

Biography of Anton T. Falla
--Arthur Storkson

Name of this pioneer's parents are Torger Falla and Bertha Falla. His name is Anton T. Falla.

He was born September 18, 1877. in Hurdal County near Oslo, Norway.

He left his former home because his father went. He came to North Dakota to locate a better home and a better and cheaper land.

He didn't have any experiences from former home to North Dakota. He came to North Dakota August 10, 1900.

Took up homestead in section 20, range 61, Rosendal township 148. He built a frame shanty, 12 by 14, with one window and one door. He had a sod barn.

He used a team and wagon and went to McHenry for provisions.

His near neighbors were Hendrick Olson, and Clint Wilson.

His machinery was a walking plow, binder, and a mower. He had four horses.

Early crops were flax. It yielded ten bushels to the acre.

The fuel used was wood gotten at McHenry with a team and wagon. There were snowstorms in the winter and prairie fires in the fall and spring.

He was married to Jenny Bjornson in the spring of 1903 at Cooperstown.

His descendants are Inga Falla, McHenry, N. Dak. , Albert Falla, McHenry, N. Dak., Tilda Falla, McHenry, N. Dak. Otto Falla, McHenry, N. Dak.

He lives 3 miles north and a half a mile west of Mose.

PIONEER BIOGRAPHY
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--Arthur Storkson

May 19, 1929

Biography of Ole P. Feiring
--William O. Feiring

Ole P. Feiring was born January 6, 1846 near Beere, Norway. His father's name was Peder Feiring; his mother's name was Kaare Feiring. He came to America in 1863.

He left Norway because of the severe conditions there and also he was looking for better success. In Norway at that time they were having some very hard times, and they could not make any headway.

He headed for Wisconsin and he stayed with H. A. Emerson of Hardick Creek in Trempeau County near Whittehall, Wisconsin.

He came to North Dakota in 1884. His reason for coming to North Dakota was that he had heard of the big land booms in the west, and therefore he came here. He first settled ~~four~~² miles northwest of Hannaford.

He traveled from Wisconsin to North Dakota by wagon and horses. He had three horses, a cow, and some machinery with him.

He moved to a farm in Mabel Township. In 1893 he moved and settled on a farm two miles northeast of Cooperstown on Section 22.

The experiences in the early days: At that time they did not have machinery to do things with like they now have. They plowed all their land with a walking plow. They lived in a little tar paper shack with one room, just enough room so they could get about.

Their nearest neighbors were Charley Freedenberg and Jack Nicholis. They held church services in the schoolhouse. The name of the schoolhouse was Washburn. Their minister was P. A. Thoreson. Their first school teacher was Miss Clara Posie.

The fuel in early days was soft coal and wood which they hauled from the river.

He married Beatta Melby in Trempeau County, Wisconsin in 1873.

He died December 20, 1916 and was buried December 23 in the Cooperstown Cemetery.

Descendants are: Oliver Feiring and Olga Feiring who died in Wisconsin at the age of four and six, Mrs. Julia Hoff who died at Sutton, North Dakota, Melvin Feiring of Cooperstown, Oscar Feiring of Havelock, North Dakota, Mrs. Clara Tufte of Cooperstown, North Dakota, and Mrs. Ida Hoff of Leeds, North Dakota.

Biography of Mr. and Mrs. O. P. Feiring
and family
--Warren Bruns

Ole P. Feiring was born at Biristranden, Norway, January 6, 1846. He came to America at the age of twenty years. Passed some years in and around Pigeon Falls, Wisconsin before removing to North Dakota. Mrs. Feiring was Beata Melby before marriage. She was born in Hurdalen, Norway but was only a few weeks old when her people came to Coon Prairie, Wisconsin to enter upon Pioneer life there. Mrs. Feiring was born March 13, 1855. They were married October 9, 1873, at Trempealeau City, Wis.

