WARREN---

Plains to Plenty

A Story of 100 Eventful Years
INTRODUCTION

As we mark the One-Hundredth Anniversary of the city of Warren, we wish to pay our sincere homage and respect to all those who helped in any way to develop this land from untouched plains. Whether they lie in well-tended burial plots or in the forgotten graves that dot the prairies or whether they are listed in this booklet or not, we honor them all for each and every one of them gave something of himself or herself that this might be a better land. Now we who are privileged to be here and benefiting from their hard work, privations and foresight sincerely hope and trust that in our brief span of life we too can leave as lasting a memorial for the future generations as has been left by those who came before us.

Lloyd Geo. Melgard
This lithograph of Warren by Mr. Frisbie show the city as it appeared looking south toward Angus with the east side to your left and the west side to your right.
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wentzel
Warren's First Settler
The history of Warren dates from 1878 with the coming of the railroad. Prior to that, the first settler in Warren was Charles Wentzel, a sturdy German farmer, hunter, trapper and frontiersman. He first visited the country in 1872 but his residence dates from June 1, 1874, as on that day he arrived from Crookston with guns and traps and established his home on the river bank near the present Soo railway bridge and on the present John Engelstad farm. He employed himself at hunting and trapping in the counties of Marshall and Kittson. Game was plentiful in those days, moose and deer often visited him at his cabin, and prairie chickens swarmed everywhere.

During several years Mr. Wentzel remained monarch of all he surveyed and his right there was none to dispute but in 1877 a number of land scouts came to look at the land. Among those who that year visited Mr. Wentzel in his cabin was James P. Nelson of Eau Claire, Wisconsin. He represented a number of Eau Claire capitalists and came to select a large tract of railway land for a "bonanza" farm. He picked out the lands of the Pembina Farm adjoining the city to the southeast. Many others came to see the country. In the spring of 1878 they all came back bringing many other settlers with them. James P. Nelson arrived with a crew of men and teams to break up the Pembina Farm. The trip from Crookston was made overland, the railroad being not then built. Their camp was established on the river bank in the rear of the Rollie Toupin residence. Soon afterwards were selected the lands of the Snake River Farm owned by F. W. Woodward of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, and Mr. Pratt of New York, now known as the Melgard Farm. The "Irish " Farm was started about the same time by Hon. C. M. Ramsey.

The Saint Vincent extension of the railroad north from Crookston was built to within a short distance of Warren in 1872 but completion of the line was delayed by the financial crisis of 1873. In 1875 part of the rails north of Crookston were taken up and used in building the line to Fisher's Landing, to which point the river was more easily navigated by the large river boats which carried on traffic on the Red and Red Lake rivers. In 1877, the receivers of the old St. Paul and Pacific Railway resumed construction work in order to save the road's land grant and by August 1878 the road was completed and trains running to Warren. A pump house and water tank was built near the railway bridge, the pumphouse serving also as a depot until the company erected a building for that purpose a year or two later. The old section house served as a railroad eating house and was run by W. H. Gilbert. Both north and southbound trains stopping there for dinner, sometimes as many as 250 people being fed there at a meal.

With the completion of the railroad came the rush of settlers to occupy the fertile lands that lay on either side lands that had laid unoccupied except by wild animals and roving tribes of Indians, ever since the icy waters of ancient Lake Agassiz receded ages ago leaving an alluvial deposit which in fertility rivals the valley of the Nile. Now these prairies covered by a luxurious growth of grass were to be occupied and made use of by man.

The years from 1878 to 1885 may rightly be termed the period of settlement, as in these years nearly all the free government lands in the county were settled. From all parts of United States and many parts of Europe, especially the Scandinavian countries, came settlers eager to occupy the fertile valley.

As the country filled up with settlers the need of a trading point became felt, a postoffice was established with A. T. Miner as postmaster. The postoffice was first named Farley but was later changed to Warren in honor of Charles E. Warren, general passenger agent of the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railway Co.

Only two or three families besides Mr. Wentzel spent the winter of 1878 and '79 on the present site of Warren. Early in the spring of 1879, stores were started by Johnson, Allen and Co. and McCrea Brothers. A small hotel was run by A. T. Miner. Among those who came in the spring of 1879 were Mr. and Mrs. A. P. McIntyre who had homesteaded two miles up the river. Their log cabin was built by W. A. Wallace, a veteran of the Civil War. Among others who came that year were Emmet W. Rossman, J. W. Slee, A. E. Flint, A. B. Nelson, M. J. McCann, Ed Slee and G. O. Cross.

From other sources, it is known that 1879 saw the last train of Red River carts pass through Grand Forks on route from St. Paul to Pembina with the legendary Pierre Bottineau as the trail boss. Also that the stage transportation between Fargo and Grand Forks left Fargo at 4:00 a.m. and arrived in Grand Forks 16 hours later at 8:00 p.m. Stops were made every 15 miles to change horses. The passenger rate on the stage was 10c a mile. And shortly before Christmas of 1879 a terrific blizzard struck the Red River Valley. At Pembina, the temperature was said to have dropped to 56° below zero and the temperature at Christmas time was reported from 40° to 52° below zero.

Marshall County was organized by an act of legislature on February 25, 1879. On March 21, 1881, the county seat was located in Warren. The first court house was built, a small wooden building, which in turn has been used as a court house, school house, county jail, horse barn, garage, and is now part of D & S Auto Supply building.

In the August 20th issue of the Warren Sheaf for 1881, volume 1, number 38, a brief history was started by the editor. Unfortunately, he sold out his interest in the paper before it was completed. But from what he wrote, we learn that Warren was platted by J. P. Nelson and associates in September of 1879. Lots were first sold in 1880 and by 1881, Warren had the following businesses plus a population of 300 which included Americans, Canadians, English, French, German, Swedes and Norwegians:

- 5 general stores
- 3 land agencies
- 3 hardware stores
- 1 Cunard ticket agency
- 2 lumberyards
- 1 drug store
- 2 machine dealers
- 2 church organizations
- 1 masonic lodge
- 2 jewelers
- 2 lawyers
- 2 blacksmiths
- 3 hotels
- 2 doctors (visiting)
- 1 saloon
- 1 meat market
- 1 harness shop
- 1 shoe shop
- 1 printing shop
- 2 livery stables
- 4 grain warehouses
- 1 house and sign painter
- 3 carpenters
- 1 wagon shop
- 2 plasters-bricklayers
- 1 music store
- 2 sewing machine agencies
- 1 milliner-dressmaker
- 2 draymen
There were 90 buildings in the town and six more were planned, W. A. Atwater was the railway agent, Bessie Brown was the school teacher, valuation of property in Warren was placed at $70,000.00, 250,000 bushels of No. 1 hard wheat had been shipped, and some of the well-known farms of the area included the Pembina, Palmer, Woodward, Northolm, Elmwood, etc., though most farms were in the 160 to 640 acre class.

The first hotel was the Warren House run by A. T. Miner and McWade, the first marriage by Justice E. R. Ross when Miss Sarah Jane Craig was married to W. M. Eastman in October of 1879, the first birth was a son born to William and Mary Gamble, the first death was a young daughter of G. Bohan, the first store was one run by M. P. Gilbert and Co., the first white woman was Mrs. E. R. Ross, the first railway agent was E. S. Radcliff, the first postmaster was A. T. Miner, and the first newspaper was a society journal by McCrea and Chandler.

With this as a beginning, let us trace the growth of Warren through the pages of the Warren Sheaf and the Warren Register. Some issues are missing but enough remain to show us life as it was in the “good old days.”

* * *

1880

Volume 1, Number 1 of the Warren Sheaf was published on December 1, 1880, A. Dewey, publisher. Within were these items.

W. H. Gilbert three miles from town raised 1,507½ bushels of hard Scotch Fifes wheat, an average of 33½ bushels per acre.

Threshing on the large farms was nearly completed. On the small farms, threshing had not been completed as they plowed until the ground froze up.

The village school was in operation under the care of Supt. J. M. Brown. There were forty-five students and the new school proved to be both warm and comfortable as well as ornamental.

Flowing wells were the latest achievement in this land of wonders. The last bored at Euclid gave soft pure water at a depth of less than 200 feet—a 4 inch pipe threw the water fifty feet above ground.

County attorney, A. F. Flint, withdrew from the legal profession and upon completing his term as district attorney, he became the local preacher of the Methodist Church.

In 1879, it required but 40 boxcars to ship the wheat from Warren. In 1880 up to December, 80 boxcar loads had been shipped and there were 20 more loads left in the local elevators. (Editor’s note: In the early days, boxcars were called 40’s and held about 600 bushels of wheat. Later the size of the boxcar was called 60’s and they held 1000 bushels of wheat. Next the 80’s which held 1500 bushels. At present time, the cars are called 100’s and hold 2000 bushels). But few of the small farmers had sold yet, many had not threshed, and it was estimated that but one-half of the crop had been sold.

Stock growing was receiving marked attention. F. W. Carlton and W. S. Stone living west of Warren down along the Snake River had each some fifty head of young stock and Ole Sands had the largest herd of about one hundred head.

County officials were: John W. Slee, Probate Judge; Thomas Craig, Register of Deeds; O. Taylor, Auditor; J. C. McCrea, Treasurer; William Lackey, Sheriff; A. F. Flint, Attorney; J. M. Brown, School Superintendent; William Carrese, Coroner; J. P. Nelson Surveyor; and A. P. McIntyre of Warren, F. D. Keye of Louisa (Argyle), and A. Diamond of Stephen, County Commissioners.

Flour sold for $3.25 a hogshead, oatmeal 4c lb., meat and salt pork 11c lb., hams 14c lb., butter 25c to 35c lb., eggs 25c dozen, lard 12c lb., potatoes 50c to 75c per bushel. corn 75c per bushel, oats 45c to 50c per bushel, hay $3 to 85 per ton, A No. 1 hard wheat 80c bushel, brick per thousand was $11.00, dry wood was $3.50 to $4.50 a cord, and egg coal was $12.00 a ton.

M. P. Gilbert and Closson Co. sold dry goods, buffalo overcoats, fish by the keg, and molasses by the barrel.

E. W. Rossman sold lumber, sash, doors, building paper and wood eaves troughs.

M. J. McCann, “The Village Blacksmith,” the oldest inhabitant that worked iron in Marshall County, made and repaired wagons, carriages, cutters and sleighs.

Johnson, Allen and Company sold dry goods, crockery, flour, feed and Yankee Notions.

McCrea Brothers on the east side of the tracks and on the corner of First Street and Johnson Avenue sold hardware, stoves, tinware, lamps and the genuine screw boots and shoes.

Feran and Dady had a saloon and offered billiards. It was described as a Gentleman’s place of resort, choice liquors and cigars, lager on tap, English ale and porter, bottled beer and wine.

Henry O. Bennewitz had a harness shop.

The Warren House, Mark Stephens, manager, announced that local guests would take their meals separately from the train passengers.

The New Market, W. J. McIntyre, manager, offered fresh meats and vegetables in season.

R. C. Snyder made wagons and sleighs to order.

Dr. W. Welch stopped in Warren occasionally and could be reached when he was here at the hotel.

World news filled the first issue of the Sheaf. Queen Victoria was 61, Garibaldi was in poor health, the U. S. War and Navy Building in Washington was being built at a terrific cost of $12,000,000. Cincinnati was alarmed over the twenty-five Chinese laundries that had opened up, Lady Haberson of England recommended that women wear trousers for walking dress, and Lizzie Barton of De Witt County, Illinois, had a $50.00 reward on her head for stealing horses.


* * *

1881

The New Year’s dance at the George McCrea’s was a big success. The supper was excellent, twenty-five couples were present, and A. P. McIntyre did the calling for the dancing which continued until 4:00 a.m.

Travel over the railroad was light and fares could be counted upon ones fingers.

Population 300.

A. B. Nelson had a runaway.

Wheat was 68c a bushel.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Wood entertained at a large sociable at which time music, singing and blind man’s buff was enjoyed.
Kerosene was said to be a valuable remedy for diphtheria and patients were urged to use it for a gargle and to swallow some.

Captain Griggs, one of the best pilots on the Red River and the first to ascend the Saskatchewan River in Manitoba died in Polk County.

Mr. Jarret's house took fire from the stove pipe where it passed through the roof. It would have burned down but for the prompt action of P. L. Sticking who without a ladder took a bucket of water by the handle in his mouth and succeeded in going up by clinging hold of the cornice with his hands.

Emigrant rates from New York City to St. Paul were $12.00.

The Temperance Society held a meeting in the school house with George Gilbert, President; J. B. Titus, Vice-president; J. S. Briggs, Secretary; Mrs. W. H. Gilbert, Treasurer; and James Stewart, Janitor. E. W. Rossman gave a reading entitled "McLean's Vengeance," Mrs. Brown and J. S. Briggs sang "Prodigals Return", next a drama called "The Drunkard's Home," then the singing of "Father Come Home" by Edith Nelson.

Ethan Allen, Postmaster, had three uncalled-for letters.

Someone stole the ax from Johnson, Allen and Company.

Six Chippewa Indians on showshoes were in town on a begging excursion.

Mr. L. C. Wood and family arrived to take charge of the Pembina Farm Company's interests. His brother, W. W. Wood, departed to become Superintendent of the Lockhart and Keystone farms.

J. P. Nelson was honored by a reception at the Warren House in acknowledgment of his triumphant success in securing at the last session legislative action making Warren the County Seat and attaching them to Marshall County.

Emigrant trains by the wholesale passed through Warren filled with personal belongings for the most part.

F. W. Woodward, one of the largest farmers, sent two carloads of mules—38 in all—to his farm to be used in the spring work. They were a sight seldom witnessed in this country.

Mr. F. L. Murray opened a livery, sales, feed and jobbing stable.

Titus and Whitney opened a drug store on First Street.

W. J. McIntyre sold out his meat market to his brother, Ed McIntyre.

J. S. Briggs replaced J. B. Titus at the railroad depot.

E. J. Royem worked for Gilbert and Company.

The County Commissioners voted to have the County's records and safe removed from Warren to Argyle. It was moved by F. D. Keye and seconded by A. Diamond. A. P. McIntyre refusing to entertain the motion deeming it out of order. Attorney Flint left for Saint Paul to protest.

On April 17th, there were 2½ feet of snow upon the prairies; on April 22nd, the river was high; and on April 27th, seeding began.

The April 27th issue of the Sheaf stated that the previous Saturday wasn't much of a day of emigrants yet there were 1080 of them on one train that passed through Warren and 484 on another.

E. Slee opened his new store.

M. P. Gilbert and E. W. Rossman were out hunting the man who stole a sack of beans and potatoes from them.

Seventeen emigrants from Germany arrived from Castle Garden, New York, to work on the March-Spaulding Farm.

Charles C. Brown took over the Sheaf on May 11th. There was plenty of pickerel fish in the Snake River. Fresh eggs were 15c a dozen at E. Slee's store.

Five new homes were in the process of being built in May.

Eight new families of settlers arrived and located within four miles of Warren.

Mr. Hauff, the new blacksmith on Park Avenue, had his shop built.

Rev. Flint returned to Warren with his bride and they were honored at a reception.

A party of eleven families of Bohemians from New Prague in Scott County settled near Angus making a total of twenty-three families of that nationality residing there. Luther Furs, painter and paper hanger, was busy. Whitney and Logue expected their shipment of furniture and coffins shortly.

A. P. McIntyre sold his 160 acre farm to Andrew Johnson of Hanock, Michigan, for $3,000.00 cash.

A sort of an earthquake was felt by settlers northeast of Warren.

Mike McCann sharpened 1700 plow points.

B. Sykes of London, England, bought nine or ten sections of land and planned on dividing them up into 160 acre farms with a house on each quarter section. Mr. A. P. McIntyre was the Superintendent and was engaged with a large number of teams in breaking sixty acres of ground in each quarter section.

In June, at an informal meeting in the school house, it was agreed upon to organize a Lutheran Church. A call was sent to Rev. A. P. Lind of Norway, Michigan. Steps were planned to build a parsonage.

A small encampment of indians from Red Lake was located near town.

E. W. Rossman proved up his claim.

Pehrson was the name of the new blacksmith on Johnson Avenue just west of Main Street.

There were 36 students enrolled in the Warren School. Those neither absent or tardy were Dwight Allen, Katie Titus, Edward Wallace and Delbert McIntyre. A. Bessie Brown was the teacher.

"Al" Wells, the jeweler, arrived and located in the Titus and Whitney Drug Store.

Ed Slee caught 37 pickerel in the Snake River on June 20th.

Dr. Beach arrived and located at the Warren Hotel. He was a native of New York City and a graduate of Miami College, Ohio.

Haley's Comet was going away in the heavens. Over 500 people attended the 4th of July celebration. The balloon which failed to materialize on the evening of the 4th came out in full glory on Tuesday and Wednesday making three ascensions.

Thirty families arrived the first part of July.

Wheat on the Palmer farm was fifty-two inches in height without measuring the roots or the beards.
Filling the Balloon for the 4th of July Celebration in 1881

The Woodward Farm built a large farm house 36x42, two stories high, and a large machine shed and Mr. Woodward shipped in a carload of furniture for the farm.

Dr. Stoddard Smith, a dentist, spent a few days in Warren.

The cemetery association was trying to pick a suitable site.

S. W. Gailey sold out his shoemaking business to H. J. Bennewitz.

Fresh lemons were 60c a dozen and new potatoes were $1.25 a bushel.

Pembina Farm constructed nearly eight miles of good ditches, five miles of turnpiked roads, cut and stacked nearly 300 tons of sweet hay, built several new barns... one 36x72 feet with stalls for 36 horses... and they had 300 acres newly broken and 1600 acres in crop.

Boarding House rates were $4.00 a week.

The Warren Sheaf for August 13, 1881, announced that the new view of Warren by Mr. Frisbie, the artist, was going to be the finest thing out.

Local new wheat was $1.00 per bushel in August.

C. F. Julin brought another large party of settlers up from Ishpeming, Mich.

Mr. Cook of Ontario built a livery stable on Fletcher Avenue.

A. Znerold started his drug store and H. P. Olson started his store.

Frans Franson arrived in September to make boots and shoes and was to be found in the harness shop of H. J. Bennewitz.

Eli Dahlquist had four oxen and three milch cows for sale.

Ditch diggers were wanted by the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railroad at 12c an hour.

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Prarie fires were burning.

W. H. Gilbert built a tramway from his warehouse to the railroad. “Now Elk River Johnson will know how much wheat will weigh by the inch, gallon or bushel.”

Editor Charles Brown left and in November W. A. Atwater took over the Sheaf.

Mr. Casper Sands, popular conductor on the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railroad, arrived in Warren to spend a few days on his farm west of town.

Plans were being made for a band. Mr. Scott was to be the instructor.

Mr. Henry Jarrett who lived five miles south of Warren narrowly escaped death when his team ran away and with one hand on the trace and one foot on the whirlie tree he was dragged across the prairie for a quarter of a mile.

The ladies of the Methodist Social Society gave an oyster supper at the Warren Hotel.

Dr. Barnes, dentist, arrived in Warren for a few days.

A band was formed and it was decided to call it the Warren Cornet Band. Members were William Searle, G. L. Holly, J. L. Stewar, J. B. Titus, M. C. Wright, H. J. Bennewitz, George H. McCrea, W. E. Wood and E. W. Rossman.

* * *

1882

The dispensation for the new Masonic Lodge arrived on January 5th. Emmit W. Rossman, Worshipful Master; W. A. Wallace, Senior Warden; W. H. Gilbert, Junior Warden; J. C. McCrea, Treasurer; Rufus Mentzer, Secretary; P. L. Stickney, Senior Deacon; L. G. Wood, Junior Deacon; George Rossman, Tyler; and W. Wood, Senior Steward.

The election results for the village were as follows: Ethan Allen, President; George McCrea, Recorder; A. P. McIntyre, W. H. Gilbert, and E. W. Rossman, Trustees; J. B. Titus, Treasurer; and E. R. Ross and R. C Snyder, Justices of the Peace.

The first concert of the Warren Cornet Band that had been organized the previous month was given and there were twenty-two selections—vocal, instrumental and band.

W. Bolton started his Livery and Dray Business.

The County safe was returned from Argyle after an absence of about a year.

Warren was to have a jail soon.

Mr. Munson of Minneapolis was in town looking for a location for a steam flouring mill.

(Editor’s note: From the March 16th issue of the Warren Sheaf on to the issues of 1888, I have found no trace of any newspapers so there will be a break of six years in this fragmentary history)

* * *

1888

Business in Warren was made up of the following individuals and firms:

Dr. G. S. Wattam, physician and surgeon

Dr. McGillan, physician and surgeon

E. Swanson, architect and builder

J. G. Harris, merchant tailor

Mike McCann, blacksmith

Bert Hennum, blacksmith east of depot

Charles J. Pihlstrom, meat market

Dick Whittiger with a team of oxen in the 1880's
Lindberg and Lundgren Farm Machinery on Johnson Avenue.

Ruedy’s Confectionery Store
K. J. Taralseth general merchandise
G. C. Winchester, general merchandise
Frank Jerrue, furniture and undertaking
Windsor Hotel, A. P. McIntyre, prop.
Edward Hotel, C. H. Woolery, prop.
Svea Hotel, C. J. Johnson, prop.
Lyons House, John Keenan, prop.
(Site of present Warren Creamery)
A. P. Znerold, drug store
W. J. Wood & Culbertson, lumber yard
(previously Morris & Wood)
Harris & Tripp, livery stable in the Loungridge barn opposite depot
Warren Sheaf
A. Grindeland, attorney at law
Thomas F. Stevens, attorney at law
Frans Fransson, shoemaker
Mr. Flack, jeweler
J. A. Welander, jeweler
Frank Whitney, hardware
Holden & Aubol, hardware
Johnson and Burlum, general merchandise
J. C. McIntyre, wagon maker
Mrs. W. H. Gilbert, dressmaker
Mrs. W. C. Taylor, millinery
Fancy Bazaar, corsets, folding bustles and tilters
A. B. Nelson, clerk of court
Preston & Easton, farm machinery
Bolton Brothers, farm machinery
E. Dady, farm machinery
J. Berg, photographer

Courteau & Morris, photographers
Warren Manufacturing Co., flour
Warren Register
Thomas F. Stevens and Eugene Dady dissolved their partnership in the “Warren Register” and Mr. Steens became the sole owner and editor.

Five churches served Warren: The Methodist, the Presbyterian, the Swedish Lutheran, the Swedish Mission and the Norwegian Lutheran. Their ministers came and went and few stayed longer than a month or so.

The Masonic Lodge met at the Masonic Hall on the corner of First and Park Avenue. Thomas Stevens was acting W. M. after Mr. Gilbert’s death and Mr. W. W. Hunter was secretary.

Peck’s Bad Boy and Uncle Tom’s Cabin were traveling show offerings.

C. M. Christianson, east side jeweler, left Warren as the result of being robbed the previous Fall. His financial loss was too grievous to permit him to continue.

The house on Jo Kurz’s farm occupied by John Christianson burned down but all effects were saved but a feather bed. There was $200.00 insurance on the building.

Farm prices were as follows: wheat 62c, barley 40c, oats 20c, butter 15c to 20c a lb., eggs 15c a doz., wood $4 to $6 a cord and hay was $5 a ton on March 21st.

J. P. Mattson was County Superintendent of Schools.

Mr. Watkins and Newell of Chicago arrived to take charge of the work at the creamery plant and completed the creamery in April.

R. J. Tripp purchased the Bolton Livery Barn.
S. A. March arrived to look after his interests on his bonanza farm.

J. L. Olson patented his new ditching plow.
Village officials were: W. F. Powell, president; F. E. Whitney and K. J. Taralseth were trustees; Frank Jerrue was Justice of the Peace; and E. Dady was the village Marshal.

Miss Twombly—later the third Mrs. Winchester—was clerking for G. C. Winchester.

A. P. McIntyre was the postmaster and the Windsor Hotel of which he was the proprietor was enlarged by Mr. E. Swanson.

K. J. Taralseth bought the lot on which Mike McCann’s blacksmith shop stood on the corner of Main and Johnson and built a two-story brick-veneered store building, the upper floor was leased by the Warren Masonic Lodge for a long term and they moved into the new lodge quarters in December.

Andrew Lodoen bought two lots west of Andrew Grindeland’s law office and put up a blacksmith shop (now the site of the Boardson Super Fair Grocery).

Immigrants came in on almost every train, most of them being Scandinavians.

Mr. Blawd purchased the lot south of the K. J. Taralseth store corner and erected a one-story building to be occupied as a saloon.

Guy Aubol, the hardware man, lost his fierce mustache when flames from the stove he was feeding with wood shavings burst out the door and literally singed him.

A Ball was given on the 17th of May at Edward Hall by the Norwegians of the community. Abel Garborg, Guy Aubol and A. Copeland were in charge of the arrangements.

G. L. Harris was the Railroad station agent.

An iron bridge was placed across the Snake River on 2nd Street at a cost of $1200.00—the north end got higher than the south end and had to be fixed.

Standard Oil established a depot at Warren for storage and distribution of their goods.

Liquor licenses were granted to John N. Blawd, Grindeland and Enden, Henry M. Swanson, and Otto Edward.

The Warren Mill Elevator was built. T. E. Moulton was the manager.

March and Spaulding built a 30,000 bushel elevator. Hans Golden built a new home on his lot near the coulee on Main Street.

People were urged to pull their mustard in July.

Fresh coconuts, Swiss cheese, apples, bananas, oranges, lemons, maple sugar and white clover honey were obtainable at Peter Ruedy’s Confectionery Store.

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J. N. Blawd purchased a lot in Nelson’s addition and moved his home onto it. (Since that time it has been the George Willey home and is now the Garfield Nicholls home on North Division Street).

G. W. Ehle built a grain elevator.

The C. J. Johnson Hotel, Svea Hotel, was completed—it is now the Dr. Carlson office building on Johnson Avenue.

H. E. Mussey purchased the controlling interests in the Warren Sheaf.

200 tons of timothy hay were put up on the Pembina Farm.

The Warren Cornet Band was organized in September. Thomas Stevens, President; L. Lamberson, Secretary; F. E. Whitney, Treasurer; W. W. Hunter, leader; and W. N. Powell was the business manager.

Runaways were everyday occurrences in Warren and even a yoke of oxen ran away with a wagon.

Dr. Wattam purchased a home on the corner of Third Street and Johnson Avenue.

The November elections were held out on the Woodward Farm and all the voters in Warren had to get out there to vote. It was hoped that before another general election, Warren would be set off as a separate voting precinct.

Charles Wittensten was manager of the Furlong-Ramsey farm, commonly known as the Irish Farm.

Andrew Grindeland was elected to be Judge of Probate.

Fred Tripp built a livery barn on First Street that was 30x62 feet.

W. A. Wallace who farmed just one mile north of Warren was elected as head of the Warren Masonic Lodge.

1889

Hunters brought in moose and elk from their trips northeast of Warren.

The public school was so crowded with pupils that the fourth teacher, Samuel Garborg, had to be hired. The Edward Hall was used as an overflow classroom.

Two new lodges held meetings in Warren—Warren Lodge 58 of the Independent Order of Good Templars, H. L. Wood the Chief Templar and C. E. Lundquist was the secretary; and Scandia Lodge of the same order with Ed Johnson as Chief Templar and John Burlum as secretary.

Johnson and Burlum sold out their goods to Olson and Holen Store in Argyle.

Three carloads of flour milled by the Warren Manufacturing Company was billed via Milwaukee to Bristol, England.

City officials were as follows: K. J. Taralseth, President of the Village Council; Dr. G. S. Wattam, August Lundgren and Guy Aubol were Trustees; John E. Ostrom, Recorder; G. C. Winchester, Treasurer; and Fred Tripp, Constable.

A. J. Preston bought out Mr. Easton’s interests in their farm machinery business.

H. J. Hand of West Union, Iowa, arrived to become the butchermaker for the Warren Creamery.

Lindberg and Lundgren began their farm machinery business opposite the Edward Hall.

The survey of Greenwood Cemetery was approved by the Village Council.

J. P. Easton was appointed Postmaster to succeed A. P. McIntyre.

J. H. McArthur & Co. dealt with all kinds of lumber.

The Great Northern Railroad line north was referred to as “Jim Hill’s Cowpath.”

Seeal and Barnes were dealers in fresh and smoked meats.

Riley Kezar bought the furniture stock of D. A. Whitney and started his own store.

The Warren Creamery was paying 13c an inch for cream delivered in cans that they furnished.

Frank Ferguson was offering the services of his Percheron stallion, “Captain.”

Lundgren Brothers, the Warren brickmakers, shipped a carload of brick to Argyle.

Moulton and Dillabough bought out the Bolton Brothers interests in their farm machinery business.
Salaries for teachers were $65.00 per month for the principal, $50.00 per month for the intermediate teacher, and $45.00 per month for the primary teacher.

Nels Larson succeeded A. P. McIntyre as landlord of the Windsor Hotel.

Sammy Rooke was the champion bear killer in these parts. He killed two bear in the pasture of E. R. Ross in Warrenton.

Four new street lamps were put up on Main Street.

Miss M. K. Gelhaug offered a new stock of millinery plus fancy work one door east of Edwardh’s Hotel.

O. S. Dahl bought out Andrew Lodoen’s Blacksmith Shop.

1890


K. J. Taralseth, G. C. Winchester, D. A. Whitney and H. Frankel sold dry goods; J. A. Welander was the jeweler; Frank Jerrue and Henry Swanson sold furniture (H. M. Swanson was also the undertaker); J. C. Philstrom and Albert Vine had meat markets; Miss Gelhaug and Mrs. W. E. Taylor had millinery shops; C. E. Misner had a barber shop on the east side; L. Lamerson was cashier of the Bank of Warren; J. P. Easton was the Postmaster; Miss Mansfield was dressmaker; Dr. Wattam and Dr. McGillan were the medical men and the latter was in partnership with Dr. Chapin of Euclid; Samuel Cook and Andrew Grindeland were attorneys; Lindberg and Lundgren sold farm machinery as did W. F. Powell; John Ostrom sold real estate; The Svea Hotel was run by C. J. Johnson; the Windsor House by T. R. Craig; the Lyons House by John Keenan; and the Edwardh Hotel by Hugh McManus.

School opened with Prof. Walters, Miss Eva Powell and Miss Naylor in charge.

Messrs. Ketcham, Eneix and Lakin returned from Montana with 3,400 sheep for fattening.

Nine years of controversy ended when the voters decided 1261 to 958 to keep the County Seat in Warren.

K. J. Taralseth began the foundation for a fine residence on Division Street.

Prof. Whitney was trying to raise money so as to purchase a flag for the school.

Mrs. Ingeborg Wee committed suicide at the Svea Hotel by cutting her throat with a jackknife.

The Warren Cornet Band gave a concert at the Court House, admission was 10c.

The keeping of hogs within the city limits of Warren from the 1st of May to the 1st of October was forbidden by the Village Board of health, Dr. Wattam being the chairman of the board.

Bert Knapp arrived from Nashua, Iowa, to become a clerk in the Bank of Warren.

Runaways occurred all over town and broken bones and carriages were the common results.

John P. Mattson took over the ownership of the Warren Sheaf.

H. O. Faville was the proprietor of the Warren Creamery.

Judge Grindeland built a two-story mansion on Central Park Avenue.

J. W. Harris purchased the livery business of F. J. Tripp.

Population 648.

1891

Charles Woolery came home from Lake of the Woods with 1500 lbs. of fish.

There was a rumor of an Indian uprising that had settlers uneasy based on the fact that the Indians at Red Lake and Lake of the Woods were performing their ceremonial dances.

Frank Whitney and W. N. Powell dissolved their partnerships.

Bear meat was for sale at Albert Vine’s meat market.

A. P. Znerold’s drug store on Johnson Avenue, its contents, all his extra money and his nine-year-old daughter, Ida, who had been ill for three weeks were consumed by fire on February 14th. A half an hour before the fire broke out, she told her parents that she was going to die soon and was going to Heaven.

As a result of this tragic fire, a meeting was held in the Edwardh Hall on the 14th of February and 45 names were enrolled as members of a fire company and a preliminary organization was effected. A resolution was passed requesting the village council to hold a special session to consider it.

Warren had two public wells.

H. J. Benevit was elected chief of the fire department, Charles Sager was his assistant, W. N. Powell was treasurer, and J. A. Noyes was the secretary.

No. 1 hard wheat was 80c a bushel.

Two carloads of Polled Angus cattle were shipped to Spencer, Iowa, by E. Corless. They were descendants of some of the Polled Angus cattle distributed by James J. Hill to pioneers along the line of the railroad a few years back.

Guy Jarrett sold his barber shop to Highwarden who moved his barber shop to the east side of Warren.

Fifteen persons from Des Moines, Iowa, arrived and four of the families went to live on the Stone Farm which they had purchased.

Mr. Berget, the photographer, occupied the old Reimheld Gallery.

Miss Tanner was a dressmaker.

G. C. Winchester, E. F. Whitney and F. Ferguson offered the services of their imported French Coach stallion, “Dollar.”

A. R. Gordon opened up a new drugstore east of Benevit’s harness shop, about where H & H Store is now located.

The Warren Bakery offered fresh wheat or rye bread daily. Pies or cakes to order. Mrs. N. D. Ross was the proprietor.

A. P. McIntyre again became the proprietor of the Windsor Hotel.

City officials were: John E. Ostrom, Mayor; Guy Aubol, August Lundgren and W. N. Powell, Aldermen; A. B. Nelson, Recorder; K. J. Taralseth, Treasurer; and E. Dady, Constable.

A Chinese Laundry opened. Hop Sam was the proprietor.
P. H. Reierson was the proprietor of the Coffee House.

John P. Dahquist had a position with Lundgren and Lindberg.

Warren became a city in April of 1891.

Natural gas was struck on the J. H. Huggard farm 1½ miles west of Warren. At 96 feet, it came out with a roar.

It was accidently lit by a lantern and the flames shot 30 feet into the air.

There was case after case of typhoid fever deaths.

* * *

1892

Board sidewalks were laid along Fourth Street.

John E. Ostrom sold his 320 acre farm four miles west of Warren for $20.00 an acre.

A want ad requested a good girl for housework at $3.00 per week.

134 pupils were attending school under Principal W. B. Walters, Mildred Walker and Lizzie Naylor.

W. O. Holcomb opened a grocery store.

Mr. Fishburn was head miller at the Warren Manufacturing Company.

In Warren, common labor was worth $1.75 to $3.00 per day, carpenters $2.00 to $3.00 per day, brick masons and plasterers $3.00 to $5.00 per day, hired women $1.00 to $1.25 per day, and hired girls $2.00 to $4.00 per week.

The State Bank of Warren opened with H. L. Melgaard, President; K. J. Taralseth, Vice-president; John E. Ostrom, Cashier; and Andrew Melgaard, Assistant Cashier and Bookkeeper. The site of this bank is the building now housing the Marymay Shop.

Fred Brady offered fruits, candy and tobacco at his shop.

The small boys of the community made “lots” of money pulling mustard on the nearby farms.

W. A. Wallace who lived one mile north of Warren narrowly missed being murdered by two drunks who entered his property and opened fire on him.

The firemen had a ball at the Edward Hall and the profits went toward purchasing uniforms for the men.

Hunting parties from the Twin Cities and even the cities of the East arrived in Warren in their special railroad cars with their servants, their one-hundred dollar profits went toward purchasing uniforms for the men.

In June, threshing was in progress of wheat that had been left out over winter. Though bleached, it brought from 50c to 55c a bushel.

The Fire Department presented their chief, H. J. Bennewitz, with a silver trumpet.

20,000 acres in Marshall County was ruined by a disastrous hail storm.

* * *

1893

City Officials were: John Ostrom, Mayor; W. F. Powell, August Lundgren, W. W. Wood, Aldermen; Bert Knapp, Treasurer; A. B. Nelson, Recorder; J. P. Easton and John Keenan, Justices of the Peace; and Eugene Dady, Constable.

A. L. Palmer sold his half section of land adjoining the city to Otto Edwardth for $8,000.00.

Liquor licenses were $750.00.

Mrs. H. E. Robbins opened a hotel and bakery in the Latimer House next door to Holcomb’s grocery store. Baking was done in a brick oven.

The Warren firemen had a novel idea for supper. At 11:30 p.m., dancing stopped and after all were seated, supper was passed around after which they danced until daylight. It was a huge success with people from Argyle and Stephen attending.

Adolphus R. Gordon became postmaster of Warren. Gordon was a staunch Grover Cleveland man and thought that Grover’s penmanship on the document making him postmaster was just lovely.

The creamery building belonging to W. E. Wood was moved into the city and was located on Fletcher Avenue east of the railroad depot. Additions were made to make it into an opera house in first class style.

The Argyle band came down in carriages and gave the city of Warren a concert.

Many Warrenites visted the Columbian World Exposition in Chicago.

A. D. Wyant ran the Central Drug Store.

P. H. Holm opened up a new restaurant and boarding house.

Wild mustard, wild oats and Canada thistle were overrunning many farms in this district.

John Boquist was killed by lightning on the Irish Farm.

John Keenan closed the Lyon’s House.

Prairie chickens were plentiful.

No. 1 hard wheat was 48c.

Postmaster Gordon found a tramp milking his cow with his mouth and stowing the milk away in his stomach.

Frank Seign opened the Lyons House.

Fred Roberts, a nephew of Frank Jerrue, was killed at the Warren Mill by being crushed between two freight cars.

M. L. Larson invented a new stove and received a patent for his invention.

$4.70 was collected at the Union Thanksgiving Services for the relief of the needy and was turned over to the W.C.T.U.


39 births and 10 deaths in Warren during the year.
1894

The postoffice was moved into the new Taralseth building on the west side of town and two doors north of the Register office.

Wheat was 44c a bushel.

Dr. Chapin purchased the stock of the Central Drug Store and moved it to the east room of the Winchester block.

City officials were W. F. Powell, Mayor; Frans Fransson, C. S. Hull, and L. M. Larson, Aldermen; A. B. Nelson, Recorder; F. E. Whitney, Treasurer; and E. Dady, Constable.

Mike Holm was back at work in Chapin’s barber shop. Mike Holm later became Secretary of State for the State of Minnesota for around forty years until his death.

Otto Edwardh went out of the saloon business.

Warren voters made the city a dry town.

A two-year-old moose went through Warren in May. Several tried to catch it but all they had to show for it was some handful of hair.

The first commencement exercises of the Warren High School were held on June 15th. Henry Taralseth and Anna Swandby (Grinder) were the graduates.

B. S. Chapin notified the public that “Summer weather is the time to take a good bath and that is what you get at Chapin’s bath rooms.”
WARREN IN 1895 — H. I. Golden, who came to Warren in August 1883, stands in front of his furniture store and undertaking parlor on First Street he built in 1892 where the Peoples State Bank now stands. The picture, from Harold Golden’s collection, was taken about 1895. His daughter, Olga, stands next to him and next to her is Inga Swanson. He started doing cabinet and carpentry work and then started a furniture store and undertaking parlor. About 1900 he sold his undertaking parlor to H. M. Swanson and in 1906 he built the two story brick building now occupied by H & H Company and operated a furniture store there until 1942 when he sold it to Adelbert Harris.

ANOTHER VIEW OF FIRST STREET — This is an even earlier view of First Street than the 1895 scene. The H. I. Golden building is shown prior to some remodeling. The next building to the south is the Scandia House, an early hotel built by a Mr. Dahlin. It is believed the next building was probably a livery business belonging to Henry M. Swanson and the building at the right is the Pihlstrom meat market which C. J. Pihlstrom built in 1883 and operated for about 20 years.
Warren in 1895, the year of the famous Red River Valley wheat crop. The Windsor Hotel in the picture stood where the present Hotel Warren is now located.

F. W. Woodward of the Snake River Farm only got 40,000 bushels of wheat from the year’s harvest.

Plans for a “Farmer’s Railroad” that would run from Drayton to Warren and on the Thief River Falls were discussed at public meetings.

* * *

1895

Peoples Trading Co. was organized and in August the store was opened. It featured groceries, clothing and dry goods. Directors were John Ostrom, August Lundgren, John Larson, John Lindberg and Mr. Bloomquist.

D. Farrell bought out Welanders stock and started the Farrell Jewelry Store.

City officials were: L. Lamberson, Mayor; John E. Ostrom, W. N. Powell and J. P. Mattson, Aldermen; A. B. Nelson, Recorder; G. F. Barnes, Treasurer; C. S. Hull, Justice of the Peace; E. Dady, Constable.

Mr. Rose, the traveling dentist, was in town. His prices were: simple filling, $1.00; extraction without anaesthetic $3.00; extraction with ether $5.00; full upper or lower set $15.00.

Friendship Lodge, No. 227, I.O.O.F., was organized on May 21st. There were 22 members.

The Benewitz Building at the corner of Johnson Avenue and First Street burned.

Countess Frida de Tersmeden of Sweden played at a concert.

The third school house was built at a cost of $8,884.00 by August Wallentin of St. Paul.

A large party of Indians pitched their tents south of Warren in July.

About 75 Warrenites attended Mark Twain’s lecture in Crookston.

Fred Main opened a barber shop.

N. D. ross, proprietor of the City Bakery and Restaurant, offered fresh ice cream on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons and evenings.

The Blomsness elevator near the west side track was built.

The old-fashioned Red River cart made its appearance on the streets driven by natives.

The year of the greatest wheat crop of the Red River Valley.

Population 975.

N. Weller, barber, skipped out of town with a valuable violin he had borrowed from Ole Forde and leaving bills behind. Anticipated troubles on account of promises made to foolish girls who placed too much confidence in them caused the sudden departure.

350 carloads of grain were shipped from Warren in December. That is nearly 300,000 bushels.
LONELY EAST SIDE — This view of the 1896 flood, described and pictured in the past two Sheafs, shows the dearth of building on Warren’s east side in 1896. The pictures published last week showed some homes around the river but there is nothing east of the high school except just peeking out from the edge of the high school is the Ray Hill house at the corner of Fletcher Avenue and Fourth Street. The house was lived in for many years by the E. W. Dahlof family. This view looks east down Johnson Avenue with many of today’s trees just being started along the avenue. The high school, Warren’s third, was built in 1895 by August Wallentin of St. Paul for $8,884 and he was allowed to reuse brick used in the school building built in 1884. In June 1894 city residents defeated a $5,000 bond issue for a new school by 95 to 19. However, on April 29, 1895, they passed a $7,000 bond issue 82 to 17 and then in August 1895 another $2,500 bond issue to complete the building and provide a steam heating plant. Andrew Grindeland was chairman and J. P. Mattson, secretary, of the school board. This building was torn down, along with its 1916 addition, to make way for the Landmark Center. The Presbyterian Church shown on the corner of the school block was moved some years later and turned into a duplex by Attorney Julius Olson. It is part of the home now owned by Leonard Riopelle at Colvin Avenue and Seventh Street. Warren’s west side developed first for residential area and it was only in the later years that the movement of residences went to the east side so that now most of Warren’s people live on the east side of the tracks.

— M. J. Berget Photo
A flood scene at Warren May 18, 1896, looking northwest from the old high school toward Johnson Avenue. The white building in the left foreground is the first courthouse.

** **

1896

Prof. C. Hiles Jaynes, Phrenologist, skipped town to avoid paying his bills. The Warren Register called him a deadbeat and a swindler of the first water.

W. D. Carleton purchased the wagon shop of R. C. Snyder.

Alexander Bull, son of the great violinist Ole Bull, gave a concert in the Methodist Church.

The city council forbid the running of bicycles at high rate of speed on the sidewalks within the city.

The fire department had a new hose cart.

James J. Hill of the Great Northern Railroad was host to one hundred farmers of Marshall County to the state experimental farm at St. Anthony in the month of July. They also visited the Wood Harvester Works, the St. Paul Stockyards, and the state prison at Stillwater.

Mrs. Carhart and Mr. Walpole sang at the Midsummer recital.

Iver Lodoen returned from a six month's visit to Norway. Five young ladies accompanied him on his return trip with the intention of making America their new home.

While riding his wheel, Leonard Erickson was followed by a barking dog. In attempting to draw his pistol from his pocket to shoot the dog, he shot himself in the leg.

Mumford Brothers, successors to Conklin Brothers, had a livery, feed and sale barn where good rigs could be had at all times at reasonable rates.

A four-horse team belonging to John Cheney ran away on Johnson Avenue. The driver fell from the wagon and the team was finally stopped when one of the horses stumbled and fell throwing those behind him.

Firemen were on the hunt for someone who rang the firebell at 2:30 a.m. and got scores of men out on a false alarm.

M. J. Berget began the erection of a new brick building on his lot on Main Street. It was planned as a one-story building, a portion to be used for an office and the rest for the photographic gallery.

The army worm made its appearance in the wheat fields of the Spaulding farm.

A severe rain and hail storm did some damage to the crops and ruined 50,000 bricks that were about to be placed in the kiln to be burned.

A terrible accident occurred on the Carhart farm during threshing time when the steam engine exploded blowing the enginer, Mathew Main, about ninety feet and killing him instantly.

Guy Carlton came back from Minneapolis by Jim Hill’s passenger train. He and A. H. Southworth found wheeling tough work on part of their bicycle trip down to Minneapolis. In places the roads were exceedingly rough and in many places there were no roads at all.

The molds for the making of the “petrified man” that was shown in Warren were found in Argyle. The finding of this “petrified” body created a big sensation when it was dug up from McPherran’s farm near Argyle.

Fire broke out in the building of J. A. (Bishop) Johnson but was quickly put out.
FLOOD SCENE AT WARREN, MINN.
May 18, 1896.
A. D. Ralston moved his barber shop into the new Berget building.

Otto Rollis who once lived in Warren and who left here several years ago returned from Washington state and filed a homestead northeast of Thief River Falls. He and his family drove the entire distance of 1800 miles, crossing the tremendous inclines of the Rocky mountains. He used twenty-four head of horses which were used alternately to haul the wagon and his nine year old son made the entire trip on horseback driving the horses before him. The trip occupied most of the summer and used up two wagons.

The Society of King’s Daughters gave a Top and Bonnet Social at Edward’s Hall. The gentlemen trimmed the bonnets and the women made tops from wood spools.

P. H. Holm closed his restaurant and boarding house with a great party but he continued his jewelry business. A severe blizzard and -30 degree weather blocked all roads and kept the railroads from running for five days. The price of wheat continued to linger between 65 and 70 cents.

Bethel Lodge, No. 158, Daughters of Rebekah, was organized on Dec. 15th with 37 charter members.

The ladies of the Methodist Church gave a silhouette social.

The ladies of the Presbyterian Church gave a mush and milk social.

1897

At a regular meeting of the Warren Fire Dept. the following officers were elected: Dan Main, chief; L. Lindquist, secretary; A. B. Nelson, treasurer; G. S. Wattam, surgeon; Alfred Swandby, assistant chief; Charles Sandberg, Andrew Lodoen and Fred Johnson, executive committee; C. H. Woolery, foreman; N. D. Ross, assistant foreman.

An Eastern Star Lodge was organized on January 28th with a membership of about forty.

A. P. McIntyre was appointed Postmaster. He will succeed A. R. Gordon.

(Editors note: The issues of the Warren Register from March 3rd on are missing).

1900

Charles Wittensten, recent manager of the Irish Farm, became the manager of the Pembina Farm replacing W. E. Wood.

Brady’s fruit store was sold to P. S. Ware and was managed by William Benzie.

City officials were: K. J. Taralseth, Mayor; C. L. Stevens, Recorder; C. A. Tullar, August Lundgren and L. Lamberson, Aldermen; Andrew Melgard, Treasurer; John Keenan and J. P. Easton, Justices of the Peace; Eugene Dady, Marshal; and P. M. Hjerpe, Street Commissioner.

The Marshall County Court House was completed at a cost of $2,285.00 to Anderson and Hunter for construction; $1,630.00 to Dubold Safe and Lock Co. for fixing the jail, $2,248.35 to G. D. Barnard and Co. for metallic furniture, $2,695.00 to Pond and Hassey for heating plant, and $360.00 to Dubold Safe and Lock Co. for the vault doors.

The St. Hilaire Lumber Co., W. S. Day, manager, offered sheathing lumber at $10.00 per thousand feet.

The city bought a public park—fair grounds—for $1200.00.

Peter Ruedy left for Paris to see the Paris Exposition. The Improved Order of the Red Men, Wa-Sa-Ko-Um Tribe No. 54 was organized with C. S. Hull as Sachem.

Wheat was 65c per bushel, flax $1.25, barley 30c, oats 30c, potatoes 50c, flour $2.65 a hundred pounds, butter 15c a pound, eggs 10c a dozen, and wool 17c a pound.

Mr. Aoki, a Japanese nobleman, who was completing a four-year course at Princeton gave a talk on life in Japan before a crowded house in the Presbyterian Church.
First National Bank of Warren.
The Fransson Building was destroyed by fire.

The New European Restaurant opened with C. J. Carlson as proprietor.

The Warren Manufacturing Company’s flour mill burned down on November 14th a loss of over $20,000.00.

* * *

1901

The First National Bank of Warren was organized by W. F. Powell, President; C. A. Tullar, Vice-president; F. W. Flanders, Cashier; G. C. Winchester, Clarence Spaulding, H. M. Swanson and G. O. Cross. The bank moved to its new quarters in the Bennewitz Block. Later in the year, they received a batch of bank bills amounting to $7,000.00 in $20.00 and $10.00 denominations to circulate as money as soon as they were signed by proper officers. This was the first money ever issued in Marshall County.

Four new street lamps, two on each side of the track were installed and they contained gas burners. As a result of this installation, E. Dady, the marshal, was granted a raise of $5.00 a month for lighting the street lights and keeping a fire going in the fire-engine house.

City officials were: K. J. Taralseth, Mayor; C. S. Hull, Recorder; C. A. Tullar, August Lundgren and J. E. Ostrom as Aldermen; Andrew Melgard, Treasurer; John Keenan, Justice of the Peace; Eugene Dady, Marshal; and P. M. Hjerpe, Street Commissioner.

County Treasurer Dagoberg took in nearly $10,000 on the last day for paying taxes.

Great Northern Railroad sold excursion tickets to St. Paul, Minnesota, at half price to encourage attendance at the meeting of the Modern Woodmen of America on June the 10th.

Sgt. George Taus visited in the city while home on a furlough from his army assignment in the Philippines. He stated army life was severe but he liked the country and planned to remain there after the war is over and engage in business.

