

Name Arwin Froiland

Subject History II a pioneer life of
Elling Johnson Froiland

Date June 1, 1926

Teacher Mrs. Porterville

Standing _____

Examination Booklet

Cooperstown High School

Cooperstown, N. D.

Elling A pioneer and his life
Elling Johnson Froiland

Born in Thime, Norway in 1850
Dec, the 25. His parents names were
Inga Susana Froiland and Jonas Froiland
they are both dead now.

Elling Johnson was married in Norway
in 1869 to Dorothy Martha Norheim.
there were 4 children born to them
in Norway, all were girls and one
died when she was a small child,
but the other three are still living
and all of them are in North Dakota.

He and his wife and children
left Norway in 1891 on a steamship
and they had quite a bit of trouble
before they came to North Dakota. The
boat they sailed in broke down after
one day sailing so they turned back.

and they stopped in Denmark to get
the boat fixed which took them 2 weeks.
Then they did not have any trouble before
they came to New York when they
wanted to send him on one train to
Minn. and her and the children on
another, but they got it arranged so
that both could ~~car~~ take
one train to Minn. were they had
some friends but, he only stayed there
one yr. then he got the North Dakota
fever and he made up his mind he
would leave Minn. because he
had to buy land there and go to
North Dakota and take up a homestead.

He came the North Dakota in the spring
of 1882 and settled in Griggs County,
Ball Hill township N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of sec. 10
Range 59. and is still living there.

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about 7 year later he bought N. W $\frac{1}{4}$ of
sec 10, and in 1996 he bought the S. W $\frac{1}{4}$ of
sec 3. all of which he has and owns
now.

The first year he was on his
homestead he built a shod house
and barn. ~~The only things he had~~
and the only things he had to start
with were 2 teams oxen, and 3 cows
and a few sheep, some household
goods and a plow and drill all of
which he brought from Menon.

His only neighbors the first year
were ^{Andrew} Benson, ^{Chas + Wilmut} Haughton, ^{P.C.} Cooper and
Edd Hanson all of which were
farming in the neighborhood. In 1898
the 5th child was born to them
and it was a boy - the only one in
the family.

They had many hardships to go through the first 4 or 10 yrs. They had to bring their wheat to Valley City to get it ground into flour and they also bought most of their clothes there because there was hardly anything to get in Cooperstown these days. In the winter there was fierce snowstorms, and in the autumn there were prairie fires and they had to plow around the houses so they should not catch fire when a prairie fire came sweeping along and in the winter it was just as bad because of the snowstorms, and they were so bad that people could not go out and do their chores many times and many times Elling Johnson pretty near got lost because of the snow

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storms. Once he was over to Benson
and a big blizzard began to rage,
and he wanted to come home to his
family because he knew they would
worry about him, but Benson
told him he had better not go home
because he would get lost, but
he insisted on going and he went.
It was not so easy them days to
be out in a snowstorm then it is
now because there were no fences
to follow and no trees, but, only wide
prairie. He walked towards home
or rather the direction he thought
home was in. when he was a few
rods past his place, he thought he
knew himself back or thought he
was close to home, but he could
not see and sign of house or anything

so he began to call for the dog
they had and the dog was in the house,
but, he heard him call a he began
to paw on the door and wanted
to come out. The rest of the people
in the house were surprised at
the dog because he had not acted
like that before, and they let
him out and it ran towards
where he heard the calling and when

he got to Elting Johnson he found
him sitting down, but, the dog
got him up by barking at him,
and he showed him the way home,
and he had many other experiences
like that.

In them days they got awful
good crops because the soil was
good and there was no weeds.

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but, they got low price for their
grain they got as low as 30 cents
sometimes.

In 1896 his wife died the youngest
child was 11 yrs by this time and
the oldest was 20 yrs and 2 ~~x~~ between
that age. By this time there were
many new neighbors and the country
was getting settled fast, and by
this time he had also built a new
barn and house. In 1900 he got
married the ~~second~~ time to Miss
Bertha Hagen from Chicago, and
by this time they had built to
the old house and a new barn
was being built and many different
improvements and also all his children
were married all except the boy.
The oldest daughter got married

to ~~x~~ Fred Anderson, and they lived
in St Cloud where he was foreman
in a granite quarry but, when
he got killed in the quarry she
moved to Cooperstown. The next
oldest daughter got married to
Jasper Gaddal and they farm by
Hannaford, the youngest daughter
married Christ Seldal and they
live in Cooperstown, and in
1907 the youngest one which
was the boy got married his
name was Hans Johnson, but
he changed his name to Hans
Froiland and then he began
to farm ~~x~~ Elley Johnson's farm
then Elley Johnson ^{and her wife} went to
Norway for a vacation and
when they came back, they settled

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down in Cooperstown where he lived till his wife died which was in 1914. Then he moved out to the farm and lived with Hans & Roland. In ~~1912~~ 1914 they built a silo on the farm and improved the barn and in 1923 they built a new house. In 1925 Elmer Johnson went to Norway and came back the same year. He is 75 years old and is in perfect health.

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