Seven children were born to this family, two of which died in infancy. Three girls were born at Pigeon Falls, Wisconsin--Clara, Julie, and Ida. Oscar was born at the old Eimoen farm and Melven at the tree claim home near Sutton, North Dakota. This claim was years later sold to A. J. Anderson who removed the buildings. But the trees planted by the original owners are still there, a monument to an old pioneer now passed into the great beyond.

We came to North Dakota because of our hard times in Wisconsin. The cinch bug was an enemy to be reckoned with in those days. Mrs. Feiring's parents had already settled in Valley City on a farm one mile out of the city. Through them came rumors of the great opportunities for settlers out in North Dakota. Mr. Feiring came to this state in April, 1884. He and Mr. Hans O. Lien took a railroad car together and so brought the few things they possessed with them for their start. The rest of the Feiring family came out May 10, 1884, staying at Valley City for a time in order to recover from mumps and measles which the children got on the train. The house on the tree claim was a frame one of three rooms. It was later built into the large house on the A. J. Anderson farm south of Sutton. Three horses, one cow and some rickety machinery had been brought from Wisconsin. Later some oxen were acquired, but everything came hard.

It was with the utmost sacrifice that a living was obtained. Dry winds, prairie fires, inadequate protection on the long trips to town, blizzards, etc. were some of the things to contend with. The distance to either Cooperstown or Dazey was eighteen miles. Hannaford was only a name on the map then. In winter time the family put in some anxious hours wondering whether father would come home safe and sound. Often his return was prevented for several days on account of a blizzard. Those at home struggled with the chores, with the old bucket well almost inaccessible from the piled drifts, and the storm raging for three days perhaps.

The fuel was wood from trees brought from the Sheyenne River. These could be bought if the purchaser would cut his own. Also soft coal was burned and some of the bachelors even used twisted hay for fuel.

Neighbors were few at first. Some single men came out on their claims for the summer but left after their work was completed in the fall. Neighbors at that time were Hans O. Liens, the Kjelson brothers, Emeon brothers, C. J. Erlandson, Christ Jackson, C. C. Frydenberg, and near or about four miles north were the Rhodes and Lewis families.

The grain raised was of a good quality but the highest yield raised at this time was thirty-one bushels to the acre and the price about 58¢ a bushel. With walking plows, the old-fashioned seeder and machinery without any seats, slow oxen, with a few poor horses, the farm work went on. Wheat, oats, potatoes, and other vegetables were raised. In 1891 because wheat had been touched by frost it sold for 37¢ a bushel. Butter prices ranged from ten to fifteen cents. Hogs enough for home consumption were raised. The diet of these pioneers was mostly pork and grain foods.

Prairie fires often made people fight for their homes. Fire brakes had to be made around the buildings. If the wind was high and the fire jumped the fire break, it had to be fought with wet gunny sacks and anything at hand. Eye-lashes were singed and faces blackened because of close proximity to the enemy.

The first school in this vicinity was held in one of the two rooms of the Frydenberg house, the parents paying the rent and the district paying the teacher, Miss Clara Posey. There was a school in Helena Township known as the White School--a designation given because of a man by that name living near it. The eldest one of the Feiring family attended school here a few months, staying with the Fogderud sisters and going with them to this school. Miss Sheely and Miss Sullivan were teachers in this school.

Divine services were held at the different homes until a school came to be built. Rev. P. A. Thoreson was the first pastor, coming from his ordination to take charge of church work in the community. He preached his first sermon at the Feiring home near Sutton, and remained in his charge for over thirty-three years. He and Mrs. Thoreson worked so well among the people there that they will ever be remembered by all.

In the fall of 1893 the Feiring family moved to a new home two miles northeast of Cooperstown, North Dakota where they have resided most of the time since except for a few years spent in Cooperstown for a change. Melvin still lives there. Mr. Feiring died December 20, 1916. Julie died February 11, 1920 at Sutton, North Dakota. (Mrs. O. F. Hoff) Ida (Mrs. O. B. Hoff) resides with her family at Leeds, North Dakota. Oscar lives at Havelock, Hettinger County, North Dakota. and Clara, (Mrs. Benjamin Tufte) at Cooperstown. Mrs. Feiring lives with her.