Other places of business were as follows:

- Peoples Trading Company
- G. C. Winchester, general store
- Frans Fransson, harness & saddlery
- Fred Swanson, harness
- Flanders & Wood, farm loans
- Apgar and Cline, real estate
- Andrew Lindroth, blacksmith
- W. F. Powell & Co., farm machinery
- Mrs. Head, millinery
- Johnson Drug Company
- C. S. Wees, dray-wood-ice
- Swanson & Pihlstrom, general merchandise
- Fred Johnson, coal & wood
- Strandquist Bros., 2nd hand merchandise
- Bank of Warren
- L. Lamberson, cashier
- State Bank of Warren, H. L. Melgaard, president; K. J. Taralseth, vice-president; Andrew Melgard, cashier.

- Warren Flouring Mill
- Hilleboe & Johnson Sheaf Real Estate Agency
- C. S. Hull, manager
- Albin Young, real estate and insurance
- Carl Lind, flour and feed
- F. E. Nelson, tailor
- C. J. Klingborg, blacksmith
- P. H. Holm, jeweler
- D. Farrell, jewelry and bicycles
- Cook & Cross, real estate
- Warren Sheaf
- Warren Register
- Dixon & Erickson, farm machinery
- M. L. Larson, farm machinery & gen. merch.
- Lindberg & Lundgren, farm machinery
- H. I. Golden, furniture
- Peterson & Hjelle, meat market
- E. L. Brown, eggs for hatching

The population of Warren was 1,276 people.

Warren’s first settler, Charles Wentzel was honored on his 60th birthday and Senator Grindeland made the presentation speech when a gift of a rocking chair and a meerschaum pipe were presented.

The eighth graduation class of Warren High School was made up of the following persons: Fred Eneix, Synneva Grindeland, Marietta Brady, Monrad Olson, and Genevieve Searl.

Warren had nine elevators and mills with a capacity of 250,000 bushels.

The O. C. Craig home burned on Craig Island near the present power plant. It was one of the old landmarks of the city.
G. C. WINCHESTER STORE — Here is another historic Warren business block which served the area well from 1882 until it burned early Thursday morning, March 9, 1922. The Winchester block was located on the site now occupied by Warren Theatre and as a part of One-O-One Service. Cause of the fire was unknown. The main part of the building was built in 1882 by Flint, Winchester and Co., who also owned a store at Angus. Some time later it became G. C. Winchester Company and in 1904 Mr. Winchester changed the name to Winchester Spot Cash Store, apparently having trouble with his creditors. The following year, 1905, he went out of business and the block continued to run downhill with various businesses renting portions of it from the Winchester Estate.

One part of the building was erected in the early days by Ole Knutsen who occupied it with his saloon for some years. When he quit business Mr. Winchester bought the building and connected it up with his own. At the time of the fire one room was occupied by the Fred Langreder Meat Market and the other two rooms by the billiard and pool hall and the restaurant and confectionary of E. C. Harper. The store above the meat market was occupied by the family of Fred Langreder and the rooms above the restaurant by Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Forslund. The building at the time of the fire was owned by the G. C. Winchester estate. Mr. Winchester’s last remaining son, Clinton T. Winchester, died Feb. 11, 1980 in Jackson, Mich. The interior view of the store pictures George Clinton Winchester himself. The top picture was probably taken in the 1890’s. In 1909, Henry Taralseth purchased the G. C. Winchester home now occupied by the Myron Haynes family at Fourth Street and Ross Avenue. Mr. Winchester died Feb. 26, 1910. He was born in Madrid, N.Y., Jan. 31, 1851 and grew up at River Falls, Wis. He came to the Red River Valley in 1879 and located on a claim near Angus. In 1882 he came to Warren and opened a general store, first in partnership with Jerry Flint and later with Mr. Montgomery. He was survived by his wife and two sons of former marriages, Dr. W. H. Winchester of Flint, Mich., and Clinton Winchester, of Jackson, Mich.
Flags were flying at half-staff in this picture taken by M. J. Berget, pioneer Warren photographer, possibly following the assassination of President William J. McKinley on Sept. 14, 1901. The picture was taken from the old Great Northern Railway depot platform a block south of the present Burlington Northern station. Note the wooden sidewalks, piles of car doors and three horses on the street. The buildings pictured are the P. H. Holm Jewelry Store, R. Sullivan's Saloon, the new brick Berget block built in 1896, in which were located the Marshall County Land Company, a furniture store, Berget's Photo Studio and the G. N. Railway Land Office. Next in line were the John Grove Land & Loan Co., The Warren Register newspaper office, a millinery store, the U.S. Post Office, the brick K. J. Taralseth Co. department store, which burned down in 1910. Across the street also facing Main Street are the Johnson Drug Store, which was moved a block west on Johnson Avenue in 1904 and is now the west part of Warren Hardware, the Ben Gillund Saloon and A. P. McIntyre's Windsor Hotel, which was razed to make way for the modern Hotel Warren, which was built in 1916. Of particular note is what appears to be a white monument about 12 feet tall on the sidewalk in front of what is now Warren TV & Appliance. No one can recall the purpose of the monument or remember its existence. Perhaps it could be a sign for a funeral home as there is a cross on top of the building behind it. Signs in front of Sullivan's Saloon advertise Old Lexington Rye and Grain Belt Beer. Note the symbol of a watch hanging at the corner of Holm's Jewelry Store, which later was remodeled into the Warren Bakery. The man standing on top of K. J. Taralseth's Store is holding onto a large sign atop the building. The Sullivan Saloon building is still in use as Cliff's Spot. Soderberg Appliance is located in the building south of Taralseth's Store.

Warren honors the memory of President McKinley in 1901. The Methodist church is to the left, the Presbyterian church is next (later made into the Olson duplex), and the third Warren Public School is on the right.
A Gathering at the John Anderson Farm around 1900

BACK ROW: August Lundgren, John Anderson, Mrs. Captain Olson, Mrs. Albert Dahlquist, Mollie Ostrom Johnson, Mrs. Peterson, Mrs. John Bloomquist, Mrs. Gottfried Erickson and Ester, Mr. Gottfried Erickson and Joseph.
3RD ROW: Mrs. Albert Lundgren, Mrs. John Lindberg, Mrs. C. Lindquist and Esther, Mrs. Johnson and son, Mrs. Andrew Grindeland, Mrs. Peter Dahlquist, Mrs. Iver Dagoberg, Mrs. August Lundgren, Mrs. Rosenberg.
2ND ROW: Mrs. Roan, Mrs. Fred Johnson, Mrs. Otto Johnson, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Frank Larson, Mrs. P. B. Malberg, Mrs. John Anderson, Mrs. Rev. Mattson, Mrs. John Ostrom, Mrs. Pete Holm.

The Blacksmith Shop of Andrew Lindroth on First Street south of Johnson Avenue about where the south addition to the American Legion is located. Circa 1901.

The Warren Cornet Band giving a concert at the intersection of Main Street and Johnson Avenue around 1900

25
Guests at a party given by Mrs. Pete Holm and shown outside of their jewelry store. Three men easily identified are Pete Holm as a soldier, K. J. Taralseth and Judge Andrew Grindeland. This was taken about 1900.
Mrs. Sophie Grubb, national organizer for the W.C.T.U. delivered a sermon at the Methodist church. The Peoples Trading Company advertised coffee, 7 lbs. for $1.00; dried prunes 5c lb.; dried peaches 8c lb.; laundry soap, 35 boxes for $1.00; shoes $4.00; men’s shirts 65c to $1.50; and ladies tailor-made suits $3.25 to $8.00. K. J. Taralseth Co. offered lace curtains at 50c; men’s shoes at $1.50 to $4.00; men’s suits $4.00 to $16.00; men’s overalls for 50c; mule-skin gloves for 25c; men’s buffalo coats $25.00; blankets 65c to $2.00; bicycles $25.00; boys suits $1.50 and corsets for the ladies at from 75c to $2.00. Memorial Services were held in the Opera House for President William McKinley who had been assassinated.

Potatoes ranged in price from 75c to $2.00 depending on locality and scarcity, and later a big crop of potatoes in Colorado caused the potato market here to drop 25c to 40c a bushel.

The Methodist Church rented the two front rooms of the old courthouse for $4.00 a month. A “Loud Talking Machine” Concert was held at the Opera House. Adults 15c, Children 10c.

Mr. and Mrs. Sundin left for Auckland, New Zealand, to accept a position there. He managed a store on the Tonga Friendship Islands during the six years prior to coming to Warren and both spoke and read the Tonga language.

Thorn Bros. who ran the East Side Gallery were offering 24 photographs for 25c with a choice of two positions.

* * *

1902

Ben Penturen, next door to Farrell’s Jewelry Store, offered 18 lbs. sugar for $1.00, peas 8c a can, tomatoes 12c a can, corn 9c a can, 22 lbs. of herring for $1.00, and 26 lbs. of oatmeal for $1.00 until a fire on January 16th burned it and the Mrs. Bennewitz wooden store building.

Justice Carlson was in the dray, coal and wood business. Warren decided to have electric lights, water works and a sewer system. It was estimated that $15,000.00 would be needed.

C. A. (Fatty) Nelson was Ass’t Cashier of the State Bank of Warren. The new firm of Powell, Wood and Company started dealing in Dowagiac and Hayworth Grain Drills, John Deere plow goods, Standard buggies and Moline wagons.

Stenquist Bros. sold out their dry goods, groceries, their store building at the corner of Nelson Avenue and 2nd Street, and their feed barn.

Mrs. Head had the formal opening of her millinery shop.

In May the price of No. 1 hard wheat was 64c, oats 45c, barley 45c, flax $1.55, dairy butter 18c a lb., creamery butter 20c a lb., eggs 12c a doz., potatoes 50c a bu., fresh pork 6c a lb., and fat cows from 2½ to 3c a lb. on foot.

The Warren Gun Club was reorganized with D. Farrell as President and D. R. Whittaker as Secretary.

State Senator Andrew Grindeland was endorsed as a 9th District Candidate for Congress on the Republican ticket.

Henry Taralseth succeeded Andrew Melgard as cashier in the State Bank of Warren.


The digging of ditches, construction of the electric light and water plants in Warren and Argyle, the building of telephone lines, etc. caused a labor shortage. As high as from $1.75 to $2.00 a day is being offered for a common laborer.

Water was struck at the city well and the citizens were elated.

Livery stable charges were 25c a team including feed at Dixon’s Feed and Livery Stable.

On December 15th, the lights of Warren were turned on for the first time and the plant ran a few hours in the evening so that people could see the brilliancy of the light. Over one thousand lights were subscribed for and eighteen arc lights were placed uptown. In the residential district, fifteen 32-candle power lights were installed. The plant cost $32,000.00.

The Warren Sheaf plant burned down. It was located in a building where the present City Appliance Store is now located on Johnson Avenue.

1903

Iver Lodoen, a salesman in the K. J. Taralseth Store, opened a store in the Berget Block and offered general merchandise.

The Warren Furniture Company, Guy Carlton, manager, went out of business—too many furniture stores, according to Mr. Carlton.

The City Officials were as follows: K. J. Taralseth, Mayor—; August Lundgren, John E. Ostrom, and C. A. Tullar were the Aldermen; W. N. Powell, Recorder; W. A. Knapp, Treasurer; E. M. Sathre, Justice of the Peace; and E. Dady, Constable.

Miss Mathilda Lindstrom of the Swedish Hospital at Minneapolis was in charge of a private hospital opposite the Swedish Mission Church—now the home of Clarence Johnson at 3 Park Avenue.

Andrew Grindeland was appointed to the new Judgehip in the 14th Judicial District by Governor Van Sant.

The Warren Water Works was completed.

The Bank of Warren built new quarters on the site of its old building—it is now the building of the American Federal Savings and Loan.

E. Dagoberg and F. A. Larson built new homes in the Grindeland and Wentzel addition. Many of the original settlers left to take up claims in Canada.

A new firm of Larson and Bang opened up and offered general merchandise.

The Farmers Elevator burned.

The Warren Flouring Mill filled an order for 3,000 sacks of flour to be shipped to England. Each sack to weigh 140 lbs. or altogether twelve carloads.

The O. F. Ballard blacksmith shop burned with all its contents and wiped out years of careful saving and thrift by Mr. Ballard.

Runaways were common down Johnson Avenue.

In November, No. 1 hard wheat sold for 69c a bu., flax for 85c a bu., barley for 36c a bu., oats for 30c a bu., eggs 20c a doz., potatoes 50c a bu., butter 15c a lb., cattle and steers 2½c a lb., and hogs 4c a lb.
Mr. W. O. Braggans became Court Reporter for Judge Grindeland.

* * *

1904

Peoples Trading Company burned and it was estimated that the damage amounted to $35,000.00.

Dr. Theodor Bratrud returned from his studies in Vienna and resumed his practice with Dr. Melby over the Johnson Drug Store which stood where the State Bank building now stands.

The G. C. Winchester Store went out of business and a Winchester Spot Cash Store took its place.

Jarrett House, John Keenan, Proprietor, offered rates by the day for $1.00 and by the week for $4.00. This building is now an apartment house at 602 Johnson Avenue.

City Officials were as follows: August Lundgren, Mayor; C. A. Tullar, Mr. Lodoen, and John Hilleboe were the Councilmen; W. N. Powell, Recorder; C. A. Nelson, Treasurer; E. Dady, Constable; and W. S. Day, Justice of the Peace.

R. I. Parsons elevator burned to the ground.

Lamberson's barley-fed hogs attracted the attention of every stockman in the South Saint Paul stockyards and brought $4.60 or ten cents above market price.

The Home Bakery, E. C. Langguth, proprietor, advertised cookies, rolls, bread, cakes, etc.

The Warren Dairy Company started business in the east basement of the First National Bank building—eggs 11c a dozen, butter 11c a pound.

Dr. Wattam was elected to Vice-President of the State Medical Association.

The Fourth of July was celebrated with bands, parades, an oration, horse races, foot races, baseball (Crookston won over Warren), a masked parade, a grand ball and fireworks at night. Over 3,000 people were present.

Nels Bystrom succeeded W. S. Day as manager of the St. Hilaire Lumber Co.

Road companies were traveling through the country and showed everything from Macbeth to minstrel shows.

Senator Knut Nelson spoke at the Opera House.

A. M. Anderson purchased the Bossman Livery business.

The present State Bank Building block was constructed for $16,000.00 and the building formerly housing the Johnson Drug Store was moved next to Mr. Larson's store on Johnson Avenue—it is now the west half of the Warren Hardware building.

The Post Office was moved to the old State Bank building—now the Marymay Shop—and Mr. Mattson was the Postmaster.

A 1,350 pound bell was installed in the Swedish Lutheran Church at a cost of $300.00.

* * *

1905

W. N. Powell sold his hardware business to G. N. Morkassel and Riley E. Kezar.

The Larson and Bang partnership was dissolved, Iver Lodoen and M. L. Larson combined to form the Warren Mercantile Co., and later that year Mr. Bang went bankrupt and quit business.

The old Irish Farm which started in 1880 by a company of titled Irishmen was sold, after changing hands many times, to the Keystone Land Company of Peoria, Illinois, that company taking its name from the Keystone Farm they had purchased previously. A price of $30.00 an acre was paid for the 3,350 acres that remained of the original farm.

City officials were as follows: August Lundgren, Mayor; Dr. Theodore Bratrud, C. E. Lundquist and C. L. Spaulding, Aldermen; W. N. Powell, Recorder; C. A. Tullar, Treasurer; Nels Bystrom and John Keenan, Justices of the Peace; and E. Dady, Constable.

The Soo Railroad built their line through Warren and a crew of about one hundred Italians laid the rails. Service began on December fourth.

G. C. Winchester went out of business.

K. J. Taralseth gave one thousand dollars toward the new hospital that was being planned.

John S. Hilleboe sold his interests in the Warren Flouring Mill to John Lindberg.

Boardson and Sands purchased the East Side Meat Market.

A gun was presented to the city by the War Department through the courtesy and instigation of Congressman Steenerson. It was an eleven millimeter Nordenfelt rapid gun captured in the Philippine Islands. It was later placed outside the Court House.

The Swedish-American State Bank began in the Berget Building, the capital stock $15,000. Charles Wittensten, President; E. Dagoberg, Vice-president; L. M. Olson, Cashier; and August Johnson, Ass't. Cashier.

The Spaulding Elevator Company was organized with Clarence L. Spaulding as President and General Manager, Putnam F. Spaulding as Vice-President, and H. J. March, as Secretary-Treasurer.

The main streets of Warren were graveled.

The Warren Firemen won about one hundred dollars in prizes at the Blackduck meeting. A. B. Nelson was the chief and O. H. Taralseth was the secretary.

A new city hall was built for $5,995.00.

Lyman P. Weld was an attorney at law.

The population of Warren was 1,640 people.

A. M. Anderson purchased the Bossman Livery business.

The Washington School Building was constructed, and on the second floor of that building was located the Warren Business School with Prof. Kizer in charge.

Lindquist and Natwick opened a ladies lunch parlor at their bakery.

A very prominent citizen of the city, K. J. Taralseth, died.

R.F.D., Route 1, was established and John S. MacArthur became the first carrier at a salary of $720.00 per year including the hire of the horse.

The Warren Electric Light Plant was enlarged at a cost of $6,262.50 to meet the growing demand of the citizens of the town.

* * *

1906

Knapper ran the bowling alley.

The Warren Business School had fifty students.

Dr. Melby left for Argyle to succeed to the practice of Dr. Stuhr who left for studies in Europe.
WARREN'S BIGGEST FUNERAL — K. J. Taralseth, Warren civic leader and businessman for 23 years, was buried here Oct. 16, 1905. This is the funeral procession down Johnson Avenue from the Norwegian Lutheran Church to Greenwood Cemetery. The cortage filed between his “Big Store” and State Bank of Warren buildings. Born in Hornindal, Bergen’s Stift, Norway, Nov. 2, 1848, Knud J. Taralseth was apprenticed to a carpenter and in 1872 at 24 years of age landed at Red Wing, where he worked as a carpenter. Then to Minneapolis and in 1870 returned to Norway to marry Ragnhild Satren on April 18. They came to Osakis the same year where he had half interest in a store until 1882 when he sold out and came to Warren. On May 31, 1882, he opened a store in Warren. In 1888, he bought the property at the corner of Johnson Avenue and Main Street from Mike McClain, the blacksmith, and built a 25x90 foot building, two stories high. In 1897, a 25x90 foot addition and 50x50 foot annex were built. This was the building’s size at the time of his death and which was destroyed by fire Oct. 24, 1910. The present large building housing Morgan’s Furniture and Erickson’s Clothing was completed by his son, Ralph Taralseth, and opened for business Oct. 12, 1911. K. J. Taralseth was the heaviest stockholder in the State Bank of Warren when it opened in 1882. At the time of his death, he was president of the Citizen’s State Bank of Osseo, a stockholder in the Bank of Alvarado and in the Scandia Bank in Crookston and in the wholesale house of Alfred Anderson & Co. of Minneapolis. He served as village trustee in 1884, 1885 and 1888 and president of the village council from March 1889 to March 1890. He was city treasurer from March 1891 to March 1893 and city alderman from March 1896 to March 1898. He was elected mayor in March 1900, serving three terms until March 1903. He was chairman of the meeting held July 31, 1885, to organize the Warren board of education and chosen as its first president. He served continuously as a member of the board until July 1904 when failing health compelled his retirement.

The funeral, held Monday, October 16, was the biggest ever seen in Warren. Mayor August Lundgren issued a proclamation requesting all business places to be closed during the funeral and that flags be flown at half mast. Public schools were dismissed for the afternoon. Rev. C. J. Nolstad, pastor of the Norwegian Lutheran Church officiated. Judge Andrew Grindeland gave a eulogy at the service. Pallbearers were Andrew Grindeland, W. F. Powell, H. L. Melgaard, Dr. G. S. Wattam, J. O. Hildboe and August Lundgren. He was survived by his wife, a daughter, Mrs. Ed (Lena) Mosselin, and sons O. H. and Ralph. Mrs. Taralseth lived here until May 3, 1943. O. Henry, who headed State Bank, died April 18, 1940, and Ralph, who ran the “Big Store” until experiencing financial problems in the late 20’s, died in 1959.

The newly-erected Washington Grade School can be seen at the left. The poster on the fire bell in the parking lot advertises a program for October 19 at the Opera House. The funeral procession is at least four blocks long with the line visible back to the Taralseth house at the west end of Johnson Avenue, which he built in 1890. The still-uncompleted tower of the new fire hall can be seen behind the telephone pole in the foreground.

There was a shortage of butter but creamery butter could be purchased for 30c a pound.

Excursion rates from New York City to Sweden and back ranged from $160.20 for first class accommodations to $62.00 for third class.

The Warren Hospital was completed.

J. P. Mattson was reappointed Postmaster.

The Valley Springs Water Company was organized by Oscar Edlund, L. E. Fredrickson and P. H. Holm. It was located in Lamberson Building on present site of Vern’s Standard Service Station. The water came from a spring one-half mile east of the fair grounds and near the river.

Warren’s police force was increased to six men: E. Dady, chief; Fred Johnson and Charles Hull, day force; William McCrea, John Erickson and Tom Keefe for night duty.

H. I. Golden built a brick furniture store, now the H & H building.

Rasmus Hage was the law clerk to Julius J. Olson.

A traveling show failed to please its Warren audience and was booed and hooted at all the way to the railroad station.

J. S. Hilleboe bought M. L. Larson’s interest in the Warren Mercantile Co. and became a partner of I. N. Lodoen.

* * *

1907

George Pfister opened a meat market.

City officers were: August Lundgren, Mayor; C. E. Lundquist, I. N. Lodoen and W. F. Powell, Aldermen; W. N. Powell, Recorder; C. A. Nelson, Treasurer; E. Dady, Constable; John Keenan, Justice of the Peace.

M. L. Larson bought back his interest in the Warren Mercantile Co. from J. S. Hilleboe as he didn’t like the West Coast.
The Warren City Band — 1909

Back row: Robert Setterholm, Nels Bystrom, Ivan Peterson, George G. Johnson (director), James Heng, Otto Andreatson, Gust Juul and Bert Whitney (manager).


Mrs. Halliday (the late Mrs. O. H. Taralseth) was in charge of the millinery department at Peoples Trading Company.

Mayor August Lundgren offered city lots free to the first five bachelors or old maids who got married.

The Golden Valley Nursery of Warren, John Fawger, proprietor, sold all manner of fruit, flowering shrubs and trees.

August Lundgren installed $3,000.00 worth of new equipment for his brickyard.

Mrs. Emil Tornell was dressmaking.

Christ Lofgren, an employee at Andersons Livery, hung himself in Wentzel’s pasture.

R.F.D. routes 2 and 3 were started.

Warren Furniture Company, C. E. Nelson, manager; sold out to H. I. Golden.

Lewis’s Livery Barn burned.

The Swedish Lutheran Church was dedicated.

Farrell, the jeweler, sold pianos.

The Model Steam Laundry run by Mr. Dunham moved its equipment from Anoka to Warren.

1908

An athletic club was organized and the Lamberson Building near the Lyons House was leased and plans were made to fit it up as a gymnasium.

Lundgren, Wittensten and Co. offered New Home sewing machines at from $16.00 to $24.00.

The Warren Business School with J. H. Kaiser as manager, offered shorthand, bookkeeping and telegraphy.

M. L. Larson of the Warren Mercantile Co. was seriously injured when he fell from the top of the Bank of Warren building where he was repairing the roof.

Warren Machine and Iron Works Co., Nels Johnson, manager, offered to repair or rebuild all kinds of machinery.

Trinity Church of the Norwegian Lutheran Synod was dedicated. It was built at a cost of $4,500.00 and the pulpit and altar were carved by William Neumann of Warren and the painting was done by H. Gaustad of Minneapolis.

The Bijou Theatre in the Powell Building offered moving pictures and illustrated songs. Adults 15c. Children 10c.

The Golden Rule Store went out of business.

The Warren Indian Five Basketball Team played Bemidji, Fargo, etc. The members were Andrew Sather (captain), R. E. Thomas, John Bren, Arthur Wellin, and Harry Thomas.

The Warren Massage and Bath Institute. Ewald Chalberg, manager, was started at a cost of $4,700.00 and offered massage, medical gymnastics, turkish baths, tub baths, and shower baths.

Ed Rosendahl, the new owner of the Edwardh farm, arrived in March.
WARREN'S SCHOOL CHILDREN OCT. 23, 1908 — Warren's school children, 400 in number, stood for a picture Friday, Oct. 23, 1908, after they marched in Warren's Market Day event. Buildings along Main Street and Johnson Avenue are visible in the background. The picture was before the Taralseth fire and before the present depot had been moved a block north. But let's see what the Oct. 29, 1908, Sheaf had to say about it:

Warren's two market days last Friday and Saturday, were successful in every way and attracted a large number of buyers and sellers from all parts of Marshall and northern Polk counties.

Considerable stock, cattle, horses and sheep had been brought in and was sold at auction, bringing very satisfactory prices. But the bargains that were offered by the merchants of Warren eclipsed all former similar offers, and the stores were crowded both days with eager customers. A novel feature on Friday afternoon was the parade of the pupils of the city schools, more than 400 in number. The pupils of each room marshaled by its teacher, formed a company that carried a banner with the number of the room inscribed thereon. Supt. Keenan was the commander in chief. It was indeed an inspiring and imposing sight to behold the long line of children, with flags and banners waving in the air, come marching down the street. As they came up to the band stand they formed in solid phalanx. Mayor Nelson then addressed in well chosen words. He said that if there is one thing above others that Warren is proud of it is her schools. W. F. Powell also spoke some cheering words to the children while the photographer was getting his camera ready to take a picture of the pretty scene, Warren's pride of today and its hope for the future.

It was a revelation to most visitors to see so large a number of pupils attending the Warren schools. With such an army well organized and trained, there can be no question about Warren making good its motto: "Warren Will Win."

—Photo by M.J. Berget
The Warren Creamery in 1909

Johnson Avenue as seen from the railroad tracks and looking East in the year 1909

Wheat No. 1 Northern was selling for 96c a bushel, durum for 74c, oats for 42c, barley for 56c, and flax for $1.03 in March.

Mrs. Hurlbut was successor to Miss Gina Bjerking in the Millinery business.

Land around Angus was sold for $45.00 per acre to Winnipeg buyers.

A. F. Skaren, tailor in Warren for five years, left for Crookston.

City officials were: Mayor, A. B. Nelson; Recorder, W. N. Powell; Aldermen, C. E. Lundquist, O. H. Taralseth and John Lindberg; Treasurer, L. M. Olson; Justice of the Peace, W. O. Braggans; and Constable, E. Dady.

The Quistgard family moved to Warren and into the I. N. Lodoen residence opposite the Mission Church, now the Clarence Johnson home.

The Bank of Warren was sold to the State Bank of Warren by L. Lamberson upon the death of his partner and uncle, B. G. Gill. Mr. Lamberson owns or controls one hundred farms in this immediate territory.

The Mission Church was turned to face the south and was remodeled.

The proprietor of the Scandia House ended his life by hanging himself in the barn behind the hotel. The Scandia house site is now occupied by the building which houses the Ken Nelson Agency as well as other offices.

Dr. Bratrud and Dr. Anderson bought a new autocarriage manufactured by the International Harvester Company.

Edgar F. Whitney, druggist and pioneer resident, was arrested on a morals charge and sentenced to seven years of hard labor.

Fred Bakke of Stephen assisted Dr. H. A. Tyler, local dentist.

Rasmus Hage, attorney, shared an office with Julius J. Olson.

Warren Meat Market offered fresh hens fully dressed for 15c a pound, pork chops 12.5c, pot roast 16c, and veal for 16c and 18c a pound.

A business block at the intersection of Johnson Avenue and Second Street in 1911 and the site of the present Hartz Store, Coast-to-Coast Store and the Ben Franklin Store.

The directors of the North Star College
The first graduation class of nurses from the Warren Hospital took place on July 11th. Anna Erdlandson, Anne Svaren and Hilma Wahlberg made up the class.

Sam Wright and J. V. Kachelhoffer opened a cigar factory.

“Shorty” Ecklund became manager of the new opened “North Star Drug Co.” located on the corner of the Bank of Warren Building.

The Warren Telephone Co. extended their Radium line to Viking and Ellerth.

R. C. Kezar was manager of the Warren Steam Laundry.

Victor talking machines were priced at from $10.00 to $50.00 in Holm’s Jewelry Store.

The Warren City Band under the direction of George G. Johnson won second prize in a band contest held in Winnipeg.

C. J. Christianson and Fred Johnson started a cement works.

John Dallum became proprietor of the Warren Meat Market and P. S. Swanson was the manager.

Three hundred Warren citizens, band and fire department went to Red Lake Falls for the annual Northwest Firemen’s Association Tournament. A. E. Ecklund won the ladder climbing contest in 8.2 seconds. Joe Staska won the 100 yard dash in 10.4 seconds.

Twenty acres of land were given to the North Star College by the Warren Commercial Club. The school opened Oct. 1st in temporary quarters. J. A. Black arrived from Dayton, Ohio, to work in Fred Main’s “tionsorial parlors.”

O. M. Foker of Minneapolis opened a meat market in the vacant store room of the M. L. Larson block.

W. H. Dixon offered a 16 H.P. gasoline engine 32 inch separator with wood feeder, elevator, straw bucket, drive belt and everything for $550.00.

1909

E. T. Spaulding leased the livery business of Mrs. Bossman.

Albin Young bought out the Warren Steam Laundry from R. E. Kezar.

Bossman hotel was leased to C. W. Anderson of Viking, Minnesota.

John Grindeland purchased Oscar Edlund’s interest in the Valley Spring Water Co.

O. H. Taralseth purchased the G. C. Winchester home.

Oluf Murk invented a machine for killing thistles and other weeds.

L. Lamberson won a $90.00 prize for best sample of wheat for pastry flour and John Cheney won the $100.00 second prize for light bread flour at the National Corn Exhibition in Omaha, Nebraska.

Ara B. Brown moved onto the old Mansfield farm and intended to raise small fruits.

Farmer Hines, promoter of Farmers Railroad fifteen years ago, addressed a large and enthusiastic meeting at the city hall. His plan called for a new farmers railroad from Duluth to Hudson’s Bay passing right through Warren.

The city officials were: A. B. Nelson, Mayor; O. H. Taralseth, John Lindberg and M. J. Berget, Aldermen; W. N. Powell, Recorder; L. M. Olson, Treasurer; John Keenan, Justice of the Peace; and Eugene Dady, Constable.

The oldest bonanza farm in this district, the Pembina Farm, was sold to Benjamin C. Koch of Tremont, Illinois, for $100,000.00. He also purchased the Keystone Farm a few years before that. He planned to sell that part of the farm nearest town as lots for city homes and even envisioned a Pembina Park in its midst. Five acre plots were $1,000.00.

The Warren Machine & Iron Works was making culverts. They also sold Jackson Touring cars.

Axel Stromstedt and Gustav Ohlinder, two young men from Sweden, started a tailor shop in the old Post Office building south of the K. J. Taralseth store.

The Golden Rule store closed.

North Star College held its first commencement when two students graduated in the stenographic department. The school used the top floor of the Washington School building as well as other buildings in town.

The pipe organ was dedicated in the Swedish Lutheran Church.

Dr. Tyler, dentist here for eight years, left for Spokane, Washington.

17 lbs. of sugar cost $1.00; 30 bars of laundry soap, $1.00; 5 gal. of kerosene, 60c; 5 lbs. of coffee, $1.00; and 20 lbs. of raisins cost $1.00.

Craig Island was for sale.

S. W. Wright of the Warren Cigar Factory sought more cigar makers.

Frank Seign put the Lyons House up for sale or rent. Warren’s first hotel, it contained 21 bedrooms (24 beds), a kitchen, dining room, office and large parlor.

Ernest L. Brown put up his large collection of stuffed animals and birds for sale and went out west.

1910

Andrew Boardson bought the West Side Meat Market from William T. Johnson.

Dixon and Day imported stallions from France, England and Illinois for sale to farmers.

Andrew Melgard bought the 3,600 acre Woodward Farm from the heirs for $115,000.

Mr. G. C. Winchester died.

North Star College decided to build a $30,000.00 college building.

City officials were: A. B. Nelson, Mayor; W. N. Powell, Recorder, John Lindberg, O. H. Taralseth and M. J. Berget, Aldermen; R. B. Taralseth, Treasurer; A. A. Ayres, Justice of the Peace; and E. Dady, Constable.

H. Wadsworth bought the Spaulding Brothers Livery Barn on the east side.

Charles Wentzel sold his 67½ acre farm for $7,500 or $111 per acre, to John Hilleboe.

Dreamland Theatre under the proprietorship of A. B. Fullmore had Ebba Lundgren as its pianist and illustrated songs by Mrs. F. C. Wittensten. Admission 10c.

The March Farm of 4,104 acres was sold to the Northern Minnesota Land and Investment Company.

The Warren Automobile Company was organized in this city with a capital of $20,000.00. Incorporators were Nels Johnson, August Lundgren, Ralph Taralseth, L. M. Olson, Ernest J. Johnson, O. H. Taralseth, Justice Carlson, Julius J. Olson and Charles Wittensten.
Gust Wickman’s new garage was opened.
Halley’s comet was visible.
Hans Swanson built his home on the lot formerly occupied by the old Slee building.
The school girls made a dinner for seven at a cost of 99c—beef bouillon, celery, ground beef rolled in veal flanks and baked, crabapple jelly, potatoes, stewed tomatoes, Parker house rolls, butter, coffee, fruit salad, cheese straws, and lemon sponge pie.
Justice Carlson sold his dray line to Oscar Dahlin.
The Modern Woodmen of America camp of Warren as well as the citizens of Warren built a $15,000.00 brick structure to be used as an opera house. It was formally opened on December 19th with a play from Winnipeg.
Mrs. Rasmus Hage and little son drowned when their automobile plunged into the Red River at Oslo.
L. A. Bueche, manager of the Warren Creamery, shipped a carload of poultry to Spokane, Washington. The car contained 20,000 pounds of poultry or about 2100 birds.
Pussy-foot Johnson was enforcing the treaty laws of 1885 preventing the selling of liquor in Indian reservation areas. In Detroit Lakes, four saloons closed and 9 carloads of liquor were shipped back to Minneapolis.
James J. Hill of the Great Northern Railroad urged the use of alfalfa to enrich the soil.
Warren citizens sent $305.00 to the victims of the Spooner and Baudette fire.
The K. J. Taralseth Store burned. The greatest property loss in the city’s history came to over $100,000.00. Argyle’s fire department aided the Warren fire department in fighting the fire.
The “Oldtimers” group of 1874 to 1884 taken in Andrew Grindeland’s front yard in Warren on Nov. 1, 1908.
3rd row: O. H. Taralseth, Mrs. K. J. Taralseth, R. E. Kezar, Mrs. R. E. Kezar, Ralph Rue, John Rue, Mrs. John Rue, Mrs. Lewis Westman, Raymond Westman, Lewis Westman, August Lundgren, Mrs. August Lundgren, John

Arvid Boman bought the fixtures of the Home Restaurant from E. L. Tornell and moved them to the east side of the Winchester Building.

Eggs were 55c a dozen, wheat was 91c, oats 25c, flax $2.20 and barley 53c a bushel.

Mr. A. D. Vansickle won the $1,000.00 silver trophy for the best oats at the National Corn Exposition in Omaha, Nebraska.

* * *

1911

Nearly 100 former Illinois residents who had been located here by Pioneer Loan and Land Company had a social time at the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. N. Morkassel.
Clarence Schultz invented a freight car door that opened in sections.
A new Great Northern depot was built.
A new K. J. Taralseth Company store was built to replace the one that burned and was formally opened on October 12th.

M. L. Larson sold washing machines. $7.00 for hand powered models, $25.00 for gas powered ones and $50.00 for electric washers. The power plant was to run one full day every week to provide power.

Warren voted out saloons 171 to 137.
New soda fountains were installed in the confectionery stores of E. O. Natwick and D. I. Ayres to meet the increased demands of the thirsty.

Potato growing on a large scale was urged by C. L. Spaulding, Maurice Munger and C. E. Brown.
The Warren High School received $2,500.00 aid under the Putnam Act.

Gust Eckblad of Stephen bought the Concrete Block Factory of Nelson and Mattson and moved to town.
H. I. Golden sold his furniture business to E. L. Tornell.

Mother’s Day was observed for the first time in Warren with an elaborate program at the Opera House.

Cornelius Knutson, the drayman, bought the E. L. Brown property north of the east side bridge and built a home.

4th row: George Bernard, R. B. Taralseth, Miss Synneva Grindeland, J. L. Olson, Ole L. Olson, A. P. Frank, Mrs. W. N. Powell, W. N. Powell, C. A. Tullar, E. L. Brown, A. C. Swandby, John B. Erickson, Mrs. A. Grindeland, Judge A. Grindeland, Dr. G. S. Wattam, Frans Peterson.

5th row: Frank Olson, Dudley Cheney, Christian Andreason, Mrs. Christian Andreason, Lenora Andreason, Nels Roan, Mrs. Nels Roan, Miss Jessie Porteous, C. L. Spaulding, Miss Christine Dahlquist, John Cheney, Mrs. Susie Holson, Miss Lily Holson, Miss Minnie Holson, Edward Wentzel, C. L. Stevens, P. J. Nyland, Carl Youngdahl.

TARALSETH STORE UP IN SMOKE — One of Warren’s big disasters was when the large K. J. Taralseth Store went up in smoke Oct. 24, 1910. This scene shows the citizens watching the disaster. Mr. Taralseth opened his first store in Warren May 31, 1882. In 1888, he built a two-story brick veneer building on a lot at the corner of Johnson Avenue and Main Street, which had been the site of Mike McCann’s blacksmith shop. In 1896, he built a large addition to it. This was the building that burned in 1910, with a loss estimated exceeding $100,000. K. J. Taralseth had died in 1905 and his son, Ralph Taralseth, was manager of the store when it burned. The following year, he constructed the present large building, which stands on that corner, at a cost of about $50,000. After the fire and until the new building was built, the Taralseth Store opened various departments of their store in other buildings in the city. The alarm was turned in about 5 a.m. The fire department had the fire nearly under control after it had spread from the basement to the hardware and grocery departments, but the water gave out and the fire continued to eat its way through the clothing and dry goods departments. Much stock was carried from the building. The State Bank building across the street started on fire several times but these small fires were put out with pails of water. The timely arrival of the Argyle Fire Department was credited with preventing the fire from spreading to the frame buildings to the south of the store. As soon as the city water ran out, hose was strung to the river, but, unfortunately, the engine, purchased in 1891 and hardly used since the installation of the water works did not work at all. The Argyle engine arrived and soon had a good stream of water coming from the river. When the fire looked threatening after the water had given out N. S. Hegnes of Argyle, who had shortly before brought down some hose in his auto, turned back with his car to hurry up the engine then on the way. He hitched his auto in front of the tired horses and came pell mell into town in time to save it.
DAY AFTER THE FIRE — This scene shows Main Street following the Taralseth store fire Oct. 24, 1910. Men are guarding the merchandise saved from the store which was piled in the street and in Great Northern Park. The store continued in business until its new building was erected by renting space in buildings all over the city for its various departments.

WEARY FIREMEN — These were some of the firemen the day after they fought the Taralseth Store fire Oct. 24, 1910. This picture was taken in the parking lot of Grand Central Station with the city band stand standing about where a bell tower to sound fire alarms had stood for many years. The man second from the left is Justice Carlson.

— M.J. Berget Photo
The Warren City Band under the directorship of George Johnson played at the Minnesota State Fair and was sought for playing dates in all parts of the northwest. Dreamland Theatre caught fire from ignited film and severely damaged the west half of the M. L. Larson building—now the Warren Hardware building. Riley E. Kezar was gored to death by a bull on the old Kezar farm. Nels Malm installed electric lights on his farm. Henry Sjovik arrived from Great Falls, Montana, and bought the Warren Steam Laundry from Albin Young. The Warren Massage and Bath Institute closed for lack of business.

* * *

1912

Through Senator Steenerson, Warren got a cooperative weather station bureau. Peoples Store was burglarized of $94.70. A. D. Vansickle sold a prize load of 9,636 pounds of timothy seed to the Spaulding elevator for $1,204.45. Andrew Boardson bought the Frans Fransson building on Johnson Avenue for $6,000.00. There was no money down and the first monthly payment was $15.00.

A new lighting system was installed under the supervision of City Electrician Haney. Each post carried five tungsten lamps protected by large white globes.

The Electric Theatre opened with C. F. Hanson, manager. Colored slides were shown. James J. Hill spoke in Warren. 5-passenger Ford cars sold for $650.00. The new North Star College building was used for classrooms.

* * *

1913

Parcel Post service started. The Electric Theatre was sold to Felix Kamrowski who also ran a pool and billiard room in the Winchester building. Fifty farmers studied tractioneering at the Warren Machine and Iron Works. City officials for 1913 were: Charles Wittensten, Mayor; Rasmus Hage, Recorder; L. Lamberson, Ralph Taralseth and Fred Johnson, Aldermen; August A. Johnson, Treasurer; and Tom Keefe, Constable. Warren went wet. 183-150 votes. A. D. Vansickle won four sweepstakes and six first prizes in the Minnesota Seed Fair at Mankato, Minn. Joe Weigert and family moved here from Coon Rapids, Iowa. Patrons of Route 1, R.F.D., presented John S. MacArthur with a purse containing $36.00 in appreciation of his faithful services.

Great Northern Railroad Section Gang 1912. Amongst those pictured are John Bloomquist, Jens Golden, Eric Norland, Pete Nelson, and Oscar Swanson.
CHRISTMAS 1913 — NO SNOW — This picture which had been in the Marshall County Recorder's office for years confirms that the picture run in the December 26 issue of the Sheaf was taken in 1913. Apparently taken the same day as the downtown shot the year 1913 had been written on this photo. The picture was taken on Central Park Avenue, now renamed Central Avenue. The first home on the left was moved by the Sands to Alvarado in the mid 1940s and had been owned by P. B. Malberg, father of Mrs. George (Stella) Sands. Tom Stinar's house now stands in this location. Next is the Henry Hanson home and the last house on the block in 1913 belongs to Emil Pribyla. The photograph must have been owned by Henry Hanson, long-time register of deeds.

The Warren Nursery, A. J. Nordstrom, proprietor, offered elm trees at $20.00 per thousand.

Dr. F. C. Bakke, Dr. E. J. Bren, Rasmus Hage and H. I. Goldin received their brand new classy Overland cars; O. H. Taralseth drove a new Kissel; and John Anderson had the latest Buick.

Carl E. Allen built a new home in the Lundgren Addition — no the home of Tony Kozojed.

W. F. Powell sold 81 Fords in the first half of 1913.

E. L. Tornell was selling solid oak chiffoniers for $11.75.

Wheat was 76c a bushel, flax was $1.29, and barley was 49c.

The Unique Theatre started in the old Opera House.

Albert Golden, jeweler, moved into the building formerly occupied by C. Svenning.

North Star College was dedicated by Governor Eberhart.

The Scandia Hotel property owned by Christine Lindquist was purchased by L. M. Olson.

* * *

1914

Dr. Brutus, Chiropractor, had his place of business in the Taralseth building.

Warren went dry 180-172.

City officers were: Charles Wittensten, Mayor; G. O. Cross, Recorder; R. B. Taralseth, L. Lamberson and Fred Johnson, Aldermen; A. T. Listug, Treasurer; Albin Young and W. O. Braggans, Justices of the Peace; and Thomas Keefe and Oscar Pearson, Constables.

R. M. Gilbert sold the Franklin 630 Roadster for $2300.00; the Wahl car and the Studebaker car.

Ralph Taralseth received his new H.P. Kissel car. The Warren Sheaf stated that there was no limit to the number of girls he could take riding with him at one time.

Ed Rosendahl of the Warren Belgian Horse Co. had an imported Belgian stallion, Figaro, for service. Alfred Horgen had a registered Percheron and a Jack for service.

J. P. Mattson after seventeen years as Postmaster was followed by C. A. Tullar.

Peoples Trading Company put on an addition to their building to house their grocery business.

Edith Norlin had the Millinery Emporium.

H. H. Chesterman opened a photographic studio.

Warren enjoyed its first Chautauqua.

The Sparks Circus performed before a large crowd.

Peace Services were held in the city's churches in accordance to President Wilson's proclamation.

Joe Wiegert hauled the first load of native-grown corn to town and sold it for 60c a bushel to Pioneer Loan and Land Company. The yield was 50 bushels to the acre.

Another cigar factory was opened in Warren.

The Soo Depot was robbed of $26.63 by two local boys according to Agent Herrick and Sheriff Hanson.

Railroad rumors of a new line through Warren were revived again.

Arthur Golden sold the Home Restaurant to Oscar Swenson.
The first load of corn commercially raised in Marshall County by Joe Wiegert. Warren 1916

The Methodist Church burned their old mortgage.
Peoples Trading Company absorbed the Warren Farmers Co-operative Mercantile Company.
W. A. Knapp bought L. Lamberson’s interest in the Pioneer Loan and Land Co., the firm’s name being changed to pioneer Land and Loan Company. He also bought the former Bank of Warren building for his headquarters.
“Shorty” Ecklund bought the building next to the Bank of Warren on Johnson Avenue and moved his North Star Drug Store.
The Warren Post Office was raised to Second Class.
Boxville Consolidated School occupied its new building.
Silver souvenir spoons were 10c each at Peoples Trading Co.
Spaulding Elevator Company added 60,000 bushels of storage room to its elevator.
The Catholic church was built.
The Warren Milling Co. was reorganized with August Lundgren, President; Albin Young, Vice-president and General Manager; A. V. Lindberg, Secretary; and L. M. Johnson, Miller.
The Warren baseball team won 25 out of 30 games and had a record of winning 20 games straight.
Warren had 198 autos.
A new 250 H.P. “Ideal” engine was installed in the Light Plant to help meet the demand for more power.

1916

The Warren Auto Club was organized and Dr. Wattam was the first president.
Hanson and Jackson leased the Windsor Hotel from Thomas Keefe.
E. L. Read sold sweat pads for 35c, horse collars for $1.50 and harnesses for $35.00.
North Star College raised the $27,000.00 and met the conditions under which James J. Hill gave the organization $9,000.00.
City officials were: Ralph B. Taralseth, Mayor (he received an unanimous vote); C. A. Nelson, Treasurer; J. R. Naeseth, Recorder; W. H. Dixon, Fred Johnson and Rasmus Hage, Aldermen; W. O. Braggans and Albin Young. Justices of the Peace; Emil Kramer, Constable.
Hans Urtes opened a new men’s store in the building next to the Warren Sheaf.
James J. Hill died.
“Birth of a Nation” showed at the opera house for three days.
Traffic signs were erected.
A new $50,000.00 high school building was erected and was dedicated on December 7th.
Ralph Powell and Clinton Winchester wrote of army life on the Mexican border.
R. M. Gilbert built a new garage — now the site of the Warren Fire Department building.
AN EARLY DAY INDUSTRY — This is the original building that housed the Warren Machine & Iron Works which was owned by the late Nels Johnson. The building faced Minnesota Street between Fletcher Avenue and Bridge Street. This building was dismantled in 1916 when the cement block machine shop building was constructed. The block building now serves as the bus garage for the Warren Public Schools' bus fleet. The Warren Machine & Iron Works Co. was a progressive organization in the late 1800's and early teens, when they operated a full-fledged foundry and an extensive business in plumbing and heating. The firm also dealt heavily in farm machinery and was an area distributor of Hart Parr and Rumley gas tractors. In one year, the firm sold more than 250 Hart Parr tractors in the Red River Valley. This was during the period when the tractor was displacing the horse and farm power. This picture was provided the Sheaf by Arthur Larson of Stockton, Calif., whose father, the late Andrew Larson, was the foreman of the modern machine shop.

INTERIOR OF WARREN MACHINE & IRON WORKS CO. — This picture shows the interior of the Warren Machine & Iron Works Co. shop which was constructed in 1916. The picture, taken in 1917, shows the spaciousness of the large building and also some of the large tractors and other machinery being repaired in the shop. This firm, it is believed, installed the steam heating system in the old Washington School built in 1905 and dismantled in 1957 to provide space for the present Warren Hospital. We have been able to identify only two of the six employees pictured in the shop, these being Andrew Larson, foreman, third from the left, and Melville Larson, (brother of F. C. Larson), second from the right. Mel, who now lives in Fargo, visited with his brother one Sunday and recalled that he started working for the firm in 1917, moving over from the W. F. Powell & Co., John Deere farm machinery and Ford automobile distributors in this area. The picture was sent to the Sheaf by Arthur Larson of Stockton, Calif., son of the late Andrew Larson, foreman at the iron works.
The Victory Liberty Loan Parade on April 11, 1919

The First National Guard Volunteers of Co. 1, 3rd Minnesota Infantry, 1917.
1st row: Arthur Wittensten, Mike Gorman, Herman Anderson, Gust Wilson, Joseph Erickson, Forrest Wadsworth and Victor Holmgren.
ANOTHER BIG DAY FOR WARREN IN 1918 — A big Victory Loan parade went down Warren’s Main Street one day in May 1918. The Warren 11th Battalion Band led the home guard and returned soldiers in marching down Johnson Avenue followed by the Warren Juvenile Band. The picture shows the east side of the city with Second Street in the background. In the foreground is the Winchester Store building, long since converted to other uses including a meat market, pool hall and millinery which later burned to the ground. At the corner at 2nd Street is a former bakery building on the present 1-0-1 Service building. In the background is the Whitney block which was later demolished and the site is now occupied by Hardware Hank Store. An army tank was brought into the city for the event and during the day it got bogged down in the coulee just north of Hotel Warren which has now been filled. A tractor had to be pressed into service to help pull the helpless tank from the coulee.

The west side of Peoples Trading Co. with the Scandia Hotel in the background. The hotel burned in 1918 and was replaced with the Swedish-American Bank building now owned by Lyle Tradell. Two recognized individuals on this photograph are August Ostland and Alfred Swandby to the left.
1917

The Warren Athletic Club was organized.
L. L. Steen bought Colson's Bazaar.
A. C. Mickelson and C. G. Peterson started a tire service station west of the Nordgren home — now the site of Our Savior's Lutheran Church.
The feeling that war was imminent was reflected in news stories, advertising and cartoons. On April 6th, war was declared.
R. C. Mathwig retired from active business.
The $30,000.00 Hotel Warren was opened with a banquet for the stockholders. Charles R. Snyder was the proprietor.
Fred Bakke and C. E. Grinder built new homes.
A Red Cross Society of Warren was organized at the home of Mrs. R. H. Clark.
The Warren Garage — and W. F. Powell— sold Standard Oil Company's gasoline at 22.6c per gallon.
The Soo Depot burned.
The Warren Milling Company reorganized with G. B. Nord as manager.
The Strand Theatre opened in the Modern Woodmen of America opera block, C. F. Hanson, manager.
A potato warehouse was built.
The Warren Steam Laundry, Kennedy's Restaurant and Holmgren's Bowling Alley were destroyed by fire caused by a gasoline explosion in the laundry,
Dr. Wattam built a cottage hospital with eight beds, places for examination and facilities for X-raying and other treatments. Miss Anna Peterson was the nurse in charge and she was assisted by Miss Albertina Nordgren.
The city purchased a new fire engine.
75 men left for training in California.

