ning, the storm hit. They were south of Euclid a few miles, about half way between Euclid and Shirley. Their car stopped and no way could they get it going as it blew full of snow under the hood. So they sat in the car — no blanket and not dressed too warmly, as it was a real nice day. If I remember right, I think there were about seventy-five lives lost in that storm between East Grand Forks and Crookston. Those three men sat in the car from eight o'clock that evening until nine-thirty the next morning, when they started walking south and had over two miles to walk to get to a farm house. There they got warmed up and had something to eat. None of us knew where they were until about four o'clock that afternoon.

Frank and Anna's children all graduated from the eighth grade at Four Corners and through the years at least a dozen teachers stayed at their place, until they started bussing the children to Warren.

In October 1961, they left the farm, and Warren and Dorothy took over the farm. Then Anna and Frank moved to Warren where they made their home several years. Frank passed away in February 1968 when he was almost sixty-eight years old. Anna lives at the Landmark Center, Senior Citizens building, and takes part in the activities there.

ELLING OLAI OLSEN

Elling Olai Olsen was born April 27, 1860, son of Ole and Edrika Olsen of Kilvik, Meloy, Norway. His wife was Jakobie Nickolene Oldsatter, born June 8, 1864, daughter of Ole and Anne Christianson of Meloy, Norway. Elling was a fisherman and made several trips to Loften where he did a lot of fishing. Jakobie lived at home with her folks and helped with the work. Elling and Jakobie were married in a double wedding with her brother, Johan Olson to Regine Moritsdatter at the Meloy Church in Norway. Two weeks after they were married the four of them together with several other relatives, came to America and landed at the port of Chicago in July 1886. They came to Crookston and for five years they lived southeast of Crookston and worked for some French people. One wonders how they ever understood each other — must have used sign language.

In June 1891, the Elling Olsens and their three children, together with the Johan Olsens and their three children came up to Angus where they had homesteaded — the Elling Olsens in Sections 32, Southwest quarter in Helgeland Township and the Johan Olsens in Brislet Township. They helped organize the township and the church. So many of those who moved up there were from the same place in Norway that they decided that the township should be named after the place in Norway, so that is how Helgeland Township got its name. The same way with the church when it was organized in 1892. It was named after the Meloy Church in Norway.

Elling and Jakobie raised their family of seven children who are as follows: Emma married Charles Haverlandt and in a second marriage, Alfred Eric Riedl; Alfred married Ruthie Eckleberry; Simon married Alice Johnson and in a second marriage, Mabel Beilsy. Oscar married Nora Sandbo, and Ellis, single, lived on the farm with his folks and farmed together with his father, taking over the farm when his dad died. Anna married Frank Hamrick and Ruth married Ralph Hamrick. Elling and Jakobie lived on the farm where they homesteaded all their lives and had a busy life taking part in all the activities of church, school and community. At one time Elling organized mail order business to Noble postoffice. Noble Postoffice was in the home of Ole Gjerde in Helgeland Township for many years. When the first world war ended on November 11, 1918, their daughter, Anna, together with her friend, Alma Pederson, rang the church bell all day. That was a happy and memorable day, as we knew the boys from our neighborhood as well as other boys all over the world would be able to get home again.

Elling died on October 7, 1932 at the age of 72 years and Jakobie died ten years later on November 7, 1942 at the age of 78 years.

OTTO ANDREW OLSON FAMILY

Otto Olson was born on a homestead southeast of Crookston in Onstad township near the town of Melvin to Johan and Regina Olson. He came to Helgeland Township at two years of age, and attended school to about the fifth grade. School was only two or three months of the year. He and his brother had to do the farm work at home while their father worked out. The boys would take turns plowing. One held the plow in the ground while the other led the horse. Otto was interested in mechanical things and read manuals on the steam engine. It is thought he owned the first car in the community. For a while he worked in the lumber mills near Bagley, Minnesota. He served in World War I and was awarded the Victory Medal.

After the war, Otto worked in the mines at Bovy, Minnesota where he was hit by a big iron scoop and left for dead. His sister found him and brought him to a hospital where he lay in a coma for months. He suffered a blind eye, a deaf ear and had a silver plate installed in his skull; but his glass eye and the skull plate were never obvious to anyone. Nor did he permit them to bother him.

Otto married Pearl Drake of Bagley, Minnesota in 1925. They lived in Helgeland township. Otto was a good well driller and traveled miles in this profession. Many farms today are still using "Otto's Well". He also was a salesman for Singer Sewing Machines and Story and Clark pianos. Two children were born to his marriage, Doris (now married and living in California) and Ernest (married and teaching in Ukiah, California). Otto and Pearl were divorced about 1931.

In 1937 Otto married Claire Nelson in Crookston. She is the daughter of Francis and Celeste Nelson. Claire was born in 1902 near Kinbrae, Minnesota and attended rural school district #279 in Helgeland township, graduated from the North-west School of Agriculture in 1929 and from Hughes Business College in Crookston in 1928. During the depression times she worked at an overall factory in Illinois.

Most of their married life, Otto and Claire lived on their farm in Helgeland township. They had three children; Edna (a graduate of St. Olaf College and teacher of private piano and voice — married to Howard Laymon of Radium — three children — living in Bloomington, Minnesota. Frank (married to Marline Kleven of Alvarado — three children), John is Lutheran pastor in Fredonia, North Dakota, married Alvina Pederson — two children.

Otto died in 1958. Claire died in 1972. They are buried at Melo Lutheran Church cemetery.

