

# Celebrate Golden Wedding Anniversary on Tuesday

The golden wedding party given in the church parlors of the United Lutheran church, Tuesday, in honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Alfson, pioneers, was one of the happiest social events ever held in Bimford. There were present about a hundred intimate friends and close relatives.

The dining room decorations were lovely in their simplicity, gold and white being the predominating colors, carried out in streamers suspended from the ceiling and baskets of fresh jonquils. The long table, laden with good things to eat, were decorated with vases of cut flowers, ferns and gold candles. A great wedding cake marked the place of honor for the bridal party.

During the course of the splendid dinner, Rev. H. O. Bach, pastor of the church, officiated as toastmaster, and speeches were made by Rev. Estrem, of Cooperstown, Rev. Wold, of Pekin, and Rev. Halling of Bimford, interspersed with songs by the choir, and a solo by Rev. Estrem.

The impromptu program was resumed after the evening meal. Mrs. Estrem played an organ selection, Mrs. Halling sang a solo, as also did Rev. Bach and Rev. Estrem, who were accompanied by the men chorus. Letters read by Rev. Bach which carried to the honored guests greetings and hearty congratulations from intimate friends in other states who were unable to be present at the gathering.

Numerous useful and costly gifts were bestowed upon Mr. and Mrs. Alfson from friends and relatives. Among them were two comfortable Spanish leather upholstered rockers a gift from their children; a silver coffee set of five pieces from out-of-town relatives; \$75 in gold pieces from friends; a gold headed cane for the groom and a gold brooch for the bride, given by relatives here, together with beautiful flowers and blossoming plants.

A poem, composed for and sung at the wedding 50 years ago, by a close friend of the participants, Thomas Lajord, was read by Rev. Bach, and is printed herewith:

## BRUDESANG

En yndig mand, en yndig brud  
Som samles til et par of Gud  
Det er et syn som glæder.

Og hvis i ude hufgeranod  
For Herren's skyld gi slete brod  
Det syn kan gjore etenen blod  
Saa den of glæde graeder

Udvelger eder nu idag  
Den ven i ville til behag  
Trofolge eders dage

Og hvis som Josva den Gud's mand  
I veige da vil Omsaen,  
Ved afskeden of jorden's land,  
I skue evig glæde \*

Mr. Alfson was born in Vinje Prestegjeld, Ovre Telemarken, Norway May 5, 1850. He came to America with his aged father in June, 1868, at the age of 18 years, and made the first stop at Hastings, Minnesota. After being employed as farm hand for four years he decided to obtain a farm and own a home of his own. The first step toward this goal was his marriage on February 6th, 1873 to Miss Karl Osmundson. She also was born in Vinje, and emigrated to America with her parents when but six years old. She was born on July 15, 1854, and is a relative of the well-known Norwegian poet, A.

O Vinje. Rev. N. A. Quamen officiated at this wedding, and it was at this time that the above poem was sung by Thomas Lajord.

Having bought 77 acres of land, he family farmed in the vicinity of Farmington, Minnesota, until the fall of 1881, when, after hearing promising reports from people who had moved into what was then called Dakota Territory, they decided to take a chance with the rest and go west. This they did, taking with them four work horses, eight head of cattle, some machinery, household goods and provender, going by train to Meville. That road had just been built that year and this emigrant train was the first to reach Meville by trail. Mrs. Alfson is the first woman to travel that distance on a passenger train. After a none too pleasant trip, they finally arrived on the west side of Sheyenne river, where they immediately set to work building a home. The house and stable were constructed of hewn timbers with roof made of brush and dirt, and the walls of clay.

On the 22nd of May, 1882, Mr. Alfson proved up his pre-emption in Valley City, and on June 3rd filed on a homestead in Pilot Mound township, NW 1/2 of Section 30, to which place the family moved on July 5th.

Mr. Alfson was instrumental in organizing the Valley Grove church in Sheyenne valley, which has since been moved to Klotten. Later he helped establish the West Prairie church, of which he and family are still active members. He donated two acres of land which the church building and cemetery now occupy.

Tiring of farming and the hard labor connected with it, the family moved into Bimford in 1904 where they still make their home.

## Still S At Close C

NEW MERCHANT  
LESS THAN

- Ladies wool and silk and v
- Bodice top
- 54 inch blue wool flannel  
yard
- 27 inch Kelly wool flannel  
yard
- Spool Silk, all colors, Beldu  
per dozen assorted
- 72 inch white merc. Table  
yard
- Boys' banded shirts, plain w  
each
- Men's slip over sweaters,  
all wool
- Men's winter caps, values to  
each
- Men's heavy wool kersey ju  
pair

UNUSUAL VALUES IN  
CHILDREN

# RING

AT ANDERSON