Earl (Buster) on the left.

Germany. Paul served in World War I in France and was later active in the American Legion. After the war Paul was a baker in Barnesville and continued in that work until moving to Hillsboro. He married Julia Ause in 1923 and to that union five children were born: Dolores, Earl, Lois, Julian, and James.

Earl (Buster) Fankhanel was born in 1925 in Barnesville, Minnesota. He graduated from Hillsboro High School in June 1943 and in October of that year enlisted in the Navy Air Force where he served as a tail gunner in a PB4Y2 in the South Pacific. After his discharge in January 1946 he entered North Dakota Agricultural College in Fargo, from which both he and his wife, Joyce Watson Fankhanel were graduated. They moved to Hillsboro in 1949, where their three children, Lee Ann, Nancy and Mark were born.

After his father's death in 1964, Earl and his mother ran the business until 1967, from which time Earl and Joyce have run the store until the present time.

## ANDERSON'S FOOD MARKET 1933-1958



Picture taken in front of store at time of Diamond Jubilee in Hillsboro in 1956. Pictured from l to r are: Harold Anderson, Tom Anderson, Bea Anderson, Vernon Johnson, Wes Fossum, and Jim Anderson.

For 25 of the past 100 years, Anderson's Food Market was one of the business places on Main Street of Hillsboro.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Anderson, former school teachers, purchased what was known as the Farmers' Store in June 1933 and operated a Food Market until 1958 when they sold to Mr. and Mrs. Winston Marsden.

Many Hillsboro High School students earned spending money and savings for college while working at the store before school, after school, on Saturdays and during summer vacations. Stores opened at 7 a.m. and remained open until midnight on Wednesdays and Saturdays until about World War II time.

During the early years none of the food products were pre-packaged and the clerks were kept busy sacking merchandise that came into the store — from flour and sugar, dates and prunes, to navy beans and potatoes.

Another job the clerks were not too thrilled about was candling eggs. Many farmers sold eggs and home-churned butter to the store in exchange for groceries. On some Saturdays, more than sixty 30-dozen crates of eggs had to be candled.

At one time during the 1930's, eggs sold at three dozen for a quarter.

A sale bill from that period lists unbelievably low prices such as a 4 lb. package of raisins for 29¢, a 49 lb. sack of flour for \$1.43, a 1 lb. can of coffee for 29¢, and a lb. can of fancy red salmon at 23¢.

The Andersons and their sons, Jim and Tom, saw many changes in the food business over the years. The days when the local drayman met the train, loaded the freight on his truck and unloaded it at the store's back door were gone. Instead large trucks delivered merchandise to the store's warehouse.

Modern refrigeration replaced the old ice boxes filled each day by the iceman. No longer did the housewives bring butter and eggs to the store. No longer did customers lay in a supply of several 100# bags of flour, a 100# bag of sugar, and several 25# boxes of dried fruit. No longer did they purchase many crates of fruit from the boxcar on the railroad tracks in the fall of the year.

Store hours were shortened and the Wednesday and Saturday midnight closings were a thing of the past.

The store was rearranged for self service and by the time the Andersons sold the store, merchandising was much as it is today.

## JOHNSON STORE



The Johnson Store

The Johnson Store Company moved into Hillsboro in 1940 following J.C. Penney's departure. For many years the store was a company store operated by managers. The first store manager was Mrs. Funk, who managed the store for 14 years. She was followed by Charles "Bud" Way, who managed the store until 1968. In that year Mr. Swendseid became manager and operated the store as a company store for eight years.

In 1976, Truman and Edna Swendseid purchased the Store from the Johnson Store Company. Although the store is now owned by the Swendseids, it remains in the Johnson Store chain of independent stores. The Johnson Store Company is a buying agency for seventeen department stores.

For 39 years Johnson Stores rented the building from the Simon Anderson family. In 1979 the Swendseids purchased the building in which the Johnson Store is now located.

## HISTORY OF INTERIOR LUMBER



Interior Lumber Company.

In 1926 H.T. Alsop of Interior Lumber, Fargo, N.D., purchased the Hillsboro Lumber Company from J.R. Corley of Grand Forks. Andrew Forde was manager at the time.

In 1931 Henry Lund became manager until his death in 1961.

The building of the former Thompson Yards, originally constructed as O.C. Saries and Co. in 1882, sold to Valley Lumber in 1898, and resold to Thompson Yards in 1924. It was purchased by Interior Lumber in 1955.

After 76 years as one of the city's oldest buildings, the last of the original Thompson Yards buildings were torn down in 1958, the yard office being taken apart board by board.

In 1961 Ernest Lang from Fertile, Minnesota, became manager. Richard Hutchison, a native of Caledonia, joined the company as bookkeeper and is presently with the firm.

After the death of Ernest Lang, Richard Georgeson replaced him as manager. Georgeson came from Fargo, where he was also employed by Interior Lumber. Mrs. Lang still lives in Hillsboro, where she is a hospital employee.

In 1980 Lee Anderson became the present manager of the yard, after Georgeson left to start a new business, Tri-G Plastics, in Cummings, N.D. Anderson and his wife, Jackie, are from Jamestown, N.D.

Kevin Hutchison of Fertile, Minnesota, joined Interior Lumber as yard man on July 1, 1980.

## THE TELEPHONE STORY

Oliver Dalrymple, who was managing the Grandin Farms in the Bonanza days, bought the first telephones in Traill County around 1878. He brought them here after attending an exposition in Philadelphia where Alexander Graham Bell had demonstrated his new invention. Mr. Dalrymple used a telephone system to communicate from the Grandin farm headquarters to the various farms. This was the first ever use of telephones on a community-wide basis.

In 1898, H.D. Hurley organized the Hillsboro, Duane, Caledonia, and Shelly Telephone Companies. In 1900 there were 130 telephones in Hillsboro and 30 miles of country lines. Until 1900, the operators were young boys.



Trail County Telephone Company float with Grace Matchke at the switchboard and R. Wiseth on the left.

In November of 1900, George Dunlevy and his family came to Hillsboro to build the electric light plant and to take over management of the Telephone Company. Mrs. Dunlevy was day operator and the Dunlevy daughters (Isabel, May, and Mary) helped. Jim Dunlevy worked with his father in building lines in the country and in town and helped wiring the houses. They hauled Tamarack poles on horse-drawn wagons, as they built lines to Neilsville and Halstad.

John Carmody was president of the Trail County Telephone Company.

The farmers around Blanchard had a telephone line among themselves long before the Hillsboro Company was organized. They were D.C. Smith, the Blanchard Farm, Thomas Harrison, J.D. Burke, A.D. Reed, C.W. Preston, and W.A. McCain. When they allowed the Company to use their lines, they made a deal that they were to have service for \$12.50 a year.

In 1907 Mr. A.T. Nicklawsky succeeded Mr. Dunlevy as manager of the company. He was also named secretary and treasurer. He continued as such until his death in 1952. Mrs. Nicklawsky succeeded him as manager and continued with the company until 1955.

Tilman Overmoe was first employed by the company in 1930, became manager in 1952, and retired in 1969. The Pioneer Telephone Company purchased from the Trail County Company in 1952, changed over to dial service in 1954, and was purchased by Bell Telephone in 1974.

Among other presidents of the company were A.G. Foogman, William Henning, D.P. Rostad, and John E. Paulson.

## WHITEMAN'S BAKERY

Paul and De Loris Whiteman purchased the bakery in Hillsboro from Mrs. Lloyd Pederson in August 1970. Paul has been a baker for some thirty years, starting in the Midwest Bakery in Mandan, North Dakota. He worked there for six years, later moving to Bismarck to manage a bakery. He has also worked in bakeries in Brainerd, Minnesota; Jamestown, North Dakota; and Great Falls, Montana.

He moved to Hillsboro with his wife, De Loris, and three children, Tracy, Jerry and John, 1970. John is still at home, going to high school, and helps bake in the mornings.

All varieties of breads, sweet rolls, deep-fried pastry, cookies, candy, and bars can be found in the Bakery. Paul also decorates all types of cakes, on order only, including wedding.

Considerable remodeling to the building, both inside and outside has been completed since the Whiteman's acquired the bakery. Store hours are from 8 A.M. to 6 P.M. Monday through Friday and 8 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. Saturday.



Whiteman's Bakery today.



Paul Whiteman and son John



John learning the trade.





De Loris Whiteman



De Loris making donuts.

## TRAIL COUNTY ABSTRACT COMPANY



Trail County Abstract Company

Trail County — the largest tract of level land in the world. The foregoing statement was printed on the reverse side of the office stationery of the Trail County Auditor in 1906.

Trail County Abstract Company is proud to be the Abstracters of Title in Trail County. It is the only continuing

business that was brought to Hillsboro from Caledonia when Hillsboro became the County Seat of Trail County.

We are often asked, "What is an abstract of title?" An abstract of title is a concise history of the recorded ownership of real estate, including liens of records to which the real estate is subject.

Mr. T.G. Dahl was the first legal abstracter in Trail County. He brought his business to Hillsboro and established it on Caledonia Avenue in the building now occupied by Lorine's Flower Shop.

The first records in the office of the Register of Trail County were made in 1895 but the Register of Deeds, Mr. Oliver P. Clark, made Certificates of Title before Mr. Dahl's time.

In 1909 Mr. B.C. Boyd, who was Trail County Clerk of Court, began to build a title plant by using the card system. Formerly abstracter's records of real estate transfers were entered in bound books. Mr. Boyd purchased Mr. Dahl's business and moved it to rented space in the Courthouse in Hillsboro.

Mr. Boyd was assisted in the abstract office by Lizzie Talmo Balkan. Later, Lizzie Talmo Balkan managed the business when Mr. Boyd was called to Military Service during the Mexican Border trouble.

Mr. W.A. Kelly, upon his retirement from a position in the United States Treasury Department, returned to Hillsboro to live. He was a former Superintendent of Schools and Register of Deeds in Trail County. About 1914 Mr. Kelly purchased the abstract business from Mr. Boyd and continued to operate it until his death in 1926. His son, Clarence David (Bud) Kelly, became owner of the business and continued it with the assistance of Guri Wambheim, until his death in 1935 and Estelle (Stella) Kelly, his wife, became the owner.

Stella recalls that the Trail County 1935 harvest was the first ray of hope for the whole community after the dust storms and declining economy of The Great Depression. The Abstract business was offered for sale. There were many buyers but no money, so Stella decided to operate the business herself.

Stella's knowledge was limited. She had been a teacher and had three years experience as Deputy County Auditor of Trail County, but her actual knowledge of abstracting was limited at that time. However Mr. Wm. Treuman of Grand Forks County Abstract Company offered his help by coming to Hillsboro regularly to check the work until Stella was able to receive a Certificate of Authority issued by the State Board of Abstracters recognizing her capability to function as an Abstracter of Titles. Mr. Gerhard D. Olson, County Auditor and Judge John Bagstad, both of whom were long time county officials, gave her much support and help.

As the progress of agriculture grew, scientific farming began to produce larger yields and the farmers desired to increase their acreage. Therefore more activity was seen in purchasing more tillable lands, financing those purchases and more machinery with which to operate. This necessitated more legal documents to be recorded in the Register of Deeds office and new abstracts to be written and continued to date.

Because the Abstract Company maintained a duplicate file of the records of the Register of Deeds the small space occupied by the Company in the Courthouse could no longer accom-

modate the records, it was necessary to seek larger office accommodations. In May 1979 the office was moved across the street to the Sorlie Building.

Janice Arneson Lorch who has been in the office for 21 years and Doris Salo Bakken who is completing her 9th year, and Elizabeth Kelly Kilgore who has been managing the office since 1973 are presently employed. Kay Kelly Dean has been employed this past year. Both Kay and Elizabeth grew up with the abstract office and were taught the techniques of the business when they were teenagers.

Many residents of Hillsboro who are now living have assisted Stella over the past 46 years. Among those are: Clara Bagstad Ferguson, Myrtle Thorson Rudrud, Dorothy Seaver Skogen, Agnes Hanson Washien, Mildred Harstad Aker and Wilma Henka Frankfurth.

Stella would be remiss if she did not mention the help, consideration and actual instruction she received from the attorneys for whom she wrote abstracts during her learning years - as well as the many friends she has made throughout the County.

Among the attorneys were Henry Leum and Harvey Kaldor, Mayville; G.J. Clauson, Hatton; Theo Kaldor, Chauncey Kaldor, McLain Johnson, Thomas G. Johnson and Charles Shafer, of Hillsboro. As each departed this life she knew she had lost a valuable friend.

The nature of the abstract business brings us close to the labor, troubles, pains and joys and excitement of agriculture. It is by no means a monotonous business.

—Stella Kelly

## HILLSBORO DRUG STORES



Rexall Drug and Gift Shop

In 1880, A.L. Lien came to Hillsboro at the age of 26. He was a pharmacist with N.D. Pharmacist Registry Number 5. His drug store was called LIEN DRUG.

In 1884, Adolph G. Fooman came to Hillsboro at the age of 21. He came to help his brother G.W. Fooman operate his jewelry store. G.W. Fooman moved on to Grafton leaving A.G. as sole owner.

In 1895, Lien and Fooman began plans to build a new building for their businesses. The building was designed by architect J.W. Ross. On July 28, 1896, Fred J. Brown, con-



Interior of Rexall Drug



Interior of Rexall Drug

tractor and builder from Grand Forks, submitted the bid for the building. The total estimate was \$10,439.00. Fooman's half cost \$5113.00 and Lien's cost 5326.00. The \$210 difference is believed to be for pharmacy fixtures that Lien had built in his store. The result was a well constructed building complimentary to the architecture of the time.

Lien was a good record keeper and his daily cash books, poison registry, and narcotic books are exacting in detail as well as fine penmanship. The average day amounted to \$8-\$20 total sales. Almost everything dispensed was compounded from basic chemicals into either a powder or elixir often containing 5-10 ingredients and costing the patient about 25¢ to 75¢.

Shortly after Fooman Jewelry Store and Lien Drug opened, Fooman hired a druggist by the name of Vik and Lien hired a jeweler.

Fred Lien, son of A.L., became N.D. Registered Pharmacist #826 in 1904. They worked together until the death of A.L. in 1946 at the age of 92. Fred operated the store until 1950 when he sold it to Al Collins. Collins Pharmacy operated until his retirement in 1967, at which time he sold out to Nels A. Brakke and Curt Larson.

W.H. Schram bought the drugstore portion of Fooman Drug and Jewelry in 1920. Fooman retained the jewelry portion of the store. Schram obtained the Rexall franchise which is still in existence. Nels N. Brakke and his son Nels A. Brakke of McVille, N.D. bought the drugstore from Schram on



**Brakke Rexall Drug in the 1950's.**

January 1, 1937. On December 3, 1937, they bought the jewelry portion from Foogman. Nels A. operated the store and soda fountain. In 1941, he expanded the fountain putting in an all stainless steel Bridgeman fountain. There was none finer or more modern in the area. For years, the drug store also purchased and sold school textbooks and workbooks for the local schools. At this time, most customers did not have any way to store ice cream; so they would call the drug store to have enough delivered just in time for a summertime dessert. Leo "Sparky" Anderson delivered ice cream almost every warm evening at a cost to the customer of 13¢ a pint or 25¢ a quart. Nels operated the fountain until 1958.

After Brakke and Larson bought Collins Pharmacy, they formed Hillsboro Rexall Drug, Inc. They did extensive interior remodeling, removing the partition wall and making one store out of the two. The expansion allowed for a greater selection of products and enlarged card and gift sections. In 1970, pharmacist Carol J. Christianson came to Hillsboro Rexall. In 1973,



**A.G. Foogman of Foogman Drug Store in 1896. Father of Elise Tonn and Rosalie Kaldor.**

Reed R. Qualey was hired as manager. In 1973 the drug store began providing pharmacy services for the Community Hospital and serving as consultant pharmacists to the Community Nursing Home.

In 1977, the exterior front of the store was remodeled.

The store now uses a computerized ordering and sales recap system. Microfilms are used for storage of information and reference materials.

From the Lien Drug, where a pot belly stove stood in the center of the store, it was the personal service that made small town pharmacy special. Now 100 years later, it is the computer in the center of the store, but it's the same small town personal service that will make it last another 100 years.



**Foogman Drug Store — A.G. Foogman**

## THE LIEN DRUG STORE



**Lien Drug Store**

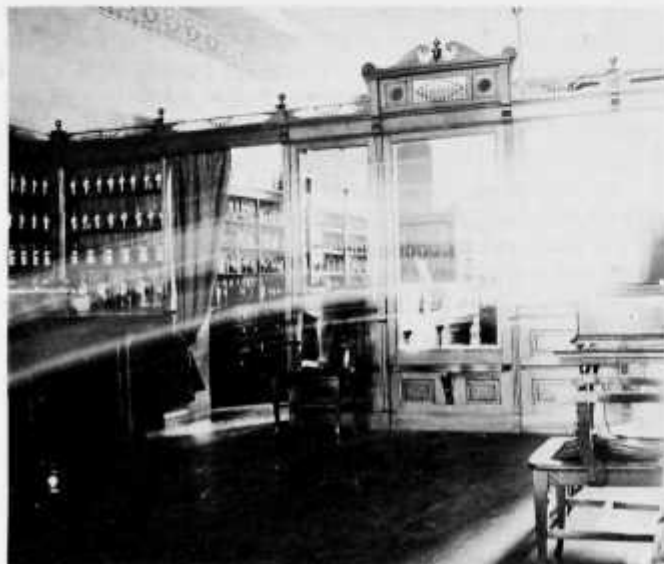
The Lien side of the "twin" drug stores which have graced Main Street of Hillsboro for many years was built by Andrew L. Lien, who first came to Hillsboro in 1880, from Norway. He carried the registered Pharmacist's certificate number 5, re-



ceived at the time the State had just begun the certificate registry system.

His pharmacy was built in conjunction with Foogman Jewelry, later to also become a drug store. Mr. Lien was in business until he retired at the age of 90. He died in 1946 at the age of 92.

He was succeeded in the Drug Store by his son Fred, who was born in 1883. In 1904 Fred received his registered Pharmacist Certificate bearing the number 826. He died in 1957. In 1950 the store was sold to Allan Collins. Mrs. Lien continues to reside in Hillsboro.



Lien Drug Store



Interior of the Lien Drug Store with Fred and Andrew Lien.

## KELSO LOCAL OF THE FARMERS UNION

In the fall of 1929 a meeting was held in the Kelso Town Hall for the purpose of discussing and organizing a Farmers Union Local. The Kelso Town Hall was located one-half mile south of Bud McInnes; in the center of Kelso Township.