1918

Scandia Hotel built in 1881 was destroyed by fire. It was first run by John Erickson, then became the Edwardh Hotel and was operated by Otto Edwardth. The next proprietors were Charles Woolery and Hugh McManus. Peter Lindquist ran the place as the Scandia Hotel through the years until it was sold by his widow to L. M. Olson of the Swedish-American Bank. The former Swedish-American Bank building is now owned by Lyle Trudell.
E. B. Rowley was the piano turner in Warren.
Oscar Johnson bought the east side City Meat Market from J. W. Campion.
The Lutheran Synod and the United Lutheran Churches of Warren were united under the name of Our Savior's Lutheran Church.
The Warren City Band was organized with Axel Nordstrom as President, Archie Hatfield as Vice President, L. L. Steen as Secretary and Charles Grinder as Treasurer.
More and more men were called up for military service.
F. Emrich of St. Paul bought the Strand Theatre.
G. Holmquist became Superintendent of the Warren School system.
City officials included: Ralph Tarlaseth as Mayor; Fred Johnson, Rasmus Hage and L. Lamberson as Aldermen; J. R. Naeseth as Recorder; W. O. Braggans and A. P. McIntyre as Justices of the Peace; and Emil Kramer as City Constable.
Dr. Baldwin Borreson was called for army service.
Pvt. Carl J. Boardson died of pneumonia at Camp Dodge.
The 3rd Liberty Loan Drive went “over the top”.
A Home Guard unit was formed for Warren with Clarence Spaulding being elected captain of the group.
Warren raised $4,800.00 for the Red Cross.
There was an eclipse of the sun on June 8th.
Warren had an 11th Battalion Band under the direction of August Bystrom.
Dana Easton was wounded in France.
A special government train stopped in Warren for two hours to show war relics to a large crowd.
A. E. Johnson, one of the city founders, died in New York City. He was an early merchant and Johnson Avenue was named after him.
Wheat was $2.05, flax $3.93, oats 58c, barley 76c, eggs 30c a dozen, and butter 38c a pound.
Clarence Abrahamson died of pneumonia at Great Lakes Naval Station.
There was an epidemic of Spanish influenza that was noticed first along the Red River.
World War I ended. The Armistice was signed on November 11th and Warren staged a premature peace celebration with ringing bells, impromptu parades and much rejoicing.
Conrad Westlund, son of Mrs. Mary Juveland, died in France of wounds received in action.
Harold Swanson was a P.O.W. in a camp in Rostatt, Germany.
Heron Torgerson was reported killed in action in France.
The Home Guard elected Leonard Winberg captain of their group and Clarence Spaulding became a “major.”
W. H. Dixon sold out his horse business to William Bradley.
Toralseth, President; H. L. Melgaard, Vice-President; C.
A. Nelson, Cashier; and C. O. Knutson, Assistant Cashier.

Ike Bradley opened a harness repair shop in the old
Whitney building.

Zion Evangelical Lutheran church was built.

M. W. Munger and son received $1,015.00 for a choice
Chester White sow and her twelve pig litter.

Pvt. Alex Carlson died of meningitis in France.

Influenza continued to take a toll of the residents of
Warren and the surrounding countryside.

The Warren Overland Company was organized by R.
M. Gilbert and Hjalmer Skoglund for the sale of Overland
Mays.

Big crowds were present to watch the Victory Liberty
Loan parade on April 11th. Over 200 men in uniform
marched and a Whippet tank gave demonstrations.

Warren housewives went back to regular fancy patent
white flour again and the Farmers Mill and Elevator Co.
had it ready for them.

Prairie Chicken hunting was prohibited.

Ole Strom and C. F. Johnson purchased the dray
business from Christ Hjelle.

H. P. Corneliuson bought out the interest of L. A.
Bueche in the Warren Creamery. Mr. Bueche had been
here 13 years as its manager.

W. F. Powell and Co. planned to build a new shop.

Warren welcomed its returned soldiers on the 4th of
July.

William Juring sold his tailor business to Gunnar
Swedberg.

Dr. Borreson returned from France.


The Warren Hospital was enlarged.

Warren soldiers continued to return home, the North
Star College offered free tuition to them, and surplus ar-
my food was sold at the Post Office.

The Strand Theatre was sold to Andrew Anderson
and Herbert Anderson.

Warren Post No. 27 of the American Legion was form-
ed.

E. C. Parsons bought out R. C. Gilbert and Skoglund
and sold the Paige automobile.

1920

Fred Langrader was proprietor of the East Side City
Meat Market.

There were 18 contestants for the O. H. Taralseth
Declamatory Contest. Hazel Lund won the gold medal,
Henry Halvorson the silver medal, Chester MacArthur
got 3rd and Grace Braggans got 4th prize.

E. L. Tornell offered Columbia Grafonolas for $25.00
to $200.00.

A Winnipeg firm got the paving contract for Warren
streets. The cost was $146,260.21. The streets were to be
paved with two inches of bitulithic asphalt mixture.

The Knights of Phythias had a large class of 35 in-
itiated and they used the bible that was used by the
founder, Justus Henry Rathbone, when he started the
order in 1864.

"An American Bride," a home talent play by the War-
ren Dramatic Club and sponsored by the Ladies Reading
Circle was given in the Strand Theatre. It was a big suc-
cess. The cast included: Roy M. Prytz, Viola Parson,
Henry Halvorson, Alma Ducharm, Annar Myhre, Clara
Blegen, Irene olson, Arthur Melgard, Alvin Nyland and
Magnus Piilstrom.

Two movies, "Border Wireless" with W. S. Hart and
"Fatty at Coney Island" with Fatty Arbuckle were given
by the American Legion at the Strand Theatre.

M. W. Munger and Son offered big type Chester
White hogs.

In March a raging blizzard caused the milkman from
the Spaulding Farm to get lost on his route.

The Warren Juvenile Band gave a concert. Emil W.
Dahlof was the instructor. Cornets: Clinton Lundgren,
Clifford Quist, Cameron Quistgard, Fred Tallar, Stanley
Truhn and Frank Stinchfield. Altos: Lloyd Lundgren,
Leonard Larson, Clifford Johnson, Clarence Boardson,
Donald Tornell and Eddie Johnson. Clarinets: Clayton
Bakke, Raymond Swandby, Oliver Mattson, Archie Allen,
Melville Sjostrand, Ralph Lundgren, Iner Johnson, An-
Drums: Theodore Erickson, Quentin Melgard and Chester
Tullar. Trombones: Raymond Peterson, Chester MacAr-
thur, Kenneth Halvorson, C. Raymond Peterson, Clarence
Andreason and Ralph Ryden. Baritone: Ralph Stevens.
Saxophones: Hunter Quistgard, Paul Snyder and Arthur
Melgard. Piccolos: Charley Tullar and Herbert Pearson.

The Federation of Womens Clubs for the Ninth
District met in Warren.

Emil Skoglund was a Corporal in the U. S. Marines in
Port au Prince, Haiti.

A murder suspect was captured southeast of Warren.
A week later he hung himself with his suspenders.

Mrs. A. C. Green retired as Superintendent of the
Warren Hospital.

Women exercised their right to vote.

The Arvid Boman elevator—south of the Melgard
elevator and across the street from the Pioneer Land and
Loan Co.—burned with a loss of 12,000 bushels of grain.

City mail delivery service began.

1921

A seven year old Holstein cow on the P. Frost
Spaulding Farm set a state record by producing 3,662.1
pounds of milk a month.

E. L. Skalman bought out the undertaking business
from H. M. Swanson.

A ball team was formed in Warren under the auspices
of the American Legion.

The Lyons House, built in 1879 and known then as
the Warren Hotel, was demolished by the Maruska
Brothers who erected a garage on the site.

Peoples Trading Co. offered men's oxfords for 98c a
pair, work shoes for $3.25, and men's suits for $14.85.

The Warren Hospital passed into the hands of the
Red River Valley Conference of the Augustanta Synod.

Ford Runabouts cost $370.00 at the W. F. Powell and
Company.

The Chautauqua played in Warren.

Five hundred women attended the evening style show
at the K. J. Taralseth store. Music was furnished by Mrs.
A. R. Hatfield, soprano, and the Anderson Jazz Or-
chestra.
MARCH 24, 1920, FLOOD — This is a view of First Street on March 24, 1920, when the city was inundated by a flooding Snake River. The first building on the left is the Wadsworth livery barn with a horse drawn hearse in front of it. The next building is Nish’s Lunch Room and the next is a building used by Ernest L. Brown, the taxidermist. These buildings are located where Marshall County Cooperative is standing today. Across the street is the George Smith dray line building. Then come three houses which are there today. Behind the farthest house is a barn owned by E. T. Frank, veterinarian. At the right is the National Elevator. The March 24, 1920, Sheaf, printed in the afternoon, headlined “Little Snake on the Rampage. Many basements in the city filled with water.” It went on “Mild weather melted snow too quickly and the Snake began flowing March 23 with water overflowing east of town the forenoon of March 24 and water came rushing along the streets and gutters on the east side in a cross-country effort to reach the river below the city. Water soon flooded part of the west side also. At the hospital the city fire engine pumped to keep water out of the boiler room. School was dismissed Wednesday and was out for the rest of the week because of high water in the boiler room. Warren Market Days scheduled for March 26-27 were postponed until the following week because of high water.” The previous week’s Sheaf on March 17 noted, “Saturday afternoon the large drifts of snow and ice which have piled up on the streets in the city were plowed up by one of S. G. Enebak’s powerful outfits of road grading equipment. Water from the melting drifts was standing on the sidewalks in places, the gutters being filled with ice and snow which prevented it from draining to the catch basins. The large tractor attached to the road grading machine quickly turned over the drifts and cut channels to carry the water to the sewers. The city has employed a large force of men during the warm days of the past week to drain the water from the streets and walks.”

Hooper’s Jewelry Store burned and the loss was estimated at $18,000.00.

* * *

1922

The Winchester Block, built in 1882, was destroyed by fire.
Raveling’s Studio was located on the East Side.
Chevrolet roadsters were $525.
E. L. Skalman was the undertaker.
R. C. Mathwig was attacked in his office by two assailants.
Charles Wittensten was Mayor; J.R. Naeseth was Recorder, Hans Swanson, A.A. Harris and Charles Snyder were Aldermen; W.O. Brannans and Julius Nyquist were Justices of the Peace; and Frank Seign was the Constable.
Radio invaded Warren. Dr. Theodore Bratrud and Rasmus Hage had sets and could hear Winnipeg.
A. B. Nelson was the new Postmaster succeeding C. A. Tullar.
Wheat was 95c a bushel, durum 87c, flax $2.21, flour $3.90 a hundred lb. sack, butter 25c per lb., eggs 30c a dozen, and potatoes were 40c per hundredweight.
Banks were closing in the surrounding area.
Clarence Spaulding’s Holstein cow produced 1315.7 lbs. of butter and 31,516.2 lbs. of milk in a year — a world record.

* * *

1923

Peter Melin and Ole Anderson purchased the Warren Auto Company.
L. L. Haskin opened a grocery store and meat market.
V. V. Gordhamer ran the City Meat Market.
A. F. Lemke opened a dry cleaning establishment at 344 Johnson Avenue.
Hotel Warren during the 1920 flood.

The old Opera House, which in 1923 was the Strand Theater.

Business Block on East Johnson Ave. about 1911.
Jacob Brown started a harness-repair shop. Peoples Trading Co. sold its hardware department to F. C. Larson. Gasoline sold for 18.8c a gallon. Dr. Orville Meland left for studies in Europe. Warren Brick Co. produced 750,000 bricks during the season. George E. Copp and son, George A. Copp, bought the Warren Garage from Albert E. Beardmore. P. H. Holm displayed his collection of Swedish and Indian antiques. Dr. George Milan, a lung specialist, joined the Warren Hospital.

* * * 1924 *

Thieves robbed the Boardson Meat Market, Henry Bengston’s Lunch Room and the East Side Meat Market of $20.00. The Charles Whittensten home on Bridge Street was gutted by fire. It was one and is one of the oldest houses in the city. 462 pupils in school. Golden’s Restaurant offered four slices of toast, butter, jam, and coffee for 10c. Mr. and Mrs. Gil Lamberson became the parents of their second pair of twin boys. Their first pair, John and Reed, were born three years ago. Warren Creamery was paying from 34c to 36c for butterfat. Over 1000 automobiles from all over the United States and Canada and containing over 2,500 people visited out city’s Island park.

Warrenton Women’s Club with eleven charter members was organized. Mrs. McCartney as President; Mrs. E. Rosendahl, Vice-President; Mrs. Trask, Secretary; and Mrs. Anna Diedrich, Treasurer. William Hennebry, formerly of Stephen, opened up the seventh cream-buying station in Warren. Farmers were encouraged to go into sugar beet farming as a new refinery was being built in East Grand Forks, Minnesota. S. A. Styrlund was proprietor of the Fairway Store. 160,000 bricks were turned out in the first batch to be manufactured at the Warren brickyard. L. A. Bueche, manager of the Warren Creamery, reported that 6,000 pounds of butter was made each week. Moonshine prices fell from $12.00 a quart to from $5.00 to $8.00 a quart, according to Sheriff Hanson. No Chautauqua program presented this year as the backers of the program faced a $200.00 deficit. The Warren Creamery blew its whistle after churning to notify the Warren housewives that buttermilk was available. Dr. Wattam suggested that a county recreation center be established in Middle River, east of Argyle. The county jail was filled with aliens being picked up at the border by U.S. Immigration officers. Six hands on the Frank Kopecky farm west of Angus quit when they said the wheat was too heavy to shock. Gasoline was 18c a gallon. C. E. Lindquist resumed his position as General Manager of Peoples Trading Co. The Warren Mercantile Co., run by Lois Fine and Son, opened in what is now the Spot Cafe on Johnson Avenue. It was billed as the store of one thousand bargains.
The Women’s Auxiliary of the American Legion was formed.

August Ostlund opened a grocery store in the north half of the Warren Machine and Iron Works Building.

Over 500,000 bushels of grain were harvested in the Warren grain territory. The value of the crop raised within a five-mile radius of Warren was placed at $1,000,000.00 by Clarence Spaulding.

Dr. Bratrud, Dr. Meland and Dr. Milzan moved their offices and clinic to the top floor of the Warren National Bank Building, now the Boardson building.

** **

1925

Edward Lundgren and Clinton Wittensten ran the Radio Shop and radio fans in Warren heard Calvin Coolidge become President of the United States.

Warren Woman’s Club Chorus gave concerts.

The American Legion planted 500 elm and maple trees along Johnson Avenue near Greenwood cemetery, around the High School and other places.

Ralph Powell, Glyn Bengston and Mrs. Olof Malm drowned in the Snake River on June 21st.

The city’s first flower show was sponsored by the K. J. Taralseth Co.

George Mcmanus, creator of Maggie and Jiggs of cartoon-strip fame, was a visitor at the Warren Tourist Park.

Ford runabouts sold for $260.00.

“Unk” and “Casey” Bakke operated Bakkes Sweet Shop.

The Larson Undertaking firm of Thief River Falls bought out the Skalman Undertaking Parlor.

The Swedish Mission Church was remodeled.

Dr. Meland moved to Los Angeles, California.


K. E. Westerlund bought the Lemke Cleaning Shop and renamed it the “Pantorium.”

** **

1926

T. T. Thompson of McCrea township was the first to sign up to raise 20 acres of sugar beets and he was followed by Mrs. J. S. Hilleboe who pledged to raise 15 acres.

The city officials were C. R. Snyder, Mayor; C. A. Nelson, Treasurer; Carl Youngdahl, Recorder; Oscar Pearson and William Forsberg, Justices of the Peace; and C. E. Allen, Constable.

Peoples State Bank opened on June 1st. George Magoris was the cashier.

The Swan Confectionery and Lunch was run by O. J. Giskaas.

Dr. C. A. Gunnarson, who had been associated with Dr. F. C. Bakke for 9 years, bought out the dental practice of Dr. E. J. Bren.

C. S. Jorgenson bought the Farrell Jewelry store.

Warren Women’s Chorus won second place in the State Contest.

** **

1927

The Warren Cooperative Creamery was organized and stock sold. Fred Kurz was the first president, Omer Thomas was secretary-treasurer, and W. A. Lindberg was the manager.

H. S. Frazer was appointed receiver of the First national and the Warren National Banks.

Curtis Herrick left for the West Point Military Academy.

A. E. Flanders, last Civil War Veteran of Warren, died at the age of 92.

The March farm was cut into 320 acre farms.

“Billy” Neumann won first prize on his hope chest at the Minnesota State Fair.

Otto Bremer purchased the controlling interest in the State Bank of Warren.

** **

1928

Melvin Engelstad bought the Hilleboe farm of 227 acres. It was the home of Warren’s first settler, Charles Wentzel.

The ladies of Our Savior’s Lutheran Church paid off the church debt and burned the mortgage.

The Red Owl store opened with R. P. Renner as manager.

Raveling Studio building was torn down and on that site Hans Swanson built a brick building now occupied by the Ben Franklin Store.

Warren won the 1st District Basketball Championship Tournament. Karl Lawrence was the coach.

The famous Spaulding herd was sold in April on the State Fair Grounds.

A. T. Gilbertson bought the Warren Garage business from George Copp and Son.

Ninety men of the American Legion Post presented a comedy called “A Womanless Wedding.”

Peoples Trading Co. sold out and leased their building to Union Store Co., Inc.

Clifford Nelson built a Cities Service Station at the intersection of Highways 1 and 75.

** **

1929

C. L. Stevens sold the Warren Register to the Warren Sheaf.

The Warren Community Chorus sang on February 15th at the 6th Annual Short Course.

Warren had talking movies.

The 9th District Women’s Clubs had their convention in the city.

Mrs. Leora Cassidy, principal of the Warren High School for twelve years, left for further studies at Columbia University.

Liquor raids were held all over the county.

A new diesel engine unit was installed in the power plant to provide more electricity.

Arnold Johnson was the first boy from Warren to jump from an airplane at 4000 ft.
The First National Bank Building was purchased for $6,100.00.

Dr. Theodore Bratrud bought the Spaulding Farm property.

The City Bakery was sold by George Cote to Leo J. Fournier.

* * *

1930

Warren’s Commercial Club raised $900.00 for the Marshall County 4H building at the fair grounds.

C.F. Gustafson opened the Warren Bargain Store in the building now used by City Appliance.

Miss May Nelson, who for two years was manager of the Luella Hat Shoppe, purchased the business and added a beauty parlor, changing the name to the Nelson Hat Shop.

Population of Warren was 1570.

35,000 pounds of wool were sold in Warren at 19c a pound.

An $8,000.00 improvement program on the National Elevator Company property was begun.

Warren’s first airplane lasted exactly one week and two days. It crashed taking off but without serious injury to the pilot or the passenger.

A. A. Trost took over the A. N. Eckstrom law practice in Warren.

R. P. Renner opened an IGA store in the former East Side Meat Market.

Judge Andrew Grindeland retired after serving 28 years as the 14th judicial district judge.

Dr. Theodore Bratrud died and over a thousand people attended his funeral.

Warren Telephone Company had 650 patrons.

* * *

1931

Dr. C. H. Holmstrom began work as a member of the Warren Clinic.

W. A. Lindberg, manager of the Warren Creamery, reported a total business for the year of more than $100,000.00.

Bratrud Clinic and Hospital in Warren was discontinued and all supplies, equipment and personnel moved to Thief River Falls.

Shellie Charles, a professional skater, and W. H. Goodroad opened a roller skating rink in the Strand Theatre.

K. J. Taralseth Company featured coffee at 42c lb., molasses 33c for a five lb. can, oranges 45c a dozen, and prunes 3 lbs. for 34c.

Anderson and Melin advertised new 1931 Chevrolet convertibles for $615.00.

Warren Fire Department purchased a new truck.

On the Warren market, eggs were 13c a dozen, butter-fat was 30c and butter 29c a pound.

Herman Ranstrom purchased the building formerly occupied by cabinet maker William Neumann.

Clifford W. Nelson purchased the former Bueche residence on Nelson Avenue and F. C. Larson purchased the Dr. Ed. Bratrud property on South Division Street.

Clarence Urtes was awarded the Schelderup Scholarship in biology at St. Olaf College.

Quick work by the Warren Fire Department saved the court house when they extinguished a blaze on the roof caused by a chimney fire.

Falsum Johnson and Robert Enebak received the Auxiliary and the American Legion outstanding student awards.

Warren’s public schools had an enrollment of 509 pupils.

Reuben Rosendahl led Warren hitters with a .355 average in 8 league games.

Anderson & Melin were selling 4.50-21 tires for $5.60.

Warren Creamery manufactured 37,066 lbs. of butter in the month of May.

More than 40,000 lbs. of wool were marketed in Warren.

Dark Northern Wheat was selling for 49c a bushel, durum for 41c, oats 16c, barley 20c, rye 21c, and flax $1.44 a bushel.

Warren marked its 50th Anniversary.

The Chocolate Shop on east Johnson Avenue was reopened under the proprietorship of J. H. McNeal. Later a fire of unknown origin did $2,500.00 worth of damage to the Shop.

The Warren and Alma Creameries were merged.

Fire destroyed the IGA Grocery Store.

The Warren Potato Warehouse opened.

The first application of calcium chloride was made on the down-town streets.

The Warren Sheaf marked its 50th Anniversary.

The Monroe Brothers won sweepstakes honors at the Crookston Winter Shows with their prize Shorthorn herd.

* * *

1932

Edward Hirst won the Minnesota State Litter contest when his twelve pigs gained 2,685 pounds in 180 days.

Masonic Lodge No. 150 A. F. & A. M. celebrated its 50th Anniversary.

Red Owl Store sold 10 bars of soap for 32c, 2 lbs. crackers 19c, 3 lbs. coffee 55c, and Hormel picnic hams at 49c each.

The Catholic church burned its old mortgage.

John P. Mattson, editor and owner of the Warren Sheaf for more than 40 years, died.

Erling Swanson leased the Standard Station formerly conducted by the Gilbertson Garage.

The Winnipeg Limited passenger train was derailed just south of Warren.

Theodore Braggans, Harold Holmquist and Carrell Peterson were Eagle Scouts.

Swenson’s Variety Store sold women’s frocks for $1.89, men’s tennis shoes for 49c a pair, and boys overalls for 49c.

Seventy-five Hungarian Pheasants raised in Czechoslovakia were transplanted by the Izac Walton League. The birds were brought to Warren by Dr. Fred Bakke and Edward Lundgren.

After nearly 30 years in the drug business, Ed Quistgard sold his Warren Pharmacy to Ekeren Brothers.

Warren’s debt was down to $12,000.00.

Clarence Shultz sold the City Barber Shop to J. J. Halvorson and L. J. Kutcher. Mr. Shultz has been a barber in Warren for 24½ years.

Dr. C. H. Holmstrom bought out Dr. O. J. Engstrand’s interest in the Warren Clinic.
Grasshoppers were a great menace to crops and poison bait was spread. A deer and five cows died from eating the poison bait that had been spread too thick.

A golf course was laid out on the Dudley Cheney farm west of Warren.

Second Street bridge was widened.

The Methodist Church marked its 50th Anniversary.

Wheat was 39c, flax 85c, oats 11c, barley 18c, eggs 7c a doz., butter 18c lb., butterfat 13c, steers $4.00 cwt., pigs $2.50 cwt.

Approximately 35 transients every day were encamped in Warren’s “jungle” near the Great Northern Railroad bridge where they stayed a day or so and moved on.

Victor Holmgren became the manager of the North Star Drug Store.

Lee Munger was named Grand Champion Sheep Showman.

Clifford Nyland leased the Strand Theatre.

Dr. G. S. Wattam retired. He began practice of medicine in the city in 1884. He came from Texas where he spent a short time following his graduation from the medical college in Toronto, Canada. When he came to Warren, he was the only practicing physician. He was active in civic affairs and was a commanding figure in medical and public health circles both in the city and throughout the state. He was also instrumental in the founding of the Walker Tuberculosis Sanitorium. He was succeeded in his practice by Dr. Engstrand who opened his office in the Golden building on Johnson Avenue.

Powell & Harris opened a new Standard Oil Service Station at the corner of Johnson Avenue and Second Street.

K. J. Taralseth Co. store was offering large packages of corn flakes for 11c, oatmeal in large packages for 14c, tall cans of salmon for 23c, corn was 10c a can, beans (green and wax) were 8c a can, coffee was 26c a pound and sugar 10c a pound.

Red Owl Food Store offered a 3 qt. aluminum sauce pan and 10 bars of laundry soap for 39c, 10 pounds of golden syrup for 53c, 12 boxes of safety matches for 10c, and two dozen oranges for 35c.

Boardson Food Market had fresh oysters, home-made potato sausage, fancy veal, leg of lamb, and rolled rib roasts and celery was 10c a stalk.

Dark Northern Wheat was 36c a bushel, Amber Durum was 29c, oats 7c, barley 10c, rye 19c, flax 93c, butter was 21c a pound, and eggs 20c a dozen.

Judge and Mrs. Andrew Grindeland were feted on their 50th wedding anniversary when 200 friends gathered at the Warren Hotel for a reception and a program with congratulatory letters coming in from prominent friends in all fields of endeavor.

“Henry’s Wedding” was staged at the Warren Opera House. It was considered the biggest event of the season.

More than 125 local people took part in it.

W. G. Woodward Co. offered ladies wash dresses for 59c, blankets for 69c and mens overcoats for $8.90.

Lundgren-Wittensten Co. had potatoes for 20c a bushel, a Fordson tractor for $50, and an Oliver 2-bottom tractor plow for $25.

The Swedish Mission Church marked its 50th Anniversary.

Mrs. K. J. Taralseth, widow of the founder and better known as “Grandma Taralseth,” cut the birthday cake for 800 people and the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the K. J. Taralseth store.

F. C. Larson was Mayor; Ole Anderson, Hans Swan- son and W. Powell were Aldermen; Carl Youngdahl was the Recorder; William Forsberg and Oscar Pearson were Justices of the Peace; and Carl Allen was the Constable.

* * *

1933

A painting by Lucille Lundquist Blance was purchased by the Whitney Museum of Art in New York City.

Dr. Arvid Carlson opened his practice.

Red Owl Store closed when its lease expired.
Hartz Store opened with Max Bliss, manager.
All banks closed during the “Bank Holiday,” declared by President Roosevelt.
Beer was on sale again, 3.2% in strength.
Clarence Boardson became manager of the Boardson Food Market when Andrew Boardson retired from active participation in the business.
Ed Quistgard bought the North Star Drug Store.
Clinton Lundgren was the proprietor of the new concern succeeding Lundgren and Wittensten.
Pioneer Land and Loan Co. built a new 45,000 bushel-capacity elevator.
A. R. Hatfield opened a Gamble Store agency.
The former Holcomb Livery Stable burned to the ground.
The Green Tavern succeeded the Chocolate Shop. F. W. Truhn was the manager and Mrs. Justice Carlson was the cook.
The Civil Works Administration Project provided work for two hundred men.
J. S. MacArthur retired after 38 years of public service on the R.F.D. mail route.

* * *

1934

Warren received $3,000.00 for storm sewers from the Civil Works Administration.
G. Holmquist, Superintendent of the Warren School system for 16 years, resigned and was succeeded by Elmer Weltzin.
$153.00 was raised at the “President’s Birthday Ball” and was used for polio treatment.
Warren High School’s basketball team defeated Thief River Falls 20 to 19 in a thrilling opening game in their new armory auditorium.
The Warren Gun Club was formed.
Andrew Boardson converted the top floor of the Warren National Bank Building into apartments.
Judge Julius J. Olson was appointed to the State Supreme Court by Governor Floyd B. Olson.
Sound equipment was installed in the Strand Theatre at a cost of $1500.00.
350 Warrenites motored to Crookston to see the Warren Basketball team defeat Thief River Falls 21 to 19 for the district crown.
Dr. Wattam died.
The city officials were: F. C. Larson, Mayor; Clifford Nelson, N. A. Sveen, N. B. Ellingson, Aldermen; R. B. Taralseth, Treasurer; Charles J. Carlson, Recorder; Oscar Pearson and William Forsberg, Justices of the Peace; and Carl Allen, Constable.

Bakke’s Sweet Shop opened their “Wagon Wheel Cafe.”
Walter Holbrook was named cashier of the State Bank of Warren.
Edwin Willey, a Tenderfoot Boy Scout, rescued Marcella Gollnick from drowning in the Snake River.
The Warren Brick Co. resumed the manufacture of bricks.
L. E. Sands bought out A. R. Hatfield’s interest in the Gamble Store.
Seal Brothers Circus played to large crowds.
Dr. Warren J. Hanson, dentist, joined his stepfather, Dr. F. C. Bakke, in the dental business.
Carlson’s Mercantile Store opened in the People’s Trading Co. building. Arvid Carlson was the manager. R. H. Quanrud was in charge of the Undertaking department.
The Silnes Body Works opened in the repair shop of the former W. F. Powell building.
The Farm Loan Association opened offices in the Peoples State Bank building.
Wheat was 95¢ a bushel, oats 46¢, barley 61¢, durum wheat $1.13, and eggs were 20¢ a dozen.
Surveyors determined that Warren is 1,185.65 feet above sea level.

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1935

W. H. Goodroad announced a new Pontiac agency.
Our Savior’s Lutheran Church marked its Fiftieth Anniversary.
The Warren Cooperative Creamery built a $13,000.00 creamery on Main Street.
The city bought a new Fairbanks Morse engine for their light plant for $3,729.00.
Warren had its “Hamburger Day” with men in overalls and a “Kvine Fereningen,” a new order of women in long skirts. More than 5,000 people attended the celebration.
Prairie fires raged in the county.
E. E. Swenson was named Postmaster, succeeding A. B. Nelson, postmaster for 13 years.
Amundgaard Implement Co. opened in the W. F. Powell and Co. building.
Tanquary Bee Farms located their headquarters in the city.
The WPA inaugurated a sewing project in Warren.

The Warren Light and Power Plant, as it is and as it was
The Warren Tabernacle was dedicated. Cut-Rate Grocery opened in the former Lundgren and Wittensten building. Oscar Peterson was the manager.

* * *

1936

The Warren Cooperative Creamery was dedicated on February 21st and started to sell milk. Scheie’s market opened in the old Register building. City officers included: Oscar Knutson, Mayor; Charles J. Carlson, Recorder; N. B. Ellingson, Dr. C. H. Holmstrom and George C. Magorius, Aldermen; William Forsberg and Andrew Johnson, Justices of the Peace; Ralph B. Taralseth, Treasurer; and Carl Allen, Constable. The WPA laid a watermain to the fair grounds. The new baseball park opened in Warren. John Nowacki was named head of the Cooperative Oil Association. A new bridge was opened for traffic on Central Park Avenue. J. H. Herbranson bought Hotel Warren. 7,500 people were in Warren on Hamburger Day. 6,000 sandwiches were served. Lawrence Anderson was Hamburger King when he ate 9 in 10 minutes. The Warren IOOF Lodge bought the West Hotel for a home. The Zacharias Cream station occupied the first floor and the lodge the second floor.

1937

David Johnson opened the Warren Chick Hatchery. Swedish Lutheran pastors endeavored to revive the North Star College. The City Water, Light and Power Department showed a profit of $8,737.00 for 1936. Frank Stuemke was elected president of the newly organized Warren Horticultural Society. The city purchased a power patrol unit for the care of the streets. The School District indebtedness was reduced to $43,000.00. Dr. B. F. Bro opened a dental office. Warren voters approved a bond issue for paving 304 to 61. The city street paving was completed in August. Boxville School closed and pupils were transported to Warren. Sig Lodoen bought the Johnson Blacksmith building on the east side, a landmark since 1880 and planned to wreck it.

Hamburger Day Committee: Oliver Mattson, Roger Howe, Mr. Ellingson, Dr. Gunnarson, and Emery Johnson.

Carl Martinson’s Lunch Room on Main Street (now the Main Street Cafe).
A panoramic view of Warren looking toward the North. Taken in 1939.

Hans Swanson changed over to the new common battery system in the Warren Telephone Company—no more ringing central.

* * *

1938

Carl Kjos was the new manager of Robertson Lumber Co. yard.
Oscar R. Knutson was re-elected Mayor. F. A. Bakke was the Treasurer.
Hans Swanson built a new addition to the W. G. Woodward Co.
The Building and Loan Association paid $2,100.00 dividend to its stockholders.
Ted Heyen became the chief of police.
Cut-Rate Grocery was moved into the Taralseth building.
Residential electrical rates were cut 20%.
Sig Silnes built a modern garage on the corner of Second Street and Nelson Avenue.
Anderson and Melin, Chevrolet Garage, was sold to the Northern Chevrolet Co. of Thief River Falls.
Robert Dahlolff was the first Boy Scout in the United States to be initiated into the Chippewa tribe.
2500 people attended a meeting at the Covenant Bible Camp.
Tax collections fell.
The WPA built a grandstand with a seating capacity of more than 2000 at the Marshall county fairgrounds.
Swansons Service Station and the Warren Radio Shop moved into the Silnes Bldg.
A transient was killed when the Great Northern freight train passed over him.
Weigert’s Service Station was sold to Clarence “Kelly” Peterson.
443 students in the Warren school system.
A street improvement grant of $9,000.00 was approved by PWA.
Construction work began on the Knapp building.
John B. Erickson, building custodian of the Warren Schools for forty years, was honored by the Board of Education and the Faculty at a dinner.
Oscar Knutson, Dr. C. H. Holmstrom and C. W. Nelson bought the Warren Telephone Company from Hans Swanson who had owned and operated it since 1892.

* * *

1939

Warren’s electrical distribution system was completed under a PWA Street Improvement Project.
The State Bank of Warren reported total assets of $452,603.27.
The Peoples State Bank reported total assets of $559,821.55.
Hertzog Mortuary, operated by Fred Hertzog, was the successor to the Ellingson Funeral Service.
Warren remodeled its Light and Power Plant.
Bacon was 15c a pound at the Red Owl Grocery store.
More than 8,000 people thronged the city for the Fifth Annual Hamburger Day and more than 5,000 hamburgers were served. John Tatro was Hamburger King when he ate six hamburgers in ten minutes.
M. F. Seifert was proprietor of Coast-to-Coast Hardware Store.
Cut Rate Grocery was selling a 20 oz. can of pork and beans for 10c.
R. Oswald of McCrea found a watch in the field that he had lost 18 years ago.
N. A. Sveen celebrated his 25th year in business.
The Warren Building and Loan Association went into voluntary receivership.
Elmer Johnson reported that he had moved 51 buildings during the year.
J. J. Jorgenson became owner and active manager of the Northwest Chevrolet Co.
There were 42 deaths and 96 births during the year.
The Marshall County Star newspaper, Gordon Duenow, Editor, went out of existence in November.

* * *

1940

The Northwest Chevrolet Company had a new manager, J. J. Jorgenson, who bought out the controlling interest of the firm.
The new tax rate climbed to 159.9 mills.
F. C. Larson was appointed a member of the City Water, Light and Power Commission.
Warren Farmers Cooperative Shipping Association patrons received $53,820.00 for stock shipped the previous year.
Warren was named as headquarters for the PKM Rural Electric Cooperative.

P. T. Ildved and George Severan of Baudette purchased the Strand Theatre from C. J. Nyblad.

Joel Nyquist, Roseau machinist, purchased the Warren Machine Company and the name was changed to Nyquist Machine Works.

Dr. J. D. Barker of Duluth joined the staff of the Warren Clinic.

All male residents between the ages of 21 and 35 had to register for the draft.

W. O. Braggans was appointed Judge of Probate for Marshall County to fill the unexpired term of Judge B. B. Brett.

142 aliens registered in Warren.

Eidem’s Barber Shop and the Nelson Hat and Beauty Shop moved into the newly remodeled building on Johnson Avenue which was first the old State Bank of Warren building and later was a post office and a newspaper printing plant.

Boardsons opened a new market on the east side of town, Harold Boardson was the manager.

* * *

1941

Sletten C. Olson took over Judge Oscar Knutson’s law office following Mr. Knutson’s appointment as Judge of the 14th Judicial District Court.

Frozen food locker facilities were built by the Warren Cooperative Creamery.

Dr. F. C. Bakke moved his dental office into the Nelson building which formerly housed the Nelson Hat and Beauty Shop.

Paul Snyder purchased one-half interest in the Warren Theatre and became the manager. Construction on a new theatre was begun.

Sig Silnes was named mayor of Warren to succeed Judge Oscar Knutson.

Volunteers and draftees were called in increasing numbers to the armed forces.

The former Ellingson Funeral Home was destroyed by fire.

A. C. Swandby retired as chief of the City Volunteer Fire Department. Ralph Taralseth was elected new chief and twelve new members were appointed.

The Red Owl Grocery Store opened in the new Knapp building on the corner of Second Street and Johnson. Mr. Aamot was manager.

Mrs. E. E. Swenson was named acting Postmistress.

The City Council bought a new Fairbanks-Morse and Co. diesel engine for $22,800.00.

A. A. Harris bought out the Golden Furniture store.

Swedberg’s Clothing Store rented the east half of the K. J. Taralseth building.

Dr. O. Heyermann joined the staff of the Warren Clinic succeeding Dr. John D. Barker who was called to serve in the Medical Corps of the U. S. Army.

The old steel water tank was replaced with a redwood tank.

The Warren City council named E. A. Johnson as Alderman and R. H. Quanrud to the Utility Board.

Air Raid Wardens were named for Warren with J. H. Herbranson as Chief. There were 71 members.

Warren residents purchased $47,259.00 worth of war bonds.

Jake Schneiderman opened a dry-cleaning plant.

The city public school debt was reduced another $30,000.00.

Warren’s school began making model planes for the U. S. Navy.

Warren Ponies Basketball team placed third in the District Basketball Tournament.

The new Warren Theatre opened.

* * *

1942

The City Council and Water, Light and power Commission were organized under the new city charter provisions. They named Charles J. Carlson as City Clerk.

Dr. Blegen died.

Architect’s plans for remodeling the City Auditorium, formerly the meeting place of the Modern Woodmen of America and later the Strand Theatre, were accepted by the City Council.
West Johnson Avenue looking east.

The Mission Covenant Church observed its 60th anniversary.
The State Bank of Warren observed its 50th anniversary.
The Red Cross chapter in Warren made 1,000 surgical dressings in four days. Its quota was 39,000 dressings in sixty days.

There were 441 students in the Warren schools.

Dr. Bro closed his dental office as he was called into the armed forces and he served as dentist in the Army Air Corps.

Lt. Theodore W. Braggans was killed in an air crash in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Blackout tests were nearly perfect when held in Warren.

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1943

Malm Fuel Company, successor to C. F. Johnson Fuel Company, commenced business. C. F. Johnson operated the business for 24 years, 17 of which were in partnership with Ole Strom.

Warren-Alvarado communities raised $251.00 for seed for Russia.

Edward Perry was awarded the Presidential Air Medal.

The Methodist Church dedication was cancelled when fire destroyed much of the building.

Cameron Edgar was killed in action in the Pacific.

D. S. Eikenes of Wildrose, North Dakota, was named Superintendent of the Warren Public Schools.

Cadet William Rogers was killed in a plane crash in Texas.

Robert Wilson, marine fighter pilot, shot down his first Jap Zero.

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1944

Warren met its quota of $60,000.00 in the 4th War Loan Drive.

J. J. Jorgenson bought the John Emanuelson property on the corner of Second Street and Park Avenue.

More large groups of men were called for military service.

Roy Wadsworth completed thirty years as a mail carrier.

The North Star College building was sold to the North Star Bible College Association.

Captain Robert Wilson who had shot down three Japanese Zeros was home on leave.

The Peoples Trading Company building was sold to V. M. Antonius and C. Einar Johnson.

Sgt. Robert Palmer was reported missing over Germany.

Lt. Warren Lundgren was a prisoner of war in Germany.

Major Harold Scheie was credited by Lord Mountbatten with saving his eye after an operation in India.

Lt. Lowell Heiberg was killed when his flying fortress crashed over Germany.

Captain Beryle Bossman was killed in action in France.

Pfc. Elmer Jensen, a member of a glider infantry unit, was killed over Holland.

The Methodist congregation moved into their rebuilt church after a fire 18 months ago necessitated a $15,000.00 remodeling project.
1945

A well capable of producing 100-150 gallons of water a minute was developed at the city well site on west Bridge Street.

A. H. Knutson, operator of the Northwest Building Specialties Company, moved to Warren and bought the J. R. Thomas house on Fletcher Avenue.

Pfc. Robert Strunk was seriously wounded in France.

Lloyd Westman, 30, manager of the Warren Silo Company, was killed in action in Belgium.

A carload of waste paper totaling 30,300 lbs. was shipped from Warren.

Coffee was 31¢ a pound at Warren stores.

Charles R. Edgar, 22, second son of Mrs. Winnie Edgar of Warren to be killed in action, died of wounds suffered in the battle of Iwo Jima.

The City Water, Light and Power Department made a net profit of $10,000.00.

The Warren Cooperative Creamery had a contract to supply the government with 200,000 pounds of butter in one-pound prints.

The Melvin Engelstad Dairy discontinued milk delivery after many years of business.

Clarence “Kelly” Peterson sold his plumbing business to Glen Carr.

A special train brought 220 Italian prisoners of war to work on the potato and sugar beet fields in this area. They and the twenty-three man army guard were housed in the former North Star College building.

Albert Brown reopened a shoe shop in Warren following his return from the service.

A. A. Trost purchased the Wilson residence on South Division Street.

Carl Martinson sold his lunchroom on Main Street to Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ayotte.

Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Palmer sold their Smoke Shop and Restaurant to Chester A. Stymiest.

1946

Marvin Bystol became the manager of the Warren Creamery.

George Smith, operator of a fuel, dray and ice business for 35 years sold out to the Genereux Brothers of Red Lake Falls, Minnesota.

Dr. F. C. Bakke, dentist, was elected to membership in the Pierre Fauchard Academy, national honorary organization of the dental profession.

The American Legion purchased the brick building immediately south of the Peoples State Bank for use as a club room.

Victor Malm sold his fuel business to Robertson Lumber Company and his transfer business to George Jensen and purchased the Harris Furniture and Hardware Company located in the Golden Building.

Dr. Arvid Carlson purchased the Nelson building on Johnson Avenue from Mrs. O. N. Nelson.


Arthur Jensen and B. Cull started a sheetmetal and furnace-repair business in Taralseth's Hardware shop.

They also purchased the Jacob Brown building on Johnson Avenue.

The Navy Cross with citation for heroism was awarded for heroism posthumously to Corporal Richard Edgar by the President of the United States.

A. C. Swandby resigned as County Clerk of District Court. He had held that office since 1906.

The Warren Riverside Country Club was formed with forty enthusiastic golfers as members.

Dr. A. B. Nietfeld arrived in Warren to be associated with the Warren Clinic.

The Theodore Bratrud residence was purchased by the Warren Hospital for use as a nurses' home.

The P.K.M. Electric purchased the Rogers Garage for use as their headquarters.

Warren citizens voted in favor of a $20,000.00 bond issue to finance street and sewer improvements by a vote 203-24.

Harold Golden and Charles Cheney reopened the Hub Standard Service Station following their return from army service.

William Hennebry became Chief of Police when T. J. Heyen entered the hardware business in Warren, purchasing the Coast-to-Coast store from Arthur Boding.

Roy Wadsworth retired after thirty-two years of carrying mail on routes one and two.

R. C. Smith, proprietor of Smith Truck Lines, purchased the Strandberg Motors building on First Street.

A. L. Golden sold his cafe to L. C. Voss.

Paving from Warren to Luna was completed.

Andrew Boardson retired from active operation of his meat and grocery business after forty-one years in business.

Red River Valley Coffee Company operating in Warren under proprietorship of Eugene K. Maloney was offering 3 lbs. of Crystal Cup Blend Coffee for 95¢.

1947

A drive for a swimming pool for Warren was gotten under way by the Warren Jaycees.

Donald Wiley was Assistant Manager at the Woodward Store.

Texaco Company built a modern service station on Second Street and Nelson Avenue.

Joe Vetteslon started the Second Street Grocery at 626-2nd Street.

Wells “Bunty” Engelstad started a lunch room on Main Street in the Berget Block.

Roy Swanson purchased the dray line from the Genereux Brothers.

Tillie's Sandwich Shop opened on Second Street.

Red’s Coffee Cup was opened by Red Weed on the south edge of Warren.

W. W. Wages Co. of Minneapolis located in Warren. Joe Urbaniaik opened a Cement Products plant in the city.

The Warren Creamery finished a $20,000.00 remodeling project.

A. C. Jensen bought out the interest of his partner, B. Cull, and the business became known as Jensen Sheetmetal Shop.

Amundgaard's built a new shop building next to their parts building.
The Eastern Star, Chapter 116, observed their 50th anniversary.

* * *

1948

John Novacek of Angus reported seeing several snowflakes fall in Warren on June 28th.
A $15,000.00 improvement program for the Bible Camp in Warren was planned by the Mission church.
Bernt Eide retired from Rural Mail Service after thirty years.
P.K.M. received permission to build a short-wave radio station.
Warren Public Schools added $32,000.00 to the sinking fund for the new school. 507 students were registered in the schools.
The East Side Drug Store was purchased by Kenneth Kroll from Don Whitehead who had operated it for five years, after purchasing it from the late Mrs. Ed Quistgard.
The Soo Line freight train was derailed on the south edge of Warren.
Twelve carloads of turkeys were shipped out of Warren for the Thanksgiving markets.
The Warren Fire Department added Foamite equipment to fight oil fires.
Adolph Bakke sold Bakke’s Cafe to Myles Riopelle after being in business for twenty-eight years.
Walter Sirek opened a service station at the corner of Nelson Avenue and Second Street.
Andrew Winberg, formerly of Warren, was honored by the King of Norway for his work in Scandinavian Relief during the war.
Patrons of Warren Cooperative Shipping Association received $222,889.45 for livestock shipped the past year.
Warren Cooperative Creamery did $768,000.00 worth of business.

* * *

1949

Fire losses for the year were set at $3,700.00.
Swedbergs Clothing Store marked its 20th Anniversary.
Over one thousand people attended the historic pageant presented at the Short Course. It was directed by Mrs. A. A. Trost.
Kroll Drug Store affiliated with the Walgreen Agency.
Warren’s musicians received 5 A’s in the District 31 Music Contest.
Harry Howard was elected President of the Warren Jaycees.
The two Methodist churches of Warren were united with the name of Grace Methodist Church being given the enlarged congregation.
Roy Erickson sold his Hartz Store to Harry Kuznia of Stephen.
The Warren High School annual was dedicated to Emery A. Johnson.
The new Northwest Chevrolet building was opened.
Ray Holmquist became a law partner of Attorney Sletten Olson.

The Warren Rod and Gun Club won the annual crow hunt from the Stephen Club with 10,570 points to their 9,340.
Adolph “Unk” Bakke opened his store for men in Warren.
Miss Doris Sanborn of Oslo was the 30,000th patient to enter the Warren Hospital since permanent records were kept in 1924.
The Warren Telephone Company started by Hans Swanson and sold to Dr. C. H. Holmstrom, C. W. Nelson and Judge Oscar Knutson was sold by them to the Marshall County Telephone Company.
The Warren Creamery shipped 19 carloads of dressed turkeys off to market.
Attorney Rasmus Hage was killed in a plane crash near Crookston.

Over 4,000 people attended Warren Day and ate free hot dogs.
The Warren High School Class of 1939 held its class reunion.
$400,000 worth of building in Warren was done during the year.
Duane Turnwall announced he was taking over the law practice of the late Rasmus Hage.
Clarence Linstrom was found not guilty by reason of insanity in the murder of his mother in May of 1948.

* * *

1950

Sig Silnes resigned as Mayor of Warren and Alderman Clinton Lundgren was appointed to succeed him. Orville Hendrickson was named Alderman.
Carl A. Johnson of Warren was named President of the Marshall County Skandinaviske Mutual Fire Insurance Company to succeed Ole Hjelle.
The Warren High School basketball team won the District Basketball Championship by defeating East Grand Forks 41 to 35 in overtime.
Warren Implement Co. erected a new building to house their repair section.
The Knights of Columbus was organized and R. J. Schirber was named first president.
George Copp was elected fire chief to succeed Ralph Taralseth.

Warren was hit by three flash floods in April and May.

Emery Johnson was presented with a new car in recognition of his services to the community by the people of Warren.

W. R. Holbrook sold his insurance business to Ken Nelson.

Dale Forslund purchased the Warren Hatchery from David Johnson.

Warren’s population was 1,781.

Red Cross set up a disaster office in Warren for the surrounding area affected by the floods. Flood loss in the valley was set at $33,000,000.00

Dr. Lamb opened an optometry practice in Warren.

Great Northern crews found a tombstone on the right of way near the Warren depot.

622 pupils in the public schools.

Cornerstone laying ceremonies were held by members of Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church for their new edifice on Johnson Avenue and May Street.

New street lights were installed.

Warren Silo Company moved its plant to Red Lake Falls.

Harold Chandler came to Warren to manage the airport.

Boardson’s East-side Fairway store was sold to Homer Thompson.

Walter Sirek sold his Texaco Service Station to Herb Wilson.

Fire destroyed a group of old business places on Johnson Avenue with a total loss of $10,000.00.

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1951

William Schaefer was named Postmaster after the death of Victor Odman.

A box car shortage in March kept most of the local elevators plugged.

Field work in the Spring was delayed by cold weather.

Gay’s Beauty Shop opened.

The City Water and Light Department made $29,689.00 during the past year on receipts of $102,000.00.

The City Council ordered the discontinuance of Sunday beer sales in the city.

A. A. Trost was named Judge of Probate.

The Internal Revenue Department revealed that the income tax check in the area would add $1,500,000.00 to the national treasury.

The coulee by Hotel Warren was filled and Main Street was straightened.

Donald Soderquist purchased the Coast-to-Coast Store from T. J. Heyen.

The new edifice of Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church was formally dedicated. It was built at a cost of $150,000.00.

Wendell Larson purchased the Voss Cafe from Walter Voss.

The area sugar beet crop was worth $1,300,000.00.

Fire did $3,000,000.00 worth of damage to the Catholic church of Warren.

By a vote of 674 to 151, Warren voters passed the $525,000 bond issue for a new high school.

