Ole Reiersgord, who was the publisher of the Ulen Union Newspaper at Ulen, Minnesota in Clay county, for many years.

Ole Reiersgord came with his parents, Evan Reiersgord and Gurie Benthagen Reiersgord from Fla Hallingdal, Norway, in 1875, and settled on a farm in the Ulen area. Bertha Reiersgord, the daughter of Thomas and Dena Lunder Thompson, was born at Dale, Minnesota, to Nels T. Lunder and Bertha Rustad Lunder, who came from Lunner, Hadeland, Norway, on the ship “Nymphen” in 1871. Nels Lunder later brought his parents, Thorsten and Dorthe Lunder to Clay county, where both had farms bordering on the Buffalo River.

Mrs. Reiersgord attended Moorhead State College, and Mr. Reiersgord graduated from Concordia College in Moorhead and received his master's degree from the University of North Dakota. The Reiersgord family moved to Fosston, Minnesota in Polk county in 1935, where Mr. Reiersgord was principal of Fosston High School until moving to Crookston in 1944. Prior to living in Fosston, the family lived at St. Hilaire, Minnesota, where Mr. Reiersgord was superintendent of the St. Hilaire school for a number of years. Mrs. Reiersgord also was a school teacher at St. Hilaire, and in more recent years, she taught fifth grade for fifteen years at the Franklin School in Crookston.

Mr. and Mrs. Reiersgord have two sons. Thomas E. Reiersgord is an attorney and resides in St. Louis Park, Minnesota, a suburb of Minneapolis. Paul M. Reiersgord is a career soldier in the United States army. He is now stationed near Philadelphia and is a recruiting counselor.

Thomas Reiersgord graduated from Crookston High School in 1950 and was employed for a time as a reporter for the Crookston Daily Times in 1950. He graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1954, and from the law school in 1956. He subsequently practiced law at Hallock in Kittson county in the Red River Valley, for four years prior to moving to Minneapolis in 1960. His wife's name is Camilla and they have three children: Diane, Susan and Robert. One of his hobbies is collecting old post cards and envelopes with postmarks from communities in the Red River Valley, particularly from post offices that no longer exist.

Paul Reiersgord graduated from Crookston High School in 1956 and attended Concordia College in Moorhead and the University of North Dakota prior to entering the army. During his career in the army, he has served tours of duty in Germany, Korea and Vietnam. His wife's name is JoAnn and they have two sons: Terry and Carl.

**JOHN RISCH**

John William Risch was born July 6, 1871, son of Heinrick and Julia Krue Risch on a farm near Buckskin, Gibson County, Indiana. His mother and two brothers died the summer of 1874 during a typhoid fever epidemic. John and his sisters received their education in a Lutheran parochial school in Evansville, Indiana. Grandfather, the Rev. C. Risch, was a third generation Risch to become a Lutheran minister and preacher in Evansville. The sign over the church door reads “Risch Lutheran Church.”

In 1885, Heinrick Risch sold his farm and with his daughters and son, John, came to Crookston. He took a job as gardener on Key Stone Farms near Euclid, Minnesota. He died August 12, 1902, at the home of son, John. Daughter Helena, Mrs. J. Miller, and twin sons died during child-birth. Daughter, Caroline, married Harry Halverson, a Minneapolis lawyer, and settled in Cutbank, Montana. John and Bertha Eickhoff, daughter of Christian and Johanna Eickhoff, were married December, 1895, by Presbyterian minister, Rev. Frazer, in a beautiful home wedding.

John was a painter by trade. He worked as painter of high towers for Great Northern Railway but gave it up to go into business for himself as an interior decorator. He sold out his business in 1902 and joined the Crookston Fire Department as foreman. In 1916, he was elected fire chief, a position he held until his sudden death following surgery February 26, 1926. His interests in life were his family; his home and beautiful yard on the corner of Sixth and University Avenue; his riding horses; and always the betterment of the Crookston Fire Department! He saw the change from horse-drawn fire equipment to the first two Stutze fire trucks. It was a very sad day when the four beautiful horses were put out to pasture. If John Risch had lived on a farm, he would have kept those loved horses. But he did see that they were given a good home on a farm far away from town so they couldn’t hear the fire bells. The day the third fire truck, an International, arrived in Crookston, John Risch died. He was loved and respected by all people. The day of his funeral all stores closed. The Crookston Municipal Band stood in the cold on the corner of Sixth and Main Streets and played from the time the casket was borne from the house to the Presbyterian church. It played again after service until the last car passed to Oakdale Cemetery. This was a great honor bestowed on a great man! After John’s death, his widow Bertha operated the North Main Grocery, selling out to Louise Balfour in 1938. She then returned to her home and rented rooms to tourists. In 1952, she fell and crushed a knee. After she was released from the hospital, she lived with her daughter, Laura, until her death June 10, 1958. Her grandson, Robert and family took over the family home.

**JOHN A. REINSCHMIDT**

John A. Reinschmidt was born in Germany, January 5, 1848. He came to the United States with his parents when he was 21. They settled on a farm near Maxwell, Iowa. On October 19, 1884, he married Philabena Stemler. She was born April 7, 1868, in Story county, Iowa. They farmed there and had seven children, Mary, Fred, Anna, Ida, Frank, Albert and Otto.

They moved to Red Lake County, Minnesota in 1901. The boys hauled milk to a cheese factory three and one-half miles away, in a buggy pulled by an ox. My sister Mary named the school where they went in Terrebonne township, District # 80. She named it “Prairie Queen.” There were five more children born in Red Lake county: Edward, Clarence, August, Oscar, and Gladys.

On October 16, 1916 we moved to Crookston, where another daughter, Doris, was born. My father worked as a gardener for E. W. Schuster, who had the greenhouse and land that Ernest Ziter now owns. My mother was an ardent church worker. We belonged to Our Savior’s Lutheran church. She was also a part-time mid-wife.

Children surviving in the family are Otto, Chula Vista, California; Edward and Gladys Reber, Crookston; Clarence,brainard; Oscar, Detroit Lakes and Doris Fregin of Little Falls, Minnesota.