



✓ Walter A. Abbott and Minna M. Moffet married at Copsebrook

June 26-1902

Walter born at - Johnson Indiana June 18-1875 Died Sac Gabriel Calif

Nov. 26-1946

Minna - born July 16-1878 Tenger End Canada - Died Sac Gabriel Calif 1913

Feb. 28-1947

Their children

Young Mae - born July 23-1903 Copsebrook. Died Los Angeles Cal. Nov. 12-1943

Mildred (Mae Tenger Stammen) born Sept. 8-1905 Aneta No. Dak. - living last seen

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Thel. A. Mawcald - Fattie Moffett married June 23-1900 at

Copsebrook

Thel. - born - Germany Dec. 7-1880 - living Eagle Lake California

Fattie - born - Danborn No. Dak. July 28-1883 - living Eagle Lake "

Their children

Margaret - born Dec. 23-1900 Copsebrook. Died Dec 1-1929 Fundstown Penn

(The Millard Dace)

Robert - born July 2-1904 Copsebrook - living Eagle Lake Calif.

Geo. J. Long - Jessie M. Moffet married June 6-1900 Copsebrook No. D.

Geo. - born - Muscatine Iowa July 24-1869 - Died 1902 Gold Gap. Aug. 25-1946

Jessie - born - Muscatine Iowa July 24-1869 - Died 1902 Gold Gap. Aug. 25-1946

John May - born No. Dak. July 20-1906 Died Aug. 20-1906 No. Dak.

Charles - born Sept. 10-1908 Mettelle No. Dak. living Grandee Calif.

(OBIT)

Fred H. Adams

A

The St. Paul Dispatch of Oct. 14, 1895 reads as follows:

"At 4 o'clock this morning, Fred H. Adams, a newspaper man, committed suicide in front of the Sherman House where he had been staying for several days. He had been restless all night and at about the hour named, came downstairs, entering the main office. He went outside and drawing a revolver, shot himself through the head. The night clerk and others who happened to be present were alarmed by the shot, and running out of the hotel, found Adams lying in his own blood, death having come almost instantly.

The deceased was 45 years of age and editor of the New Whatcom (Wash. Reveille, and was conspicuous and a popular figure in the North Pacific coast journalism. His home formerly was Madison, Wisc. from where he went to North Dakota and later to the coast."

The above telegram created a great deal of consternation among the many friends of the deceased in Cooperstown. For several years he was the editor of this paper and for two terms was Griggs County's representative to the legislature, where he was recognized as one of the foremost men of that body. He left Cooperstown in 1889 and went to New Whatcom, Wash. where he, in company with John Evans of Valley City, purchased the Bellingham Bay Reveille, daily and weekly.

Frederick H. Adams was born in Vergennes, Addison County, Vermont, in 1851, of Scandinavian ancestry, who settled in Vermont in 1850; he was a student of the University of Vermont and was graduated from Lafayette college in the class of 1873, and afterwards (1874) from the law department of Union University, and was admitted to the bar the same year; he practiced law in San Francisco for three years as a member of the firm of Higby, Van Schaick and Adams, and came to Dakota in 1878, where he engaged in the law and real estate business and afterwards purchasing the Griggs Courier from its founder, E.D. Stair, which plant he held until May 11, 1889 when he sold the paper to its present owner (Percy R. Trubshaw). Mr. Adams was a writer of more than ordinary ability, and was making a mark for himself in the sound country. He had his faults like all men, but not withstanding these, he was a broad-minded, liberal man, and the Courier with a large number of friends, regret to hear of his untimely death.

(Obit)

Briggs Courier. - Oct. 25, 1895.

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Biography of John A. Ahrens
--Gladys Ahrens

In the year of 1872, a son was born to John A. Ahrens and Theresa Ahrens. The son was named John A. Junior. John Jr. was born in Toyewell County in Egypt Township near Pekin, Illinois.

In 1876 they left this home and moved to Alta, Iowa. In 1895 John Jr. married Elnora York in Alta, Iowa. In 1896, a daughter was born who was named Grace Irene. In 1898 they moved to Waterloo, Iowa and here another daughter, Effie Viora, was born.

In 1900 a son was born whom they named Elmer Curtis.

From Waterloo they moved to Council Bluffs, Iowa. In 1902 they moved to Lakefield, Minnesota. In 1903 they moved to the state of North Dakota and located on a homestead near Sawyer. They came to North Dakota with the idea of getting rich.

In 1908 another daughter was born, and this girl was named Gladys Marie.

When they took up the homestead at Sawyer, they built a little house of two rooms which was made of wood and sod. This homestead was eleven miles from town, and they made on the average of one trip a week to town for provisions. The neighbors that were the nearest were, John Calburin, Steve Streeper, Fred Hamilton, and N. D. Weltz.

They had three teams and all new machinery. They raised wheat, oats, flax, and speltz, but they received very low prices for their grain. Wheat sold for 52¢ a bushel and flax for 90¢ a bushel.

They burned lignite coal for fuel, for the lignite mine was just a mile from their homestead. The only hardships they had were losing cattle in blizzards.

In 1910 we moved to Rival, North Dakota where John A. Jr. took a position in an elevator. In 1913 we moved to Glenfield, North Dakota where he continued his profession. In 1916 Grace was married to Edward Hennings and to them was born a baby girl. In 1917 Grace and the baby died from the effect of burns caused by their home burning down. In 1918 Effie Ahrens married W. B. Turner and a boy was born to them in 1921. He died on April 21, 1924 from diphteria.

In 1920 we moved from Glenfield to Logan, North Dakota, and in 1922 we moved to Spokane, Washington. We lived there for two years, and we then moved to Fargo. In 1925 we came to Cooperstown where John Ahrens was employed in the Great Western Elevator.

1

^{Olaf}
Mr. + Mrs. Olaf Alfson
From Scrap Book of Mrs. C. W. Michaelson

Mr. + Mrs. Olaf Alfson arrived in northeastern Pilot Mound Township in 1880 to settle on their homestead. They came from Dakota Co. Minnesota.

Mrs. Alfson with her three small children Lugeborg, five years old, Albert, three, and Henry, still a babe in arms headed for Mayville via train, there to await the arrival of her husband. Since the railroad ended three miles from Mayville Mrs. Alfson with children set out to walk, assisted by a young boy. After walking one-half mile they stopped to rest at a small cabin occupied by a young couple. After hearing Mrs. Alfson's story she was invited to remain there until her husband would arrive with their possessions, consisting of household goods, four horses, cows, pigs, and chickens. - - - -

When Mr. Alfson arrived with his property three weeks later, he had considerable trouble unloading from the train. There were no order loading platforms in those days, so in ~~other~~ ^{order} to get the stock unloaded, the ties lying along the tracks were converted into a bridge to span the gap across the ditch. During the process of unloading one cow, frantic with fright, leaped from the car across the ditch paying no heed to the bridge which had been

^{Ola}
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2

lain so painstakingly for her. This, however, caused considerable excitement and mirth for all concerned. Had it not been for the sense of humor and wit possessed by these early pioneers they would have found it extremely difficult to shoulder responsibilities thrown upon them while pioneering.

This couple settled in a wooded section near the Sheejenne River, so their first task was to fell trees in order to build a cabin. During this procedure the family lived with a kind neighbor by the name of Rollef Johnson.

The first winter brought heavy snows, but everything had been prepared, so the time passed with no mishaps.

When spring arrived Mr. Alfson left for Mayville to get supplies for the summer. During his absence Mrs. Alfson had the help of a young boy, ~~Not~~ Ole Rue.

On Easter Sunday Mrs. Alfson awoke to find about two feet of water in her home. Resourceful young Rue placed planks across chairs to enable Mrs. Alfson to go about her work of preparing meals. Breakfast, consisting of fried eggs were served to the children in bed.

Mr. Rue succeeded in swimming all the stock across the river to safety except one ornery pig that insisted on staying atop a woodpile until the water receded.

When Mr. Alfson reached the Goose River on his return trip he found it ^{had} flooded its banks. Undaunted, he unhooked the horses and swam them across while he used makeshift oars and his wagon box and sailed back and forth until all his supplies were taken care of. He was proud, and rightly so, to have brought his flour across in good condition.

His deep concern for his family was somewhat allayed when he found them safe at the Odegard's, their neighbor.

Their first harvest consisted of a bounteous supply of vegetables, potatoes, and some grain.

In order to avoid another such experience the Alfson family moved four miles from the river.

Three more children were born to this family, only one of which survives, and he, Gilbert, lives with his wife in Binford.

