It was found soon after the inauguration of county agricultural work in Polk County during the period of World War I that the county was too large for effective service from one county or agricultural agent. The land area of 1,979 square miles, comprising 1,266,560 acres, naturally divided itself into two topographical areas divided more or less sharply by the old beaches of the prehistoric Lake Aggassiz.

The agricultural agencies responsible for the agricultural extension program and the Board of County Commissioners agreed that the prairies of the western part of the county with the clay soil types presented different farm management problems than the semi-wooded productive soil areas of the eastern part of the county. As a result of this decision, a line of separation was drawn along the eastern boundaries of Gentilly, Kertsonville, Onstad and Liberty Townships dividing the county into East and West Polk for the agricultural extension and other farm programs. This division of the county for agricultural extension activities was made in 1928 with headquarters for the agricultural extension work for the eastern part of the county set up at McIntosh. The office for West Polk remained at Crookston.

1825 Great Flood on Red River.
1850-'51 Great floods on Minnesota River.
1858 May 11th Minnesota becomes a state.
1858 July 20th Polk County established by act of legislature.
1863 October 3rd Old Crossing Treaty signed at Huot.
1870 W. C. Nash settled at East Grand Forks, had served area previously.
1871 September, Northern Pacific R. R. reached Moorhead from Duluth.
1871 October, Great Northern Railway reached Breckenridge.
1872 First group settlement in Polk County at Climax. Later in '72-'73-'74 settlements of Irish north of Climax, Norwegians near Bygland and Scotch at Mallory.
1872 First Scotch Fife wheat introduced into Valley; lasted 35 to 40 years.
1872 Sept. 4th, First steamboat reached Crookston; some water traffic to Crookston until railroad reached Fisher in 1875.
1873 Sept. Railroad reached Crookston.