The first Farmers Union Local meeting was held in the Kelso School November 29, 1929, with M.J. McNamee elected as president, Ed Reid, vice-president, A.C. Gifford,

secretary, S.A. McCoy, conductor, and Al McInnes, door-keeper.

The first business of the local was to organize a bulk oil company. This was started in Kelso in the spring of 1930. B.N. Johnson was hired as the first manager. He supplied a Model A Ford truck and tank and a five-gallon measuring can and funnel. He was paid on a commission basis. This plant was later moved to Hillsboro and today is known as the Farmers Union Oil Company of Hillsboro.

The local meetings were held in the Kelso School, Kelso School #3 (near Tom Reid's farm), in the back room of the Kelso Store and in homes of members. There was a business meeting with a discussion on farm problems of the day. The local did such things as sending letters to President Roosevelt urging him to start programs that might help farmers in the depth of the depression.

Then there was the fun side of the local meeting with a program, lunch and a dance. Many a happy evening was spent dancing with Herb McInnes playing his fiddle and Mrs. A.C. Gifford chording on the piano or organ. Mike McNamee would often call a few square dances during the evening. The hat would be passed and the men would put in 25 cents apiece for the music. Everyone brought lunch and there were some real feeds. The whole family came to the local meeting held once a month.

The Kelso Local decided to have a picnic in the Kelso Park and to put up a floor and have a bowery dance. A local lumber yard let them use the lumber for the floor. The first dance went so well the local decided to buy the lumber and run the dance every week during the summer. There was a floor with a snow fence around it and the sky for a roof. The Kelso Park is across the river from Fred Eisenhardt's home. The dances ran for several seasons in the 1930's.

The young fellows would go over to the park for a clean-up day in the spring and then would get a free pass to the dances all summer. LeRoy Gunkel furnished the lights for the park. He would jack up the hind wheel on his Model T Ford, put a belt pulley on it and run a generator with wires strung around and light bulbs in the trees. For this he was paid \$7.50 a night. Dunlevy was paid \$5 for loud speakers. Don Lindeman got \$1 for sweeping the floor before dances and the police received \$5. The orchestra got from \$16 to \$25.

Many of the activities of the Kelso Local faded through the years. In the 70's however, the local started to become active again. Though it only meets once or twice a year now, it sends delegates to the state Farmers Union convention each year, has a day school for young people and works for Farmers Union policies. It has a membership of over 450 families in the Kelso-Hillsboro area. Officers at the present time are President - Mary Ann Boeddeker, Vice-president - John Preston, Secretary-treasurer - Leonard Muller. Youth director and teachers are Mary Ann Boeddeker, Peggy Eblen and Bonnie Mueller.

## FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY OF HILLSBORO

**STRUGGLING 30's** — The idea of having an oil station grew out of a meeting of the Kelso Farmers Union Local in December, 1929. In January and February of 1930 it was discussed again.



Farmers Union Oil Company

At a meeting called in the store at Kelso on March 1, 1930, Mr. McLaughlin, representative from the Farmers Union Central Exchange, addressed the assembly on the matter of setting up a bulk oil station. Mr. M.J. McNamee was the temporary president and Mr. A.C. Gifford served as temporary secretary. The temporary board of directors to act until the stock was sold and the charter secured from the state were A.C. Gifford, M.J. McNamee, M.W. Pease, Philip J. Bohnsack, Fred Downs, and H.W. McInnes. McNamee, Gifford, and Philip Bohnsack, vice president, were later unanimously elected as officers. Money was deposited in the First National Bank at Hillsboro and surety bond was secured.

The first shares of stock of the Farmers Union Oil Company of Kelso cost \$27.50. Stockholders usually bought from one to four shares. The first stockholders were L.D. Best, M.J. McNamee, A.C. Gifford, Al McInnes, Philip Bohnsack, William Meyer, J.F. McNamee, G.F. Meyelts, Fred Downs, M.W. Pease, H.W. McInnes, W.B. McNamee, B.N. Johnson, Henry Larson, and Frank Rodeike. Eventually there were 55 stockholders the first year.

The bulk station became a reality in May, 1930, and B.N. Johnson was hired as the first manager and was paid on a commission basis.

The oil company paid their first dividends in December, 1930, after showing a profit of \$4000 in its first six months of existence. The dividends were 3½ cents on gasoline, 3 cents on kerosene, 15 cents on lubricating oil and 3 cents on grease.

In 1931 Mr. Radebaugh wanted to put a service station in Hillsboro. He could have gas at 1½ cents under the Kelso station price and could issue coupons. The board also offered Hendrum, Minnesota, gas at 1½ cents over wholesale price.

During 1931, the company sold lubricating oil to Traill County. It gave a 15% discount on oil to dealers and charged the same price for gasoline as Standard Oil. Inventory and most

business was conducted by the executive board, consisting of the president, the secretary, and one other director. The full board met four times a year.

A truck tank was bought in 1931 for \$331.91 from the Fargo Foundry. In 1931 also, the company purchased one share of stock (\$250) in the Farmers Union Central Exchange. A.C. Gifford was the first delegate to the convention in St. Paul and his expenses were shared by the oil company and the Traill County Farmers Union, \$17.50 each.

Blue gas and tractor fuel were added to the inventory in 1932 and the company sold gas for grading Highway 81. In 1933 seed corn was handled by the Farmers Union Oil Company of Kelso and oil and grease were sold as far north as Cummings and as far east as Halstad. A contract was signed with the Ethyl Gasoline Corporation and ethyl gas became available. The board also decided to lease a service station from B.N. Johnson in Hillsboro in November of that year.

In October of 1934 the board discussed moving the bulk plant to Hillsboro and building a warehouse. This was a controversial issue and was the topic of discussion at many board meetings for several years.

1935 was the year the company bought a meter and four gauges for tanks at Kelso. They had a four-unit pump for the bulk plant. An unloading rack was equipped for underneath unloading. Diesel fuel and equipment was also purchased and handled.

In December of 1936 it was decided to order a carload of Co-op tractors. Two large model tractors, four 3-plow models and one small tractor were ordered, delivered the next March and sold by October of 1937.

The company became involved with social security and income taxes in 1937. Because of the added work, the book-keeper received an increase in pay. The company's share was \$32.50 a month.

In 1938 the Farmers Union Oil Company of Kelso bought a share of the Traill County Produce Association and loaned them \$2,000 at 6 percent interest. Power pumps on the truck tanks were also purchased that year.

In October of 1938 a final decision was made and the company would move to Hillsboro. It cost them about \$1,500. Harry Tonn and H.W. McInnes made the arrangements for a site. The company also ordered a 17,000 gallon bulk tank and one double unit unloading pump and fixtures. A lease was signed with Great Northern Railroad to rent a site for bulk tanks. Now all business meetings were attended by all board members.

**FORWARD-MOVING 40's** — The Farmers Union Oil Company of Kelso celebrated its 10th anniversary in the Armory at Hillsboro in 1940. It was an all-day affair with the Hillsboro High School Band giving a concert during the noon luncheon.

There was a price war with Standard Oil in April of 1941 and regular gas was sold for 11½ cents delivered, and #3 was 10½ cents a gallon delivered.

In June of 1941 the company leased for one year equipment owned by the Lakota Oil Company in Hillsboro. This station was discontinued in 1942.

In 1942 the oil company bought \$400 worth of War Bonds. Price of oil at this time was 70 cents per gallon. They

also invested \$1000 in the Central Exchange to assist in the purchase of a refinery.

A ration stamp account was opened in June of 1943 with Merchants National Bank and Trust Company, Fargo. The OPA account was transferred to Northwestern Bank in 1944. This year also, dividends for 1930, 1931 and 1932 were paid off.

A name change for the company was discussed at a board meeting in March of 1949. The board talked about the name of Farmers Union Oil Company of Hillsboro. It would be 31 years before this would become a reality.

A new manager was hired in November of 1949. It was Henry Nedrebo of Gardner. At a meeting in the Viking Hotel, the board decided to purchase a quonset from O'Day Equipment - 32' X 36' - for \$2,294.70. Karl Klemetson was hired to pour the footings. An office, 10' X 20' was in the quonset.

**THRIVING 50's** — The Farmers Union Oil Company of Kelso bought a service station from Sig Lindgren for \$12,000 in 1950. They also bought a garage for \$750 and parts of Lots 11 and 12.

In December of 1950 the employees retirement savings/sharing plan was adopted. It is still in existence today.

The cooperative spirit was evident in 1951 when friends and neighbors gathered to harvest Arthur Preston's crop. Gasoline was furnished by the station, under the management of Leland Dullum.

Oil was 82 cents a gallon in 1952. A gas pump was put in at the Kelso Store. Frank Thompson moved the quonset from the railroad to the station for \$427.10. Paul Kritzer wired it with two lights and one plug-in and Norman Hagen was paid \$40 to paint the service station.

A new product was added to the station's inventory in 1953 — propane gas. A Farmers Union tour was sponsored in 1954. Fertilizer was being sold by the station now, too, — cash on order. The program, "Co-op Shoppers," WDAY Radio, was sponsored by the oil company for \$15 a month.

Inventory insurance at the station was \$15,000 at this time and equipment insurance was \$20,000.



1979 Directors (L to R): Joe Anderson, David Eblen, John Preston, Dallas Boeddeker, Rodney Meyer, Francis Kritzerberger, and Art Grove.

The Farmers Union Oil Company of Kelso observed its 25th anniversary in 1955. Directors at that time were Dick Bird, Fred Downs, Leland Dullum, manager; Tom Reid, Clarence Akason, Raymond Meyer, Wilbur Eblen, and Art Grove.

At the 1958 annual meeting \$50 worth of door prizes consisted of 100 gallons of gas, five gallons of paint, fifteen gallons of oil, 35 pounds of grease, a tool box, and a treasure chest.

**CHANGING 60's** — The new decade started out with a new idea — the manager sent end-of-the-month statements. Accounts receivable at this time were \$30,000. A new manager, Zane Stigen, was hired. The company no longer paid the manager on a commission basis. Mr. Stigen received \$400/month and Mrs. O. Bakke, bookkeeper, was hired at \$125/month. A two-ton International truck, two-speed axle, 6 cylinder, turning signals, was purchased for \$3,100. Don Doeden was the tank truck driver and other employees were Marlin Manthey and Emil Iverson.

A tire truck for \$2,198.15 was purchased in 1962 from Talmo Brothers. Interest was 4½ percent at this time and a loan for \$15,000 was received from the Farmers Union Cooperative Credit Assoc. to build a fertilizer plant, 40' X 86'. Alex Vettel was the contractor and Thompson Electric of Halstad did the wiring for \$800.

Ed Olsen was hired as manager in June of 1963. His wife, Marlis, was named the bookkeeper.

The Farmers union Oil Company of Kelso borrowed \$10,000 from Northwestern Bank in 1964 for operating capital. Grain bins were now being sold by the company and station hours were 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., except Friday nights.

Talk of a new station began in March of 1966. The Hagen property was purchased. In August a Butler building, 80' X 72' X 16', was purchased from Gateway Builders, Fargo, for \$32,200. Lots 6 and 7 were also bought. In 1967 the board held their March meeting in the new service station and open house was held on July 29.

Employees were being paid on an hourly basis in 1968. Salaries were \$1.60/\$1.75 hour with two weeks' vacation. It was at this time that Dave Jenny was hired as manager. The salary schedule totaled over \$3,000/month. A two percent discount was given if a bill was paid by the tenth of the month.



1955 Directors (L to R): Dick Bird, Leland Dullum, Raymond Meyer, Fred Downs, Clarence Akason, Tom Reid, and Art Grove.



**SUCCESSFUL 70's** — The early 70's found the company with accounts receivable over \$100,000. Interest rates were now from 5½ to 8½ percent. Soil testing was started and a fertilizer blender and auger were purchased. Twenty-four hour service during critical harvest periods was begun.

The first annual bean feed, serving 200 people, was held in March of 1972. This annual event continued each year in the 70's.

The Co-op sign was changed to CENEX in 1973. The oil company was furnishing the Hillsboro School District with gas at 18 cents a gallon and fuel at 16.5 cents a gallon. Liquid fertilizer was a new product. Interest rates jumped and by the end of the year it was 9¼ percent. A two-way radio was installed for greater company efficiency and a plot of land was purchased from Ralph Diehl for fuel storage tanks.

The final payment on the new facilities was made in November of 1974 and the mortgage was burned.

An anhydrous ammonia facility was built in 1975. A scale house, 22' X 9', and 20 (1,000 gallon) nurse tanks were purchased. In 1976 a TerraGator for \$35,000 was purchased. The computerized bookkeeping system was installed at this time.

The station was bursting at the seams again and storage space was rented. A house north of the station was purchased in 1977 so expansion could continue. In 1979 an addition to the north was put on the existing building. It was also the time of shortages and the fuel allocation was 75 percent at times during the year.



David Eblen receiving fifty-year plaque.

The decade ended with directors, Joe Anderson, David Eblen, John Preston, Dallas Boeddeker, Rodney Meyer, Francis Kritzerberger, and Art Grove, dealing with increases in prices, shortages, and energy problems.

**CHALLENGING 80's** — Gasohol replaced non-leaded gas in the 80's. A young lady now handled the pumps and kept the showroom in order. The 50th anniversary was held on April 1, 1980 and the station's name was changed to Farmers Union Oil Company of Hillsboro. Herb Pomplun, CENEX director, presented Chairman of the Board, David Eblen, with a 50-year plaque.

Greg Aasmundstad was hired as the seventh manager in the history of the oil company in 1980. Forty directors have guided

the affairs of the Farmers Union Oil Company of Hillsboro. There have been three generations of directors in the Eblen family . . . Frank, Wilbur and David. Fred Downs has served as director for the longest time, 30 years. There have been three secretaries of the board in the company's history, A.C. Gifford, Wilbur Eblen and Dallas Boeddeker.

The Farmers Union Oil Company of Hillsboro survives because of the dedication of its employees, managers, directors and customers. It plans on being around when Hillsboro celebrates its bi-centennial.

## HILLSBORO EQUIPMENT, INC.



Hillsboro Equipment, Inc.

Hillsboro Equipment, Inc. was established on July 1, 1961. The incorporators were Arthur Magnuson, Orville Thoreson, and Sig Alsaker. The business was originally known as Alsaker Implement Company which began operations in Hillsboro, North Dakota on January 1, 1947. At that time, the business was located in the Harry Anderson Building on Caledonia Avenue and is presently occupied by the bowling alley. Orville Thoreson and Arthur Magnuson were employed by the Alsaker Implement prior to the formation of Hillsboro Equipment Inc.

Hillsboro Equipment, inc. has a franchise to sell International Harvester tractors and farm implements. A complete line of genuine IH parts and a service department is maintained to serve the area customers. They also sell and service the Chevrolet line of cars and trucks from General Motors Corporation. The business is located on Caledonia Avenue and Highway 200. The new and used car lot plus the machinery display area is located here also. The parts and service departments are staffed with qualified and trained personnel. A number of these people have served many years with the organization. Alvis Rohman who retired recently served more than thirty three years, Vernon Johnson more than twenty and Dale Benzinger sixteen years. Leslie Hams has been parts department manager more than seventeen years. Lowell Melsby and Walter Mooney have served a considerable number of years with the company.

## THE HILLSBORO BANNER



The *Hillsboro Banner*, thought to be the oldest weekly newspaper in North Dakota, is actually older than the town it serves.

It was the first newspaper to be established in Hillsboro in 1879. The first owner and editor of the paper was E.D. Barker. He bought the plant from Delacy Wood in 1879 at about the same time as the founding of the *Grand Forks Herald*. Both, at that time, were small town weeklies, a good deal different in appearance from publications today. The first edition of the *Banner* was dated June 23, 1882.

In 1884 Barker sold his interest in the paper to George L. Bowers, a prosperous farmer living near the city. Under Bowers' direction, the paper became known as one of the leading Republican newspapers in the state. He equipped the *Banner* with a new job press, a new paper cutter and a new cabinet and full line of new job type in 1887, making it the most complete office for job printing in the Red River Valley, outside of Fargo and Grand Forks. The *Banner's* three presses were run with a steam engine at that time, also installed that year.

Then in October of 1887, the *Banner* was consolidated with *The Press*, another paper owned by Barker.

In 1892 Alvin Schmitt, who had served on the *Banner* staff since 1882, bought the paper from Bowers. The Banner Publishing Company was established in March, 1896 with Gunder Howard, F.L. Goodman, H.J. Nyhus and Schmitt as officers and Schmitt continuing as editor.

City fathers made the *Hillsboro Banner* the official paper of the city in 1894. It was also the official paper for Traill County, along with two papers from Mayville and Portland.

Circulation of the *Banner* in the late 1890's was 1200 issues. Schmitt bought from the Traill County Telephone Company the photograph gallery property on the corner of Caledonia Avenue and Sargeant Street in 1904.

Iver Fossum sold his interest in the *Banner* in 1909 and Schmitt died on Dec. 11, 1910 at the age of 48. L.E. George of Fertile, Minn., purchased the *Banner* from Schmitt's estate in 1911.

The *Banner* installed an electric motor to run its press and folder in 1914 and advertised its gasoline engine for sale at that time.

The purchase of the paper by George marked the beginning of the longest era of one-family ownership in the paper's history. He and his family retained possession of the paper for just 16 days short of 44 years.

George edited the paper until his death in 1935, when his son, Lyle, stepped into the editor's chair. Later he and his sister, Vila, purchased it from their mother. Lyle left the *Banner* for the *Jackson Pilot* in Jackson, Minn., while Vila continued to publish the paper. Lee Bohnet and Joyce Lang both served as editors until June of 1955 when the paper was taken over by William Kremer, who occupied the editor's post until 1961.

Eugene Carr then assumed ownership of the *Banner*. Later it was sold to Barnesville Publishing Company with Tom Ellingsworth serving as publisher. Editors under him included Ken Anderson, Gary Wright, Ellen Kosse and Eileen Harvala. Wright became publisher of the paper under a lease agreement in 1978 until 1980, when he and his wife, Peggy, bought the *Killdeer Herald*. The paper is now managed by Robert and Bette Pore, who moved to Hillsboro from Iowa in July, 1980.

## OTHER PAPERS IN HILLSBORO

At present the *Hillsboro Banner* is the only newspaper being published in Hillsboro, but over the years there have been many other papers published here, with up to four at a time.

