Supply. Kenneth met and fell in love with a German girl during World War II. All Crookston sympathized with Kenny during the many months it took Anna Lee to gain entry into the United States. Helen married Raymond Schaubeker and now lives in Rochelle, Illinois. Andrew lives with his daughter, Helen. Another daughter, Agnes, married Reverend Helger, pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. They live at Worthington, Minnesota. Irene Woodstrom Berg lives in San Fernando Valley, California. She operated a book store there. Nel's son, William, lives in Fargo; his daughter, Hilma Sheets, lives in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. When Nels Woodstrom died, his wife went to Calgary to live with Hilma. She lived to be 101 years of age. Another daughter of Nels, Clara Monson, is dead.

Carl Woodstrom came to Crookston in 1884. He too farmed in Lowell Township. Later on he moved into Crookston. Carl Woodstrom had five children, but only one of them, Victor, remained in Crookston. Victor was a railroad man. He was two years old when his family came to America. The little house in which Carl raised his five children is still standing on Nelson Street. His children went to a little wooden school that was on the exact site on which the Eugene Field School now is. There weren't many houses in Sampson's Addition then. Victor remembered following a path to school and building the fire for the teacher when he got old enough.

Victor had nine children. Only two of them, Viola, Mrs. Milton Lyonholm, and Dolly, Mrs. William Miller, are still in Crookston. Milton was at one time teller and finally vice-president of the First National Bank. Bill owns and operates an appliance store. The Lyonholms had three children: Suzan, Mrs. Lynn Kopecky, lives in Iowa. David lives in Redding, California and Larry lives in Arizona. The Bill Millers had three children also: Cheryl, Mrs. Lynn Andressen, lives in Missoula, Montana. Cynthia, Mrs. David Kessler, lives in Fargo. Catherine is a senior at the University of Arizona at Tucson. She is majoring in languages. Her major is Chinese and one of her minors is French.

Bernard Youngquist

Dr. Bernard and Mrs. (Bernice) Youngquist moved on September 8, 1971 to their new home which they built in Lowell Township. They had previously lived in the superintendent's residence ("White House") on the campus of the North West School of Agriculture. Dr. Youngquist was superintendent of this institution until it was phased out in 1968. He was also director of the University of Minnesota Experiment Station, a position he now holds.

Mrs. Youngquist was born in Ottertail County in Minnesota and Dr. Youngquist in Pine County in Minnesota. They came from families of five children and nine children respectively. Mrs. Youngquist's parents were farmers in Ottertail County until their retirement. They are now residents of an Elders home in New York Mills. Dr. Youngquist's parents farmed in Pine County. Both parents are deceased.

Mrs. Youngquist was educated in what was then known as Moorhead State Teachers College and taught in the rural schools of Ottertail County, in Starbuck, Minnesota and in Deer Creek, Minnesota. Dr. Youngquist was educated at the University of Minnesota through a Ph.D. degree. Professionally he has taught Vocational Agriculture and has served with the University of Minnesota Schools of Agriculture at Morris, Waseca and Crookston. His doctoral thesis pointed out the need of a change from the secondary level school of agriculture system to post high school institutions. He served as a line officer in the United States Navy in World War II.

Their oldest son David lives in Apple Valley, Minnesota and works as Products Development Coordinator for American Guidance Services. David is a graduate of West Point. He is married to the former Sheryl Tellefsen and they have two children, David Matthew and Erik Joseph. Paul is a medical doctor, presently taking his second year of residency in Internal Medicine at General Hospital in Minneapolis. Paul is a graduate of the University of Minnesota Medical School. He is married to the former Mary Anderson of Fergus Falls, Minnesota. Their daughter Mary Elizabeth is a graduate of Concordia College. She is presently working toward a Specialist's Degree in Child Development at Peabody College, Nashville, Tennessee.

Nisbet Township

Mr. and Mrs. Harry J. Anderson

Mr. Harry Anderson was the son of John and Maude Anderson, formerly of Remington, Indiana. Harry was an only child, born in Remington on April 22, 1902. They moved to Keywest, Minnesota in 1910. Harry attended grade school in Nisbet Township, the so-called Lee School. After finishing grade school, he attended Central High School in Grand Forks for two years and then went to Aakers Business College, where he graduated.

