seven years for the Crookston Transfer Company, a dray line. Leon moved north of Crookston in 1926 to take up farming. The family still lives there.

Leon married Bertha Veenstra, October 6, 1919, in the First Presbyterian Church, Crookston. Her parents were the late Sam and Nellie (O'Neille) Veenstra of rural Crookston. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on October 6, 1975. Children of Leon and Bertha are: Lewis, living in Grand Forks, North Dakota. Lewis has six children all of whom live in the Grand Forks Area; Lillian (Mrs. Albert Hust) lives in Crookston as do her four married children, Donna Corbin: Dione Ricord: Duane and Dale: Lloyd lives in rural Crookston. He has three married children: Linda, (Mrs. D. Johnson); Susie (Mrs. Tomaszewski); and Nickie (Mrs. L. Love). Luetta (Mrs. Jim Cooper), Washington has four children. Lyle lives in rural Crookston, as do his four children: Michael, Wayne, Kevin, and Karen. Lena (Mrs. Wm. Francis) lives in Crookston and has one child, Kim. Robert lives in Fargo, North Dakota and has two children. Leon and Bertha have many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, a number of whom still live in the Crookston area.

**HARVEY STRICKLER**

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Dershem Strickler are pioneers of the Valley! Harvey was born in 1862 at Mount Carmel, Illinois. After some roaming to Colorado and southern Minnesota, he came to Angus in 1891 and homesteaded the farm which is still operated by a son, William.

In 1906, he was united in marriage to Margaret (Maggie) Stroble who was born at Mount Holly Springs, Pennsylvania in 1877. She came to the Angus community as a young girl. Harvey and Maggie were blessed with five children: three daughters, Mrs. Wm. Duden, (Marie), Crookston, Mrs. Howard Masters, (Nellie), El Cerrito, California, and Esther, all of whom are deceased; two sons, William and Bennie both live in the Euclid community.

Harvey and Maggie were active in the Angus and Euclid Presbyterian Church. Harvey was township treasurer for many years and Maggie was active in school board affairs. Harvey farmed his entire life, 85 years, on the Angus farm acquiring many acres. He died in 1946. Maggie found time to do much outside work — milking, chores, and chicken raising.

**WILLIAM STRICKLER**

Mr. and Mrs. William Harvey Strickler (son of Harvey and Maggie Strickler). William was born in 1914 at Euclid. He was educated at a country school and attended the Northwest School of Agriculture. After graduating, he returned to the home farm and worked with his brother, Ben.

In 1939, he was united in marriage to Jean Tiedeman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Tiedeman (Marie Schuler), also of the Euclid area. Jean, born in 1921, attended country school and because Crookston began a rural bus route for Euclid students, she graduated from Crookston High School.

William and Jean are parents of a daughter, Marilyn, born in 1941. Marilyn attended school at Warren, Minnesota and graduated as a registered nurse from Fairview School of Nursing in Minneapolis. She was married in 1963 to Stan Sirek, a graduate of Moorhead State and they live at Wahpeton, North Dakota, where he is in partnership in an auto dealership. They have three children: Joel, 10, Deanna, 7, and Jason, 5.

A son, Donald, was born in 1944, attended Warren Elementary and Northwest School of Agriculture. In 1966, he graduated from North Dakota State University with an agriculture major. He returned to the farm to be in partnership with his father. In 1965, he was married to Ellen Filipi of Warren, Minnesota. They have four children — Brent, 7, Kari, 5, Kristen, 4, and Becky 1.

William and Jean Strickler are members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. They have taught Sunday School many years and held many of the church and Ladies Aid offices. Jean was a Homemakers' member for several years.

William became interested in Angus cattle as a 4-H member and still has a herd, selling breeding stock. He has served as State Angus Association president as well as on the board of directors. Because of his interest in cattle, he has participated in the Red River Valley Winter Shows for 38 years, serving as vice president of the board of directors and president of the Livestock Association since 1941. He served as chairman of the fund raising drive of 14 counties to raise $400,000 for new buildings in 1962. Because of his efforts, the Livestock Show Arena was dedicated in his honor, naming it "Strickler Arena." He was selected to the Hall of Fame in 1973, an honor for devoted citizens of the area who have given freely of their efforts to make the show go on.

Mr. and Mrs. Stan Sirek, Joel, Jason and Deanna.

In 1974, he was Crookston’s Pioneer Days Award of Honor recipient in recognition of pioneer agriculture achievements in the area of livestock.

Other honors in community affairs include: Master Farmers Award 1944, at Warren, Minnesota; Soil Conservation Award for West Polk County in 1963. Alumni Award for Class of 1930 awarded in 1971, and 4-H Adult Leadership Award. William served on the Bethesda Hospital Board for 23 years until it merged with St. Francis and became Riverview Hospital.

William was appointed township treasurer upon the death of his father, Harvey. He has served as treasurer upon election since 1946. In the 1940's, the local telephone service was purchased by a group of farmers. William spent many hours and days as its new president to get service to as many homes as possible. He also served on the local REA to get signers and had one of the first vapor lights on his farm.

William and his brother farmed as a partnership until 1961 when they liquidated. Then William's son, Donald, returned from college to become a partner in 1968. Angus Acres Inc. This farm has 3,500 tillable acres; raising small grains, corn for cash crop, and later adding sugar beets. William grew potatoes for ten years but found marketing for processing not too enjoyable or perhaps profitable for the long hard hours and a very expensive crop to raise. The starting of the potato processing plant in Crookston was a reason he started in potatoes, getting a 200-acre contract with a $20,000 share. However, marketing of the fries has always slowed processing which resulted in Jiffy Fry selling to Simplot with a larger area to supply.