The Warren Hospital cared for 1,736 patients during the year.

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1952

Warren Postal receipts hit the all-time high of $24,898.00.

William Schaefer was named Warren’s Civil Defense Director.

Mayor Clinton Lundgren resigned and was succeeded by Harry Howard. R. H. Goodrich and H. Q. Melgard were elected Aldermen.

T. J. Heyen was named Police Chief.

Jack Madsen purchased the Red Owl store from Earl Lull.

Arthur and Harry Howard sold their Massey-Harris Implement business to Truman Olson and Paul Sirek.

The State Bank of Warren celebrated its 60th anniversary and had four of its original depositors still using the bank: Albert Peterson, A. C. Swandby, Charley A. Johnson and Andrew Melgard.

A Warren bootlegger was arrested.

Clifford Jeffries was named manager of the local telephone company to succeed Percy Baker who was promoted.

Dr. Nietfeld left Warren.

Almost 400,000 pounds of turkeys were processed by the Warren Creamery.

Orvin Hendrickson opened his new H & H Clothing Store.

Building permit valuation in Warren reached $600,000 including the new $600,000.00 high school.

Warren Saetre announced the opening of his law office in the Taralseth building.

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1953

Dr. C. A. Gunnarson resigned as Warren Boy Scout Troop Committee Chairman and Neil Mattson was elected to succeed him.

Ken Nelson was named President of the Warren Riverside Golf Club.

Gordon Oien purchased the Warren Cleaners from Jake Schneiderman.

George Christesen purchased the Warren Recreation from Mrs. V. M. Antonius.

Pvt. John Poolman was reported missing in Korea.

A. A. Trost was named County Attorney to succeed Duane W. Turnwall who resigned.

Dr. F. C. Bakke, veteran Warren dentist, died.

Walter Miller purchased the Coast-to-Coast Store from Donald Soderquist.

Warren Saetre bought out the law practice of Duane W. Turnwall.

J. J. Jorgenson, Warren automobile dealer, was killed when his car struck a train at the Soo crossing south of town.

Rev. J. A. Korshavn was named Superintendent of the Good Samaritan Home in Warren.

Dr. W. W. Wrolson announced the opening of his dental office.
Miller Oil Burner Co., financed by local business men, moved to Warren from the east coast.
Calvin Melgard purchased the Larson Cafe from Wendell Larson.
Einar Eidem was appointed to the City Council to succeed Otto Ranum.
Nick Plencer purchased the Red Owl Grocery business from Jack Madsen.
Raymond Dougherty of Warren was named a Rhodes Scholar.
Arthur Johnson of Thief River Falls bought out J. J. Jorgenson’s interest in the Northwest Chevrolet Company.

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1954

Warren Chapter of Business and Professional Women’s Clubs formed.
Harry Howard resigned as Mayor and Leo J. Fournier succeeded him.
Allen Paulson opened the “Sky-Vu Drive In” theatre west of Warren.
Warren Grain & Seed Company took over control of the Pioneer Land & Loan Company elevator and seed house.
Warren voters rejected the $390,000.00 bond issue for the new proposed sewage disposal system by a vote of 266 to 125.

700 pupils in school.
The Dairy Queen on Highway 75 and operated by Lowell Knutson opened for business.
Work on the new Marshall County Telephone Company building was begun.
Len Super purchased the Warren Recreation Center from Mrs. Antonius.
2300 people attended the opening of the new Warren High School and Governor Anderson spoke.
Boardson’s Food Emporium marked its fiftieth year of business.
Work was begun on Warren’s new lagoon sewage disposal system.
1400 fans attended the opening of the new high gymnasium.
Robert Peterson invented a hydraulic lift.
Black and Richards, plumbers, started in business in Warren.
The large elevator of the Warren Milling Company was sold by the Pioneer Land and Loan Co. and moved to the Roy Benson farm near Stephen. The land on which it stood was first sold to J. S. Hilleboe and L. M. Johnson in 1899 by Charles Wentzel, Warren’s first settler. The land is now owned by Les Grange and Arnie Johnson and was the site of the Mobil Service Station.
1955

Duane Wilkinson leased the Berget Studio.
George C. Magoris, President of the People’s State Bank, retired after fifty years of banking service.

Marshall County remained dry by a 3,284 to 2,841 vote in a liquor election.
R. A. “Buster” Holm, son of Judge Holm and both jewelers, died at the age of 55.
Al Schoenack was named manager of Holm’s Jewelry Store.
Worst blizzard in five years struck the area with snow piled to a depth of three feet.
Warren Creamery reported a dollar volume of $890,176 in 1954, a decrease of $1,000 from the previous year.
Marshall County Cooperative Oil Association reported a sales volume of $311,000.00 exceeding the $300,000.00 volume for the first time.
Salk polio vaccinations were given to the public.
Warren’s $200,000.00 sewage lagoon went into operation. (Editor’s note: With complaints of foul smell months before it began to operate).
Marshall County telephone company switched over to dial system in its $300,000.00 expansion project.
Warren sold its 1952 model fire truck to the village of Kelliher for $2,700.00.
Warren Cooperative Creamery opened its Dairy Bar on Main Street in its creamery building.
Al Schultz purchased the Wagon Wheel Cafe from Myles Riopelle.
Julius J. Olson, 80, retired Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court, died.
Pioneer Land Loan opened its new lumber yard at 29 East Park.
A new Standard Oil Station north of Warren was built on Highway 75 by Charles Cheney.
The Warren Library was moved downtown to Elda Palmer’s office in Dr. Carlson’s building on Johnson Avenue.
A new steel water tank was erected to replace the redwood tank.

The new Jerome Erickson addition to Warren was accepted by the City Council.
Leon Goulet was retired after twenty-two years as manager of Warren’s Peavey Elevator.
Winds in a velocity of an estimated 80-90 mph swept through the area doing inestimable damage to swathed fields and buildings and to the utility lines.
School enrollment reached a record 731 pupils.
Warren Sheaf marked its 75th year of service to the community.
A new Mobil Oil Service Station was opened at the Junction of Highways 1 and 75. The building is owned by Arnie Johnson and Les Grange.
Warren Hospital received $15,800.00 from the Ford Foundation as part of the distribution of its grant of $8,000,000.00.

1956

Warren’s Diamond Jubilee committee was formed.
“Unk” Bakke’s men’s store next to Hotel Warren on Main Street was selling men’s suits for $28.88, topcoats for $10.00, dress shirts for $1.88 and shoes for $4.98.
A youth center was opened above the Fire Station (the old fire station).
Harold Bustrack was named President of the State Bank of Warren following the death of R. J. Schriber.

“Bunty’s” Cafe was sold to Armand (Bidu) Riopelle and Leonard Riopelle.
Red Owl was selling 24 Hershey chocolate-almond bars for 89c, ground beef at 39c a lb., Charmin toilet paper at 12 rolls for $1.00, 46 oz. cans of grapefruit juice at 25c a can.
Hartz Store was selling coffee for 93c a lb., corn flakes at 25c a package, two pounds of lard for 35c, and flour at $3.39 for a 50 lb. bag.
Selkirk seed wheat was priced at $2.40 a bushel, Rodney seed oats at $1.15 a bushel and Register seed barley at $2.25 a bushel.
Harold G. Myhre joined the law firm of Warren Saetre.
The Dairy Queen on Highway 75 offered chocolate sundaes for 10c.
Gervaise A. Hatfield, son of former Warrenites Mr. and Mrs. Archie Hatfield and a graduate of the 1934 class, was appointed director of the Minnesota State Drivers License Division.

Adlai Stevenson and Estes Kefauver, both candidates for the office of President and Vice-President of the United States visited Warren on separate trips and spoke to the voters.

Brigadier General Curtis Herrick was made Warren’s third General and shared that honor with Brig. Gen. George Lodoen and Brig. Gen. Harold G. Scheie.

Eight new towers were erected at the Warren baseball field to provide lights for night games.

Tillie Skunes opened her new drive-in north of Warren on Highway 75.

The drive for funds for the new Warren Hospital reached $105,000.00.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Herbranson sold their hotel business to Mr. and Mrs. Roy Enquist and leased the Hotel Warren building to the Enquists.

Great Northern Railroad started “piggy-back” freight services to Warren.

The 50th Marshall County Fair was held in Warren.

City water main and sewer system project got under way.

Jubilee Buttons and Jubilee Plates were on sale as souvenirs of Warren’s 75th Anniversary.

Warren’s Diamond Jubilee was termed a huge success with a 105-unit parade, a pageant, a historical museum with more than 1,000 entries and 2,094 visitors to see it, a Pioneer Breakfast, dances, historic displays in all the store windows, a talent show, the dedication of the athletic field in memory of Emery Johnson, a kiddies parade, a historic tea, a water fight, a variety show, car­

The drive for funds for the new Warren Hospital reached $1,500 profit from the Jubilee to the fund for the new hospital.

Eighty-eight children of the future class of 1969 enrolled in the primary class.

The Warren Masonic Lodge observed its 75th An­

The Warren Masonic Lodge observed its 75th An­

The Evangelical Covenant Church observed its 75th Anniversary.

The $500,000 water project for the city was planning to pipe water from eight miles northeast of Warren.

The bell tower on the City Hall was torn down as the wood timbers were rotting. It was built in 1906.

New street signs were put up.

Warren’s schools were closed due to an influenza epidemic.

The Dow Key Co. moved to Thief River Falls due to a need for more space.

K. J. Taralseth Co. and Ralph Taralseth observed its 75th Anniversary.

Frank Bennett, 66, died from being gored by a two­year-old bull.

Lloyd Hill purchased the Warren Grain & Seed Company from G. R. Jacobi and Robert Backstrom.

City building permits hit a record one million dollars in 1957, most of it due to work on the high school addition and the new hospital.

1958

Warren Library opened in the basement of the City Auditorium.

Victor Malm retired and H & H moved into his former place of business. Mr. Malm, a lifetime area resident, at one time sold Buick cars with his brother through the Warren Auto Co. He was engineer at the Warren Power Plant for many years and also operated a fuel business which he purchased from C. F. Johnson in 1943 for about 3 years. He bought his hardware & furniture business from A. A. Harris in 1946.

Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Swedberg sold out their stock and retired. Gunnar came from Sweden to Chicago in 1916 and to this area in 1918 as a thresher. In 1919 he bought out the William Juring tailor shop that was located at 117 Johnson Avenue. In 1929 they started in the mercantile business when they purchased the fixtures belonging to a previous merchant, Harry Fine, and opened a clothing store in the building between the Warren Sheaf and the Ken Nelson Agency. In 1930 they moved to 221 Main Street and in 1940 to the K. J. Taralseth Building.

Postal receipts hit a record high with gross receipts of $31,933.57.
Hospital drive reached its goal of $130,000 as its share of the $680,000 estimated cost of the building. $283,000.00 from the Augustana Lutheran Church, $267,000.00 from the U.S. Government through the Hill-Burton funds.

The new addition to the Warren High School was dedicated.

The Warren Creamery showed a profit of $170.24 after gross sales of $670,775.00 and they started making cottage cheese.

Clarence Lundby leased the Warren Locker Plant from the Warren Co-op Creamery.

The old Spaulding farm home built in 1881 on the west edge of Warren was demolished by Frank Armstrong of Thief River Falls and twenty-one men.

Peavey Elevator built a 50,000 bushel annex to their Warren elevator.

Alfred Swandby, 86, pioneer citizen died.

Swift Electric was bought by Les Truhn from Ed Haight, one of the original partners (Howard Houston) who started the business in 1938.

Ed G. Johnson retired as head of the Northwest National Farm Loan Association after 27 years in the Credit Field and Harold Sorenson took his place.

Delmar Hagen and his 8-year-old ox, Napoleon, started on July 10, 1958, from Pembina on his ox cart 420 mile trek to represent Marshall County in the Minnesota State Centennial doings in St. Paul and arrived on August 22, 1958, to a great reception by the press and the public.

Marshall County Fair attendance hit a record 15,000 attendance.

Postal rates rose to 4c for a letter and 3c for a postcard.

After 76 years in Warren, the K. J. Taralseth building was sold to A. Diamond of Detroit Lakes, Minnesota.

332 animals received rabies shots.

Bumper crops harvested in area with high yields...some as high as 70.5 bushels to the acre for wheat, 128 bushels of oats to an acre, and over 70 bushels of barley to an acre.

Elias Hjelle was honored on his 90th birthday.

Reed’s Flowers was sold by Reed Lamberson to Arthur Bluedorn of Owassa, Michigan.

Arnold Trost was appointed Probate Judge to succeed Oscar Tofnner.

Warren began receiving electrical power from Garrison Dam through the Federal Bureau of Reclamation.

The Wentzel memorial bronze plaque on Island Park was replaced by the Marshall County Historical Society. The original bronze plaque was stolen by vandals about 1941.

The old hospital became a nursing home.

The Warren Sheaf facilities were expanded, a new press installed and they purchased the Boardson building next door.

Charley Carlson resigned after twenty-five years as City Clerk.

Marshall County Co-op Oil Association sales increased $103,663.

Many of Warren streets were black-topped and curbs and gutters installed.

A wading pool in Island Park was built by the Warren Lion’s Club.

The city was permitted to pump 80 million gallons of water from the new well.

A severe hail storm battered the area causing at least one million dollars worth of damage and torrential rains flattened standing grain crops.

P.K.M. Electric Co-operative purchased the Warren Implement Company building.

The Warren Creamery was having its milk bottled in Grand Forks, North Dakota, to cut costs.

Warren’s Laundromat opened in the building next to the Warren Sheaf.

Thirty-five building permits totalled $225,982.00.

1960

Les LaPlante had a shoe repair shop for a short time in the Dr. Carlson bldg. at 117 Johnson Avenue.

All city real estate property was to be re-assessed.

Andrew Melgard observed his 90th birthday.

Robert Strunk built Cactus Bowling Lanes north of Warren on Highway No. 75 with the grand opening in September.

A minstrel show with a cast of one hundred entertained the 37th Annual Warren Farmers Short Course.

Governor Elmer L. Anderson spoke in the city.

A plan to sell $80,000 worth of bonds to remodel the old hospital building was told to the Lions Club and by August work had begun on renovations.

The Warren Creamery closed the 1959 year with a net loss of $85.00.

Warren’s Post Office moved into their new building on Minnesota Street.

The 1960 Census was taken by fifteen enumerators.

Warren’s population was 2007.

Horse-owners built a new stable north of the Grandstand on the fair grounds.

A new Warren Clinic was built on the northwest corner of the intersection of Central and Main Street.

Otto Ranum purchased the Pioneer Lumber Yard from Mrs. W. A. Knapp.
The community protested the abolishing of mail service on Sundays and Holidays and it was restored.

Dennis Anderson took over the City Service consigneeship held by the late J. L. (Cotton) Johnson.

The City voted 154-35 for municipal gas distribution system.

The Warren High School classes of 1935 and 1940 held their class reunions.

2,500 people ate barbecued beef at Warren's "Thank You Days" in August and enjoyed the Kiddie Parade, Tamboritzan performance, a dance, a water fight, tug of war, etc.

Opening day school enrollment hit 910 pupils.

Sonic booms were being heard from the 101-F fighters stationed at the Grand Forks Air Force Base.

Largest percentage of voters cast ballots in the national election and Kennedy won over Nixon 380-621 in the Warren vote.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert A. Harris were honored on their 60th Wedding Anniversary.

1961

Citizens of the city of Warren will pay $210,656 in taxes on properties.

Red Owl grocery store was selling coffee at 60c a lb., 5-1/2 lb. loaves of bread for $1.00, 10 grapefruit for 29c, bacon 49c a lb., 25 lbs. potatoes for 69c, round steak at 79c a lb., and chuck roast for 49c a lb.

Hannah Munson Odman resigned from her job in the office of the County Treasurer after more than 25 years of work there and Mrs. Joyce (Lodoen) Hillman succeeded her.

Fire swept the Joel Bjorgaard home at 704 East Fletcher Avenue and the family barely escaped.

C. E. Sjostarand, 78, former teacher and president of the North Star College in Warren, was made a member of the Vasa Orden, a Knight of the Vasa Order, by King Gustav Adolph VI of Sweden. He later died in March in St. Peter, Minn.

Schoenack Jewelry offered a double-heart "going-steady" diamond set for $12.95.

Curtis Herrick was made a Major General.

Emmaus Home in the old hospital opened.

Warren Theater, dark since last November, opened again in March. Mr. David Seng of Karlstad rented the business from Paul Snyder.

Gordon Oien purchased the Laundromat from Russell Olson and Paul Hotvedt.

The Girl Scouts marked the 49th birthday of their organization with a 14th Mother-Daughter banquet. There was 144 registered Girl Scouts and 37 adult leaders.

Marymay Shop was selling Easter hats from $2.29 to $14.95.

Nish's eating establishment was sold by Melvin Johnson to La Verne Johnson.

Burglers set fire to the One-O-One Service Station; in Argyle a service station was burned to the ground.

Norman Bruneau bought Diamond Furniture from A. Diamond of Detroit Lakes, Minnesota.

Dr. Daniel Greene of Thief River Falls, Minnesota, joined the Warren Clinic staff.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church marked their 75th Anniversary.

Area hit by drought and declared a disaster area.

A new Red Owl store was built on First Street North by Nick Plencner.

The High School Class of 1926 held a reunion.

Miller Oil Burner Co. got contracts worth $150,000.00.

Zion Lutheran Church marked their 50th Anniversary.

Warren Implement was sold to Robert Anton of Fordville, North Dakota, by Clinton Lundgren.

City storm sewers were installed.

Gamble Store moved into the former Red Owl store at the intersection of Second Street and Johnson Avenue.

Warren was given a ZIP Code Number — 56762.

Warren Lumber Mart, formerly the "Pioneer" and "Ranums" was sold by Felix Bienek to Ireland's Lumber Co. of Grand Forks, North Dakota.

The Class of 1938 held their 25th Anniversary reunion.

Elmer Johnson moved the former buildings of the Robertson Lumber Yard in Warren to Pembina.

A Filipino student, Annie Laurie Peyes, joined the senior class of the Warren High School.

Warren Grain & Seed Company started work on a new elevator that will be 115 feet high.

The city bought 18 acres of land northeast of Warren for a new park.

Three from Tasmania were visiting Warren at the Elmer Johnson home.

Carl E. Carlson sold his Standard Oil bulk business to Donovan Loeslie after 20 years of bulk oil delivery.

President John F. Kennedy assassinated. Lyndon B. Johnson is the new president.

700 citizens attended the community service in memory of the slain president.

1,600 attended the Sixty Annual State Bank of Warren Smorgasbord.

The 1963 building permits were valued at $407,883.00.

1964

Peoples State Bank increased their capital stock to $100,000.00.

First Lutheran's new church was used for the first time in January.

41st Annual Farmers Short Course held with good attendance.

Warren Grain & Seed Co. completed their new elevator capable of holding 50,000 bushels. It took seven carloads of lumber to build it.

Gilbert & Sullivan's "The Mikado" was presented by Warren High School and Mr. Kenneth Sherwood.

A $150,000 high school addition was voted in with a vote of 585 to 453. There was a contractors bid of $146,392 for the addition.

Warren Creamery sold their Locker Plant to the Howard Brothers.

First Lutheran's old church was demolished. It was built in 1901.

The Methodist Church approved a $25,000.00 addition to their church.

Dr. Harold G. Scheie retired as an Army Brigadier General.
Major General George Lodoen, a 1919 class alumnus, addressed the 1964 graduating class of the Warren High School.

Uruguayan boy, Pedro Antonio Sardi-Massere, joined the senior class of the Warren High School and stayed with the Lawrence Knutson family.

The 1939 Warren High School class held their 25th reunion.

John Berget of Warren, lifeguard at the Old Mill Swimming Pool, saved the life of a 4½ year old girl.

Captain John Herrick, native Warren man, gave the order to fire on three attacking North Vietnamese patrol boats crippling them and possibly sinking one. The attack was 80 miles southeast of Hanoi on the Gulf on Tonkin.

Warren proposed a swimming pool complex for Warren's new city park. Cost estimated at $75,000. Council okays $35,000 for the project if $40,000 is contributed by the public.

Bergeson Apartments were built at a cost of $85,000.

Andrew Melgard, 94, died.

625 voices were raised in song as the Warren High School's Christmas program was presented to a packed 1,100 seat auditorium.

$185,554 in building permits were issued in 1964.

1965

The 51-year-old Boxville Farmers Club disbanded.

United Parcel Service started in Warren.

City Council decided to build a modern airport with city, state and federal funds at a cost of an estimated $109,000.00.

Gilbert & Sullivan’s “The Pirates of Pензance” was presented by the students of the Warren High School under the direction of M r. Kenneth Sherwood.

The P.K.M. radio transmission tower at 165 feet is the tallest in Warren.

The Snake River was at flood stage in April. The raging Red River floods equaled the 1950 disaster.

P.K.M. marked its 25th Anniversary.

The 1915 Warren High School class held their 50th Anniversary reunion.

Dutch girl, Marianne Defesche, of Rotterdam, joined the senior class of the Warren High School and stayed with the Phil Knotts family.

Harley Swenson was sworn in as the 9th District Judge.

Lightning struck Anna Grinder's home on west Johnson Avenue shaking the whole house, smashing windows, but not setting a fire. Anna (88) escaped injury.

New high school addition was put to use in September.

Swimming pool complex in new city park was completed in October.

More doctors sought for the community.

The old Albertina Nordgren Hospital on Johnson Avenue was dismantled. It served as Warren's hospital from 1900 to 1907.

1966

Wilmouth “Big John” Carlson retired after 42 years as a postal carrier.

The Frederick Loewe and Allan Jay Lerner musical “My Fair Lady” was presented by Kenneth Sherwood and students at the Warren High School.

Warren Creamery losses cut, the Co-op sought F.H.A. loans.

Amundgaard Implement marked sixty years in business.

Three days of blizzards slowed life in Warren down to a walk as 12” of snow was deposited in the area.

Warren voted in liquor sales by a vote of 398 to 249.

Colder weather kept flooding in abeyance, emergency dikes kept Oslo a dry island, Alvarado inundated.

Swimming pool opened in June.

Peoples State Bank built a new building on the southeast corner of Park and First Street.

Lion’s Club gave eleven new picnic tables to the new city park.

Verner Nelson, former editor of the “Marshall County Star” from 1936 to 1938, died in Los Angeles, California.

Dan Illies escaped death when his $25,000 Ag-Cat plane hit phone lines near Warren.

20,000 people attended the 60th Annual Marshall County Fair.

Warren High School classes of 1926, 1927, 1928 and 1931 held their reunions in Warren.

Warren’s Holiday Park, airport and the new paving were dedicated in August.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hillman took over the operation of Hotel Warren from Mr. and Mrs. Roy Enquist.

1967

Peoples State Bank moved into their new building.

Carl A. Johnson, 85, civic leader and farmer, died.

A semi-truck loaded with $7,000 worth of bananas passed through Warren early one morning with the driver from Amarillo, Texas, asleep at the wheel headed north on Main Street straight as an arrow past parked cars and almost ended up in the river by the Power Plant.

Dr. Gunnarson was named the outstanding Senior Citizen.

The Chalet, Warren’s new plush lounge, opened, operated by Lawrence Fournier.

Farmers were dumping milk in an effort to raise the price of milk 2c a quart.

P.T.A. recommended that sex education films be shown to Warren’s students.

March 24th marked the end of the Soo Line railroad passenger service.

Warren Creamery sold their milk route to Minnesota Dairy. Creamery stockholders voted 296 to 7 to liquidate and the 40-year-old business ceased operation on April 29th.

Elmcrest Motel was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Roy Enquist by M rs. Robert Goodrich following the death of Mr. Goodrich in the Fall of 1966.

Jaroslav Kruta and Sletten Olson dissolved their partnership.

Warren High School students presented Lerner and Loewe’s “Camelot” under the direction of Kenneth Sherwood.

“Ike” Nelson entertained his sister and brother and sister-in-law from Sweden whom he had not seen for 54 years and his friends in Warren made their stay in Warren a most memorable event.
Warren High School class of 1957 held their reunion.
22,000 attended the 61st Marshall County Fair.
A Peruvian girl, Carmen Julia Maldonado, from Arequipa, Peru, joined the senior class of the Warren High School and lived with the Harveydale Maruska family.
488 students registered at the Warren High School for the opening of school and 954 registered at the Elementary School.
The State Bank moved into its new home on the corner of Minnesota and Johnson Avenue on its 75th Anniversary.
The losses in thirty-one Warren fire calls was over $101,350 in 1967.
Building permits total in 1967 for the city was $229,800.

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Postal rates rose to 6c for a letter and 5c for a postcard.
9th District Legionnaires and Auxiliary met in Warren.
Axel Anderson, 78, died; city bridge and building contractor for almost 50 years.
1,000 watched a snowcat race out at the Fairgrounds. ‘Chalet’s Dining Room’ opened for dinners in March with seating for 70 in the Green Room and 50 in the Red Room.
Governor LeVander spoke at a P.K.M. meeting.
P.K.M. showed a net of $109,648 on a gross sales of $697,350.
Milk prices rose to 54c for a half gallon.
Joint funeral rites were held for Edward “Ike” Nelson and Adolph “Unk” Bakke.
$900,000 Elementary School Bond was passed 425 to 258. Bids total was $899,169.
Warren High School classes of 1943, 1948 and 1953 held their reunions.
Bakke’s Mens Wear was purchased by Gordon Oien and Adolph “Unk” Bakke.

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Snake River flooded the city for 36 hours. Water level was the highest in this century.
City installed a new chlorinator for the water supply.
Dale Peterson and John K. Olson were ordained as Lutheran pastors.
Evangelical Covenant Church started to build a new church.
C. G. Nybakken retired as president of Peoples State Bank after almost 39 years and LaVern Norman of Stephen took his place.
88 graduates from Warren High School, the largest class in the school history.
The new Catholic Church of Sts. Peter and Paul was dedicated.
Warren High School classes of 1919, 1944, 1949 and 1959 held their reunions.
William Lindberg was named the county’s outstanding citizen.
Suzanne Lahl, local girl and the National Historian for the Future Homemakers of America, met Mrs. Nixon at the White House for tea.
A. A. Harris was honored for 70 years in Masonry.
60,000 tons of sugar beets were stockpiled north of Warren.

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1970

Warren’s million dollar school opened on January 7th.
Ken Andeen of Warren, the oldest driver at 59 years of age in the snowcat race from Winnipeg to St. Paul, completed the race in the 50th position out of some 55 finishers.
1200 attended a snowcat race in Warren.
The new Good Samaritan Center opened.
Mrs. Robert Nelson, 38, was killed in a train-snowcat crash.
Mayor Fournier was re-elected.
The census was taken.
Meredith Wilson’s “The Music Man” was presented by the Warren High School under the direction of Miss Patricia Pickett.
The new Covenant Church was completed and ready for use in April.
The Chicago office of H.U.D. okayed $967,631 for Warren’s senior housing project.
State Bank Building Block burned, losses exceed $250,000 on April 28th.
The Chalet was offering beef, ham and chicken dinners for $2.75.
Henry M. Hanson retired as Register of Deeds after 31 years of service.
The Warren Bakery was sold to Allen Jevning by Leo Fournier.
Warren High School classes of 1920, 1945 and 1960 held their reunions.
The old Warren High School building was demolished, the cornerstone was laid in 1916.
Ingolf Grindeland, 80, first commander of the American Legion Post, died.
Harold Holmquist was appointed vice-president of the Burlington Northern railroad.
Levi Johnson, 85, former County Auditor, died.
Warren’s new Ambulance Service began with a new $9,780 vehicle.
The State Bank block fire on April 28, 1970 during the fire and the next morning.
1971

Dr. Wrolson built a dental clinic at 421 Fletcher Avenue. $90,000 Mini Mall opened on the site of the former State Bank Building Block and the Designer Shoppe, the Warren Pharmacy and Gordon’s Toggery opened their places of business within it.

Warren High School classes of 1921, 1926, 1931, 1941, 1946 and 1951 held their reunions.

Warren Jaycees chapter organized.

Burlington Northern discontinued their rail passenger service.

“Man of La Mancha” was presented by the Warren High School under the direction of Miss Patricia Pickett. 9th District American Legion Convention was held in Warren.

The Warren Soo railroad depot was closed.

Arthur Drenckhahn joined the law firm of Myhre and Jorgenson.

Warren Radio and TV’s new home was on Main Street in the former Swedberg building.

Among the many prominent Warrenites who left our midst in 1971 were: Arnold Trost, 83, Warren attorney and Judge of Probate; Clinton Lundgren, 68, community leader; Synneva Grindeland Knapp, 86, pioneer resident; C. G. Peterson, 92; and Anna Swandby Grinder, 94, of the first Warren High School graduating class 1894.

Landmark Center senior citizen housing project was dedicated as well as the Plainview low-income homes.

1972

183 Snowcats refueled at a gas stop in Warren on the International 500 Race between Winnipeg and St. Paul.

Mary Quistgard retired from the Marymay Shop after 28 years in partnership with May Nelson. Mrs. Clifford Stafslien purchased her interest in the store.


The new Addition to the American Legion building will be added attraction in their self-service coffee shop.

Wages Motor Supply opened their new business.

Arthur Knutson retired from the Postal Service after 39 years of duty.

Wages Motor Supply opened their new business building located on West Bridge Street.

Arthur Knutson retired from the Postal Service after 39 years of duty.

Tornado winds did damage in the area.

The Warren High School Class of 1962 had their reunion.

Schmidt’s Circus came to Warren sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

Walter Hillman purchased the Hotel Warren from Mr. and Mrs. Joe Herbranson.

Gale Swanson joined Lawrence Dargus in the Warren Radio and TV business.

The Warren Radio and TV Busin ess.

1973

The Warren Order of the Eastern Stars observed their 75th Anniversary. Mrs. Bessie Lamberson; Mrs. Harold T. Swanson; Mr. A. A. Harris; Mrs. Lottie Taralseth; Mrs. Mildred (Snyder) Davis of San Jose, California; and Mrs. Sylvia (Hilleboe) Severin of Minneapolis, Minnesota, were honored as fifty year members.

In Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the $9,500,000 Scheie Eye Institute was dedicated and named for Dr. Harold G. Scheie, a graduate of Warren High School Class of 1926.

The Miller Oil Burner Co. was sold to a Twin City firm.

Work was in progress on Vern’s Standard Service at the junction of Trunk Highway 1 and Trunk Highway 75, the new building for the Everbest Bakery at Main and Fletcher Avenue, the new Fire Hall at Johnson Avenue and McKinley Street, the 40x80 foot addition to the American Legion building, and the new storage building for the city between Fletcher Avenue and Bridge Street.

Tom Stinar marked his 100th birthday. Born in Czechoslovakia in 1872, he came to America when he was 15 and farmed in the Tabor area. He received congratulations from President Nixon and former President Lyndon Johnson.

Everbest Bakery opened in their new building with an added attraction in their self-service coffee shop.

Ben Amundgaard was cited for 50 years in the farm implement business.

The new addition to the American Legion building will cost $38,000.

Cable TV came to Warren. Customers were charged $6 a month for the service.

Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court, Oscar Knutson, retired.

Direct dialing came to the area telephone users.

F. C. Larson sold his business to Melvin Lund of Bemidji, Minnesota.

Dr. Frank Stinchfield of the Warren High School Class of 1928 was elected President of the Presbyterian Hospital Medical Board of New York.

Wages Motor Supply opened their new business building located on West Bridge Street.

Arthur Knutson retired from the Postal Service after 39 years of duty.

Tornado winds did damage in the area.

The Warren High School Class of 1963 held their reunion.

The 67th Marshall County Fair attracted an attendance of 20,000.

The 485 foot Warren Cable TV tower was erected. The $200,000 Warren Fire Station was dedicated.

Warren’s High School Band led the Potato Bowl Parade in Grand Forks, North Dakota.

Dr. C. A. Gunnarson, 83, city dentist, buried.

Senior Citizen Meal Program started.

LaFond’s Cafe opened on Johnson Avenue, Dale Landrevel to manage it.

Vernon Kvamme took over the ownership of the Red Owl store from Nick Plencner.

Roy Swanson and Dwight Peterson took over the International Harvester sales.
1974

Bookmobile to expand the library service.
Larry G. Jorgenson, local attorney, appointed Marshall County Court Judge.
Mayor Roy Engh elected.
The Warren High School presented "West Side Story" under the direction of Mr. Nordli.
The Marshall County Law Enforcement Center was to be built at a cost of $800,000.
Jim Waine, 27, of Bright, Victoria, Australia, rested in Warren on his hiking trip about this country and Canada.
Warren High School classes of 1934 and 1964 held their reunions.
25,000 at the 68th Annual Marshall County Fair set a new record.
The old jail and Sheriff’s home was demolished and it was a difficult job.
Nelson Motor Co. was the second oldest Ford dealership in the northwestern part of Minnesota with forty years of doing business.
A. A. Harris, Warren’s oldest citizen, died at the age of 97.

1975

A 36 hour blizzard tied up the area in January.
Vern’s Red Owl grocery store was purchased by Jay and Deanna Piska, formerly of Nebraska.
“Guys & Dolls” musical was presented by the Warren High School under the direction of Mark Pladson.
Norman Knutson was killed when he crashed into the K. J. Taralseth family monument at Greenwood cemetery.
A new 90’ footbridge was built across the Snake River at the north end of First Street.
William Godel left $56,724 for a public library.
65 aircraft were on display at the Warren Airport and 1,000 people attended.
Warren High School classes of 1925, 1950 and 1965 held their reunions.
A 7” to 9” rain resulted in flood conditions further west in July. Warren was spared when the water broke through the sand ridge north of Radium and entered the Swift and Melgard coulees.
A new John Deere building was opened south of Warren by Ben Amundgaard and Charles Engelstad.
Burglars stole tires valued at $2,893 from the Warren Tire Service.
The 52-bed addition to the Good Samaritan Center was dedicated.
Tornado winds caused much damage.
Emmaus Home in the old hospital building was closed.
Boardson’s Fairway Store was selling chuck roast for 79c a pound, 8 grapefruit for 89c, five-one-pound loaves of bread for $1.19.
Jack & Jill Store was selling pork chops at $1.29 a pound, 7 cans of Campbell soups for $1, and 3 lbs. of shortening for 99c.

D & S Supply, an automotive parts supply, opened for business.
A $2,190,000 pile of sugar beets were stockpiled north of Warren, some 73,000 tons.
No head lice were found in an examination of students in Warren’s Elementary School, a result of the long hair fad amongst the young as well as the older students.

1976

The old Woodward Farm (Melgard Farm) elevator was razed to make room for parking.
Dr. Holmstrom, 72, buried.
Warren Tire Service’s new building was opened on Highway No. 75.
“Sound of Music” musical was presented by the Warren High School under the direction of Mark Pladson.
Leo Fournier, 72, mayor for twenty years, was buried.
May Nelson, 73, business and civic leader, died.
The old Peterson-Biddick building was torn down to make room for the addition to Pete’s Hardware Hank building at the corner of Johnson Avenue and Second Street.
Warren observed the National Bicentenary with a parade, horse show, barbecue, fireworks, etc. and 2,500 watched the two mile 140-unit parade.
The new Marshall County Law Enforcement Center was completed.
70th Annual Marshall County Fair broke records with 30,000 attendance.
A new $48,476 fire-fighting unit was purchased for Warren.
A tornado damaged the Sky-Vu outdoor theatre.
American Federal Savings and Loan Association to open an office in the former Bank of Warren that was also the headquarters of the Pioneer Land & Loan Company.
Peoples State Bank building was enlarged.
The Warren library was moved into the new Godel Memorial Library building.
Harry Sailor retired after 42½ years in the U.S. Postal Service.

1977

“Annie Get Your Gun” was chosen to be the musical presented by the Warren High School under the direction of Mark Pladson.
Warren’s new ambulance was placed in service.
A Laotian family lived in Warren briefly before moving to California, refugees from Viet Nam, Ko Kang Ku and his wife May Yang and son Poa Ku.
City Auditorium was remodeled, former Modern Woodman of American Opera House that was built in 1910 at a cost of $15,000.
9th District Legionnaires had their convention in Warren.
Dale and Karen Ljunggren bought the Boardson Super Fair store from James Boardson, son of the late Clarence Boardson.
Warren Grain & Seed Co.’s huge financial problem was made public. Discrepancies amounting to over $5,000,000 owned to commission firm, local banks and area farmers. Lloyd Hill and son Gary Hill were being...
Island Park at the south end of Division Street, Warren’s first park.

National Bicentennial Day Parade.

National Bicentennial Day Parade (continued).

Marshall County Law Enforcement Center.

Carl F. Johnson as an old-time prospector.
sued. The Hills counter sued Cargill, Inc. for $22,000,000 damages.
Warren High School classes of 1927, 1952 and 1957 held their reunions.
A party of Japanese flour millers visited this area for two days.
Dr. Ervin Pumula returned to Warren to take up his practice.
All of Warren's telephone numbers were changed in November.
Dr. Frank Stinchfield of the Warren High School Class of 1928 was installed as President of the American College of Surgeons, an organization of 72,000 surgeons.

1978

Continental Telephone Company improved their services to the amount of $1,241,000.
Warren High School wrestling team placed 4th in the State finals.
The musical "Lil Abner" was presented by the Warren High School under Mark Pladson.
A Grand Jury was chosen to probe the Warren Grain & Seed Company financial collapse and Lloyd and Gary Hill were indicted for fraud.
G.T.A. to build a 200,000 bushel elevator south of Warren.
Grand Central Station restaurant opened.
4.8" of rain plus hail deluged city in one hour; streets became rivers and boats traveled on them.
A passenger train from Winnipeg visited Warren carrying passengers from Stephen where it originally came to help mark that city's Centennial.

Warren High School classes of 1943, 1953 and 1968 held their reunions.
Pletsch family escaped as fire razed their home.
Sheriff Oscar Erickson retired after 28 years in the law enforcement field.

1979

Warren Lion Club netted over $2,000 on their Yule project.
Warren High School presented "My Fair Lady" under the direction of Mark Pladson.
Lloyd and Gary Hill sentenced and fined in elevator fraud.
Arthur Bossman chosen to head the Centennial Committee.

1980

* * *

In January gold prices shot up to $840.00 an ounce and many an old piece of jewelry and gold coin was turned
Aerial view of Warren during 1979 spring flood.

GTA Elevator and Larry Johnson, manager.

$7,072,000 worth of sugar beets.

Wadköping Dancers from Sweden.

in for cash at such prices. Silver rose to $50.00 an ounce and many an old silver service was melted down and few brides could afford a set of sterling silver at a thousand dollars a place setting.

Warren's first Centennial buttons arrived to be sold for $1 each. The emblem was designed by Carl F. Johnson, Warren High School art instructor.

The new Zion Lutheran Church was completed and in use.

Four Government Agencies moved into the new quarters at the corner of Bridge and North Division Street.

Warren Community Drive went over goal and netted $11,669.

Warren Post Office was given permission to use a special cancellation on their mail stating "Warren, MN 56762 Century Old 1880-1980."

Warren Firemen responded to 38 fire calls in 1979.

Soo Line depot was moved to Marshall County Fair Grounds.

Warren High School band members will be outfitted with new uniforms this Fall at a cost of $22,392 for 90 uniforms to replace those used for the past 20 years.

Boardson's were selling pork chops for 99c a pound, bacon at $1.09 a pound, picnic hams at 69c a pound, ground beef at $1.39 a pound, a fifty pound sack of flour for $7.99, milk at $2.15 a gallon, 67c for 1 pound loaf of bread.

Jack & Jill store was selling chicken at 49c a pound, strawberries at 99c a quart, 10 lbs. of potatoes for 69c, butter at $1.09 a pound, eggs 65c a dozen, coffee for $3.47 a pound, and 10 lbs. of sugar for $1.19.

City residents voted 632 to 74 to buy the Warren Hospital.

Deposits at local banks are now insured to $100,000.

Harveydale Maruska gave the Memorial Day address.

The highest interest paid on 182-day Money Market certificates of deposit was for March 27th when 15.7% was paid. Though interest rates up to 18% were charged elsewhere in the early part of the year, 17.5% interest was the highest rate that was charged in Warren. 5.25% interest was paid on savings accounts and Saving Bonds received 6.5% interest and if held to maturity (11 years) they received 7%.

Regular gasoline was priced at $1.29 a gallon, unleaded gasoline at $1.33 and gasohol at $1.36.

All over town, preparations were going ahead for the town's Centennial.
AGRICULTURAL TRENDS

Farming in the Red River Valley has come a long way from the team of oxen and a walking plow to the modern diesel tractors and the gang plows, from the scythe and the flail to the modern self-propelled combine; and all within a man’s lifetime has this agricultural revolution come about. An advertisement in the March 22, 1888, issue of the Warren Shea by L. V. Loughridge announced that he was willing to sell any man landing in Warren with $200 in cash a complete farming outfit on long time and then rent him a farm—a vast change from the tremendous investment in machinery that is now essential on every farm.

Crop reports of the early days showed a rapid agricultural development. In 1883 the crop was fair despite the fact that no rain fell from seeding until the 11th of July. In 1884 the crop was good and the price of corn reached $1.00 a bushel. In 1885, the crops were also good, wheat was 70c a bushel in Warren in October, and good fall weather enabled the farmers to finish their fall work early. It was not unusual in those days to thresh in December or the following spring. In 1886 a hail storm destroyed the crops north of Warren and food and clothing was collected for those hard hit. In 1887 up to October 19th, 211,800 bushels of wheat had been shipped and more than 100,000 bushels were in storage and not half the crop was in. The year 1888 was a busy one with many immigrants coming in. Dealers in Warren sold 46 steam threshing outfits, 143 harvesters and binders, 118 mowers, 69 hay rakes, 55 gang and riding plows, 90 wagons, 45 buggies besides walking plows, drags, seeders, drills and other articles too numerous to mention. In 1890 the grain was not so good for it was shrunken. The next year was a good crop year and big yields were reported from all parts of the county. Charles Wentzel threshed a 6 acre piece that yielded 42 bushels to the acre. Rainy weather, however, delayed threshing and some grain could not be threshed until the following spring. In 1893, G. C. Winchester of Warren was awarded the first prize on No. 1 hard wheat at the World’s Fair in Chicago but wheat prices were low owing to the hard times then existing. In February of 1894 wheat continued to fall to 44c a bushel and farmers were advised not to raise wheat.

A sod house in the late 1800's.

The Frank Whitney Sheep Ranch near Warren in the 1890's
P. Frost Spaulding, who with Harry March, was a co-owner of the March and Spaulding Farms west of Warren.

A Threshing Scene from the Charlie Tullar farm. Willie Tullar was the engineer and John Barlow his assistant.

Threshing scene in the early days.
if it cost them over twenty-five cents a bushel to do so. They were advised to diversify.

The year 1895 was the year of the big crop, the best crop ever raised in the Red River Valley or the United States for that matter. The season was ideal for producing a big grain crop and sunshine alternating with rain just as needed kept the yield uniformly good and of high quality. When the wheat began to pour into Warren in the fall from hundreds of farmers’ wagons, coming as far as from the Red River on the West to Viking, New Solum and Newfolden on the East, the elevators were completely swamped and so was the railroad. Wheat was stacked up in sacks along the railway track for blocks because the elevators were full and the railroad was unable to furnish cars to haul loads to the terminal markets. It was pathetic to see farmers haul loads of the finest wheat grown, coming 30 or 40 miles by ox team, perhaps, and then not able to market their grain, even at prices as low as 38 and 40 cents a bushel. A great deal of ill-feeling was caused by the elevators down-grading the wheat in order to buy it at lower prices and many farmers began to haul to Grand Forks and other places. Finally the businessmen of Warren took the matter in hand through its Board of Trade and employed R. Glavin, former County Auditor, to assist the farmers in ordering cars and shipping individually. The elevators threatened to start a general store in retaliation for what the merchants had done to encourage independent shipping but they did not carry the threat into execution.

As in Ireland they used to reckon time as so or so many years from the great “Hunger”, so the people of Marshall County in fixing the time of subsequent events acquired the habit of reckoning from the “Big Crop of 1895.” In the last quarter of a century, farming has moved from the diversified kind that saw cattle... beef or milk ... production, hog and sheep production and even the raising of chickens, turkeys, geese and ducks an integral part of most farms. Now most farms are devoid of such livestock and the emphasis is on the growing of small grains. As a consequence, the cream stations that collected cream for distributors are no more, our creamery has closed, the livestock shipping pens by the railroad tracks are but a memory, truck hauling of livestock is greatly diminished and in the town’s butcher shops the various cuts of meat are shipped in instead of being butchered and cut up right in the shops or in the locker plant that was once a busy place and is now no more.

And one’s choice of chicken in the meat markets has been battery raised down in Georgia or some southern state and shipped to the northern markets with black bones and without the flavor we remember from poultry raised on the farms.
Threshing scene.

Pembina Farm, one of the Bonanza Farms of this area south of Warren. Now not one bit of evidence remains that it ever existed.

Early tractor power.

Early tractor power.

Mule power.
With this dependence on small grains including a newer crop of sunflowers and sugar beets and potatoes, the farmer of the eighties is more subject to the vagaries of weather, insects, fluctuating grain prices and the increasing cost of machinery, labor, taxes and now due to a revolution in far-off Iran and the anti-American feeling it engendered the price of gasoline, fuel oils and fertilizers have jumped in contrast to past years.

Regular gasoline is now $1.29 a gallon, no-lead gasoline $1.33, gasohol $1.36, No. 1 diesel fuel $1.18, No. 2 diesel fuel $1.15. Anhydrous ammonia fertilizer is $245 a ton and dry fertilizer ranges from $200 to $300 a ton.

In farm machinery, the same-size combine that sold for $21,500 in 1969 now costs $63,000 in 1980, the same-size tractor that was $13,900 in 1969 is now $37,800 in 1980, and the same-size swather that sold for $3,780 in 1969 is now priced at $9,200 in 1980.

The following tabulation on a section of land in Warren Township, Section 29 to be exact, will indicate how taxes have risen for the farmer over the years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Taxes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1882</td>
<td>$95.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td>$62.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>$58.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>$121.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>$374.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>$263.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>$349.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>$608.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>$1,100.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>$2,645.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>$4,526.64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In part, farmers have contributed to their own plight. Many of them hunched that the high prices of 1978 and 1979 would last for a long time and they borrowed to the hilt, bought expensive new equipment, expanded their acreage and planted post to post. Making matters worse, port and rail strikes last year prevented many grain farmers from selling their harvested crops and shoring up their finances in preparation for the next season. And President Carter’s embargo on trade with the Soviet Union after the invasion of Afghanistan depressed grain prices despite the Administration’s promise to buy up enough grain to offset the lost Soviet business. Finally the credit crunch of early 1980 hit farmers when they needed money the most. Unable to borrow, many had to sell crops at depressed prices for just a grubstake for this year’s planting. U.S. farm debt has ballooned by $76 billion in the last five years to $158 billion. Secretary of Agriculture and Minnesota farmer Bergland stated that “The most efficient hog producer today is not some guy who’s got a $300,000 modern, sophisticated apparatus. The most efficient in terms of costs is the guy who’s sitting out there with an old-fashioned system that’s all paid for.” Bergland, for one, believes the farmer’s major problems may be over. “We don’t think we’re going to see this kind of inflation continue,” he says. “Fuel prices have doubled in the last twelve months, but they’re not going to double again.” Demand for grain exports will be surprisingly strong this year, says Bergland, with increased sales to Mexico, China and Brazil helping to make up for the reduced Soviet trade. An infant drought in the Northern Plains states could affect spring wheat, and the volcanic ash from Mount St. Helena poses another threat to crops... and implies higher prices. Better times always arrive, but at the moment, American farmers are learning once again just how risky their business really is. (editor’s note: this last paragraph is from the June 2, 1980 issue of Newsweek Magazine.)

Grain prices at the time of this writing in June of 1980 were:

- Oats—$1.43 a bushel
- Durum wheat—$5.05 a bushel
- Spring wheat—$3.83 a bushel
- Soybeans—$5.28 a bushel
- Malting barley—$2.25 a bushel
- Feed barley—$1.88 a bushel
- Flax—$5.90 a bushel
- Sunflowers—$8.60 hundredweight
Various forms of government have been maintained in Warren.

The Warren Townsite Company was incorporated June 20, 1879, by James P. Nelson, Ethan Allen, A. E. Johnson, James C. McCrea, George H. McCrea, and Loren Fletcher. Capital stock $10,000.00. The site embraced the E 1/4 of SE 1/4 of Section 36, township 155, Range 48, a portion of which was platted November 1, 1879.

As per the provisions of a bill passed by the legislature incorporating the village of Warren, J. P. Nelson, Ethan Allen and J. C. McCrea were appointed judges of election. They called a meeting of the citizens who were qualified to vote in general elections to be held at the office of J. P. Nelson, on Tuesday, 3rd of January, 1882 between the hours of one and four in the afternoon, for the following purposes: To organize the village of Warren as provided by an act passed by the Legislature for that purpose and to elect officers for said village for the ensuing year, namely a President, three Trustees, a Treasurer, a Recorder, a Justice of the Peace, and a Constable. Result of that election was as follows: Ethan Allen, President; A. P. McIntyre, W. H. Gilbert and E. W. Rossman, Trustees; J. B. Titus, Treasurer; E. R. Ross and R. C. Snyder, Justices of the Peace. Total number of votes cast, 61.

At the 1883 session of the legislature, the special law of the extra session of 1881, under which the village of Warren was first incorporated, was amended so as to include in the townsite all of Section 36, in township 155, Range 48, and the north half of Section 1, in township 154, range 48. The amended law granted to the “village of Warren” all the powers and privileges possessed by municipal corporations at common law, and in addition thereto all the powers and privileges granted by Chapter 139 of the General Laws of the State. At a village election held April 17, 1883, all votes were cast in favor of reincorporating under the law as amended.

The City of Warren was incorporated under a charter April 3, 1891. The first city election under the new charter was held April 28, 1891. The following officers were elected: L. Lamberson, President; A. B. Nelson, Recorder; August Lundgren, W. N. Powell, G. A. Aubol, Aldermen; Lafayette Lamberson and John Keenan, Justices of the Peace; E. Dady, Constable; and W. A. Wallace, Assessor.

A new city charter was adopted by the city of Warren on March 17, 1914, under which, together with the city ordinances that had been adopted from time to time, the city was governed. The new city charter was drafted by a Charter Commission, composed of the following members: O. H. Taralseth, C. E. Lundquist, A. C. Swandby, W. O. Braggins, Dr. G. S. Wattam, C. Wittensten, W. R. Haney, H. L. Wood, W. F. Powell, C. L. Spaulding, Nels Johnson, L. M. Olson, C. A. Nelson, H. M. Swanson and L. Lamberson.