FARMS LOCATED MIDWAY BETWEEN SUTTON, ON GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY, AND BINFORD, ON NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY. WE SHIP FROM EITHER POINT

EXCELSIOR FARMS

OTTO H. BRUNS, Owner

Growers of Pure, Certified Grains and Field Seeds. Samples sent on request. Also Pure Bred Poultry, Hogs, Sheep and Cattle

Binford, North Dakota

A Pioneer Sketch.

(Mr. and Mrs. O. P. Feiring and family.)

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Warren Burns.

Biography of John Feske
--Clara Anderson

1927

John Feske was born February 19, 1875. At the age of seventeen he came to this country with his parents. They came to North Dakota because they thought there were better opportunities being they could get three quarter sections of land free.

In taking up land they took township 145, section 4, range 60. They made their house of boards on the inside and sod on the outside. It was a little shanty about 10ft. by 14 ft. They made their trips with oxen and went very slow.

Their closest neighbor was John Pitty.

They did not have very much machinery. They had a walking plow, a broadcast seeder, and used oxen for teams. They raised very very good crops but they did not have many acres under cultivation. They went out on the prairies and gathered buffalo chips and used them for fuel.

He was married at Cooperstown to Hanna Helmer, March 25, 1899. His descendants are Violet Feske, Rudolph Feske and Pearl Feske, all of Cooperstown, N. Dak.

He is still living at the age of fifty-two years of age. His present home is in Helena township, section 11, Cooperstown, North Dakota.

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Biography of Mathias E. Fjelstad

June 1, 1926

--Alvilda M. Kolberg

1925
Mrs. Robt Allen

The name of the parents of the pioneer were Evan Evenson and Elie Evenson. The name of the pioneer was Mathias Evenson Fjelstad.

Mathias Evenson Fjelstad was born March 30, 1848 at Rinsaker County, Norway. He left Norway at the age of twenty-five in order to find a more prosperous place to work.

On June 24, 1863 he started from Norway on the ship "Kong Svare". The trip was made with no troubles and on July 26 they landed in New York. He went directly from New York to Preston, Minnesota where he lived for eight years. During the fifth year at this place he was married to Karn Fjelstad. They took up farming and one year on account of their crops being taken by a "chance Bug" they sold out their farm and moved to North Dakota. With five other families they took the train to Valley City, where they left their families while the men went ahead to break land for their farms. He settled on Section 24 in Ball Hill township. For many years they lived in a sod house 12x16 feet. They soon found that only milk and honey flowed on the prairie so they purchased oxen and began to break land and command in "gee and ha." Had they seen an automobile in those days they would have thought that lightning and thunder was rolling over the prairie.

The only farm machinery they had in those days were a binder in which they used wire to bind the sheaves, they also had plough and harrows. The products grown on the farms were mainly wheat, oats, barley and potatoes. The wheat was sold at the low price of seventy-five cents a bushel. The grain they raised was chiefly for themselves and they had very little to sell if any.

During the first year there were very heavy storms ensued by a dry spell. For provisions they went with their wagons and oxen the long distance of thirty-five miles over wild prairies over which there were no roads or signs to guide them on their way to Valley City. For fuel they chopped down and hauled trees from the Sheyenne Valley.

Their nearest neighbors were Fritchiof Greenland, Christian Lee, Edward Stai and Lauris Stai.

The winters were very bitter and severe. They consisted of the most horrible blizzards and sleet. After the worst of some of these storms the snowdrifts were so high that all the buildings and near by places were concealed and only smoke seemingly coming from the snow could be seen. Paths had to be dug in order to get to the barn and other buildings. Several times they had to string twine from the house to the barn to guide their way.