Higdem Township

OUR SAVIORS LUTHERAN CHURCH

This Church is located two miles south of Oslo, Minnesota and was organized at a meeting held at the Mathias Anderson school house, January 19, 1891. At this meeting, a Pastor O. S. Houkam, who was the pastor of the Middle Grove Lutheran Church of Mekinock, North Dakota promised to hold church services every third Sunday until August 1, 1891, either at a school house or at a home. Weather permitting, this church was built in the spring of 1895 on land donated by Ole J. Brennun.

It has also been called the Granville Church, as there was the Granville post office, plus a store and blacksmith shop across the road south of the church and cemetery. This was before Oslo, Minnesota was built in 1905. This church was
very active for many years, but around 1961 quite a few members left and joined the New Zion Church at Oslo. Our Savior's Church has been vacant for several years, but is really a landmark. I believe it is the oldest original church building North of East Grand Forks along the Red River up to the Western Stephen, Minnesota area. On August 4, 1972, Our Savior's Granville Lutheran Cemetery Association was formed.

The Officers as of our last annual meeting held July 11, 1975, are Earl Mallinger — President, Wayne Lindroth — Vice-President, Mrs. Julia Erickson — Secretary Treasurer, Carl Nelson and Iner Quern — Directors.

BIRCHOLZ STORE

The Bircholz Store came into existence around 1898 when Marie Rose Northrup had a small store in her farm home, one mile west of Kongsvinger Church. Bircholz was designated as a post office in 1899.

Marie Northrup was designated postmaster on August 20, 1900, and held that position until Magnus O. Kleven became postmaster in 1902 (December 17). He held that position until Adolph N. Anderson became postmaster on January 3, 1905. Mr. Anderson had worked for Mr. Kleven and in 1904 he bought the Bircholz Store for $1,500. The store burned down on January 1, 1915, but Mr. Anderson rebuilt and continued in business until 1926. The owners of the Northland Store bought Bircholz and sold out the stock. Then they dismantled the store building and removed it.

The home built by Mr. Anderson stood on the site until 1948 when Glen Dahlen bought the land. The house was moved to Oslo and the tree grove was grubbed away.

ADOLPH NICOLAS ANDERSON

Mr. Adolph N. Anderson came to the Granville, Minnesota, area in 1894 to visit his stepmother's family. His father, Jens Anderson, lived at Elk Mound, Wisconsin, but passed away in 1877 from ill health (lung trouble) contracted in the Civil War. Mr. Anderson then returned to work in the logging camps of Northern Minnesota and Wisconsin. He was at Hinckley during the Great Fire of 1897 and helped to evacuate the townspeople by train to Stump Lake. After that, he returned to Granville, Minnesota, in 1898. Then on June 17, 1899, he married Anna Dorthea Nelson, daughter of Erick Nelson in the area and Mr. Anderson bought the Bircholz Store in 1904. They continued in the store until 1926.

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson had ten children. However, four died at birth. The children: John, Oscar, Doris, Mae, Floyd and Viola spent their early years at Bircholz. Mr. Anderson also worked on the steam threshing crews in the fall as separator man. He was also the town clerk of Higdem Township.

The store burned in 1915, and was rebuilt at an additional cost of $2,000 above the insurance. However, in 1926, because of adverse economic conditions, the store was sold at auction. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson moved to Grand Forks, North Dakota and in 1931, Mr. Anderson became custodian at the city hall. Adolph passed away in 1941, and Mrs. Anderson in 1969. John passed away in 1973. Oscar and Doris live in Long Beach, California. Mae and Viola live in Grand Forks. Floyd passed away in 1966.

LESTER ANVINSON

Lester Anvinson, Agnes and their oldest daughter, Angela, moved to their farm in Higdem township (located just north of the big ditch and a quarter of a mile west of Highway 220) in 1940. Lester passed away in 1972. The farm is operated by his son, Timothy and Jack Martin. Lester farmed with the exception of two years (because of ill health) when he was employed by the Cities Service Oil Company of Oslo. The last two years, he was a small motor repair man for Lyons at Grand Forks. To supplement the income in the first years of marriage, he worked at the sugar beet factory and worked with his dad (Sievert) the rest of the season.

Sievert, son of Bertha and Andrew Anvinson, lived on their farm south of Oslo. He spent his early boyhood on a farm at Morris, Illinois. Before moving to Oslo, Sievert, Winnifred, Lester and Ardath lived in Foretow and north of Oslo. Lester learned his hunting skills on the farm “upeast” and was very disappointed if he missed a hunting trip in the fall. His Dad, Under Albert, and Henry, Mons Jelle and in later years his son Timmy. Jack Martin, Leeward Lofthus and others usually brought home plenty of venison for the long winters.

Lester's mother, Winnifred Hyatt, came by boat from England in 1898. She was seven years old. She and her mother, Elizabeth Hyatt, were met by Joseph Shaw (who became her step father); they lived on a farm in the Northland community. The first news they heard was about the sinking of the Battleship, Maine.

Agnes, the daughter of John Martin and Lara Iverson, was one of fourteen children. John came from Formosa, Ontario, Canada. His parents were German. He attended school in Formosa and went through the eighth grade. When he was twenty years old, he came to the United States by train. He worked in the woods at Colchester, Michigan. He got his citizenship papers, then joined the United States Army in 1885. The first three months he spent at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri. He was then sent to Assiniboine, Montana. Their duty was to be on guard for Indian uprisings. The great Northern Railroad was then being built. In 1891, he was discharged from the army and after spending some time in Montana and Langdon, North Dakota, he migrated to Minnesota. After living for a time in Oak Park and southeast of Oslo he bought ten acres of land on which he did truck farming. He bought thirty more acres of land and on forty acres raised a family of fourteen children. Five of the girls were rural school teachers. Four taught at the “Ash Lee School,” which is located on the Bill Duffy — formerly the Ole Bang farm.

