ned, and smoked all their bacon, hams and sausages. Their farm was the scene of many happy times. Neighbors would gather on Sunday afternoon to throw horse shoes or play volleyball. Ernest loved baseball, with Loren playing on the team. Many a game was won by his side line coaching and cheering. The children attended school at Eldred, the first consolidated school in the northwest. The Wollins drove one of the big buses for four years with a team of two horses.

The first English Lutheran Church of Eldred was built in 1930, where the families worshipped. Now at the age of 84 years they are attending church as regularly as possible and are proud of the fact that four generations are there. They have survived tornadoes, crop failures, and floods. What a thrill when a second-hand Model T. Ford came to serve the family.

After Ernest discontinued farming for himself he worked for his son-in-law, Andy Dragseth, husband of Victoria, and several other farmers. In 1949 they moved into their own home on Gorgas Avenue in Crookston, where they reside at the present time. They have six married children, 15 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. Ernest enjoys coming out to the Dragseth farm in the summer and watching his grandson, Allen, farm with his big tractors and machinery, quite a bit different from when he farmed.

Ernest and Emma celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary June 17, 1976.

Russia Township History

March 15, 1884 appears to have been the date of the first town meeting. The first officers were: Ole Olson Jr., supervisor; Peter Noes, John J. Urness, H. F. Hoff. Oren Simmons was the town clerk. These men were sworn into office March 9, 1886, by Fred Baatz, who was then justice of the peace. B. O. Lindberg was another justice of the peace and was also assessor for many years until his death. The town meetings were held at the O. Simon's farm.

On July 26, 1886, there was a town meeting to divide the town lines between Fairfax and Russia townships. Owners of land in Russia Township on July 26, 1886 were: O. Simmons, Es-s of N.E.-4, E-2 of S.E.-4; Peter Noesen, N.E.-4; Fred Baatz, S½ of N.-4; O. S. Johnson, S-2; Thom Wallace, N½; Hans Clausen, S.W.-4; John Amundsen, N.W.-4. On May 12, 1889, a meeting was held to consider an act for the protection of public health by providing for inspection before slaughter of cattle, sheep and swine, desired for human food. O. Simmons, C. O. Espe and F. Cheapeus were appointed meat inspectors. On March 7, 1892, expenses for the year were $70.00. More Russia township owners of land on July 23, 1894 were: John Aagord, Johannes Aagord, A. M. Gamee, John Thompson, Ole Oleton, B. O. Sindberg, and Cornelius Hansen. Russia township supervisors on July 23, 1894 were: Peter Noesen, Ole Olesen Jr., and Ben Geroux.

In 1907 it was moved to its present location on land donated by E. B. Durdahl in Section one, Russia Township. The only church in the township, it is still being used; also the cemetery.

There was a Catholic Church in Section twenty-nine and a Lutheran Church in section thirty-four. This was Bethel Lutheran. The cemetery is still being used today.

VINCENT BAATZ

Starting with "Shorty", his parents came from Luxembourg and Germany. Mrs. Baatz came at the age of sixteen and lived with her brother, Mark Rauenburkler until she married John Baatz. They homesteaded land just southeast of the Station of Russia which is now Greenview. To them were born seven boys and one girl. They then bought a house and moved just southeast of the Homestead. The boys were all raised on that place. The oldest boy was killed by a horse at the age of eighteen. The girl died at the age of two. She was the youngest. Mr. Baatz died in 1926 and Mrs. Baatz in 1956.

Now, for my family, my dad, the former Joe Ingvason, was born and raised in Durand, Illinois to Julius and Ragna Ingvason, who came from Norway. My mother, Ellen Bloom, was born in Chicago, Illinois. The family then came to Shirland, Illinois. Her family came from Seden. She lived at Shirland, Illinois until she and my dad were married in 1907, when they moved to Rockford, Illinois. In 1914 they moved to Minnesota, half a mile east of Greenview Station. They had four children: Evelyn, Julius, Betty and Lyle. In 1940 they moved to Badger, Minnesota and in 1962 moved back here and lived in a trailer house on our son's place east of Nielsville. Dad died in 1967 and Mother in 1972.

I was born at Rockford, Illinois and at the age of six years, I came to Minnesota. "Shorty" was the youngest of his family. He and I went to school together south of Greenview in District 160. Then I went east to District 289. We were married in January 1936 and for ten years we owned land with no buildings. Often we moved every year and sometimes twice a year. In 1946 we bought the place where we live now. To us was born a son, Raymond, who is now farming three miles east of Nielsville, Minnesota, since 1962 when he got out of the Army. He has three children: two boys and one girl. They are doing fine.

Six and a half years after Raymond, our JoAnn was born. She is married and now lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota. We have been blessed by the Good Lord, even with our sorrow but mostly with happiness. In 1948, a tractor tipped over on Raymond. He was pronounced dead but again the Lord was with us and he recovered. In 1944, JoAnn had meningitis and was pronounced dead. Again we were blessed by her recovery.

BERTN LINDBERG

Bernt Lindberg was born in Hedemarken, Norway August 21, 1862 and was the eldest of five children born to Ole B. and Astrid Lindberg. His father died from a tree hitting him that he

HAFSLO LUTHERAN CONGREGATION

The first Lutheran settlers came to Russia Township as early as 1875. They built a church for there was an urgent need for a place to worship and a bell to call them to worship.

The Hafslö Lutheran Congregation was organized in 1887. The first meeting was held July 14, 1887. Hafslö is named after Hafslö, Norway. With forty-five members the first meeting was held. The first officers were: H. J. Hoff, John Urness and Christ Baarnes. The Church was built on the S. Sylvester farm, one and one half miles east of Marin Station (later changed to Harold Station).