farm by a half breed, Mon-do-ba-shika. Trading posts were also operated by Mr. Hillegoss and Mr. Lebree. The local tribes of Indians from White Earth and Red Lake were frequent and friendly visitors of the settlers and never threatened their safety. Their name for Mr. Eaton was Wind-de-go, signifying in their vernacular that his strength demanded their respect. Mr. Flesch was known as Mo-ko-gee, because of his alert manner and the quickness of his movements.

In 1883 Lewis Foss started a store and the postoffice of Fosston on the Flesch homestead, on the present site of the home of John Newton, a son-in-law of John Flesch. The following year he removed to the present location of Fosston, and another store was built by Jacob Hansen and the postoffice of Hansville started. Supplies were hauled from Detroit City, and the nearest wheat markets were Beltrami and Detroit. During the first years Mr. Eaton cleared about fifteen acres of his land and raised some wheat, and meanwhile industriously employed every means of supporting his family that the frontier country afforded. For two years he returned to Becker county during the harvest season, and in the spring and fall he trapped for muskrat, mink and otter skins. He also dug snake root, finding a good market for it, either dried or green. He often walked to Bobeau with his produce and packed the provisions home on his back in primitive fashion, and did not buy his first yoke of oxen until 1883, when he mortgaged his land to make the purchase. His wheat crops were thrashed by flailing over poles, laid over a cleared space. With Mr. Flesch he once thrashed two hundred bushel by this laborious method.

When T. B. Walker opened his lumber operations on Clearwater river Mr. Eaton worked in his employ, driving the teams in the winter, and during one summer was carrier for the camps, carrying mail and calls for the lumbermen's shoes from Detroit. It took a week's time to make the route, traveling all day and camping at any place that darkness overtook him, but the friendliness of the natives never failed him, and, although a police patrol was not established until later, he was never molested. With steady determination and hard work Mr. Eaton developed his farm, putting some forty acres under cultivation and erecting a comfortable home. The able qualities which brought him success in private enterprises prompted his efficient service and influence in behalf of the public welfare, and as a worthy pioneer of Rosebud township he was identified with every phase of the history of its founding and development. He was present at the first election in 1883, held in the old house on the Flesch farm, which also housed the first school in the township, taught by A. D. Wishard, who later became superintendent of the schools at Red Lake Falls. Mr. Eaton was a member of the school board for many years and served as clerk of the school district, and for eight years was road supervisor. In political matters he maintains independence in his views and is allied with no party organization. He is a member of the Catholic church and attended the first mass, which was held in the Flesch home by Father Lozier of White Earth. The church at Hansville was built about seventeen years ago, and previous to that time occasional services were held in the homes. In 1897 Mr. Eaton removed from his homestead to his present home on section eleven of Brandsvold township, six miles north of Fosston. Here he again undertook the work of the farm-builder, much of the land being uncultivated and the only buildings a log shanty and barn. He has developed a fine farm, with a pleasant home and good buildings, and with the exception of pasture land has every acre under cultivation. A county ditch crosses the place and furnishes good drainage. He gives some attention to dairy farming, keeping a herd of twelve cows. He was married in 1876 at St. Joseph, Becker county, to Mary Brench, who was born at St. Joseph in 1858 and is of German parentage. They have seven children: Veronica Mary, who taught in the Polk county schools for several years and married C. S. Richardson of Roseau, Minnesota; Albert Stephen, a farmer near Davidson, Minnesota; Joseph Lewis, residing in Montana; Gertrude Louisa, living with her brother, Albert Eaton;