The Granville Community was close knit and boasted both...
girls and boys kitten ball teams. In the winter both girls and boys played hockey and there was a lot of skiing and sliding on the banks of the Red River. The evenings were also spent visiting one another and enjoying games and good food. Lester was a member of the Ash Lee and Oslo School Boards and held positions on the St. Joseph's Church council, and was treasurer of the Potato Storage Inc. of Oslo.

Their youngest son, Jeffrey, attends the University of North Dakota and lives with his mother on the farm. Angela, Mrs. Roland Hyatt, lives in Sacramento and teaches school. Sharon, formerly a nurse, is married to John Macalvso and resides in San Francisco. Jame (a medical technician) and Ray Bushaw bought the Andrew Overson farm in the fall of 1974. They experienced two floods and lost their garden and ten acres of beans. The past spring and summer, Candace (Mrs. Michael Von Rueden) has lived in Grand Forks and worked at the Red River Bank.

WILLIAM DUFFY

On April 1, 1937, William Duffy bought the Ole Bang farm. It was one-half section with a country school on 29 acres. It is three miles south of Oslo in Higdem Township in Polk County. Bill was born on January 11, 1910, in Huntsville township, son of Edward and Amelia Duffy early settlers of rural East Grand Forks. His father, Edward, was born and raised in Canada. He, as a young man came to East Grand Forks and worked as a hired hand on Jackson's farm north of the city.

His mother, Amelia Jeffrey, daughter of Isreal and Mary Jeffery, was born and raised until early womanhood in Canada. She and her family came to Forest River. Then they heard about land near East Grand Forks. They settled on a small plot of land on the Minnesota Point. They had a vegetable truck farm. Bill's mother and father met there and were married. They bought a farm five miles south of East Grand Forks on Minnesota Point and raised their family of seven children, four boys and three girls. There are only three surviving, John, Oslo, Minnesota; Mrs. Margaret Polansky, Grafton, and Sister M. Clare, Moorhead, Minnesota. The deceased members are: Jim, Helen, Bill and Bernard.

Bill came to the Oslo territory with a team of horses and a 1937 Chevrolet truck. He traded the horses for a 1937 Allis-Chalmers tractor. The land was in very poor condition. He cleaned it up by growing potatoes and grain. On November 24, 1940, Bill and I, (Frances Rose) of Grand Forks, were married at St. Mary's Church in Grand Forks. My father was Moses P. Rose. He was born in Red Lake Falls, son of Joseph and Delphine Rose. My grandfather was a bridge builder. He helped build the railroad bridge between Grand Forks and East Grand Forks. My father was the parts manager for the International Harvester Company of Grand Forks. My mother was Sophia Marleau, daughter of Napoleon and Natalie Marleau. Her father had the feed mill on the Minnesota Point.

Bill and I were blessed with five children: Mary F. Gerszewski of Grand Forks. Her husband farms and works at the University of North Dakota. They have four children: Patti, age 11, Michael, age 9, Joanne, age 8, and Katie, age two and a-half years old; Peggy Tynan lives in Chicago. Her husband, Forrest, is a programmer technician for Zenith Radio. Kaye lives in Waterloo, Iowa. Her husband is a commercial artist. He works for a large art display company. They have one son, Chris, age three and a-half years old. Bernard is living at home at this time. He and three associates own the Valley Soil Testing Company of Grand Forks. He graduated from the University of North Dakota State of Fargo, in agronomy. Our son, Michael, died at age three months. After working hard and owning 850 acres of land, Bill died on December 4, 1964, at the age of 54. He left a quarter of land to each of his children. My son-in-law, John Gerszewski, farms his wife's and Kaye's two quarters. Peg rents her land to Laverne Roggala. Berni and I rent our land to Jim Campbell and Jim Bushaw. They raise grain and Pinto beans. Matt Campbell, Jim's father, runs the Pinto bean plant of Oslo, Minnesota.

When I came here as a bride, I lived in the Ole Bang 16-room house. After eighteen years, Bill built a four-bedroom ranch type home, which I enjoy and live in. The farm is the only place to live and raise a family.

Our children attended grade and high school in Oslo. After graduation, they attended the University of North Dakota, St. Catherine's College of St. Paul and North Dakota State University of Fargo. We attend St. Joseph Church of Oslo, Minnesota.

Back row, L. to R.: Helen, Jim, Duffy, Margaret Polansky; and Bill Duffy. Front row, L. to R.: John Duffy, Amelia (Mother); Sister M. Clare O.S.B. and Bernice Duffy.

MRS. ALF (HULDA) ELDEN

My grandparents, Johannes Gulbrandson and Karen Even- son came to the United States and to Esther township, Polk county in the 1870's. They were married here and they bought their land and got their deed on it in 1881. They had five children: Gerhart, Edward, Jonette (Jenny), Karoline (Carrie) and John. Edward, my father, married Ida Farder on July 27, 1907. To this union were born eight children: Hulda, myself, born in 1908; Obert in 1910, died 1946; Clarence in 1913, died 1961; Ethel in 1915, died 1934; twin boys that were still-born in 1919; Nina in 1920; and Edith in 1928.