The *Traill County Times* of Caledonia moved to Hillsboro in 1891, but shortly afterwards, after a fierce legal struggle, the paper moved back to Caledonia. Frank Brown was foreman of the paper while it was in Hillsboro.

Dr. E.N. Falk moved from his building on Main Street to his building on River Street adjoining the post office, where the paper was published in 1893. Then in 1898 Falk moved into the old *Basunen-Herald* building on Sargeant Street, where he published both the *Times* and a Norwegian paper called *Folkets Avis*.

In 1901 the paper moved again to the Greve Building. Editor of the *Times* in 1902 was W.E. Tousley, who took charge about 1900. In 1907 the paper again changed hands and the name was changed to the *Hillsboro Blade* with Justin Safford as editor. The paper went out of existence in 1910.

The *Afholds-Basunen*, a Scandinavian weekly, was established in Hillsboro in June, 1888. Its officers were Rev. J. Lonne, president; L.P.N. Muri, treasurer; Torger F. Hov, secretary. It was published in the cause of prohibition. The newspaper office was closed on Apr. 8, 1891 by the sheriff, but was continued by the same management after things were put to rights again.

An important change was made in the *Basunen* in 1891 when Rev. Lonne resigned his position and was succeeded by Sheriff Sven N. Heskin.

The *Basunen* was a strong advocate of the principles of the Populist Party that was in existence in Traill County at the time. Some controversy arose as to the stock shares that were sold, resulting in the discharge of Rev. Birkeland and C.O. Nelson, who were in charge at the time, after which the policy of the paper was changed.

Property of the Afholds-Basunen Publishing Company was sold on Feb. 29, 1897 at public auction to L.H. Laron for \$500.

The *Hillsboro Herald* was published by the Basunen Company, beginning May 1, 1892. It was also published for the friends of the prohibition, who could not understand the Norwegian language of the *Basunen*. O.P. Gaustad was made editor-in-chief of the paper. It also went out of existence when the property of the *Basunen* was sold at auction.

The *Goose River Posten* began in Hillsboro in 1897 under the auspices of the county temperance organization. It had its office in the Muggley Building on River Street and the name was changed to *Folkets Post* (Voice of the People) and it was printed in Norwegian. The paper was of short duration.

*Statstidende*, another Norwegian newspaper, began publication on May 11, 1897. The regular subscription price was \$1 per year and it was printed every Tuesday. The paper was published by the *Hillsboro Banner* at the requests of many Scandinavian friends. The name translated into English means "State's Times."

*Statstidende* moved into new quarters on North Main Street in 1904 in the building formerly occupied by the *Folkets-Avis*.

K. Knutson, editor of the paper, was succeeded by C.F. Bahnsen, who served as manager until the paper went out of existence in 1910. Knutson sold his interest in the paper to County Superintendent J.F. Hetler in 1905.

*Vremtiden* was a political organ springing up during the campaign of 1906. It was owned by stockholders with political ambitions as to the election of their favorite candidates for office. The paper also went out of existence in 1910.

The *Traill County News* was published during the Independent-Non-partisan campaign and was non-partisan in its policy. Arive Queber was the first editor and he was succeeded by F.A. Fair. The last editor was Wayne Peterson.

The paper went out of existence when the plant was destroyed by fire about 1923. The plant was located on the site of the Viking Hotel and the paper, itself, was owned and controlled by 650 farmers.

Another newspaper was established in Hillsboro at a meeting held by farmers on Nov. 12, 1917, known as the *People's Press*. It was a farmers' newspaper, a weekly and an affiliate of the non-partisan league. It was located on the site of the Talmo Brothers garage and after running two and a half years, the paper suspended publication in July of 1921.

The *Press* was owned by E.D. Barker, who sold it to George Bowers in 1887 and it was then consolidated with the *Hillsboro Banner*.

## FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION

First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Grand Forks and Minot had its beginnings with preliminary organization of the association on October 15, 1937 when assets of \$80,000 were secured through the solicitation of deposits. First Federal, first operated in the rear office of the Ryan Hotel, now a store-room, and remained there until 1943. From 1943 until 1953 the association had a joint office with J.B. Bridston Co. at 315 First Avenue North. Construction of the First Federal Building at 201 South 4th Street was begun in 1962.

In 1971 a Regional Branch Office was opened at Cavalier, North Dakota. On Sept. 24, 1974 and then on Oct. 9, 1974,



First Federal Savings and Loan

First Federal Offices were opened in Cando and Rugby respectively. The First Federal South Forks Office was opened on Sept. 3, 1975. The Rolla Office was opened on October 13, 1976.

During the spring and summer of 1975, First Federal purchased the Banner Building on the corner of Caledonia and 1st Avenue S.W. The old newspaper building was torn down and a new beautiful red brick savings and loan building began to be built.

Upon completion of construction, First Federal Savings and Loan opened its doors for business on January 8, 1976.

Harley J. Poyzer, Assistant Vice President and Manager of First Federal, Hillsboro, pledged a business operation based on a philosophy of integrity and equity in satisfying the financial needs of both savers and borrowers.



## MATCHKE'S

Since before the repeal of prohibition until the present, the Matchke establishment has been run as a family business. Thomas Matchke and his two sons, Earl and Ray, first ran the business as a recreation parlor and pool hall. Upon the repeal of Prohibition in 1933 allowing beer and liquor to be sold, they established Matchke's Bar.

The fire of '39, which destroyed the Stern and Field building, and the Red Owl Store, also destroyed Matchke's Bar. This forced the move into the building which had been Ped Acker's Auto Supply (the present location).





**Matchke's**

They had operated as a bar for only a few months when the City decided to take over the sale of liquor. The State later revoked the Cities attempted take-over, since the municipal sale of liquor was illegal. However, the city circumvented this law by permitting the Hillsboro Civic and Commerce Association to monopolize the sale of liquor. Matchke's Bar continued to operate as a Beer Parlor until recently when the City went out of the liquor sales and passed an ordinance re-establishing private sales.

After the death of Thomas and Earl, in 1964, Ray and his wife Mabel continued in the business. Since Ray's death in 1974, Mabel has been the proprietor of Matchke's Bar.

## OLSEN HARDWARE AND APPLIANCE



**Olsen Hardware**

Olsen Hardware and Appliance, located on the south-west corner of Caledonia and Main Street, is owned and operated by the Ed Olsen family. The building, built by Fred Scheel of Fargo

in 1950, was operated as a branch of the Scheel Company under a succession of managers until October of 1968.

Ed and Marlys Olsen and their family came to Hillsboro in 1963, where Ed was manager of the Farmer's Union Co-op until 1969. In April of 1969, the Olsens took over the Hardware Store, remodeling and restocking it with "Our Own Hardware" merchandise. In 1978 the Olsens purchased the building and in 1979 remodeled the exterior of the store.

Ed and Marlys are parents of five children: Jerry, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Bonnie (Mueller), Tom, Jim, and Lynnette, and six grandchildren.

## TRAIL COUNTY IMPLEMENT, INC.



**Trail County Implement, Inc.**

Trail County Implement was established in January 1971 at its present location. The Business is owned by A.L. Berg of Moorhead, Minnesota. The company employs fifteen people and offers complete sales and service of John Deere equipment, Alloway, Wil-rich, Westgo, and other short lines.

The Business is managed by Chuck Punton, who has been with the company since 1971. Chuck and his wife Diane have three daughters, Patty (19), Nancy (17), and Becki (8). They reside at 604 3rd St. E. in Hillsboro.



**Heartland Implement Inc.**

Heartland Implement Inc. was formed in August of 1978 by Jon and Karen Lundby of Caledonia, North Dakota and Roland and Mary Isaacson of New Hope, Minnesota. They

operate out of the former Stuart Implement premises on the I-29 frontage road.

Heartland Implement sells and services the White line of farm machinery, which was previously handled by Stuart Implement. In addition to White, Heartland acquired the franchise for Ford and Versatile farm machinery.

Heartland Implement is also the local dealer for Herman harrows, Bush-Hog discs, Calkins field cultivators and chisel plows, Hiniker field cultivators and chisel plows, and other miscellaneous short lines.

Heartland is managed by Jon Lundby. He is also in charge of sales. The service department is staffed by Brad Vettel and Ray Schmaltz, both of Hillsboro. Maureen Sharpe of Shelly is the bookkeeper.

The staff and management of Heartland Implement is very proud to be part of the business community of Hillsboro on this their 100th anniversary.

## ARNE'S FAIRWAY



Arne's Fairway

In 1973 Arne and Marge Aasland purchased the Fairway Foods store from Art and Dee Fletcher and re-named it Arne's Fairway. This store was located on Main Street and had been a grocery store for many years with several other owners.

In 1976 Arne and Marge purchased property on 1st st. SW which had been the site of John Deere Implement until a fire had leveled the site. A new and larger store was built on this property and a large parking lot was also improved. This store was built with the future in mind as it provides over 75% of its own heating needs with a re-claim unit which captures heat from its refrigerated compressors and even the lighting provides some heat and uses less electricity than conventional light bulbs. Arne and Marge look forward to serving the grocery needs of the people in the Hillsboro trade area.

## THE HOLZKAMM PONTIAC STORY

In 1920 Herman Holzkamm came to Hillsboro to work as a mechanic for George and James Dunlevy, who had the shop part of the Hillsboro Auto Company rented. The same fall they moved back to a shop that they had west of Eleanor Foss's Beauty Parlor.

In 1922 they discontinued this business, and Herman went to work for Theo and Richard Jahr in the Hillsboro Auto Co., continuing there till summer of 1931 when the depression caused them to lay off four men, and Herman was one of them.



Holzkamm Pontiac

Jobs were scarce so Herman decided to try a repair shop on his own. He rented space in a barn that stood where the Skelly Oil Station is located. The same fall he formed a partnership with the late Helmer Bjerke, who had rented part of the building that W.A. Schalbe had built in 1929 for a tire and general repair shop (the school bus building).

Their partnership continued till spring of 1936 when Helmer sold his half to Herman and moved to Minnesota. Due to hard times and high taxes, Mr. Schalbe lost this building to Gate City Savings the same fall. Herman continued to rent this shop part till 1938 when Joe Wyer rented the whole building from Gate City and started a shop of his own.

Herman then rented the Kvenild Chevrolet garage, which was unoccupied. This stood south of the Mrs. Kelly Abstract Office. After only being there a couple of months, this was sold to become part of the Farmer's Union Creamery (now demolished).

So, Herman had to move again, this time to the building that now houses Wright repair.

In 1944 feeling he needed better quarters, Herman bought the lots where the Clefstad Blacksmith Shop used to stand. Being war time, materials were hard to get, so he bought a large unused barn that stood where the Golf Clubhouse now stands and had it torn down for materials.

Jim Ford started by laying floor and foundations for this building, but they found someone had stolen most of the lumber so had to quit on this.

In 1946 Herman found enough tile in Grand Forks to complete the original part of this building and was able to move in and start repairing cars and trucks. In 1947 he obtained the Pontiac contract and in 1950, the GMC contract.

In 1953 Herman added onto this for a showroom and apartment above same.

This continued to prosper and still operates at present. Herman's son-in-law, Charles Jones, is a partner and general manager of this business.

## HILLSBORO BODY SHOP

The Hillsboro Body Shop was started thirty-two years ago in April, 1949 by James Kress. He came from Grand Forks where he had worked in several body shops. He arrived, as he says, with a wife, son, car, and little money but high hopes.



Hillsboro Body Shop

Space was rented from Hillsboro Auto Company, then owned by Dick Jahr. The business continued there until 1960 when the present shop building was built on Main Street. The shop was remodeled in 1976.

It has become a family business with Eleanor as bookkeeper, and Mike joining his father in the business in 1972, and Bob in 1976. There are two sons not in the business: they are Jeff of Hillsboro and Doug of Columbia, Mo.

## GENUINE AUTO SUPPLY

In 1962 Lyle Larson opened an automotive supply store called Genuine Auto Supply. He first opened the store in the South end of the old creamery building located East of the Court House. This building has been demolished. In 1967 he moved into the Gamble Store building which is located on Caledonia Avenue which is now occupied by the *Hillsboro Banner*. In 1968 the business was purchased by Mark Johnson and he operated in this building until 1974 at which time he purchased the building formerly occupied by Henning Hardware on Main Street. Mark is the owner and operator of this business at the present time.



Genuine Auto Supply



Store front renovation of Genuine Auto Supply in 1978.

## COAST TO COAST IN HILLSBORO



Coast to Coast.

Nennor and Dorothy Nelson have owned the Coast-to-Coast Store since 1974. He is a self-employed farmer, and they live near Cummings, North Dakota.

The first owner when the store was new in 1945 was Melvin Hanson, a factory worker from Minneapolis, Minn. He was followed in 1950 by Clifford Gunderson and Ed Buckholz. Gunderson was previously Postmaster at Waubun, Minnesota, and Buckholz had been self-employed in the implement business.

In 1957 Les and Dorraine Fawcett assumed ownership, coming from Moorhead, Minnesota, where they had managed a Coast-to-Coast Store. The next owner was Elmer M. Anderson, who had been a career army officer. He owned the store for fifteen years from 1959 to 1974.

The Nelsons have been owners from 1974 to the present time.



## WRIGHT'S REPAIR



**Wright's Repair**

Tim Wright started his repair shop in 1978. After many years of experience in the area of mechanics, he decided to establish his own business. Previously he had been employed for a number of years at Stuart Implement Company.

He began repair work on cars, farm trucks, and tractors. Later, when the work load increased, he hired Rick McInnes as a full-time employee. From time to time he also hires part-time help.

In 1979 he expanded the business, and now sells Parma beet equipment and other farm implements. His business is geared primarily to farming equipment, but he also does other types of work.

## O.K. FOSS INSULATION & ROOFING CO.



**O.K. Foss Insulation & Roofing Company.**

Business established in the spring of 1942 by O.K. Foss and Tom Garland. This firm was known as Dakota Insulation.

1945 O.K. Foss became sole owner of the firm. The firm was then known as O.K. Foss Insulation and Roofing Co.

This firm is one of the oldest insulation firms in the Northwest. It pioneered the concept of energy conservation through the technique of blowing rock wool and fiberglass insulation into new and existing structures.

The Firm was also one of the first to introduce the asphalt shingle to our area.

O.K. Foss was sole owner of the firm until his death in 1980.

The company has since been purchased by sons Lynn and Ronald Foss and is now known as Foss Insulation and Roofing.

This Firm continues to provide insulation, roofing and general carpentry service to the area.

Lynn began with the company in 1966 and Ron in 1972.

Mr. Odin Moen began working for the firm in Feb. 1947 and is still actively employed in the business.

The firm reports that jobs completed and customers satisfied numbers in the thousands.

## FARMER'S UNION INSURANCE AGENCY

The Farmer's Union Insurance Agency was started in 1947. LeRoy Erickson was the first agent. Le Roy worked part time out of his farm home by Reynolds, North Dakota, until 1952 when he and his family moved to Hillsboro. LeRoy's office in Hillsboro was in his home. He worked full time for Farmer's Union Insurance until 1964.

In 1964 Jerry Usgaard took over Farmer's Union Insurance. Jerry had his office in the bowling alley building until 1967. In 1967 Jerry moved his office into the new Farmer's Union Oil Station. Jerry operated the agency until 1971 when Charlie Anderson took over the agency.

In 1972 Charlie and Susie bought the old bank building where the business is presently being operated by Charlie and Susie Anderson.

## THE NEEDLEWORKS CRAFTS AND GIFTS



**The Needleworks Craft and Gift shop.**

The Needleworks opened in the fall of 1976, in the building which had previously been occupied by a series of grocery stores: Ole Evans, Jimmy Allen, Winston Marsden, Art and Dees, and Arne's Fairway.

Carole R. Larson is the owner; and employs Yvonne Maguson and Donna Christopher, both of Hillsboro.

The Needleworks is a craft and gift shop selling needle art crafts featuring rug latching, needlepoint, crewel, yarns, macrame, cross stick and plastic canvas. There is also a Bridal corner in the store featuring Noritake china, stoneware and custom made, or supplies for, bridal bouquets and corsages.

The Needleworks offers classes in silk flower making and arrangements, macrame, crocheting, knitting, needlepoint, and crewel. The store also carries an ample selection of gift items and basket products.

## KENT'S JACK AND JILL



Kent's Jack and Jill

The building which is now known as Kent's Jack and Jill has seen many changes through its history. It started out as a bowling alley, which was owned by Toby Carlson and John Nelson. In 1948 Willard Mollerstrom purchased the bowling alley building and converted part of it into a grocery store. Mollerstrom and Fred Scheel built up the area around the store which had been destroyed by fire. From 1948 until 1961 the store was supplied by Red Owl Stores Inc. and operated as a Red Owl Store. In 1959 Mollerstrom removed the wall between his bowling alley and grocery store and converted the entire building into Hillsboro's first supermarket.

In 1961 the store was sold to Ray Bratland and was changed to a Super Value Store. It continued to be supplied by Super Value through the ownership of Vernon Lee. On July 16, 1966, the store was purchased by Wally Barch. At that time it was converted into a Jack and Jill Store and was supplied by Nash Finch of Fargo.

The store has remained a Jack and Jill since that time. It has had different owners. On June 29, 1975, it was purchased by Dan Newman. He owned the store until July 1, 1979, when it was purchased by its present owners Kent and Cheryl Holmberg. They are the parents of two sons, Scott and Bryan.

The store currently employs two full time employees, Randy Bakken, assistant manager, and Clyde Kraemer, meat manager, and three part time employees, Viola Ludwig, Barbara Flieth and Lindsey Gilbertson.

## HILLSBORO DAY CARE CENTER

The Hillsboro Day Care Center opened its doors on March 26, 1974. It was operated by Traill County Social Service, whose director Clifford Worner, saw a need for such a service to the county's residents. The County Social Service operated this center along with one at Mayville for the use of parents with

children ages 3-7, who needed this kind of care. The center because of the federal funding available at that time, was able to operate with no county funds being spent, as in-kind donations by the communities made up the county share and allowed the county to claim the federal funds needed to operate the centers. Parents who used the center were then charged a fee, at a rate that was affordable in this community.



Mike Knodle, four years old, first and only full time child when the center opened.



Chris Willison in Day Care Center, 1980.



Douglas Flieth at Day Care Center.



Jayceette Story Hour. Mark Hamre, and Melanie Gensrich.