Because of the death of his father, Harry returned to the farm. On October 16, 1929, he married Viola Allen of Angus, Minnesota, daughter of William and Sophia Allen. They were blessed with seven children: Mrs. Mervin (Doris) Knutson of Moorhead, Minnesota; Mrs. Rodney (Jean) Webster of St. Vincent, Minnesota; Mrs. Kirk (Marilynn) Mote of Columbia, Missouri; Mrs. Peter (Glenda) Strom of Staten Island, New York; Howard J. and Ronald D. of Moorhead, Minnesota and Ray W. of Keywest, Minnesota; also nineteen grandchildren. Harry passed away on November 23, 1965, after open heart surgery.

This is the third generation to own and operate the farm at Keywest, Minnesota. Ray owns the farm. Mrs. Anderson still lives on the farm, and in the house that was built in 1898.

Erwin Bauer

Erwin Bauer, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Bauer, came from McCreary, Manitoba, Canada, in the spring of 1926, and settled on a farm near Crookston. Erma (Ross) Bauer, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Ferinand Ross of Fisher, lived with her parents on a farm near Fisher until her marriage to Erwin Bauer, February 8, 1931. A daughter, Lois, was born March 5, 1932. They farmed in Nisbet Township for 38 years, after which Mr. Bauer retired in 1970. They will be moving into a new home in Crookston in the near future.

Daughter Lois's family consists of Lois, husband Wes Knutson, and children Randy, Todd, and Mary Jo, all of Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

Mr. Bauer's family consisted of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Bauer, Edwin Bauer, Karl Bauer, George Bauer, Lula (Bauer) Mahlke, Alma (Bauer) Ross and Paul Bauer.

Others still living are Erwin Bauer, Fisher, Minnesota and Mrs. Glenn (Enid) Wiese, Halstad, Minnesota.
JAMES MCDONALD  
December 6, 1853 — January 1, 1933  

James McDonald, one of the early settlers of Polk County, has accumulated a valuable property in Nisbet Township. He is an energetic farmer and has taken great pains in the development of his homestead, adding to its value and beauty by the careful care of trees, shrubs, and other ornaments and improvements, which greatly enhance the value of his estate.  

Mr. McDonald was born in western Ontario, December 6, 1853. He was the second of ten children born to Donald and Ellen (Hannah) McDonald. His childhood was spent on a farm in Canada, as he left his homestead there in 1875. He went to Polk County, Minnesota and has since resided there. Soon after locating there he filed a homestead claim to one quarter of land of Section 32 in Nisbet Township. This is his present home. Its present location and good improvements show what may be accomplished in northern Minnesota by work and perseverance.  

Mr. McDonald has devoted his life to agricultural pursuits and has become thoroughly acquainted with the operation of a model farm. Fortune has favored him and he has added to his acreage, as circumstances justified. He is now the owner of 560 acres of valuable farm lands. He has given considerable attention to the improvement of his immediate surroundings, and his efforts are rewarded by the enjoyment of a pleasant, comfortable home.  

Mr. McDonald married Miss Isabel Millar of Canada, May 8, 1878. This union was blessed by the birth of the following children: Ethel Ellen, William James, Eva Belle, Daniel Lloyd, Mable Jennie, Margaret Fern, Roy Herbert, Kathryn Gladys and Mary Edith. Mr. McDonald with his family worshipped at the Bethel Presbyterian Church, as he is a member of that denomination. He also holds membership in the I.O.O.F. and I.O.F. He is a Republican and stands firmly for his convictions and lends his interests for the principles of his party. He is a citizen of true worth in his community and has always taken an active part in township affairs and served as a member of the township board for a number of years.

ROBERT NISBET  

Robert Nisbet was born in Lanark County, Canada, on August 19, 1853. His parents were natives of Scotland who settled in Canada. Robert was educated there and came to Polk County in the spring of 1874, where he purchased 300 acres of good farmland. One hundred and thirty acres were located on Section 30, Nisbet Township and the balance on Section 25, Huntsville. The original farm homestead is now owned by James Richard Nisbet.  