To this union were born five children, two of whom are living, Mrs. Conrad Kolberg who at present is living on the old homestead six miles south of Cooperstown, and Martin Fjelstad living at Rawson, North Dakota.

The three deceased boys are Anton, Nels and Nels. Nels, who was born in Minnesota, died at the age of one and a half years and was also buried there. Anton, who was eight years at his death, and Nels who

Biography of Mathias E. Fjelstad
--Alvilda M. Kolberg

was five years, are buried in the Union Church graveyard, eight miles south of Cooperstown.

At present Mr. Fjelstad is living at Cooperstown with his wife. March 30, 1926 he celebrated his seventy-seventh birthday and is seemingly in good health as yet.

Fjelstad, Rolf Knutson

Ord. 1884, N.S. 1884-87; A.M. 1887-90; U.C. 1890-1912 -

Born Sept 1, 1849 at Nussedal, Telemarken Norway, son of
Knut Rollefson Odegaard and Susanna (Syftstad)
Immigrated 1861 - Attended Luther Coll, 1879-81. Luther Sem
1881-84 (C.T.) Pastor at Montevideo Minn, 1884-1886
Norway Lake Minn. 1886-00; Springfield Minn. 1901-12,
Visitor. Author "Forenings sange", 1903, "De moderne
hemmelige selskaber i Guds ords lys." 1906 -
Married Sylvia Vangsness (Vangsness) 1870. She died 1920.
He died Jan 30, 1912.

Page 154 "Who's Who," among pastors of Norw. Luth Synods of Amer ^{1843 to 1912}
Rev. Fjelstad spent one year in Griggs
County while he was a student pastor. He
stayed at the Omund Nelson Opheim home.

May 28, 1930

Biography of Mrs. Martha Flick
--Robert Widlund

The names of the parents of the pioneer are Mr. and Mrs. Wyllie. The name of the pioneer is Mrs. Martha Flick. She was born April 16, 1864 in New York State.

The pioneer travelled by oxen because horses and buggies were very scarce. Her first house was a log house. Early hardships were crops failing or freezing, causing many people to leave their homes. Very few horses were used and wagons were used to ride in. Buggies were very scarce. The nearest neighbors were Bill Rickford and Gratius Andrew Knutson in Nelson County. The fuel had to be hauled from Sanborn to Red Willow by oxen. Where Binford now is not one shock could be seen in '82 and '83.

The pioneer married Mr. Sylvester Flick. Their present place of residence is in Cooperstown.

Names of descendents are: Mr. Roy Flick, Cooperstown; Mr. Walter Flick, Cooperstown; Mr. Ray Flick, Montana; Mr. Perl Flick, Cooperstown.

Biography of Mrs. Ellen Anna Fogderud
--Chester Olson

Mrs. Ellen Anna Fogderud, Peter Mossing, was born Mar. 25, 1868 in Aasen, Norway, which is near Trondhjem.

Mrs. Fogderud left home because her father was in America and thought conditions were better there. She left Norway (made the trip all alone) when fifteen years old and was on the ocean about three weeks. The weather was nice and she had a good time. When Mrs. Fogderud landed in America she took the train to Minnesota. The ticket from Norway cost fifty-three dollars and she had to work a little over a year to pay for it. She worked one winter to work for it in Minnesota at the wages of fifty cents a week.

Mrs. Fogderud stayed in Minnesota three years then started for North Dakota in a covered wagon drawn by a yoke of oxen. There were four in the party, her father, mother, one sister, and herself. They traveled a distance of about two hundred miles, and it took them about two weeks. They had cattle with them so most of the trip was made on foot. The cattle were afraid of trains and would run away. Sometimes they had to hunt a half a day before they were found. The trip took them through Fargo. They traveled through main street but Fargo was then just a small town of about three or four buildings. They reached North Dakota in August, 1886.

In the early pioneer days Mr. Fogderud filed a quarter section of land S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 22, Township 144, Range 59. The first house was a two-room frame house, 22x12 feet. Dazey was the nearest town and the trips for provisions were made by oxen.