On October 14, 1941, the city of Warren adopted a revised Home Rule City Charter which clarified many points and enabled the city to be run more efficiently. Charles Carlson was appointed City Clerk.

In the early days, there appears to have been many who served as mayor pro tem or President of the City council and it wasn’t until 1884 that an actual mayor was elected.
In the chronological history of Warren as seen through perusing back issues of the Warren Sheaf and Warren Register, one is made very much aware of the mortality of many a business venture, the decline of those establishments based on horse power and the rise of those businesses that had to do with gas, diesel or electrical power. For that reason and before the present business establishments of Warren are enumerated, some space should be given to those commercial ventures that weathered the storms of public favor, hard times, and the death of their founders. Their number is few but the quality of their service to the community still remains high.

**The Amundgaard Implement Company**

On March 6, 1906, Even (Ed) Amundgaard opened the doors of the newly-formed Argyle Implement Company in Argyle, Minnesota, which had been formed for the purpose of selling farm machinery. Previous to that, he had spent seventeen years in a blacksmith and woodworking shop operated as Foreman & Amundgaard. Some farm machinery had also been sold by this organization. The John Deere franchise was the first contract signed by the new company. Later sons, Ivar and Ben joined the business. In 1935, they bought the farm machinery business of W. F. Powell Co. of Warren, Minnesota. The name of Argyle Implement Co. was then changed to that of the Amundgaard Implement Co. In 1947 a new shop building was built in Warren.

In the early 1960's, the Riopelle Implement Co. bought out the farm machinery business in Argyle. In 1974, a new corporation was formed in Warren and the Amundgaard Implement Co. sold their assets to the new corporation and changed their name to David John & Associates, Inc. The new corporation took the name of Amundgaard Implement Co. Charles Engelstad, who had been an employee of the old corporation since July of 1947 and his wife, June, became one-half owner of the new corporation. David John & Associates Inc. and Ben Amundgaard and his wife, Delerine, owned the other half. Charles Engelstad was designated as manager of the new corporation. A & E Enterprises was formed with the same owners as the new Amundgaard Implement Co. for the purpose of erecting and leasing a building to the new Amundgaard Implement Co.

**Berget Studio**

Martin Berget had his first studio on North First Street near the original telephone office. In 1905, he constructed a two-story brick building on Main Street. Photographs by Berget — father and son — have covered almost every phase of Warren's growth and are treasured by the children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of the pioneer residents of those early days. Many were sent by residents of the Warren community to their homeland relatives. This helped to strengthen the bonds between the people of the homeland and the new land. In 1927, Martin Berget died after operating the studio for nearly forty years. In 1976, his son Norman retired after almost fifty years as a recorder of Warren’s population and closed his studio on Main Street. Norman Berget is married and resides at 703 Minnesota Street.

**Boardson’s Meat Market**

Following his marriage in 1903, Andrew Boardson began his career in the meat business starting with C. J. Pihlstrom. Mr. Boardson went on his own in 1904 when he purchased the Nicholson & Freeman building on North First Street. In 1911, he moved into the building on Johnson Avenue that was at one time the Sven Hotel (later Dr. Carlson had his office there and it is now occupied by the “Hair Brush” beauty parlor).

Boardson’s Meat Market in 1911. The first five people are unidentified but starting at the sixth they are: Louise Schelstad, John B. Erickson, and “Janitor” Peterson.

In 1912, he purchased the building next door from Frans Fransson (now the Warren Sheaf annex). It was here that L. S. “Butch” Wilson and Danny Myszkowski assisted in the business.

In 1940, the “east side” market was opened with son, Harold, as the manager. (This is now the location of the City Appliance). At one time there was also a store in Stephen.

After 42 years, Andrew Boardson retired from activity in the meat and grocery business. He passed away in 1947.
Clarence Boardson, Andrew’s son, assumed the managing of the store and in the later 1950’s moved to the present location. Following Clarence’s death in 1975, the store was sold by his only son, James, out of the family to Mr. and Mrs. Dale Ljunggren.

City Appliance

City Appliance was started in 1952 when Clinton Lundgren separated his appliance business from the Warren Implement Company and moved it to 109 E. Johnson Ave., and made Erling Lundgren his manager.

In 1957 Erling bought the business from his Uncle Clinton and in 1962 expanded by moving his business to 113 E. Johnson after purchasing the store formally known as Boardson Grocery.

The Lundgren family has been selling Maytag appliances since 1918. As Erling says, “We’ve handled Maytags since they were wooden tubs.”

The Skelgas line was added in 1927 making it one of the oldest bottled gas dealers in the state of Minnesota.

Other main appliances handled are refrigerators, stoves, dishwashers, and televisions.

Continental Telephone of Minnesota, Inc.

The first telephone company was owned by Hans Swanson, and was started in 1892. It was located at 608 N. First St. which is the present Sommers Refrigeration Building. Some of the first operators at that time were Bessie Cross, and Ann Cheney Kilfoyle. Harold Golden started working for this company about 1912, and continued for 60 years. When he retired several years ago, he was working for CTC. Operators working when the exchange was cut to dial were Agnes Swanson, Agnes Johnson and Jennie Swanson.

In 1938, Hans “Telephone” Swanson sold his interests in the Warren Telephone Company to Oscar Knutson, Dr. C. H. Holmstrom and C. W. Nelson.

The locally owned Warren Telephone Company was purchased by Marshall County Telephone Company in 1949, and the name was changed in 1950. Percy Baker was the new manager, and at that time it consisted of three exchanges: Warren, Argyle, and Kennedy. Later, Stephen, Alvarado, Oslo and Hallock were added. Construction started on a new building in 1954 at 528 N. Minnesota, and in the spring of 1955 the exchange was moved and cut over to dial.

In 1961, Marshall County Telephone Company was purchased by Continental Telephone Company and the name was changed to Lake State. In 1973 it was changed to the present name of CTC.

Percy Baker continued as manager until 1965 when he retired and Ron S. Johnson became manager. In 1968 he was transferred to Hector, MN and Maynard Hillman has continued as Manager until now.
The following is a list of early-day subscribers to Hans Swanson’s new telephone service. Many of these numbers continued in use right down to 1955.

Warren Telephone Company
Circa 1908

A
Abrahamson, John, res.–183
Abrahamson, C. W., farm–67–2
Anderson, Mrs. Lars, res.–161
Anderson, C. O., livery barn–22
Anderson, Dr. W., res.–100
Atlantic Elevator Co.–180
Ayers, A. A., farm–132–2
Ayers, A. A., res.–184

B
Bencze, L., res.–142
Benzie, Allen, res.–84
Berget, M. J., res.–129
Bolton, J. H., res.–97
Bolton, E. A., farm–132–3
Braggans, W.

C
Carlson, Justice, drayman–62
Chalberg, Dr. Evald–181
Chalmers, Rev. C. A., res.–111
Clarkson, John, res.–70
Kendall, D., farm–67
Knutsen Holson, drayman–63
Koppang, E. E., saloon–80
Kurz, John, farm–154–4
Lamberton, barn–140
Lamberton, farm, 4 short–40
Lamberton, L. E., real estate office–72
Lamberton, L. M., farm–67–4
Lindberg, John, res.–89
Lueden, A. N., blacksmith–118
Lundgren, Aug., county auditor res.–178
Lundquist, E. C., res.–138
Lyons House–85

M
—Marshall County Court House–
County Supt. of Schools–121–3
Treasurer–30–2
Auditor–30–3
Clerk of Court–102
Register of Deeds–121–2
Sheriff–122–2
District Judge’s Chambers–90
Judge of Probate–54
County Attorney–41
Machine Shop–73
Malberg, P. H., res.–120
March Farm Co.–154–2
March, H. J., res.–109
Marshall County Land Co.–123
Maruska, Joe, res.–175
Masonic Hall–112
Mathwig, R. C., res.–191
Melgard, Andrew, res.–105
Meyers, Rev. A. A., res.–92
Mithun, Supt. of Schools, res.–141
Minter, H. M., res.–193
Munson, Mrs. Carrie, res.–83
Munson & Son, farm–123–2
McArthur, John S., res.–164
McGillan, Mrs., res.–197

N
National Elevator Co.–66–4
Natwick, confectionery store–77
Nelson, A. B., res.–55
Nelson & Olson, parlor–107
Nolstad, Rev. C. J., res.–86
Nelson, Oie N., saloon–88
Newton, Ole N., res.–167
North Star Drug Co.–33

O
O’Connell, J. P., res.–159
Oddfellows Hall–172
Olson, John–40–2
Olson, Julius, attorney–10
Olson, L. M., res.–25
Opera House–60

P
Pembina Farm Co.–132–2
Peoples Trading Co., office–20
Peoples Trading Co, grocery dept.–20
Peterson, P., tailor shop–9

Q
Quigstad, Ed., res.–14
R
Rafferty, L. M., res.–165
Register printing office–45
Riverside Farm–101
Roberston Lumber Co.–18
Roberston, A. L., res.–146
Rosendahl, farm–151–3
Rue, John G., farm–67–3
Rynning, Rev., res.–103

S
Sandberg, Charles, res.–156
Sether, J. O., traveling salesman–128
Sheaf, printing office–38
Sinclair, Mrs. Peter, res.–115
Skjeistad, I., res.–188
Soo depot–144
Spaulding Elevator Co., elevator–26
Spaulding Elevator Co., March Sliding–154–3
Spaulding Elevator Co., office–78
Spaulding Elevator Co., C. L., res.–75
Spaulding farm–1
Spaulding, P. S., livery & stable–43
Springmeier farm–66–3
St. Hilaire Lumber Co.–35
State Bank of Warren–2
Stevens, C. L., res.–136
Stevens, E. F., res.–126
Stinchfield, C. E., res.–182
Stroh, Rev. Grant, res.–176
Swando, Alfred, res.–53
Swanson, D. W., farm, 3 short–101
Swanson, Hans, office–200
Swanson, Hans, res.–149
Swanson, H. M., res.–76
Swanson harness shop–168
Swedish American State Bank–52
Swedish Lutheran Parsonage–21

T
Taraileth Co., general store–16
Taraileth, Mr. K. J., res.–13
Taraileth, R. J., farm–154
The Valley Spring Water Co.–155
Thomas, John, res.–37
Thomas farm–66
Thompson, E. M., res.–187
Thorson, G. W., res.–49
Torneil’s restaurant–192
Tripp, W. D., res.–113
Tullar, C. A., res.–34
Tullar farm–66–2
Tyler, Dr. H. A., dentist’s office–124

U
Utes, Hans, res.–79–3

W
Warren High School–42
Warren Machine & Iron Works–73
Warren Massage and Bath Institute–181
Warren Milling Co.–46
Warren Pharmacy–94
Warren Pharmacy, night phone–196
Warren Steam Laundry–174
Wattam, Dr. G. S., office–39
Washington School–134
Wes, C. S., confectionery store–36
Wess, C. S., res.–81
Westzel, Charles, farm–117
Wickman Saloon–119
Wilson, C. F., res.–162
Winchester, G. C., office general store–9
Winchester, G. C., res.–58
Windsor Hotel–65
Wittensten, Charles, res.–135
Wittensten, Frank, res.–195
Wood, Frank, res.–179
Wood, H. L., res.–94
Woolery, G., res.–108
Wright & Kachelhoff Cigar Factory–32

Y
Young, Albin, office–185


Warren Good Samaritan Center

The Good Samaritan Center is located on the south edge of the City of Warren on a spacious 20 acre plot. It is the only nursing care facility in Marshall County. The modern, one story, brick building was completed in 1975 and is licensed for 102 nursing care beds by the Minnesota Department of Health. The demand for nursing care is great and the facility operates at near 100% occupancy. On the grounds there is also a bus and storage garage built in 1978 by Erv Kallstrom and his carpentry class from the Tri-River Cooperative Center and a picnic shelter built in 1976 with funds received from the Warren Snow Cat Riders. In 1978 a 16 passenger Chevrolet/Superior bus, with a lift for wheel chairs, was purchased from funds donated to the Center by individuals and organizations in the area.

The Warren Good Samaritan Center is one of 180 health care facilities owned or managed by the Good Samaritan Society with central offices in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. From a humble beginning in 1922 the Society has grown to become one of the largest providers of nursing care in the United States. The philosophy of the Society is to serve each resident as an individual and to give care to the whole person, body and soul. For their

It has been related to me how the Society first began their work in Warren. The year was 1952 and the North Star Bible College found themselves no longer financially able to carry on their work. The board members were looking for a way to put the majestic old North Star College building to good use. One of the board members, Norval Torkelson, says he prayed that the building could be used for a home for the elderly. He talked to Rev. F. Eikeland, Pastor of Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Warren, who told him about the Good Samaritan Society and the home in Arthur, North Dakota, where Rev. Eikeland’s brother was a resident. The board contacted the Society and in the spring of 1952, Rev. August Hoeger, Sr., drove up in a little, Henry J. Kaiser, car and met with Norval and some of the other members of the board. To make a long story short, that same day there was a gentlemen’s agreement that the Society would buy the property and develop it into a home for the elderly.

After that spring meeting, the community of Warren noted there was no activity until the month of August. It was then that August Hoeger, Jr., a seminary student, and his bride, Betty, came to spend several weeks painting. “There were so many good books to read, left by the Bible College,” recalls Augie, who is now President of the Society, “That I had a hard time getting the painting done.”

In September the first “care takers,” Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Ihme from Ambrose, North Dakota arrived. Mr. Ihme had only one arm, but he accomplished much, in spite of his handicap, in a very short time, with the help of an electrician and a plumber for the major jobs, his wife and three first Good Samaritan employees: Ella Peterson, Susan Sloan and Mildred Pearson. Together they took down the large storm windows for washing, removed black boards and made the home ready. The first residents entered on October 20, 1952. Mrs. Ihme was the cook, Ella, Susan and Mildred cared for the residents and did the housekeeping.

Records show that the residents who entered during the first weeks of operation were James and Mary Kenney and Ellen Kenney of St. Hilaire, Ragna Brekkestran and C. P. Haugen of Newfolden, Edward Lindstrom of Strandquist, Edwin Johnson of Osnabrock, Diane Morrison of Erskine, Sheriff and Mrs. Hans (Ida) Hanson of Viking, Henry Olson and Gunder Lee of Thief River Falls, Mrs. Fred Lenhart and Mrs. William Blodgett of Warren and Mrs. Louisa Schumaker of Drayton.

On January 5, 1953, the Good Samaritan Society legally became owners of the property for the consideration of $1.00, plus assuming all of the debts of the North Star Bible College. Mr. Ihme continued to serve as Superintendent until July of 1953 when the Ihmes moved to Ellendale, North Dakota. They had done a good job—they faced a difficult task in beginning this new operation in Warren.

Other Superintendents, or Administrators (the term used today) at the Good Samaritan Center have been: Rev. and Mrs. A. J. Korshaven—1953 to 1958, Rev. Karl G. Berg—1958 to 1963, Kenneth Steiger—1963 to 1965 and Mrs. John (Leona) Neegard—1965 to 1980.

Directors of nursing have been: Miss Lydia Swanson, Mrs. Eleanor Peterson, Mrs. Estelle Lundquist, Mrs. Ann Anderson, Mrs. Darlene (Berg) Steiger, Mrs. Eileen Engen and Mrs. Denora Knute.

Through-out the years the Center has been blessed with many long time dedicated workers and without their loyalty the home would not be what it is today.

In 1975 the old North Star building was torn down. Regulations of the state and federal government made it impossible to continue using it, for even board and care, as it was licensed during the last years of its use.

Looking Ahead

As a future goal the Good Samaritan Center is looking forward to the construction of 10 or 12 apartments for the elderly, where they can live independently and comfortably, with the nursing home as an umbrella in times of need.

To the many individuals and organizations who have supported the Center over the years with prayers, visits, contributions and good will we say a special “Thank You!”
L. B. Hartz Agency

The L. B. Hartz Agency, on the corner of Johnson Avenue and Second Street has been in Warren since 1934, when Max Bliss was manager.

In 1938 Roy Erickson, a native of Warren, took over management.

In 1943 he purchased the grocery store business from Mr. L. B. Hartz and continued in business until June, 1949 when Harry Kuznia of Stephen, Minn. bought the business and continues with the Hartz Agency.

The building owned by W. A. Knapp & later owned by his daughter, Genevieve Pierard was purchased by Harry Kuznia in 1969. Harry, a native of the Stephen area, is the son of John & Victoria Kuznia.

Harry is a veteran of the U.S. Navy from 1943 to 1946, serving mainly in the South Pacific as an electrician. Following his discharge he worked with his father on the farm and did some electrical work before going into the grocery business. During 30 years as a grocer many changes have taken place, but the service of free delivery still goes on.

Harry married Florence Urbaniak, daughter of Joseph & Vernice Urbaniak of Argyle in 1951. They have two children—Ann, (Mrs. Franklin Palm) of Fargo, N.D. and Jim.

F. C. Larson Co.

Another old business establishment of Warren was the large and thriving store of F. C. Larson. In 1895 his father, M. L. Larson, bought a 20 x 50 foot frame building located on the site of the present store and added a tin shop to it. Having learned the sheet metal trade in Norway, he hand-made pails, tubs, milk cans, wash boilers, bath tubs, and many other necessary hardware items as well as large galvanized iron cisterns which were buried underground for rain water. He also sold hardware, stoves, paints and farm machinery. In 1905 he bought and moved a vacated drug store building from the site of the present State Bank of Warren corner and connected it to the building already there. Together with I. N. Lodoen, they organized the Warren Mercantile Company, a general department store containing hardware, groceries, dry goods, shoes, ladies and mens wear, and they also bought cream, eggs, wool and cordwood. After two years operation, the dry goods and clothing section was closed out and the west room was leased to Claude Hanson who operated the "Dreamland" Theatre until a fire nearly destroyed the building. After repairs, the same space was occupied by E. L. Read and his harness shop for several years. In 1912 M. L. Larson sold the hardware and grocery business to the Warren Cooperative Mercantile Company who added shoes, dry goods and clothing and operated a department store until 1915 when the Peoples Trading Company absorbed the entire stock. Fritz Larson had worked in his father's store as a clerk in 1907 and when the Warren Cooperative Mercantile Co. was formed, he became the manager from 1912 to 1915. From 1915 to 1923 he was the manager of the hardware department of the Peoples Trading Co. Together with C. E. Lundquist, Fritz had started the Warren Furniture Co. in the west room of the Larson building and in 1923 with A. E. John-son of Duluth as partner, he added hardware stock to the furniture line. In 1941 he became sole owner of the business and affiliated with the "Our Own Hardware Co." of Minneapolis. On May 1, 1973 he sold his F. C. Larson Co. to Mel Lund of Bemidji, Minnesota, who after two years operation, sold it to Charles and Julia Tydlacka of Red Lake Falls, Minnesota, who named it the Warren Hardware.
Lodoen's Blacksmith Shop

One of the oldest businesses in Warren was the blacksmith shop operated by Sig Lodoen. His father, Andrew Lodoen, came to this city in 1882 and opened a shop in 1888 on part of the site now occupied by the K. J. Taralseth Co. building. He had spent the intervening six years as a carpenter helping to build the Whitney building and the Methodist Church and learning the blacksmith trade from Mike McCann. He sold out but opened another shop in 1901. When five shops were in Warren, a price-cutting war began but he did not take part and was the only man able to continue in business. Andrew died and his son Sigurd, took over and ran the shop on First Street until he died. Sig and his wife and son, Clayton, resided at 111 Fourth Street. Clayton has been the long-time Mayor of West Fargo, North Dakota.

Marymay Shop

May Nelson, Margaret (Wilson) Stafslien, Mary (Lowe) Quistgard.

May Nelson was born in 1903, the daughter of John B. and Josephine (Swandby) Nelson. She graduated from the Warren High School and attended business school at Warren's North Star College and studied cosmetology in Minneapolis. In 1930, Miss May Nelson who had managed the Luella Hat Shop in Warren for two years, purchased the business and added a beauty parlor changing the name to the Nelson Hat Shop. In 1940, she moved across the alley to the newly remodeled former State Bank of Warren building. In 1942 May Quistgard became a partner of May Nelson and the name was changed to the Marymay Shop. In 1969, May Nelson and Mary Quistgard and Margaret Stafslien incorporated the business. In 1972, Mary Quistgard retired and May Nelson and Margaret Stafslien became partners. In 1980, May Nelson died suddenly of a heart attack and Margaret Stafslien and Mary Hedlund incorporated and the business remained the Marymay Shop and in the same location.

Nelson Motor Company — 1925

The Nelson Motor Company of Warren, Minnesota is a family owned and operated business that was begun in 1925 when Clifford W. Nelson formed the Warren Oil Company, and handled the Cities Service Oil Company products. In 1931 his brother Edward E. Nelson joined him in a partnership which was eventually to become Nelson Motor Company and Nelson Farms. In August of 1934 Cliff and Ed and their sister, Hilda, acquired the Ford Motor Company automobile franchise. During the ensuing years, Cliff and Ed expanded their operations with the addition of several farm machinery franchises, which include J. I. Case Company in 1942, the Versatile Manufacturing Ltd. in 1949, and the Hesston Corporation in 1960. In 1950 they also acquired the Mercury automobile franchise.

On August 20, 1950, the Nelson Motor Company proudly opened their new facility, one of the outstanding and modern dealerships in the area. Cliff, Ed and Hilda were all actively involved in the management of Nelson Motor Company and in farming operations. They witnessed the tremendous change in automotive and farm technology, ranging from horse operations to the Model-T Ford, and then to the most modern of present day farm machinery, automobiles and trucks.

After their deaths, Robert P. Nelson, son of Edward E. Nelson, assumed the management of Nelson Motor Company, and of Nelson Farms. In order to keep pace with the expanded lines of auto, trucks, and the large, complex farm equipment, several additions have been added to the original facility which was built in 1950. This includes a shop to service the large tractors, a storage building, and a body shop. Many of the 23 employees have been with the company for over 20 years.

Today this business, located on Highway 1 and near Highway 75 is proud of its service to the community since 1925.
On May 1, 1950, I bought "Shorty" Holbrook’s Insurance and Income Tax Service. The Warren community has been very good to the Ken Nelson Agency.

We have been able to prosper in a modest degree with the community by continuing to provide all types of insurance required by the public. Our income tax service has been expanded to include bookkeeping, which includes helping customers with the many, many reports required by the government. In 1954, we added the real estate department. We feel this department over the years has been very helpful in bringing buyers and sellers together.

The people who have worked for the Agency over these thirty years have been its greatest asset. Our present staff of Gladys Ullevig, Donna Znajda, Vic Rehder, Sharon Lappegaard, Betty Goodwin and Steve Nelson represent over a hundred years of loyalty to the Agency.

At the present time, we are going through a transition period at the Agency. I’m slowing up and son, Steve, is taking over, and a new era will begin; but the old philosophy of the Agency to the community will continue "to put in more than you take out!"

P.K.M. Electric Cooperative

As Europe teetered on the brink of World War II, a mass meeting was held in Alvarado out of which was born the P.K.M. Electric Cooperative. The initials stand for northwestern Polk County, western Marshall County, and Kittson County, the area proposed for development of rural electrification by the fledging cooperative.

The first meeting of the board of directors was held in Warren on May 20, 1940 in the old fire hall where Victor Edman of Alvarado was chosen as president of the nine
The Peoples State Bank of Warren was organized in 1926 by Lafayette Lamberson, Charles Grinder, John P. Mattson, Theodore Albrecht (representing the Union Investment Co.) and George C. Magoris who had been hired as Chief Executive Officer.

Mr. Magoris served as Cashier and later as President until he retired in 1954. Northwest Bank Corporation bought out the Union Investment Co. and in 1947 Northwest Banco sold its stock to local people making it an entirely home-owned institution.

Clarence Nybakken served as President of the bank for many years. He started with the bank in 1930 and served the bank until his retirement in 1969. Oscar Melgaard, longtime cashier of the bank, started in 1933 and retired from active employment in 1971. Through the dedicated efforts of these men and directors Clinton Lundgren and R. H. Quanrud, and the support of its many fine customers over the years, made possible the construction of their new banking quarters in 1967 on the corner of First Street and Park Avenue. Until that time, the bank had been located at the corner of Johnson Avenue and First Street, in a building originally built for the First National Bank of Warren.

The bank has continued to grow and prosper over the years and presently has assets of over $16,500,000.

The present officers and directors of the bank are as follows: I. V. Norman, President (formerly with the Farmers State Bank of Stephen and took over as Managing Officer of the Peoples State Bank on July 1, 1969); R. H. Quanrud is now Vice-President and Director; Mark E. Swanson, is Cashier; Ruth Strandberg and Bernice Regimabai are Assistant Cashiers; Duane Fillipi, Loan Officer; C. G. Nybakken is Director and Chairman of the Board; and O. H. Melgaard and John B. Engelstand and Robert Sands are also Directors.

by L. V. Norman

Pioneer Land and Loan Company

by Mrs. W. A. Knapp

The Pioneer Loan and Land Company was organized in 1904 with L. Lamberson, president; W. A. Knapp, secretary-treasurer; and William J. Brown, director. Then in March of 1915 Mr. Knapp purchased the interest of Mr. Lamberson and the business was incorporated under the new name of the "Pioneer Land and Loan Company." Mr. Knapp served as owner and president of this organization up until the time of his death on February 11, 1945. Mr. Knapp, as owner of the early Pioneer Land and Loan Company, had a large part in the development of the Red River Valley and a staunch faith in its growth and agricultural possibilities. In maintaining his real estate office in Warren and in Joliet, Illinois, he personally conducted hundreds of families from various parts of Illinois and Iowa to locate on the fertile plains of Marshall and Polk Counties in the Red River Valley. In addition to his real estate business, he operated an elevator and lumber yard and erected several store buildings and apartment houses on the east side of Warren. During his lifetime, he developed one of the outstanding businesses of this area and at the time of his passing was the owner of a considerable number of farms which he had developed. Just to cite the growth of the country, undeveloped land sold for

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EXCURSION PARTIES TO MARSHALL COUNTY

Every Tuesday our party leaves for our Warren, Marshall County Office

These trips are personally conducted and are made up of men and women who are seeking to better their location or seeking a safe investment for their money. In either case, they want "to be shown" and that is our business.

At our Warren Office we are equipped with automobiles to accommodate all

We are land owners and not agents.

You will have an opportunity to visit with people who formerly lived in Illinois, Iowa or some of the other states, possibly some one you know. We will show you our products and how they are grown. If you are satisfied with our conditions as you find them we will endeavor to find you either a farm to live on or a safe productive investment. The trip will be very much to your benefit.

Arrange to go.

See our representative in your locality or write or telephone our Joliet Office for information.

Chicago Phone #511.

An excursion of Illinois farmers brought up to view the country and to purchase farms. One of many such excursions promoted by the Pioneer Loan and Land Co. in the early 1900's.

$3.00 to $10.00 per acre. In 1956 good developed farms sold for from $100.00 to $175.00 per acre.

After Mr. Knapp's death in February, 1945, Synneva G. Knapp, his widow, was elected the new president; Otto H. Ranum, vice president; and C. G. Peterson was re-elected executive secretary, which position he held from January, 1932 up until February 1, 1953, when he resigned and was succeeded by Robert G. Strunk.

In 1954 the Company sold their elevator and grain business to Lloyd Hill and Associates, and during the same year the Pioneer Land and Loan Company built a new lumber yard which was one of the finest and best equipped lumber yards in the Northwest with a complete stock of high class building material. In 1960 that lumber yard was sold to Otto Ranum and shortly thereafter, that old business ceased operation and upon the death of Mrs. Knapp in 1971, its farms and real estate, etc. were divided amongst the heirs of Mrs. Knapp.

* * *

History of State Bank of Warren

by Harold Bustrack

The second home of the State Bank of Warren.

The third home of the State Bank of Warren.

Opening for business on July 5, 1892, the State Bank was incorporated on March 16, 1892 and its certificate of organization was issued July 2, 1892. H. L. Melgaard who also owned the bank at Argyle, was president; K. J. Taralseth was vice president; John E. Ostrom was cashier and Andrew Melgard was ass't. cashier. The original stockholders of the bank were: Mr. Taralseth, Mr. Melgaard, Mr. Grindeland, Mr. Ostrom, Andrew Melgard, Halvor Steenerson, O. H. Lucken, Lars K. Aaker, Peter I. Holen and August Lundgren.

The fledging bank started with capital stock of $25,000.00 and no surplus. Its footings in December 1892 were $64,588.00 with loans of $45,323.00. The bank has now grown so that at the end of 1955 it had total footings of slightly over three million with loans of $1,060,000.00. John E. Ostrom resigned as cashier in 1894 and Andrew Melgard was named cashier in 1895 in which capacity he served until 1902. O. H. Taralseth became cashier in 1902 on the retirement of Andrew Melgard. C. A. Nelson was assistant cashier in 1902, having been a bookkeeper at the bank since 1897.

O. H. Taralseth, son of K. J. Taralseth, who was vice president from 1892 until 1905, was elected to the presidency of the bank at the death of his father and served in that capacity until his death in April of 1940. Mr. Taralseth was connected with the bank for 37 years, the longest of any single individual. C. A. Nelson was made cashier in 1906 and served in that capacity until his death in 1927. Carl O. Knutson was elected assistant cashier in 1918. Walter R. Holbrook started working as a bookkeeper in 1919 and was elected assistant cashier in 1926. He was vice president when he terminated his employment at the bank in 1942.
R. J. Schirber began his employment with the bank in 1930 as a bookkeeper and advanced in positions until January 14, 1947 when he was elected president of the bank. This position he held until his untimely death on February 9, 1956. The late Otto Bremer, noted St. Paul banker and financier, became a stockholder of the bank in 1927 and was at that time elected vice president. It was his efforts and financial aid that kept the bank steady during the depression.

The new bank building was built in 1904 by K. J. Taralseth and the bank has since added the rest of the buildings on the half block to its holdings. The premises of the bank were completely remodeled in 1940. An open house was held in July of 1952 celebrating the 60th anniversary of the bank.

Emil Helberg was cashier of the bank from February 1943 to May of 1945. J. W. Sands was cashier and vice president from July 1945 to April 1949.

Delos H. Austinson started his employment with the bank in 1941, entered the armed services in 1942 and upon his return was elected cashier of the bank. This position he held until September of 1952 when he met a tragic death in a car accident in the Grafton, N. D. area.

At the death of Mr. Schirber, Harold A. Bustrack was named as president. Mr. Bustrack started his employment with the bank in August of 1947, having served as cashier since September of 1952.


In 1957 the bank took over a dining room area from the Wagon Wheel Cafe, for bookkeeping use.

C. F. Cornelius joined the bank as cashier in January of 1958.

Clayton Olson terminated his directorship in January of 1960, and Mr. Cornelius took his place on the board.

Mr. Olson passed away early in 1961.

In 1962 the bank purchased the former Robertson Lumber Co. property for a future building site.

On January 12, 1963, special tribute was paid to Mr. Andrew Melgard, then 92 years old. Mr. Melgard had served as the first Asst. Cashier of the bank in 1892, the year of its opening.

In January of 1966 the board engaged the architect firm of Dykins and Handford of Minneapolis to draw plans for a new building. These bids were opened Oct. 25, 1966, and construction of the present building was completed in Nov., 1967 at which time dedication was held.

The old building was sold in March of 1967, but was completely destroyed by fire in April of 1970.

C. F. Cornelius left the bank in May, 1968 to become president of the Elk Valley State Bank of Larimore, N.D. Assuming his officer spot was D. O. Evavold who had joined the bank in January of 1968.

In January, 1977, two new directors, Roy R. Johnson and Roger L. Omdahl were named.

F. C. Larson, long time director and chairman of the board, resigned in January of 1978, after 29 years of service. A testimonial dinner for Mr. Larson was held in the bank’s community room.

In 1978, the bank purchased the Skrabala property directly south of the present building, for employee parking use, as well as possible customer use when the present building is expanded.

The bank’s footings presently are at $24,000,000.00. Present officers are: H. A. Bustrack, President & Chairman, D. O. Evavold, Sr. V. Pres.; Helmer E. Peterson, Vice Pres.; D. V. Nielsen, Asst. Vice Pres.; E. C. Turn, Cashier & Lorene Engelstad and Doris Gloude, Asst. Cashiers.

Present directors are: H. A. Bustrack, Roy R. Johnson, Sletten C. Olson, Roger L. Omdahl and Helmer E. Peterson.

Taralseth’s Store

On May 31, 1882, K. J. Taralseth started his business in the middle of the same block in which the present store is located. Warren was but a tiny station when he opened a small business for his capital was meager, likewise his stock. His business grew with each succeeding year until the name of K. J. Taralseth Co. became a household word throughout the entire Northwest. In 1888 he built a two-story brick building. Eight years later, he built an addition the same size. Then in 1910 came a disastrous fire which leveled the business to the ground. In 1911 the present structure was built. At the death of his father, K. J. Taralseth in 1905, Ralph Taralseth became president and general manager of the store. In the latter years, he sublet part of the building to Swedberg’s and to Cut Rate
The last store built in 1911.

The staff of the K. J. Taralseth Co. store in 1895

Back row: Carl Ranum, George Harris, Mr. Simonson, Mr. Hjertos, Iver Winberg, Nels Bystrom, Mr. Grinden.


* * *

The Voice of Warren Broadcast

by Orv & Leona Hendrickson

The Voice of Warren Broadcast came into being on August 1, 1955, through the persuasive powers of the salesmen at KROX in Crookston after about two years of trying to promote the idea to Orvin and Leona Hendrickson. The main objective of the Voice of Warren broadcasts in its 25 years has been to be of service to the people of the area and a builder of good will for the community of Warren and all of its neighboring communities as it brought all kinds of news and information of the school and community and at the same time advertised the wares of Mr. & Mrs. Hendrickson's "H & H" Company and other businesses who subscribed to that advertising medium. In August of 1976 the Hendricksons relinquished the program to Mrs. Bruce Horgen who continues to bring the news.

* * *

The Warren Cooperative Creamery Association

One of the leading businesses in Warren is the Warren Cooperative Creamery which through the years has grown and been a benefit to all its patrons, stockholders and the community in general. A review of its history is a striking example of man's faith in himself, his neighbor and the future.

In the years preceding 1927, nearly all milk and cream produced in the Warren area was marketed through cream stations and a private-owned creamery. Milk was sold to the people of Warren by the quart as raw milk (not pasteurized) by several dairymen living near Warren. Many other dairymen made their own butter on the farm and any surplus not used at home was sold to merchants as dairy butter and they in turn sold it to their customers.

The price of butter was low and most dairymen felt that they could get a higher price for their butterfat if they organized a cooperative creamery and produce association that would handle their products at cost of manufacturing and sale. In 1926, several meetings were held for the purpose of organizing a cooperative creamery. Committees were appointed for the purpose of visiting other cooperative creameries to get information and a better understanding on how to organize. With the assistance of the Agricultural Commissioner at that time, Mr. Hayes, and Superintendent C. G. Selvig of the Northwest School of Agriculture, these men and committees held a meeting on March 5, 1927, and according to their report several buildings had been inspected and were under consideration such as the Johnson Implement Building, the Joe Thomas Machine Shop, the Johnson Machine Shop, the Potato Warehouse and the Warren Creamery. After several meetings held by the Board of Directors and committees, they decided to purchase the Warren Creamery from L. A. Bueche who was owner and manager. He quoted his price as $10,000.00 for the entire creamery equipment and buildings with one-half down and the balance in two years. It took courage and loyalty to organize a cooperative creamery and our pioneer farmers had this besides the integrity and friendship it takes to work together for the benefit of all people living in the Warren trade area.

The sale of common stock was mostly made by the first Board of Directors, namely Fred Kurz, President; Joe Berg, Secretary; G. L. Short, Omer Thomas, August W. Anderson, David Johnson and A. C. Knudsen. Most of these fine men have passed away but their work and foresight will stand as a monument in the form of a modern creamery and produce plant. This work is visioned as a large tree where in the beginning they planted an
idea of a cooperative and it began to grow. Soon it had roots running out in every direction and these roots were to feed and support this creamery tree. These roots were cooperation, honesty, consideration, and impartiality along with good business ability and today we have the Warren Cooperative Creamery, Locker Plant and Produce Building serving Warren and its community of industrious farmers and dairymen.

On May 7, 1927, William A. Lindberg was hired as their first manager which position he held until April 1, 1934, when he was appointed Field Manager for the Land O'Lakes Creameries. On June 1, 1927, the newly organized cooperative creamery opened its doors to its stockholders and producers to purchase cream, poultry and eggs. August W. Anderson of Warrenton Township sold the first can of cream to the Warren Cooperative Creamery and was given creamery account number one which he held for many years or until he passed away. His cream or produce was also of No. 1 grade as quality was his motto.

When the contract was made for the purchase of the creamery from L. A. Bueche, only $1,925.00 had been paid in on shares sold to producers and the balance due to close the deal was subscribed and paid by all the businessmen of Warren in the form of Preferred Stock for which effort the officers and stockholders of the Warren Cooperative Creamery were very grateful for without this assistance we could not have purchased the Warren Creamery. Production of butter was low in 1927 due to competition and only 99,815 pounds were made but it was the ice cream business that helped them meet overhead expenses. In 1932, the butter production had increased to 387,489 pounds for the year, with higher production in the following years.

There was a struggle for existence for the Warren Cooperative Creamery as there were seven centralizer cream stations competing for the dairyman's business. Without the loyalty and good faith of our patrons and stockholders, the creamery association could not have existed very long, even during the early 1930's when butterfat sold at 16c per lb. for sweet cream and 14c for No. 1 sour cream. This was the price received by dairymen for butterfat during the month of March, 1933. When the bank holiday ordered by the government caused our meager funds to be untouched until proper clearance was made by the bank inspection teams, producers butterfat settlements were paid by script money issued by the Land O'Lakes Creameries where we shipped our butter. This saved our producers the embarrassment of being without money to pay their grocery bills and other expenses. Business continually increased and the selling prices advanced to a point where our officers and stockholders felt it was time to plan for a new creamery with more space for handling and manufacturing.

On June 6, 1935, a special Stockholders Meeting was held and they voted to build a new creamery building on the lots they had purchased on Main Street. The new plant was completed early in 1936 and since that year several changes and additions have been made. Today we have one of the most modern plants in Northern Minnesota.

Carl J. Lindberg followed his brother, William, as the manager of the creamery from April 1, 1934, to September 1, 1937. After that date, Ralph Melbo was appointed manager of the creamery.

—William A. Lindberg

The Warren Cooperative Creamery added their Pasted Milk Department during the year of 1936. They purchased the milk route and equipment operated by Jim Kilfoyle and employed him to work in the Milk Department. The Board of Directors and Manager, R. E. Melbo in 1941 decided to purchase a 72 inch roller milk dryer to make powdered milk for human consumption and buttermilk powder for animal food. This venture was very successful as our Government purchased huge amounts of skim milk powder for the U.S. Army and for shipping overseas to needy countries. The commercial demand for powder in the U.S. also became greater as milk powder was being used more extensively in bakeries and ice cream and candy making.

The Warren Cooperative Creamery Assn. purchased the milk route and equipment from Melvin Engelstad in 1942. This increased the size of the pasteurized milk business and improved the operation of the plant. In 1943 the building then owned by Anderson and Melin and used as the Chevrolet Garage was purchased by the Warren Cooperative Creamery for storage purposes and to house its Produce Department which consisted of handling poultry, eggs and selling feed, seed, supplies and also to process turkeys. Later a 150 H.P. steam boiler which furnishes steam for all of the buildings owned by the Creamery was installed at this building.

R. R. Melbo resigned his position as manager in the latter part of 1945 and Marvin E. Bystol was then hired to manage the Creamery.

After many years of falling revenues and increasing costs, The Warren Cooperative Creamery was closed on April 29, 1967, as a result of a vote of 296-7 to liquidate their assets, by its stockholders.

**Warren Implement Company**

by Clinton Lundgren

updated by Margrette Lundgren

This company was started in 1887 by August Lundgren and John Lindberg and was first known as "Lindberg and Lundgren." In 1910, Charles Wittensten bought out the interest of Mr. Lindberg and the business was known as "Lundgren-Wittensten Co." In 1933, Clinton Lundgren, son of the founder, purchased the business and it took its present name.

The same lines of implements have been sold since 1887 up to the present time. The McCormick implements first and in later years the Deering line was added which made it the International Harvester Co. As years went on, other lines were added such as Maytag washers which have been sold since 1922 and later the Skelgas line which was added in 1927 which made Mr. Lundgren one of the oldest bottled gas dealers in the State of Minnesota. These items were handled by the City Appliance Shop which was an affiliate of the Warren Implement Company, the oldest implement establishment in Marshall County. The business used to be located in the building now housing the city clerk's office and police headquarters next to the Fire Hall. Later they moved to the former Warren Machine and Iron Works building at 300 Minnesota Street which they remodeled and added to.

Later Mr. Lundgren built a new implement headquarters south of Warren and sold his former place of
business to P.K.M. Electric, Inc. In 1960, Clinton Lundgren found a buyer for his business in a Mr. Anton from North Dakota but in 1962 that deal fell through. In 1963, the International Harvester Co. sent a manager to take over and Clinton Lundgren sold parts and completed in disposing of his business. In the Fall of 1963, Clinton had his first heart attack but lived on another eight years to die from a massive heart attack on October 24, 1971, at the age of 68 years and 7 months.

* * *

The Warren Pharmacy

The Warren Pharmacy was begun by John Edward “Ed” Quistgard who moved from Grand Forks, North Dakota, to Warren in 1908. He originally emmigrated from Denmark where he came of a prominent family. His first store was located in the State Bank Building Block about where the Designer Shoppe is located at 111 West Johnson Avenue. Amongst the early employees at the Warren Pharmacy were Mr. Listug, Mr. Raveling (later the town photographer), Mr. Victor Holmgren and Mr. Edwin Fransen as well as his four children as they grew up. Later in 1932 he sold the business to the Eckeren Brothers which was later sold in 1940 to Dr. Holmstrom and then in 1950 to Phil Kotts and in 1979 to the present owner, Charles Steffen. It is now located in the northwest corner of Johnson Avenue and Main Street.

After that disastrous fire in 1970 that saw the entire State Bank Building Block including the Warren Pharmacy destroyed, Phil Kotts and Charles Steffan as stockholders in the Warren Pharmacy Corporation bought the drug store on the east side of town from Kenneth Kroll and operated from that location until a new, modern facility was ready for occupancy in the spring of 1971. In April of 1979, Phil Kotts retired and sold his stock to Charles Steffan.
History of the Warren Sheaf

The first publication of the Warren Sheaf was on Thursday, December 1, 1880. It was a six-column, four-page paper, printed on an old Army press. Only the first and last pages were home print, the two inside pages being ready print, or so called “patent insides.” The subscription price was $2.00 per year. The editor and publisher was A. Dewey, an experienced newspaper man and clever writer who also owned a newspaper at Fisher. In his well-written Salutatory printed on the first page, Mr. Dewey says The Sheaf shall be a paper of the people, and it will labor for what it considers the best interests of the county. It will be sent to many persons seeking homes in this valley, and, if by directing immigration this way, it gives to the county an added impetus in the settlement, it will have accomplished part of its mission. We shall aim to go on in the right and look not to the right or left, hoping that our purpose of doing our best for the whole with malice toward none, will bear us through, obtaining the good will and general support of the county, in this our little experiment.” Mr. Dewey did not remain long at the helm of the Sheaf but sold the paper the next year to Charles C. Brown of Grand Forks, North Dakota. He continued as publisher and editor until November 26, 1881, when it was sold to W. A. Atwater. Mr. Atwater remained in active control of the paper until March 15, 1882, when he leased it to F. D. Pierce. Mr. Pierce continued in control of the Sheaf until some time in 1883 when it passed on to W. R. Edwards.

Editor Edwards sold the Sheaf in the latter part of 1885 or the first part of 1886 to Andrew Jackson Clark who had also purchased the newspapers of Argyle and Stephen. In September 1886 he sold it to H. E. Mussey and J. P. Mattson. Mussey was a printer and Mattson was a teacher then serving as County Superintendent of Schools. About the middle of August 1888, J. P. Mattson sold out his interest in the Sheaf and H. E. Mussey became sole editor and proprietor. Mr. Mattson went to Moorhead, Minn., and taught in Hope Academy. He returned in 1890 and on May 15th bought out Mr. Mussey’s interest and remained continuously as editor until his death in 1932.

In November, 1969, the Sheaf changed its method of production from the letterpress to offset, combining the new technology of computers and cameras to lithography. In December, 1975, the Sheaf joined with six other north Red River Valley newspapers to produce a common weekly supplement, “The Nor’Wester.”

Neil Mattson acquired the interests of his uncle, O. M. Mattson, and his father, Edgar N. Mattson, in 1972. However, both senior members of the firm have continued on in their capacities as editor and business manager respectively. In 1980, Neil’s son, Eric, returned to the Sheaf as the first full time fourth generation Mattson on the Sheaf staff.
Some other places of business in Warren that serve the surrounding trade area and contribute greatly to making Warren a good shopping center are:

NEW LIST:

Business Places In Warren

Al's Auto Service and Radiator Repair, Al Kasprowicz, owner.
Lloyd Allen, income tax work.
American Federal Savings & Loan, Maggie Dahlman, manager.
Amundgaard Implement Co., Ben Amundgaard and Charles Engelstad, owners.
Anderson Service Station, Dwight A. Anderson, owner.
Ronald Anderson, insurance.
Barb's Beauty Shop, Barbara Otto, owner.
Ben Franklin Store, Howard Goulden, owner.
Boardson Fairway Store, Dale & Karen Ljungren, owners.
Bob's Cat House, Robert Sommers, owner.
Arthur Bossman and Sons, bricklayers.
Omer Broten Construction.
Burlington Northern Railroad.
Cactus Lanes Bowling Alley, Don and Margie Bergman, owners.
City Appliance, Erling and Jane Lundgren, owners.
Coast to Coast Store, Wayne and Jean Ulferts, owner.
Continental Telephone Co. of Minnesota, Inc.
D & S Auto Supply, Darald Sundby, owner.
Dairy Queen, Mrs. Charles Cheney, owner.
Danny's Beer Parlor, Daniel Myszowski, owner.
Designer Shoppe, Mrs. Ellen Maruska and Mrs. Wilma Crummy, owners.
Arthur Drenkhahn, attorney.
Drews Electrical Contracting & Trenching Inc., H. R. Drews, owner.
Drews Mobile Home Park
Edman Electric
Elmcrest Motel, Daniel & Henrietta Myszowski, owners.
Erickson Clothing Store, Rodney Erickson, owner.
Farm & Home Oil Co., Donovan Loeslie, owner.
Franks Air Conditioning & Equipment Repair, Robert Franks, owner.
G.T.A. Elevator, Larry Johnson, manager.
George Arnold Insurance Agency.
Good Samaritan Center, Mrs. John Neegard, administrato.
Goulden Barber Shop, Howard Goulden, prop.
Grand Central Station Restaurant, Howard & Mary Emerson, owners.
Graham & Hendrickson, painters.
H & H Company, Orvin Hendrickson, owner.
The Hair Brush, Phyllis Nowaki, prop.
The Hair Gallery, Mrs. Mark Flaten, prop.
Hapka Potato Warehouse.
Hardware Hank Store, Leon Erickson, owner.
Hartz Grocery Store, Harry Kuznia, owner.

John J. Hildenbrand, Inc., State Farm Insurance.
Walter Hillman, construction.
Hospital of Warren.
Hotel Warren, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hillman, owners.
Howard Seed, Farm, Arthur Howard, owner.
Ireland's Lumber Yard, Bob McConnell, manager.
Gary's Jack & Jill Food Center, Gary & Jeanette Ranstrom, owners.
E. Einar Johnson, insurance.
Lawrence Knutson and Sons, Mobil Oil Distributors.
Jaroslav Kruta, attorney.
W. L. Lamb, optometrist.
Magic Music, Mrs. Don Jones, Jr., owner.
Main Street Cafe, Agnes Lubarski, owner.
March Agricultural Systems, Roy Edgar, owner.
Marshall & Polk Rural Water System.
Marymay Shop, Mary Hedlund and Margaret Stafslien, owners.
Oscar Melgaard, insurance and real estate.
Merle's Steam Clean Carpet Service, Don Staiger, prop.
Midland Marshall County Cooperative.
Morgan's Furniture and Carpeting, Stuart Morgan, owner.
Harold Myhre, attorney.
Ken Nelson Agency
Nelson Motor Company
Forrest Olson, barber.
P.K.M. Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Paul's Painting & Decorating, Ted Paul, owner.
Pepper Mill Drive-Inn, Laurie Forslund and Howard Goulden, owners.
Peoples State Bank.
Peoples State Bank Agency, Inc.
Dr. W. A. Pinsonneault, M.D.
The Plant Parlor, Nancy Bodell, owner.
Delvin Potucek, monuments.
Pulkhabek Air Spray, Inc., Merrill Pulkhabek, owner.
Dr. E. E. Pumala, M.D.
Quality Motors, Inc., Harveydale Maruska, owner.
Quarud Funeral Home
Rexall Drug store, Charles Steffan, owner.
Robertson's Lumber Yard Co., David Lydeen, manager.
Brian Rokke, attorney.
Roland Potato Warehouse.
Roley Electric, Vernon Roley, owner.
Ron's Barber Shop & Hairstyling, Ron Wallenberg, owner.
Second Street Grocer, Richard Karr, owner.
Soderberg's Appliance Store, Joe Soderberg, owner.
Sommers Refrigeration Service, Robert Sommers, owner.
Soo Line Railroad.
State Bank of Warren.
Status Gallery, Robert Howard, owner.
Harold Steffen Upholstery & Carpet Cleaning.
Swanson Body Shop, Robert Swanson, prop.
Stanley Torkelson, carpenter.
Norval Torkelson, carpenter.

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THE WARREN POST OFFICE

Farley Post Office was established on May 8, 1879, and was first supplied mail with A. T. Miner as the Postmaster. He was succeeded through the years by Ethan Allen, Iver Bur lum, A. P. McIntyre, J. P. Easton, A. R. Gordon, John P. Mattson, C. A. Tullar, A. B. Nelson, Elmer E. Swenson, Mrs. E. E. Swenson, J. V. Odman, William Schaefer and the present Postmaster, John W. Carlson. At first, it was a fourth-class post office. Now it is one of the smaller first-class post offices.