Before my father and mother were married Father worked on one of the steam boats that plied the waters of the Red River from Grand Forks, North Dakota to Winnipeg, Mani- toba, Canada. He also worked on the big farm owned by a man named Sims, who lived near Inker, North Dakota in 1904. After marriage, he was the first rural free delivery mail carrier on the route south from Oslo, Minnesota, beginning in 1908 until they moved out of Oslo in 1911.
On June 4, 1929 I, Hulda, married Alf Elden of Alvarado, Minnesota. We had eight children: Ida, born April 25, 1930, died in December, 1930; AllanT born June 25, 1932; Erling, born May 8, 1934; Ruth, born October 17, 1936; John, born January 12, 1941, died April, 1942; Irene, born April 24, 1943; Karl, born November 13, 1946; and Ole born February 16, 1949. We moved from Oak Park township, Marshall county to Higdem township, Polk county, April 13, 1932.

We rented our land for a few years and then we bought it. It contained 125 acres. After some time we bought 160 acres more. Later we bought some small tracts so we have 320 acres or so. In 1954 Alf's only brother passed away, and since Alf is the only survivor, he inherited the home farm in Oak Park township in Marshall county besides what he owned there.

We have a museum of about 1300 household articles, etc. and a big collection of gas engines, tractors, steam engines and other machinery. We have our museum open every Sunday afternoon from 1 P.M. to 5 P.M., beginning May 15 to October 15. We also have a 340-horse power Corliss engine in working order and a Norwegian saw mill.

The first Church congregation was Mesopotamia, which was started in 1881. The people met in homes. Members included people from Snake or Alvarado and west to the Red River. In 1895 a church was built south of Oslo which many of the people along the Red River joined. This church still stands, but is now not in use. The congregation divided in 1906. The name of the church is Our Savior's Granville Lutheran Church. On May 27, 1900 some of the church members met to decide to build a church on the Mesopotamia Cemetery located three miles west and one-half mile south of Alvarado, Minnesota. They never did build that church.

Country stores were built up later on, and one store that existed was called the Bircholz Store about four miles southeast from my home in Higdem township. I remember it was managed for many years by my mother's cousin and her husband. Their names were Adolph and Annie Anderson.

I remember one happening my father told about when he was young and living at his home in Esther Township, Polk county. He told that when his brother Gerhart and he were digging a well, they were down several feet when their sister Karoline came out to tell them to come in for afternoon coffee. My father, being full of tricks, hurried and climbed out of the well and untied their billy goat who was tied close by. Then he went in the house. Every time Uncle Gerhart tried to get out of the well, the goat was right there to butt him so he had quite a time getting to his afternoon coffee to the enjoyment of my father.

Another exciting event was to hurry down to the river, about a quarter mile, to see the steam boats as they blew the whistle coming around the bend.

And the floods from the Red were something we as children were somewhat afraid of. One time my youngest brother Clar- ence, about three years of age, ran along the board sidewalk, which was about one and a-half feet up from the ground, and fell into the water which was 12-15 inches deep. My other brother, Obert, and I snatched him out of the water rather quickly.

Other events were at Christmas time when we would bundle up in our heavy coats and sit in the bob sled with a team of horses hitched to it and a quilt over our heads and a hot flat stone that had been heated in the oven of our cook stove over night to put our feet on to keep warm. We'd drive to our grandmother's place to spend Christmas day. One time our uncles pulled a sled with what we, as children, thought was Santa on it into the parlor. I remember brother Obert received the sled and I received a pencil box my Aunt Karoline had had when she went to school. I also got some toy dishes which I still have.

**PETER J. HEDLUND**

The Peter J. Hedlund family was one of the early immigrants to come to Higdem Township in Polk county to farm. They traveled to Minnesota from Vermiand, Sweden by way of Canada in 1888. Before coming to the United States, Mr. Hedlund served in the Swedish Army and there gained the self-reliance and determination to leave his parents and relatives and travel to the New Land. At the age of 42, he was willing to begin a new life in a strange country, bringing little else except his wife and six children, the youngest being six weeks old, with him.

Soon after his arrival in this country, Peter purchased 80 acres of land in Higdem township, section 23, from the railroad at $7.00 an acre. Having no capital, he went into debt for this land and therefore had to work as a farm laborer to earn a living and also pay the debt. That same year he built a small log cabin with a sod roof as a temporary dwelling for his family throughout the coming winter. The following year he built a more permanent log cabin, which was used until 1915 and is presently still standing. That year he erected an eight room modern farmhouse with every convenience of that day. It included a hot water heating plant with the entire home costing over $4,000.00. As Mr. Hedlund and his sons farmed, they purchased more land until they farmed around 800 acres, which was devoted to the raising of small grains, potatoes, and livestock.

The family included five sons, Peter X, John, Johannes, Emil, and William, the only child born in Minnesota; and two daughters, Annie and Mary. As time passed the two daughters married. Annie became the wife of John Strong in 1903 and bore three children. Mary wed Lars Kleven in 1906 and in the following years gave birth to 14 children. Both daughters remained in the area the greater part of their married lives.