Their neighbors were Peter Mossing, Martin Mossing, Mikel Monson, Nels Austad, and John Lilja.

The crops raised were mostly wheat, rye, and oats. The yield was not very good on account of draught, hail storms, and the first year the crop froze. The fuel used was wood hauled from the Sheyenne River, which of course was free.

Some of the hardships the pioneer had to go through were poor crops, and long stormy winters. Sometimes blizzards lasting three or four days so bad that some people got lost on their way to the barn. Prairie fires were also a dread.

Ellen Anna Mossing was married to Andrew Fogderud in the Gunderson school house about one mile south of Walum on April 8, 1888. Five children were born to this union: Mrs. E. O. Wallin, Steele, N. Dak., ~~Alfred~~ Alfred, Laura, Eva, Gunnerson, Conrad Fogderud at Hannaford, N. Dak. The present home of the pioneer is where they filed their claim. No photographs of early days as kodaks and cameras were unheard of here then. There were no documents nor letters of the early pioneer days preserved.

PIONEER BIOGRAPHY

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- ✓ Mrs. Ellen Anna Fogderud, Peter Mossing, was born Mar. 25, 1868 in Aasen, Norway, which is near Trondhjem.
- ✓ Mrs. Fogderud left home because her father was in America and thought conditions were better there. She left Norway (made the trip all alone) when fifteen years old and was on the ocean about three weeks. The weather was nice and she had a good time. When Mrs. Fogderud landed in America she took the train to Minnesota. The ticket from Norway cost fifty three dollars and she had to work a little over a year to pay for it. She worked one winter to work for it in Minnesota at the wages of fifty cents a week.
- ✓ Mrs. Fogderud stayed in Minnesota three years then started for North Dakota in a covered wagon drawn by a yoke of oxen. There were four in the party, her father, mother, one sister, and herself. They traveled a distance of about two hundred miles, and it took them about two weeks. They had cattle with them so most of the trip was made on foot. The cattle were afraid of trains and would run away. Sometimes they had to hunt a half a day before they were found. The trip took them through Fargo. They traveled through main street but Fargo was then just a small town of about three or four buildings. They reached North Dakota in August, 1886.
- ✓ In the early pioneer days Mr. Fogderud filed a quarter section of land S.W. 1/4 of Section 22, Township 144, Range 59. The first house was a two-room frame house, 22x12 feet. Dazey was the nearest town and the trips for provisions were made by oxen.
- ✓ Their neighbors were Peter Mossing, Martin Mossing, Mikel Monson, Nels Austad, and John Lilja.
- ✓ The crops raised were mostly wheat, rye, and oats. The yield was not very good on account of draught, hail storms, and the first year the crop froze.
- ✓ The fuel used was wood hauled from the Sheyenne River, which of course was free.
- ✓ Some of the hardships the pioneer had to go through were poor crops, and long stormy winters. Sometimes blizzards lasting three or four days so bad that some people got lost on their way to the barn. Prairie fires were also a dread.
- ✓ Ellen Anna Mossing was married to Andrew Fogderud in the Gunderson school house about one mile south of Walum on April 8, 1888. Five children were born to this union: Mrs. E. O. Wallin, Steele, N. Dak., Alfred, Laura, Eva, Gunnerson, Conrad Fogderud at Hannaford, N. Dak. The present home of the pioneer is where they filed their claim. No photographs of early days as kodaks and cameras were unheard of here then. There were no documents nor letters of the early pioneer days preserved.

--Chester Olson

Ole O. Förde, Pekin, N.D.

Ole O. Förde is a farmer and business man. He was born in Evanger, Voss, on Sept 28th, 1852, came to America in 1859 to Winnishiek County, Iowa. His father Ole Förde took a homestead in Jackson Co, Minn, in 1860, and was killed by the Indians in 1862. Ole O. Förde took his homestead in 1882 Förde township, Nelson Co, N. Dak. He was one of the first settlers there.