Rural Delivery started on December 15, 1905, on Rural Route No. 1 with John S. MacArthur as the first carrier at a salary of $720 per year including the hire of the horse. Later Route No. 2 and No. 3 were started and were served by Carl J. Johnson as their original carrier. Everett Wadsworth was Route No. 4's original carrier. Route No. 5 had at first a temporary carrier, A. L. Robinson, until Charles A. Holmgren became its first permanent carrier. As of March 18, 1915, Rural Route No. 1 served 90 families, Rural Route No. 2 served 51 families, Rural Route No. 3 served 97 families and Rural Route No. 4 served 81 families. As of November 16, 1922, Rural Route No. 1 served 65 families and the length of the route was 31 miles. Rural Route No. 2 served 51 families and the length of its route was 28 miles. Rural Route No. 3 served 92 families with the length of the route being 29 miles. Rural Route No. 4 served 75 families and its length was 32 miles. Rural Route No. 5 served 47 families and its length was 31 miles.

Other carriers who have served the routes over the past years have been John H. Smith, August Johnson, Roy Wadsworth, Bernt E. Eide, George Willey, Harry I. Sailor, Wilmoth J. Carlson, Harold E. Golden, Arthur C. Knutson, Lee M. Skunes and the present rural carriers are:

John B. Gulden, Rural Route No. 1, Serves 182 families, 130 miles long.
Gladys M. Bodell, Rural Route No. 2, Serves 272 families, 90 miles long.
Robert W. Melgard, Rural Route No. 3, (Warren has 55 families), (Angus has 170 families), 129 miles long.

City Delivery service began in 1920 when C. A. Tullar was Postmaster. The service consisted of two two-trip routes and the carriers were George Henning and Herbert Pearson. Other city carriers have been Wilmoth J. Carlson, Arthur Weigert, Clyde Oberg, Lester Hurst, John Morkassel, O. W. Carlson, Conrad Jensen, F. C. Wittensten, Wendell Peterson, Harold E. Golden, Clarence V. Johnson, Ed Jenkins, John W. Carlson, Martin Lieberg, Harry I. Sailor, Paul Hillman, Maynard Ranstrom and W. Howard Lamberson. Current City carriers are Calvin D. Melgard, Donald A. Stinar and James H. Johnston.

The past Assistant Postmasters were Ervin R. Kezar, Clarence B. Johnson and Arthur C. Knutson and due to reorganization from the Post Office Department to Postal Services, Warren does not qualify for an assistant postmaster.

Postal clerks over the past years have been Otto Bystrom, Lilly Mattson, Florence Kezar Mattson, Olga Ehaust, Olive Douglas, August Johnson, Agnes Rud, Alfred Swanberg, Arthur Knutson, Harry Sailor, Herbert F. Wadsworth, Dale W. Forslund, Lee M. Skunes, Robert W. Melgard, Calvin D. Melgard and Clarence Lundby. The present postal clerks are W. Howard Lamberson and Jon R. Holter.

The new Warren Post Office.
The first Warren cemetery was called Rose Hill and was located north of the Snake River on the extreme northwest corner of section 31 in the town of McCrea.

On March 28, 1881, the Warren Cemetery Association was organized and George Rossman was made chairman and George H. McCrea secretary. A. P. McIntyre, W. H. Gilbert, Ethan Allen, H. C. Metzer, George McCrea and George Rossman were named as trustees. A committee was appointed to sell lots at $10.00 each. In the July 20, 1881, issue of the Warren Sheaf there was an item stating that the cemetery association was trying to pick a suitable site. The writer has not been able to find any record of the number of lots sold or a list of the names of people buried there or the dates of their interments. The secretary's minutes of meetings of the association from 1881-1883 were found at the office of the City Clerk in Warren.

In 1887 the village (now city) of Warren purchased a tract of land comprising an area of ten and one-fourth acres and established what is now known as Greenwood Cemetery. This tract was described as being located on the NE¼ of the SE¼ of Section 36, township 155 N., Range 48 W. of the fifth principal meridian and is bounded on the south by Johnson Avenue and on the west by Brinkerhoff Avenue in the eastern part of the city. This plot was surveyed into lots, fenced and the first interment made in February, 1889 when bodies began to be transferred from Rose Hill to Greenwood cemetery. In January 24, 1904, the Greenwood Cemetery Association was incorporated by Andrew Grindeland, W. F. Powell, G. C. Winchester, John P. Mattson, John E. Ostrom, E. M. Sathre, G. S. Wattam, H. L. Wood, William J. Brown, T. Morck, J. S. Hilleboe, and W. N. Powell with A. Grindeland as chairman, Wm. Brown as secretary, and the following as trustees: A. Grindeland, Wm. Brown, G. C. Winchester, John E. Ostrom, W. F. Powell and G. S. Wattam.

Greenwood is a beautiful cemetery of which the people of Warren and vicinity may feel justly proud. It is conveniently located on well-drained ground and gives evidence of proper care and attention.

The Mothers Child Welfare Club now known as the Mothers Club sponsored and organized the Warren Public Library in 1920.

The idea was presented to the club by Mrs. W. O. Braggans and was adopted favorably.

The first library board members were: Mrs. C. E. Stinchfield, President; Mrs. W. O. Braggans, Secretary-Treasurer; and Mrs. J. O. Herrick, Assistant Secretary.
Executive Committee — Mrs. Andrew Grindeland, Mrs. C. E. Stinchfield and Mrs. W. O. Braggans.

The public library was first included with the school library and was placed on the first floor of the high school building and later moved to the second floor. Funds for purchasing books and other expenses were derived from the Mothers Club and in 1923 this was the only source of income. Later other clubs and organizations including the city of Warren and the Chamber of Commerce donated funds. In May of 1954 space was leased from the Elda Palmer Agency. In 1958 the library was moved to remodeled space in the basement of the city auditorium. In 1973 the library joined a state network of libraries by becoming part of the Northwest Regional Library at Thief River Falls.

In 1977 this regionalization led to the Warren Library becoming a county library with funding coming from the Marshall County tax funds.

In April, 1975 a bequest from the late William Godel to the city of Warren for a new public library building together with a very successful community fund drive in November of the same year led to construction beginning in the summer of 1976 on a brick structure. December 30, 1976 was opening day in the new $120,000 Godel Memorial Library at 314 East Johnson Avenue. The library has 6,000 books, magazines, records, audio-visual equipment and pamphlets available to the residents of Marshall County free of charge. The library maintains preschool storytimes, film programs, summer reading programs and special adult programs. The present librarian is Mrs. Judy (Andrew) Jensen and the present library board members are: Mrs. Lois (Marvin) Hoter, President; Mrs. Mary Beth (Richard) Edman, Vice President; Mrs. Charlotte (Arthur) Drenchhahn, Secretary-Treasurer; Mrs. Tressa (Phil) Kotts, Mrs. Sylvia (O.M.) Thompson, Mrs. Ginny (Jerry) Kruger, Mrs. Darlene (Ernest) Beck, Mrs. Dorothy (Melvin R.) Hanson and Mrs. Harriet (Wilfred) Johnson.

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EARLY WARREN PHOTO — This is one of the earliest photographs known to the Sheaf to exist of Warren. The picture was believed to have been taken on July 4, 1892, on Johnson Avenue. It is thought that the firemen are standing in front of the location which is now the old fire hall and city office building. None of the men pictured can be identified. The area at the right background would be the location of Boardson's store. This photograph is in the possession of the Warren Fire Department.

WARREN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

by Alfred Swandby, Ralph Taralseth and William H. Schaefer

updated by H. R. Drews

In 1883 an organization was formed in Warren to combat the threat of fire to the young community. The equipment consisted of a hook and ladder two-cart of frame work twelve feet long and which held three or four ladders plus thirty rubber water buckets hanging on the framework. This cart was drawn by manpower with membership being all the business men in town. The names of some of the first men associated with this organization were: H. J. Bennewitz, L. Lamberson, K. J. Taralseth, John E. Ostrom, Dr. G. S. Wattam, D. A. Whitney, G. C. Winchester, Iver Burlum, A. P. McIntyre, D. McIntyre, Ed Slee, McCrea Brothers, Mike McCann and Bert Henum.

This group became more fully organized in 1891 following the tragic fire that destroyed the A. P. Znerold’s Drug Store and Mr. Znerold’s invalid daughter. At a meeting held in the Edwardh Hall on the 14th of February, 1891, forty-five names were enrolled as members of a fire company and a preliminary organization was effected. A resolution was passed requesting the village council to hold a special session to consider it. Following that, H. J. Bennewitz was elected Chief of the Fire Department, Charles Sager was Ass’t. Chief, W. N. Powell was Treasurer, and J. A. Noyes was the Secretary. A steamer which could develop a large amount of pressure was purchased and five dollars was paid to the owner and team that arrived first at the fire hall to pull the steamer. Water supply consisted of a cistern under the fire hall and a few cisterns were located along the right of way plus several wells throughout the town. Water was also pumped from the river into these cisterns so as to insure
an adequate supply of water at all times. This steamer was used until 1910 when during the Taralseth Store fire it blew a piston head. In 1911, a horse-drawn gasoline-driven pumper was purchased but it was usually pulled by men.

In 1919, a model “T” Hose and Ladder truck with a chemical tank was added and by 1931 it was replaced by a motor-driven chemical truck which consisted of two chemical tanks on a 1930 Chevrolet Roadster chassis. In 1946 the Warren Fire Department purchased its first motorized pumper and due to aiding rural areas, a pumper was mounted on a used 1942 chassis truck in 1950. While in the process of organizing rural fire protection, a 2500 gallon tanker with pump was added to the equipment of the department in 1954. After Rural Fire Protection was organized, a new fire truck was purchased in 1956 to replace the pumper built in 1950. The following townships participate in this fire protection plan: Marshall County—Comstock, McCrea, Warrenton, Vega and Boxville; Polk County—Helgeland, Brislet, Farley, Brandt, Angus, Tabor and Sandsville.

During the years 1903 to 1909, Northern Minnesota Firemen’s Tournaments were held and they were usually a three-day affair. In 1906, the tournament was held in Warren when a grandstand was erected for that purpose. At the tournament held in Red Lake Falls, Minnesota, the Warren Fire Department set a record that was never equalled. This consisted of a team of fourteen men who would run off 150 feet of hose, couple it to the hydrant, uncouple and put on the nozzle. Warren did it in twenty-three seconds. Hose evolutions contests were held from 1943 to 1945 with the Warren Fire Department taking first honors in 1944 in East Grand Forks and in 1945 in Roseau. A Firemen’s Ball has been held annually for the purpose of raising funds for new equipment.


Members in 1931 were: A. C. Swandby, Chief; O. H. Taralseth, Ass’t Chief; Charles L. Olson and C. A. Witstensten of the Hose Truck; Ernest Erickson, Sidney Anderson and George Copp Jr. of the Gas Engine; Clarence Schultz, Ralph Taralseth, Allan Grange, H. C. Bakke of the Chemical Engineers; C. W. Erickson, M. F. Pihlstrom, O. F. Kelly, Clinton Lundgren, Almer B. Swandby, Engvald Boardson, all pipe men; C. G. Peterson and Andrew M. Anderson who were the ax men; F. C. Witstensten, Ernest Youngdahl, Oliver Ostlund and C. O. Ranum of the Hook and Ladder section; A. A. Ecklund of the hose patrol; and John P. Bordewich of the police department.

The present membership consists of the following men: George A. Copp, Chief; L. F. Knutson, Ass’t Chief; William H. Schaefer, Secretary and Treasurer; Herbert Charbonneau, Charles Cheney; Lynn Cook, Herb Drews, Dale Fournier, Allan Grange, Lawrence Horning, Henry I. Knutson, Wendell Larson, Erling Lundgren, Lawrence Luxemburg, Calvin Melgard, Danny Myyszkowski, Walter Neegard, Robert Ovsak, Ed Rominski, Ray Solmonson, Oliver Thompson and Ted Heyen of the police department. Ralph Taralseth is an honorary fire chief and Alfred Swandby, C. G. Peterson and Andrew M. Anderson are honorary firemen.


History Update of the Warren Volunteer Fire Department

The Warren Fire Department was housed in the same downtown fire hall from the early days until 1973 when the present building was completed. The old bell tower was removed from the old fire hall in 1958 and the bell was integrated into a monument in the Great Northern Park. However, with the completion of the new building, the bell was moved and now is part of a planter on the front lawn . . . a permanent tribute to past and present firemen.

In September, 1957, the City Council raised the monthly allowance of the department from $25.00 to $100.00 which, in spite of inflation, is still the present rate. The Warren Fire Department serves eleven rural townships in their Fire Protection Area. They are Angus Twp., Boxville Twp., Brandt Twp., Brislet Twp., Comstock Twp., Farley Twp., Helgeland Twp., McCrea Twp., Numedal Twp., Tabor Twp., and Warrenton Twp.

The Warren Fire Department is continually updating their equipment. They have five trucks in service at this time. They are: 1956 GMC Pumper with a 1000 gal. tank and 500 gpm pumper and deluge gun; 1964 Ford with 55 ft. Pirsch aluminum aerial ladder and two 35 ft. ladders, two 24’ ladders, two 20’ ladders, two 18’ extension ladders and two folding attic ladders plus a 550 gal. water tank and 225 gpm PTO pump; 1967 Ford Pumper with 700 gal. tank and 750 gpm pump; 1968 International tandem with 2500 gal. tank and 325 gpm PTO pump; 1978 Ford Pumper with 700 gal. tank and 1000 gmp pump. In addition to these trucks there is a 1974 Ford van which is used to transport men and oxygen equipment to fires. The 1929 Chevrolet converted roadster which was used as a chemical truck years ago and was very up to date in its time, has been restored. The older firemen, especially, have a sentimental attachment to this vehicle and it’s now used in parades.

In August, 1961, the department bought their first two oxygen masks; now they have about a dozen masks and twice as many oxygen tanks. They also maintain a pre-charged reserve oxygen supply. The trucks are all equipped with two-way radios for better contact between the fire hall and the fire; also between the trucks. The first radio equipment was installed in 1961. In March, 1965, a new telephone system was put into use. When a call comes in, the information is given simultaneously over phones in the homes and business places of each fireman. The old traditional fire siren is still used occasionally to call members who may not be near their phones to get the message. It is also used for weather warnings and time indications at noon, 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

The clothing of the firemen is very important and fire coats, helmets and boots are replaced frequently. In April, 1957, the men of the department decided that they needed a uniform to wear when they attended regional fire meetings and they purchased lettered shirts and neckties. In October of 1968 these were replaced by green blazers.
The Warren Fire Department in 1906

1st row: Carl Ranum, Clarence Schultz, Alfred Swandby, John Anderson, A. A. Ecklund, Ralph Taralseth, August Ostlund, Henry Taralseth and Frank Wittensten.

Warren Fire Department’s championship team of 1908 pictured in front of the Washington School building.
The old Fire Hall.

At the present time the firemen and auxiliary members have been out-fitted in gold blazers and are a very distinguished looking group as they attend local functions and fire training sessions elsewhere in the state.

The biggest source of income for the maintenance of the department comes from the annual Firemen’s Ball. In 1980 the 88th annual ball was held. Since 1965 there has also been a smorgasbord served prior to the dance. This is put on by the wives of the firemen and adds much to the income of the department.

In June, 1969, the Warren Fire Department signed up 40 men as members of a newly organized ambulance corp for Warren. Firemen were being trained prior to this time in first aid, resusitation, etc. Though it is important for firemen to have this training, it is better to have a separate specially trained corp. The Warren Ambulance Corp. (which also is a group of volunteers) is based at the new fire hall.

The Warren Volunteer Fire Department is made up of 26 members. A balance in the age of firemen is important. The fire-fighting knowledge of the older firemen is actually as necessary to the department as the physical ability of the younger firemen. A combination of the two makes for an efficient crew. The firemen are a dedicated group. They meet twice monthly all year. In the summer they test equipment and have practice sessions out-doors; in the winter the training sessions are in the fire hall; films and discussions keep them informed. When elected to the department, most members serve at least 20 years before considering retirement. The present members and their date of joining are:

L. J. Anderson, Chief—5-28-63
Erling Lundgren, Ass’t. Chief—3-15-51

Clarence (Toby) Carlson, Ass’t. Chief—10-23-62
H. R. Drews, Sec.Treas.—9-28-48
Oliver Thompson—4-17-56
Ralph Plencner—8-20-57
Leonard Riopelle—11-24-59
Gordon Oien—10-23-62
Melvin Johnson—5-28-63
Delvin Potucek—3-26-68
Robert Ullevig—6-24-69
Lyle Trudell—6-24-69
Al Jevning—3-23-71
Herbert Maurstad—4-23-74
Glen Halvorson—6-24-75
Jack Potucek—8-26-75
Bob Bossman—10-28-75
Michael Cheney—11-23-76
Curtis Anderson—1-29-77
Dave Balzum—7-12-77
Rodney Erickson—4-25-78
Paul Knutson—3-27-79
Van Dahlman—4-22-80
Jeff Gustafson—4-22-80
Curtis Myrfield—5-27-80
Dennis Vesey—5-27-80

* * *

WVFD’S ARRAY OF EQUIPMENT — The 55-foot aerial ladder truck in the foreground is the latest addition to the Warren Volunteer Fire Department’s array of fire fighting equipment. The 1964 truck was purchased in January from the Moorhead Fire Department for $15,430 and firemen have committed receipts from the firemen’s ball for several years to pay for the truck which has a hose station at the top of the ladder which can be used to direct water from an elevated position to fight a fire. Previously to fight some fires, firemen have tried to lash a fire hose to a truck with an elevated bucket to fight fire. The 55-foot ladder truck also has a 550 gallon water tank and a 200 gallon per minute pump. At the right is the 1977 pumper which has an 800 gallon water tank and a 1,000 gallon per minute pump. At the left is the 1969 tanker truck which has a 2,500 gallon water tank and a 200 gallon per minute pump, the 1969 van to carry firemen and the 1956 pumper which has an 860 gallon water tank and 500 gallon a minute pump which also has a mounted deluge gun.

—Sheaf Photo
WARREN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AUXILIARY

History by Mrs.-H. R. Drews

Wives of the Warren volunteer firemen met on May 3, 1978 for the purpose of organizing a group to be known as the Warren Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary. The main purpose of the organization was to assist the firemen in any way possible and to become better acquainted with and more understanding of the work and problems of the firemen.

Charter members were wives of the 26 current firemen. The first officers were: Mrs. L. F. Knutson, President; Mrs. Erling Lundgren, Vice President; Mrs. H. R. Drews, Secretary and Mrs. Clarence Carlson, Treasurer. Other charter members were Mrs. Curtis Anderson, Mrs. L. J. Anderson, Mrs. Dave Balzum, Mrs. Art Bossman, Mrs. Robert Bossman, Mrs. H. L. Charboneau, Mrs. Charles Cheney, Mrs. Mike Cheney, Mrs. Rodney Erickson, Mrs. Glenn Halvorson, Mrs. Al Jevning, Mrs. Melvin Johnson, Mrs. Herb Maurstad, Mrs. Dan Myszkowski, Mrs. Gordon Oien, Mrs. Ralph Plencner, Mrs. Richard Anderson, Dwight Anderson, Dennis Awes, Charles Dubore, Dave Hagen, Glenn Johnson, Al Kasprowicz, Francis Nicholls, Leonard Novak, Jerry Quanrud, Charles Steffan, Ray Swanson, Roy G. Swanson, Darold Sundby, Dennis Vansickle, Dennis Vesey, LeRoy Vonasek.

* * *

WARREN AMBULANCE CORPS

The first unofficial meeting of the Warren Volunteer Ambulance Corps took place in the fall of 1970 in the shop of Quality Motors. The new ambulance had arrived and the meeting was held to look over the new rig and decide who would be the first to take ambulance calls. This ambulance was purchased with Federal, city and hospital funds. The first two volunteers on call were Darold Sundby and Dennis Awes. We were in operation!

The first official meeting of the Warren Volunteer Ambulance Corps took place on Jan. 19, 1971 at the "old" firehall, with 17 members attending. All the members had completed the 24 hour training course required by the state and at this time a President, Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer were voted upon. A decision to meet every first Wednesday of the month was made and these meetings were to be used for updating training and to become more familiar with the new ambulance and its equipment. Since the inception of the organization, new equipment has been added to keep up with changing times. Also, at this first meeting it was decided that two volunteers were to be on call for a week at a time, Thursday noon until the next Thursday noon.

When this corps was first established, a request for an ambulance was made by phone to the hospital and the hospital had to call the volunteers by phone to inform them of their call. Time was wasted in this method. In March of 1972 a new radio system was added and the hospital was able to page the volunteers on the pagers they carried with them. This was a much faster method; also, the men were free to travel within a 5 mile radius.

In 1973, the state required a training class of 48 hours and by 1976 this requirement was increased to 81 hours. All members now belong to the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians. Periodic refresher courses are also required.

In the summer of 1976 it was decided that an effort would be made to raise enough money for the purchase of a new ambulance and the old one would be kept for a backup unit. The goal was $24,000.00 and with the great support of the community approximately $36,000.00 was raised. The cost of the new ambulance was $27,584.05 and since then new equipment has been added and the unit is now valued at $40,000.00.

The ambulance service handles approximately 200 calls per year making it a vital part of the Warren community.

The Volunteer Corps membership has ranged from 17-27 members.

Presidents:
Charles Dubore—1971-1974
Rodney Soderstrom—1974-1976
Warren Hickman—1976-1978
Phil Thompson—1978-1980
Ed Turn—1980-

Vice-Presidents:
Charles Steffan—1971-1974
Warren Hickman—1974-1976
Phil Thompson—1977-1978
Dennis Vesey—1978-1980
LeRoy Vonasek—1980-

Sec.-Treasurer:
Dennis Awes—1971-1972
Glenn Johnson—1972-1974
Richard D. Anderson—1974-1978
Ed Turn—1978-1980
Pete Hanson—1980-

Charter Members:
Clair Anderson, Dwight Anderson, Dennis Awes, Charles Dubore, Dave Hagen, Glenn Johnson, Al Kasprowicz, Francis Nicholls, Leonard Novak, Jerry Quanrud, Charles Steffan, Ray Swanson, Roy G. Swanson, Darold Sundby, Dennis Vansickle, Dennis Vesey, LeRoy Vonasek.
In the early days, only an occasional doctor would stop off in Warren for a day or so and it was not until Dr. Beach came to Warren in 1881 and set up a practice that Warren residents had any medical aid. Unfortunately, Dr. Beach had never passed the State of Minnesota’s examinations and thus was forced to move on again. So Warren’s first qualified doctor was Dr. George S. Wattam who arrived in Warren on August 21, 1884. The first birth he officiated at was that of Synneva Grindeland, now Mrs. W. A. Knapp, In 1886, a Dr. Joseph R. Finney, a graduate from the University of New York Medical Department, settled briefly in Warren and then moved on. Dr. J. McGillan, a graduate of the Bennett College of Eclectic Medicine and Surgery of Chicago, came to Warren around 1888 at the urging of his college friend, Dr. J. S. Chapin, who was practicing in Euclid. At Dr. McGillian’s death on June 23, 1898, a Dr. Low took over the practice and was followed by Dr. Theodore Bratrud who purchased the business. Dr. Bratrud, the first fall, became very discouraged because of a lack of paying practice. He went into the country intending to join a threshing crew and there met a farmer with a very ill daughter. The farmer persuaded him to return to Warren with them in the old lumber wagon and from this start, his practice grew and he started on the road to fame in surgery.

A quarter of a century later he was named head of the surgical division of the Minnesota State Medical Association, a much coveted position of honor. Patients came from Roseau, Badger, Hallock and way out into North Dakota. The Soo Railroad brought patients daily to the Warren Hospital which was built by popular subscription in 1906 and though Dr. Bratrud went to Europe for postgraduate work, he remained the family physician of the community. Dr. Mellby joined Dr. Bratrud on his return and remained with him until 1906. Dr. W. S. Anderson joined him in 1906. In 1916, Dr. Halward M. Blegen came to Warren where he remained until his death and became a greatly beloved figure to the whole community. Dr. Borreson joined the staff at the hospital prior to World War I and after returning from service abroad moved to Thief River Falls. Dr. Meland, now head of the largest cancer research center on the West Coast, came in the 1920’s and remained until 1925. Dr. Milan joined Dr. Theodore Bratrud and his brothers, Dr. Ed Bratrud and Dr. Arthur Bratrud in the late 1920’s and moved with them to Thief River Falls. Dr. O. J. Engstrand came in 1927 and practiced here until 1932. Dr. C. H. Holmstrom, came in 1931. Dr. Martin Bechtel practiced here from 1944 to 1949.

During the war years, Dr. John Barker served here a year from 1940 to 1941. Dr. Oscar Heyerman came in 1941 and stayed until 1944. Dr. A. B. Nietfeld arrived in 1946 and left in 1952, and Dr. E. E. Pumala came in 1948 and with the exception of a few years in Fargo, North Dakota and Crookston, Minnesota, has been of service to the community up to the present time. Dr. Arvid Carlson arrived in 1933 and left Warren in the 1960’s after more than thirty years of service to the community to begin a practice with the Veteran’s Administration Center in Fargo, North Dakota. Dr. C. H. Holmstrom retired in 1972 due to poor health after forty-one years of service and died in 1976. Dr. W. A. Pinsonneault began his practice here in 1972, purchased the Warren Clinic in 1974 and continues in practice here. Dr. Grasse and Dr. Stanley Mullen practiced in Warren during the late 1950’s. Dr. Charles Vandersluis practiced in Warren from 1958 to
Dr. Daniel Green came from Thief River Falls in 1961 and was a most popular and well-loved doctor until his untimely death in 1965. Dr. David Mersy practiced in Warren from 1969 to 1970. Dr. Max M. S. Jocsan practiced in Warren from 1976 to 1978.

In 1955, the Board of Charities of the Red River Valley Synod of the Lutheran Church in America first started thinking about an addition to the old building after the State Fire Marshall had informed the Board that the building was built of non-fire resistive material and that an automatic sprinkler system must be installed. This was done at a cost of $12,000 but the Board had no assurance that the old building, being of brick veneer, would stand the stringent requirements of the Minnesota State Board of Health and the Fire Marshall. The new classification of the State Fire Marshall jumped Warren from the 55th to the first in the state eligible to receive federal funds for a new building. A proposal was made to the Warren Chamber of Commerce that the Board of Charities would construct a $600,000 hospital if the community would contribute $100,000 toward the construction cost and the Board of Charities furnishing the rest, the lowest bid was accepted and groundbreaking took place on May 2, 1957 and dedication of the completed structure was on May 2, 1958.

The old hospital continued to be utilized as a clinic and for limited facilities for nursing home care. In 1960 under the leadership of Dr. Holmstrom and Dr. Pumala, the medical staff completed a new clinic facility at the intersection of Park and Main Street and moved their offices there.

In 1959, a new lease on life was handed to the old building when the Board of Charities made a decision to remodel the building into a home suitable for providing nursing care for senior citizens. The cost of refurbishing was approximately $25,000. The cost of remodeling was upward of $120,000.

In 1969 plans were formulated for adding to the hospital to provide room for a garage, mechanical equipment, conference area and other improvements.

In 1975 the Emmaus Lutheran Home was closed because of stringent state and federal standards, regulations and guidelines made operating the home a financial impossibility. The building and property was sold to a private party in 1977.

In 1980 the City of Warren in voting on the question, "Shall the City of Warren be authorized to issue its negotiable coupon general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed $250,000 to finance the acquisition and betterment (including working capital) of the Warren Hospital?" approved the purchase of the hospital by a vote of 632 for and 74 against on April 29, 1980.

Some of those who have guided the hospital in administration have been: Miss Chesta Olson; Mrs. C. A. Johnson; Miss C. Anderson; Mrs. Almida Green; Miss Hulda Hultquist; Miss Amy Gunderson; Miss Rose Strom; Mrs. Forest Wadsworth; Miss Agnes Bergh; Mrs. Paul Anderson; Miss Elvy Anderson; Mrs. Durette Truedson; Mrs. Sylvia Carlson Chadwick; Miss Lillian Eidsness; Miss Majorie Low; Mrs. Arabella Olson; Gordon Sommers.

The hospital was built for a total capacity of 44 beds. Since then the number has been reduced to 41 beds to meet new licensing requirements.

1980 room rates are $97 for a semi-private room, $102 for a private room. Average daily revenue for the first four months of 1980 is $175.
Nordgren Hospital

Miss Albertina Nordgren, at the suggestion of Dr. Theodore Bratrud, started the first hospital in Warren shortly after Dr. Bratrud arrived in 1900. This hospital was located in the same building, now altered and reduced in size, that was the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Morkassel at 118 Johnson Avenue. Ten patients could be accommodated and Albertina Nordgren did the cooking and cleaning while Miss Chesta Olson was the regular nurse who helped take care of the patients. This hospital continued in use until the Warren Hospital began operation in 1907. Miss Albertina Nordgren passed away on April 13, 1950.

Pest House

In the early days of Warren, the only effective way of attempting to stop the spread of contagious diseases was the employment of a means of isolation for the unfortunate patients in what became the well-known “Pest House” that had its counterpart in every community in this country. In Warren, it consisted of an old granary moved in from the farm of the second Mrs. Nordgren and fixed up into two rooms. This was located back of the Nordgren Hospital and meals for the patients were carried to them by the late Miss Albertina Nordgren who operated that hospital. This place of isolation was used until Dr. Theodore Bratrud and Anderson moved to Grand Forks, when she resigned to marry Dr. W. Anderson. Her former classmate at school, Mrs. Almida Green, took over as Superintendent and remained with the hospital until 1920.

The Warren Hospital

by Mrs. C. A. Johnson

With the rapid settlement of the Red River Valley, the need of hospitalization for the sick and needy drew the attention of the citizens of Warren and after several years of agitation, the first organizational meeting to form a hospital association was held on Feb. 23, 1905, in the law offices of the late Julius J. Olson. A few days later, on Feb. 27, a mass meeting was held and articles of incorporation were adopted and the following trustees were elected: Dr. Theodore Bratrud, Dr. G. S. Wattam, Andrew Grindeland, August Lundgren, P. H. Holm, Lewis Westman, W. F. Powell, H. J. Beardmore and A. S. Rokke. The first officers were Dr. Bratrud, President; Rev. J. A. Mattson, Vice-President; Dr. O. F. Melby, Secretary; and O. H. Taralseth, Treasurer.

A popular subscription drive was conducted to raise funds for the erection of a hospital building and K. J. Taralseth, August Lundgren, Dr. Bratrud and P. Frost Spaulding were among those donating large amounts. The general contract was let to Hognlund Brothers of Hasty for $14,875. The plumbing and heating contract was let to Swenson & Johnson of Warren for $3,950 for a total cost of $18,825. A. J. Blix of St. Cloud was the architect.

The hospital was finished on February 22, 1906, and patients were admitted the same month. During the first year 288 patients were taken care of compared to the 1850 each year at the present time. Dr. Wattam and Dr. Bratrud were to two doctors in Warren at that time and in March they were joined by Dr. W. Anderson who sold out his practice in Kennedy. Miss Chesta Olson, a graduate nurse from Ancher Hospital in Saint Paul, and Mrs. C. A. Johnson, a graduate of the Swedish Hospital in Minneapolis, volunteered to work for nothing for a couple of weeks to help get the hospital in order and Mrs. Rudluf, a practical nurse, was hired to help out. A graduate nurse by the name of Miss Johnson from St. Paul was to come and take over the first of March as Superintendent but she remained only twenty-four hours and went back to St. Paul. Then Mrs. C. A. Johnson was asked to take over as Superintendent and Miss Olson and Mrs. Rudluf to help out. It was decided to open a training school for nurses in the fall of 1906. Miss Anna Erlandson and Miss Svaren from Kennedy wanted to enter the training school, also Miss Hilma Walberg of Alvarado. They were admitted and were the first class of nurses. Mrs. Johnson remained as Superintendent until in July when she had to resign on account of her health. Miss Chesta Olson then took over until the new Superintendent arrived about September 1, a Miss C. Anderson, a graduate of Augustana Hospital in Chicago. She remained until the late summer of 1907 when she resigned to marry Dr. W. Anderson. Her former classmate at school, Mrs. Almida Green, took over as Superintendent and remained with the hospital until 1920 when Dr. Bratrud and Anderson moved to Grand Forks, North Dakota, to form a clinic. The hospital was turned over to the Red River Valley Lutheran Conference of the Augustana Lutheran Church, along with some $1,000 in debts. That group accepted the change on May 22, 1921. Board of Trustees of the Warren Hospital at its demise were Judge A. Grindeland, O. H. Taralseth, H. J. Beardmore, August Lundgren, Julius J. Olson, L. M. Olson, August A. Johnson, and C. E. Lundquist. Officers were Mr. Lundgren, President; L. M. Olson, Secretary; and August Johnson, Treasurer.

The hospital staff of physicians in 1921 included Dr. Theodore Bratrud, Dr. Ed Bratrud, Dr. O. N. Meland and Dr. H. M. Blegen. Miss Hulda Hultquist was Superintendent of Nurses and much credit should be given to her as she got the hospital accredited by the State and she cleared up most of the debts that were against the hospital. Later changes found Miss Hultquist succeeded by Miss Amy Gunderson who in turn was succeeded by Miss Rose Strom. On May 1, 1927, Mrs. Forrest Wadsworth, who had been surgical anaesthetist, took over. Several nurses have since that time headed the organization but they are not on records that are available.

In 1911 a third story was finished making room for additional beds and in 1919-1920 a large addition was built providing twelve additional rooms.

When the hospital opened in 1906, the charges for ward patients was $1.50 per day, private rooms were from $15 to $20 a week and the operating room charge was $5.00.
HISTORY OF DENTISTRY IN WARREN

By Dr. and Mrs. C. A. Gunnarson

Early dentistry in Warren is first recorded in the newspaper files of 1895 by the following interesting announcement: “Dr. D. F. Rose, Dentist (from Crookston) will be in Warren from the 13th to the 20th of each month. All manner of dental operations performed in a modern and scientific manner. Fine gold crowns and bridgework a specialty. Office in the Windsor Hotel. Please call early.”

The dentists of that period evidently took the adage “Arise, for the early morning has gold in its mouth,” for we note that in 1896 Dr. J. H. Thomas, who also came from Crookston, was also requesting his patients to “Please call early.” He had arranged office space with an M.D., Dr. McGillan. Dr. Thomas later had his office with Warren’s old-time physician, Dr. G. S. Wattam, who also cared for the dental emergencies of his patients by doing extractions.

By 1899, Dr. G. A. Penny was coming down from Stephen and calling attention to his office by announcing in the papers: “Examinations free of charge.” Dr. Penny was married to Miss Jennie Lakin of Warren, and later moved to Warren, where he practiced a number of years after which he moved to Thief River Falls. For several years after 1904, the newspapers carried the professional card of Dr. H. A. Tyler whose office was in the State Bank block.

The last of the old-time dentists, and perhaps the most colorful, was Dr. F. C. Bakke, who after graduating from the Minnesota School of Dentistry, conducted a brief practice in Stephen, and then moved to Warren in 1910. His professional card in the Warren Sheaf announced him as “Scandinavisk Tandlaege,” with office in the State Bank Building. Dr. Bakke built a new home for his family at 617 North Fourth Street (now occupied by the Ken Nelson family) where he enjoyed his hobby of music and flower raising. He was also an avid outdoor sportsman. He maintained a high standard in his profession until his death in 1953.

A contemporary of Dr. Bakke in the dental field was Dr. Edward J. Bren, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bren of Tabor, Minnesota. He attended high school in Warren, and later graduated from the Marquette University School of Dentistry at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He opened up his dental practice in Warren in 1911, in the Peoples State Bank Building, which he maintained until 1926, when he sold his practice to Dr. C. A. Gunnarson. He then moved to Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, where he conducted his practice until his death in 1949. Dr. Bren was an energetic practitioner and an enthusiast over his hobbies of cars and flying.

A later entrant in the field of dentistry for this area, and yet dating back to fairly early, Dr. C. A. Gunnarson, a product of Hallock, Minnesota, and a graduate of the high school of that city. He graduated from the Northwestern University Dental School of Chicago, Illinois, in 1917, and came to Warren in the fall of 1917, associating himself with Dr. F. C. Bakke. He served overseas in World War I with the American Expeditionary Forces in France for a year with the Dental Corps. On his return to Warren in 1919, he resumed dental practice with Dr. Bakke. In 1926, he purchased the dental practice of Dr. E. J. Bren in the People State Bank building where he was located until his retirement in the 60’s. His years were active in professional participation and with the American Legion, Boy Scouts and extensive community work. Dr. Gunnarson died in September of 1973.

Dr. B. F. Bro, a graduate of the Ada, Minnesota, high school and the Minnesota University School of Dentistry, opened his practice in the Boardson building in August of 1937. He practiced until September of 1942, when he entered the military service in World War II, joining the Army Air Force as a member of the Dental Corps. He served in that capacity until discharged in March of 1946, when he returned to Warren and resumed his practice in the Boardson building at the corner of Minnesota and Johnson Avenue until he moved to Rochester, Minnesota in 1968.

Dr. W. W. Wrolson, who graduated from high school in Glenwood, Minnesota, but whose parental home is now at Appam, North Dakota. From 1941 to 1945 he served an enlistment period in the U. S. Army Armored Tank Corps, World War II. Upon his discharge, he entered the Minnesota University Dental School. On graduation, in 1950, he located at Starbuck, Minnesota. He was called for dental duty by the Army Corps in the spring of 1951, and was discharged in the fall of 1952, when he relocated at Starbuck, Minnesota. In July of 1953 he came to Warren, his office being located in the Taralseth building. He has since built a dental clinic at 421 East Fletcher where he now practices.

Early in 1975, Dr. William R. Beasley, whose main dental practice was located in Karlstad, Minnesota, opened a satellite office in Warren. Sister Anita Whalen, D.D.S., recently returned from her residency with the U. S. Public Health Service, associated in practice briefly with Dr. Beasley in Warren. In July of 1976, the Sisters of St. Benedict of Crookston, Minnesota, took over this practice as an extension of their health-care ministry. Dr. Whalen, a member of the Sisters of St. Benedict, has been the dentist and manager of this practice since that time in the former Boardson building on the ground floor. Sister Anita was born in Ada, Minnesota, and lived a number of years in Argyle, Minnesota. She graduated from the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry in 1974 and she resides with the Sisters at Mount St. Benedict in Crookston.

Central Park and Great Northern Depot.
HISTORY OF THE WARREN SCHOOL SYSTEM

On February 2, 1880, a meeting was called to bond School District Two for the erection of a school building. The sum of $1,000.00 was spent in the construction of the 24'x32'x12' high frame building. The first school board included J. B. Titus, director; A. P. McIntyre, treasurer; and George H. McCrea, clerk. The first school term began May 2, 1880, with twenty-two students enrolled and Miss Ella M. Davis as the teacher. The second term, a winter session, was taught by J. M. Brown who later became county superintendent of schools and even later a Methodist minister serving in Warren for a time. The third term was taught by Miss A. Marie Brown and in the fall of 1881, Miss Nellie E. Stone was secured to teach the fall and winter terms. In the spring of 1882 a separate building was rented for the lower grades with Maggie J. Humphrey as the teacher. Miss Clara P. Wood, daughter of L. G. Wood, Warren pioneer and later a state senator, taught the upper grades in 1882-1883 and for several more years.

Since crowded conditions demanded more space, a meeting held July 12, 1883, was the beginning of plans for a four-room brick school building. The wooden building was sold to the Swedish Lutheran congregation and the new brick schoolhouse was first occupied in January, 1884. M. E. Todd became the principal and Miss Wood continued as the teacher. In 1885 a third teacher, Miss Eva Powell, was added to the staff. Incidentally, Mr. Todd and Miss Wood were married at the W. W. Wood residence on November 12, 1888. Miss Lizzie Naylor was added to the teaching force as a primary instructor. The next two superintendents were Dr. J. R. Finney and M. C. Whitney. In 1890, Prof. W. B. Walters was named superintendent of the system and about that time it became apparent that the four-room building was inadequate. Agitation for a new school began; however, the issue met with stiff opposition from the taxpayers.

Warren’s first high school graduation was held in 1894 and that class was the only one to be graduated from the old four-room building. O. H. Taralseth and Anna Swandby Grinder were the graduates. There were no graduates in 1895 and 1896.

In June, 1894 a proposition to issue $5,000.00 in bonds for a new school house was defeated 95-19, but public sentiment changed and at a school meeting held April 29, 1895, a $7,000.00 bond issue was carried 82-17. The contract for the building was let in July, 1895. According to the plans, the walls for an eight room brick building were to be constructed and windows put in, but only four rooms were to be finished, the remaining rooms to be finished as needed. The contract price was $8,884.00, the contractor being allowed to use the brick and other material from the old building in the construction of the new. In August of the same year, the district voted $2,500.00 additional bonds to complete the building and to provide a steam heating plant. Andrew Grindeland was president of the board and J. P. Mattson was clerk during the erection of this building.

A large addition was erected in 1916 when $60,000.00 was spent for a gymnasium, considered one of the finest in the northwest, and other rooms necessary for the high school. It was dedicated December 9, 1916, when President Weld of the Minnesota State Teachers College gave the dedication address.

Prof. H. E. White of Clear Lake was elected superintendent in 1895 with the following people succeeding him: William Angus, 1896-1906; G. E. Keenan, 1906-1910; E. M. Mitchell, 1910-1918; G. Holmquist, 1918-1933; Elmer M. Wetzin, 1933-1943; D. S. Eikenes, 1943-1956; Dr. G. I. Sholy, 1956-1965; Melvin R. Hanson, 1965-.

At a meeting of the state high school board in St. Paul in August, 1895, the Warren School was admitted as a state high school and entitled to receive $400.00 state aid. (In the '50's federal aid to Warren Schools exceeded $92,555.00) A four year high school course was instituted in 1895 with the manual training department added in 1907, the normal training department in 1909, home economics in 1911, agriculture in 1912, and the commercial training department in 1922. The normal training department was dropped from the curriculum in 1948 because of insufficient enrollment.

In 1899 with Prof. Wm. Angus as superintendent, the teaching staff included Miss Susie Easton, Miss Edna Fawcett, Freda Samuelson, Kittie Haven, Fannie Rutherford, Netta Solum, and Edna Tennison.

On July 19, 1904, the school district voters balloted 82 to 1 in favor of a $10,000.00 bond issue to erect the Washington Elementary Building on the west side of the city. This building was also only partially finished with the remaining rooms to be completed as the enrollment increased. They were completed in 1908 and 1909 at a cost of $3,511.00.

Teachers in 1916 included E. M. Mitchell, supt.; Alice Ringheim, principal; Nora Bakke, fifth grade; Agnes Bakke, third and fourth grades; and Elizabeth Cummings, music.

Enrollment during the past 100 years had increased from the beginning 22 pupils to the present system of 743 students. In 1899 enrollment was already up to 300 with it reaching 330 by 1900, proving the pressing need for the new grade school. By 1915 enrollment had grown to 441 students with 18 teachers in the system. Ten years later enrollment had increased to 534 students with 22 teachers.

The 1934-35 term brought a decrease in enrollment (489 students, 20 teachers) and in 1944-45 the enrollment was down to 428 with a teaching staff of 22.

After consolidation and the war, a large increase was shown in enrollment necessitating a new high school building. A total of 712 students were then enrolled with a teaching staff of 34.

Planning for an ultra-modern school started in 1943 with 10 years elapsing until the culmination of the project. At that time the board resolved to pay off some $35,000.00 still due on the building constructed in 1916. This was done by 1946. From then on a sinking fund was started for building purposes. In 1944 the school board, both as board members and individuals, began looking at other school buildings and ascertained the needs of the district. Many trips were made in 1945, 1946, and 1947 to select the type of building and the architect.

As the number of children in the Warren school district increased, so did the desire to consolidate rural districts nearby for economy of operation as well as to provide the young people a more well-rounded education. Therefore, an effort was made to reorganize the surround-
The first School House of Warren. The picture was taken in 1903 when it was located on Johnson Avenue and was being used as a warehouse.

The second public schoolhouse of Warren built in 1884 and replaced in 1895

Warren’s Third School

Washington School Building

The east approach of the old high school building. This addition was built in 1916

A band concert in the old gymnasium.
ing districts and Warren into one district as the number of students enrolled in the city school would be a determining factor in the final decision about how large the new school should be. This attempt to reorganize was defeated 114-100 in the rural areas and 113 (for) to 8 (against) in the city.

Deciding that if the rural voters had more information, a favorable vote could be gotten, school officials worked diligently the following year telling their story to voters of the proposed reorganized district. This effort paid off when in August, 1950, the rural areas voted 143 for and 129 against reorganization while the city voted 135 for to 6 against. Following a special election for new board members of the enlarged district, a $525,000.00 bond election on December 12, 1950, was successful when the issue passed 674 to 151.

Construction work on the spacious $700,000.00 structure began in the early fall of 1952 and was completed in time for the opening of school on September 7, 1954.

At that time eleven buses transported over 300 rural children to the Warren schools. In all some 730 students were receiving instruction in the Warren schools plus the veterans' training and adult classes.

Today ten regular bus drivers with access to thirteen buses transport 341 children from the rural areas to the Warren schools. These students are bused from 16 miles east, 5 miles west, 7 miles north and 12 miles south (as the crow flies!) The buses also provide transportation to all out-of-town school functions that involve the students and a morning bus service for in-town students from January to mid-March.

In 1957, after D. S. Eikenes had moved to East Grand Forks as superintendent of schools and Dr. G. I. Sholy was Warren's superintendent, a $210,000.00 addition was added to the high school building. It provided four classrooms and complete shop facilities.

Melvin R. Hanson became the new superintendent in 1965 when Dr. Sholy moved to Wahpeton, N.D. In this same year a $150,000.00 addition was joined to the present high school structure. This provided four classrooms, a new library, and washroom facilities. The new library was greatly appreciated because the former library had shared the same space as the lunchroom. The total enrollment at this time for grades 1-12 was about 1,000 students.

By 1968 it became apparent the elementary school facilities were no longer adequate and the school board submitted to the voters in a special bond election a request for $990,000.00 to construct, equip and furnish a new elementary school building. The proposal passed and the open classroom building, which cost $17.52 per square foot, was dedicated on April 26, 1970. The school, built to the east of the high school, at that time had 22 teachers, one assistant librarian, one school nurse, two custodians, two cooks, one secretary, an elementary principal and the superintendent in the system.

Since 1970 the most visible change in the elementary school has been the enrollment change. At one time the highest number enrolled was 550. At the present time enrollment has decreased to 344 and because of this decline, as well as the impact of inflation, the number of people employed in the elementary school has leveled off to 22 teachers and Title I teachers, eight aides, two cooks, and two helpers, two custodians, one librarian, one secretary, the elementary principal and the superintendent.

In 1974 the Warren High School district voted in favor of a proposition to issue negotiable coupon bonds in the amount of $1,695,000.00 for the purpose of providing money for the construction, furnishing and equipping of a new vocational center; for remodeling the existing industrial arts facilities and art room; and the construction and equipping of a new physical education facility. (The total building program came to $1,845,000.00 but the district had about $150,000.00 in the building fund.) At the November 14, 1976, dedication, Independent School District No. 446 officially became Warren High School and Tri-River Cooperative Center. Students from our high school, as well as students from Argyle and Alvarado, were then given the opportunity to choose a traditional and/or vocational education.

Updated services and enlarged areas of traditional education included an expanded typing room and model office complex; an expanded industrial arts department; a relocated and enlarged library; a remodeled multi-purpose room; a new gymnasium, which seats 1200 people, and added space for lockers, storage and practice sessions.

Facilities of the Tri-River Cooperative Center provide vocational education in the areas of auto mechanics, welding, building trades, model office, metals, health occupations and home economics.

Another facet of the Tri-River Cooperative that has proven to be a service and a bonus to the area is its adult education program. At this time a total of 424 people have taken advantage of the following evening classes: office procedure, basic bookkeeping, CPR, nurse assistant, multi-media first aid, small engines, mechanics, diesel mechanics, hydraulics, welding, carpentry, elementary.
wiring, electronics, energy education, restaurant chef cooking classes, microwave cooking, interior decorating, cake decorating, quilting, macrame, artistic lettering and typing.

At one time the high school had as many as 500 students enrolled and approximately 110 people were on the Warren Public School payroll. During the late 70’s a foundation aid allotted to Warren was $468,000.00 for a nine month period.

Declining enrollment and the bite of inflation has also affected the high school. At the present time 399 students are enrolled in the high school of which 159 are participating in the vocational center (this last number includes students from Alvarado (16) and Argyle (34). Thirty-one teachers are presently employed in the high school, as well as four secretaries, four custodians, two cooks, two cook’s helpers, ten bus drivers, one guidance counselor, one vocational director, one principal and one superintendent.

Warren's first high school graduates — Anne Swandyke Grinder and Henry Taralseth, 1894.
Edwin Charles Johnson

Edwin Charles Johnson, educator and agricultural economist, was born in Warren, Minnesota, July 30, 1897, son of Henning and Sophia Rebecca (Engstrom) Johnson. His father came to this country from Sweden in 1889 and settled in Warren, where he was a railroadman and farmer. Edwin C. Johnson received his preliminary education at public schools in his native community and was graduated B.S. in 1920 and Ph.D. in 1929 at the University of Minnesota.

Meanwhile, he began his career in 1920 as county agricultural agent for Becker County, Minnesota, continuing until 1922. In that post he led in establishing the Land of Lakes Cooperative, an agricultural cooperative which later achieved national importance.

In 1923 he became an instructor in agricultural economics at the University of Minnesota continuing in that capacity until 1925 when he joined the faculty of the University of Kentucky.

From 1929 to 1933 he was associate professor of agricultural economics at the University of Minnesota and during the following two years served as vice-president of the Production Credit Corp. of the Farm Credit Administration in St. Paul, Minn., after which he returned to the University of Minnesota for a year in his former post.

From 1937 to 1944, he was chief economist with the Farm Credit Administration with headquarters in Washington, D.C., and during the following year he was an economist in the office of the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.

In 1945-46 he served as director of agricultural finance research for the National Bureau of Economic Research in New York City, after which he was assistant deputy director of the Land Bank Service and executive vice president of the Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation, U.S. Farm Credit Administration, Washington, D.C., until retiring in 1958. During the latter half of his career he was detailed to numerous assignments as a consultant in both this country and abroad.

In 1913, as a member of a financial mission, he assisted the government of Paraguay in developing an agricultural credit system, and in 1952 he served in Formosa, the Philippines, Indochina, and Thailand as agricultural credit consultant to missions of the U.S. Mutual Security Agency.

In 1953 he, was special assistant to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture for administration of the Rural Electrification Administration, and later that year he returned to Paraguay as U.S. Foreign Operations Administration representative at the Conference on Supervised Agricultural Credit in Latin America.

In 1955 he was in Korea as chairman of an International Cooperation Administration mission to help that
country plan an agricultural credit system.