Rholeen Knudson was hired as the Day Care Director, she was the only full time staff member and was responsible for the daily operation of the center, including the child care. Sylvia Hansen, a social worker for Traill County Social Services was responsible for supervision of the centers as a part of her job assignment. She was the only back-up staff for Rholeen when the center first opened. The first and only full-time child in the center was 3 year old Michael Knodle, son of Carol and Merrill Knodle. Rholeen's exceptional abilities with young children soon became known and the center began being used by more and more families. Mike at first resented the intrusion of other children into "his day care center" but soon adjusted and made many good friends among the other children attending.

The center continued to grow and other workers were hired to assist Rholeen in the daily care and teaching of the youngsters. The Traill County Social Service continued to operate the center until June 30, 1976. At that time numerous changes in the funding structure took place and it was apparent that it would begin taking County Tax Dollars to keep the center operational and the County Social Service Board decided to discontinue operating day care centers. They did however indicate their willingness to assist the communities in finding another



Day Care Christmas party in 1974. Front: Aaron Hanson, Christopher Hanson, Jamie Reed, Melanie Bryan, Brian Wells, Michael Knodle, and Lorilee King. In back: Carter Hansen, Santa, Steven King, and Melissa Bryan.



Erin Gibbons, Rita McQuire, Thea Kaldor, and Sadie Christianson, 1980.



Pam Gensrich reading to Melanie Gensrich, Doug Flieth, Heide Kostad, and Danny Kostad.

way to operate the centers and both Mayville and Hillsboro were successful in finding new operators. The equipment which belonged to the county was lent to the new operators and assistance in the beginning phases of operation was given. After a few months, in August of 1976, the center reopened under a private non profit corporation formed by the parents wanting to use the center. Once the people realized the value of the service, there were numerous people willing to offer their assistance in continuing this endeavor.



Nikki Sundeen, Day Care Center Teacher Rholeen Knudson, and Erin Gibbons.



Singing at the Day Care Center.

## SORUM'S CAFE

Otto Sorum owned and operated Sorum's Cafe in what is now Johnson's Ceramics until his death in 1936. His son, Harry Sorum, managed the cafe until 1946. At one time during those years (in '37 and '38) the cafe moved to the south side of the street to the Joe Nelson building, but moved back to the previous location on the north side in 1942.

Having sold the cafe to a Mr. Ruso, who in turn sold it to Otto's second son, Harold, in 1946. Harold managed the cafe until 1948, at which time he sold it to Fran and Oliver Melting. In 1948 Harry again opened a cafe on the south side of the street (the present location), which he managed until 1972, when it was sold to Harold Gearou, the present owner.



## THE DUMAS CAFE



Dumas Cafe

It used to be known as "little" Tony's pool hall, and before that it was once a hardware store. Today the one story building at the corner of Main Street and First Avenue N.W. houses Dumas's Cafe.

Joe and Lucille Dumas and their family came to Hillsboro the day after Christmas in 1954. Some years later they purchased the building which housed Tony's Recreation Hall from Sarah Mergenthal. At that time it was a high building with several apartments, but the building was later remodeled to one story, with living quarters for the family added to the rear of the building.

The Corner Cafe was the name chosen for the family enterprise, but because customers so closely associated the cafe with Joe, Lucille and children, Shirley, Duane, and Daniel, the place soon became known as Dumas's Cafe, and as such, it is still known today.

## ARNIE'S BARBER SHOP



Arnie's Barber Shop and Lorine's Flower Shop.

Arnold Schornack came from Perham, Minnesota. He was employed in Fairmont as a barber before coming to Hillsboro. Arnie's Barber and Beauty Shop was purchased in 1940, after he was employed by Sam Baglien.

In 1946 the building was purchased from Mr. Cadwell, since which time the barber shop has had continued service. In 1977 the building was completely renovated.

## LORINE'S FLOWERS AND PLANTS

Lorine Muller grew up in Norway Township, and in 1940 was married to Arnold Schornack. In 1973 Lorine operated Lorine's Plant Center in the same building as the Barber Shop. The floral service was added in 1973 at which time the name was changed to Lorine's Flowers and Plants. The shop offers complete florist service, with two wire services available.

## DALRYMPLE ELEVATOR AND OFFICE



Dalrymple Elevator

The Dalrymple Elevator and Office is located in Hillsboro on property which was formerly owned by Farmer's Union. The Farmer's Union Elevator was destroyed by fire on December 18, 1969, and the elevator rebuilt in that location has been the home of the Dalrymple enterprises since 1970. Dalrymple previously maintained an elevator located four miles south of town at Alton.

## HILLSBORO EQUITY ELEVATOR

The old Western Grain Company elevator, standing west of the railroad tracks, became the Hillsboro Equity Elevator and Trading Company when it was incorporated in April of 1911. Ole Engbretson was the first president of the five member Board of Directors.

Two managers who stayed for only a few years each preceded John Olson, who became the manager in 1918. Olson retired in 1944, when Alfred Overmoe resumed the manager's role, taking over on July 1, 1944. Following Overmoe's retirement in 1966, Earl Keena and Kermit Bruun each managed the elevator for a number of years. John Holkesvig is the present manager.

The old elevator burned on March 5, 1929, but a new elevator was already under construction by April of that year, with the building completed by August.

In 1944 the concrete structure was built for a total cost of \$36,000. Warehouses across the track were added in the 1950's, and in June, 1979, the company purchased the Dahlgren elevator to the north, further expanding Equity's facilities.



Equity Elevator



Hillsboro Equity Elevator

## NODAK MUTUAL AND FARM BUREAU LIFE INSURANCE

Vern Messner came to Hillsboro in November 1973 to become a Nodak Mutual-Farm Bureau Life Insurance agent. His service area includes Traill County. Nodak Mutual and Farm Bureau Life provide all lines of insurance. Vern conducts his business out of an office in his home in Hillsboro.

## JOHNSON CERAMIC WORKSHOP, INC.



Johnson Ceramic Workshop, Inc.

"What do I do now?" is probably the most commonly asked question at Johnson Ceramic Work Shop, Inc. Beginning as one person's hobby in May 1970, the studio now supplies about 40 other ceramic shops with greenware and ceramic supplies, and has approximately 150 students throughout the year.

After just a few lessons at a shop in Fargo, Lenice Johnson heard that Veronica and Ralph Mueller's ceramic shop in Cooperstown was for sale and decided ceramics was the field she wanted to get into.

The Johnson family jokes about Lenice and her students from Hillsboro, Mayville, Buxton, and the surrounding area, learning ceramics together in the basement of the farm house until the wee hours of the morning . . . through blizzards and thunderstorms, creating pieces of beauty, and some not so beautiful.

Mandley Johnson began casting the greenware in the fall of 1970. "You're not going to get me involved", were words he soon forgot as he took over the casting, and devoted a lot of time to it. However, Mandley casting in the basement of the second house on the farm, and Lenice teaching classes in the other, quickly became very inconvenient as the "hobby" grew.

In 1972 the Johnsons bought the VFW building and moved the business into Hillsboro. It was incorporated that same year. For three years the "hobby" expanded. A daughter, Cynthia Kaldor, began working in the shop and teaching adult ceramic classes while not at college. Lessons for students grades 1-8, morning and afternoon classes, distributorships for a major ceramic color company and a kiln company were also added during this period.

To allow for city progress, the Johnsons sold their building to First Federal Savings and Loan in 1975, and purchased, remodeled, and moved to its present site, the former Ham's Market, former Grove grocery.

Lenice no longer teaches classes, or does much ceramics for the business. However, she does still enjoy ceramics as a hobby, and makes several pieces for herself and gifts. She also attends the buyers shows and helps in the purchasing of new molds.

Mandley, who retired from farming in 1975, continues to cast greenware for the shop when not vacationing at the lake or in Arizona.

Very few people, other than family members, have been employed by the business since its beginning. Cynthia Kaldor now manages, conducts classes, and does a major part of the casting at the work shop. "I guess because of the size of the shop, and the area we supply with greenware, and the time involved, I'd have to say this is definitely a business. However, I do enjoy what I'm doing, and I can still set my own hours and vacation time, so I like to think of the shop in the same term my mother used, a "hobby."

*Cynthia Johnson Kaldor*

## HALVERSON FURNITURE AND WILDEMAN FUNERAL HOME

Albert L. Halverson moved from Thief River Falls, Minnesota to Hillsboro in 1915 and opened a furniture store and a funeral home. As in many small towns across the country, the two concerns seemed to suit each other well in Hillsboro.

Halverson Furniture was opened in a building on Caledonia Avenue, complete with a patterned tin ceiling. The furniture store remained at the same location until 1978 when it was moved to its present location on County Highway 81.

Halverson Funeral Home was first located in a house northeast of the present day courthouse square. Eventually it was



**Halverson Furniture.**

moved into the same building that housed the Furniture Store. Then, in 1959, the Funeral Home was moved to the east side of town, its present location.

A.L. and his wife, Dagny, ran the two businesses for many years until they were joined by their son Earl. Their other son, Bernie, went into the funeral profession in other towns. A.L. and Dagny's daughter, Lois, married Carl Wildeman from Garfield, New Jersey. After a brief time in California, they came to Hillsboro and joined A.L. and Earl in the business in 1948. About a year later, Earl set up a separate entity with the appliance and hard surface flooring departments, leaving A.L. and Carl with the Halverson Furniture and Halverson Funeral Home.

Carl and Lois bought the businesses from A.L. in 1960, and have remained at the helm since. The name of the funeral home was changed to Wildeman Funeral Home, but the name of the furniture store remained Halverson.

Now the third generation of the A.L. Halverson family is joining the businesses in the persons of Carl and Lois's sons, Tracy and Chad. Tracy returned to Hillsboro to join his parents in 1978 and Chad is expected to join them in 1982 following his graduation from mortuary science school.



**Earl Halverson, in the first Halverson Furniture Store on Caledonia Avenue.**

## THE COUNTRY KITCHEN



**Country Kitchen.**

The Country Kitchen was built in 1972. It has had several owners, but in 1976 Ray B. Johnson bought it and is the present owner. Mr. Johnson is a pastor in Sidney, Montana. In June of 1981, Douglas Gullekson and Rhonda Johnson, both from the Fargo-Moorhead area, became co-managers.

Several improvements and remodeling projects have already occurred, with more planned for the future. A clean restaurant with efficient employees and a friendly and relaxing atmosphere are ideals which the co-managers stress.

Several new speciality items, such as Chinese cuisine and original Mexican dishes, have been introduced and are proving to be popular. Banquet room facilities are available and utmost care is taken to insure the satisfaction of each and every customer.

## AMERICAN CRYSTAL SUGAR COMPANY

In 1967-68, Holly Sugar Co. of Colorado Springs, Colorado, had made plans to build a sugar factory in the Red River Valley. Holly Sugar Co. had contracted with the farmers to grow beets and would ship the beets to Sidney, Montana, for processing. In 1970, they had contracted 5000 acres with the loading points at Amenia and Kelso. They established about 40 new growers in the Red River Valley, scattered from Casselton to Hillsboro and east to Ada, Minnesota.

During the summer of 1970, Holly Sugar Co. decided not to build a factory and to discontinue their operations in this area.

The 40 new growers decided to explore the possibilities to continue growing sugar beets and elected seven growers to represent the growers. The growers that they elected were: Daniel Downs, Hillsboro; John Brunsdale, Mayville; Luther Jacobson, Shelly; Bill Hejl, Amenia; Leland Pietsch, Casselton; Lloyd Zimmerman, Amenia; Roy Christianson, Halstad. The group was known as the Holly Growers and was represented for the next three years by the elected board of directors.

It was obvious that in order to continue in the sugar industry, a new facility had to be built. National Planning and Contractor, a consulting firm from Coral Gables, Florida, was hired to do a feasibility study costing \$34,000. The growers furnished \$20,000 and \$14,000, was paid by Holly Sugar.





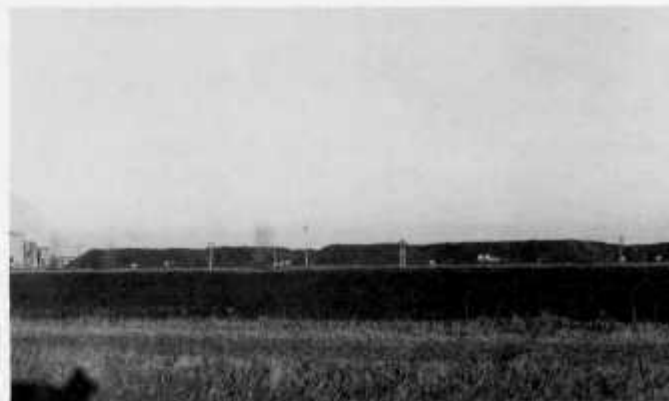
Mayor Ronald Stuart, City Auditor John Nelson, and Orin Shelley, Representative of the Bank for Cooperatives taking part in the ground breaking ceremony on Sept. 21, 1972 for the Red River Cooperative Sugar Beet Factory. U.S. Rep. Arthur Link in the background.

The plan now was to secure financing through the Bank of Co-Op's to build a factory and then lease it to Holly Sugar who would operate the factory. The feasibility study showed that the factory should be built between Grand Forks and Fargo on the North Dakota side of the Red River. This was where the grower interest was the greatest, and there were no other factories in the area. This meant Hillsboro was the logical location. Contact was made with the City of Hillsboro, Mayor Ronald Stuart, and the City Auditor, John Nelson. At this time, the City of Hillsboro appointed John Nelson the coordinator for the proposed factory. By this time, enough work had been done on financing that it seemed possible to build a new factory.

The board of directors had several meetings with the St. Paul Bank of Co-Op's and with the Bank of North Dakota. Holly Sugar Co. decided not to cooperate with the project. The directors then contacted Great Western Sugar Co., and American Crystal Sugar Co., but no interest was shown.

It was now evident that any new sugar factory in this area would be a Co-Op, owned and operated by the growers who would share in the profits, as well as the losses.

With this in mind, Tom and John Brunsdale went to Braunschweig, West Germany and met with B.M.A., a manufacturer of complete beet sugar factories and they came home with a price tag of \$30,000,000 complete. This is when the growers changed the name of the group to the Red River Valley Co-Op's.



Rows of sugar beets to be processed.



American Crystal Sugar — aerial view showing lagoons in foreground.



American Crystal Sugar Company



View from Highway 29

The Red River Valley Cooperative at Hillsboro had numerous start-up problems, associated with the first campaign. As a result, the Red River Valley Board of Directors considered a merger with other sugar factories.

American Crystal Sugar Company, on May 23, 1975, offered Red River Valley Co-Operative a proposal to consolidate the two firms by an exchange of stock. Arnet Weinlaeder, Chairman of the Board of American Crystal Sugar Co., said that if the Crystal proposal was accepted by the Hillsboro group, its growers would become shareholders of American Crystal Sugar Company with no further cash investment.

Hillsboro growers would be represented on the American Crystal Board of Directors and would share proportionally in Crystal's present retained earnings and in all future earnings.

In addition, the Hillsboro growers would share in additional acreage to be made available in 1976, and thereafter, by American Crystal's construction program.

On August 27, 1975, American Crystal Sugar Company stockholders approved a plan under which Red River Valley Co-operative was merged with American Crystal Sugar Company.

The plan was approved by a 77% vote of the Red River Valley Co-Op growers, with 75% needed for approval. The previous day, American Crystal stockholders, by a 90% margin, approved of the merger. The merger became effective on September 2, 1975.

On June 9, 1975, American Crystal Sugar Company named Jack O'Leary as Agricultural Manager and Harold Hartford as Factory Manager. They headed up Crystal's management team that was in charge of getting the Hillsboro facility ready for the 1975 campaign. Employees of Red River Valley Co-Operative were all retained in their respective positions.

With the addition of the Hillsboro plant, American Crystal now operates five processing plants in the Red River Valley. The other plants are at Drayton, North Dakota; Crookston, Minnesota; East Grand Forks, Minnesota; and Moorhead, Minnesota.

The Hillsboro factory has a rated capacity to slice 5,000 tons per day and American Crystal has a capacity to slice 30,000 tons per day in the five valley plants. The Hillsboro factory maintains 179 year-round employees and hires approximately 121 campaign employees. American Crystal now has approximately 1100 year-round employees.

Sugar beet growers in the Hillsboro factory district annually contract to grow 40,000 acres of the 280,000 acres of sugar beets grown in the Red River Valley for processing at Crystal's five factories. Approximately 250 farmers are under contract to grow sugar beets in the Hillsboro district. Annually, the 40,000 acres will produce 600,000 tons of sugar beets from farms in Traill, Grand Forks, and Cass Counties, in North Dakota; and Norman County in Minnesota. Receiving stations for delivery and storage of beets are located at Ada West and Midway in Norman County and the Hillsboro factory yards. One hundred thousand tons will be received and stored at Ada West; 120,000 tons at Midway; and 380,000 tons in the factory piling grounds.

In 1926, American Crystal Sugar Company completed construction of a plant at East Grand Forks, Minnesota, in the Red River Valley of the north. This original plant opened this great

agricultural area to sugar beet production. Today, sugar beets are a very integral part of the valley's agriculture.

In 1948, construction of the second beet sugar processing factory in the valley was completed by American Crystal at Moorhead, Minnesota. The Crookston plant went into operation in 1954, and was a duplicate of the Moorhead plant.

In May, 1963, construction work started on the Drayton, North Dakota plant; the first sugar factory in the state of North Dakota and the fourth in the fertile Red River Valley. This plant, with a capacity to slice almost 6,000 tons per twenty-four hours, opened in September, 1965.

In February, 1973, American Crystal Sugar Company, along with all other assets was purchased by farmers who grew beets for the company. A Minnesota Agricultural Cooperative Corporation was formed in June, 1973, this being the first beet sugar cooperative in the nation.

When Hillsboro's Red River Valley Co-Operative merged with American Crystal in 1975, it made a total of five factories in their organization. The same year, an independent sugar cooperative went into production at Wahpeton, North Dakota.

The economic benefits of the beet sugar industry is tremendous to the Red River Valley and the entire Upper Midwest.

Employee payroll at each processing plant exceeds one million dollars annually.

Sugar beet growers receive prices for their product that make the crop a very profitable and desirable part of their farm operations. Prices per ton vary because of the participating nature of the beet purchase agreement, but Hillsboro growers will receive in excess of \$18,000,000 annually.

## KALDOR, VINJE, ENGELMAN & LARSON



Stewart Larson — States Attorney of Traill County.