His wife, Alida Olsen, born in Kristians, died in 1915. He has 3 daughters:

Mathilde married Karl Brekken, farmer near Pekin N.D.

Julia married Ed Loe, who has a garage at " "

Clara works at Elsaas Store in Pekin N.D.

He was County assessor for 6 years and has held many other offices in the district. He lived in Pekin N.D. since 1910.

Bibl. Transl. from Hans Jervell, 1916 - page 81-2

May 20, 1929

Biography of John T. Fosholdt
--Gordon Allen

John Fosholdt was born in Waldens, Norway on February 19, 1860. His father's name was Torkel J. Fosholdt and his mother's name Rorjug Fosholdt.

Mr. Fosholdt left his home in Waldens, Norway in the year of 1879 seek better living conditions. They came over the ocean on a steamer and travelled by train inland. They first settled in the state of Iowa where they lived for three years.

Then in the spring of 1882, he came along with his parents to North Dakota. Upon their arrival to this state, they filed a preemption on Section 14 of Tyrol Township in the county of Griggs.

Their home was a dugout with a gable roof covered with tar paper. Farm machinery consisted of a breaking plow, spring tooth harrow and a seeder.

Trips to town were made with an oxen team,--The nearest towns being Mayville to the east and Valley City on the Northern Pacific Railroad. They had as their neighbors, Hans J. Lund, and the Eikeland Brothers who filed land in the same part of the county.

They had many hardships in the early years but the worst were prairie fires which occurred every fall and did great damage to some of the property of the pioneers. Blizzards were common in the winter but were not as discouraging as the prairie fires. They had as their fuel, timber, which was gathered along the banks of the Sheyenne River.

John Fosholdt had his schooling in the Henry Detwiller home which was in Tyrol Township. He had as his first teacher, the first wife of Judge Carleton who is our present county judge. Later he had Miss Hegerty, the mother of Mrs. Glen Dyson. His schooling was in the English language and only a short term.

There were no churches and meetings were held in the different homes by Rev. Lundebj, an inland missionary.

Mr. John T. Fosholdt lived his pioneer days as a bachelor. In 1912 he went over to Norway for a visit. Then in 1914 he was married to Miss Olava Teigen in Minneapolis in the fall.

Mr. and Mrs. Fosholdt are living in Cooperstown where they have a residence. Mr. Fosholdt has a brother, O. T. Fosholdt of Courtney who is a merchant and a sister, Mrs. Sarah Wold of this city.

Ole T. Fosholdt

Ole T. Fosholdt, a pioneer merchant of Courtensy, was born in Hedalen, Norway Dec 13, 1867, a son of T. J. and Ronang Fosholdt. The Fosholdt family came to ^{Mitchell Co} Iowa from Norway in 1881. But in the spring of 1882 the father Fosholdt took land 10 miles north of Cooperstown. Here the mother died in 1888.

In the fall of 1888 Ole T. left the farm to become a clerk for Hammer & Condy of Coopers. In winter of 1889-90 he studied at Normal Business College at Portland N.D. and returned as book-keeper for Hammer-Condy until 1892 when he moved to Courtensy to open his own store. His first building was 24 x 36 feet.

Mr. Fosholdt was married in 1894 to Miss Emma Haggberg, who died in 1903. They had a son, Clarence.

In 1905, he married again. She was Miss Minnie Haggberg, who was born at Cohato Minnesota,

They have a son ~~Harold~~ Howard.

Bibl: Condensed from, Lounsberry Vol. III, 1917, p 737-8.

June 1, 1926

Biography of Elling Johnson Froiland
--Irwin Froiland

Elling Johnson Froiland was born December 25, 1850 in Thime, Norway. His parents' names were Inga Gurina Froiland and James Froiland. They are both dead now.

Elling Johnson was married in Norway in 1869 to Dorthy Martha Norhiem. There were four children born to them in Norway; all were girls and one died when she was a small child. The other three are still living and all of them are in North Dakota.