In 1923, Mary, the wife of Peter, died at the age of 75 leaving her husband and five sons on the home farm. Five years later, Mr. Hedlund passed away at the age of 82.
Hilda, Mrs. Bernard Egge, and husband are living on the homestead where she and Bernard are farming the land. His first house was a log house, then a two-room lumber house, the second one. Later he built an addition to that one and yet later modernized it and built another addition to it. In 1965, Hilda and Bernard built a new one-story home. Lightning struck in the barn one spring and killed three horses and two cows. Father and mother and sister Marie were doing the evening milking, and had just come into the house when the lightning struck. So I am thankful to Providence, who saved them. Otherwise sister Rangina and I would have been orphans. Later an

addition was built in 1911 to the barn, a grainery, chicken house, hog house, wood shed and a machine shed were built. M. O. Kleven opened up a country store one-half mile away. Later it was purchased by Adolph N. Anderson and called the Birkholz Store. There was a blacksmith shop owned by Carl Prestebak. Andrew Larson and the Ericksons hauled milk by horses from Grand Forks and distributed it to country stores. Hilda and Bernard attend Kongsvinger church, a rural church.

ANDREW HEIERSTAD
Andrew Heierstad was born in Norway in 1843. He came to the United States in 1869, to Winneshiek County, Iowa. He worked as a farm laborer at $16.00 a month. He stayed there nine years; then he came to Polk County in Minnesota in 1878. The railroad came as far as Fisher. It was called Fisher’s Landing. Grand Forks and East Grand Forks did not have many inhabitants as yet. Anders planted 15 acres of trees — ash, box elder and cottonwood — planted by hand, not by machinery, as now in 1976. At times the seasons were wet, other times the weather was dry, but the trees survived and grew into a grove.

Andrew married Marit Sletten, February 22, 1891. She was also born in Norway and emigrated to the United States. To this union five children were born: three daughters: Marie (Mrs. H. Hanson), Rangina and Hilda; two infant sons, Olaf and Ole who died in infancy. Marie, Mrs. Hanson, lived in Canada and passed away there. Rangina also passed away.

IRVIN IVerson
Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Iverson, Oslo, Minnesota, live in Higdem township in the northwestern part of Polk county on a farm which her grandfather, Arnt Olson, homesteaded.

Mr. Olson came from Norway to the United States around 1868 and worked in lumber camps in Wisconsin for about six years. He returned to his native land where he remained for a short time. He then returned with his bride to Wisconsin. He came to the Red River Valley in 1877 looking for a place to settle. Again he returned to Wisconsin.

In 1878 he came back to the Red River Valley with a wagon, oxen and a plow and homesteaded on the present farm. He hauled logs from the river to make a small one-room home. Some time later he built a larger log house with a floor in it. In
1913 he built a large more modern home. Both the log houses are still standing.

He had two sons, Odin and Carl. Mr. Olson and his wife, Beret, lived on the home place all their lives. Carl and his wife, Anna, also lived on the present farm home until their deaths in 1968.

**LIND**

In 1888, Nels and Karin Lind came from Sweden to the United States. They lived a few months in Warren, Minnesota. He bought a yoke of oxen and cut and hauled cord wood eighteen miles for about $3.00 a cord. The farm had thirty acres of land plowed and contained a log house until they built a bigger house. Nels sold this farm to his son, John. The owner of the farm now is Orma Gulbranson.

The Linds had four sons: Peter, Ole, Johan and John. They all worked at home. When they left home, Peter, Ole and Johan bought 240 acres of land which the three worked together until the death of Johan at the age of 21. One year later, Peter and Ole divided the land, Peter taking 160 acres and Ole 80 acres. They each bought an additional 160 acres, the south half of section 22. The boys all made their home with their father until 1911.

Nels was born in 1847 and died in 1926. Karin was born in 1838 and died in 1914. Peter married Mathilda Pearson December 4, 1904. They had four children: John Algott died at the age of one year; Algot is married to Edith, and lives in Oslo. Goffred lives in Minneapolis and has three sons: Ernest, Gordon and Charles, all of Minneapolis; Beda is married to Earl Shave and lives by Alvarado. She has four children. Peter was born October 16, 1872, and died in 1939; Mathilda was born March 10, 1870, and died in 1957.

John married Alma Thompson. Three children were born to them: Theofiel, died when he was 21 years old; Amanda (Mrs. George Bates) died in 1970; Leonard lives by Alvarado; Alma died in 1916 and John in 1966.

Ole Lind's farm was originally the tree claim of Robert Olson. Ole planted ten or eleven acres in trees which yielded a profitable supply of saw logs. The trees were principally cottonwood and box elder. He planted an additional 500 or 600 trees for windbreaks. He built a good dwelling house and made other improvements on his land. He was engaged in raising grain, but he also kept five or six milk cows.

On July 16, 1908, Ole married Clara Olson, daughter of Ole E. Olson of Higdem Township. Two children were born to them: Mathilda (Mrs. Richard Dalberg) of California, who has two children, Darlyne (Mrs. Phil Tesbe) of California and a son, Richard of California, a son, Oliver, died in 1936. Clara died in 1919. On March 16, 1933, Ole married Anna Thompson. They have four children. Ordean married Ann Kozel, daughter of Emil and Agnes Kozel of Tabor. They have six children: Maurice married Jody Kollin of Alvarado. Carlene, David, Scott, Cathy and Mary are all at home. Alma married LaRoy Shane, son of Henry and Cassie Shane of Oslo. They have three children: Joyce is married to Alan Devine, son of Joe and Sarah Devine of Manuel; Gary and Loren are at home. The Devines have two grandsons; Shane and Michael Devine.

Almore married Ila Solem in 1957. She is the daughter of the late William and Esther Solem of Oslo. They have five children: Julie, Arlyn, Alan, Joni, and Arden, all at home. They reside on the Ole Lind homestead. They are members of Kongsriver Lutheran Church.

**JOHANNES LOFSTROM**

Johannes Lofstrom was born in 1851 in Sweden. He and one of his brothers took the name of Lofstrom, while the other two brothers kept the original name of Nelson.