In 1976, Chauncey T. Kaldor's active law practice was purchased from his estate by S. Lee Vinje and Jerald L. Engelman, of the law firm of Kaldor, Vinje, & Engelman in Mayville, North Dakota. The law office was run by Kaldor, Vinje and Engelman until September 1, 1976, when Stuart A. Larson was employed by them to take over the Hillsboro practice. Larson came to Hillsboro from his hometown of Cloquet,

Minnesota, where he practiced law with the firm of Rudy and Wolfe. Larson did his undergraduate work at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, and like Kaldor, Vinje, and Engelman, is a graduate of the UND Law School.

In the early fall of 1978, Larson filed for election to the office of Traill County State's Attorney. He won both the primary and the November 7, 1978 election, thereby adding the duties of county prosecutor to his general legal practice.

Larson became a partner in the law firm in 1979 making the two offices known as Kaldor, Vinje, Engelman and Larson. The offices employ a total of eight people, and handle all facets of legal work as well as tax preparation and the County State's Attorney's duties. The Hillsboro Office is located on Caledonia Avenue in the building which was built as a bank, then housed the post office, then the Kaldor law offices and finally the firm of Kaldor, Vinje, Engelman and Larson.

## LAW OFFICES OF BERG & JUELSON



John A. Juelson and Bradley W. Berg.

The law offices of Berg & Juelson are located in an A-frame building on West Caledonia Avenue in Hillsboro, immediately West of Production Credit Association and North of the Country Kitchen.

The law firm of Berg & Juelson was formed on January 1, 1979, and consists of two partners, Bradley W. Berg and John A. Juelson. Sandy Leum is the firm's legal secretary. The law firm of Berg & Juelson is a general practice law firm; however, a majority of both attorney's time is spent in the estate planning and tax areas.

Bradley W. Berg attended high school in Moorhead, Minnesota. He graduated from Concordia College in 1973 and from UND School of Law in 1976. In 1975, Mr. Berg started working in Hillsboro as a law clerk for Attorney George Sorlie. When George Sorlie retired in 1976, Mr. Berg purchased Attorney Sorlie's law office and practice. From 1976 through 1978, Attorney Berg practiced law in the "Sorlie Building" which building is East of the Traill County Courthouse and is the present location of the Traill County Abstract Company.

Bradley W. Berg is married to the former Nancy Kindem, and they have 2 children, Kirsten and Siri.

John A. Juelson attended high school in Fertile, Minnesota. He graduated from the University of North Dakota in

1972 and from UND School of Law in 1976. In January of 1976, Mr. Juelson started working as a law clerk in Hillsboro for Attorney Dewel E. Viker, Jr. From 1976 through 1978, Attorney Juelson practiced as an associate and then as a partner with Mr. Viker, their offices being the new A-frame building on West Caledonia where attorneys Berg and Juelson presently practice. Upon Attorney Viker's retirement from the practice of law in 1978, Mr. Juelson purchased the law office and practice from Mr. Viker.

John A. Juelson is married to the former Debbie Soli, and they have 2 children, Timmy and Christy.



Sept. 1979. Berg & Juelson Law Office.

## DAVID HEGGE, D.D.S.



Dr. David Hegge

David Hegge was born in Mayville, North Dakota, in 1953, but grew up in Fargo where he graduated from Fargo North High School in 1971.

He attended college at Arizona State University and North Dakota State University, and graduated from the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry in 1977.

After working in the Fargo dental office of Dr. Truman Tryhus, he moved to Hillsboro in July 1979, succeeding Dr. James Cochrane who retired from a practice of some twenty years.

Dr. Hegge, his wife Leslie, and son Neal, reside at 602 East Caledonia Avenue. He is a member of the Hillsboro JC's and the Hillsboro Kiwanis Club.



# Community Affairs

## HILLSBORO CLINIC



The Hillsboro Clinic

The Hillsboro Clinic has served the medical needs of the community since it was built in 1949 by Dr. Thomas M. Cable. He sold the Clinic to Dr. Robert Wm. McLean in 1952. The building contains a reception room, four examining rooms, X-ray and lab facilities, business office and private offices.

Dr. Daniel N. Mergens joined the McLean Clinic in 1954 and practiced there until he moved to Omaha, Neb. in 1963. That same year, Dr. Donald J. Breen returned to Hillsboro following his service in the Air Force Medical Corps, and entered practice with Dr. McLean. A partnership was formed in 1969, at which time the Clinic was named the Hillsboro Clinic.

At one time the building housed dental and optical offices. Dr. J.J. Breen, D.D.S., father of Dr. D.J. Breen, practiced there from 1958 until his death in 1970. Dr. L.A. Marquisee, Fargo optometrist, held office hours at the Clinic several days a month during the years 1955-1977.

The Clinic recently purchased the adjacent property that formerly belonged to the Hillsboro Dry Cleaners and Nelson Insurance Agency. This area may be used for future expansion or parking facilities.

Doctors McLean and Breen, who are on the medical staff of the Hillsboro Community Hospital and Hillsboro Nursing Home, are actively involved in Continuing Medical Education. Both are members of the American Medical Association, North Dakota Medical Association, American Academy of Family Physicians, North Dakota Academy of Family Physicians, and are Diplomates of the American Board of Family Practice.

## ROBERT WILLIAM McLEAN, M.D.

Dr. Robert W. McLean, son of Rev. and Mrs. C.E. McLean, was born in Louisville, Kentucky, and spent his youth in the Blue Grass State. After serving as a Medical Corpsman in the U.S. Navy during World War II, he attended Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, and Boston University School of Medicine. He married Margaret Ann O'Connor of St. Thomas, N. Dak. in 1948. After internship and residency at Staten Island Hos-



Doctor Robert McLean

pital, New York, he served as Lt. j.g. in the Navy Medical Corps during the Korean Conflict.

In 1952 he purchased the Cable Clinic from Dr. Thomas M. Cable, and moved to Hillsboro. Here the McLean children, Bill, Bob, Pat, Andy, Molly, and Eileen, were raised and educated.

During the ensuing years, Dr. McLean has been a member of the Traill-Steele Medical Society, and active in the North Dakota Medical Association, serving as its President in 1967-77. He was President of the North Central Medical Conference in 1974. He was also a member of the Board of Directors of Blue Shield of North Dakota and the Admissions Committee of the University of North Dakota Medical School.

Dr. McLean is a past president of the Hillsboro Park Board, Civic and Commerce Association, and Kiwanis Club, and is a former Chairman of the 20th District Republican Party. He is a member of the Hillsboro United Parish.

In 1980 he was the recipient of the Physician Community Service Award, an honor conferred by the North Dakota Medical Association for outstanding service.



The Dr. Robert McLean Family

## DONALD JOSEPH BREEN, M.D.



Doctor Donald Breen

Dr. Don Breen was born July 2, 1934, at Neche, North Dakota. His parents, Dr. J.J. and Agnes Breen, moved to Hillsboro in September, 1939. His father practiced dentistry in Hillsboro until his death in 1970. Dr. Don Breen attended elementary and high school in Hillsboro, graduating in 1952. He attended St. John's University at Collegeville, Minn. and graduated with a B.A. degree in Natural Science in 1956. He attended the University of North Dakota School of Medicine from 1956-1958. He then transferred to Marquette U. School of Medicine where he was awarded a degree in Medicine in 1960. He served a rotating internship at St. Mary's Hospital in Milwaukee from 1960-1961. Dr. Breen then served as a physician in the U.S. Air Force at K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base Hospital in Marquette, Michigan from 1961-1963.

In September, 1963 Dr. Breen and his family moved to Hillsboro where he joined Dr. R.W. McLean, in Medical practice at the Hillsboro Clinic. He presently serves as President of the Traill-Steele Medical District. He is a member of the North Dakota Medical Association, the AMA, the North Dakota OB-GYN Society and the American Academy of Family Physicians.

Dr. Breen is a past President of the North Dakota Academy of Family Physicians. He has served as Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chairman of the Education Committee of the NDAFP since 1978. He also is one of the two delegates to the annual AAFP Congress of Delegates. In 1976 Dr. Breen was inducted as a fellow in the American Academy of Family Physicians in Boston, Mass. He became a diplomate of the American Board of Family Practice in 1977 which certified him as a specialist in family practice.

Dr. Breen has been involved in medical education and was appointed to the rank of Clinical Assistant Professor of the Department of Family Medicine of the University of North Dakota School of Medicine in 1978. He directs the education of Sophomore and Senior Medical students while serving clerkships in Hillsboro. He also serves as a consultant to the Family Practice Residency Program in Fargo where he supervises and instructs residents on a regular basis. He has received the AMA Physicians Recognition Award for Continuing Medical Education. He served as a member of the North Dakota Blue

Shield Board of Directors for 9 years and was Chairman of the Board 1975-1976. He currently serves as the official voting delegate for Blue Shield at all National meetings.

Dr. Breen has served as the physician instructor for the EMT-Hillsboro Ambulance Training Program since it was begun by George Burck and is now involved in this training with Mike Beltz, the present coordinator.

He is a member and past president of the Hillsboro Civic and Commerce Association, a member and past president of the Hillsboro Kiwanis Club and a current member of the Hillsboro Boy Scout Troop Committee. He has served as Sec-Treasurer of the Burro Booster Club since its founding and is a very active Burro fan.

Since arriving in Hillsboro, Dr. Breen has been a member of St. Rose of Lima Parish and has served as a member of the St. Rose Parish Council for the past several years.

On June 6, 1959, Dr. Breen married Suz-Ann Stricherz of Watertown, So. Dak. They have eight children — Paul, Pat, Vickie, Chuck, Julie, Mike, Katie, and Casey.



The Dr. Donald Breen Family

## COMMUNITY HOSPITAL/NURSING HOME ASSOCIATION Hillsboro, North Dakota

Community Hospital/Nursing Home is located in Hillsboro, North Dakota on Interstate 29. It serves the Eastern Half of Traill County, the Northern Townships of Cass County, the Southern Townships of the Southeast Quarter of Grand Forks County and the towns which border Traill County in Minnesota.

It is an acute care, short-term general hospital of 26 beds with a 50 bed Skilled Nursing Home attached. Community Hospital/Nursing Home strives to supply comprehensive primary, secondary and long term care including in-patient, out-patient, and emergency care with referral of very specialized care to other health centers. The Association recognizes its responsibility to make services available to all persons in an economical manner and in accordance with high professional standards. It recognizes its duty to develop an organizational environment in which physicians, employees, volunteers and the other individuals who constitute its staff are stimulated to



**Hillsboro Community Hospital**

high standards of performance and can find maximum satisfaction, achievement, and opportunity. We attempt to develop working relations with area hospitals and especially to the referring facilities in Fargo.

As an Equal Opportunity Employer, it will not permit discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, age, or national origin. The Association employs approximately 80 people with an annual payroll of approximately \$700,000. Our employees presently employed have over 650 years of experience of working in Hospital or Nursing Home. It is felt that this experience is a great benefit to our patients and residents.

On May 7, 1946, seven incorporators drew up, approved, and filed Articles of Incorporation with the State of North Dakota, and so, the Hillsboro Community Hospital Association was born. The seven incorporators were: L.D. Best, R.W. Johnston, R.G. Bovaird, R.T. Schuricht, Nestor Lemm, Chauncey T. Kaldor and Charles H. Shafer.

January 5, 1947 was the official opening of the Hospital above the old bank and Johnson Stores. Facilities at the hospital included two-four bed wards, one of which was a maternity ward, a combination delivery/surgery room, two-two bed wards, and two-three bed wards. There were only four full-time nurses at the time, and according to the 1946 minutes, "the greatest difficulty we experienced during the past year has been the hiring of part time nurses and relief nurses to assist our permanent staff. It has been only due to the fine cooperation of our nursing staff that we have been able to get along." These same words could be used to describe the continued need for Registered Nurses in the community throughout the years of staffing the hospital and continues at the present time in the Hospital/Nursing Home Association. The By-Laws governing the operation and policies of the hospital were adopted on December 17, 1946 and with a few minor changes, still direct the Hospital Association at the present time.

In 1947 a room only cost about \$3.50 a day and the cost to run the hospital for a year was \$30,110.92. Last year's total operating cost was \$478,400.00 for the Hospital and \$954,600.00 for both the Hospital and Nursing Home. It should be added that 1957 was the first year the hospital operated out of the red.

Dr. Thomas Cable, town doctor and owner of the Cable Clinic, wanted a hospital. It was through his tremendous efforts

that the present Community Hospital now exists. Building drives for the hospital started in 1950. The hospital is built 100 percent on donations. There are no government monies involved in it at all. Much of the work on the building was also done by volunteers.

Community Hospital was conceived and brought into being according to the true American tradition. Every civic, religious, fraternal and patriotic organization in the city, which through their membership reaches out into practically every home in our whole area, was invited to be a part of the Association and to have equal representation on the Board of Control by selecting three of its members as representatives to the Board of Control. From this Board of Control, seven members are elected to serve as the Board of Directors. The organizations that have representation on the Board of Control at the present time are: American Legion Auxiliary, A.O.U.W., Hillsboro Women's Club, Hillsboro Civic and Commerce, Knights of Columbus, American Legion, V.F.W., Royal Neighbors, V.F.W. Auxiliary, Masonic Lodge, St. John's Church, Hillsboro United Parish, Our Saviors Church, St. Rose of Lima Church, Hillsboro Jaycees, Hospital Auxiliary, Hillsboro Ambulance Squad, and the Hillsboro Jaycettes. From the original approximately 40 people on the Board of Control, the following Board of Directors was elected: Mandley Johnson, Robert Kuhle, James W. Porter, Robert W. Bovaird, Wilbur Eblen, Mrs. A.C. Gifford, and Mrs. Karl Diehl. People from outside the city of Hillsboro were asked for support and especially the people from Grandin and Buxton were very dedicated in their help. Annual Fund Drives were necessary for the continued operation of the hospital and continued to be done yearly until the early seventies.

In June 1952, the Hillsboro Park District and the Comstock family donated the land on which the hospital now stands. On November 3, 1953 the hospital opened its doors. The Hospital was built at a cost of \$80,000 for the building and another \$10,000 to equip it. It had 14 double rooms, seven nurses and one physician. At the present time, the hospital is licensed for 26 beds, has a Coronary Care Unit, Emergency Room, Delivery Room, Operating Room, Laboratory and X-Ray facilities and an In House-Pharmacy. We are a short term, acute care hospital.

In 1965 a 50 bed Skilled Nursing Home was built to the South of the original Hospital. At that time the name was changed to be Community Hospital/Nursing Home Association of Hillsboro, North Dakota. The Nursing Home is licensed as a 50 bed Skilled Nursing Care Facility. It is staffed by a very competent staff that provide constant nursing care for the elderly of our community. The Hospital and Nursing Home are dedicated as an institution for the treatment and care of the sick and elderly.

The staff continues to carry out their duties in conformity with the directive of our state and national rules and regulations. The Association is not a charitable institution, nor is it fortunate enough to be able to operate on the accretments of a large endowment, and while it has never turned away those in need of its services because of their inability to pay, it must endeavor to operate on the basis of fees charged for services rendered. We have attempted to establish these fees at a normally fair level and all fees are comparable with other hospitals and nursing homes in the area.



Some of the earlier Hillsboro doctors include: Dr. Buseh, a Christina graduate who had offices in the city for about a year and later moved to Fargo. Dr. Martin settled in 1910, but remained only a short time before moving to Page. Dr. Arndt G. Anderson came in 1904, did a splendid business for a few years and later moved to Mpls. in 1912 where he continued his practice until his death some few years later. He was succeeded by Dr. Syver Vinje, who continued here until his retirement in 1952. Dr. Thomas Cable began his practice in Hillsboro in 1950 and while here built the Cable Clinic. He was succeeded by Dr. Robert McLean in 1952 who was joined by Dr. Daniel Mergens in operation of the clinic in 1954. Dr. William Buckingham came to Hillsboro in 1953 and moved to Elgin where he continued his practice. Dr. Donald Breen returned to his home town in 1963. Hillsboro continues to be served by Dr. McLean and Dr. Breen.

Community Hospital was managed by Directors of Nurses in the earlier years of operation. Those include: Mrs. Alice Mundt, Mrs. Arloeen Peterson, Mrs. Lloyce Sorum, Mrs. Ardella Evenson, Mrs. Leone Kopitch, Miss Bessie Wright, Mrs. Alma Grothe and Mrs. Olivia Euren. As the Health Care Business grew in complexity, the addition of the Nursing Home, and Medicare-Medicaid, the management of the facility was delegated to an Administrator. They have included Mr. Allen Swan, Mr. George Burck and Mr. David Hove.

The implementation of the Title XVIII program (Medicare) in 1966 brought about many changes for the Association and the changes are continually being updated and changed by Federal and State Regulations. It is mandatory that we abide by these changes even though it is difficult for a hospital/nursing home of this size. We will continue to work with the Federal Government, State Health Department and the Health Planning Systems Agency in order to provide the best medical care at the most reasonable cost to the patients of our service area.

Throughout the years since the original hospital was built, the Board of Directors has continued to strive to update the facilities and add services that will benefit the people of the community. The original hospital has been built on to, walls moved, heating and electrical systems updated, sprinkler



Hillsboro Nursing Home

systems added for fire safety and many more improvements that have added to the comfort of the patients. Most recently we have completed a service and storage area to the east of the original hospital. Building is now being done on enclosing the patio area at the Nursing Home so that it can be used all year around for the comfort of staff and residents. Building and renovating of the existing hospital is in the planning stage and we are working with MinDak Health Systems Agency in planning work on the hospital to again update it to meet the needs of the community and to meet Federal and State Regulations.

The addition of the Ambulance Service in 1969 is one of the more beneficial services that we offer to the community. It is staffed by volunteer help all of which are highly trained in care of the injured and sick. The Ambulance Service will be explained further in a following article.

The Hospital/Nursing Home is very grateful for the volunteers that are always willing to give of their time. Throughout the years the ladies auxiliary has spent many hours earning monies to buy equipment, sewing and mending, fixing hair, shopping for residents, and many more things. They are always willing to help when asked. The auxiliary will also appear in an article of their own.

— Elaine Beyer

## HILLSBORO AMBULANCE SERVICE



1978 Chevrolet Modular Ambulance

The Hillsboro Ambulance Service was officially founded on January 1, 1969. For the 22 years prior to that time, Halverson Wildeman Funeral Home handled the ambulance service in Hillsboro. During that time Carl Wildeman and Dr. R.W. McLean would respond to any medical calls that arose. Halverson Wildeman Funeral Home was forced to discontinue the ambulance service due to the new equipment, staffing, and administrative requirements that came into being.