Robert married Margaret Furgerson in 1878. Robert D. Nisbet, their only child, lives in Saskatchewan, Canada today. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Nisbet was married to Christina Geddes, daughter of Danile and Agnes Geddes, on March 12, 1888. From that marriage five children were born, of whom today, only one survives along with a half-brother, Robert D., in Canada.  

Hazel Nisbet Browne married the Rev. Russell Browne, now deceased, Presbyterian minister in the Ely, Minnesota area. Hazel died in 1955. They had two sons, Robert, of St. Paul a retired Veterans Administration employee and Gordon, Denver, Colorado, a retired manufacturing employee. Gordon is wed to Clara Carpenter, also from Denver, and they have four children, Russell, Robert, Olivia and Susan. Robert is now married to Svea Stenberg, originally from Duluth, and they have two daughters, Linnea and Janet.  

Margaret Nisbet Andersen married Colonel W. A. Andersen, Hawaii, and lived there until her death in 1960. Their son, William, was killed in action serving with the armed forces in France in 1944.  

James Lindsay Nisbet married Helen Corliss of East Grand Forks. Helen died in 1971 and James remained on the original homestead of Robert Nisbet until his death in 1973. James was a well known farmer and personality in the Mallory and Fisher, Minnesota area. They have three sons, James Richard, Robert, and Thomas.  

James (Dick) of East Grand Forks is employed as a sugar end foreman at American Crystal Sugar Company. His wife is Mary Ann Relf of East Grand Forks and they had three children, Mark Richard, Nancy Ann, and Relf Willard. Relf died in a motorcycle accident in 1974.  


Thomas Freeman Lindsay lives in Seattle, Washington and works as an airline mechanic at United Airlines. He was married to Patti Johnson of Grand Forks and had three children: Dawn Olivia Christine, who died in an auto accident in 1972. Patti Ann and David Allan. After Tom and his first wife were divorced, he remarried Donna Anderson of Olympia, Washington.  


Harold Geddes Nisbet married Oiene Sordahl of Fisher, Minnesota. East Grand Forks residents, Harold owned an electrical contracting business for many years. They have four children: John Thomas, East Grand Forks, civil service engineer at the Grand Forks Air Base; Ronald Arthur, English teacher, Minneapolis; Judith Christine, registered nurse, married R. C. Johnson, Mahnomen, Minnesota, living in Leonx, Iowa; H. Bruce, Grand Forks, elementary teacher.  

John married Marilyn Forde of Bemidji. They have two children, Michael John and Michelle Joy. Ron married Phyllis Charbonneau of Grand Forks and has two sons, Christopher Andrew and Jeffrey Ronald. Judith and Richard have two girls and their names are Sheri Lynne and Janelle Christine.

CHARLES RELF  

Charles Relf was married to Edith Laura Baskerville in Joliet, Illinois. They brought their two children, Melvin Charles and Alma Laura, to Polk County in 1916, when Charles purchased 320 acres of land in Nisbet Township from David Todd. In 1918 a new home was built.  

Charles farmed with his wife in the area until his death. Alma Relf returned to Illinois for several years and then made her home in Grand Forks. She never married.  

Melvin Relf was married to Elsie Walker, daughter of George and Jane Radcliffe Walker, June 18, 1922. They made their home on the family farm and were the parents of one child, Mary Ann. Melvin and Elsie retired to Grand Forks and lived there until their deaths, Melvin in 1957 and Elsie in 1964.  

Mary Ann Relf married James Richard Nisbet, July 31, 1954. They moved to the Relf farm in 1955 where they still reside. Mary Ann is a home economics teacher and J. Richard (Dick) is a foreman at American Crystal Sugar Company.  

Dick and Mary Ann are parents of two children, Mark Richard, born in 1956 and Nancy Ann, born in 1958. A third child, Relf Willard, was killed in an accident, August 22, 1974, at the age of fourteen.  

Mark is enrolled at Moorhead State College and works with Town and Country Concrete Inc. in the summer. Nancy attends high school in Fisher, Minnesota and is employed at the United Hospital part-time.

