

Ludvig Lunde From interview by Hannah Lunde
Born Jan 1, 1881 at Lunde, Hoiland, near Stavanger, Norway. Parents
Sven and Justina. On leaving the old country for America, in 1881, family was taken down with
whooping cough, father going on to build a house in the new
country, family arriving three weeks later, on Alsheria of the
Cunard line, and by rail to Valley City. Mother with baggage and
baby on arm pushed me off train ahead of the others; train starting
to move, I thought I was left on platform I started to bawl with
all there was in me, but father there to meet us picked me up
and I was comforted. This ^{is} my first recollection in America. With
covered wagon and ox team we started cross the prairie arriving
at homestead, on the Sheyenne River, in Swerdrup township, the
10th of June, 1881. Home was a logcabin, dirt floor, block cut
from trees, for chairs, box in which belongings were packed for
the long journey were used for table. Beds were mattresses and
blankets placed on the dirt floor. This until father, during the
first winter months made chairs, table and beds from logs cut
from the woods, plentiful along the river. When father the fol-
lowing year put in wooden floor, I had never seen anything like
it and I asked "Father, may we walk on this?"

First winter spent, snow became too heavy on the bark and
dirt roof and it began to come down on us. but two pillars cut
from the woods, were put in for support and we children had the
time of our life chasing one another around these pillars.

Provision for the winter was not sufficient to take us
through and river overflowing its bank in spring made it im-
possible to get to Valley City. Starvation was staring us in the
face. But Mr. R. C. Cooper had a supply of "Shorts" and bran
which was supplied to the needy and mush made from this kept us
alive until provisions could be brought from Valley City our
nearest town. White cottontail rabbits from the brush served
as our meat supply for the winter. River overflowed in the spring
enough, so mother washed her cloths right through the window
of logcabin in the river current and by boat was taken to the
"barn" to milk the cow.

Callatin school supplied my education. When we had spent one
or two and possibly three winters in the "fifth reader" we were
graduates and quit school. A term spent at the Moody Bible In-
stitute in the winter of 1902 - 1903 and again the winter of 1909 -
1910 finished my education.

Called by the North Dakota Evangelical Missionary Asso-
ciation to home missionary work in the state of North Dakota,
I served in this capacity til in 1916 ^{when} I was called to the Pastorate
of the Saron Evangelical Free church in which capacity I have been
serving ever since. To this work has been added the Bible Con-
ference Camp, started in 1925, which has become an annual event
for the bible loving people of this and other states. Since 1933
in addition to the above named pastorate, I have served as pastor
of the Bethlehem Free Church, Cooperstown.

Being an unloveable person, no girl has fallen in love
with me. Thus no first, silver, nor golden wedding dates can be
given, hence no birth dates of children.

P. S. As you will note this can not be published in the form it
is put down, both hurriedly and carelessly, both as to spelling,
gramer and contents. But if you wish to make use of it with
numerous corrections, here it goes.

Sincerely

Ludvig.