Scott and Craig, Nettie Flatten passed away in 1972 after a long and difficult illness. As for me, I intend to spend the rest of my days here in this community and I truly believe there is no better place on earth and no finer neighbors, and no finer people can be found anywhere!

**JACOB GUST**

One of the first settlers in the Tabor area was Jacob Gust. He, at the age of 18, and his three brothers John, Tom and James left their home in Domazlice, Czechoslovakia because of mandatory military service. They arrived in the United States in 1883, living at first in St. Paul, Minnesota for a short period of time before coming to Tabor. Jacob worked for about two years at the Keystone farm which at that time was a large farming operation. He later farmed in partnership with his brother James in Sullivan Township for about two years. Then he purchased a farm in Northland Township which he operated until 1935. In 1890 he married Anna Kovar, daughter of Frank and Anna Kovar of the Tabor area. They became parents to twelve children: Anna, Mary, Frank, William, Joe, George, Bertha, Ernest, Albert, Amos and Helen. One daughter died in infancy. Frank farmed all his life in Northland Township. William operated a hardware store in St. Thomas, North Dakota. Joe, Ernest, George and Amos all farmed in Northland Township. Albert was employed at Peoples Oil Company in East Grand Forks. Mary became Mrs. John Mack. Anna married Joe Pribula; Bertha married Frank Vasek; and Helen married Joe Genereaux.

Jacob was treasurer of Northland Township for twenty-five years and also served on the local school board of District 46, which he helped organize. He died at the age of 90 in March 1954.

In approximately 1915, a devastating hail storm occurred on July 5 which caused real hardship. There was no harvest that fall. It also killed many chickens and broke windows. At the Jacob Gust house, a piano close by a broken window was played by the large hail stones pounding on the keys.

In a typical year, harvesting was done by using a binder to cut and bundle the grain and then by using a threshing machine to separate the grain from the straw. Harvest time required a lot of patience from farmers who relied on hired threshers. These crews would work as many farms as possible, so some farmers’ crops were not threshed until late fall. In 1920, Jacob bought his own threshing outfit as he had considerable help from his family to operate it. This was quite a blessing as he no longer had to wait for others to do his threshing and his wife and the cooks had a much smaller crew to serve.

**JOSEPH HUDERLE**

Joseph Huderle, Sr. was born in Wisconsin and came to Minnesota at an early age. For some time he lived in McLeod County where he married Katherina Zedlik. In 1878 the young couple came to Northland Township, where they homesteaded and also acquired a tree claim. The young bride took care of the home while the husband worked on the railroad which was then being built between Angus and Stephen. Through all sorts of adversity, they farmed here until she passed away in 1935 and he in 1942. About 1901, they lost their home and all their belongings. They had ten children: Joseph married Anna Kotek and farmed several places in North Dakota. He died in Minneapolis, Minnesota about 1970. Anna married Joe Adamek. They farmed in Renville County where he was killed by lightning. She later remarried and lived in Montana. Mathilda married Joseph Myerchin and farmed in North 5 which disintegrated. William was married to Mary Kugel and farmed on the parents’ tree claim. Emma was married to John Skornicka, they later moved to Michigan. Albina who was married to John Pribula, lived in Esther Township. Jerry was married to Sophie Pribula, they farmed here and later moved to Bemidji, Minnesota. Mayme married William Zavoral and lived at Thorholt, Minnesota. Edward, who married Mayme Zavoral, farmed in Sandsville Township. Henry, the youngest of the children, lives in Bemidji, Minnesota.

**JOSEPH KOPECKY**

In 1874, Joseph Kopecky and wife Anna (Miska) left their homeland, Czechoslovakia. Their destination was McLeod County in Minnesota. With them were three sons: Joseph, Frank, and James, who had completed their service in the Austrian Army. Their ancestral home was in the village of Studnice, near the city of Hlinsko, Czechoslovakia. The three sons married and lived in McLeod County for nine years. In quest of more and cheaper farm land they next settled in Todd County, where they stayed for six years. Trying to make farm land out of heavy virgin forest was not their idea of an easy life in America.

Joseph, the eldest of the brothers, journeyed to Tabor, in Polk County in the fall of 1888. The lay of the land was more to his liking so he persuaded the youngest brother, James, to move here. Frank, the other brother, returned to McLeod County, where he farmed until about 1913. He passed away in 1920.

James settled on Section 13 in Northland Township, Polk County. While in McLeod County, James married Marie Novotny. Their two oldest children were born, John and Mary. Three other children, Joseph, Emma and Frances were born in Todd County, followed by Frank, Mathilda, Rose, Albert, and Anton, who was born in Northland Township. On arriving here, they stayed at the home of Joseph Danek while their own home was being built that summer.

The father, James, passed away in 1919. The mother passed away in 1946 at the age of 92.

James Kopecky vividly remembered when in 1866, the German soldiers passed through their village on the way back from Vienna, where they brought about the capitulation of the Austrian Army.

Grandfather Joseph, with several others, journeyed to Russia about 1860 in quest of more acreage to live on. However, conditions there were not to their liking, so they came back home, and Grandfather resumed his trade of carpenter and casketmaker, while Grandmother made baskets woven out of oak roots, which were sold in the nearby city of Hlinsko.

Mother, then Marie Novotny, recalled that when the steamship was about three days out of Hamburg, Germany, it lost or broke a propeller and was taken into Plymouth, England for repair. After a wait of many days, a replacement was brought from Hamburg and the ship continued on its way.

James Kopecky often reminisced about having to make three starts in Minnesota: First he landed on a bare piece of land with not even a fence post on it.

Mother came from Moravia, not far from where the battle of Austerlitz took place, in which Napoleon defeated the Rus-