Grandma Kari (Skatrud) Strande.
OLE STRANDE

Ole R. Strande was born in 1838 in Valdres, Norway. His wife, Kari, (Skatrud) Strande, was born in Valdres, Norway, in 1849. They were married there in 1869 and came to America in 1871. They first settled near Manitowac, Wisconsin. Three of their children were born there: Ida, (Mrs. Anson Merrill), 1871-1948; Christine, (Mrs. George Jones), 1873-1957; Charles, 1876-1950. They lived in Wisconsin for seven years; then in 1878, they came to Polk County and homesteaded in Section 34 of Nesbit Township. Six more children were born to them: Oscar, 1882-1969; Alfred, 1880-1915; Theodore, 1885-1960; Hannah, (Mrs. Lawrence Bain), 1887-1926; Clara, 1891-1963; and Mabel, (Mrs. George Hanson), 1895-. She is widowed and living at 719 North Front Street in Crookston, Minnesota.

Ole K. Strande died in 1923 and his wife in 1942. Their farm was sold in 1931 to their son, Oscar.

OSCAR STRANDE

Oscar Strande was born on September 26, 1882, at Fisher, Minnesota to Ole K. and Kari (Skatrud) Strande who lived in Section 34 of Nesbit Township in Polk County. As a child he attended schools at Sprague, which was a siding on the Great Northern just about straight west from his home. He walked to school and often walked to Fisher, a distance of about four miles. He also attended school at a rural school north and east of his home, which later became district 144. He was confirmed in the Lutheran faith at Fisher and became a member of Fisher Lutheran Congregation.

Music played an important role in the lives of many of the pioneers. Almost every home had at least one musical instrument. Oscar ordered a violin from a mail-order house and was so anxious to get it that he walked to Fisher to see if it had arrived at the post office. He learned to play it, and it was a source of great satisfaction to him all the rest of his life. During his last years he suffered a stroke, which left him with some paralysis on his right side. He didn't give up on the violin, even though he was the only with the greatest effort that he could tuck it under his chin. It really had wonderful therapeutic value in his struggle for recovering the use of his arm.

Oscar was married on March 24, 1909 to Julia Knutson, daughter of Ole and Gurina (Breiland) Knutson of Section 28 in Fisher Township. Julia was born there on March 12, 1887. She had worked some as a “housemaid” for a number of families in the area. One of her employers had been Judge and Mrs. William Watts of Crookston. Later she took a sewing course at Grand Forks, North Dakota and would travel around the area and “live-in” with families while she sewed for them all. This was how she first met her husband — she was doing some sewing for the Strande family.

Oscar and Julia were married at Crookston by Pastor T. T. Ove of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of that city. The newlyweds went to Arnegard, North Dakota, where they staked out a claim and lived for a little over a year. Then they returned to Polk County and spent about three years working on a farm near Crookston. They went back to Arnegard and farmed their land. These were difficult years. The land wasn’t the best and those were very dry years. So they returned to Fisher in 1920.

Three children were born to them in North Dakota: Gladys (Mrs. Vincent Peterson) of rural Crookston; Orvis of San Francisco, California; and Evelyn (Mrs. Herman Anderson) of rural Fisher.

After their return to Fisher, they lived on a farm in Section 9 of Fisher Township, known as the Torrison farm. Here a daughter, Wilma (Mrs. Art Tinkham) was born in 1921. Then the family moved to a farm in Section 21 of Fisher Township owned by Fred Erickson. They lived here until 1931, when Oscar bought from his mother the farm in Section 34 of Nesbit Township, where his father had homesteaded. In 1956 they built a house in Fisher and retired from farming. He sold the farm to his son-in-law and daughter, Arthur and Wilma Tinkham, who still live there.

Julia died in 1968 and Oscar in 1969. Both were members of the Fisher Lutheran Church where they were confirmed, and both are buried in the Fisher Lutheran Cemetery.

ARTHUR TINKHAM

Arthur R. Tinkham was born in Polk County on January 16, 1922 to Roy and Nora (Swenson) Tinkham, who at that time farmed east of Climax. Later the family moved to the home farm in Section 2 of Fisher Township, which Roy’s father, Orrin Tinkham, had farmed up to that time.