He and his wife and children left Norway in 1881 on a steamship, and they had quite a bit of trouble before they came to North Dakota. The boat they sailed in broke down after one day's sailing, so they turned back. They stopped in Denmark to get the boat fixed which took them two weeks. Then they did not have any trouble before they came to New York. They wanted to send Johnson on one train to Minnesota and his wife and children on another. They got it arranged so that they could all take one train to Minnesota. They had friends in Minnesota, but he only stayed there one year. Then he got the North Dakota fever. He made up his mind he would leave Minnesota because he had to buy land there and go to North Dakota and take up a homestead.

He came to North Dakota in the spring of 1882 and settled in Griggs County, Ball Hill Township, northeast quarter of Section 10, Range 59, and he is still living there. About 7 years later, he bought the northwest quarter of Section 10, and in 1896 he bought the southwest quarter of Section 3, all of which he has and owns now.

The first year he was on his homestead, he built a sod house and barn. The only things he had to start with were two teams of oxen, three cows and a few sheep, some household goods and a plow and drill all of which he brought from Minnesota. His only neighbors the first years were Andrew Benson, Charles and Wilnot Houghton, R. C. Cooper and Edd Hanson, all of whom were farming in the neighborhood. In 1885 the fifth child was born to them, and it was a boy--the only one in the family.

They had many hardships to go through the first eight or ten years. They had to bring their wheat to Valley City to get it ground into flour. They also bought most of their clothes there because there was hardly anything to get in Cooperstown those days. In the winter there were fierce snowstorms, and in the autumn there were prairie fires. They had to plow around the houses so they would not catch fire when a prairie fire came sweeping along. In the winter it was just as bad because of the snowstorms, and they were so bad many times that people could not get out and do their chores. Many times Elling Johnson almost got lost because of the snowstorms. Once he was over at Benson's and a big blizzard began to rage. He wanted to come home to his family because he knew they would worry about him, but Benson told him he had better not go home because he would get lost. He insisted on going and he went. It was not so easy those days to be out in a snowstorm as it is now because there were no fences to follow and no trees, only wild prairie. He walked towards home or rather the direction he thought home was in. When he was a few rods past his place, he thought he knew himself back or thought he was close to home, but he could not see a sign of the house or anything.

He began to call for the dog they had. The dog was in the house, but he heard him call and he began to knaw on the door and wanted to go out. The rest of the people in the house were surprised at the dog because he had not acted like that before, and they let him out. The dog ran towards where he heard the calling and when he got to Elling Johnson, he found him sitting down. The dog got him up by barking at him, and he showed him the way home. He had many other experiences like that.

In those days they got very good crops because the soil was good and there were no weeds. However, the prices for grain were very low.

In 1896 his wife died. The youngest child was 11 years by this time and the oldest was 20 years and two were between that age. By this time there were many new neighbors and the country was getting settled fast. By this time also he had built a new barn and house. In 1900 he got married the second time to Miss Serina Hagen from Chicago. They had built to the old house and a new barn was being built and many different improvements were being made. All his children were married--all except the boy. The oldest daughter got married to Fred Anderson, and they lived in St. Cloud where he was foreman in a granite quarry. When he got killed in the quarry, they moved to Cooperstown. The next oldest daughter got married to Jasper Taxdal and they farm by Hannaford. The youngest daughter married Christ Seldal, and they live in Cooperstown. In 1907 the youngest one, which was the boy, got married. His name was Hans Johnson, but he changed his name to Hans Froiland. Then he began to farm Elling Johnson's farm. Elling Johnson and his wife went to Norway for a vacation and when they came back, they settled down in Cooperstown where he lived till his wife died which was in 1914. Then he moved out to the farm and lived with Hans Froiland. In 1914 they built an elevator on the farm and improved the barn. In 1923 they built a new house. In 1925 Willing Johnson went to Norway and came back the same year. He is 75 years old and is in perfect health.