OLE JEVNING

Mr. Ole Jevning was born near Bardu in northern Norway, April 12, 1845. His parents were Johan and Ingeberg Jevning. His mother died when he was but a few days old. He grew up and was educated in his native land. When he became 21 years old, he left for America with many others from his area. He left May seventh and arrived in Freeborn county August 29, 1866 and worked there two years in carpenter trade after which he went to Ottertail county. In 1869, he joined government supply train leaving St. Cloud for Fort Abercrombie and worked as a cook. He was also transferred to Fort Ripley and to Fort Snelling. He took a homestead claim in Ottertail county in 1869, but after two years he let the land revert to the government. He journeyed to the Red River Valley in the summer of 1871 with the Estenson family. At that time there were no roads or trails and the rivers had high banks and muddy bottoms. Their aim was to reach high land and noticed bits of bark on the prairie which denoted a recent flood. They pushed on until they came to the Sand Hill river where land was more satisfactory. From there they went to Red River where they sighted the steamboat, Selkirk, which was a very welcome sight.

Ole Jevning was an experienced builder and he built the log cabins while the others in the party broke land. The first house was built for Mr. Ole Estenson, 20 by 24 feet. Ole spent the day preparing the logs and others assisted in hauling them to the site and peeling off the bark during the evening hours. Mr. Jevning lived in the prairie schooner until fall when he completed his own log house. It is told that they had poles and long bunches of prairie grass for a roof, no floor or windows. A rainstorm in the night wet their hay bed and in morning found their shoes floating in their house.

Mr. Jevning was married February, 1872 to Miss Ingeborg Estenson, daughter of Ole Estenson. This marriage which occurred in the county was the first among the settlers. Mr. Jevning and Miss Estenson got return tickets over the stage route to Pembina, the nearest point where they could find one who could officiate on such an occasion. The gentleman who married them was General Harrison who was stationed at the fort there in Pembina. After they arrived there, the stage had been sold six times and there were no trips being made. The new company refused to recognize their return tickets. Mr. Jevning and his bride took their seat in the sleigh and defied ejection. When they arrived at Grand Forks the officers there gave them permission to travel to Frog Point without charge due to annoyance to which they had been subjected.

Mr. and Mrs. Jevning are parents of the following children: Ingeborg, married Andrew Storttoen; Johann, married Marie Madson from Baudette, Minnesota; Ole Elmer, married Ida Larson: Inqvard, deceased; Ida, married Christ Monson; Inga Alma, married Peter Evenson; Anna Johanna Rebecca, married Martin Horntvedt from Baudette, Minnesota; and Olive, married Cecil Neil. At this writing Olive, the youngest, is the only living member to this family. All the sisters, brothers and "in-laws" are deceased including her husband, Cecil.

Mr. Jevning raised small grains for sale, and feed for cattle and other animals. These pioneers raised almost all their provisions. The Hudson Bay Company was a big help by bringing provisions for settlers in this area to Frog Point, better known as Belmont church now, which is across the Red River in North Dakota.

Mr. Jevning was active in his church and entertained many church pastors and dignitaries in his home. Mr. Jevning died May 1920 at 72 years of age. Mrs. Jevning died May 1939 at the age of 87. Her birthday was September 6th and a grand-daughter, Mrs. Bereth (Storttoen) Larson, and two great-grand-daughters, Mrs. Adair (Storttoen) Means and Mrs. Judith (Larson) Hoffman have the same birthday.

TELLOF AND GURINA KJOLHAUG

Telhoff and Gurina Berg-Simonson Kjolhaug came to America from Bardo, Norway in 1881. With his family, he settled in Fosston, Minnesota, Thirteen Towns, Rosebud Township, Polk County. They had three sons: Iver and Oliver settled in Bella Coola, British Columbia and Simon married Anna Anderson. Simon had one son, Martin and one daughter Selma at Gonvick, Minnesota. Four daughters: Caroline, one son Telhoff, one daughter Gea of Fosston. Maria married Ingbrit Fosbakk, no children and they lived in Florence, Oregon.

Karen married Esten Estenson, had ten children. Four died in infancy, Oliver, Thomas, Ivan George, Haakon and Esther lived at Climax, Minnesota. Trena married Anton Evenson and they had five children: Ever, Ames, Harry Gunda, Cora and Alma of Climax, Minnesota.

OLE KNUTSON, SR.

Mr. and Mrs. Ole Knutson, Senior of Eldred, Minnesota, immigrated to this country from Aal Hallingdal, Norway on July 4, 1880 with their five children; three children were born later in the United States. After spending some time near Thompson, North Dakota, with his brother, they moved to Section 12, Vineland Township in 1890 where he got a tree claim. He then started farming there with oxen and walking plow.