To assure that Hillsboro would continue to have 24 hour ambulance service, the Hillsboro Community Hospital Board of Directors, on December 10, 1968 voted to accept the responsibility of setting up a community ambulance service. Soon thereafter, George Christians was named temporary ambulance coordinator of the new service and George Burck as training officer was responsible for training the new members in first aid.



**First official Ambulance  
1969 Chevrolet Carry-All**

The initial 71 hour first aid course was taught by both Dr. R.W. McLean and Dr. D.J. Breen.

The first officers elected for the newly formed squad were: Jerry Usgaard as president; James Allen as Secretary; and Les Hams was first year equipment officer. Other charter members were: Ron Mehl, Ron Rotvold, John Nelson, Ed Olsen, Rev. Keith Ferguson, Russell Smith, Jim Hawkins, Earl Keena, Howard Carver Sr., Perry Knudsvig, Larry Spong, Don Anderson and Dennis Buethner.

The new service had their first official ambulance call on January 2, 1969. Attendants Ron Mehl and Ron Rotvold transferred a patient from Hillsboro Community Hospital to a Fargo Hospital.

The purpose of forming the Hillsboro Ambulance Service was to continue uninterrupted 24 hour emergency medical care and ambulance service to people in the city of Hillsboro and the surrounding area.

Starting up the new ambulance service meant buying a vehicle suitable for use as an ambulance. The first fully equipped ambulance the service had was a converted 1969 Chevrolet Carry-All. It was equipped with cots, oxygen, suction, and other medical equipment. This purchase was made possible through money donated during a drive held March 17, 1969 through March 31, 1969. People from Hillsboro and the surrounding area showed their support of the new service through donations received at this time. Currently the Ambulance Service uses the 1969 Chevrolet Ambulance as a back-up unit and utilizes a very modern 1978 Chevrolet Modular Ambulance as its main unit. The 1978 ambulance purchase was made possible through a fund drive conducted much like the 1969 community drive. Once again the area people and business places showed their support for the volunteer ambulance service.

The Hillsboro Ambulance Service conducts their business meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Along with old and new business being covered at that time, previous ambulance runs are reviewed and discussed. After the business meeting is over, there is time spent on some aspect of medical training. This is to insure that the members keep up their needed certification in first aid and CPR.

Since the Hillsboro Ambulance Service originated in 1969, it has responded to over 1200 ambulance calls with the assistance of well over 100 different trained community volunteers. During its twelve years of existence it has also staged three major fund drives — all very successful. It is also kept going by the many donations and memorials that are given each year by area people. The Hillsboro Community Hospital still monitors all the activities of the Ambulance Service and also assures the community of its existence. All this is evidence that the service is not only needed by the community, but also that it is very much supported by it.

## **HISTORY OF THE HILLSBORO FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Hillsboro's fire department, one of the oldest in the state, has a long and colorful history through the years of Hillsboro's development. Originating in the days of the many-manned bucket brigade and continuing to serve the city's residents with modern equipment as changes were brought about. The department received its official and legal status on February 21, 1887. The following excerpt from that original ordinance serves to highlight its auspicious beginning: "The fire department of the City shall consist of the Mayor, the Councilmen, the City Marshall, a Chief Engineer and an Assistant Engineer, and such members of the organized fire companies as may from time to time be appointed and conferred by the City Council." The City fathers showed a good deal of enthusiasm as they carried out the task of equipping and preparing themselves for fighting fires in the small wooden structures of town. Their initial equipment consisted of ladders and leather buckets for use in bucket brigades, the most modern equipment of that era.

The original department was organized into two individual units, the Yama Hook and Ladder Company and the Echo Hose Company. All ladders were mounted on hand drawn carts.

It is interesting to note that despite all the talk about racing fire horses, Hillsboro's fire department never passed through the horsepower stage. Mechanization of the company came in only a very few changes, although these occurred many years apart.

During this period of the department's existence two large fires ravaged parts of downtown Hillsboro. The worst fire occurred on January 21, 1891. It destroyed a large part of the business portion of the town and was at that time considered a most serious blow to the future of Hillsboro. However, it proved a blessing in disguise because all the old wooden buildings that burned down were soon replaced by solid brick structures. The fire started about four o'clock Wednesday morning, when fire was discovered in the building occupied by Potterud and Acker. Before it could be checked many of the finest business properties in the city were totally destroyed. When first seen the flames were just breaking out on the roof but strong winds from the North made every effort to extinguish them impossible. The second floor was occupied by the J.S. Dyrchorn office and by McLain and Harvie, Physicians. Just to the North was the hardware store of P.L. Prichard, which soon succumbed to the intense heat. On the South, the fire spread rapidly. Soon the stores of Olius Anderson, A.W. Ellis, J.H. Hanson and Brothers, the First National Bank, the Post Office and the barber shop were in a fierce blaze. The bank was a two

story brick structure and it was hoped it might escape, but the fire swept around the front breaking the glass and the interior became a seething mass. The firemen were prompt in responding to the alarm and soon they had two streams at work. One was directed on the Paulson corner across the street from the First National Bank in an effort to save that block which was eventually a success. Great tongues of flame swept across the street from the burning bank and the task of saving the entire Southern part of the town seemed to be a hopeless one. The air was filled with burning cinders and danger was always present. At one time the roof of the Sorum building caught fire and it was only by the most effective work that the structure was saved. All this time the firemen were making an attempt to stop the progress of the flames Northward. The Prichard building was doomed and the A.H. Morgan store was ablaze several times, but the effective work of the department proved successful at last. The walls of the First National Bank fell about daylight. It crushed the strong brick vault which contained papers and books of great value. Some of them were destroyed, but the safe containing \$20,000 in cash was not harmed. The intensity of the fire soon lessened and the fire was eventually brought under control. Businessmen were depressed over the disaster, but they were full of determination to repair all losses as soon as possible. The First National Bank saved some valuable material and continued to do business in the lumber office of O.C. Sarles and Company until they could erect a fire proof structure on the former site.

In 1890 the department obtained a hand-pulled steam engine. This marked the beginning of mechanization for Hillsboro and the end of the bucket brigade. The first motorized pumper obtained here came in 1920 and the men who operated it were given the title of Engine Company Number One. This unit served the city until 1934, when they obtained their second motorized unit, Engine Number Two.

Today, the department has two modern fire trucks and one rescue vehicle equipped as provided by the North Dakota State Regulations. Because of insurance reasons, one truck must remain in the City of Hillsboro at all times. The department can also be proud of its fire Hall. An implement building was purchased and remodeled and is used for meetings in addition to a garage for the trucks.

During the years, the original ordinances have been amended several times. Presently, the department has a membership of between 80 and 90 volunteer firefighters. Of these members 25 are called active firemen and are all on a special telephone system that is activated when a call is placed to the Hillsboro Fire Department.

The Hillsboro Fire Department is still active in the North Dakota Firemen's Association which it helped organize in 1884. Lewis Larson, John T. Hong, R.W. Johnston and Paul J. Steen have all served as presidents of this Association which presently boasts a membership of over 350 departments. The boundaries of the Hillsboro Fire District include all or parts of Norway, Herberg, Eldorado, Blanchard, Hillsboro, Caledonia and Bloomfield townships. The City Commission still plays an important part in our department. It pays for many of the miscellaneous bills such as gas, oil, utilities, telephone and new fire hose. Approximately, half of the funding is received from the State of North Dakota as our share of insurance premiums. Edwin Olsen is serving his third term as fire Chief. His assistant

fire Chief is John Bartels and the Secretary and Treasurer is Rick Fossum.

*Rick Fossum*

## HILLSBORO POST OFFICE



Hillsboro Post Office

The Hillsboro Post Office was first established as Comstock on September 14, 1880. The first Postmaster was Asa W. Morgan, a member of the popular Morgan family from around the Caledonia, N.D. area. The name of the Post Office was changed to Hillsboro on August 12, 1881. The first building occupied by the Post Office was located on Main Street. In 1881, Asa Morgan resigned and recommended C.W. Morgan as his successor. This was also the year that the Post Office made its second move to a building just back of the First National Bank. In the great fire of 1891, the building housing the Post Office was destroyed in the fire with very little or no damage to the mails. After the fire, the Post Office was housed in temporary quarters in the "Basunen" building at the north end of main street.

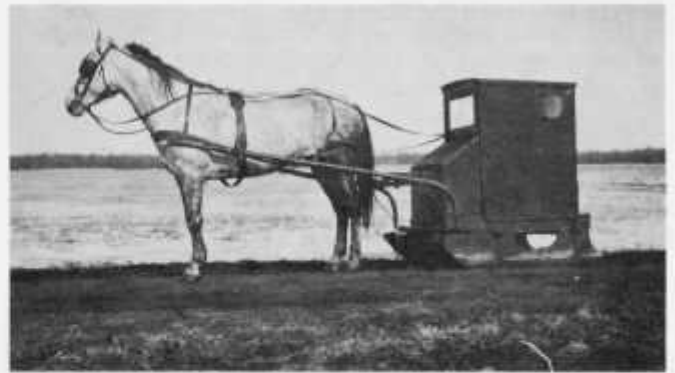
In 1891, Olius Anderson was appointed Postmaster and moved the Post Office to a building just west of the First National Bank. In 1893, the Post Office was again moved to a building on River Street which is now occupied by the Whetzel Heating Co. On December 21, 1893, A.G. Foogman was appointed Postmaster following the resignation of Olius Anderson. In 1896, the Post Office moved to the Baglien & Hanson building on Main Street. J.R. Carley was appointed Postmaster in 1902 and again the Post Office made another move to a building in the Kindred Block on Main Street. On January 26, 1910, Tom S. Farr was appointed Postmaster and held that position until January 29, 1914 when Mrs. Anna Carmody was appointed Postmistress. It was also this year when another move was made into the building that now houses the "Needleworks" and "Her Shop."

In 1920, the Post Office was moved into a building on Caledonia Ave. which now houses the Rudrud Insurance Agency and Schornack's Barber Shop. Later a move was made into the Hillsboro National Bank Building across the street which now houses the State Attorney's Office. During this time, Tom S. Farr was again appointed Postmaster succeeding



Mrs. Carmody. Oscar Johnson was selected as Acting Postmaster on December 12, 1933, receiving his official appointment on May 15, 1934. On January 1, 1952, Norman Dahl was selected as Acting Postmaster receiving his appointment later.

On December 11, 1961, the Post Office made its eleventh move to its present location at Caledonia and 2nd St. SW. On June 24, 1974, Norman Dahl retired and Patrick Detwiller received his appointment as the next Postmaster on Nov. 22, 1974. He is acting in that capacity at this time assisted by Ione Henning and Laurie Harshman. In addition to some of the above mentioned employees, the following people still living were or are employed by the Post Office: Pauline Myron, James Overmoe, Webster Rowan, Hiram Nelson, Melvin Hanson, Ralph Rudrud, Orville Overmoe, Leo Henn, Arne Haugen, Christy Sorum & Lilas Bondy.



Paul Myren's Mail Wagon in 1914.



How the mail went through in by-gone days. Paul Myren and this early-day mail rig.



Paul Myren — sometimes the snow made travel difficult.

## GOLF CLUB



Old log cabin on Golf Course property.

## STREET REPAIRS IN 1970



## CEMETERY HISTORY

Before the establishment of cemeteries in this area, it was quite common for families to bury their loved ones in their own properties.

Today it is illegal to bury anyone outside of an established cemetery in this state.

Ole A. Johnson and Peter Rudrud purchased a tract of land from Thomas Goovden in January 1890, and established a cemetery consisting of 1.05 acres directly east of what is now the St. Rose of Lima's Catholic Cemetery. This was named Elmwood Cemetery.

Burial of Hillsboro's early settlers took place here, many before any other cemetery was established. Before this time there was only one cemetery, the Arnegard Cemetery, west of Hillsboro. It is interesting to note that almost every monument in the Elmwood Cemetery was inscribed in the Norwegian language.

In 1887, due to the rapid increase in Hillsboro's population, means were discussed to provide a city cemetery.

The first meeting of the Hillsboro Cemetery Association was held in May 1889. In 1909 a set of amended by-laws were adopted and signed by members: John Paulson, S. Butson, J.H. Hanson, F.E. Kindred, Alice Burnett, W.J. Burnett, A.I. Wentworth, L.H. Larson, E.Y. Sarles, O.C. Sarles, Mrs. A. Skogen, Mrs. W.A. McCain, T.G. Dahl, Mrs. Thos. Forde,

Tom Gorder, I.B. Toonell, E.A. Nelson, Ole Hovde Sr., Ole Baglien, J.H. McNamee, E.M.D. Carlin, Frederick Skogen, Mrs. C.S. Johnson, James King, Tom Harrison, Nels Johnson, Nels Acker, Lillie Plummer, C. Olson, O. Turmo, Grant Baxter, Mrs. Elise Johnson, M.J. Taylor, L.O. Rudrud, Mrs. Johnson, and O.A. Hong.

The original cemetery, consisting of five acres, was purchased from Frederick Gilbertson (Skogen) in 1889. This is the west section of the cemetery. In 1917 another 5.90 acres of land were purchased, now known as the Riverside Cemetery Addition. A new system of water works was established in 1918. Hedges, trees and floral beds were laid out at a cost of \$250 in 1919.

When the association was no longer able to carry on with the financing of the cemetery, the City of Hillsboro took over its ownership in 1954. One member of the City Commission has charge of the cemetery.

More land was acquired through quit-claim deeds from the heirs of Ole Johnson and Peter Rudrud, and later a piece of land, 7.35 acres, directly east of Riverside Cemetery Addition and west of the railroad tracks, was deeded to the city by Arne Elton. As an appreciation for this gift the city named the new addition Lynn Elton Memorial Cemetery. During the summer of '59 a new archway with a suitable plaque was built on the north side of the area.

The city now has under its ownership and supervision a total of 19.30 acres for cemetery purposes. There are approximately 1300 persons buried in this area.



Scenes of Hillsboro Riverside Cemetery.



Saint Rose Cemetery.



The Lynn Spiering Memorial Monument, Memorial day, 1953. On far left is Dagny Halverson, President of the American Legion Auxillary.

## WOODLAND PARK



The Park Bridge, built in 1935, with the Ida Mergenthal house in the distance.

Then known by the name of "Potterud's Grove," the site of what is now Woodland park was once a notorious hang-out for hoboes. In 1912, however, a park board was formed to secure this land for a city park. The original members were Simon Anderson, Theodore Kaldor, O.C. Sarles, J.W. Leslie, and A.G. Foogman.

Since the city had no funds to purchase the park at that time, the first park board members advanced the city money to buy the land from Albert Potterud. O.C. Sarles made a track around the park which is today the park road.

Today, Woodland Park is one of the largest and most beautiful parks in the state. Every summer it attracts large numbers of people to enjoy its modern swimming pool, large camp grounds, tennis courts, playgrounds, horse-shoe pits, and many picnic tables.



Motor launch in Woodland Park.



Pioneer Log Cabin restored in Woodland Park.



Theodore Kaldor hauls pioneer cabin to Woodland Park, in the cart are: Odin Rudrud, Rube Jakish, A.L. Halverson, and Judge Bagstad.





**Woodland Park Bandstand.**



**Fogman Dam, named after original park board member A.G. Fogman, father of Elise Tonn and Rosalie Kaldor.**



**Geese on the Goose.**

# Epilogue



## BY THE OLD KINGMAN ROAD

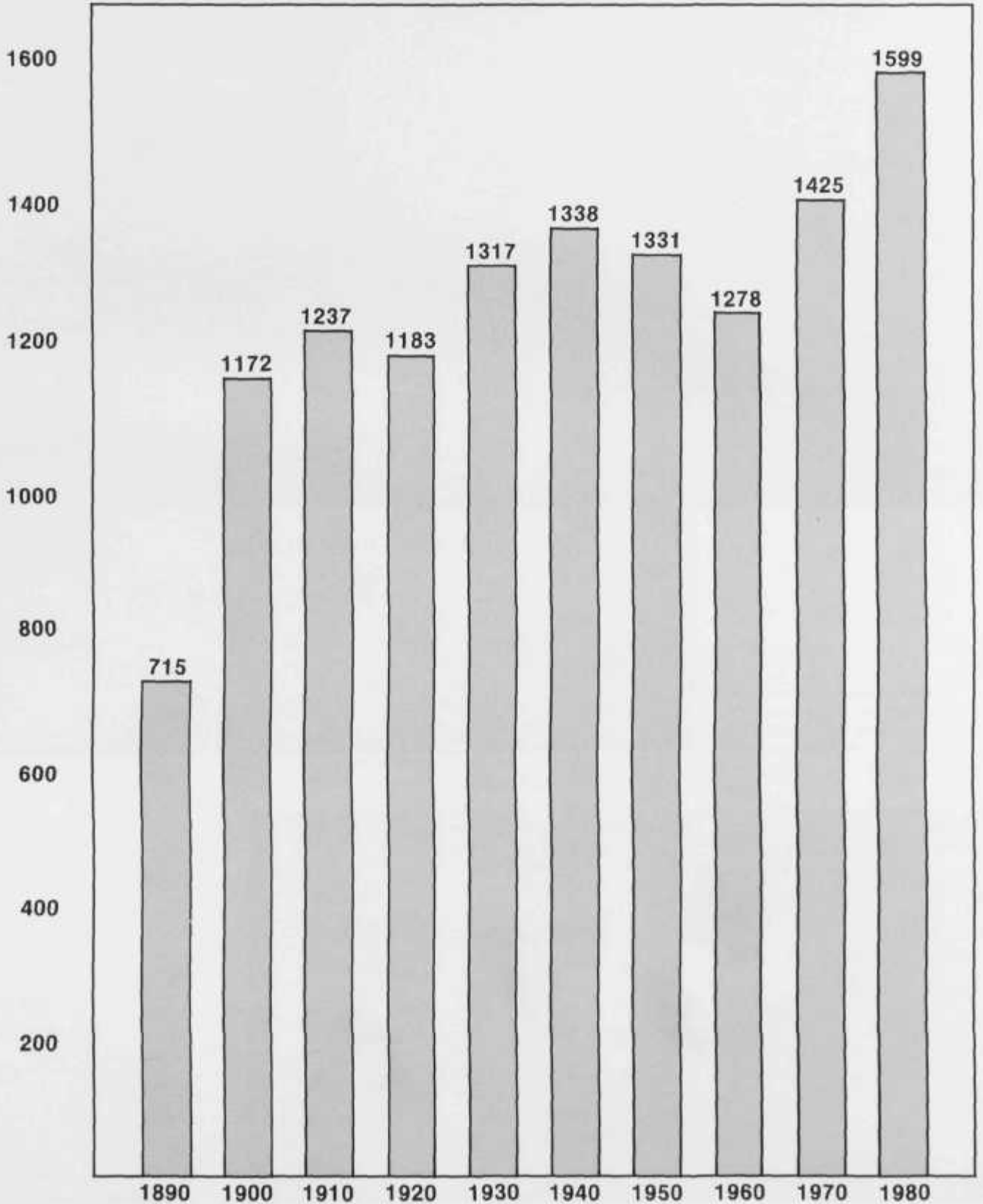
*By the old Kingman road  
The abandoned farmstead stands  
Cold and alone in December air  
Gone is the Norwegian farmer and his family  
Leaving only grey buildings  
Frayed by heartless Dakota weather  
To stand as monuments to  
the past.*

