

Name Alfred Kuschnitz
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W. M. WELCH MANUFACTURING COMPANY, 1516 ORLEANS STREET, CHICAGO

Gustav M. Ameson.

Mr. and Mrs. Ole Ameson came to Iowa from Norway; She from Numedal, and he from Valdeis Norway.

In 1875 Mr. and Mrs. Ole Ameson came to North Dakota to take up a homestead and make their home here.

On April 8, 1876 Gustav M. Ameson was born to Mr. and Mrs. Ole Ameson. He was the second of seven children.

Gustav went to school in the little dwelling house of Reverend ^{Rev.} Omen, which was used for that purpose during the absence of Mr. Omen. This little house was located on what is now section two in Romness.

In 1882 his parents had moved from

the Goose River country into
Gregg county, which is now
Steel county. His first teacher
was Mr. Thomas.

As Gustav was a small
boy in the earliest part of
the pioneer days, he is not
able to tell everything as it
happened, but he tells of the
experiences as well as he can
although some things are om-
itted. He went through many
hardships with his parents.
His parents first house was
made of sod.

Gustav and his brother
Dwain used to ride horse-
back and herd cattle and
horses. The pastures or herding
grounds were quite extended.
They covered many sections. The

railroad lands were free but they rented the school lands for a small sum of \$15. a section just enough so as to have possession of them.

The first church that Mr. Ameson attended was the Sw. them; the Preacher was Mr. Lindeby.

When Mr. Ameson was about twenty-two years old, he went out to Wells County and took up a homestead. It was required by the law at that time to be there every six months to do some work, also to make his home there. As to the work, not very much was required. Mr. Ameson did not stay there all the time, but made it his home. When he was away, he was work-

ing to earn money so that
it was possible to improve
his place. He only kept his
homestead for three years,
then he came back to Griggs
county and bought a quarter
section of land in Romness
Township 147, Range 58, section
28.

The teams of the early days
were oxen. The oxen could
not be worked like our
horses. The men had to get
up about four o'clock in the
morning and begin to work
quite early; then work until
about nine or ten o'clock,
just depending whether the day
was hot or cool. The oxen could
not stand much heat. When
ready to unhitch, they would

just on fasten the collar and harness, which were fastened together, and let the oxen go and eat grass until the cool of the afternoon. When ready to go to work, they would get the oxen, hitch them up and work until just about dark.

The main machinery was a breaking plow, a drag either boughten or home made, a broadcast sower or the grain was sown by hand, they had either a reaper or a wire binder, that is it tied the grain with wire. There were some binders used.

The chief grain was Scotch Fife wheat, although some feed grain was raised. The price of wheat was from 35¢ to 50¢ a bushel.

The grain, which was not very much at that time, was hauled from the Goose River country to wheat land. That from Guggs or what is now

Steel county was hauled to Valley City or Hope. This grain was hauled with oxen and a four wheeled wagon. The two two-wheeled ox carts were not used for this purpose very long.

Three or four of the neighbors would go together with their loads, so that they could protect themselves better. On the return trip they brought provisions.

The fuel of the pioneer days was green wood from the timber of the Sheyenne River. This was the only fuel they had. Coal

was not used because it was too far to haul it, also very little shipped in to North Dakota.

The main occupation of the time was breaking new land which is done very little now-
ade in this part of North Dakota. Also herding was done in this part of the country, but is not at the present time.

Mr. Ameson still has four brothers and one sister living. Mr. Carl Oscar Ameson of Benford North Dakota, Inval Ameson of Coopers town, North Dakota, Mrs. Ed. Inerson, Coopers town North Dakota, Cluence Ameson of Saco, Montana and Albert Ameson of Saco, Montana.

Mr. Ameson is at the present time a member of the Ring-

saber Church in Romness.

Mr. Estera, pastor.

Mr. Aneson's present home
is in Romness Township 147,
Range 58, section 28. He gets
his mail from Cooperstown on
Rural Route #1.