Johannes was married to Sarah Amanda Westerlund in Sweden. In 1892, Mr. and Mrs. Lofstrom and Esther, age three, John, age six, Olaf, nine, and Nels, twelve years of age went from Sweden to England, from where they sailed on an English Allan ship to America. They landed in Quebec, Canada, and then went by train to Grand Forks, North Dakota, where they were met by Mr. Westerlund, father of Mrs. Lofstrom. About two weeks after the family arrived in Polk County, Mrs. Lofstrom and daughter, Esther, died a few days apart from typhoid fever, which had been contracted on board ship.

Johannes did carpentry work and also did blacksmithing on his farm in Higdem Township. He died in 1926.

Nels worked on different farms in the area and died in 1946. Olaf farmed the home place and also was a carpenter. He lived in Alvarado, and died in 1954. John worked as a machinist and is living in Los Angeles, California.

**THE MOEN REUNION 1935-1975**

This reunion is of descendants of Andreas Johnson Moen from Valdres, Norway, of whom Mrs. Esther Solem of rural Oslo, Minnesota was one. In the summer of 1935, Ole Moen of Dahlen, North Dakota, who was the brother of Peter Olson of Hegdem township, decided the relatives should get together. They had their first reunion at Bachelor's Grove in North Dakota. Over one hundred relatives were present. Peter Olson's dad was Ole Midtmoen, so later he changed his name to Olson. Peter was Mrs. Esther Solem's father. Andreas Johnson Moen was Peter's grandfather. Peter had three brothers and one sister; namely, Ole Moen of Dahlen, North Dakota; Andrew Moen of Whitman, North Dakota; Ulrick Moen of McCanna, North Dakota; and Dorthea Midtmoen Hagen of East Grand Forks, Minnesota.

The reunions have been held at various places, in farm homes, parks and churches. For a number of years now they have been held at Sherlock Park in East Grand Forks, Minnesota, because it was the people's choice. We always have a short program and, of course, lots of good food. Some of them come from far away. It averages around a hundred persons every year. Our meeting day is the third Sunday of June each year. This year was the 36th reunion. On the 35th reunion we had a special program. We had a "Time to Remember" tribute to those who have passed away. We had five red candles burning, representing each branch of the Moen family. While one member of each branch read the names of the deceased, a

Moen Reunion picnic.
white candle was lit for each branch. Mrs. Esther Solem was the oldest member of the Peter Olson branch. She had attended every reunion until her death in March of 1975. A traveling attendance trophy was awarded to the branch having the most members in attendance. There were one hundred forty persons registered. We register them every year.

Forrest Midtmoen of New York City attended our reunion the last two years. He is a second cousin of Esther's. He went to Norway last summer and traced back to thirty-five generations. He was going back again this summer for more information. Since I joined the reunion 24 years ago, through marriage, I have attended about 21 reunions. I am Mrs. Donald Solem, daughter-in-law of Mrs. Esther Solem.

**GUSTAV NELSON**

Gustav Nelson was only 17 years old when he and his brother Carl, 19, came with their father, Johannes Peter Nelson, to Minnesota. Johannes Nelson's wife Christine, and their four younger children were to remain in Smaaland, Sweden, until he had earned enough money in Minnesota to send for them.

The year was 1883 when Johannes and his two sons came to his brother, August Nelson, who farmed northeast of East Grand Forks, Minnesota. Gustav worked for his uncle that first year while his father, Johannes, took a homestead on what is now the John W. Nelson farm, five miles south of Oslo, Minnesota.

Before Johannes could send for the rest of his family, he got word that his wife had passed away. Nevertheless the next two sons, Frank, and John Magnus came to Minnesota.

On January 1, 1907 Johannes Peter Nelson passed away, leaving the homestead in care of his oldest son Carl.

Gustav, the second son, worked for some time on the Ole Bang farm, and then later on for Christian Quern. It was here he met and married the daughter of Christian Quern, Olivia Quern. This was in 1894.

Gustav and his brother-in-law, Carlotte Quern, farmed together in Higdom township for several years, and during this time three sons were born to Gustav and Olivia. They were John, Christ, and Carl.

In 1900 the Gustav Nelson family moved to Badger, Minnesota, in Roseau county, where they took a homestead. They lived in Roseau county 14 years, and during this time Otto, Gertie, Martin, and Leonard were born.

In the early spring of 1914, the family moved back to the north half of section 21 in Higdom township. One more daughter was born, Carrie. That fall John, the oldest son, passed away at the age of 18.

Gustav Nelson served on the Board of Directors of Farmers CoOp of Oslo for several years. He also served on the school board for district 50 for about 15 years. He was trustee for Our Savior's Lutheran Church of Granville for 25 years.


Surviving now are Carl, of Oslo, Minnesota; Gertie (Mrs. George Strafelda) of Washburn, Wisconsin; Martin, of Alvarado, Minnesota; Leonard, who lives on the home farm near Oslo; and Carrie (Mrs. George Stavig) of East Grand Forks, Minnesota.

**SIGVARD N. NELSON**

Erick Nelson, born in Norway, August 22, 1839, was the father of Sigvard N. Nelson. He came to America in 1861 with his father and located at Eau Claire, Wisconsin and worked in a lumber mill for eleven years.

In 1880 he came to Polk county, where he purchased 78 acres of script land in section 20, township 154, range 50, paying $6.00 an acre for it. Later he purchased more land and built a little log house which stood until 1945.

