became the rural carrier of the combined routes. It is a motorized rural route 62 miles long.

Percy B. Boyer died November 29, 1965, while in his twentieth year of service as Beltrami, Minnesota, postmaster. His family received from the post office department the following: "Honorary recognition is accorded Percy B. Boyer for devotion to duty in the course of an honorable career in the United States Postal Service."

This posthumous citation conveys an official commendation and an expression of sympathy to the family issued at Washington, D.C., on January 5, 1966. Lawrence F. O'Brien, Postmaster General.

Nellie Reep served twenty years as a clerk in the Beltrami post office. She is now retired and living in Red Lake Falls, Minnesota. Evelyn E. Boyer worked in the Beltrami post office as postmaster and as a clerk. She retired on July 4, 1975, and received a service award for her twenty-six years of service to the Government of the United States from the United States Postal Service on the occasion of her retirement. It was signed by Clarence B. Gels, Regional Postmaster General. She now lives in Crookston, Minnesota, in 1976.

In 1976, Helmer B. Nornes is serving his thirty-fourth year as rural carrier from the Beltrami, Minnesota post office, having been appointed April 1, 1943. Shirley Anderson was appointed a clerk in the Beltrami post office on October 25, 1968, and is still serving in that capacity in 1976. Other substitute rural carriers in the past have been Warren Carlson, Ivel Hanson, Oscar Aanden and Frank Regel, who in 1976 is serving as substitute rural carrier at the Beltrami post office.

After the death of Percy Boyer, Lucille Sykes, a clerk from the Mentor post office, was appointed acting postmaster. She resigned after a few months, and John C. Webster was appointed acting postmaster, April 8, 1966, and he was confirmed as postmaster on October 5, 1967, and is still serving as Beltrami postmaster in 1976. The post office was moved in March of 1976 into the new Beltrami Mall.

HISTORY OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF BELTRAMI, MINNESOTA

82 years ago a group of Scandinavian Lutherans settled in the area now known as Beltrami, Minnesota. Desiring to continue in the faith of their forefathers, general invitation was sent to all Norwegians in this area to meet at the Flakne and Onstad store in Beltrami. On December 20, 1893 several people met and decided to organize a Lutheran Church. A total of 26 adults and 39 children comprised the entire congregation. Immediately they began to search for a pastor and first choice fell to John T. Krogstad. As he lived in Ada this meant that services could be conducted only once a month, so meetings were held in a schoolhouse at Edna, Minnesota. Andrew Mjelde served as first secretary of the congregation. Three years later the congregation voted to erect a church building. Located on the west side of the Great Northern railway tracks, a church was put up having a chancel 14 feet deep and a bell tower 12 by 12 feet. This also housed the entrance.

After nine years of service, Pastor Krogstad resigned and was replaced by Reverend Thosten Boe, who became the first resident pastor. His stay was brief and Reverend Oddmund Omdalsrad came to fill the vacancy. Changes were made frequently and in 1904, Reverend John Brono, who lived in Crookston, served the congregation for two years. In 1906, Reverend Peder Steen was installed as spiritual guide. His home was at Fosston and he encountered many hardships while making the long trips to Beltrami with horse and buggy. On June 17, 1914 services were conducted by John Hjelmeland, a student of theology at the Free Church Seminary. After being ordained he was called to serve in four congregations in the Gudbrandsdal region. On March 19, 1916, Reverend Otto Lutnes succeeded Pastor Hjelmeland. Though he served only one-half year his ministry was one of distinction. On May 7th, 1916, he preached the first English sermon ever heard in the church. During his short tenure, the congregation decided to build a new church home appointing Reverend Lutnes as architect for the new building. It was decided to erect the structure on a plot of land donated by Mr. Theodore Boyer, where the church now stands. On October 7, 1917 the new building was dedicated by Reverend J. M. Sundheim, president of the Northern District of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America. It was about this time that they joined the American Lutheran Church of America. One year later Reverend Moen terminated his services as pastor and Reverend N. L. Otterstad accepted the call. He also served Bethel and Hofslö and Scandia. The home built and owned by Anton Aanden served as a parsonage. In November, 1954 a three point parish was formed which included Beltrami, Hofslö and Scandia. The Stauning house was purchased for a parsonage and on July 31, 1955 Reverend L. S. Gjerde was installed as pastor. A resident pastor greatly benefited the congregation. His ministry was marked by greater attendance at worship; a Junior Luther League was formed, a Junior choir organized and a Prayer Fellowship group met each week.

You have read a short history of this church located at Beltrami. In the words of Pastor Berger, "By itself it may seem insignificant but you must read between the lines. There, hidden behind cold, dead facts you will catch fleeting glimpses of the excitement and the despair, the history and the defeat, the joy and the sorrow that characterizes the people of God. But always the church moves onward, because it follows in the steps of Christ. Christ is far out in front."

OSCAR AANDEN

Oscar's father, Anton Aanden, was born December 29, 1870 in Gundersdalen, Norway. This is a very steep, wooded valley and the Aanden place was situated quite far up where very little land was tillable. They had a small farm with a few cows and sheep. All the buildings were built from logs with homemade furniture. Logs had to be cut and brought down from the mountain. It was Anton's job to ride the horse that pulled the