

Biography of Christian Myers Jacobson

--Stanley I. Moen

Written in 1927

The parents of this pioneer were Jacob and Hannah Erickson. The name of this pioneer is Christian Myers Jacobson. He was born June 24, 1851 at Tronso, Northland in Norway. He came to America in the spring of 1880 because he thought he could do better in a new country and at that time people were moving to North Dakota to take up homesteads, so his pioneer came to this state because they could get free land by preemption and homesteading.

They came across in covered wagons drawn by oxen. Some had horses but very few. There were five wagons all together. He took up his homestead on the banks of the Sheyenne River during the spring of 1881. The winters were very bad and they had very many snowstorms. They also had great prairie fires sweep over the country. Once during a big prairie fire he was hurt quite badly almost losing one eye and was burned badly in the face while trying to save his grain.

The first home was a log house with bark and straw roof.

He went for provisions to Mayville or Portland. He usually made this trip on foot but sometimes drove with a team of oxen. He did not mind this trip because it was the nearest and only place to get the provisions.

His nearest neighbors were A. J. Hegna, Andrew Lee, Knut Moen, Sever Odegard, and Helge Olson.

The early farm machinery was the walking plow and reaper. The chief power was by oxen. He sowed his grain by hand.

He cut down wood and hauled it from the Sheyenne valley which was about one-fourth of a mile from the house.

In the fall, December 10, 1881, he was married to Ingeborg Hegna. There were seven children born on his farm in Griggs County, these being: Mrs. L. D. Carlson of Aneta, N. Dak., Mrs. R. O. Bailey of Galchutt, N. Dak., Mrs. N. R. Edland of Cooperstown, N. Dak., Mrs. S. K. Moen, of Aneta, N. Dak., Miss Ida Jacobson of Aneta, N. Dak., Miss Mable Jacobson of Aneta, N. Dak., and Mr. Henry John Jacobson of Aneta, N. Dak. The latter three still reside at his home nine miles west of Aneta, N. Dak., at Pilot Mound Township, Range twenty-four. There are also eight grandchildren.

Mr. Jacobson still resides at his farm that he homesteaded in the spring of 1881. He is now seventy-six years of age but well and active and still helps his son Henry with some of the lighter farm work.

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