He was married to Oleana Farder in East Grand Forks in 1881. She also was born in Norway. They had seven children, namely: Annie, Mrs. Adolf Anderson; Sigvard, Mary, who never married; Emma, Mrs. Albert Anvinsen; Agnes, Mrs. Carl Larson; Oscar Edwin I (died at birth); Oscar Edwin II, who never married; Oleana who died young, in January, 1912. Erick died in May, 1919. Agnes and Mary are the only ones still living from this family.

Sigvard N. Nelson was born December 24, 1884, on this farm and lived here all his life. He was married to Ada Finseth, a neighbor girl, in July, 1915. She was the daughter of Iver and Karen Finseth, who were farmers. Iver was also a layman who traveled far with horse and buggy or sleigh to preach the Gospel. Born to the Finseths were ten children, namely: Anne (died in infancy), Karen (was a teacher and never married), Ivar (never married), Annie (Mrs. Martin Johnson), Petrina (died at 16 years), Andrew (married Emma Lindroth), Peter (married Anna Nyhus), Ole (married Anna Grenlien), Ole Andrese (died in infancy), and Ada (married Sigvard N. Nelson). All these have died except Ole, who lives in Duluth and is 86 years old now. Sigvard farmed with horses until 1937, when he purchased his first tractor by selling a team of horses plus $740. For many years he had cows, chickens, and sold eggs and cream by delivering to customers in towns. There were many hardships and sicknesses.

There were five children born to Sigvard and Ada: First, Orma, born in May, 1916, married Clarence Gulbranson in 1937. They farmed 160 acres in SE1/4 section 22, Higdom township, range 154, which he bought from his dad in 1947. He had a tractor and farmed with grain, also raising cows and chickens. Clarence became ill the last years and died in May, 1961.

Since then, the farm has been rented to Donald and Ralph Solem. Orma moved to Grand Forks and is working at United Hospital as a central service technician. They had three daughters; Avis (married Robert D. Iverson in 1960). He is in the Marines. They have three children: Colette, Darlene, and David; Carol married John Sansburn in 1966. He has a camera store in Grand Forks. They have one adopted daughter, Kari Ann; Lois married Dennis Turner in 1969. He is in the Air Force. They have no children.

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Mr. and Mrs. Gustav Nelson.

Erick Nelson. Mr. and Mrs. Irving Nelson and Lyle. Oleanna Nelson wife of Erick.
Irving, who married Medora Draxten of Fergus Falls, in 1956, and they have one son, Lyle. Irving was born, raised, and still lives on the farm where his dad and grandfather lived. He was in the United States Army about one and a quarter years, during World War II, spending a part of that time in Korea. He farmed until 1966 when he began custodial work — first at United Lutheran Church in Grand Forks and since at the Oslo Public School, where he is still employed. He rents his farm to Donald and Ralph Solem. His son, Lyle, is enrolled at Moorhead AVTI where he is studying electronics.

Aileen married Donald Solem in 1951. They farm, raising beets, potatoes, and grain. They live in Higdem Township. They have six children. Karen married Henry Duray Jr. in 1973. He will soon graduate from forestry school. James farms with his dad; LouAnn, Bonnie, Paul and Peter (twins), and one grandson (Stacy Ann) are all living at home.

Mary Ann married LeRoy Quernemo in 1947. He has always been in the milk delivery business in Fergus Falls. They have six children: Bruce, an accountant, married Lynn Johnson in 1970. They have one daughter. Jennifer married Donald Wagner in 1974. He is a farm manager. Diane married Merrill Holmquist in 1974. He is an accountant. Brian, Mari- lee, and Barry are all at home.

Harlan, their youngest child, died from rheumatic fever at the age of fifteen years in 1945.

Mr. and Mrs. Iner Quern

Mr. and Mrs. Iner Quern

Iner Quern was born July 21, 1912, in Higdem township on the farm where he and his wife, Inez reside. He is the son of Carlot and Ellen “Syrdst” Quern.

Carlot Quern was born July 2, 1871, in Renville County, Minnesota. He was the son of Christian Christanson Quern and Olia Maagrud Quern, who immigrated to Minnesota from Solor, Norway. Christian Quern was born April 28, 1831, in Bygd Kvern, Solor, Norway, the son of Kristian Kvern and Marit Stretkvern. Olia Maagrud was born September 26, 1843, in Hammar, Solar, Norway.

Ella Syrdst Quern was born July 15, 1874, in Higdem township, Polk county, Minnesota. She was the daughter of Andrew Syrdst and Ellen Ricksted Syrdst. Andrew Syrdst, the son of Ole Syrdst, was born February 7, 1838 in Trondheim, Norway. Ellen Ricksted Syrdst was born March 17, 1846, in Svorkland Trondheim, Norway, the daughter of Halvston Evenson and Maren Peterson.

Inez Nelson Quern was born March 31, 1916, in Oak Park township, Marshall county, Minnesota, the daughter of Henry Nelson and Sigrid Bratvold Nelson. Henry Nelson, the son of Ole K. Nelson and Augusta Haakenson Nelson, was born August 6, 1882, in Oak Park township, Sigrid Bratvold Nelson was born on February 28, 1878, in Skravtovd, Valdres, Norway, the daughter of Ole Bratvold and Karen Strand Bratvold.