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PIONEER BIOGRAPHY
Ole Alfson

by Signa Boyer

- The parents of Mr. Ole Alfson were Mr. Alf Thorson and Ingeborg Jerome. The pioneers name is Mr. Ole Alfson. Mr. Ole Alfson was born in Telamarken, Norway, near the town Skjien. He was born May 5, 1850. He came to the United States to become a citizen. He came to Dakota County, Minnesota and farmed for a few years. He learned of the land in North Dakota which could be taken up as homestead and decided to come to North Dakota so that he might become a landowner. He loaded his four horses, 8 cattle and burniture and got all ready to ship it on the train. His was the first immigrant carload to come on train as far as Mayville. The railroad went only as far as two miles from Mayville. Mrs. Ole Alfson was the first woman to come on the train with her three children to North Dakota. He took his load on two wagons and started on his journey of about 50 miles. It took two days to reach the land on which he took his preemption near Sheyenne River. He filed his preemption March 1881 and proved it May 22, 1882 at Valley City.
- He got two men to help him cut wood for the house and barn. It was built from the logs. The outside was plastered with mud. The roof was made of brush and hay filled in with dirt. There were two half windows and a door in the house.
- His near neighbors were Ralph Johnson, Ole Groff, and Elef Oleson. His preemption was in township 148, range 59.
- In April 1882 a flood came so they had to move out of their home. The water was as high as 3 feet in the house. They put the flour on top of the table, they hung the sacks of potatoes in the ceiling and put the sewing machine on chairs. There was a neighbor that moved on top of the house and lived for a few days till he got help to move. The cattle swam across and the calves were taken in the wagon boxes made from logs which were used as boats. They had to move to the neighbors that were safe from the flood and live for 3 weeks. There were as many as 3 families living in one small log house, 15 people in all. On June 3, 1882 he took up his homestead and July 5 he moved on the homestead about 5 miles from his preemption in Pilot Mound. He was the first one to take land so far from the rivers. He had no neighbors until the next summer. He moved the log house he had built to the homestead.
- The nearest town they first had to get their provisions from was Mayville which was about 50 miles. It would take them about 3 days in the winter to make the trip. They would stay at the farmhouses along the way at night. In the summer time they would camp by their wagons.
- The early farm machinery he used was the Deering binder, which used wire instead of twine, McCormick mower, Monitor broadcasting seeder, walking plow, and breaking plow. They used horses on this machinery. The early crops raised were wheat and oats. The fuel used in those days was wood which they got from the trees by the river. They would have to chop the wood they used for fuel. The storms in those days were bad and would last several days. Many times when people were out in those storms and would get lost they would unharness the horses and tie them to the rig. The people would cover up in the clothes and stay until they could find their way.
- Mr. Ole Alfson came to N. Dak. the last of October 1881. He was married to Kari Osmundson, February 8, 1873, Dakota County, Minnesota Farmington. The descendants of Mr. Alfson are Mrs. Lewis Berg, Cooperstown, N. Dak., Mr. Albert Alfson, Binford, N. Dak., Mr. Henry Alfson, Binford, N. Dak., Mr. Alfred Alfson, White Tail, Mont., Mrs. George Oltstad, Binford, N. Dak. Ole Alfson lives at Binford, N. Dak.

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Ole Alfson (continued)

Mr. Alfred Alfson, White Tail, Mont., Mrs. George Olstad, Binford, North Dakota. Ole Alfson lives at Binford, North Dakota.

--Signa Boyer

Charles L. Allen,

Charles L. Allen, editor and proprietor of the "Hope Pioneer" was born in the suburbs of Indianapolis, Marion Co., Indiana, on June 21, 1865. His grandfather, Joseph Allen, came from England and settled in Virginia, then to Columbus Ohio, and finally located on land south of Indianapolis, Indiana. There were but 2 log cabins in the vicinity at that time and he was a pioneer in the days of Daniel Boone - He died in 1878.

Chas. L. Allen was the only child born to William and Mary (Constable) Allen. At 12 years he started for himself with \$2⁰⁰ in his pocket, and worked at odd jobs in Des Moines, Iowa, then learned telegraphy under his uncle at Panora, Iowa. He went to Dakota, in Sept, 1883, and worked a farm labor, and the following year accepted a position as operator for the N. P. Ry at Cooperstown, and in 1886 entered the printing office of the "Griggs County Courier". He established his first newspaper, the "Tower City Journal", in Oct. 1890, and 2 years later built the first building in Enderlin N.D. and edited the "Enderlin Journal". He bought the Hope Pioneer in June 1895. He built his present printing office and a house 3 yrs later.

The "Hope Pioneer" was established in 1882, by the Red River Land Co, and that building, together with the hotel "Hope House", and a general store at one time constituted the business portion of Hope N.D.

Chas. L. Allen

He bought 2 section adjoining the town on the east.

Mr. Allen married in 1893 to Miss Emma C. Loomis, born in Prairie du Chene, Miss. He is a member of Knights of Pythias; W. O. K. K.; and I. O. O. F.

Bibliog: Condensed from Comburd of Hist. & Bio., p 244

S. Almklov.

From interview by Hannah Lende.

S. Almklov was born Jan. 17, 1850 in Vanelven Norway, the son of Anders and Martha Almklov. Here he went to school until he was fifteen years of age. He went to High School in Valden and graduated in 1866. He took up the study of medicine in Stromso and graduated from college in 1870.

Dr. Schenck was located 140 miles out in the country from any pharmacy. Mr. Almklov was supposed to be a private tutor in a family of children, but most of the time he was helping the doctor in his private laboratory. In a fisher's camp near there were many people who had the seven year itch. They lived in a very poor way, and the disease was very catching. Dr. Schenck did not take any trying to cure these people as he believed nothing would help. Mr. Almklov was very interested and began to experiment with a kind of salve that would get through the skin and kill the germs. Before, arsenic or mercury was used and worked just as a tonic.

In 1874 Mr. Almklov left Norway on the ST. OLAF ship and arrived in New York about nine days later. He came to Minneapolis by train, in June. At that time the population was about 20,000. When he saw what was going on he thought he had come to a wild country. "Are we among the Indians?" he asked a passenger, "Have the Montana cowboys broke loose?" The people were running around pounding tin pans, ringing cowbells, and making ever so much noise. It was a regular American ~~charivari~~ charivari. Mr. Almklov had never seen anything like this from a wedding and didn't know what to think. "It's no use to get married to turn the others crazy," he said.

He met an old friend of his in Minneapolis, Prof. Veenaas, President of Augsburg Seminary, who was bound that he study theology, and wanted to make a preacher of him. Mr. Almklov studied theology for three years and graduated in 1877.

In 1877 he was married to Mary Wadel, the daughter of Christian Wadel ~~XX~~ a merchant of the city of Tromsa Norway. The wedding took place in ~~MINNEAPOLIS~~ Minneapolis. Mr. Almklov became a minister in the Lutheran church at Benson Minnesota, and had charge of eight congregations around the country. In the small village of Benson, there weren't less than eight saloons. The majority of the people thought more of going to the saloon than to the church. Mr. Almklov was there twelve years, and during that time fifteen people drank themselves to death.

Christian Wadel, Mr. Almklov's brother-in-law, had started the study of ~~M~~ medicine in Norway and had run out of funds. He came to Benson for Almklov's help. The boy was sent to school in Minneapolis for two years, and became a successful doctor. He was a doctor in Northwood N.D. and in Fargo, where he was a member of the Fargo Clinic. He died around 1931.

Mr. Almklov helped his sister Mrs. Erick Reite get a homestead eight miles south of Benson Minn. Her husband didn't seem to care to help. With so many saloons in town it was hard for him to save any money, Mr. Almklov assured her that he would take care of them. She died in confinement and left five boys. It was useless for two families to live on the salary he was getting as a preacher. Mr. Almklov said to himself, "You studied pharmacy in Norway and now you probably have a chance to use it." So in July 1888 he came to Cooperstown with his family and the Reite boys, and bought out the drug store of Dr. Newell. The drug store was just a little frame building then.

Mr. Almklov was glad he became interested in the skin disease in Norway. He continued his experimenting until he made what he called Eczema Salve. He started to sell this the first year he came to Cooperstown. As yet there was no veterinary. Mr. Almklov made horse medicine and acted as a veterinary.

A week after Mr. Almklov came there was a terrible frost, and froze the good crops they had. Things didn't look so bright for a while, but it turned out better than was expected. A man who had come from a lumber camp in Minnesota had a bad case of eczema on his face combined with the seven-year itch all over his face. A farmer brought this man to another doctor in Cooperstown. This doctor was young, excited and nervous. He got the idea

idea the man had leprosy. He phoned to the sheriff, Jim Tinglestad, to take care of the man in jail as there was no other pest house. The sheriff himself didn't think it was leprosy as there had never been a case of it around. He knew that Mr. Almklov had a salve good for all skin diseases so he brought the man down to the drug store and asked Mr. Almklov if he thought it was leprosy. Mr. Almklov inquired of the man if he had gotten the sore face after he had shaved. The man said that was so, and that many in the lumber camp had it. He looked at his body and saw he had the itch. Jim Tinglestad then took a box of eczema salve and used it on the man's face twice a day. The itch salve was used on the body twice and he became entirely cured. In two weeks the man went back to work. By then the county had been aroused to the thought of Mr. Almklov's salve curing leprosy. It was the best advertisement Mr. Almklov ever had. There were many who had this disease, and Mr. Almklov was very successful in selling his salve.

A farmer by the name of Ladbury, XX, a Scotchman, had a blue spot on his foot that pained very much and swelled up to his hips. It was an inside ulcer of the worst kind. He had Dr. Phillips of Hope to tend to it. This Scotchman wasn't made of "soft stuff", as Mr. Almklov says. He refused to take chloroform, and sat and gritted his teeth while Dr. Phillips cut into the foot and scraped the bone. The foot got worse and worse. Mr. Ladbury demanded that the doctor do something or they'd kill him. The doctor told him that the only thing to do was to have the foot cut off, but that Mr. Ladbury was too old, 80 years, and wouldn't be able to stand it. Mr. Ladbury said, "If that is all you can do, cut it off. I'd rather die in two or three minutes than to die inch by inch". John Atchison, one of Mr. Ladbury's neighbors, wanted ~~XXXXXX~~ him to buy some of Mr. Almklov's salve. "What's the use to buy salve", says Mr. Ladbury, "when fine doctors can't help me in three years?" Mr. Atchison purchased a box of salve and gave it to the old man to use. The salve completely healed Mr. Ladbury's foot. In the spring he bought a house and moved into Cooperstown. He had the finest, cleanest, and biggest garden in town. He lived to be 96 years old.

In 1890 Mr. Almklov bought the largest house in town without looking ~~XXXX~~ at it before buying it, as the price sounded reasonable. He bought it from Knut Thompson for \$1,200. The times were hard then but there wasn't as much complaint as now. The people weren't afraid to knuckle down to work. They were more satisfied and got along with what they had. In the middle of the winter Simon Ouren ran out of coffee and flour. He walked on skis to Valley City with a little hand sled, and brought back some flour and coffee. The neighbors had run out of the same things, and when he came home the house was full of people. Mr. Ouren had to divide the provisions all around.

