

Biography of Helge Larson

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The name of the pioneer is Helge Braadeu Larson. He was born in the year 1838, month of August, day, 16. in Nof, Hallingdal, Norway. The pioneer left home to seek a better advantages. The reason why the pioneer came to North Dakota instead of some other state was because there were better prospects to make a headway.

The experiences of trips from home to North Dakota. They drove with oxen and covered wagon from Granite Falls, Minnesota, to his homestead. It took about two and a half weeks to cover that distance. The date when the pioneer came to North Dakota was in June, 1881. The early experiences of pioneer days of how they took up land in Sverdrup Township, Section 23. The building of place was a dugout and the stove stood outside in the open. They took the wagon box for a bed. But they later built a log house and made it both warm and plenty of room. The nearest town was Valley City and Hope. They bought flour in Valley City and Hope. The nearest neighbors were John Atchison, W. Klubben, Nels Herigstad, Ole Hagen, Iver Thompson, Alex Sanders, and Sander Sanderson.

The early farm machinery was a team and a yoke of oxen, a harvester, harrow, and a walking plow. The early crops ~~was~~ were ten acres of wheat and a few crops of oats. But it didn't get threshed till Christmas amongst the snow and cold.

The fuel was gotten along the river and on the homestead there was a lot of timber, too.

The hardships and experiences were many hard snowstorms and prairie fires. Once there came a fire and burned down a grain shed.

Helge Larson was married to Bergith, Halvors datter, Brandelie in Norway who died on January 8, 1906, and Helge Larson died on February 14, 1915 and was buried on the Ness Cemetery near the Ness Lutheran Church east of Cooperstown. They both lived here until their death and had a modern home established on what was once a wilderness, after many years of harship and labor.

There were three children born to this union: Barbara, Louis, and Henry Larson. Louis died in January 1919 on his farm adjoining this homestead.

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