*Walking this childhood road of mine  
This husbed repose of winter  
Is a nidus for my reflections  
As through snowflaked eyelids  
I survey the rugged fields  
Of white drifts on black earth  
Peer through naked trees  
And see reflections of  
the past.*

*For someday  
When the air of March  
Turns the frigid earth to mud  
And trees begin  
To conceal their secrets  
It may be lost in the joy  
Of the season. But now  
When the world is grey  
And resting in its coldness  
I see  
the past.*

—Steven Kaldor

# Hillsboro Population Years 1890-1980





# City Directory

- Aaker, Jon  
W — Marlys  
Tamara Cady  
Aaland, Margaret  
Becky  
Cash  
Aasmundstad, Gregory  
W — Diane  
Jay  
Ackerman, Agnes  
John  
Adams, Marie  
Ahlschwede, Luise  
Aker, Arnold  
W — Sylvia  
Alfson, Jerry  
W — Karen  
Tamara  
Kristen  
Jay  
Allen, James  
W — Emma  
Charles  
Altenberd, Gary  
Altendorf, Richard  
W — Lorraine  
Nichole  
Mary  
Mark  
Amb, Marty  
W — Janell  
Chad  
Ambuehl, Michael  
Ambuehl, William  
W — Deborah  
Brian  
Sarah  
Amundson, Blanche  
Anderson, Miss Amanda  
Anderson, Mrs. Amanda  
Anderson, Anna  
David  
Anderson, Beatrice  
Anderson, Charles  
W — Susie  
Carl  
Kristen  
Andrew  
Anderson, Clarence  
W — Florence
- Anderson, Donald  
W — Yvonne  
Jennifer  
Kevin  
Anderson, Esther  
Anderson, Herbert  
W — Rosalie  
Barbara  
Nancy  
Anderson, James  
W — Bonnie  
Jodi  
Michael  
Cindi  
Anderson, Joseph  
W — Jeanette  
Jon  
James  
Janet  
Anderson, Julia  
Anderson, Kim  
W — Linda  
Meghan  
Anderson, Lee  
W — Jackie  
Joshua  
Anderson, Leo  
Anderson, Milton  
W — Shirley  
Arnegard, Lorraine  
Arneson, Adolph  
W — Christine  
Richard  
Ashland, Roy  
W — Pearl  
Asperheim, Cheryl  
Backlund, Michael  
Bagge, Bradley  
W — Susan  
Jocelyn  
Jonathon  
Courtney  
Baglien, Amelia  
Bagstad, Justin  
W — Hilda  
Bakken, Arnold  
Bakken, Dale  
W — Doris  
Sheila  
Sherry
- Bakken, Donald  
W — Barbara  
Heather  
Nicoles  
Bakken, Oscar  
W — Julia  
Randy  
Ballard, William  
W — Rose  
Barclay, James  
W — Agnes  
Robert  
Craig  
Bartch, Beverly  
Kelly  
Kirk  
Kory  
Kari  
Bartels, John  
W — Shirley  
Kory  
Kandace Morehart  
Kyle Morehart  
Basol, Norman  
W — Marjorie  
Baumgartner, Ed  
W — Cecelia  
Mark  
David  
Ann  
Paul  
Michael  
James  
Beach, Bernice  
Beach, James  
W — Sandy  
Kevin  
Beach, Timothy  
W — Peggy  
Anthony  
Beal, Leonard  
Beck, Peggy  
Bedard, Nancy  
Beltz, John  
W — Christy  
Beltz, Michael  
W — Cheryl  
Gregory  
Lisa  
David  
Beltz, Otto  
W — Nora  
Bendikson, Benedik

Benting, Martin  
     W — Amanda  
 Binzinger, Dale  
     W — Carolyn  
 Robyn  
 Berg, Bradley  
     W — Nancy  
 Kirsten  
 Siri  
 Berg, Julian  
     W — Helene  
 Berg, Raymond  
     W — Barbara  
 Charlene  
 Steven  
 Sherry  
 Stacy  
 Bergan, Helen  
 Berger, Gary  
     W — Joyce  
 Jon  
 Berkas, Jenny  
 Bertsch, Patricia  
 Beyer, Edgar  
     W — Elaine  
 Biberdorf, Helen  
 Richard  
 David  
 Nancy  
 Biel, Irwin  
     W — Gladycy  
 Binder, Reverend Julius  
 Bird, William  
     W — Hazel  
 James  
 Birkeland, Lyn  
     W — Laurie  
 Courtney  
 Amber  
 Brandon  
 Bishop, Terry  
     W — Sharon  
 Tina  
 Jason  
 Angela  
 Bittner, Roger  
     W — Dorothy  
 Bittner, Tim  
     W — Jane  
 Bjerke, Myrtle  
 Bjorkland, Ansgar  
     W — Clara  
 Bjorkland, Donald  
     W — Arlene  
 Dan  
 Boe, Alfred  
     W — Lyla

Boeddeker, Dennis  
     W — Judy  
 Michael  
 Kelly  
 Boeddeker, Neil  
     W — Mary Sue  
 Nicholas  
 Boeddeker, S.H.  
     W — Edna  
 Bohnsack, Alice  
 Bohnsack, Erwin  
     W — Theresa  
 Brakke, Nels A.  
     W — Lucille  
 Bramstedt, Reverend Terrill  
     W — Mary  
 Rebecca  
 Heidi  
 Meghan  
 Bronwyn  
 Breen, Agnes  
 Breen, Dr. Donald  
     W — SuZann  
 Paul  
 Patrick  
 Vickie  
 Julie  
 Charles  
 Michael  
 Casey  
 Katie  
 Brenden, Bradley  
     W — Mary  
 Bryan  
 Billy  
 Brenden, Bryan  
     W — Gladys  
 Brenden, Daniel  
 Brenden, Eugene  
 Brenden, Merlyn  
 Brokke, Myrtle  
 Brooks, Tom  
 Bueckers, Dan  
 Bugge, James  
     W — Susan  
 Jennifer  
 Burck, Gertrude  
 Greta  
 Burg, Kevin  
     W — Connie  
 Cardwell, Jack  
     W — Mary Ann  
 Dean  
 Melissa  
 Carver, Howard  
     W — Carol  
 Howard Jr.

Tammy  
 Chandler, Larry  
     W — Jeannie  
 Chandler, Wayne  
     W — Audrey  
 Tami  
 Christians, Betty  
 Gregory  
 Charles  
 Christians, Dan  
     W — Barbara  
 Amy  
 Rebecca  
 Christians, Scott  
     W — Barbara  
 Justina  
 Natasha  
 Christianson, Dan  
     W — Carol  
 Sadie  
 Christianson, Mabel  
 Arthur  
 Glenn  
 Christoff, George  
 Cochran, James  
     W — Kathy  
 Collier, Richard  
     W — Debra  
 Collins, Steve  
     W — Viola  
 Roy  
 Connor, Raymond  
     W — Evelyn  
 Cotton, Grace  
 Thomas  
 Crocker, Michael  
 Dahl, Darrell  
 Dahl, Mabel  
 Dahl, Norman  
     W — Alice  
 Dahlstrom, Oscar  
     W — Edna  
 Steven  
 Dally, Eunice  
 Demars, Gladys  
 DeNucci, Joe  
     W — Jill  
 Benjamin  
 Deschene, Steve  
     W — Priscilla  
 Scott  
 Dickhoff, Wayne  
     W — Nancy  
 Barry  
 Chad  
 Travis

Diehl, Ralph  
W — Gertrude  
Domier, Joseph  
W — Loraine  
Debra  
Dotson, Lyle  
W — Rene  
Peggy  
Carol  
Phillis  
Doty, Rachel  
Downs, Fred  
W — Olive  
Downs, Greg  
W — Mary Jo  
Monica  
Draper, Dakota  
W — Vicki  
Dufner, Hubert  
Duhin, Dan  
Dumas, Joe  
W — Lucklle  
Dunn, George  
Dunn, Marian  
Jeff Sanders  
Verna Sanders  
Duval, Dennis  
W — Kathleen  
Audra  
Dux, Leon  
W — Rose  
Pamela  
Candace  
Dux, Marvin  
W — Sharon  
Kevin  
Kyle  
Kurt  
Eblen, Wilbur  
W — Irene  
Eisenbeis, Harry  
W — Arlene  
Paul  
Faye  
Eken, Alice  
Eley, Amanda  
Ellingson, Bruce  
Ellingson, Leonard  
W — Jeanette  
Bruce  
Ellingson, Selma  
Elliott, Florence  
Elton, Arnold  
W — Myrtle  
Emery, Aurelia  
Daniel

Engel, Minnie  
Engeland, Genevieve  
Engen, Alice  
David  
Enger, Elsie  
Erickson, LeRoy  
W — LuVerne  
Erickson, Virgil  
W — Alma  
Euren, Olivia  
Evenson, Harvey  
W — Elaine  
Debra  
Erik  
Michael  
Evenson, Mark  
W — Brenda  
Ryan  
Fankhanel, Earl  
W — Joyce  
Fanning, J.  
Ferguson, Clara  
Fischer, Jackie  
Fisher, Richard  
W — Linda  
Angela  
Michael  
Mindi  
Filipi, Leigh  
Flieth, Richard  
W — Nettie  
Douglas  
Floeter, Reinhard  
W — Patricia  
Aaron  
Florhaug, Piander  
Floyd, Kathryn  
Ford, Evelena  
Forde, Hedvig  
Forester, Myrtle  
Fortman, Lynn  
Deborah  
Timothy  
Jason  
Forster, Agnes  
Forster, Fern  
Foss, Donald  
W — Arleeta  
Jessica  
Foss, Inga H.  
Foss, Justin  
W — Eleanor  
Foss, Lynn  
W — Julie  
Brian  
Matthew

Foss, Margrethe  
Ronald  
Foss, Raymond  
W — Becky  
Angela  
Jason  
Fossum, Richard  
W — Nancy  
Katie  
Frankfurth, Otto  
W — Wilma  
Freeland, Mervin  
W — Judith  
Frohrip, John  
W — Jennifer  
Fugure, Amos  
Gadberry, Helen  
Gaffney, Steven  
W — Jacqueline  
Shane  
Gearou, Harold  
W — Bonnie  
Gensrich, Roy  
W — Pamela  
Melissa  
Melanie  
Kimberly  
Georgeson, Richard  
W — Vi  
Pamela  
Mary  
Gesche, Helen  
Mary  
Nan  
Gibbons, Raymond  
W — Harriet  
Jared  
Nathan  
Erin  
Gilbertson, Arnold  
W — Peggy  
Lindsey  
Gilbertson, Earl  
W — Brenda  
Gilbertson, Josephine  
Gilbertson, Ray  
Glennon, Merrian  
Glomsrud, Goodwin  
W — Delores  
Rodney  
Cheryle  
Julie  
Grage, Merlin  
W — Viclet  
Grant, Lars  
W — Phyllis



Gretter, John  
W — Marian  
Grothmann, Henry  
Grothmann, Margarethe  
Herbert  
Grove, Douglas  
Grove, John  
W — Rosalie  
Gullikson, Doug  
Gunderson, Clifford  
W — Laura  
Gunderson, Martin  
W — Margaret  
Gunderson, Yvonne  
Guthmueller, Dennis  
W — Karen  
Jaysen  
Jennifer  
Janelle  
Jessica  
Haines, William  
Haisley, Merle  
W — Grace  
Elaine  
Halverson, Earl  
W — Pearl  
Thomas  
Halvorsen, Esther  
Hammargren, Evelyn  
Hamre, Arnetta  
Hamre, Loren  
W — Kathy  
Lisa  
Darcy  
Mark  
Hamre, Warren  
W — Beverly  
Steve  
Joel  
Patricia  
Hams, Leslie  
W — Eunice  
Jody  
Jay  
Jeffrey  
Jonathon  
Hanrahan, Loretta  
Hansen, Jack  
W — Sylvia  
Carter  
Celeste  
Hansen, Lawrence  
W — Pearl  
Hansen, Neal  
W — Kathleen  
Rachel  
Christopher

Hanson, Albert  
Joel  
Hanson, Charles  
W — Mary  
Erik  
Christopher  
Hanson, Reverend James  
W — Kari Jo  
Timothy  
Karis  
Julianne  
Hanson, Jennie  
Hanson, Leland  
W — Evelyn  
Hanson, Lois  
Hanson, Mayo  
W — Eleanore  
Mark  
Dana  
Alecia  
Hanson, Melvin  
W — Elizabeth  
Daniel  
Harshman, Mike  
W — Laurie  
Adam  
Harstad, Ruth  
Hartford, Harold  
Harvey, Greg  
W — Bonnie  
Hauck, Eunice  
Haugen, Arnold  
W — Joanne  
Haugen, Ingward  
W — Teresa  
James  
Haugen, Sophie  
Haugerud, Duane  
W — Karen  
Haugerud, Kristian  
W — Lilly  
Hausmann, Harry  
W — Emelia  
Hawbaker, Joan  
Hawkin, Connie  
Hawkins, Gary  
W — Mary Ellen  
Stacy  
Amy  
Heckman, Louis  
W — Helen  
Hegge, Dr. David  
W — Leslie  
Neal  
Heinen, Virgil  
W — JoAnn

Paul  
Mitchell  
Hendricks, Ella  
Henka, Louise  
Henn, Earl  
W — Lois  
Tammie  
Henn, Leo  
W — Lucille  
Joe  
Henning, Lurene  
Henning, Lyle  
W — Ione  
William  
Herbeck, Gurina  
Hertwig, Larry  
Hertwig, Robert  
W — Rosalie  
Sherri  
Karla  
Hettervig, Henry  
Heyer, David  
W — Barbara  
Christopher  
Eric  
Kelly  
Hilton, Clara  
Holkesvig, John  
W — Sharon  
Vicky  
Debby  
Jeff  
Jay  
Corey  
Holland, Glenn  
W — Eleanor  
Elizabeth  
Holland, Henry  
W — Grace  
Holland, Wayne  
Holty, Vernes  
Holmberg, Kent  
W — Cheryl  
Scott  
Brian  
Horne, Dudley  
W — Jennifer  
Holo, James B.  
W — Hazel  
John  
Holo, Marilyn  
Matthew  
Rachel  
Holzkamm, Albert  
Albert Jr.  
Randy  
Beth

Holzkamm, Herman  
     W — Irene  
 Hoselton, Evelyn  
 Hove, Dave  
     W — Linda  
 Nathaniel  
 Hovde, Ludwig  
 Hovet, Bernice  
 Hovet, John  
     W — Maggie  
 Howard, Hazel  
 Huber, David  
 Huntington, Kim  
     W — Ann  
 Julie  
 Lisa  
 Huso, Orin  
     W — Ruth  
 Hutchinson, Kevin  
     W — Deborah  
 Jacobson, Alex  
 Jacobson, Bonneita  
 LuAnn  
 Lynette  
 Bruce  
 Jacobson, Clarence  
     W — Clarine  
 Jahn, Lily  
 Jahnke, Clara  
 Jahnke, Herbert  
     W — Pearl  
 Jahnke, William  
     W — Minnie  
 Jandt, Gary  
 Jeffers, Barry  
 Jeffers, Galen  
     W — Isabelle  
 Laurie  
 Jeffers, Wilson  
     W — Mary  
 Jeglum, Clara  
 Jemtrud, Ken  
     W — Charmaine  
 Jenny, David  
     W — Margaret  
 Tom  
 Robert  
 Daniel  
 Jerde, Lorrie  
     W — Carol  
 Jay  
 Ryan  
 Heidi  
 Johnson, Albert  
 Johnson, Clarice  
 Johnson, Clifford

    W — Winnifred  
 Johnson, Dean  
 Johnson, Elmer  
     W — Mary  
 Johnson, Elvin  
 Johnson, Eugene  
     W — Lorraine  
 Johnson, John  
     W — Judith  
 Johnson, Lee  
 Johnson, Mark  
     W — Sandra  
 Angela  
 Christopher  
 Amy  
 Johnson, Mary  
 Johnson, Raymond Sr.  
 Johnson, Rhonda  
 Johnson Robert  
     W — Bette  
 Stephanie  
 Johnson, Vernon  
     W — Mavis  
 Bradley  
 Jeffrey  
 Debra  
 Jones, Charles  
     W — Joanne  
 Lisa  
 Jore, Arthur  
 Juelson, John  
     W — Debra  
 Timothy  
 Christina  
 Kaldor, Howard  
     W — Emma  
 Kaldor, Jean  
 Steven  
 Kamesch, Conrad  
     W — Marcella  
 John  
 Kamesch, Olga  
 Kaufmann, Richard  
 Keena, Earl  
     W — Norma  
 Keena, William  
 Kelly, Estelle  
 Kelly, Maynard  
     W — Alma  
 Timothy  
 Todd  
 Jeff  
 Kelly, Scott  
     W — Ann  
 Jared  
 Nicole

Kerr, Guy  
     W — Sandy  
 Kevin  
 Kirby  
 Jim  
 Kirkeby, Stanley  
 Kirmis, Harold  
     W — Jean  
 Beth  
 Erin  
 Kittock, Jean  
 Kimberly  
 Lea Ann  
 Brad  
 Kjensrud, Palmer  
     W — Ann  
 Kjos, Gene  
     W — Marlys  
 Marla  
 Klemetson, Arthur  
     W — Harriet  
 Klemetson, Tom  
     W — Ann  
 Brigitte  
 Knecht, John  
     W — Lorraine  
 Janice  
 Knodle, Merrill  
     W — Carol  
 Michael  
 Knudson, Agnes  
 Knudson, Rholeen  
 Todd  
 Kurt  
 Ray  
 Knudsvig, Gordon  
 Knutson, John  
     W — Sharon  
 Lisa  
 Lori  
 Mark  
 Koering, Buelah  
 Koering, Ervin  
     W — Helen  
 Koering, Walter  
     W — Marian  
 Koppang, Dennis  
     W — Lois  
 Denise  
 Kristi  
 Kostad, Kerwin  
     W — Marilyn  
 Daniel  
 Heidi  
 Adam  
 Kozojed, James  
 Kozojed, William