In 1906 Mr. Almklov built a new drug store of concrete, made in Hannaford. He started a furniture ~~XXXX~~ store upstairs in this building but never liked it. He discontinued the furniture business in 1916.

Mrs. S. Almklov died in 1933.

Mr. Almklov always liked the drug business, and liked to experiment, as there was always something to learn.

In 1935 Mr. Almklov got orders for his eczema salve from all corners of the world. Two orders came from Manila, Philippine Islands; the same day four orders came from Nordaag Norway, a post office the farthest north in Norway. Mr. Almklov heard from T. H. McPherson from White Horse, Yukon Canada to send some eczema salve at once. A number of people that were settled near the Arctic Ocean had this catching disease, and the salve was taken by mail route, pulled by dogs, 500 miles up the Arctic Ocean. The fourth order came from Catchekan, Alaska. He also has received orders from Africa, and from missionary stations in India and China.

Mr. Almklov is the oldest druggist in N. Dak. in 1937. He is 87 years old and still manages his drug store.

Sinclair bill.

THOS. R. AMLIE--Native of Griggs County attended rural schools and graduated from the Cooperstown High School. Later he attended the University of North Dakota where he studied law. Completing his law schooling he began the practice of his profession in Wisconsin, from which state he was elected to Congress in 1930. He was defeated for the next term, but in 1934 was again re-elected.

Congressman Amlie has been identified with the Lafollette faction in Wisconsin politics, and has been one of the leaders in the promotion of a national third party.

Biography of Ole Alfson
--Signa Boyer

The parents of Mr. Ole Alfson were Mr. Alf Thorson and Ingeborg Jerome. The pioneers name is Mr. Ole Alfson. Mr. Ole Alfson was born in Telamarken, Norway, near the town Skjien. He was born May 5, 1850.

He came to the United States to become a citizen. He came to Dakota County, Minnesota and farmed for a few years. He learned of the land in North Dakota which could be taken up as homestead and decided to come to North Dakota so that he might become a landowner. He loaded his four horses, 8 cattle and furniture and got all ready to ship it on the train. His was the first immigrant carload to come on train as far as Mayville. The railroad went only as far as two miles from Mayville. Mrs. Ole Alfson was the first woman to come on the train with her children to North Dakota. He took his load on two wagons and started on his journey of about 50 miles. It took two days to reach the land on which he took his preemption near Sheyenne River. He filed his preemption March, 1881, and proved it May 22, 1882, at Valley City.

He got two men to help him cut wood for the house and barn. It was built from the logs. The outside was plastered with mud. The roof was made of brush and hay filled in with dirt. There were two half windows and a door in the house.

His near neighbors were Ralph Johnson, Ole Groff, and Elef Oleson. His preemption was in township 148, range 59.

In April, 1882, a flood came so they had to move out of their home. The water was as high as 3 feet in the house. They put the flour on top of the table, they hung the sacks of potatoes in the ceiling and put the sewing machine on chairs. There was a neighbor that moved on top of the house and lived for a few days till he got help to move. The cattle swam across and the calves were taken in the wagon boxes made from logs which were used as boats. They had to move to the neighbors that were safe from the flood and live for 3 weeks. There were as many as 3 families living in one small log house, 15 people in all. On June 3, 1882, he took up his homestead and July 5 he moved on the homestead about 5 miles from his preemption in Pilot Mound. He was the first one to take land so far from the rivers. He had no neighbors until the next summer. He moved the log house he had built to the homestead.

The nearest town they first had to get their provisions from was Mayville, which was about 50 miles. It would take them about 3 days in the winter to make the trip. They would stay at the farmhouses along the way at night. In the summer time they would camp by their wagons.

The early farm machinery he used was the Deering binder, which used wire instead of twine, McCormick mower, Monitor broadcasting seeder, walking plow, and breaking plow. They used horses on this machinery. The early crops raised were wheat and oats. The fuel used in those days was wood which they got from the trees by the river. They would have to chop the wood they used for fuel. The storms in those days were bad and would last several days. Many times when people were out in

Biography of Ole Alfson
--Signa Boyer

those storms and would get lost they would unharness the horses and tie them to the rig. The people would cover up in the clothes and stay until they could find their way.

Mr. Ole Alfson came to N. Dak. the last of October 1881. He was married to Kari Osmundson, February 6, 1873, Dakota County, Minnesota Farmington. The descendants of Mr. Alfson are Mrs. Lewie Berg, Coopers-town, N. Dak., Mr. Albert Alfson, Binford, N. Dak., Mrs. Henry Alfson, Binford, N. Dak., Mr. Alfred Alfson, White Tail, Mont., Mrs. George Olstad, Binford, N. Dak. Ole Alfson lives at Binford, N. Dak.

Biography of Ole L. Anderson
--Clara Anderson

June 2, 1926

Mr. and Mrs. Ole L. Anderson were not among the early pioneers of North Dakota. They came to North Dakota in 1903. By this time pioneer days (in the part of North Dakota they came to) was a thing of the past.

Miss Martha Iverson was born August 13, 1868 in Fillmore County, Minnesota.

Martha Iverson was married to Ole L. Anderson, December 21, 1886.

Mr. and Mrs. O. L. Anderson made their home near Lanesboro (small town in southern Minnesota) for seventeen years.

Mr. Anderson came to North Dakota March 28, 1903 seeking residence in Griggs County. He bought section 28 in Pilot Mound Township paying \$25 an acre. He rented 460 acres of land belonging to J. C. Thingstad also in Pilot Mound Township.

Mrs. Anderson came to Griggs County several weeks later. Her trip was not enjoyed as much as it might have been because of a train wreck which caused much delay. The wreck was caused by a collision of two trains just below St. Paul. Three men were killed and the rest had to walk one mile carrying their baggage to meet the other train. The walk was very disagreeable for it had rained all night. The train left St. Paul at two o'clock in the morning and reached Jessie at two o'clock the following day.

Jessie had but one grocery store, a restaurant, and one hardware store with post office combined. There weren't more than about five or six houses in town.

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson left their former home because the land was selling at such a high price that only one who was rich could afford to buy it. They chose North Dakota because the land was cheap and partly because my father had several friends who had already made their homes here, and they influenced them to come here.

The land which Mr. Anderson rented was located about five miles from Jessie. They lived here for six years and then bought the Ness farm in 1907. The land is located in Willow Township; it is the northeast half of section 36. A part was located in Pilot Mound Township, the west half of section 31.

In 1912 he bought 360 acres of land in Tyrol Township. He worked this land for six years, and then sold it to Edwin Thorn and Mr. E. J. Feibeger. They sold section 28 in Pilot Mound Township to Lars Anderson.

The descendants of Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are: Mrs. Court Bonewell of Cooperstown, North Dakota; Lars Anderson of Binford, North Dakota; Mrs. Clarence P. Dahl of Jessie. The others, Oscar Anderson, Clarence Anderson, Clara Anderson and Arthur Anderson are making their home with their mother, Mr. O. L. Anderson of Jessie.

Mr. O. L. Anderson died September 28, 1925. He is buried in what is known as the "West Prairie Lutheran Cemetery."

✓
Otto Anderson

By Otto Anderson in 1911.

By oxteam 29 years ago. May 27 wee was prepared to leave oure Old Home in Township 115 Range 37, then Town of Hawk Creek Renville County Minn, where we first settled in 1869.

We arrived at then Village of Mardell, Griggs County, Territory of Dakota on or about June 5th 1882. About one mile futther to the S.E. on Sec 18 Town 146 Range 57, now Greenview Township Steele County, where a brother, Carl, had already taken up a claim, and then we was at the end of oure Jerney. Oldest brother ,Gustav had already taken up a claim~~on~~ on Sec 32 same township fall in the fakk before.

By Ox team! Yeas, by four young unbrokenOxens hitched to a canvass covered wagonin wheach was loded a breaking plow, a set of mason tools, a stove and some stovepipes, some kitchen utencils, some waring aperils and bed clothing, not over 1500 pounds in weight ,including the driver and his wife and three children. They caled us Home-seekers, but it seemed to me that then that wee was weeking away from a home instead. If aneyone in the company had aney-money aney money I do not know, but to all appearance they did not. I know I did not have aney. For it was then as now, money was for some people to, wish wish for and talk about, but not to have and kip.

I being at this time 21 an a half years old, Mother says to me, Otto you is now old enough to take up a claim on Government land. You can now go along if you like. Well! well, should I go along. My conclushon was to go along. If I did not like I had the promise to come back. But I did not come

bake to mother ,she had to come to me first. My duty on the trip was to chase cattles belonging to the parties in the company. And as I was walking all the way my booths(boots) by time of (end) was began to eat grass, but as booths has no digestion organs it did not do them aney good.

After wee got started wee did not stop mor then one night in aney one place. At night I was sleeping on the ground under the wagon. Getting oure meals three times a day, which was prepared by the womens of the company. And as peopla are the only animal that takes its food kooked, the stove was to be lifted from the wagon, and sat on the ground three times a day, and heated with fuel wee picked along the road as wee went on. Moving on about 20 or 25 miles a day, following the Fort Totten trail which then being a fairly good read

PIONEER BIOGRAPHY

J. B. Armstrong

John B. Armstrong was born January 29, 1861 in Ontario, Canada, Perth County, Near Stratford City. He was 21 years old and believed that the West offered opportunities greater than the East. At the time he started west the Prairie States were being boomed and were offering inducements to settlers in way of cheap rates and land grants for homeseekers.