In 1956 he visited countries in Southeast Asia to assist in planning the Far East Agricultural Credit Workshop held in the Philippines in June of that year. He served as leader of this workshop and two others held in Africa and Japan in 1959. He also worked in Africa and Afghanistan in 1959 and in Pakistan, Teheran, Karachi, Ceylon and southern Asia in 1960.

In 1962, he reestablished the community bank, St. Anthony Park Bank, St. Paul, Minn. In 1967 he established a grant for student loan assistance at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minn. As a grade school student, he constructed a small telescope from mirrors and other materials, and later observed from a specially constructed observation tower at his home. He developed an extensive collection of contemporary and rare astronomy books and he bequeathed his library as well as two of his telescopes to the University of Arkansas.

He was married in St. Paul, Minn., on June 14, 1921, to Henrietta Rosalie, daughter of Henry Hoffman of that city, a merchant, and had two daughters: Elizabeth (Mrs. Louis F. Leonard) and Lois (Mrs. John I. Imhoff). Edwin C. Johnson died in Alexandria, Virginia, on April 18, 1969, and is buried in the National Memorial Park, Falls Church, Virginia, and is survived by seven grandchildren and one great grandchild.

* * *

Agronomy

Alvin A. Johnson

Alvin A. Johnson was born in Warren, Minnesota, on July 7, 1910, to Mr. and Mrs. Carl A. Johnson. He graduated from Warren High School in 1929, from the North Dakota Agricultural College in 1936 with a B.S. degree, and from Michigan State University with an M.S. degree in 1938. He was engaged in Extension work in Michigan until 1946 when he went to Cornell University. In 1948 he was loaned by Cornell to the State Department to study and lay plans for a better agricultural system in Greece. In 1953 and 1954 he lectured and taught at the University of Salonika in Greece on a Fulbright Scholarship. From 1961 to 1967 he served as department chairman and director of the statewide extension service at Cornell.

In 1965 he was awarded the Doctor of Agriculture degree by North Dakota State University. He headed the agricultural program for the Ford Foundation in India from 1967 to 1975. Since then he has worked as a consultant for development banks and organizations in international agriculture in ten Asian and African countries.

He is a recognized world authority on the organization and management of agricultural research and development. At the time of this Centennial observance, he is in Nigeria, Africa, on an Agricultural Research Development assignment. He lives at 563 Leisure World, Mesa, Arizona.

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Law

Judge Oscar R. Knutson

Oscar Knutson was born in Superior, Wisconsin, and attended elementary and two years of high school there before moving with his family to a farm near Warren in 1916. He then attended and graduated from the Northwest School of Agricultural in 1919 and the following year attended and finished Warren High School in 1920. He matriculated at St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota, in 1920 and attended there for one year, being forced to drop out the following year because of lack of finances. In 1923, he entered the Law School at the University of Minnesota, graduating in 1927.

Upon completion of law school, Oscar Knutson returned to Warren and entered into the practice of law with the late Julius J. Olson. Mr. Knutson remained with him until Mr. Olson was appointed to the District bench in 1930. Mr. Knutson continued the practice alone at Warren until January 2, 1941, when he was appointed to the District Court of the 14th Judicial District to fill the vacancy. Judge Knutson continued in that capacity until May, 1948 at which time he was appointed to succeed Julius Olson on the Minnesota Supreme Court. In 1962 he was appointed Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court where he served as such until his retirement in 1973.

Judge Knutson served three times as mayor of Warren and served in other civic capacities prior to his promotion to the judicial bench. He has been honored with a Doctor of Laws by the William Mitchell College of Law in 1966, a Professional Achievement Award in 1965 by the Sons of Norway, the Arthur V. Briesen Award in New York City for service by the National Legal Aid and Defender Association, the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the University of Minnesota Law School, the Distinguished Alumnus Award from St. Olaf College, an Outstanding Achievement Award from the University of Minnesota in 1963, a Distinguished Service Award by the Conference of Chief Justices of the U.S.A., in 1969-1970, the 1973 Top Aggie Award from the Northwest School of Agriculture, etc.
Frank E. Stinchfield

Born in Warren on August 12, 1910, to Charles and Mary (Frank) Stinchfield. Graduated from Warren High School in 1928, from Carleton College, University of North Dakota, and from Northwestern University Medical School in 1934. From 1942 to 1946 he served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps, first as a Lieutenant and then through promotions to Colonel in 1945. During World War II, he was Commanding Officer of the 307th Station Hospital, the 826th Convalescent Hospital, Orthopaedic Consultant for the European Theatre of Operations, and Chief of Orthopaedics in Halloran General Hospital on Staten Island, New York.

For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service as commanding officer of that station hospital, under adverse conditions, he had developed a 50-bed capacity to a 4,000-bed capacity and in the short time he operated the hospital it had rehabilitated and returned to duty approximately 85% of its patients, he was awarded the Legion of Merit.

Post war activities included being the Orthopaedic consultant for the Surgeon General’s Office, the National Research Council and for a tour of U.S. Army Hospitals in Europe in 1953. Among his interesting assignments was one trip made to Saudi Arabia in 1952 at the request of President Truman and aboard the Presidential plane to treat the ailing king, Ibn Saud, who was then in his seventies and listed as one of the wealthiest and most influential men in the world. Since that time he has been awarded an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Australasia College of Surgeons, an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine (the oldest scientific medical society in England) and just recently he was honored by an endowed chair in his name, in perpetuity, as the Frank E. Stinchfield Chair of Orthopaedic Surgery and to be occupied only by the chairman of the department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York City—this gift came from the Lila A. Wallace Foundation who is better known as the editor and owner of the “Reader’s Digest.” He was married in 1939 to Margaret Taylor, who once taught seventh grade in Warren’s public school system, and they have two children: Lee Taylor who is in the Biology Dept. of the University of Virginia and Anne who is attending college in Westchester, N.Y., and majoring in art. Dr. and Mrs. Stinchfield make their home in a historic home at 4997 Henry Hudson Parkway, Bronx, N.Y., 10471, and Dr. Stinchfield is now Professor Emeritus at Columbia University in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery.

Raymond Peterson

Raymond Peterson was born in Warren, Minnesota, on November 10, 1903, the son of P. August and Carrie (Dahlin) Peterson. He was educated in the Warren public schools and graduated from the Warren High School in 1922. He entered the field of medicine specializing in pathology and graduated as a Doctor of Medicine with a Master of Science degree in Pathology and began the practice of Pathology at the Murray Clinic and the Butte Community Hospital in Butte, Montana; the Deaconess Hospital of Bozeman, Montana; Saint Anne’s Hospital at Anaconda, Montana; Marcus Daly Hospital of Hamilton, Montana; and others in Montana and Idaho for thirty years. He was a consultant for the Veterans Hospital of Fort Harrison, Montana; appointed by the U.S. Surgeon General to the Indian Health Committee in 1955 and held that position until 1962; was president of the Montana State Medical Society in 1960; and after that year he moved to Fullerton, California, where he continued his medical profession. He is now semi-retired after fifty years of service in the medical profession and lives in Fullerton, California, with his wife, Sarah Isabel “Sally” (MacDonald) whom he married on March 26, 1932.
Ha ro ld G. Scheie

The son of Lars T. and Ella Mae Scheie, Dr. Scheie was born in Brookings County, South Dakota, on March 24, 1909. He graduated from the Warren High School in 1926, from the University of Minnesota in 1931 with a B.S. degree, from the University of Pennsylvania in 1940 with a DSC. He was an officer in the Medical Reserve Corps from 1936 to 1942, served as a Colonel in the Medical Corps of the Army of the U.S. from 1942 to 1946, and after the war was again a member of Medical Corps of the U.S. Army Reserve and is so at this time holding the rank of Brig. General. Among his wartime experiences in surgery, his operation on Lord Louis Montbatten in India was one that brought his achievements home via the world press. He has been Professor of Ophthalmology at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, Associate Professor of Ophthalmology at the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Medicine, Ophthalmologist for the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and Consultant in Ophthalmology to the Valley forge General Hospital of Phoenixville, Pa.; to the Skin and Cancer Hospital of Philadelphia; to the Camden Municipal Hospital of Camden, New Jersey; to the Ocular Research Unit of Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington, D.C.; to the Veterans Administration in Washington, D.C.; and to the Veterans Administration Hospital in Philadelphia, and is Chairman and Professor of the Department of Ophthalmology and Director of the Scheie Eye Institute at the Institute of University of Pennsylvania. He is the recipient of the Legion of Merit, the U.S. Army's highest peacetime award and recently the Achievement Award for Excellence, the Distinguished Service Award and the Horatio Alger Award. He is married to Mary Ann Tallman and he is the father of two sons, Harold Jr. and Eric Glendon, and a daughter, Nancy Ware. His home address is 1820 Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia 3, Pennsylvania.

Esma Lucile Lundquist Blanch

Lucile Blanch was born in Hawley, Minnesota, in 1895 to Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Lundquist. She received her elementary education in Warren and graduated in 1915 from the Warren High School. She attended the Minneapolis School of Art, the Art Student's League of New York City, and in 1931 she received first prize for graphic art in San Francisco, California. Her work is sold through the Associated American Artists of New York City and the Whitney Museum of American Art owns three of her paintings and twelve of her drawings. She is at present residing in Woodstock, New York.

Military

Curtis J. Herrick

Curtis J. Herrick, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Herrick (he was the agent for the Soo Railroad Line), graduated from the Warren High School in 1926, decided on a military career in the army and rose to become a major general and Chief of Staff at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He was a graduate from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York. Major General Herrick died of cancer in 1973 and a special research center at Walter Reed Hospital, Washington, D.C., was developed in honor of him. His widow, Alice Herrick, continues to reside in Honolulu, Hawaii.

George O. N. Lodoen

George O. N. Lodoen was born in Warren, Minnesota, on April 20, 1901, to I. N. and Synnove (Raftevold) Lodoen. He graduated from Warren High School in 1919, was an honor R.O.T.C. graduate of the University of North Dakota in 1926. He entered military service at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, as a second lieutenant in September of 1926. He graduated from Infantry School in 1932, from Command and Staff School in 1940, and from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces in 1951. From 1941 to 1943, he was an instructor at the Command and General Staff School. He has served throughout the United States, Hawaii, Panama, the Philippines, the Marianas and has been assigned from time to time in the War Department in the department of Army serving on the operations and logistical staffs. He was appointed a permanent brigadier general on July 7, 1955, and was the head of the United Assistance Group in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. He became Director of Logistics (J-4) for the Joint Chiefs of Staff and subsequently Assistant Deputy Director of the Department of the Army. Retired as a Major General from active service on the 1st of May, 1961 after 35 years of active duty, he presently lives at 3005 Golf View Drive, Vero Beach, Florida 32960.
Robert Willis Wilson

The son of the late Mr. Lawrence Wilson and Mrs. Wilson, Robert was born on September 9, 1920, at Saint Hilaire, Minnesota and moved to Warren with his parents in 1929. He attended grade school and graduated from Warren High School in 1938 having won the Outstanding Student award from the American Legion. The next two years were spent attending Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. He later earned his Bachelor’s degree in Air Science at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, Oklahoma, in 1960 and his Master’s Degree in International Relations from George Washington University in 1961. He also holds a Teacher’s credential in Industrial Arts.

Bob enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1941 and completed his basic training at Wold Chamberlain Air Base in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He completed his fifty missions during World War II in 1942-43 in the South Pacific area and he had several Jap zeros to his credit upon his return home. The next tour of duty was spent in Okinawa and Peiping, China, at the war’s end. He was with the very first group of men called upon during the outbreak of the Korean War. He has received 15 combat citations, including four Distinguished Flying Crosses, 11 Air Medals and the Bronze Star.

Bob was promoted to the rank of Colonel in 1964, has commanded various squadrons and air groups and served a year in Vietnam as the Deputy G-3 for the Third Marine Amphibious Force. He served his last three years of active duty on the staff of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Development and retired in 1970.

Bob was married in 1944 to Sunshine Moreland of Texas. They have three children, five grandchildren and now maintain their home in Fallbrook, California, where they grow avocados and limes.

Music

Gladys Grindeland

The youngest daughter of the late Judge and Mrs. Andrew Grindeland, Gladys was born on May 20, 1900, in Warren, Minnesota. She graduated from Warren High School in 1919. In 1923, she received the degree of B.A. from St. Olaf College. After a period of graduate study, she returned to her Alma Mater as instructor of piano and organ from 1925 to 1930. She then attended the School of Sacred Music at Union Theological Seminary in New York City where she received the degree of Master of Sacred Music. The following three years she was Chapel Organist as well as piano and theory instructor at Northfield Seminary at Northfield, Massachusetts. From there she accepted a position at Upsala College in East Orange, New Jersey, as head of the Fine Arts Department. Here she founded the Upsala Choir which made annual tours from Maine to Florida as well as concerts in Carnegie Hall, Town Hall and at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. In 1954, the Alpha Phi Omega Service Award was awarded her from St. Olaf College. In 1956 the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Music was conferred upon her at Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kansas. Upon her retirement in 1965, she was presented the Distinguished Service Award from the Alumni Association of Upsala College. She now resides in Minneapolis, Minnesota, at 52 Groveland Terrace.

Physical Education

Dr. Leonard A. Larson

Leonard Larson was born in Warren, Minnesota, the son of August and Mary Larson. He graduated from the Warren High School in 1925, from Concordia College with a B.A. degree in 1929, from Springfield College in Massachusetts with a B.P.E., M. Ed. degree in 1933, from New York University with a Ph.D. degree in 1938, from the Officers Training School (USAFT) in 1942, and from the school of Special Services in 1943. He was an instructor at Pelican Rapids High School from 1929 to 1931; an instructor, professor and Director of the Division of Health and Physical Education at Springfield College from 1931 to 1945; the officer in charge of Physical Fitness Research at USAFT Headquarters in Washington, D.C. from 1942 to 1945; an associate in Research at George Washington University for 1945 to 1946, and from 1945 to 1947 he was Director of Research at New York University, Professor of Education and Director of Research at the same university from 1947 to 1953; and again at the same university Professor of Education and Chairman of the Dept. of Physical Education, Health and Recreation; from 1959 to 1975 Professor-Director of the Dept. of Mens Physical Education at the University of Wisconsin; and from 1975 Emeritus Professor at the University of Wisconsin. He has been the author and co-author of fourteen books and many, many articles on physical education and has done research for the U.S. Navy Department, the Burke Foundation, United States Air Force and the New York University. In 1960 he was the chairman of the Rome Conference on Health and Fitness in the Modern World; he was the founder and chairman of the international committee on the standardization of Physical Fitness Tests (in Tokyo in 1964 and 1965; Switzerland in 1967, Mexico City in 1968, Tel-Aviv in 1969, Oxford in 1970, Cologne in 1972, Trois Riviere in 1976, Finland in 1973 and Jerusalem in 1974); consultant for a research program in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; consultant at a meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico in 1978; a recipient of an Honor Award from the American College of Sports Medicine; consultant and participant at Asian Congress of Science and Sport at Bangkok in 1978; consultant and participant in Bahrain Conference on Youth and Research Foundation in Palo Alto, California, in 1979; and in 1980 at the time of our town’s centennial he will be in Belgium as a participant in an International Congress at Leuven University. He has retired from active teaching and moved to North Dakota where he and his wife have built a home in rural Lidgerwood at Route 2, Box 41-A.

Publishing

Henry Magnus Halvorson

Henry M. Halvorson was born in Warren, Minnesota, on November 5, 1900, to John M. and Amanda (Langeland) Halvorson. He was graduated from Warren High School in 1920 after having served in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1918-1919. He received his A.B. degree from St. Olaf College in 1925 where he was a member of the St. Olaf Choir. He was principal of the elementary school in Radium, Minn., from 1923-1924. After graduation from St. Olaf, he was superintendent of schools in
buffalo trails and littered with bleached buffalo bones and where thousands of geese and ducks swarmed daily. According to Mr. Nelson, it was possible to step outside the Prairie chickens literally covered the prairies and the area there were few prairie wolves to be seen. At anytime, a crew was ready for a meal.

Nelson became interested in the organizing of a townsite for a meal. The railroad had been forced to strike out across barren prairie. It was when the railroad came to Warren that stirring times began for the settlers here. Immigrants swarmed into the new country, coming mostly from Norway and Sweden. Business boomed and stores and business places were constructed along Main and First Streets facing the railroad tracks. Simple frame houses and sod houses were built on the prairies formerly only marked by buffalo trails and a few scattered marking posts dividing the sections.

Mr. Nelson told of the important part these marking posts played in the early days. As all travel was guided by the compass alone, no roads or even trails being yet on the

TALES TWICE TOLD

by late A. B. Nelson son of one of the organizers of Warren and a former Postmaster of the City

Mr. A. B. Nelson came to this area in the Spring of 1878 at the age of eighteen. At that time men, horses and machinery were brought here to farm the Pembina Farm in which James P. Nelson, his Father, was interested. Ground was first broken on the farm in that year but no crops were planted. However, the next year a crop was sown on sections thirty and one.

Mr. Nelson was with the Pembina farm crew as a general helper and his main duty was to haul supplies from Crookston to the farm crew. The railroad had been built to within a few miles of this area but torn up again to build a road from Crookston to Fisher’s Landing which was a very busy river port on the Red River of the North and the point of arrival for many settlers. The grade that was left of the railroad made a suitable road for the hauling of provisions on his bi-weekly trips. Two days were allotted for each trip, one down and one back. From the end of the railroad grade to the site of the camp, he was forced to strike out across barren prairie.

The site selected for the buildings for the seat of operations for the Pembina Farm is now occupied by the house of Mr. and Mrs. Rollie Toupin at 229 East Nelson Avenue, named in honor of Mr. A.B. Nelson’s father. The first summer, a small shanty was built for the crew, a barn was made of poles covered with hay for the livestock, and two dugouts, one for the kitchen and one for the dining room were dug in the sides of the river bank. The next year a building was built on the site for a house and kitchen. That is now the oldest building in Warren still in use. Although added to and remodeled, it is still an integral part of the house of Mr. and Mrs. Toupin.

Ideal hunting for game birds was found in the coulee between the East edge of town and the Fair Grounds where thousands of geese and ducks swarmed daily. Prairie chickens literally covered the prairies and the area on which Warren now stands was entwined with deep cut buffalo trails and littered with bleached buffalo bones and horns. Red fox and grey fox were in large numbers and there were few prairie wolves to be seen. At anytime, according to Mr. Nelson, it was possible to step outside the shanty used for sleeping quarters and bag enough game for a meal.

It was during the summer of 1878 that James P. Nelson became interested in the organizing of a townsite company of the site on which his farm was located. He formed a company with two other men and offered to pay the State of Minnesota, who then owned the land as School grant, sixty dollars an acre for forty acres. Mr. Nelson was farsighted enough to see, however, that if the railroad failed to locate its depot and buildings and side tracks on the tract that he bought, it would be worth little, and so stipulated in the clause of purchase from the state is the requirement that the state would use its influence in persuading the railroad to locate here.

The railroad, the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba, was in no condition to buy expensive right-of-way as they were in the hands of a receiver due to financial troubles, and they had located on their blueprint plans for future building a depot on the site of the Farley Post Office, about one mile south of Warren on the site on which the buildings of the Godel farm now are. When the state pressed its case and Warren offered the railroad free right-of-way, the railroad immediately changed its plans and put their sidings and depot here.

Placing of the depot, a de-wheeled box car with Ed Radcliffe as its first agent, on the tract planned for Warren, which the railroad failed to do for both Louisa (Argyle) and Stephen, gave to the Warren Townsite Co., forty acres of valuable land, minus the three hundred feet of right-of-way granted the railroad. The original townsite now included approximately sixty per cent of the land area occupied by the City of Warren. It stretches from the Highway and Bridge Street on the South to the City Limits on the North and from Division Street on the West to a line due North from a point a block and a half East of the Court House.

It was when the railroad came to Warren that stirring times began for the settlers here. Immigrants swarmed into the new country, coming mostly from Norway and Sweden. Business boomed and stores and business places were constructed along Main and First Streets facing the railroad tracks. Simple frame houses and sod houses were built on the prairies formerly only marked by buffalo trails and a few scattered marking posts dividing the sections.

Mr. Nelson told of the important part these marking posts played in the early days. As all travel was guided by the compass alone, no roads or even trails being yet on the
prairie to guide the traveler, he must find his location when puzzled as to his whereabouts by the section and township he was in. Whenever an expedition set out, either for hunting or business, their designation was always a section number, instead of a town named.

Although thousands of Indians roamed the Northwestern Minnesota prairies none were hostile at the time that this country was opened. Probably one of the most interesting sights that Mr. Nelson saw as a boy had to do with Indians. It was in the year of 1879 that one summer day he saw a large caravan of Indians approaching and moving South. For two solid days the Indians passed the spot now Warren. Men who knew Indians told him that they were Sioux but where they were bound for and what were their intentions, no man knew. It was Mr. Nelson’s duty to go to Crookston the next day to buy supplies and when he arrived at Crookston, then only a small trading station, he was surprised to find the plain around Crookston covered by tepees of both Sioux and Chippewa Indians, whom he knew to be the most deadly of enemies. Surprised at this strange exhibition of friendship on the part of two such tribes; he questioned men in Crookston to find the cause. He learned that the regular trading period between the Chippewa and the Sioux was on and terms of the strictest neutrality were in force during this period. The Sioux Indians, who raised many ponies and horses, roamed the barren prairies and were therefore without furs such as the Chippewa Indians, who lived in the Minnesota timber country, had in great plenty. Especially desirable to the Sioux Indians were the beaver skins, supposed to be a sign of good medicine. The Chippewa Indians were constantly in need of ponies and since trading could not be done between the two tribes during most of the year while they were at war, they declared an armistice regularly to consummate their trading. This was the last day of neutrality ever held by the two tribes at the Crookston crossing, historic scene of Indian meetings.

There were several interesting incidents between the Indians and the settlers here. The Indians were inveterate beggars and asked for everything in their category of luxury and then even down to meat scraps. An especially nice gift to them was a piece of soap, something which they sometimes very much needed. One time when Mr. Nelson went to the barn in the morning to harness his team that he used on his bi-weekly trips to Crookston, he was surprised to see a large Indian standing in the barn eyeing the horses. The horses were a wonderful pair and in the pink of condition and the Indian’s eyes were full of admiration and envy. He made no move nor comment but watched the horses being harnessed and bridled. The man was lightly dressed in a small breech cloth, the customary leggings of deer skin trimmed with thongs of the same leather, and a lone feather in his hair and he stood about six feet two inches in height and unusually broad even in proportion to that height. He continued to eye the team as they were hitched to the wagon and Mr. Nelson became uneasy and desiring to open a conversation asked him if he was a Chippewa, being too inexperienced to tell his tribe by his dress. The Indian’s eyes flamed and he colored highly. He puffed out his chest, appeared highly insulted, pounded his raised chest and cried in an inflamed tone, “No! Me Big Sioux.” What it meant to be so highly insulted such a well built and muscularly equipped Indian when alone is hard to appreciate but Nelson was frightened for some time that was due for some kind of bodily harm but the Indian disappeared never to be heard of again.

Soon after the railroad came to Warren, Mr. Nelson gave up hauling provisions by horse. Instead of driving the team, he would ride on one of the construction trains continually passing up and down the track. Hundreds of settlers took the same method to get to Crookston to purchase necessary supplies. After purchasing what they wanted, the travelers took their purchases to the depot and waited for another construction train to pass north. When it did, they would load their supplies on top of the rails loaded on flat cars, climb on themselves and ride thus to Warren. When the train arrived within a mile or so of Warren it was forced to slow down to a very slow speed by the unusual roughness of the grade. When this happened the riders would put their names on their purchases and drop them off the car on the right of way, then either walk back from Warren and pick them up or take a team and wagon. They were forced to drop their goods because the grade became smooth in Warren and the train immediately sped up, making it impossible to drop their packages without danger of damage. Although Mr. Nelson made many trips to Crookston in this manner and dropped his supplies along the road to come back with a team, sometimes as much as a day or two later, he never lost one package by theft. Countless hundreds of workers and settlers passed that way daily yet they were of such honesty as to never pick up a thing. No one paid fares on these trips and the practice was stopped when the road was finished and no more work trains passed through town.

Mr. Nelson described pioneer life as a thrilling and wonderful experience to have. It left an indescribable impression upon him that he could convey in no words. It meant the hardest kind of work, but left a greater thrill after it was through, than anything else can leave. The knowledge that one was a part of the great drama of settlement in its foremost rank was a wonderful feeling.

* * *

by John P. Mattson

from the 50th Anniversary Issue of the Warren Sheaf

In the fall of 1882 I decided to go west and grow up with the country. “Out West” in those days meant the western part of Minnesota as well as the Dakotas. While I was in Minneapolis, I visited the state fair booth and chanced to pass a booth where there was a fine display of agricultural products from the Red River Valley. The most appealing part was that a ticket to this land of promise could be purchased for $5.00. After working a while near Crookston, I came on to Warren. I found lodging at a boarding house kept by C. J. Johnson, later remodeled into the Svea Hotel. It was in the midst of the harvest season when I arrived and I secured employment on the Woodward farm until the term of county school I had secured would begin. It was the school in the Dahlquist district and was the first term of school held there. On the farm I pitched bundles in threshing, drove mules and before I left, I had been promoted to “stable boss” with the privilege of rising at four in the morning to feed the many mules.

Among the early business men was Ethan Allen, one of the proprietors of the townsite and a member of the firm of Johnson, Allen & Co. James P. Nelson was another
townsite proprietor but more suave and diplomatic than Allen. W. H. Gilbert was another Warren booster. He promoted the building of the first mill in Warren. It was his fate to be shot on a prospecting trip to the Lake of the Woods country. K. J. Taralseth had come here in the spring of 1882 and opened a small store in a frame building. He was a man of good judgement and progressive ideas. He did much to build up the town along correct lines. G. C. Winchester, for many years a prominent merchant, opened up a store in the fall of 1882. At the same time or perhaps a little later, Frank E. and D. A. Whitney built the Whitney store. For a time it looked as though the east side was going to get ahead of the west side. It was unfortunate that the railroad split in two causing a great deal of factional strife between the two parts. Both sides finally did remember that they were really one town.

The same year that I arrived, a young lawyer by the name of Andrew Grindeland hung out his shingle. W. F. and W. N. Powell came about the same time and started in the farm machinery business. August Lundgren had arrived earlier and had started a brickyard. N. S. Munson was Warren's first miller.

When I came to town, there were saloons but no churches, although soon after, the Swedish Mission Friends, the Methodists and the Presbyterians erected church buildings of their own. Religious sentiment was always strong in Warren. A Good Templars Lodge was organized very early and the fight against the liquor traffic began. For many years, the question of license or no license was the paramount issue at village and city elections.

As I look back upon the past fifty years of Warren's history, I have noticed that the town was constantly threatened with either great prosperity or great adversity. What the next fifty years will bring to Warren is a mystery. Changing conditions, good roads and the automobile, changed methods of merchandising, competition, chain stores and other factors will probably affect the prosperity of small towns. But they will not be wiped out because they are needed. Soon there may come a scramble back to the small town from the over-crowded cities. A small town with such a wonderfully rich farming country as Warren has, will always be an important point. Warren's future is bright if the inhabitants keep up the same optimistic and fighting spirit as characterized the first settlers.

* * *

by C. L. Stevens

My first introduction to the Red River Valley occurred on July 21, 1883. It was about the lunch hour when we arrived in Warren on the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railroad and to my way of thinking, the prospect was a dreary one. Most of the houses were on the south bank of the river. About one-half of the townsite was on the east side of the railroad track and the remainder was on the west side, and nearly the whole tract lay on the south side of the Snake River. Most of the places of business were located on Main Street and First Street facing the railroad tracks. It was not until years later that there was a noticeable movement toward mak-
favorite in the winter time. Traveling shows of various kinds usually had Warren on their itineraries. Most of the circuses that put up their tents here were accompanied by card sharks, confidence men and other crooks in assorted sexes and colors. And the personnel of some of the concert and play-acting groups were little better. 4th of July was a real gala day and was celebrated with more gusto than today. In 1888 a band was formed to provide music for the 4th of July and such occasions and in 1889 the band hired a director for six or eight months in the person of John Buttolph, a violinist and cornetist, who also directed an orchestra. But money soon gave out and the band lost its director and finally it disbanded.

Mention might be made here of some of the men who were in business here in 1883. The general store of Johnson, Allen & Co. stood on the corner now occupied by the State Bank of Warren, its manager was Iver Burlum. McCrea Brothers hardware store stood on the present site of the Pioneer Land and Loan Co. building but faced west. F. E. Whitney had a hardware store on the corner of Johnson Avenue and Second Street where the One-O-One station is now located. K. J. Taralseth’s general store occupied a frame building located where the Berget block now stands. C. J. Johnson operated a meat market and boarding house where Dr. Carlson has his office. Mark Stevens (no relation to me) managed the Warren House, later known as the Lyons House. What later became the Windsor Hotel was then the private residence of Rev. Campbell, pastor of the Methodist church who combined farming with preaching. H. J. Bennewitz occupied the ground which now supports the Peoples State Bank building but his harness shop faced west toward the railroad track. The county court house, a two story frame building but his harness shop faced west toward the railroad track. The county court house, a two story frame building but his harness shop faced west toward the railroad track. The county court house, a two story frame building but his harness shop faced west toward the railroad track. The county court house, a two story frame building but his harness shop faced west toward the railroad track.

When I came to Warren, this city was one of the big wheat markets of the world. A large part of the railroad right of way was given over to sites for grain elevators. By 1895, it was the world’s second largest wheat market. After the Great Northern built its Warroad line and the Soo its Wheatline, Warren lost its eminence as a wheat market and half the elevators quite business. The mills and elevators have given way to creameries, perhaps a natural result of the revolution that has taken place in the farming industry in the last decades.

From the Warren Register, March 21, 1888

"Jo Miller, who lives out east of Warren, tells a good joke on himself, as follows: One day last week he was driving with his family to visit a neighbor. The snow drifts made the roads quite uneven in places, and he was jogging along rather slowly, when his wife urged him to drive faster. In obedience to her request he gave the horses a cut with the whip, starting them off at a lively pace. He had traveled about a mile when his little boy who was sitting beside him on the front seat looked around and not seeing his mother and the baby who had been riding in the back seat, called out: "O pa, where’s ma and baby?" On looking back Joe took in the situation and at once turned about and took the back track until he met his wife carrying the baby, and not in a very good humor, it may well be supposed. It seems there was no end board in the rear end of the wagon box in which they were seated, and the seat being near the open end, tipped over backward when Joe struck the horses and they "jumped which happened just as the sled was ascending a huge snow drift, dumping Mrs. Miller and baby backward into the drift without injuring them in the least, and as the weather was mild, no bad effects followed."

by Frank Rutz, Radium

We arrived here on the 12th of April, 1877, from Carver County, Minnesota, with a team of oxen, a covered wagon, two cows, two heifers, a twelve inch breaking plow, and thirty dollars in cash. A man whom we had met in Crookston and who had hidden in a boxcar to get free transportation to that northernmost railroad point had come ahead of us here and planted a garden as Mother had given him the garden seed at Crookston earlier. The first night Father put up some poplar poles and placed some long prairie grass on it. We tried to settle down for the night in that but with the dark, the mosquitoes came followed by the rain. It was not long before the rain penetrated the grass and the mosquitoes were so thick that we finally went back to the covered wagon and spent the night there—a nasty experience as my sister, Mary, was only a month old at that time.

I remember that we set the stove up on the river bank for cooking and Mother used to fry pancakes there and we youngsters used to eat them as fast as she could fry them. Because there were not enough large trees where we had settled, Mother and Father went down on the land now known as the Monroe land and there they cut trees for our first shack. Mother helped and they soon had a shack legged up. We patted the logs full of clay that was wet and then put sod on the roof. Mother later patted the floor with clay which dried and was so smooth she could even sweep the floor. She whitewashed the walls inside with wood ashes and when it dried, it was light in there. The house stood just across the road South of the Clarence Streich farm home. It was a humble home just 12x16 feet but you would be surprised how warm it was in the winter-time.

One day the cattle and oxen ran away and Father followed them until he was South of Crookston where he caught up with them and had to pay $32.00 to the man who had caught them and locked them up. Evidently they were trying to return to Carver County.

That Fall, our garden was a bountiful one and we had plenty of potatoes, onions and other garden things. We had plenty of vegetables to eat all winter but meat was lacking so Father hunted for rabbits. On one such trip, Father shot a mother bear and brought home the meat for us to eat plus three small bear cubs that were with the mother bear. We then had four cows milking so we had lots of milk to feed the little cubs. Mother had to hold their legs so that they couldn’t kick or scratch and we fed them with a spoon. I had lots of fun with those bear cubs. I used to carry them way out South of our buildings and put them down. Then I would start to run for home. It
didn't take long for the cubs to catch on. A few times and they beat me home everytime. Later when they were half grown, Father sold those bears for five dollars apiece. It was this money that bought two windows and a door for the second shanty that he was building and we soon moved into this house.

It was in this second shanty that Peter Rutz built that the first meeting was held to organize the town of Comstock in 1879. There were 23 people there to the meeting. I believe that the law stated that there had to be twenty present in order to hold the election. Women had no right to vote so there were none present. Those who attended were as follows: Grandpa Len Lull Sr., sons Emmett and Frank Lull, Mike Guerman, John Haugerman, Grandpa Mike Loeslie Sr., Sam Olman, John Batch, Gustav Newman, Joe Miller, Bill Tripp, Fred Tripp, Jim Alice, Riebaugh Sr., Frank Jadeke Sr., Gust Hoover, Ekman, Frank Shybul, Theodore Binder, Julius Binder, Krauser, John Slagle, and Peter Rutz. It was made a motion at this meeting to call the township Rutz but Peter Rutz objected to this so it was called Comstock. I remember that one of the Supervisors was Peter Rutz and the Chairman elected was Grandpa Mike Loeslie Sr. The first road laid out and recorded was the one running by the C. Streich farm and the Ray Rutz farm.

The man who had hidden in the box car to get free transportation as far as Crookston and who had planted our first garden was John Whitesinger. He homesteaded just North of the land owned by Ben Loeslie, built himself a sod shanty but because he didn't get his tree claim planted in time (the tree claim was a provision of the law that you had to abide by or you lost your homestead) he sold out to Ed Skee, a storekeeper in Warren, for $150.00 and took up another claim in McCrea township. The second winter, we lived here, I remember that I decided to go and visit John Whitesinger in McCrea township. Mother was afraid that I would get lost but I told her that I had a landmark to go by—a large lonely elm tree that could be seen for miles. I started out and after walking for some time I noticed something that looked like two men on a snow bank. I thought that must be John Whitesinger and another hunter so I started toward them. When I came closer I saw that they were two large dogs and didn't realize that they were wolves. I started to run for home and the faster I ran the faster the two timber wolves came closer. I saw that they were wolves and a 60c jack knife. I also bought my brother a suit, muskrats, skunk and mink. My first mink was caught on the farm now owned by my son, Ray Rutz. I remember that I also encountered my first skunk there. Up to that time I didn't know what a skunk was but I soon found out! I also caught two raccoons there and sold their hides and fried the raccoon fat out to use in our lamps with a rag wick for kerosene was not always obtainable. My first hides were sold to a Mr. Allen who had a store in Warren where the State Bank now stands. It was with this money that I bought my first suit of clothes and a 60c jack knife. I also bought my brother a suit, which was cheaper, and a jack knife that cost 15¢—all this in the days when muskrat hides brought 14¢ each.

From 1880 on, the Great Northern started bringing in more and more people to this part of the country and there was a big demand for plastering, so the Rutz family made a lime kiln. The remains of this lime kiln can still be seen in a hole dug just a little South and East along the river for their swim.

During the winter and summers, I trapped for rabbits, muskrats, skunk and mink. My first mink was caught on the farm now owned by my son, Ray Rutz. I remember that I also encountered my first skunk there. Up to that time I didn't know what a skunk was but I soon found out! I also caught two raccoons there and sold their hides and fried the raccoon fat out to use in our lamps with a rag wick for kerosene was not always obtainable. My first hides were sold to a Mr. Allen who had a store in Warren where the State Bank now stands. It was with this money that I bought my first suit of clothes and a 60c jack knife. I also bought my brother a suit, which was cheaper, and a jack knife that cost 15¢—all this in the days when muskrat hides brought 14¢ each.

With the intervening years, our family has scattered. John is deceased, Mary is Mrs. Mary Schantzen of Warren; Albert is deceased; Joe is living in Minot, North Dakota; and William and Rosie (Mrs. Carroll) are living in California.

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During the first winter there were two Indians that we saw quite often trapping along the river. One day one of the Indians came to the shanty and begged for food. My Father never turned anyone away from his door so he told Mother to feed him. Mother had just come from the Southern part of the state and knew all about Custer's Last Stand that had recently taken place. She knew all about the Indian ways so she objected to feeding the Indians but did as Father wanted. The next morning, we looked out and everywhere it seemed at that time there were Indians coming to our house—one Indian tells another and they were all coming to beg food. Father had two huge dogs that were in the house. When he opened the door, the dogs rushed at the Indians. Only the quickness of the Indians saved them from the dogs. It was quite common for the Indians to camp by the woods on the William Omdahl farm. On one occasion I decided to take my home-made ball and go to their camp to see if I couldn't get some of the Indian boys to play with me but though the old squaws understood and tried to get the boys to play, the Indian youths wouldn't.

I was kept busy until I was ten years old herding cattle on the prairies and at night they were kept behind a small wooden fence. After I was ten, I drove the team of oxen in breaking up new fields and became such a good teamster that my Father never again went into the fields. We had one team of oxen that I will never forget. This team was lazy and on this one occasion I was trying to break up land near the river. The oxen became hot and the mosquitoes and flies were bothering them. Suddenly they bolted and ran with the plow to the river and in they went. I prodded and finally succeeded in getting them out but each time they made a round they went to the river for their swim.

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From the Thief River Falls Times of 1911

One of our citizens made a business trip to Warren one day last week. When questioned as to how business was progressing at the county seat of our neighboring county, he said:

"Warren is all right, the people are all right, but the town has gone dry, very dry. I was standing on the depot platform noting the excessively neat appearance of the brewery ice houses, noting that there were no empty cases or kegs standing out by the side door, and the sawdust which in days of yore neatly covered the ice remained in a pile outside. I was meditating how long the "dry's" would rule supreme when a blast of the creamery whistle distracted my attention. Finally men were seen running up the track and across the track carrying pails of various sizes. Thinking that there was a fire, and my train was not in sight, I joined the mad run for the supposed sight of the fire. We all got to the local creamery about the same time and when I asked Frank Seign if there was a fire, he yelled in a voice that could be heard half a mile away, "FIRE! HELL! BUTTERMILK, You D--- Fool!"

Lou Bueche, manager of the first Creamery had churned butter and the buttermilk was in great demand but very limited supply—first come, first served. So he would blow the whistle to notify the thirsty populace.

* * *

Memories of a Pioneer Mother, Mrs. Johanna Carlson from the Alvarado Church Paper, "Maranatha"

Editor’s Note: At the time this story appeared in the church paper, 1938, Mrs. Johanna Carlson, now deceased, was eighty-seven years old.

"I was born in Sweden July 10, 1851. Our home was on the shore of a beautiful lake and sail boats, steam and freight boats were a common sight in the summer time. Fishing was always good. When you are brought up near a lake, there is no fear of water it seems. How I dared to go out in a rowboat, and in rough weather at times, is more than I can understand now. No one that I can remember drowned during the summer. It was in the wintertime that drownings occurred, for it happened that skaters went through the ice. To live near the lake was very cold in winter but nothing better could be wished for during the summer months.

"You asked how it came about that we left Sweden. Well, it was a mistake, perhaps. I do not know. We thought it would be for the best. Father had a good job and was able to provide a living for the family. However, we had no prospects to secure a home of our own. And as soon as the children were old enough to start to work, it was for them to leave home and slave for others.

"A few of our friends and neighbors had left for America. Andrew Pearsons, Norrlunds and August Westbergs had been here a year when we came. A letter a week came to us from America. And Pearsons wrote to us that they had their own home and a large tract of good land. They had received all that land free from the Government. Newspapers in Sweden had articles about this wonderful country near Warren. The soil, so the paper stated, was a heavy black loam and as deep as the height of a man. And this rich soil had a clay bottom. This seemed very wonderful to us, and it was. In Sweden we had no hope of getting any land, not even a patch for a garden we could call our own.

"It was then decided that we, too, should leave for America, and we arrived in Warren on April 29, 1881. A Mr. Carlson met us in Warren. I have forgotten his first name. He was the father of Justice Carlson whom many, no doubt remember. He met us with a team of horses and a lumber wagon. The water reached up to the hubs most of the way. We were to stay for a few days at Pearsons who lived about a mile and a half from Warren. The men walked in water and mud above their knees. And the water was cold you may know for it was not even May yet.

"But are we not soon there? I began to get a little impatient, perhaps. The driver kind of laughed and said, "Yes it is not far now. you can see the place." I looked and looked to see the two room house we had heard about but all I could see was a straw stack. 'Whoa!' said the driver. 'This is the place.' That sod-house is the two-room house you have talked about? But what can this be, I thought to myself. Can it be possible that this is a house where humans live?

"Just then Mrs. Pearson came out the door. It was made of rough boards. She felt for me, I am sure of that. But she smiled, greeted me kindly and said, 'I hope you are not too disappointed. This sod-house is our home. We have two small rooms.' The house was boarded on the inside. The walls, and even the roof, was built of sod. And you can imagine what that meant when it rained. But here we were in a strange land, and the wide ocean separated us from our old home and the land of our birth. All this, however, our hopeful hearts could conquer. But the greatest tragedy in my life was just around the corner.

"On the boat, coming over, an immigrant girl about fifteen years of age was very sick. If she died, I did not learn. The doctor seemed rather unconcerned. He said nothing to us though we were in the same hut with the family and the sick girl. We had two girls. The older one was nearly four years old and the younger was going on two. Our oldest daughter died before we left Sweden.

"Our girls showed no sign of sickness until we came to Chicago. There our oldest girl took sick, and I noticed she had the same sickness that the fifteen year old girl had on the boat. She became very ill. In St. Paul the younger girl took sick. We were quite worried. When we arrived at Warren, both girls were very ill and no doctor to call. We stayed at Pearsons for one week, and while there our older girl died. Pearsons had three children, a boy and two girls, and they took sick. It must have been something very contagious our girls had. But we did not know what it was. The doctor on the boat said nothing about it. Pearson's boy died and there seemed to be little hope for the girls. It is difficult for the young generation now living to understand what we had to put up with. We were fifteen persons in that small sod house and the bed was over the entire floor.

"After a week's time, and the death of our girl, we moved to Per Skog's and the body of our four-year-old daughter was laid to rest near their home. It was no cemetery. This place was east of Cederlunds where Bernard Westberg used to live. We had planned to bury our girl on our own land, but the Skogs had lost their girl shortly before we came and Mrs. Skog was really beside herself. We feared she would lose her mind. She pleaded with us to bury our girl beside theirs. She had it in her mind that their daughter was longing and waiting for someone to be laid beside her. We decided then to bury our girl beside the body of Skog's daughter, hoping that this would lessen the strain on Mrs. Skog, which it also
did. When our girl had been buried, Mrs. Skog waved her arms and exclaimed, ‘Now our daughter need not be lonesome anymore.’ And by the way, she was a wonderful and kind woman.

“When we had been at Skogs for one week, our youngest daughter died. The two girls were the only children we had then. It was a miracle that I did not lose my mind. What a gloom and sorrow. After only two weeks in this neighborhood and our children were dead. My father was a handy man. He was both carpenter and blacksmith. He made a casket of rough boards and big enough for the two girls. We dug up the grave where the older one was buried. You cannot imagine how the mother’s heart felt when she saw the body of her darling float in water and mud. But we lifted the body out and laid it on the side of the grave and proceeded to take out the water. This done, we laid the sisters together in the homemade casket and let them down cautiously while the tears were hot on our faces and our hearts were ready to break. There the bodies of our darling girls have rested ever since. Five bodies are buried at that place.

“And to think that there was no funeral service for our girls. When our oldest daughter was buried in Sweden, the church bells were tolling and a funeral message was given. But here, in a strange land, was nothing of that. This pained my heart beyond words. But I know where I have them, and I know it will not be long until all the toils and worries of this life shall be a thing of the past.

“But I shall not keep this picture before you any longer. There are things not so sad that one can dwell upon. When we arrived, as I have told you it was the 29th of April, 1881, settlers here and there were burning grass. I had never seen such grass before. It stood seven and eight feet high. I remember so well. It was on a Sunday. My husband and I went out to look at our land. We waded in water up to our knees and the grass stood high above our heads. In the grass were snakes, toads and what not. I said ‘Let us turn back before we get lost and cannot find our way back.’ And we turned back. I said the settlers were burning grass around their homes. This had to be done or else there would be no protection against the big fires that came. But I thought they followed up the practice we had in Sweden when, on the first of May, we had the so-called ‘Valborg’ eldars. In the evening of May first, the children, the young people and the older folks, too, played around home fires. And believe it or not, there were years when we played on the hard crust of snow on the first of May. But I soon learned that the fires we saw were not for play but for protection against prairie fires.

“There are so many things that have happened during the pioneer years. Perhaps it is just as well not to mention them. But I will relate a few, for it might be of interest to some at least. We bought a team of old oxen and we had to break and plow ourselves, my father and I. My husband worked at the Woodward Farm. If it had not been for that farm and for work on the railroad, no one could have survived. We had our little home. My mother and I packed dry clay between the two board walls and the studdings. It was a tedious job, but we got through. It was a warm house and we did not freeze in the coldest winter. We were used to cold winters, blizzards and lots of snow. I mentioned the breaking and the plowing. We managed as long as my Father was well enough to hold the plow. I walked ahead and led the oxen. But somehow, they did not want to mind me. Now and then they got a notion to run past me, and they did not stop before they reached the end of the field. Father was not so well, and after only three years in this country he died. He did not live to prove up his homestead. It was Mother who did that. Perhaps I should inform you that we built our home on the line between the homesteads. Father and Mother lived in the room on their homestead, and my husband and I lived in the other room on our homestead. We built to our part in order to be sure that all requirements were met with.

“When Father’s health did not permit him to help me plow any longer, it seemed that we were up against it, for I could not hold the plow and drive the oxen at the same time. But then came Gust Wahlin to help us. He was then a wee little boy. But what could a small boy do in our case? He surprised me and others, too. The oxen minded him. It seemed they had respect for him. He led them and they followed, and we had no trouble. I did my best to hold the plow. I hope that Gust remembers this. He sure was a great boy and so willing to help.

“John Hedlund can tell you of interesting events, too. He was but a small boy when he came from Sweden. He had a brother a few years older. He took sick and after an illness of one year he died. John’s father was my brother, so I am his aunt. This happening he can tell you much better than I can. His brother suffered much. But at one time he got so hungry for chicken meat that he begged and begged for such a meal. But his mother could not afford to kill a hen, which was then about as valuable as a cow. She did not know what to do and it grieved her so much that she was unable to answer the sick boy’s pleadings. But something happened. The boy started to pray, and she heard him say, ‘Dear Jesus, I wish I had a meal of chicken meat. My mamma cannot give it to me. Please, Jesus, help mamma so she can give me a chicken meal. Amen.’

“No wonder, if tears trickled down her face. ‘What was that?’ she said. ‘Something hit the corner of the house and there is a queer sound outside. I better go and look.’ And there, in a barrel of rainwater, was a prairie chicken flapping its wings but unable to get out. The boy’s prayer was answered, and that same day the meal he had prayed for was set before him. Perhaps our faith in God was tested more in those days than it is today. Well, God was real to us then and He is real to us now.’

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** Did You Know That? **

by Ingolf Grindeland

Did you know that the bumper wheat harvest of 1895 was so tremendous that we as kids used to run and play on the sacks of wheat piled high along the railroad tracks all the way from the present Power Plant down to the intersection of what is now Highway 75 and State Highway No. 1. The railroads at that time were not regulated as to rates or providing facilities. So much of the glut was caused by the farmers not willing to pay the excessive freight for the rates were fixed arbitrarily. I believe that my father had a hand in the legislation and laws passed which established the State Railroad and Warehouse Commission whose job it was to establish rates and make requirements as to facilities.

Did you know that we had two trains a day? Northbound in the morning and Southbound in the late afternoon. It was called the St. Vincent train because that was the terminus—there was no Noyes then. If you wanted to go to Pembina, you got off the train and took a ferry
across the Red River to the old Fort Pembina, the first settlement in the country and older than Winnipeg. I wish we could have taken movies of John P. Mattson of the Warren Sheaf running across the right of way from Taralseth’s corner to the old depot which stood opposite the present Co-op Creamery. He did not run or trot but he paced like a fast horse with one hand holding his hat and the other was filled with papers, letters, etc. To us kids he was spoken of as Mr. Mattson but business men and elders knew him as John P. — even Mrs. Mattson called him that.

Did you know that the town was full of bachelors? There was Hans Mitgard, C. A. “Fatty” Nelson, Henry Taralseth, Ole Thorson, Dick Sullivan, Jay Bolton, Julius Olson, Shorty Ecklund, Bert Knapp, Charley Grinder, R. C. Mathwig, Clarence Spaulding and many others. No movies, radios, television and very few traveling shows. Later some of these married. Some produced and others failed. Time hung heavy on these bachelors and they looked for hobbies besides poker parties, etc. so it was suggested that they raise some chickens. The only one who went in for that was Judge Pete Holm. He had a few in the back of the store and office. So they asked him what kind they should raise. He asked one of the bachelors what he had in mind and that person thought capons would be a good kind to raise. To which Peter Holm said “H--- No! We’ve got too many capons now,” referring of course to the bachelors who had married and had no children.

Frank Seign always swore but he also bragged too much about his ability to get a badger after it was snared. So the boys at Sullivan’s asked us kids to have our ropes and cords we used for snaring down below where the railroad tower is now. The men got a porcelain pot and put it down in the badger hole with the rope tied to the handle. They paid us to be in on the deal then they told Frank that we kids had snared a badger but he had crawled back down the hole and we could not get him pulled out. So Frank walked down with the men and us kids. He grabbed the end of the rope, jumped sideways and gave a mighty jerk and up came the pot. The men paid us off so we ran to town and the men repaired to Dick Sullivan’s saloon and the drinks were on Frank Seign.