Kraft, Peter Jr.  
W — Sandy  
Holly  
Kragness, Richard  
W — Carol  
Adam  
Amber  
Kramer, Clyde  
Kress, James  
W — Eleanor  
Kress, Jeffrey  
Kress, Michael  
W — Barbara  
Obed  
Nicole  
Kress, Robert  
Kritzberger, Leonard  
W — Edna  
Kritzberger, Lynn  
W — Deborah  
Cody  
Chad  
Jennifer  
Jessica  
Kritzberger, Terry  
Kroshus, Donald  
Kuhle, Robert  
W — Helen  
Kuhn, Ida  
Kunkel, Jon  
W — Vickie  
Joshua  
Kuntz, Jack  
Kuntz, Joe  
W — Maggie  
Kutz, Freda  
Kutz, Martha  
Kunze, Robert  
W — Stephanie  
Scott  
Tina  
Brandi  
Mandi  
Kvitne, Anna  
Kvitne, Lloyd  
W — Diane  
Lange, Helen  
La Plante, Peter  
Larson, Emily  
Larson, Jerry  
W — Carole  
Nathan  
Daniel  
Benjamin  
Larson, Lynn  
W — Delores

Timothy  
Larson, Perle  
W — Hazel  
Larson, Stuart  
W — Kathy  
Erica  
Laughery, Wesley  
W — Joyce  
Larry  
Laukner, Donald  
W — Annette  
Tammy  
Shannon  
Lisa  
Justin  
Jason  
Travis  
Tracy  
Laxdal, Edward  
W — Elaine  
Laura  
Amy  
Matthew  
Lee, John  
W — Kelly  
Lee, Ronald  
W — Jeanette  
Lee, Timothy  
W — Terry  
Leichtenberg, Charles  
W — Sherri  
Matthew  
Douglas  
Lemm, Bertha  
Leraas, Edna  
Leraas, Lena  
Lessard, George  
W — Dorothy  
Monica  
Lessard, Michael  
W — Debbie  
Darcy  
Letnes, Harold  
W — Harriet  
Trygve  
Letnes, Lawrence  
W — Alice  
Leum, James  
W — Selma  
Sandra  
Sherry  
Lian, Henry  
W — Vivian  
Lien, Beatrice  
Lien, Josephine  
Lien, Tilman  
Lilleberg, Ida

Love, John  
W — Delores  
Debbie  
Danny  
Diana  
Lorenzen, Melvin  
W — Terry  
Darcel  
Ludwig, Albert  
Ludwig, Douglas  
W — Corrine  
Jodi  
Ludwig, Ernest  
Ludwig, Hannah  
Ludwig, Lillian  
Ludwig, Walter  
W — Viola  
Lundstom, Judy  
Misti  
Todd  
Vickie  
Lusso, Cecelia  
Lusso, David  
MacMillan, Steve  
Madsen, Mark  
W — Vickie  
Kelly  
Rick  
Steven  
Magnuson, Arthur  
W — Ardith  
Magnuson, Timothy  
W — Yvonne  
Jason  
Jeremy  
Malkmus, Thomas  
W — Minnie  
Rena  
John  
Michael  
Malley, Virginia  
Duane  
Malott, Lorna  
Marsden, Winston  
W — Gen  
Matchke, Mabel  
Mattern, Gary  
W — Joyce  
Mayo, Gilbert Sr.  
W — Mary  
Chris  
Tim  
Sandra  
Gabriel  
Samuel  
McDonald, Donald



McDonald, Harold  
W — Alice  
Scott  
Barry  
Dean  
McGuire, Jean  
Rita  
McInnes, Jeff  
McLean, Marlin  
W — Myrna  
Michael  
Mark  
Marie  
McLean, Dr. R.W.  
W — Ann  
Mollie  
Eileen  
McNamee, Douglas  
W — Dully  
John  
McSparron, Robert  
W — Ruth  
David  
McSparron, Thomas  
W — Anne  
Jacqueline  
Mehl, Ronald  
W — Clarice  
Paul Hausmann  
Meier, Roger  
W — Karen  
Rodger  
Ross  
Ryan  
Joyce  
Meier, Rosalie  
Darren  
Kristie  
Melsby, Lowell  
W — Violet  
Mergenthal, Alice  
Mergenthal, Robert  
W — Kathryn  
Janna  
Messner, Vernon  
W — Cheryle  
Mark  
Jason  
Meyer, Carl  
W — Clara  
Meyer, Dorothy  
Daniel  
Jane  
Timothy  
William  
Meyer, Gilbert  
W — Eunice

Meyer, Margo  
David  
Midstokke, Joel  
Miller, Ruth  
Pete and Debbie Otto  
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Mitchell, Reverend Tom  
W — Michelle  
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Samuel  
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W — Sandra  
Kimberly  
David  
Linda  
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W — Margaret  
Mooney, Francis  
Mooney, James  
W — Beverly  
Karla  
Anthony  
Peter  
Morgan, Hilda  
Morlock, Arthur  
W — Eunice  
Mortenson, Randal  
W — Lela  
Tammy  
Randy  
Michael  
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Mueller, Raymond  
W — Lilas  
Mueller, Tom  
Muir, Clyde  
W — Verle  
Munter, Gillette  
W — Diane  
Michael  
Rachel  
Murch, John  
W — Diane  
Michelle  
Mark  
Mandalie  
Murch, LaVerne  
Murray, Clifford  
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Myren, Adolph  
Myron, Ann  
Myron, Pauline  
Nash, Ronald  
W — Charlotte  
Daniel

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Dean  
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Nelson, Charles  
W — Donna  
Randy  
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Nelson, Clarence  
Nelson, David  
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Lisa  
Nelson, Duane  
W — Avon  
Nelson, Harold E.  
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Sheree  
Nelson, Hiram  
Richard  
Nelson, Jill  
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Nelson, John  
W — Mavis  
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Nelson, Myrtle  
Nelson, Nennor  
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Nelson, Tillie  
Ness, Oline  
Ness, Signa  
Nesvig, Mike  
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Notch, Frances  
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Nygaard, Emil  
W — Agnes  
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Nysveen, Jerry  
W — Aagot  
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Melissa  
Robert  
Oelrich, James  
W — Marjorie  
O'Leary, Jack  
W — Mrs. Jack  
Olmo, Arvid

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Olsen, Thomas  
W — Stephanie  
Scott  
Olsen, Vernon  
W — Bette  
Stacy  
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Olson, Edmund  
W — Mildred  
Olson, Gerald  
W — Margaret  
Olson, Helen  
Olson, Linda  
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Cindy  
Kevin  
Olson, Margaret  
Olson, Mark  
W — Alice  
Olson, Michael  
W — Nancy  
Charles  
Crystal  
Olson, Paul  
Olson, Robert  
Olson, Tim  
Orvik, Audrey  
Otte, David  
Ottesen, Jerry  
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W — Beatrice  
Overmoe, Orville  
W — Kate  
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Corey  
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Pederson, Gene

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Pederson, Hazel  
John  
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Peterson, Sybil  
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Greg  
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W — Shirley  
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Kristie  
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Patty Johnson  
Nancy Johnson  
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Rachow, Harold  
W — Doris  
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Rohman, Alvis  
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Rohman, Hannah  
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Monica  
Eric  
Elliot  
Rotvold, Ronald  
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W — Jennifer  
Heather  
Heidi  
Rude, Dennis  
W — Lani  
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Rude, Robert  
W — Marlene  
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Tamara  
Michael  
Erin  
Rude, Ronald  
Rudrud, Ralph  
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     W — Diane  
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 Ralph  
 Schroeder, Don  
     W — Claudia  
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 Schultz, Helen  
 Schultz, William  
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 Schumacher, William  
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 Deon  
 Dorene  
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 Seim, Eleanor  
 Severson, Mabel  
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 Sorum, Betty  
 Sorum, Duane  
     W — Florence  
 Kathleen  
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 Paul  
 Sorum, Gregory  
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 Timothy  
 Sorum, Harold  
     W — Ruth  
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     W — Lloyce  
 Sorum, Martha  
 Sorum, Terry  
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     W — Bonnie  
 Spiering, Velma  
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 Stanley, William  
     W — Eva  
 Steenson, Tina  
 Stenberg, Helmer  
     W — Olga  
 Stenerson, Gunder  
     W — Nola  
 Steven  
 Stenerson, James  
     W — Tracy  
 Tammy  
 Christopher  
 Stenerson, Michael  
     W — Debbi  
 Joshua  
 Stewart, Louis  
     W — Edith  
 Stigen, Julie  
 Stigen, Richard  
     W — Pearl  
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 Stowman, Mark  
 Strand, Olum  
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 Sundseth, Joan  
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 Patricia Reel  
 Joev Harmon  
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 Dwight  
 Hedy  
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 Svaleson, Elmer  
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 Kevin  
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 Svaleson, Merton  
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 Swanson, Thomas  
 Swenson, Delmer  
     W — Pearl  
 Swenson, Fred  
 Swenson, Hilman  
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 Talmo, Irene  
 Tate, Mabel  
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 Thompson, Dale  
     W — Donna  
 Cindy  
 Thompson, Frank



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Thompson, Mathilda  
Thompson, Michael  
W — Karen  
Heather  
Thompson, Morris  
W — Molly  
Thompson, Robert  
W — Elsie  
Michelle  
Sherry  
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Thorsrud, Ruth  
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Thorstad, Odin  
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W — Elise  
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Vettel, Alton  
W — Gail  
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W — Robin  
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Weber, Gust  
Weber, Michael  
Weber, Ray  
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Stephen  
Michael  
Wenaas, Ted  
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Whetzel, Lawrence  
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W — Delores  
John

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W — Verna  
Wika, Walter  
W — Janet  
David  
Cindy  
Brian  
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Wildeman, Chad  
Wildeman, Tracy  
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Jennifer  
Willison, Clinton  
W — Eleanor  
Lance  
Willison, Vera  
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Wisk, Allen  
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Richard  
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Woods, Robert  
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Wright, Russell  
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Ydstie, Orlin  
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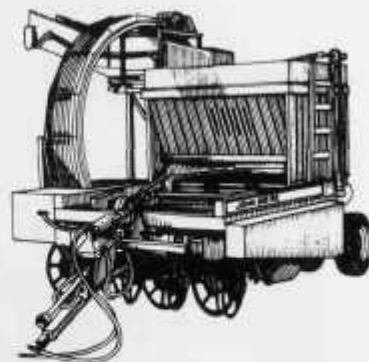
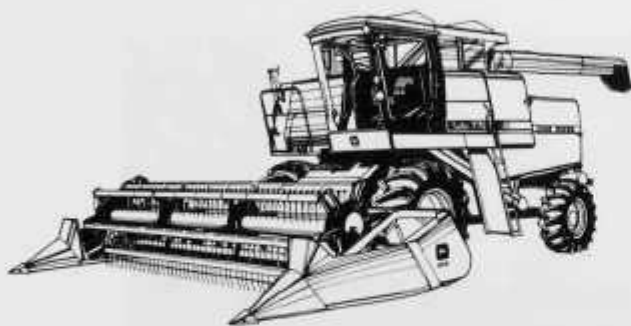
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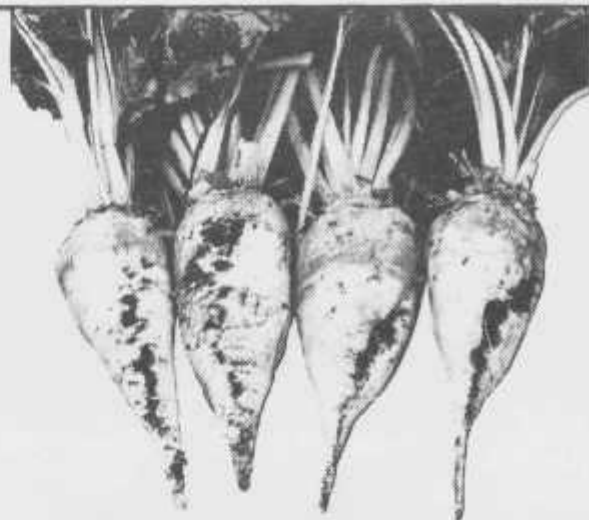
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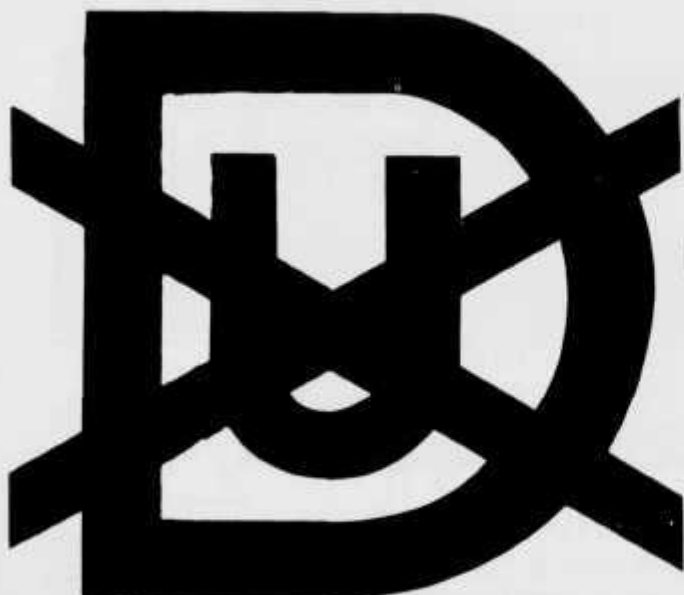


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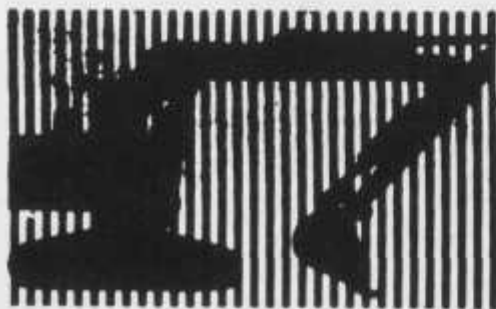
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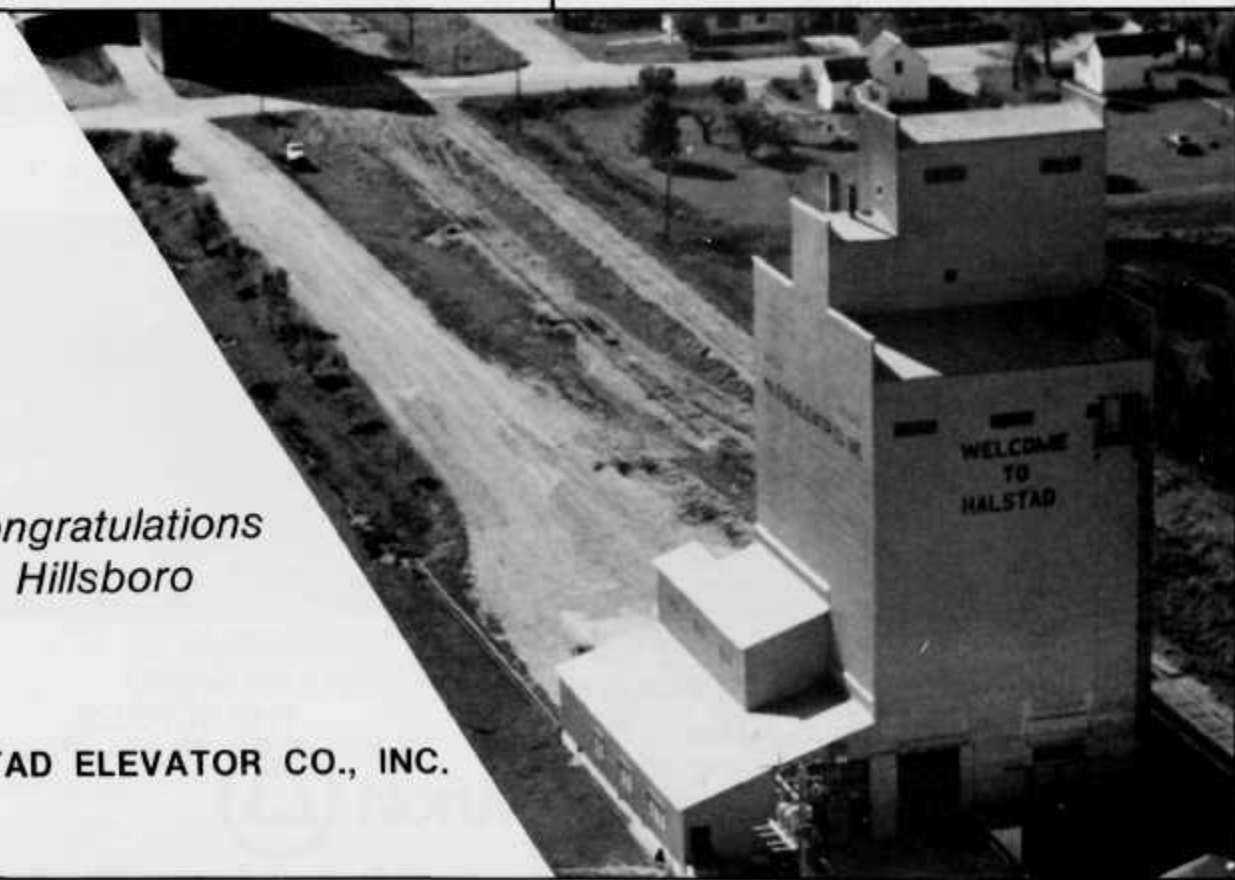
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**Thanks to the Hillsboro area Merchants and Farmers  
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**The Lynn Kritzberger Family**

**The Francis Kritzberger Family**



**Congratulations  
Hillsboro  
on 100 Years**

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We are Looking Forward to  
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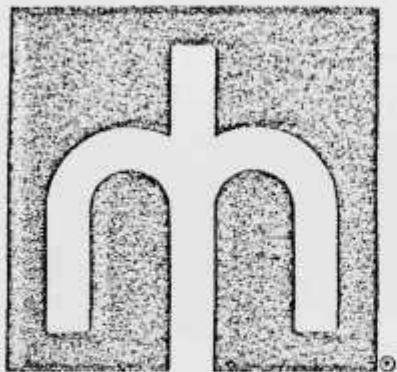
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