Here is what he said about his experiences from home:

When I left Perth County, Ontario, the snow being some $3\frac{1}{2}$ and 4 feet deep with no sign of coming spring. Through Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota it was continuous mud slush and water. For many miles in places the railroad was covered and the train traveled very slow. The most interesting part of the trip was where we rode along the Mississippi, with the river on one side and the great sand stone cliffs on the other, towering higher than we could see from the car windows, and more than anything else the feeling that soon I would be in the great west country, the great "American Desert" with a soft warm wind blowing from the west, the prairie grass, dry and brown, blowing in the wind and the prairie chickens booming (but I did not know what the sound was) and there was no sign of snow anywhere, I arrived in Hannaford, N. Dak. I jumped from the train steps into the grass, the baggage car door slid open and a voice called, "Here boy, grab your trunk." With this done the train pulled on leaving me sitting on the trunk alone and monarch of all I surveyed my right--there was none to dispute. There was no other man, no house or building in sight.

In May 1889 I filed on a claim (present home) in Bartley Township. I bought the homestead from a man who had filed on it some seven years before, giving him for his right one cart and single harness, and a note for \$15.00. The location of the land is $N\frac{1}{2}$ of $N\frac{1}{2}$, Section 10, Township 144, Range 60. My first house was a frame. When I moved to my claim I found the shanty had blown away so gathered up scraps and with some other lumber built a lean to my barn using that till the following summer when I built another. I had horses and drove to Cooperstown, 15 miles, or Dazey, 13 miles. Some of my early neighbors were Ole. L. Fogderud, Andrew Sonju, Joseph Hoggarth, John Francis, and Donald Campbell. For machinery I had a walking plough, 16 in. breaking and stubble, spring tooth harrow, and broadcast seeder. Wheat was the principal crop and yielded from 20 to 40 bushels per acre of No. 1 hard wheat. I grew my first corn in 1891. For fuel I used wood and got it from Sheyenne Valley. It was drawn by team in winter time leaving before daylight and getting home after dark.

In the year of 1889-90 I worked hard on Section 2, Township 144, Range 60. That winter I got wood from Sheyenne River and hay for stock from Sutusman County and got my bread from Cooperstown--not a good combination. One stormy spell I got out of grub. Having some flour, soda, and milk though I could make some biscuits. In mixing I got along fine but when I started to roll it my troubles began. It would not stay rolled out till I got them cut out. When the weight was taken off it would spring together but finally by putting my knee on one side and holding it and pressing roller on far side I held it till the biscuits were cut out. They made very good eating and lasted well.

J. B. Armstrong (continued)

My next was in 1891-92. When living on claim it stormed for three weeks and I never saw or talked to any person and the last three nights I had no kerosene for lights. I tried to read from the light of the stove door but it was too hot for my face. I finished the night by whistling and talking to the dog.

I was married to Annie Campbell November 14, 1894, at the home of Mr. D. Sinclair, Bald Hill Township.

The descendants of pioneer are; Mervin J. Armstrong, died July 20, 1918; Erma Gladys and Mary Ellen, High School teachers at Cooperstown, N. Dak; Thelma Belle, Jamestown College; Donelda Roberta, at home Hannaford, N. Dak.; Morris Campbell Armstrong, died November 27, 1920.

The present home of pioneer is on the old Homestead N $\frac{1}{2}$ of N $\frac{1}{2}$, Section 10, Township 144, Range 60, Hannaford, Griggs County, N. Dak.

--Elvin Loberg

PIONEER BIOGRAPHY

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by Edwin Loberg

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Here is what he said about his experiences from home:

When I left Perth County, Ontario, the snow being some 3½ and 4 feet deep with no sign of coming spring. Through Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota it was continuous mud slush and water. For many miles in places the railroad was covered and the train traveled very slow. The most interesting part of the trip was where we rode along the Mississippi, with the river on one side and the great sand stone cliffs on the other, towering higher than we could see from the car windows, and more than anything else the feeling that soon I would be in the great west country, the great "American Desert" of my early school boy days. On April 3, 1885, a beautiful sunny day with a soft warm wind blowing from the west, the prairie grass, dry and brown, blowing in the wind and the prairie chickens booming (but I did not know what the sound was) and there was no sign of snow anywhere, I arrived in Hannaford, N. Dak. I jumped from the train steps into the grass, the baggage car door slid open and a voice called, "Here boy, grab your trunk". With this done the train pulled on leaving me sitting on the trunk alone and monarch of all I surveyed my right--there was none to dispute. There was no other man, no house or building in sight.

In May 1889 I filed on a claim (present home) in Bartley Township. I bought the Homestead from a man who had filed on it some seven years before, giving him for his right one cart and single harness, and a note for \$15.00. The location of the land is N½ of N½, Section 10, Township 144, Range 60. My first house was a frame. When I moved to my claim I found the shanty had blown away so gathered up scraps and with some other lumber built a lean to my barn using that till the following summer when I built another. I had horses and drove to Cooperstown, 15 miles, or Dazey, 13 miles. Some of my early neighbors were Ole L. Fogderud, Andrew Sonju, Joseph Hoggarth, John Francis, and Donald Campbell. For machinery I had a walking plough, 16 in. breaking and stubble, spring tooth harrow, and broadcast seeder. Wheat was the principal crop and yielded from 20 to 40 bushels per acre of No. 1 hard wheat. I grew my first corn in 1891. For fuel I used wood and got it from Sheyenne Valley. It was drawn by team in winter time leaving before daylight and getting home after dark.

In the year of 1889-90 I worked hard on Section 8, Township 144, Range 60. That winter I got wood from Sheyenne River and hay for stock from Stutsman County and got my bread from Cooperstown--not a good combination. One stormy spell I got out of grub. Having some flour, soda, and milk though I could make some biscuits. In mixing I got along fine but when I started to roll it my troubles began. It would not stay rolled out till I got them cut out. When the weight was taken off it would spring together but finally by putting my knee on one side and holding it and pressing roller on far side I held it till the biscuits were cut out. They made very good eating and lasted well. My next was in 1891-92. When living on claim it stormed for three weeks and I never saw or talked to any person and the last three nights I had no kerosene for lights. I tried to read from the light of the stove door but it was too hot for my face. I finished the night by

J. B. Armstrong (continued)

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--Elvin Loberg

Biography of J. B. Armstrong
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April 7, 1927

John B. Armstrong was born January 29, 1861 in Perth County, Ontario, Canada near Stratford City. He was 21 years old when he believed that the West offered opportunities greater than the East. At the time he started West, the Prairie States were being boomed and were offering inducements to settlers in the way of cheap rates and land grants for home seekers.

Here is what he said about his experiences from home: When I left Perth County, Ontario, the snow lay some $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 feet deep with no sign of coming spring. Through Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, it was continuous mud, slush, and water. For many miles the railroad was covered in places and the train traveled very slowly. The most interesting part of the trip was where we rode along the Mississippi, with the river on one side and the great sandstone cliffs on the other, towering higher than we could see from the car windows. More than anything else was the feeling that soon I would be in the great west country, the great "American Desert" of my early school boy days.

April 3, 1885 was a beautiful sunny day with a soft warm wind blowing from the west. The prairie grass, dry and brown, was blowing in the wind and the prairie chickens were booming, but I did not know what the sound was. There was no sign of snow anywhere.

When I arrived in Hannaford, North Dakota, I jumped from the train steps into the grass. The baggage car door slid open and a voice called, "Here, boy, grab your trunk." With this done the train pulled on leaving me sitting on the trunk alone, and "monarch of all I surveyed, my right there was none to dispute." There was no other man, no house or building in sight.

In May, 1889, I filed on a claim (present home) in Bartley Township. I bought the homestead from a man who had filed on it seven years before, giving him for his right, one cart and single harness, and a note for \$15.

The location of the land is $N\frac{1}{2}$ of $N\frac{1}{2}$ section 10, Township 144, Range 60. My first house was a frame. When I moved to my claim, I found the shanty had blown away. So I gathered up scraps and with some other lumber built a lean to my barn using that till the following summer when I built another. I had horses and drove to Cooperstown, 15 miles, or Dazey, 13 miles.

Some of my early neighbors were Ole L. Fogderud, Andrew Sonju, Joseph Eggarth, John Francis and Donald Campbell.

For machinery I had a 16 inch walking plough for breaking, stubble spring tooth harrow, and broadcast seeders. Wheat was the principle crop and yielded from 20 to 40 bushels per acre, number 1 hard wheat. I grew my first corn in 1891. For fuel I used wood and got it from the Sheyenne Valley. It was drawn by team in the winter time, leaving before daylight and getting home after dark.

In the year of 1889-90 I worked hard on Section 2, Township 144, Range 60. That winter I got wood from the Sheyenne river, hay for the stock from Stutsman County, and my bread from Cooperstown--not a good

combination. One stormy spell I ran out of grub. Having some flour, soda and milk though, I could make some biscuits. In mixing I got along fine. When I started to roll it my troubles began. It would not stay rolled out till I got them cut out. When the weight was taken off, it would spring together; but finally by putting my knee on one side and holding it and pressing roller on for side, I held it till they (the biscuits) were cut out. They made very good eating and lasted well.

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2

Biography of J. B. Armstrong
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Biography of Adolph Arndt

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Mr. Adolph Arndt is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Karl Arndt, who lived in Germany. Mr. Adolph Arndt was born near Berlin, Germany, December 6, 1877. Mr. Arndt and his parents left Germany and came to the United States because they thought they could better themselves. He came to North Dakota rather than any other state because they thought the soil was better.

Mr. Arndt was six years old when he came from Germany and the trip across the ocean was a safe one. He lived at Casselton a few months before moving here.