Arthur attended school in Fisher and also at a rural school. He was the oldest of a family of four: a sister, Berniece (Mrs. Lester Samuelson) lives in Crookston; and his two brothers, Earl and Alton, both of Fisher, have farmed with him since the death of their father in 1953.

In 1943, Arthur married Wilma Strande, daughter of Oscar Strande, who lived on a neighboring farm near where Arthur grew up. Wilma was born in Polk County in 1921 to Oscar and Julia Strande, the youngest of four children. Arthur and Wilma went to school together at Fisher Public Schools and were both confirmed members of Fisher Lutheran Congregation. They were married on December 28, 1943, at Fisher. Wilma graduated from Fisher High School and attended one year of a teacher-training program at East Grand Forks, following which she taught in rural schools of Polk County. She later attended Bemidji State College and at the time of her marriage was teaching at Climax.


Just before their marriage, Arthur volunteered for military service and was inducted into the United States Army on January 12, 1944. He went overseas in July, 1944, where he served with the 540th Engineers and saw active duty in Italy, Southern France and Germany. He was injured during the Rhine Crossing and received the Purple Heart. Arthur was separated from the service in February of 1946 and began farming the next year with his father.

Art and Wilma had their first child, a girl, on October 28, 1946. Born at Grand Forks, she was named Colleen Beth, and she attended school in Fisher, graduating in 1964. She also graduated from Concordia College in Moorhead and is presently on the staff there in the biology department. She married Dennis Hyde in 1968 and they have twin girls, Stephanie and Stacey, born in 1970.

Art and Wilma Tinkham moved to the Brevik farm in Section 2 of Roome Township in 1952 and lived there until 1956. During those years two sons were born, Brian in 1952 and Reed in 1953. Both boys attended school in Fisher, Brian grad-
uating in 1970 and Reed in 1971. Both attended Moorhead State College and North Dakota State University at Fargo. Brian is farming with his father and Reed, who graduated in May, 1975, was married in July, 1975 to Sheryl Christianson, and is employed by the North Dakota Extension Department in sugar-beet research. They live in Moorhead.

In 1956, Arthur and Wilma moved to the Strande farm in Section 34 of Nesbit Township which they purchased from Wilma’s father, Oscar Strande. They have lived there since, so four generations of Strandes have lived on that farm. The Tinkhams have continued to farm the Brevik land as well.

Arthur has twice served as president of Fisher Lutheran Church Council, served twelve years on the board of education of Fisher School, is presently treasurer of Nesbit Township and is secretary-treasurer of the Farmers Cooperative Elevator Company in Fisher.

His wife has held a number of offices in her church, as well as serving as assistant organist and director of both junior and senior choirs. For six years she served on the board of directors of the Crookston Civic Music League. She was also president of the Polk County Homemakers Council.

**HARVEY C. WAGNER**

My wife, Evelyn, and I live on a farm in Nesbit Township. Although we are just second generation owners of this farm, it covers eighty years of time. My father was born in Manitowoc County, Wisconsin. His father and mother came to this country from Germany as small children. My father, left home at the age of 18 and came to Minnesota in 1886. He came to Julius Wagner’s farm, his uncle, and he worked there for six years. It became a second home for him. He worked in this area for a number of years doing farm work in the summer and cutting wood in the winter. He bought a quarter section from the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railway Company in 1895. The papers, however, were not finalized until March, 1897. This land had been given to the Railroad Company in order to encourage them to build a line through the area. The cost of the land per acre was $5 but a man’s wages at that time were only $15 to $18 per month in the summer months. During the winter, a man worked for his board and room.

My mother came to Minnesota at the age of three with her parents, who homesteaded a quarter section of land, and planted a tree claim on an adjoining quarter.

My father and mother worked hard all their lives. Seven children were born at this farm house. The first boy died at the age of one and a-half years. Another brother passed away in 1921 at the age of seventeen, leaving my two brothers and two sisters, who are Harry and Howard, both of the Fisher area and Mrs. Ernest Radi (Carrie), also of Fisher, and (Edna) Mrs. Walter Wieland of the Red Lake Falls area. We all had to work hard here on the farm, each always having his or her share to do, with milking cows, taking care of cattle, pigs, chickens, and draft horses and helping with the field work.

