

William Margoach

William Margoach was born in Morayshire, Scotland, November 11, 1854. He came alone from Scotland to Fargo, North Dakota around the first of April, 1882 where he did carpenter work for a year. He then went to Casselton and worked as a carpenter for three years when he took a homestead in Emmons county, North Dakota. He built his shanty in 1885, 12' by 16' and broke about twenty acres. His first crop in 1886 of twenty acres yielded seven bushels to the acre. Each year Mr. Margoach kept increasing his farming. The first years he hauled his wheat to Bismarck, forty miles distant and later hauled it to Steele Kidder county, North Dakota hauling coal back to the farm.

There was a big crop in 1891. The grain was hauled to Steele until about the first part of November for fifty-five cents a bushel. There were about twenty two-horse teams in making these trips. At one time around Thanksgiving while six of the teams were on their way back from Steele, the men were caught in a blizzard. They came to a small farmhouse where they stayed over night, twelve sleeping in one room. The twelve horses were put in a very small barn. They were forced to stay here from ten in the morning until sundown the next day. The morning after the blizzard had calmed down, the men started out with their loads of coal, six miles to their home. They had gone just a little way when one of the men's loads tipped in the snow. In three hours they arrived at their homes.

In the same blizzard a neighbor of Mr. Margoach, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Cole had gone after a load of potatoes the day before the storm. They each had a team, both sleds loaded with potatoes. On their way home a blizzard came up and they became lost. They drove in ravines and over ridges. In a short time one sled got stuck in among the ravine. Then Mr. Cole came with his load and got stuck in a high drift of snow.

They stayed by their sled that night and most of the next day. They had let their horses loose and never thought to get on them where they would be taken home. The weather cleared the next morning and Mr. and Mrs. Cole found their way home. Mrs. Cole had frozen her toes which made it necessary for them to be amputated. Mr. Cole had also frozen his feet and suffered from the cold.

Mr. Margoeh was elected School Treasurer of Logan county in 1886 and held that position until 1896. He was elected County Commissioner of Emmons county in 1893 until 1896. Mr. Margoeh was Township Clerk of Bartley township, Griggs county from 1898 until 1911.

Mr. Margoeh stayed in Emmons county for eleven years when he came to Griggs county, Bartley township. He had bought a quarter in section 15 in 1883 for \$5 an acre. This he broke up and started farming in a new territory. Things went pretty good when Mr. Margoeh first moved to Griggs county. There had been a good crop in 1893.

In 1902 Mr. Margoeh traded his quarter for a quarter in section 22, Bartley township. He was married in 1907 to Christine Berge in Cooperstown by Judge Carlton. There were no children from this marriage. Mrs. Margoeh died in 1910. Mr. Margoeh now lives with Einar Jenson in Bartley township.

William Margarth

William Margarth, carpenter and builder, was born in Scotland in 1854 where he was educated and served a thorough apprenticeship to the trade of carpenter and joiner. He came to America in 1881, and settled first in Fargo, Dak. After working at his trade in that place two years, he came to Casselton and worked on the Grooner block and the new addition Casselton Bank building, two of the finest structures in Cooperstown. Mr. Margarth has one brother, also a carpenter, born in Scotland in 1841, who came to Toronto Canada in 1873, and in 1880 to Fargo Dak. where he now lives. The brothers are first-class mechanics, as the buildings erected by them abundantly attest. They own Sec 15-144-60, a fine section of land in Griggs County.

Bibliog: Atlas of Dakota, p 248