Mr. Arndt took up land on Section 25 and 26 in Addie Township. He took up a section and a quarter. The first house in which they lived was a sod house with grass growing on the roof during the summer. The trip for provisions was made to Cooperstown with a team of oxen. The nearest neighbor was Mr. Fred A. Sinclair who lived a mile away. The farm machinery was a plow and he also had a team of oxen. The chief crop raised by Mr. Arndt was wheat which averaged 35 bushels to the acre. To get their fuel the people went down to Lake Addie and out on the prairie and gathered the wood which they might find. The prairie fires were the most dangerous hardships with which the pioneers had to deal.

Mr. Adolph Arndt was married to Miss Minnie Tesolofin in 1907. Mr. Arndt has five children whose addresses are; Mr. Harold Arndt, Grand Rapids, N. Dak.; Mr. Joe Arndt, Grand Rapids, N. Dak.; Mr. Allen Arndt, Grand Rapids, N. Dak.; Mr. Alfred Arndt, Grand Rapids, N. Dak.; Miss Verna Arndt, Grand Rapids, N. Dak. Mr. Arndt is now living in Grand Rapids, N. Dak.

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Biography of Charles F. Arndt

--Arnold Arndt

Written in 1926-

The name of the pioneer is Mr. Charles F. Arndt. He was born on January 15, 1868 in Schwerin, Germany. He came with his parents and four brothers and two sisters to the United States in order to have greater opportunity. They came across in the Baltimore boat and landed in Baltimore. They started for North Dakota because it was not settled, and they could take a homestead here which they could not do in the eastern states. When the family got to Fargo, he started to work out for himself. But the family was poor and he had to give his money to his father so they could get a start first. He worked there for six dollars a month. After working for a year, he went to Casselton.

He kept on working all the way up to Cooperstown. When he got here, he worked for Cooper on his ranch. This was in the year 1882. He was about fifteen years old then. This was the first money he earned for himself. He hauled grain for Cooper to Sanborn. They used to make the trip in one day with the oxen, but they had to get up early in the morning to get started. After he earned some money, he started to take a homestead 14 miles west of Cooperstown. After his first crop, he sold his wheat for 65¢ a bushel, barley for 22¢ a bushel, and flax for 63¢ a bushel. The second year the crop averaged 13 bushels an acre, but he could not get it threshed as there weren't many machines around. The next spring he burned the crop off because the birds had eaten the grain, and he wanted to get another crop in. The threshing machines were horse power, and they had men to cut the bundles and buck the straw away. In the summer time he earned money by picking buffalo bones.

The next year he traded the half section with Mr. Berg for section nine and a quarter of section sixteen. His first neighbors were Gust Rothart, Jim McCulloch and Gust Evers. He drove to Valley City to get his lumber to build his new home on section 29. It took two days, one to get it and one to return home. The carpenters were E. E. Doune and McCulloch. He got his first team of horses in 1898 from Rothart. The hardships were when they went to Valley City to get groceries and drove in the storm. The first barn was 14x20, and the snow came through. In the morning they had to shovel the horses out.

In 1898 he was married to Ida Retzlaff, and they lived on section 29. After farming six years he bought some more land which was a quarter section of 20 and 21.

The first fuel they burned was wood and cow chip in the cold weather. In 1900 he had a good crop and saw better prices for grain. He kept farming one-half section of land.

In 1908 he built his first barn, 32 by 86; it was built by Mr. John Hovel. The next year he built a granary. After this he kept on making improvements on his farm. In 1912 he bought a Ford car. He thought then that he had made a success in farming.

In 1915 he thought that he would see the country and bought a round-trip ticket for \$90 to California, Washington, Oregon and Texas. The next year he went again and left the children to take care of the land at home in the winter until he returned in the spring. The next year he went again.

This was his last trip, and he bought land this time at Three Rivers, Texas.

In 1915 he had a large crop, and the granary burst causing him to break four ribs and a collar bone. After this he was not able to work very well. After he made a success he retired from farming but still lives on the farm three miles west and five miles north of Cooperstown in Tyrol Township on Section 29.

He has now reached the age of 58, and he still has a quarter of Section 31, one-half of Section 29, a quarter of Section 20, One quarter of Section 21 and 16, and a half of Section nine.

June 1, 1927

Biography of Gustav M. Arneson
--Alfred Kruschwitz

Mr. and Mrs. Ole Arneson came to Iowa from Norway; she from Numidal, and he from Valdres, Norway.

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

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

Gustav went to school in the little dwelling house of Reverend Omen, which was used for that purpose during the absence of Rev. Omen. This little house was located on what is now section 2 in Romness. In 1882 his parents had moved from the Goose River country into Griggs 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 omitted. He went through many hardships with his parents. His parents first house was made of sod.

Gustav and his brother, Inval, used to ride horseback 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. Arneson attended was the Lutheran; the preacher was Rev. Lundebj.

When Mr. Arneson 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. Arneson did not stay there all the time, but he made it his home. When he was away, he was working 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, depending upon whether the day was hot or cool. The oxen could not stand much heat. When ready to unhitch, they would just unfasten the collar and hames, 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 bought or home-made, a broadcast seeder, or sometimes 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 Wheatland. That from Griggs (or what is now Steele) County was hauled to Valley City or Hope. This grain was hauled with oxen and a four-wheeled wagon. The 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; and also very little shipped in to North Dakota.

The main occupation of the time was breaking new land which is done very little nowadays in this part of North Dakota. Herding was also done in this part of the country, but it is not at the present time.

Mr. Arneson still has four brothers and one sister living. Mr. Carl Oscar Arneson of Binford, North Dakota; Invall Arneson of Cooperstown, North Dakota; Mrs. Ed Iverson, Cooperstown, North Dakota; Clarence Arneson of Saco, Montana and Albert Arneson of Saco, Montana.

Mr. Arneson is at the present time a member of the Ringsaker Church in Romness; Rev. Estren, pastor.

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

Biography of John Arneson

--Marian Arneson

d. of Nelson

John Arneson's father was Hans Trappen Arneson. The pioneer's full name was Johanus Arneson. He was born October 5, 1838 near the city of Bergen in Norway.

He left Norway after his marriage to establish his own home. He first went to Minnesota, then to Oregon and later back to Minnesota. There he heard about some friends in North Dakota, so he and his family moved here.

He traveled by boat across the ocean, by train as far as it went which was Iowa, and from Iowa to Minnesota he traveled by covered wagon and oxen, part of the time walking.

John Arneson came to North Dakota in 1881. Early experiences: His land is in section 6 Greenvew Township. John Arneson's first house was a log cabin, later he built a frame house. The nearest towns were Valley City and Mayville; he went to town by oxen and a wagon.

In his pioneer life, John Arneson experienced many hardships. For instance, one year there was a flood, sometimes there were prairie fires, and often during the winter there were very severe blizzards.

His nearest neighbors were Monsons, Qualeys and Johnsons.

Early farm machinery was a walking plow and a team of oxen.

There was no church nor school when John settled here in North Dakota.

John Arneson married Christie Storbor about 1863 or 1864. They were married in Norway.

John Arneson died March 13, 1925 and was buried in the Sheyenne Valley Cemetery.

PIONEER BIOGRAPHY

Omund Ashland

By Lief Aalgard

I have chosen to write the biography of a pioneer whose parents were also pioneers of North Dakota, namely Mr. Ashland of Cooperstown.

Mr. Ashland is Norwegian descent. His father Aadne Ashland and his mother Dorthea Ashland of Stavanger, Norway.

Mr. Omund Ashland was born on July 20, 1868 at Stavanger, Norway. He lived with his mother and stepfather there until he was twelve years of age. It was then decided that they move to a better home. They chose to go to America and made preparations to go.

The family of six children, mother and father, sailed from Stavanger to Christiansan on a sailboat. While on the Skager Rack water a storm arose and the pioneer family's lives were endangered. The small vessel was tossed about, the masts dipping down into the water. After a few terrible hours they reached their port and boarded the liner Thingvalla for America. The Thingvalla was must nicely started when the engine broke. They sailed to Copenhagen in Denmark for repairs. After a weeks delay they started to cross the Atlantic. During the fourteen days from Denmark to America the pioneer's mother contracted a severe case of rheumatic fever. This made the voyage very bad, the children ranging from six months to twelve years were forced to care for one another as best they could. Their leaving the ship and entering Castle Garden, New York must have been quite a picture. The mother being helpless was carried on the father's back and a group of small children frightened and weary with the voyage came trooping behind. Next day they left New York for St. Paul. There they rested in an immigrant house for three days. This house was a very unsanitary place. There were filthy men, women and children sitting about on the floor all smoking or chewing tobacco or using vulgar language. From there they struck out for their new home. It was late spring when they reach Yellow Medicine County in Minnesota where the pioneer family lived only a short time. It seemed to the pioneer family they were moving from worse to worse. Conditions in Yellow Medicine were deplorable. The houses were overrun with rats. Work was as scarce here it appeared as it was in Norway. Mrs. Ashland's condition was serious and the baby, not a year old yet, was not thriving. For a time the pioneer believed they made a foolish move for the hard times in Norway weren't nearly as bad as the position they were in now. Mrs. Omund Ashland, nor thirteen years old, set out to a farmer some miles from his home where he was obliged to do a man's work. One day while at work a horse kicked him, cracking his skull just between the eyes. His employer seemed to think nothing of the bruise but poured alcohol into the wound to take out the poison he said. Being only a boy he wanted to go home to his mother. He walked all the way leaving a trail of blood behind him. A week later he went back but the farmer refused to hire anyone who couldn't work for a wee little scratch. Not discouraged at this he walked to the next farm where he found work. He and another boy were sent out twenty miles from the farm to herd a large herd of cattle. They were to stay a month. After two weeks they had a terrific thunder storm. This frightened the cattle and they broke away. The boys worked for hours and finally corralled them. In another two weeks the cattle were herded home again. It was night when they came to the farm but the boy being anxious to get home started off. He intended to surprise his mother mother and crept quitely into the house, while feeling his way through the entry he came across his baby sister who had died that day.