The only schooling each got was an eighth grade country-school education, walking or driving a horse and buggy or a cutter in the winter one and a-half miles to school. I tried to get additional schooling by attending the Fisher High School two winters, staying with my cousins, Lawrence and Lily Wagner. I was to earn my board and room by helping with the chores. I don’t know if I ever did earn that, but it was a second home for me.

I remember the fall of 1933. I shoveled beets with Harold Ross for his father, August, on their first truck for $2 per day plus room and board. I was glad to get a job, as I wanted to earn some money to buy fuel for a tractor. I had borrowed this tractor from my brother-in-law, Ernest Radi, to plow a quarter section of land which I rented that fall. I rented that land for 41 years from the same owners. In 1937, our father passed away.

In 1938, we bought our second tractor. We three boys farmed with our mother, each renting some land of his own. In 1942, Howard married and that left Harry and me at home. In 1948, a dream of many years of our mother came true. We built a new house on the farm, which she enjoyed for four years. She passed away in 1952. This left the home farm to us five survivors. The next year Harry and I bought out the other three, and farmed it together.

In 1954, I married Evelyn Weiss, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Weiss of the Red Lake Falls area. Her father passed away in 1948. Her mother is living in an apartment at one of her daughters in Red Lake Falls.

In 1955, we bought out Harry’s interest in the home farm. After a couple of years Harry moved to Fisher. Evelyn and I have had a good life together on this farm. We’ve had good crops, fair and poor crops; but thanks to a merciful God, we have never had a failure! We work together, helping each other where possible, always farming what we could handle ourselves, except during harvesting. I think working together this way makes the results more appreciated and life more enjoyable. I know I have complained of too much rain, mud, dust, drought and what not, but if I lived it all over again, I am quite sure here is where I would be! A few more years and I, too, must quit and the home farm will pass on to another generation, hopefully in my immediate relationship. When we retire, we hope to travel, as we both enjoy that. Neither of us is interested in sports. So if we do some sight seeing, and help in the work of the community and the church, then I say, Life on this farm has been great!

Northland Township

Some of the early settlers in the western part of Northland Township were: Anfin Dahl who came from Norway in 1879 and settled on Southeast Quarter of Section 18; Jens Dahl came with his parents from Norway when he was four years old in 1879; John Johnson, father of Andrew and Julius came in 1880; Erick Engstrom came in 1880 and settled on North- west Quarter Section 19. John Erickson came from Sweden in 1880 and settled on Northwest Quarter Section 14, his son Ole was then four years old; daughter, Mary 1882-1973 was married to Charley Johnson. Bessie Stordahl came about 1879 and settled on Northeast Quarter Section 22 where he lived out his life. Dan Johnson settled on Northeast Quarter Section 8 in 1887. A Mr. Molstad lived on Section 4. Mr. Manzer lived on Section 22. He served on the town board for many years.

The east part of Northland was settled by people of Czech-Slovakian origin. Joseph Huderle was one of the earliest arrivals in 1878. He came by way of Wisconsin and McLeod County, Minnesota. He settled on Southwest Quarter of Section 12 and also had a tree claim on Southeast Quarter of Section 10. He passed away in 1942. George Kugel settled on Northeast Quarter Section 1. He arrived about 1879. James Kopeceski arrived here in 1885 by way of McLeod County and Todd County, he settled on Northeast Quarter of Section 2 in 1887. James Duchek, after several years in New York City where he worked as a butcher and baker, arrived in Northland Township in 1887 and settled on Southeast Quarter of Section 13. John Myerchin with his parents and brothers, George, Joseph and Paul, arrived 1890 and settled on Southwest Quarter of Section 1. John, Jacob and James Gust arrived 1881 from St. Paul, Minnesota. John settled on Southeast Quarter of Section 14; Jacob on Southwest Quarter Section 26; James worked on Railroad out of East Grand Forks. Karl Vanek settled on Southeast Quarter Section 15 in 1881. Joseph Vorlicky settled on Northeast Quarter Section 11, but later moved to Thief River Falls. Anton Kotbra settled on Southeast Quarter Section 26, with three children: Wences- lavis, Mary Frances, and Ignac.

John Honke Senior settled on Northeast Quarter Section 14,