Iner and Inez were married February 7, 1935, and are parents of eight children: Dennis was born August 31, 1936. He married Judy Kain of Neche, North Dakota. They have three sons, Mark, Brian, and Darrin. Dennis was killed in a car accident September 23, 1969. He was an electrical engineer and was employed by American Telephone and Telegraph. His family resides in Grand Forks, North Dakota.
is not married. Diane was born June 26, 1944. She married Paul Eggebraaten of Fisher, where they are engaged in farming. They have two children, Denise and Dean. David was born August 13, 1947. He married Patricia Strese of Rosemount, Minnesota. He is a career man in the United States Army. He and his wife were stationed in Germany for three years and are now stationed in Key West, Florida. Jay was born February 9, 1951. He is a graduate of Moorhead State College, majoring in journalism. At present he is helping on his parents' farm. Karen was born May 27, 1953. She married Royal Rivard of Argyle, Minnesota, where they are engaged in farming.

Iner and Inez own and operate the farm that was purchased by Iner's grandfather, Christian Quern, in 1895. In 1936 Iner and his brother, Oscar, took over the farming operations from their father, Carlot Quern. They farmed in partnership until Oscar retired in 1973. Oscar turned over his operations to his son Reed.

Iner has six other brothers and sisters: Kenneth and Vernon, who are engaged in farming with him, and C. Arthur, who lives in Vancouver, Washington; Mrs. Juel (Eveline) Smeback, and Mrs. Mildred Bettis of Vancouver, Washington, and Mrs. Thomas (Clara) Botko of Warren, Minnesota.

Inez has two brothers, Arthur Nelson of Grand Forks, North Dakota and Harold of Los Angeles, California; one sister, Mrs. Harry (Bernice) Gerszewski of Grand Forks, North Dakota.

Iner and Inez have been active in church and community affairs. Inez served on committees in the local Lutheran Church Women, P.T.A., and Homemakers. They are both voting delegates on the Valley Memorial Home Board of Grand Forks from Zion Lutheran Church.

Inez has held offices in the Oslo community club, Our Savior's and Zion Lutheran Churches, the Higdem Township, the Polk County Township Officers Association, the Middle River-Snake River Watershed District Board of Managers, the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts, Inc., the Polk County Crop Improvement Association. He was also on the rural school board 13 years and 16 years on the Oslo school board, also the Oslo Credit Union, the VM 1000 Club board, and a member of the Red Lake Basin Planning Commission. In 1970 Mr. and Mrs. Quern received the West Polk County Conservation Award, and in 1972 the Polk County Valley Farmer and Homemaker Award. He is a member of the Minnesota Farmers' Union, Democratic Farmers Labor Party, and the National Farmers' Organization.

Their farming operations involve growing registered and certified seed grains, and sugar beets. He is also a contract seed grower for the University of Minnesota. At the present time he is involved in a community effort to build levees along the Red River for flood control.

### Hubbard Township

The first settlers came to what is now known as Hubbard Township in 1871 and settled in the northwest corner of the township. Another group of settlers arrived in this same general area prior to 1879 and claimed land a little farther south than those arriving in 1871. It is interesting to note that they founded their homes near the Red River, perhaps as a source of fuel, logs for building and nearness to water for home and livestock.

Early records show that Hubbard Township in the early days was part of Vineland Township. These records show that the early roads were laid out by the supervisors of Vineland Township. Hubbard Township became an independent township in 1883. The first supervisors elected were Nels O. Paulsrud, Ole Gilbertson and Halvor G. Dale. The supervisors were responsible for laying out roads. This was of great concern to the settlers. The settlers drew up a petition for a road they needed. This was presented to the supervisors and upon their approval, a survey was made according to the report and plat. Most roads were four rods wide. The roads were built by the settlers living within a mile of the road. The roads were built with scrapers drawn by two horses. This was a very slow and tedious task.

**SIMON J. BAKKE**

Simon Bakke was born May 13, 1870 in Aurdal, Norway. He came to the United States in 1893, stayed for a short time at Fosston, Minnesota and then went to the Hayes Farm at Nielsville, where he was employed until 1902. He homesteaded at Grygla, Minnesota. In 1902, he married Annie Fosso. Annie was born at Fertile, Minnesota on November 28, 1883. Her parents, Helge and Bergit Fosso were born in Tinn, Telemarken, Norway and came to Herman, Minnesota in 1881. In 1882 they joined a covered wagon caravan and settled at Fertile, Minnesota. They had eight children: Nels and Gullick were born in Norway; Annie, Gunder, Agnes, Sven, Helge and Ole at Fertile, Minnesota.

After their marriage, Simon and Annie moved to their homestead at Grygla, Minnesota, where they lived until 1905, when they purchased a farm three miles east and one mile north of Nielsville. In 1918 they purchased another farm one and one-half miles east of Nielsville and moved there. Simon Bakke was a director and vice-president of the Farm Loan Association. He was active in his church throughout the years, holding various offices. He was also active on the school board and Hubbard township holding offices in both groups. Children born to the Bakkes were Sigrid, John, Helmer, Bella, Clifford, George, Sherman, James, Imagene and Elaine. The Bakkes were members of the St. Petri Lutheran Church. Annie passed away in 1929 and Simon in 1955. They are buried at the St. Petri Cemetery.

Sigrid Bakke Olson attended high school in Nielsville and Moorhead State College. Mrs. Olson taught school for a number of years. From 1942 to 1947 she was postmaster at Nielsville. She was married to Leonard Olson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Olson of Nielsville, Minnesota. Leonard passed away in 1950. John Bakke attended school in Nielsville. He served in the United States Marines for four years. He owned and operated an oil station at Nielsville which he sold to his brothers George and Sherman when he became manager of Ireland Lumber Company in Climax. He later became general manager of Ireland Lumber Company in Grand Forks. He married...