Just a year passed and the Ashlands decided to move to the Dakota Territory. They had heard of the free land and the great opportunities there and they also had some relatives living in the east central part of what is now North Dakota. Preparations were made for the long journey which was to be made in covered wagons with oxen to draw them. The drive was a hard and tedious trip. The roads were poor and there were very few bridges in those days. Often times all the loads had to be carried across the streams article by article for the water was high and the wagons were low. One team of oxen became lame. They stopped at a farm house where a man trimmed the oxen's feet. This protected and the the lameness was soon gone and the pioneers were once more on the way. The pioneer family met with few obstacles after that and in less than three weeks they had reached their destination, then called Gallatin Post Office on the Sheyenne River nine miles southeast of Cooperstown. They stayed for a short time with relatives.

In the spring of 1883 the pioneer and his father planned to take a claim. This was done by squatting as it was then called, or settling on a section of this land. Each settler was entitled to the section they lived on. They chose the north half of section 10, range 59, township 145.

The pioneers built a sod house and barn. The sod house was fourteen feet square. Most sod houses at this time were all sod and trees but Ashland's put a good floor in their home. The walls were two feet deep at the base and grew narrower at the top. The roof was made of branches, twigs and brush piled on three large poles across the top. To fill in the small openings they filled them with hay. This structure had one window and one door. In 1884 the pioneers's father made an addition to the hut. This part was fourteen by ten and gave them a good sized room. The pioneer's parents were busy at all things in itself. The father made the family's shoes and all the furniture and even some of the dishes used were carved out of wood, while the mother spun and wove and knitted for the family. The beds were a wooden frame with straw for mattresses, chairs and tables were made from logs brought from the Sheyenne. Aside from those things furniture was scarce. The Froiland's were the most fortunate people in the community for they owned a sewing machine.

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The pioneer family's possessions were gradually increasing, especially their stock. This required a better and larger barn so they set to work and built a barn twenty six feet wide and forty feet long. The barn was built on the same principles as the house.

Griggs County was a large level prairie with no trees for miles and miles about the Froiland homestead. The Fort Totten Road coming from Fort Totten ran just west of the sod stable. It was a common thing to see small bands of Indians traveling this road. They often stopped at the pioneer home to buy food or feed for their horses.

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his wheat ground to flour and brought back other provisions. This trip took him several days. Late in 1883 the branch line of the Northern Pacific was built to Cooperstown. The railroad built up Cooperstown and brought many conveniences for the pioneers.

The Froiland's first neighbors were the Fred Williams family to the north, T. T. Fuglestad and Jens Bull families to the south and Jorgen Soma, an uncle of the Pioneer, to the east.

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The fire of the fall of 1885 burned up nearly all the settlers grain and hay. The pioneer's father was lucky not to lose any grain and hay. The pioneer saw the fire come $\frac{1}{2}$ mile off, he hitched up the three oxen and plowed a few furrows which killed the fire. The pioneer saved all the buildings of neighbors. The flames were higher than a house, when the fire was ten rods away it lit the tops of the hay stacks. The children and wife stayed in the sod buildings because it could not burn and they were saved. The fire traveled to the Sheyenne River. It sent through all of North Dakota.

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In the spring of 1883, the pioneer and his father planned to take a claim. This was done by squatting as it was then called, or settling on a section of this land. Each settler was entitled to the section they lived on. They chose the north half of section ten, range 59, township 145.

The pioneers built a sod house and barn. The sod house was fourteen feet square. Most sod houses at this time were all sod and trees but the Ashland's put a good floor in their home. The walls were two feet deep at the base and grew narrower at the top. The roof was made of branches, twigs and brush piled on three large poles across the top. To fill in the small open spaces they filled them with hay. This structure had one window and one door. In 1884, the pioneer's father made an addition to the hut. This part was fourteen by ten and gave them good sized room. The pioneer's parents were busy at all things in itself. The father made the family's shoes and all the furniture and even some of the dishes used were carved out of wood, while the mother spun and wove and knitted for the family. The beds were a wooden frame with straw for mattresses, chairs, and tables were made from the logs brought from the Sheyenne. Aside from those things furniture was scarce. The Froiland's were the most fortunate people in the community for they owned a sewing machine.

Gurina Froiland, an aunt of the pioneer, was the busiest body in the household during the summer, 1885. She was staying with the pioneer family preparing her wedding outfit.

Meetings were held in the house of the different people. It happened that the folks met at the Froiland homestead on one particular day.

Biography of Omund Ashland
--Leif Aalgaard

While there a terrific blizzard arose and the people were obliged to stay at the hut for three days, for blizzards always lasted three days. The house was so full and so small that they had to take turns sleeping.

The pioneer family's possessions were gradually increasing, especially their stock. This required a better and larger barn so they set to work and built a barn twenty-six feet wide and forty feet long. The barn was built on the same principles as the house.

Griggs County was a large level prairie with no trees for miles and miles about the Froiland homestead. The Fort Totten Road coming from Fort Totten ran just west of the sod stable. It was a common thing to see small bands of Indians traveling this road. They often stopped at the pioneer home to buy food or feed for their horses.

In the early eighties the nearest town was Valley City, which close as it seems now that we have automobiles, was a great distance for ox teams and even horses. Mr. Ashland drove to Valley City to have his wheat ground to flour and brought back other provisions. This trip took him several days. Late in 1883 the branch line of the Northern Pacific was built to Cooperstown. The railroad built up Cooperstown and brought many conveniences for the pioneers.

The Froiland's first neighbors were the Fred Williams family to the north, T. T. Fuglestad and Jens Bull families to the south and Jorgen Soma, an uncle of the pioneer, to the east.

The first implement used by the pioneer was the walking plow drawn by ox teams. The oxen were very hard to control as reins were not used. They were managed by words such as "haw" and "gee" to turn to left or right. Toward noon the oxen would hear no commands but would deliberately turn home. Oftentimes when the oxen saw a slough or a green meadow they would walk from the field to drink or graze.

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The pioneer family had at all times a good supply of food and a good shelter. Their main hardships were the storms and prairie fires. The fire of the fall of 1885 burned up nearly all the settlers grain and hay. The pioneer's father was lucky not to lose any grain and hay. The pioneer saw the fire come $\frac{1}{2}$ mile off, he hitched up the three oxen and plowed a few furrows which killed the fire. The pioneer saved all the buildings of neighbors. The flames were higher than a house, when the fire was ten rods away it lit the tops of the hay stacks. The children and wife stayed in the sod buildings because it could not burn and they were saved. The fire traveled to the Sheyenne River. It went through all of North Dakota.

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The present home of Mr. Ashland is Section 9, Township 145, and range 59, just west of old Fort Totten road. Sibley Fort pope 1 mile north west of Mr. Ashland.

PIONEER BIOGRAPHY

Omund Ashland

by Leif Ralgaard

"I have chosen to write the biography of a pioneer whose parents were also pioneers of North Dakota, namely Mr. Ashland of Cooperstown, North Dakota.

"Mr. Ashland is of Norwegian descent. His father Aadne Ashland and his mother Dorthen Ashland of Stavanger, Norway.

Mr. Omund Ashland was born on July 20, 1868 at Stavanger, Norway. He lived with his mother and stepfather there until he was twelve years of age. It was then decided that they move to a better home. They chose to go to America and made preparations to go.

"The family of six children, mother and father, sailed from Stavanger to Christiansen on a sailboat. While on the Skager Rack water a storm arose and the pioneer family's lives were endangered. The small vessel was tossed about the masts dipping down into the water. After a few terrible hours they reached their port and boarded the liner Thingvalla for America. The Thingvalla was most nicely started when the engine broke. They sailed to Copenhagen in Denmark for repairs. After a weeks delay they started to cross the Atlantic. During the fourteen days from Denmark to America the pioneer's mother contracted a severe case of rheumatic fever. This made the voyage very hard, the children ranging from six months to twelve years were forced to care for one another as best they could. Their leaving the ship and entering Castle Garden, New York must have been quite a picture. The mother being helpless was carried on the father's back and a group of small children frightened and weary with the voyage came trooping behind. Next day they left New York for St. Paul. There they rested in an immigrant house for three days. This house was a very unsanitary place. There were filthy men, women and children sitting about on the floor all smoking or chewing tobacco and using vulgar language. From there they struck out for their new home. It was late spring when they reached Yellow Medicine County in Minnesota where the pioneer family lived only a short time. It seemed to the pioneer family they were moving from worse to worse. Conditions in Yellow Medicine were deplorable. The houses were overrun with rats. Work was as scarce here it appeared as it was in Norway. Mrs. Ashland's condition was serious and the baby, not a year old yet, was not thriving. For a time the pioneer believed they had made a foolish move for the hard times in Norway weren't nearly as bad as the position they were in now. Mr. Omund Ashland, now thirteen years old, set out to a farmer some miles from his home where he was obliged to do a man's work. One day while at work a horse kicked him cracking his skull just between the eyes. His employer seemed to think nothing of the bruise but poured alcohol into the wound to take out the poison he said. Being only a boy he wanted to go home to his mother. He walked all the way leaving a trail of blood behind him. A week later he went back but the farmer refused to hire anyone who couldn't work for a wee little scratch. Not discouraged at this he walked to the next farm where he found work. He and another boy were sent out twenty miles from the farm to herd a large herd of cattle. They were to stay a month. After two weeks they had a terrific thunder storm. This frightened the cattle and they broke away. The boys worked for hours and finally corralled them. In another two weeks the cattle were herded home again. It was night when they came to the farm but the boy being anxious to get home started off. He intended to surprise his mother and crept quietly into the house, while feeling his way through

Omund Ashland (continued) #2

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Pioneer experiences of Mrs. Omand Ashland,
Bald Hill, W. Va.

