

Name Elizabeth Peterson

Subject History Biography of Carl E. Erickson

Date June 2, 1924

Teacher Mrs. Porterville

Standing 100

Examination Booklet

Cooperstown High School

Cooperstown, N. D.

* Note here how the son formed his name by taking his father's given name and by adding "son" formed his surname.

Mrs. Myrtle Porter

Myrtle Porter

Myrtle Porter

Myrtle Porter

stea
Not
from
Am
lan
here
ra
cit

was
on
fol
1855

ther
* Mrs.
too

age he married Marie Johnson,
a neighbor's girl. This step
meant added money and cond-
itions were poor financially,
so they decided to go to Amer-
ica. He, too had heard of the
many people who went there and
prospered, and this served to
encourage his growing ambit-
ion.

He crossed the Atlantic
alone in 1882 as his wife could
not leave at the time with
her small child. She joined
him, however, in six months,
coming to Moorhead with her
brother.

They lived in Moor-
head for four years. Mr. Erick-
son worked in a brick yard

for
did
sta
and
bet
all
head
and
ove
wes

lon
ca
exp
sh
son
cov

and
son
the

Johnson,
step
and conf-
dentially,
to Amer-
l of the
there and
roved to
g ambit.

Atlantic
rife could
e with
joined
months,
with her

Moore
Mr. Erick-
k yard

for a large concern. This work
did not satisfy him, notwith-
standing the change to city life
and he thought he would fare
better if he filed a homestead.
All the land around Moor-
head and Fargo was taken up
and he was compelled to go
over a hundred miles north-
westward.

This does not seem very
long ago, but there were no
cars and trains were too
expensive to travel in or
ship any equipment. Mr. Erick-
son made the trip in a
covered wagon with his wife
and two daughters, his first
son having died shortly after
their arrival in Moorhead.

The journey lasted two weeks. They moved some household furniture and led two cows all the way necessitating very slow progress.

Their destination was reached finally, on June 25th. There were no buildings on the land, and they camped in the open (as they had done on the trip) until a house was built.

He did not build it of logs but used pine boards which were not so expensive. The house completed contained but a single room, however, and it is clear that he, like most pioneers, was of limited means.

Their nearest town was Cooperstown, a twenty five mile

o weeks.
hold
o cows
ting very

n was
ne 25th.
on the
l in the
on the
uilt.

logs but
ch were
house
at a
and it is
st pion.
eans.
town was
ve mile

drive. Mr. Erickson went there
only for supplies and once a
year to pay taxes. He farmed
one fourth of a section of land
at first but continued to acc-
umulate more year by year.
Wheat was mostly raised by
him as well as the neighbor-
ing farmers as it was profit-
able. Of course oats had to be
used to feed the oxen that
were used instead of horses.
The prices of grain varied from
thirty-eight cents to a dollar
a bushel and as now could
not be depended on. Diversified
farming was not the rule so
after all, they did not prosper
as well as they might have
done.

The neighbors in that immediate vicinity lived but one half a mile away. They were Charles Helling and Andrew Anderson. There were no community gatherings, however, and enjoyment was had when the neighbors visited each other.

Three girls were added to the Erickson family in successive years but trouble was not long denied them. Mrs. Erickson died April eighth, 1894 from an illness of several months duration. At the time of this catastrophe the girls were not all capable of taking care of themselves. Two neighbors, old friends of the family, then

that
lived but
1. They
and And.
were no
r, how
as had
ited each
added to
success.
was
r. Mrs.
ighth, 1894
al months
e of this
were not
eare of
boys, old
then.

adopted the two youngest so
they could fare better, even
though it broke up the family.
Mr. Erickson lived without
a wife but ^{for} two years after this
then in February he was wed
to Augusta Ness of Fargo. She
had been working in private
homes prior to her marriage
but then she came to the farm
with him and tried to be a
mother for the girls.

Sorrow in one thing often
means luck in another. Mr.
Erickson soon prospered finan-
cially and built a new
home a mile further west.
It stormed so badly, however,
that he could not complete it
until a season later than he

had planned and they lost a year on the new place.

Eleven children were born in this home but Mr. Erickson did not relapse financially nevertheless and in 1916 a still better abode went up. It was large and equipped with modern conveniences, quite a change from a one room shack which had housed them in the beginning.

But Mr. Erickson lived only a month after the house was completed. A paralytic stroke affected him, and he passed away after a few days illness.

His two oldest boys were now almost grown up, so they

Name Elizabeth Peterson
Subject History Biography
Date June 2, 1956
Teacher Mrs. Posterville
Standing _____

Examination Booklet

Cooperstown High School
Cooperstown, N. D.

continued the farm work. Both of them married a few years later and then the oldest stayed home. Mr. Erickson had left seven quarters and it was quite a task.

Mrs. Erickson lived six years after her husband's death. Then she was afflicted with the same ^{apoplexy} ~~complexity~~ and died, leaving ten children. The oldest, Oscar is married and lives on a farm. He has three children, two boys and a girl. Hjalmar lives in Minnesota with his wife and three children, twin boys and a girl. Harold and Algot are working at neighboring farms near Glenfield. Carl owns a butcher

and

shop in Leal, North Dakota. Virgil and Axel are at home with Deloris, aged ten. They stay with Oscar and his wife. Freda, the oldest girl, has taken a course in Beauty culture but is home at present. Of the five girls from Mr. Erickson's first wife, three are living. The two youngest, Emma and Ruth died several year ago. Selma is working in Valley City and Elvira is on a farm west of Cooperstown. Mrs. L. O. Peterson is the only one of this vicinity. She has four girls.

In all Mr. and Mrs. Erickson have surviving them ten children, three step daughters of Mrs. Erickson

lots, Virgil
with
stay
Freda,
been a
ture but
of the
rickson's
living.
ma and
ago.
alley city
farm west
D. Peter
this
girls.
Mrs.
ing them
step
son

and ten grand children.