Born Apliana Bull, Dec 27, 1872 in Stavanger
(city); Norway. Her father was a tanner and operated
a small store in Stavanger. Times were hard in Norway
so in 1880 the family decided to go to America.
There were Mr and Mrs. Jens Bull and five
children. They came on the ship Tingvalla of the
Danish-American Line. The sisters of Mrs. Jens
Bull (Mrs. Sven Lunde and Mrs. Ole Stokka) and
a brother, Ole Westley, had settled in Briggs Co.
in 1881. The Jens Bull family settled in
St. Paul and in 1882 came to Briggs County.
and took a homestead north east of the present
T. Fuglestad homestead. I think the first school I
attended was the Ballatin school. when I was
ten years old my mother died.

When I was 14 years old I read for the minister
and had to walk ten miles to Rev. Nesheim's for
in 40° below weather. Usually I stayed with my
aunt, Mrs. Sven Lunde, over night. I wore four pairs
of homeknit socks but no shoes or rubbers on
those cold trips. The Sven Lunde had a small
lamp and one gallon of kerosene lasted them a
whole winter. The settlers made their own
candles. I remember we children helped to put the
cords in the candles at Aunt Lunde's.

At age of 17 I married Omand Ashland.
Ashland (later spelled Ashland) and at 18 years of
age I was a mother. We moved to the homestead
north of present Peder Larson home but as there
was no water to be gotten on this land
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west of the T. Fuglestad homestead. The first
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age I was a mother. We moved to the homestead
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sold the homestead and purchased land
west of the T. Fuglestad homestead. (The first
home I remember in Briggs County was a
rod house with no floor. Although times were
hard, weather was dry and crops were poor
we always had enough of common food
to eat. When my folks came from St. Paul we
stayed with the Sven Lunde family for a
while. When the T. Fuglestad came in 1883
he stayed a while with the Andrew Aarstad
family. The settlers went down to the Sheyenne
River to gather wood. It was green and
damp so we dried it in the oven. Many
were scared that the Indians were coming
on a war path but the only ones I saw were
families of Indians traveling on the
Fort Totten Road.)
When we first came to Briggs County we

were so friendly. when a neighbor butchered we could be assured of getting a piece of meat.

As I remember the first minister was Rev. J. L. Lundebly who preached ~~first~~ in the homes and later in the schoolhouses. Rev. Lundebly was a traveling missionary and did not come very often. men of the community as Andrew Watne and Ola Westby would pray at our services and preach the gospel. The next minister I remember was Rev. Resheim. The first church built by our congregation was the Wesley church. Our church service were much like those in Norway. we used the Lundsdaags Psalmbook; men sat on one side of ^{the} church and the women on the other; we had a "klokkare" (deacon) as in the old country. The "klokkare", a good leader in singing, led the singing, read the first and last prayer and announced the hymns we should sing. I remember that Ola Westby was a "Klokkare" (his father had been a "klokkare" I believe. Ola Stokka, too, was a "klokkare" in Norway. Stokka and Andrew Watne had been parochial school teachers in Norway, as I remember Ola Stokka started a parochial school in the early days. School was held in someone's house. Social times were held by organizing a singing class in our community (sang hymns). The singing class, both old & young met at different homes. One time when they ~~met~~ ^{had a meeting} at Elling (Johnson) Froiland a blizzard came up and everyone had to stay there for three days. There was so little room and so little food that they had to take turns

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The sod house (inside) was walled with mortar and whitewashed. We had sod barns; also sod cellars. We put our cans of milk down (hanging) in the well.

I remember my brother worked in the Whidden store in Cooperstown but Knute Thompson's was the first store there. When neighbors needed help as building a house, cutting grain in a hurry, we

3) when the weather was dry or other hardship came the whole community gathered to pray for rain or other blessings. we had many prayer meetings.

The games, as I remember, were "Ball in Hat", "Last Couple Out" and "Baseball".

The Affold's Forening (Temperance Society) was started by Andrew Vatne as was the Tobacco Society.

note. Mrs. Ole Stokka, the midwife in the early days in Briggs, often had to leave her own babies in the dead of night to help bring a child into the world. If she was paid her charge was three dollars, but often she received no remuneration. In many cases she was called to the homes of Yankees - she could not understand English and neither could they understand the Norwegian language.

My husband and I had a party open to our first ~~years~~ years in Briggs. After after blizzards the men got into the bar by going down through the roof of the poorly built sod barns.

Our children are Arnold, St. Paul; Dorothy (Mrs. Ludwig Lehr), McHenry; Jens, ~~on~~ on home place, north of Hannaford; Oscar, Hannaford; Albert and Roy, Cooperstown; Henry & Walter, Oregon.

Names of my sisters are Malina (Mrs. O. N. Westley), Hannaford; a half sister, Gurina (Mrs. Carl Johnson of Powers Lake, Julius, Oregon, and Jens (dead); Hans, St. Paul.

PIONEER BIOGRAPHY
Carl Asmus

Carl Fredereiech Wilhelm Asmus was born in Germany, September the twenty fifth in eighteen hundred and eighty, near the town of Holstein. His father, Daniel Asmus, died in nineteen hundred thirteen. His mother whose maiden name was Catherine Stockfish is still living and will be seventy seven years old next December.

Daniel Asmus came to America in eighteen hundred eighty two. He came to America in order to keep his sons from the army conscription, that Germany enforced. Germany at that time required every able-bodied male citizen to serve a certain number of years in the army. This life was very hard upon the young man. The young man never had any pay which he could call his own. If he saved his money his parents would take it away from him. On the other hand, most of the young men would spend the money instead of saving it. They spent it because they figured that tomorrow would never come to them. Daniel Asmus himself served in the Prussian army and because of his experience he realized that his sons would never amount to more than he himself unless they were allowed absolute freedom from "service." This service occurred at the time when a man should be making a profession of his own instead of spending it in involuntary servitude.

When Carl Asmus was about a year and a half old, Daniel decided to come to America with his wife and three children, Dora, Henry and Carl. My grandmother, Mrs. Daniel Asmus, states that everything went fine except that Carl caught a skin disease and was very cross. This was very hard for grandmother but she said, "the hardest part of our lot fell to us after we got in this country." The reason they experienced difficulties was because they could not speak or understand the English language. They were on the ocean seventeen days before they arrived in New York.

While in New York an incident of interest occurred. While eating a meal the Asmus's observed a couple who were also eating. The strangers were very particular to not eat very much. My grandfather then addressed them like this, "Friends, eat all you want in America. They charge you, not for what you eat but for the meal." This remark seems to show that people in the "old country" were accustomed to saving everything but that this country was a land of plenty.

From New York they went to Fonda, Iowa where they went through many hard times before they got used to the ways of this country. After living in Fonda several years, they moved to a farm near the city. While living here Carl Asmus received his eight years of schooling. He is reputed to have been a very mischievous boy in school.

When the family grew richer they raised cattle. One time after shipping a car load of cattle to Chicago a real estate agent knowing they had money interested them so much in his wonderful state of North Dakota of ours that Daniel and Carl Asmus came to North Dakota to see if the agent's representations were true. They found this state to be full of promise and opportunity. Accordingly they bought land from the D. S. B. Johnston Land Company. Five to seven dollars an acre was paid for the land. The land they bought was in Rosendahl township, Griggs County, range 61. Binford became their nearest trading point. At that time there were two general merchandise stores owned by Kinney and Knapp. They erected frame buildings in the same year they came up,

Carl Asmus (continued)

nineteen hundred one. In the following year the entire family moved to the state.

The nearest neighbors of Carl Asmus were Andrew Ramsey, Swen Bjornson, and Hendrick Olsen.

In order to secure immigration rates from Iowa to Dakota the men had to live in the car with their horses and farm machinery. In one end of the car the horses were loaded and the other end was piled full of machinery and wheat. The men slept upon the grain. One morning Carl Asmus found himself upon a plow beam. The train had been leaning to one side so much that he had slipped from his bed. They had a small stove with them and did their own cooking whenever the train stopped at a division point. At these places they also bought fruit and provisions. The trip took five days. They traveled upon three railways; the Northern Pacific, the Illinois Central and the N. and St. L. Because of poor railroad facilities Mr. Asmus was compelled to brow beat an official in order to secure water for their stock.

Nothing of unusual interest occurred except that in March of the second winter in North Dakota a bad snowstorm took place. Not being used to such blizzards they tied a string from the house to the barn. This incident often makes them laugh whenever they think of it now.

Carl Asmus married Rosette Adrian at her father's home on the twenty-eight day of November in the year of nineteen hundred seven. The descendants' names are Herman, Edith and Catheryn Asmus. Their addresses are the same as their father's which is Binford, North Dakota.

--Catheryn Asmus

Biography of Carl Asmus
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Nothing of unusual interest occurred except that in March of the second winter in North Dakota a bad snowstorm took place. Not being used to such blizzards they tied a string from the house to the barn. This incident often makes them laugh whenever they think of it now. Carl Asmus married Rosette Adrian at her father's home on the twenty-eighth day of November in the year of nineteen hundred seven. The descendant's names are Herman, Edith, and Catheryn Asmus. Their addresses are the same as their father's which is Binford, North Dakota.

PIONEER BIOGRAPHY

Carl Asmus

by Catherine Asmus

Carl Fredericoh Wilhelm Asmus was born in Germany, September the twenty fifth in eighteen hundred and eighty, near the town of Holstein. His father, Daniel Asmus, died in nineteen hundred thirteen. His mother whose maiden name was Catherine Stockfish is still living and will be seventy seven years old next December.

Daniel Asmus came to America in eighteen hundred eighty two. He came to America in order to keep his sons from the army conscription that Germany enforced. Germany at that time required every able-bodied male citizen to serve a certain number of years in the army. This life was very hard upon the young men. The young man never had any pay which he could call his own. If he saved his money his parents would take it away from him. On the other hand, most of the young men would spend the money instead of saving it. They spent it because they figured that tomorrow would never come to them. Daniel Asmus himself served in the Prussian Army and because of his experience he realized that his sons would never amount to more than he himself unless they were allowed absolute freedom from "service". This service occurred at the time when a man should be making a profession of his own instead of spending it in involuntary servitude.

When Carl Asmus was about a year and a half old, Daniel decided to come to America with his wife and three children, Dora, Henry and Carl. My grandmother, Mrs. Daniel Asmus, states that everything went fine except that Carl caught a skin disease and was very cross. This was very hard for grandmother but she said, "The hardest part of our lot fell to us after we got in this country." The reason they experienced difficulties was because they could not speak or understand the English language. They were on the ocean seventeen days before they arrived in New York.

While in New York an incident of interest occurred. While eating a meal the Asmus's observed a couple who were also eating. The strangers were very particular to not eat very much. My grandfather then addressed them like this, "Friends, eat all you want in America. They charge you, not for what you eat but for the meal." This remark seems to show that people in the "old Country" were accustomed to saving everything but that this country was a land of plenty.

From New York they went to Fonda, Iowa where they went through many hard times before they got used to the ways of this country. After living in Fonda several years, they moved to a farm near the city. While living here Carl Asmus received his eight years of schooling. He is reputed to have been a very mischievous boy in school.

When the family grew richer they raised cattle. One time after shipping a car load of cattle to Chicago a real estate agent, knowing they had money, interested them so much in this wonderful state of North Dakota of ours that Daniel and Carl Asmus came to North Dakota to see if the agent's representations were true. They found this state to be full of promise and opportunity. Accordingly they bought land from the D. S. B. Johnston Land Company. Five to seven dollars an acre was paid for the land. The land they bought was in Rosendal township, Griggs County, range 61. Binford became their nearest trading point. At that time there were two general merchandise stores owned by Kinney and Kanpp. They erected frame buildings in the same year they came up, nineteen hundred one. In the following year the entire family moved to the state.

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Carl Asmus (continued)

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--Catheryn Asmus

John H. Atchison

John H. Atchison was born March 23, 1845, near Kelso, Rockburyshire, Scotland. His father was a laboring man who found it hard times to provide for his growing family. Rockburyshire, which is near the border, is a splendid agricultural country. From Kelso, England could be seen any day. Mr. Atchison had an uncle, Geo. Atchison, who lived in Stratford, Ontario. One day a stranger appeared in Rockburyshire. He wore a fur coat and a great fur cap. Such garments had never before been seen in that part of Scotland. The stranger proved to be the uncle from America. He advised his relations to come to America, "where there was free land and a prospect of a home." The advice was taken, and in June, 1862, Mr. Atchison, together with his father, mother, and brother, left Scotland for the promised land. They went from their home by train to Liverpool, where they took passage to Quebec on the sailing vessel William Rathbone. The captain was part owner of the vessel, and this was his twenty-sixth trip to Quebec. He brought emigrants to America, and returned to England with a cargo of Canadian lumber.

The emigrants were five weeks and three days in passage. One day when a light breeze was blowing, a three-masted schooner passed merrily by the William Rathbone. Later in the day when the wind had risen almost to a gale, they in turn passed the schooner, and cheered lustily. Another day towards the end of the voyage, it took the William Rathbone two days to get past Belle Isle in the St. Lawrence river because of lack of wind and the strong adverse current of the river. The family first went to Stratford, Ontario. Mr. Atchison's father did not like the timber land around Lake Huron that was then open to settlement, and took no claim until he did so in North Dakota.

For seven years Mr. Atchison worked as an ordinary workman on the Grand Trunk railway, and received \$1.10 per day. During this time he married a girl of English parentage. He lived in Georgetown, Ontario, until he came to the United States. In 1874 great changes were made on the Grand Trunk system. Large numbers of men were being discharged. As he, too, was likely to be discharged at any time, he decided to stop working on the railroad and take up land in the newly opened west.

At Sault Ste. Marie Mr. Atchison, together with his wife and two small children, boarded a steamboat with the intention of getting off at Port Arthur and going overland to Manitoba. Of this boatload of emigrants, all but the family of Mr. Atchison and a French family did so. They, however, decided to go to Duluth, and thence by rail to Moorhead, Minnesota, because the great crowds made overland transportation extremely difficult. At Moorhead they waited two and one-half days for a boat. The trip to Winnipeg occupied seven and one-half days. Although Mrs. Atchison was in Winnipeg three weeks, none of the emigrants who were to come by the overland route were ever seen by her. While on the Red river at about five o'clock one morning, Mr. Atchison went ashore to buy milk at a nearby farm house. At about ten o'clock that day, after going quite steadily since starting, the boat stopped, and again he went ashore to buy milk at a farm house. The same woman that he had met in the morning came to the door. He said, "I declare, you look just like the woman I met this morning!" Her reply relieved him. "And you are the same man," she said. "You are not the only one to be fooled in that way." The boat had been all the morning going around a large bend in the river.

John H. Atchison

On arriving at Winnipeg he left his wife and children and went land seeking. He was gone three weeks, but saw no land in Canada that suited him. In July, 1874, he pre-empted land three and one-fourth miles south of the line. It was near Smuggler's Point, and not far from Neche. At Pembina as a boat loaded with land seekers arrived from Moorhead, a man with a revolver in each hand said, "Now, watch!" and began shooting into the air and into the ground. This frightened the people so that none of them would land in the states. On this boat Mr. Atchison returned to Winnipeg for his family. On coming back to Pembina two days later, July 6, 1874, he found the town full of frightened and excited people from the country around. The Indians had killed three half breeds, and the people feared a massacre. (This is known as the Delorme Massacre. It occurred July 5, 1874) Shortly after they came to Pembina, Mrs. Atchison kept house for Judson LaMoure for two or three weeks.

The Atchison family saw fifty Red river carts come into Pembina with buffalo hides, the best of which sold for \$4.50. The spring of 1880 the Mennonites settled the Canadian land near the border. They made dugouts for houses. In the following spring their homes were flooded, and an epidemic of scarlet fever and typhoid fever broke out. The Canadian government then forced them to build above ground.

In the spring of 1876 or 1877 Mr. Atchison commuted his claim, and he made a trip to Fargo, then going by stage. He saw nineteen binders at work on a Dalrymple farm. His trip, which cost him \$30, was taken at the advice of a neighboring farmer in Pembina county by the name of Joe Brown. Mr. Atchison had \$200 in gold. One dollar in gold brought \$1.15 in silver. So he went to a bank in Fargo and exchanged his gold for silver on that basis. Then with the \$230 thus gotten, he bought Agricultural College scrip at 65 cents on the dollar. He then used the scrip at face value to pay for his land.

Mr. Atchison decided to leave Pembina county in 1880. He thought that stock raising would be more profitable than farming, for the price of stock was high. A cow brought from \$30 to \$50. He sold his land to a Mennonite for \$1,200. Mr. Atchison relates how some men in the real estate business in Pembina county induced several of the Mennonites to buy timber land south of the line at a high price, and then when the Mennonites attempted to take their timber across the boundary, were not allowed to without paying heavy duty. The result was that all the Mennonites soon sold the land in Pembina county at a loss to the real estate men who had sold it to them.

With stock raising in view, Mr. Atchison chose land near that of his friend, Alexander Saunders. He paid \$70 for Frank Axtell's squatter's right. Mr. Atchison then returned to Pembina and got a team and plow for breaking. In the fall he brought his family and goods to his new home. He came with eighteen head of cattle. He had some difficulty on this journey, for it snowed, and the prairie south of the Goose river had been burned over.

As these early settlers were near the mail route that ran from Valley City to Lee, Mr. Saunders suggested that Mr. Atchison apply for an office. The application was made, and October 24, 1881, the post-

John H. Atchison

office of Gallatin was started, with Mr. Atchison as the first postmaster.

At first they paid the carrier to stop for the mail, but after six months he was obliged to bring the mail. For several years after the railroad came to Cooperstown the mail was carried from Valley City, and later from Cooperstown. The number of persons who got their mail at the Gallatin postoffice steadily decreased until the rural free delivery displaced the country office. It was discontinued July 14, 1905.

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J. H. Atchison

J. H. Atchison, farmer Sec 24-145-58, T.O. Gallatin, was born in Scotland in 1846, and was brought up and educated in that country. He emigrated to Perth County Canada in 1861, where he worked on a farm. In 1867 he married Miss Eliza Siddle, the third daughter of John Siddle, of Perth Co. Canada. They have five children living and two deceased. Mr. Atchison went to Manitoba in 1873, and from thence in October 1880, he moved with a team to Dakota, and was the first to settle on the east bank of the Sheyenne River midway between the present towns of Hope and Cooperstown. He has 160 acres of most excellent land, on which, notwithstanding the protracted drought of 1883, he had 25 bushels to the acre. Mr. Atchison is also Postmaster of Gallatin.

From Atlas of Dakota, 1884, p 242

Edgar Marcus Ayrea

By C.D. Purinton, clerk and Historian of Old Settlers Association.

Edgar Marcus Ayrea, son of John and Ann M. Ayrea was born at Pardeeville Wisconsin, Jan 13th 1857. He came to Griggs County Mar 25 1886. He lived on a farm two miles west of Cooperstown until 1888. Then he bought a farm three miles north east of town where he still lives with his family.

He was married on March 17th 1886 to Miss Cloie C. Hazard. Of this Marriage six daughters have been born. His only son died in infancy. Mr Ayrea has held the respect and confidence of his neighbors, and has held office on the town and school boards for many years, and for ten years was justice of the peace.