* * *

by Leroy Ingalls, Newfolden

My father, William H. Ingalls, first came to Marshall County in June of 1886 and located on Section 21 in what is now known as Spruce Valley. He was taken sick and had to return to Ashby, Minnesota, where he spent the winter and on the following June 4, 1887, he returned with Mother, my sister Mable aged 14 and me then eight years of age. We traveled in a covered wagon pulled by an ox team with two cows and a yearling heifer led behind. It took two weeks to travel the approximately 150 miles from Ashby. The first job was to build a corral for the stock and the mosquitoes were so bad that smudges had to be kept going all the time. A neighbor had hauled logs and built the walls of a 14x20 foot house and our next job was to put on a sod roof which always leaked. There were no floors the first winter.

Lots of nice spruce and tamarack timber grew on the north side of Middle River and on January 1, 1889, Sam Rook started the first saw mill where Middle River Village no stands. Then everyone could haul logs and get lumber. In March of 1888 my Father circulated a petition and got Spruce Valley organized. He was the first Town Clerk and Justice and served in that capacity for many years. In June of that same year, Father got the Ingalls Post Office established and he was the postmaster for twenty-one and a half years.

We went to either Argyle or Warren to buy our goods and it took four days to make the trip. At any house along the way we were always welcome to stop. It was wonderful how a family could live on so little. As I mentioned earlier, Father had but two cows, one heifer, an ox team, a wagon, a sled, very little household goods and ten dollars in money. I am sure we had less than one hundred dollars per year the first five years. When I was fourteen years old, my sister bought me my first set of clothes from Peoples Trading Company in Warren for $3.50. Oh, I was proud of them. After my Mother’s death on March 17, 1893, Mable became a teacher and received $28.00 a month, later raised to $30.00 and then to $32.00 per month for five months a year. Two years later Mable died on April 9, 1895, and Father and I batched for eighteen years until I was married on July 21, 1913, to Annie Magnuson.

The trail to the east of us went through our yard for many years so Ingalls Post Office became a general stopping place. One March day in 1900 I counted eighty teams passing our place loaded with lumber, posts, etc. or going to the woods. A lot of this lumber went as far West as Warren. Anyone could help themselves to the timber and I hauled many loads of posts to Warren and sold to Ralph Taralseth. I also remember that about 1891 or 1892, Father and I took two nice two and a half year old steers to Warren and sold them to Frank Gerome for $32.00—a lot of money in those days!

True cooperation prevailed in those early days. If there was a celebration of any kind, a church meeting, parties, house building, the 4th of July, or any other thing going on, all were there.

In 1901, I bought the homestead rights from a neighbor, filed and proved up so I am an original homesteader. My wife and I continue to live on the home place along with our son William and daughter Betty. Our seven other children are Mable, Arsa C., Clarence II., Edith, Ellen, Gladys, and Cora and all but three live in Marshall County.

* * *

Impressions of the late Mrs. W. O. Holcomb

My father, Mr. J. M. Bradley, and my brother, W. H. Bradley came to Warren from Aledo, Illinois, in the spring of 1880. He took a tree claim three miles south of Warren which later became the Kays farm. That fall he went back to Illinois and my brother E. L. came to Warren. The two boys lived on the farm that winter and took care of the stock. In the spring of 1881 we all came here. My father and brother Charlie came back with the stock and household goods. My mother and the rest of us came on the train together. We stopped at a place called Mulford’s siding to visit my mother’s sister. It wasn’t far from Faribault. There was not another train to go through for a week, the snow had gone off so rapidly that the bridges were washed out. When we arrived in Warren, we drove out to the farm over the prairie with the horses splashing in the water all the way. There were no roads. Everything
was strange to us for we had never lived on a prairie before but as there was a large family, we were happy together. We had an organ, and we used to gather around it in the evening and sing. Later two of my brothers played the violin. We always had music and in the winter we had little dancing parties at the neighbors' homes. We all enjoyed that and had good times.

I suppose there were hardships, but I can not remember that we felt them very much. One of the worst things was the hard water.

I remember one very amusing thing was when a young man came to see me and we went for a ride in a lumber wagon. I always laugh now when I think of it. There were no buggies here at that time, except one Grandpa Wallace had. We had to get away from that big family some way, you see.

One of the beauties of the prairie was the mirage—one could see so far then.

I have never forgotten the wonderful wheat my father raised on the new land—40 bushels to the acre and higher than my head.

Warren was very small. There was the Great Northern station with the hotel across the street, and the only sidewalk between. A Mr. Allen had a general store and Will Gilbert had another. Mike McCann had a blacksmith shop where Taralseth's store is now. There were a few land offices and a Mr. Mentzer and Son had an implement business. The people all seemed happy and contented. There has been great changes since those early days.

The Tragic Tale of Three Warren Men Enroute to Prospect Gold

A sad event happened during the winter of 1888 which cast a gloom over the whole community. It was the tragic death of W. H. Gilbert, pioneer business man of Warren. The circumstances of his death are thus described in the Sheaf:

An exploring party consisting of Emmet W. Rossman of Minneapolis, formerly of Warren, William H. Gilbert and George O. Morris of Warren left on January 25th with a view of prospecting for timber and minerals in the country south of Lake of the Woods and Rainy river. Their immediate destination was the mouth of the Rainy river or Baudette river and from thence they intended to proceed across the country to Tower, returning to Warren by rail. The undertaking was regarded by almost every one here as a very bold and adventurous one, as the country which they intended to explore was a howling wilderness. They took with them eight dogs and two toboggans for carrying their baggage and provisions. As they expected to make the trip in about two weeks, they took with them rations sufficient for three weeks only; they brought no flour and as to meat they expected to find enough game on their way to supply their needs. They soon had a very hard time of it, meeting with very severe weather, wading through deep loose snow and making their way through thickets and impenetrable cedar and tamarac swamps.

Game was very scarce and their provisions soon became exhausted. For ten days prior to the accident they had nothing but rabbit meat to live on, and not a quarter enough of that. Their dogs had to go without food sometimes for two or three days. One dog died of starvation and another was killed and fed to the others. The snow being 3 to 5 feet deep and loose, it could not bear up the dogs and toboggans and for that reason it became the custom to go ahead one day and break road and then travel the next. On the morning of the 24th of February, the day of the accident, the party had no breakfast and at noon they had but a rabbit and a partridge between them. Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Rossman started to break road for the next day's travel. They worked until night and were returning. To take all precautions against accidents, it was customary for the one ahead to carry the gun, muzzle forward. The last cartridge was in the gun, a charge of double B shot, loaded with extra powder.

Rossman was carrying the gun. They were both very tired, hardly able to drag one foot ahead of the other. When about three quarters of a mile from camp, Gilbert insisted on walking ahead and passed by Emmet, but no change was made in carrying the gun. When they had gone in this manner about forty rods, the gun in some unaccountable way got discharged, and Emmet looking up saw his companion falling against a tree. He caught him and after a moment he revived saying "you have killed me." Emmet said no, he thought not, and then Gilbert
fainted again. Emmet tried to carry him but could not do it. Reviving, he said that he was bleeding and Emmet tied a string around the leg to stop the bleeding and took his coat and put around his saying, "I shall have to leave you, Will" and started for the camp to get George to bring the dogs and toboggan. He shouted as he ran about a quarter of a mile from camp and he met George. He told him to run back for the dogs and the toboggan. He did so and also brought a blanket and some whiskey and in a short time they had Gilbert in camp. The wound was a terrible gash extending from the upper part of the thigh down towards the back of the leg near the knee. They dressed the wound as best they could as Gilbert insisted that nothing be done until they could get to where there was a physician. The next morning Mr. Rossman started for aid and after going for about nine miles, he fortunately met an Indian and told him he wanted food and help. The Indian took him to his tepee where he got something to eat and then he went eight miles farther to an Indian camp to get some moose meat for his companions. A blizzard caused him to spend the night with the Indians and the next morning with two Indians he hired, he returned to camp. They couldn't carry him on a stretcher so he was placed on the toboggan. By dint of almost superhuman effort they reached the Indian tepee on Sunday night. They laid over on Monday the 26th to give Gilbert a rest. With an Indian guide they started out on Tuesday morning and after traveling thirty-six miles made a half-breed settlement on the Canadian side of the river. Here they remained until Thursday morning, being very kindly treated by the half breeds and getting the best food they had received on the trip. Mr. Gilbert's wound was dressed four times at this stopping place. They hired a half breed guide, Mitchel Morrison, who had been living there for thirty-seven years to take Gilbert with his pony and toboggan across Lake of the Woods to Rat Portage, a distance of about eighty miles.

On Thursday morning, March 1st, they proceeded. A blizzard came up and one half-breed turned back but Morrison kept on. They made twenty miles that day in four and one-half hours, stopping with settlers on an island in the lake. On March 2nd, another twenty miles was made. On March 3rd they took an early start with the intention of reaching Rat Portage. They reached their destination in the early part of the afternoon. Mr. Gilbert bore up very bravely despite his great suffering. The last day he began to speak of his jaw troubling him. As soon as Rat Portage was reached, he seem to break down in spite of the kind and tender care given him by the people. Three physicians were with him who dressed his wound and gave him medical attention but it was too late. Owing to the time that had elapsed, blood poisoning had set in causing lock-jaw of which he died after ten days of great bodily and mental suffering on Wednesday, March 7th. Mrs. Gilbert reached his bedside before he died. Such was the tragic end of one of Warrems first settlers.

by the late J. F. Montgomery of Angus

when Mr. Montgomery first came to Angus in 1883, he found located there a store building, depot and a flat house for the storage of grain. During the first summer he slept in the depot and worked for the railroad but the arrival of a new agent in the fall caused the loss of not only his job but his sleeping quarters. Several large farms were in existence when Mr. Montgomery arrived. There were the Cross and Tullar farms and the Evans and Campion families had already settled in the community. The Andrus Farm was being operated under the direction of Farquar and Duncan McLennon.

Mr. Montgomery recalled that the first sweet clover that was grown in this district, was first raised in the garden of an old couple residing north of Angus and was used solely to hang from the kitchen ceiling as a fly preventative. The old couple died and the sweet clover continued to grow, in fact it thrived and spread. Soon the farmers of the community were crying out against the new "weed" that was rapidly invading their district. There was no thought at that time that the sweet clover might become one of the farmer's best friends.

Mr. Montgomery told of his Haines-Apperson Automobile which he purchased in 1905. He said that the car was only put in high gear once during his ownership and that was on a particularly smooth stretch of road near Warren. The pace was too fast, however, and he soon threw the car back into second gear. At that time gas was procured at drug stores, not filling stations, and Mr. Montgomery told of going to Crookston and filling up with five gallons of gas at the drug store and as he came down the road, travelers would unhitch their teams from the buggies and drive into the fields until he had passed and that the horseless carriage was the cause of several runaways.

by Erick Forslund

I came to Warren from Svartvik, Medelfrad, Sweden, in 1888 at the age of 15 years and secured work on the Snake River or Woodward Farm, now the Melgard Farm, where my brother John was foreman. I started as a flunky, cleaned barns, hauled manure, harnessed horses and received $15 a month and during the winter it was $12. I was too short to put the bridle on so I had to climb up in the manger. Then the horse or mule would back away. But an old man was kind to me and helped me until I learned how to do it. It wasn't easy on the farms in the old days but jobs were scarce and people walked through the country asking for something to eat and would work for their board. We arose at 4:30 a.m., breakfast at 5:30, one hour for dinner and then worked until sundown. In the wintertime, wood was hauled from the Snake and Red Rivers and ice came from Middle River in temperatures that sometimes fell to forty below zero. In the early years, the farm employed some Indians from Wadena, Menahga and Sebeca. The Finns were hired in harvest time for they were excellent shockers but they drank and fought especially with the Russians. Early cooks were always men, lumberjacks from the Wisconsin woods and most usually French. Two girls assisted in serving the food during the harvest time. Lem Rafferty managed the farm and in the wintertime he went back to Wisconsin to run a lumber camp. A big black Irishman weighing about 275 lbs. and with a voice like a bull, he got work done. He hired about 45 men in seeding, 109 in harvest when thirty men were used on each of the three threshing outfits. The farm was started by Woodward and Pratt. Woodward who had been a government surveyor in Wisconsin, and later a lumber man, got Pratt to furnish the money for the Snake River Farm.
In 1890, Woodward bought out Pratt’s interests. Like Rafferty, Woodward was a large man over 6 feet tall and about 225 lbs. He had his home in Eau Claire, Wis. where he had a private greenhouse with a keeper who raised tropical plants, he had an orange grove in Florida from where he used to send up fruit to the farm, and he was very musical and an enthusiastic hunter. He used to drink but he never got drunk. Mr. Woodward, his French stallion, and Mr. Rafferty all died within three months in 1908. Then Mr. Cheney came to manage the farm. I became foreman in 1902 when my brother John left to farm for himself. Andrew Melgard bought the farm in 1909 and with the exception of a short time spent in Michigan at an auto plant and a year spent at the Spaulding farm, I have spent most of my life on the Snake River Farm. Now I have had to quit work and live in town in our home on Montana Street. The horses and mules are gone. Tractors and combines have taken their place and everything is modern but, fool me, I still love the horses.

Farming Trends on the Keystone Farm

by Christ Hustad

In the year 1900, I was hired to work on the Keystone farm by Supr. Davidson, one of the largest of the bonanza farms in this area. This farm or spread as it was sometimes called was located eighteen miles straight south of the former Spaulding farm on the west end of Warren and at one time this farm, the controlling interest of which was held by the Standard Oil Company, operated thirty-four sections. The layout consisted of four horse and mule barns, two cow barns, one calf barn, two hog barns, one chicken shed, one granary, one elevator, one machine shed, one root house, one blacksmith shop, a Superintendent’s home, a milk house, a laundry, and a bunk house.

In the Spring, fifty-five men were employed to operate the twenty-seven Dowl Jack shoe drills, the fourteen spring-tooth drags and the nine thirty-six foot wooden drags. In harvest time, there were forty-nine binders in operation, thirty-five shockers, three threshing machines (one part time and two most of the time), twenty-two bundle teams, eight grain teams. And in the fall they used forty-four 5-horse gang plows for plowing. After seeding, the winter’s accumulation of manure was hauled out onto the field and left in piles to be spread by hand before summer fallowing. Usually there would be enough manure for $\frac{1}{2}$ a section at a time. About two sections were summer fallowed a year. In addition to the sections seeded to wheat, there were three and one-half sections seeded in flax, oats and barley; one section in timothy and clover, one section in pasture, and three sections in wild hay.

The year I was there, they had no rain from seeding until they started to cut the grain. Then it started and kept on. Two of the threshing crews which came from Minneapolis area gave up and left and the remainder of that crop was threshed with one machine and sixteen four-horse bundle teams. The last grain threshed was on January 5, 1901. Close to 100,000 bushels of grain were threshed that year and of that amount fifteen carloads of wet wheat shipped to Duluth heated en route and was ruined. I well remember the Rockefeller sons coming out to the farm to inspect as well as all the excitement of such a large undertaking.

**by August Johnson**

The following is taken from an autobiography of August Johnson of Warren who was born in Trollhattan, Sweden, on May 31, 1851, and who died at the home of his son, Carl A. Johnson, on November 1, 1934, at the age of 83 years and 5 months.

I was the fourth of eight children and when I was twelve, my father passed away leaving my mother in the deepest of poverty. Being the oldest of the boys, I began to work in a factory in Trollhattan, Sweden, for 13c per day, not much to divide among the family for food and clothing. Mother and my sister, Lena, helped out by spinning flax and “blanor” for 3c per pound. The privileges of education were lost to us but mother taught us the book containing the alphabet and she helped us with the catechism, a book she had committed to memory. At sixteen I went out to work away from home. At twenty-two, I married the one who became my companion for life in Gothenburg on the 6th of October 1877. Our daughter, Anna, was born on the 6th of September, 1878. In 1879 I decided to go to America so leaving my family in Sweden I set sail and arrived in Chicago on November 5th. Here I secured a job at the forge and received good pay, $1.25 a day. A year later my family joined me. In the spring of 1881, my brother-in-law, Andrew Boman, came from Sweden. His brother-in-law, L. Dahlquist, had written to him about the wonderful free land that could be obtained in the Red River Valley—160 acres which meant to at once become the owner of a large possession. That was far different from being a small tenant in Sweden with a little patch of ground for the feeding of one or two cows, having to work four days per week for the rent of it. We decided to accompany Mr. Boman and we came to Warren on the 10th of June, 1881. Mr. Lars Dahlquist met us and took us to his home, a little lumber house which for some time was occupied by three families.

With Mr. Dahlquist as a guide, we traveled in a wagon drawn by oxen and set out to find a homestead for most of the free land was already taken but not a person or house could be seen. In section 24 of the “Town of Vega” were two quarters of 160 acres each. The oxen plodded in water eating grass and we asked our guide how one can live here in water and was told that it was easy, just plow a few furrows and it will run away. Papers on our homestead cost $30.00 and the amount we had when we came to Warren was $230.00. After much consultation, we decided to build a little lumber house 20x14 feet and place it on the middle of the line between the two quarters according to law. When it was completed we each had a room 14x10 feet with single board walls and surrounded by millions of insects both within and without. Mr. Dahlquist and Mr. Boman went to Becker County which is a hundred miles away and secured some cows of a poorer grade so that we could buy a couple. Now our money was gone and no hope of earning a cent. The only help to be secured was Mr. Dahlquist and that had to be paid with work in exchange. On September 5, 1881, our son Carl was born but I couldn’t be there as I was away working on a threshing machine trying to earn something in supplies for the coming winter. Later I built walls around our building with
sod and covered the roof with hay. I bought coarse boards and nailed them on the inside of the studdings in the little house wherein we lived and pasted paper over the cracks and boards, built an entry from sod for the other door and thus we considered ourselves prepared for the winter. When the cold came, there was ice formed on the boards an inch thick and icicles were formed in bed from breathing. Thus passed our first winter which lasted until April when a flood came that lasted until the end of May, an advantage in no longer having to melt snow for the cows, a thing we had done for five months. By borrowing oxen, we had broken up ten acres of land but most of it was under water in the spring so all we could plant were some potatoes and that was our only crop. I borrowed $150 from an acquaintance in Chicago and bought a yoke of oxen so I broke up more land and had 35 acres. We had to live from the butter we could sell and in that way make exchanges for coffee and sugar the necessities belonging to the house. The crop the second year was small. During the third winter I began to haul home timber from the woods and eventually a better home replaced our first dwelling.

I remember now as I look back on the changes that have been made on these prairies—Modern houses, beautiful roads, all land under cultivation, and nearly all work is done by machinery. When we should go to Warren it took us three hours to go in and just as long to get back. Now the young boys make it in twenty minutes.

* * *
by Oscar F. Nelson

I remember my father, Andrew Nilson, telling me about the time he and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Nilson, and his brother and sister arrived in Warren about the first of April 1881. There were no roads of any kind, the grass grew tall and the sloughs were filled with water. Driving a team of oxen and heading for their homestead in Vega Township, they attempted to cross the coulee by the Melgard Farm but the current was flowing so rapidly that it swung the wagon dangerously close to a position where it would have overturned. They had to return to Warren and wait until the water level was lowered in the coulee. He told of the Fall when the tall grass was frozen. Their only defense was to plow furrows around their sod homes and barns and winter's supply of hay and trust that the fire wouldn't jump their man-made fire breaks.

* * *

Dr. J. McGillan

by Margaret McGillan Hooper

My father, Dr. J. McGillan, came to Warren in 1887 or thereabouts at the urging of his college friend, Dr. J. S. Chapin of Euclid. When the two of them finished renting an office and buying equipment, they didn’t have enough money to put a “professional card” in the local papers so they put an item in the local news that there was a new doctor in Warren. In 1889 he married and purchased the building on Johnson Avenue across the alley from where the Quistgard Drug Store was. Practicing medicine in Northern Minnesota at that time must have been an ordeal. When father went to Warren, there were no real roads. In the spring the coulees would overflow and one time his instrument case was carried away by water. The winters were terrible.

I remember very little about my father as I was five when he passed away on June 23, 1898, but I do remember him taking me once with him to a call on Mr. Latkin whose farm later became known as the Riverside farm. That call was about a month before he went to bed seriously ill. Another time was to a farm some place off the Great Eastern where a woman had been gored by a bull. I remember seeing him, sitting in front of the drug store he and Dr. Chapin owned. out of this store came the Warren Pharmacy, first owned by Ed Quistgard and now owned by Dr. Holmstrom. There are other things I remember. There used to be a flour mill near where the first power plant and water works were when I left Warren. I remember one winter night of someone coming for him, that a boy had gone through the ice by the mill, of him leaving, and then coming home very despondent because it was too late when he got there to save the boy. Another time was when he wasn’t able to save the life of a dear friend, an uncle of Dr. Frank Stinchfield. He walked the floor for hours.

Dr. Chapin told me that once a threshing machine or steam engine had exploded on the Carhart farm which was between Angus and Warren, and west of both. Word was sent to Dr. Chapin, to my father and to Dr. Wattam. They all arrived at about the same time and there was quite a discussion as to whose case it was. They decided that a leg should be amputated. One of them should give the anaesthetic, one would do the surgery, and one the finishing up. If I ever knew, which task each did, I have forgotten.

I also remember his funeral which was held in the old opera house on Fletcher Avenue as no church in town was large enough. The Knights Templar Lodge of Crookston took part and, I imagine, their uniforms and the white plumes made the lasting impression on me that causes me to remember the funeral. At his death, there was enough on the books to keep the family comfortable for many years, but, then as it is now, doctor bills were the last to be paid and as he was no longer there to aid them, the bills were forgotten entirely. At that time house calls were one dollar and office calls were fifty cents.

* * *
by Synneva Grindeland Knapp

What does my early youth in Warren mean to me? Father hitching up our family horse to the red plush seated cutter and driving us to school on bad winter days. On nice days walking across town on board sidewalks to school and stopping for a penny stick of licorice root at Whitney’s Drug Store. Going on errands for 25c worth of steak at Boardson’s and getting an orange or a stick of candy from Mr. Boardson. Or buying three yards of calico at the K. J. Taralseth Co. where Mr. Taralseth always met you at the door. Or getting a new 4th of July dress, always a white one, and 25c to spend until evening when father shot off the fireworks from the top of a box car parked on the track east of Johnson’s Drug Store—the site of the present State Bank of Warren. Watching for Marshal Dady with his alarming-looking cane. Going to the church socials and auction sales in some Johnson Avenue building where everyone came—babies in clothes baskets and children in their best dresses—and the old bob sleigh
that all had to pack in to get home. Going to Chautauquas in the summer to hear some singers and pianists or to attend plays like "Uncle Tom’s Cabin." Picnics at the John Anderson farm where we watched young men and women—Nels Bystrom and Esther, among them—play the favorite game, "Last Couple Out." And later picnics on the river bank by Dixon bridge (now highway 75) with bacon, eggs, and watermelon the favorite menu.

Excursions over Great Northern special trains to Maple Lake where K. J. Taralseth and H. L. Melgaard bought cottage sites. Sliding down the icy hill built up ten or twelve feet at the top of the river bank in the south end of the Grindeland lots and freshly watered from the big flowing well, then iced for the Sunday afternoon crowd of the older folks as well as the younger folks and children to slide down hill and onto the river under Mattson’s bridge and back of Melgards. Then at night inside in the warm glow of the old coal stove heater to shake the wire popcorn popper and pull molasses taffy and play blind man’s buff with our chums, sisters and neighbor boy friends.

In the summer too there would be parochial school with Mrs. Anna Swandby (Alfred Swandby’s mother) as teacher in the Norwegian Lutheran church. The wheat fields of Mr. Charles Wentzel across the street from where the Washington School now stands was her biggest worry because pupils during recess would play and hide behind the wheat shocks when she rang her big bell in the doorway of the school—Ralph Taralseth, Stella Bakke and the Grindeland girls were among these pupils.

School days bring back memories of six foot four Professor Walters who never spared the rod, rope or leather strap for the slightest misdemeanor. In fact the only time he made us laugh was when he leaned too far back in his chair against his office door and fell backwards sprawling into the assembly room. Professor “Billy” Angus stands out in our memory with his terse remarks, teaching us Latin, Algebra, Physics, etc. in such a way that we could never forget. Among his remarks were “You can’t learn any younger” to Howard Dady and Eddie Whitney and “All wise men write poorly” to Dana Easton. There was no selection of subject, all were required. And there were no class plays and football games.

Who can forget the dapper band leader, George Johnson, leading his band down the Main Street playing “The Washington Post March,” “There’ll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight,” and “The Good Old Summer-time.” Or George, Ralph and Luck Rood playing mandolins and guitars and singing as they drove in horse and buggy around town looking for partners. The masquerade dances where the whole town went and where Julius J. Olson came as a young girl and without saying a word danced so beautifully with all his pals that even Henry Taralseth didn’t know who his best “girl” dancer was until they all unmasked. All costumes were beautiful and elaborate and with so many lovely imported silks and laces that were always available at K. J. Taralseth Co. or Peoples Trading Co.

The big farms near Warren brought many an interesting foreman or manager into town—not in lumber wagons with heavy horses but in fancy rigs with beautiful well-groomed horses. One from the Woodward farm used to come in this style and instead of parking in the mud and mire near Bolton’s Saloon (now the Spot Cafe), he would drive right up on the board sidewalk, jerk out his buggy whip and tap on the window, and then drink his beer or whiskey from a tray that had been brought out to him. Then in fine weather and with the streets dry, I can see the quaint and lovely surreys with the fringe on top and all the well-groomed horses driven by some of the women of Warren. I can still see a picture of the past with Mrs. Florence Winchester and Mrs. L. Lamberson in their fine clothes, pretty hats and lacy parasols making their formal calls.

Then later in the fall all the men got out their dogs, horses, guns and buggies and made ready for the prairie chicken hunt. I can still see the ninety-seven chickens stretched over the back yard as a result of a good hunt. Later the goose hunting began and many a time hunters like Braggans, Bratrud, Easton and Grindeland would parade on Johnson Avenue with their goose calls to call attention to the passers-by because they were really proud of their spoils.

The story of how the Great Eastern road got its name was told very often. W. F. Powell, Jack Easton and Andrew Grindeland were out for a little hunt northeast of Warren and their conservation was always about the building of their city. Their problem then was to bring business from the northeast of Warren instead of straight line to Argyle. The road had been built as planned but it lacked a name. Mr. Grindeland while at Iowa University belonged to a boarding club where the boys hired a cook and housekeeper. She came from Massachusetts with her eastern accent and 200 lbs. of weight. The boys called her the Great Eastern. Jack Easton and W. F. Powell liked the story and suggestion so much that the name was agreed upon and adopted immediately. It has been called the Great Eastern ever since.

In the center of the mall in front of and to the west of the court house stands an oak tree—not too tall as yet. An acorn from Judge Grindeland’s homeplace was planted with much ceremony on this spot and was to be called the Judge’s Oak. Mr. Alfred Swandby, Clerk of Court for 40 years tells this story. Those in attendance at this ceremony were August G. Lundgren, Fred Bakke, Carl Hanson, Hans Hanson and Alfred Swandby.

These are just a few of the recollections of my early days in Warren, all forming a background of life in a small friendly town before the automobile came to bring us progress and pleasure in a new type of life with its many advantages in a thriving and progressive city.

by Lillian Edgar (Mrs. John Edgar)

Jemima Edgar, who came here in 1884 with her husband, Thomas, often told of her expressions of this new country and her experiences in it. They sailed from Carli­ple, England, in 1882 and arrived in Boston. While waiting for their train to the west, another woman traveler with four children left her children in Mrs. Edgar’s care without asking her permission knowing that they would not be leaving for some time. With the four children of Mrs. Edgar’s and the four extra children, many passers-by were amused. But to Mrs. Edgar’s embarrassment, one woman stopped and said to her, “God help you” — which indeed he would have needed to do! They had intended to go to Portage la Prairie, Canada, where they had friends but stopped at Crookston to consult a doctor for one of the children who was ill and did not go any further. Mrs. Edgar seeing men wearing buffalo skin coats popular in that day said to her husband, “O, Tom, let’s go back
home. They all look just like cattle.” Crookston at that
time was little more than a collection of small wooden
houses and tar paper shacks, very different from the stone
houses of Scotland for cooking and heating. Mr. Edgar
had been a railroad employee in Scotland and found
employment with the Great Northern Railroad which had
been built through the valley only a few years before.
While living in Crookston and working on the railroad as
a section foreman, crews of the Great Northern and the Nor­
thern Pacific were in daily conflict as the Great Northern
did not want the Northern Pacific line to cross their tracks
north of the city and tracks were torn up and rebuilt
several times before their differences were settled. Mr.
Edgar was sent one summer to St. Vincent and there Mrs.
Edgar cooked for a crew of twenty-four men baking bread
daily besides caring for her own family. Indians were fre­
quent visitor though they never harmed anyone. The
family came to Warren in 1884 and later purchased a farm
in Brislet Township, Polk County, which Mrs. Edgar
maintained until her death in 1924, with the help of her
sons.

My First Glimpse of Warren and the Red River Valley

by Mrs. C. A. Johnson

About 1882 we commence to hear over in Sweden
about the Red River Valley. Circulars sent to Sweden told
of the wonderful opportunities that awaited those who
would come and till the free land with the wonderful black
soil, what grain could be raised, etc. Well times were hard
in Sweden so people did sell out and leave for America
where they could get rich in no time. Those early settlers
would write home and tell their friends and relatives
about the wonders of it all. If they had told a little about
the hardships they had to endure, maybe some of us
would still be in Sweden. The circulars had pictures of
farms and farm homes and I particularly remember pictures
of the farm home and barns as well as one of harvest
time with 32 binders in a row pulled by mules cutting the
golden grain on what is now the Andrew Melgard farm.
Another picture showed the square house, barn and other
buildings on the John Walberg farm west of Alvarado—yet when we arrived there, we found it to be a
small log house with a sod roof on it.

My father, Hendrik Lindstrom, mother and I lived in
Darlarne, Sweden, and when my father’s brother, Olof
Hendriksen, wrote of his free land, a home, a team of oxen,
and a couple of cows and chickens it all sounded so
wonderful that Father wrote his brother to send them
tickets so that they could come to America. The tickets
came and we sold out our belongings and started
westward. We arrived in Warren in October of 1888 and
the first place we went to was the K. J. Taralseth store, as
it was through Mr. Taralseth that uncle had purchased
the tickets. After talking to Mr. Taralseth and Albin
Young, who worked there, we set out to get our dinner. un­
cle took us to a place called “Hotel Svea” managed by Mr.
and Mrs. C. J. Johnson, formerly of Ostergotland,
Sweden. They served nice tasty meals cooked in real
Swedish fashion and I remember that the dinner we had
that day cost 25c and consisted of cabbage soup, roast
beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, creamed carrot, custard pie
and coffee. This Hotel Svea consisted of a sitting room for
the family, an office, dining room, kitchen and some
bedrooms on the first floor and the second floor was
bedrooms for people who had to stay over or who came in
on the train.

A terrible thing happened there a few years later
when a woman with three small children came to stay over
night. It seems that her husband had left her, she was sick
and she had moved from one county to another as no one
wanted them. Well, she got her family settled for the
night and the next morning they found her dead. She had
cut her throat.

To get back to my story, after we started out on the
last lap of our journey riding in a lumber wagon with two
big oxen pulling it. There was only a trail with tall grass
on both sides. The further west we got, the more
disgusted Father became as there was only the open
prairie with small log cabins here and there and many
miles apart. By the time we reached our destination,
Father almost exploded. We expected to find a somewhat
nice house only to find a small log cabin 18x20 feet with a
sod roof on it, tall weeds growing on top of the roof. I had
never seen a sod roof before and I asked Dad what uncle
had on top of his roof. Father answered me that that was
my uncle’s flower garden. It was in this small log cabin
that we spent our first winter with Uncle and Aunt.

There was no work to be had, what money we had
when we came had to go for something to eat so we had to
live carefully. A bushel of potatoes was 10c, eggs 5c a
doz., coffee 5 lbs. for a dollar, sugar 20 lbs. for a dollar,
calico 5c a yard, and bleached muslin 10c a yard but when
one was short of money, those items were just as dear in
comparison as today’s prices. There was a lot of wild game
to kill—deer, rabbits and grouse as well as prairie chicken
and partridges so we could get cheap meat.

When we arrived in 1888, there was no more free
homestead land to be had in that area so we had to buy.
And finally in 1890 Dad bought forty acres of land in Sec­
tion 36 in Oak Park. Here he built a small log cabin with a
sod roof on it, simple but at last we had a home of our own.
We made the best of it and we even lived 1½ years in a
dugout. The worst thing I can remember as a young girl
were those awful snakes that would crawl into the houses,
the mosquitoes large as beetles, the frogs keeping up their
continual serenade day and night, and in the fall and cold
winter nights the howling of packs of prairie wolves all
night long. I remember New Years day in America. There
was no snow, there was a total eclipse of the sun at one
o’clock, we walked to services in a school house where it
was so warm we couldn’t keep our coats on, and they
played baseball in Warren in the afternoon.

Father was not with us very long for he died in 1901.
These are just a few of the things that I remember and I
could write a book on things that the early settlers had to
content with in the early days in the Red River Valley.

A Tragedy

A tragedy that marked the year of 1890 for the people
of Warren and is still talked about was the suicide of Mrs.
Ingeborg Wee in the Svea Hotel on the 25th of January.
Marshall County officials had taken her two sons, one two
and one ten years of age from their shack along the Red
River and returned them to Crookston for the Polk Coun­
ty officials to care for as she and her husband had come
from the town of Higdem in Polk County. They had come to Higdem twelve years previously and settled there. In 1888, they sold their farm by which sale they realized the sum of $400.00. Both Mr. and Mrs. Wee were in poor health and soon their funds disappeared and they were left to rely on public charity. On August 10, 1889, they were ordered to leave Higdem. They then moved up to Big Woods and lived in a shack along the Red River. After being shunted to officials in East Grand Forks who sent them back to Crookston and from there they were sent back to Warren where arrived on the 25th. They were taken to the Svea Hotel. In the evening, Mrs. Wee seemed very despondent and wept a great deal. The next morning she was found lying on the floor of her room dead, with her throat cut almost from ear to ear and the jackknife still in her hand. No inquest was held as the coroner was away on a visit to Canada. Frank Jerrue took charge of the remains and they were buried in the village cemetery. What became of the two boys is not known.

★★★★
Recollections of Warren
by Agnes Hilleboe

I believe that the reason my father came to Warren was the fact that he had a severe case of typhoid, becoming ill the second day after his arrival in Morris, Minnesota to work and thus lost that job. He had gone to school at the old Willmar Seminary and I presume it was through that school that he obtained a job at K. J. Taralseth’s store. He and mother were engaged long before that so he knew that he would be bringing his bride to Warren in a year. There was a sort of a bachelor’s club there at that time and Mr. Berget said that he would give the first of them that married a dozen wedding pictures as a gift. Father said nothing about his plans but the following May he went home for a visit and brought his bride back with him. They got the pictures.

There had been a mill in Warren but it was closed down and all the milling was done in Argyle. My father got financial help from the business men of Warren and he and Mr. L. M. Johnson (called Miller Johnson by everyone) built the Warren mill. Mr. Johnson had the know-how and father had the business ability. As children we loved to go down to the mill. It got to be a very busy place. The Great Northern built a spur to it and I can still remember my awe when we were told that a carload of flour was going to Newport News, Virginia. That seemed such a far away and glamorous place. Many days we came home from school for noon lunch and told mother that father would not be home for lunch for a long time as there was a string of wagons loaded with grain two blocks long, clear down to Taralseth’s store. In the beginning, many of the wagons were drawn by oxen and I have heard father say that some of the wagons had come forty miles to the mill.

Then I have a very vivid recollection of being alone one evening when the fire sirens blew and when I went out on the porch to see if I could see the fire, it was as light as day on our porch—It was in the “Big House” as we called it, now Quanrud’s mortuary, that we were then living. The fire was at the old mill which was, as I remember it, located somewhere near the electric plant site. So the fire must have been terrific to have caused a light bright enough to reach clear across town.

I would like to add something about the glorious Fourth of July celebrations we had in Warren. When we were very small, we had fireworks down town with a boxcar on the siding across from the State Bank of Warren as a stage and we were warned to keep close to our parents. There was a big crowd and little girls can’t see anything when hemmed in by grown-ups, so—forgetting our instruction—we edged closer and got lost. We found our way home, of course, but there was a switch there to impress upon us that we were to obey our parents. Later they had wonderful parades on the Fourth and our father was always part of them. They started downtown, turned at the Taralseth house, and proceeded to the park where the parade disbanded and the speeches began. I cannot remember what his role was in these parades except one, and that year he was dressed as a colored mammy and almost collapsed from the heat as his costume was particularly warm. We girls were so proud of him because he was such a sensation. No one knew who it was until he took the mask off. And one year a lot of us little girls were dressed in white and rode on a hay rack fixed up with tiered seats. Someone was “Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean” and stood up in the middle. There were forty-eight little girls representing the forty-eight states. During the parade, the regal carriage collapsed and we fell off causing consternation among the parents expecting broken bones galore. I don’t remember that anyone got hurt but it was a terrible shock to the proud states to end in such a downfall.

Father sold his share in the mill when the Soo Line came through as they refused to build a spur as the Great Northern had done but granted elevator rights to the Spaulding Company at every town and between towns. Since the biggest part of the business of the mill came from the east and west of Warren, father knew the business in the mill would be a losing proposition from then on.

★★★★
Pioneer Impressions
by Susan Easton Grant

I arrived in Warren in April 1880. My Father, my Grandfather Easton, and my uncle Chauncey Easton had preceded us that spring. I was exactly one year old. We had come from Owatonna as had our nearest neighbors, the Franklins, the Crookers, and Preston Stickney. With the help of these friends, the Easton men had built a stable in which we lived that summer while they built a little house in which we lived on the farm for the next seven years. I have been told that I spent my days and nights that summer in a homemade cradle swathed, cradle and all, in mosquito netting for mosquitoes were something terrific in those days. The farm was about 4 ½ miles southeast of Warren. We had wonderful neighbors besides the Owatonna contingent. They had come from adjoining states: the Crosses, Tullars, Franks, Bradleys, Jarrets. One by one these families “proved up” on their farms, sold them and went to Warren to live, becoming useful pioneer citizens of the growing town. Many of us are dear friends today. After one year on the farm, Mother and I returned to Owatonna for a few weeks and brought home to Warren my baby sister, Leora. My very first memory is of that homecoming and the warm welcome I received from what in my memory was a room swarming with men.
who hugged me and laughed and laughed. Mother told me
that the men were so glad to see the baby they had missed
that they paid scant attention to the little new sister.
However, that child had a way with her and she lived to be
the popular and beloved principal of the Warren High
School for twelve years. My brother Dan was born on the
farm in 1884 the same year that Dr. Wattam, so beloved
as time went by, came to Warren. We moved into Warren
in 1887 and there I grew up always proud to say that I liv­
ed in Warren in the Red River Valley. I don’t remember a
great deal about the town in the early days except the
school and the Presbyterian Church. I remember the Win­
chester store which seemed very elegant to me. We were
often sent to the Pihlstrom meat market on errands and
Mr. Pihlstrom was very kind to us. We got our medicines
at the E. F. Whitney Drug Store where we also found our
slates and pencil boxes. Dr. Wattam, right from McGill
University at Montreal, believed in plenty of medicine.

There was Mr. Berget, the photographer, whose
photographs we cherish to this day. Then there was the
town hall where was held in 1885 and 1886 what I suppose
was the first community Christmas tree in Warren. We
drove in from the farm in a bob sleigh. There were two
wonderful trees all decorated and loaded with gifts. Be­
tween the trees from a stretched wire hung my baby
brother’s gift, a stuffed Santa Claus. There were clothes
baskets of popcorn balls and apples under the tree. At this
program I saw for the first time the woman who became
my ideal—Mrs. Minnie Naylor Powell. She sang that
night and smiled at us all. She was for years my Sunday
School teacher and she taught us all to play the piano—at
least she tried. She was beautiful in every sense of the
word and greatly loved. She was the sister of Miss Lizzie
Naylor, my first school teacher. Now I could write a
history of the pioneer school but I’ll just hit the high
spots.

I had trudged my way to the little white country
school before we left the farm and I knew my primer. My
teacher, as I said, was Miss Lizzie Naylor who the next
year became the primary teacher in the school at Warren.
There were six grades then, I believe, and the principal
was a Mr. Whitney. When I presented myself to Miss
Naylor, she took me into the next room to Miss Eva
Powell, also dear to all Warren pioneer children. Presently
I found Anna Swindby (Grinder) who became my pal. We
sat together for years in a double seat and it worked well
because she was left-handed and I was right-handed. We
had completed the sixth grade when it was discovered
that there were not enough pupils ready for the seventh
grade and we had to be very careful. A few children were drown­
ed by Leora Easton Cassidy

The numerous elk horns my father and mother had picked
up on the prairie. They ornamented our flower garden for
years.

The fact that my father and mother had to melt snow
to provide drinking water for their cattle in the winter­
time.

Prairie chickens were very abundant and we had not
thought about conservation. One day I recall with a thrill
the opening day of hunting. Father and mother took us
children and a few of our young friends and drove way out
near the Burnside School. We started at 9:30 a.m. and by
noon had enough chickens to cook all we could possibly
eat (and wonderfully good they were cooked by mother on
an out-of-door fire) and to give several to the family on
whose land we had made our fire. Father was the only one
shooting but when we got home in the late afternoon, we
had 66 prairie chickens—and no sense of guilt.

There were no organized sports but I recall the thrill of
skating way up the river when it froze hard and the sliding
down hill onto the river at certain places. Always there
was an element of danger because everyone had a
cow or horse which had to be watered and the water was
obtained by chopping a hole in the ice, then drawing water
out in a pail. The edges of these holes were very smooth and
we had to be very careful. A few children were drown­
ed.

At one time, several young girls organized two
baseball teams and played a seven-inning game for a big
reward—a news bat and 10c for each girl on the winning
side. I pitched for our side and we won by a score of 50
something to 30 something. It took us two evening to
play.

Wilbur Powell, one of the first to own a car, a little
"Brush," said "It is exhilarating to drive along at 9 miles
an hour."

Or Henry Taralseth reporting his first ride in Lawyer
Brown’s new car up around the race track. He reported
that Mr. Brown said, "There are what they call three
speeds to this car—low, intermediate and high. We are in
intermediate now. I haven’t dared try her in high." And
Henry’s comment, "And I was d--- glad he didn’t. We were
going like h--- as it was!"

Talk of the Town in 1888

The case that shocked the people of Warren in 1888
concerned the one-time minister in the Methodist Church,
Rev. James S. Greene, whose real name was John Wesley
Green. His career came to a halt in 1888 when he was
charged with bigamy by Mrs. Gilbert of Warren.
In 1847 he was in Cincinnati as an ornamental sign painter and an occasional preacher of the Methodist Church South. In 1848, he married his second wife and lived with her for four years, swindled his mother-in-law out of considerable property and robbed her of several hundred dollars. In 1852 he was sent to the Penitentiary in Philadelphia. In 1854, he turned up in Greenville, Ohio, where he married his third wife having deserted his first wife and five children ten years previously in Elizabethtown, New York. He went to New York City where he was arrested as Grear, the great confidence man, and ten indictments were found against him and he was sentenced to five years in Sing Sing. Good conduct got him out in six months and he went to Cincinnati and married his fourth wife. Thence he went to Philadelphia as chaplain and was promoted to postmaster. Here he stole supplies and valuables from the soldiers for which he was sentenced to Alexandria Prison. Good Conduct got him an early release and before long he was known as the “great negotiator” for peace between the United States and Jefferson Davis. President Lincoln gave him $100.00 from the secret-service fund for that purpose but he fled to Baltimore where he stole a fine set of furs from his fifth wife and went to Chicago where he was arrested but escaping fled to Canada. From there he traveled back to Middlefield, Conn., under the name of M. W. Cullison and here he preached. He burned the parsonage and the congregation made up a purse for him but discovered he had four large trunks of goods hidden under the church. The goods were attached and the contents sold for his abandoned family. He showed up in Chicago where he was a “japanner” and then went on to Greensburg, Indiana, where he received $1900.00 on forged notes. He came to Warren from Chicago in April of 1888. Mr. Stevens of the “Warren Register” described him as follows: “He is an able and efficient minister of the gospel and although well along in years, is still vigorous in body and mind. His congregation is well pleased with him.” He stayed but a few months and left for Chicago. In the fall of that same year, Mrs. Gilbert of Warren brought charges of bigamy and he was arrested. In October he pleaded guilty to bigamy in regard to the marriage that took place with Mrs. Gilbert in Saint Cloud.

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I Remember Warren
by Minnie O. Melgard

To paraphrase a popular stage play, a successful movie and a current TV program, “I Remember Mamma.” I can say that “I Remember Warren.” In the 1890’s Mother and I came up from Des Moines, Iowa, on a mixed freight and passenger train. Everything seemed strange and funny. As we neared Warren, a girl on a lumber cart and driving a team of oxen whipped them up and raced along side of the train with the passengers whooping and hollering to encourage her on but finally the oxen tired and reverted to their slow plodding. My Mother and Step-father had bought the old Ed Sommers farm, later the Botko farm, in Farley Township and on my 16th birthday, I went on a grain binder cutting grain and kept on until all the grain on the farm had been cut. Then “Kinghead” Johnson asked me if I dared cut the barley on the northwest corner of his farm that was filled with tall weeds and I laughed and said “yes”. The only difficulty I had was that I broke the slat on the reel and a chain but I jumped on my pony which I got from a cousin of Dr. Bratrud who had worked for my Father down in Iowa, and rode into town where I got the repairs at Lindberg and Lundgren. I got sixty bushels of barley from that piece for myself to feed my pony during the winter time. In the Spring, I went to work for Mr. and Mrs. Ed Sommers on the Gilbert farm where I washed dishes, did housework and cared for Archie Sommers. One day Mr. Lakin came out to ask if I could come to work for Mrs. McIntyre. I was through at Sommers so I came to Warren where I did dining room work for $1.50 a week. Our days started at five in the morning and ended around eight in the evening. We had the laundry and ironing to do and if nothing else, there were always raisins to seed. Bessie Hegland (Mrs. Iver Winberg) was the chamber maid. I remember the elegant Mrs. Winchester—his third wife—Mrs. Dady with her beautiful diamond ring which she got from a shirt factory after working there for fourteen years, and Mrs. Lamberson with her large diamond earrings—quite the most elegant ladies I had ever seen.

In the Spring there was no place to walk except on the railroad track and large groups of people promenaded back and forth usually going north across the trestle bridge. Board sidewalks were everywhere and on one Fourth of July we had a terrible rainstorm, the river rose, the town was flooded and the sidewalks floated up. The people who had come to town from the country dressed in white starched outfits and ribbons were soon mud from head to foot. I remember that calico dress goods were 5c a yard, dress prints were 12c a yard, shoes were 1.50 a pair and in such clothes I felt as nicely gowned as if it had been the finest of silks. Coffee was 12c a lb., butter was 10c, eggs 8c a dozen and sugar sold for $1.00 for twenty pounds. Meat was quite cheap and liver was given away for cat meat. In the fall, hunters came up from the cities and hired teams to go hunting. Some shipped as many as 200 prairie chickens home in large boxes. They would draw them out in the country and stuff them with wild prairie hay to keep them form spoiling. I remember the time the new upstairs girl at the Windsor Hotel filled the kerosene lamps with gasoline and I discovered what had happened just before it was time to light the lamps. Rates at the Windsor was $2.00 a day including meals. I remember the time we girls, about ten of us, went together and chipped in 50c apiece (a fortune to us) to give a farewell party for John Halvorson before he went back to Norway for a visit. It was given in Edward’s Hall above his saloon and we girls thought it was really a very very fancy affair. The time I rang the firebell which hung in a small tower in the present parking lot east of the State Bank in Warren when I saw flames behind Winchester’s store early in the morning. His barn was afire but they saved his prize horse and the trainer who was sleeping in the stall the worst for liquor.

The time when I went to church in the old school house that was being used by the Swedish people for a place of worship. I then couldn’t understand a word of Swedish and am ashamed to say that I slept through the entire service. The time when I went with Andrew to the Presbyterian Church and sat in front of Mrs. Carhart who had been an opera singer. When she started to sing in her powerful voice, Andrew had to clap his hands over his ears much to my embarrassment. I remember the times when the owners of the Irish Farm, “Lord” Ramsey of Ireland and Furlong, came into town in a single-seated buggy with four horses in tandem, surrounded by a large pack of
hunting dogs, and blowing a hunting horn as they crossed the bridge by Swandby's. It made quite an impression. After I was married, I remember going out with the Swedes and Norwegians to the J. L. Olson farm and the Royem farm for picnics. The men would play horseshoes and the ladies would combine what they had brought and we all would enjoy a feast. When a trip to Argyle was something you planned and prepared for long in advance.

The typhoid fever condition was terrible as the flood waters overflowed the countryside contaminating the drinking water that came from open pits or wells. One time Dr. Bratrud and his nurse, Chesta Olson, took me with them out South of town to a farm where a family of eight were all in bed deathly ill. He had tried to get them to boil their drinking water but they hadn't done so. Here in Warren, there were two good wells—one near the Grindeland home and one down by the present Trost home. In later years I remember the very nice dinner parties given by Mrs. Lambersen, Mrs. Grindeland, Mrs. Wittensten, Mrs. Edwardh and Mrs. Pete Holm. Formal dress was not uncommon and women dressed beautifully. The musicals that Mrs. Tullar gave—for many their first taste of culture and tea. The lutefisk suppers the churches gave and under the most adverse of serving conditions. It was not unusual to serve 250 people and how the women had to work. I remember the thrill I got when I received a "talking machine" from my husband for Christmas—a Victor phonograph with Caruso's records, Sousa's marches and one song that a real "tear jerker," "Hello, Central, Give Me Heaven for My Mother Is Up There"—almost as sad as some of the present "soap operas" on the radio and TV. The terrible speed we traveled in our first car, a 1912 Maxwell, between here and Argyle when we burned up the dirt trail along the railroad tracks at 27 miles per hour—and had to stop every so often to dig the gnats out of each other's eyes for there was no windshield. Our friends called it the little coffee grinder.

I remember the work, unbelievable to me now, that I did out on our farm. I had a sixteen-year-old scullery girl and two dining room girls who also washed the dishes. I arose at 2:45 a.m. when I served pancakes or waffles, 3:00 a.m. otherwise and breakfast usually consisted of oatmeal, fried pork and potatoes, bread, doughnuts, coffee, prunes and was served at 5:00 a.m. I baked bread every day, never less than 25 loaves or more than 40, wheat bread one day and rye the next. Potatoes for 65 men three times a day took 5 pecks. I made 5 gallons of doughnuts once a week and the same amount of cookies. For dinner there was always pie or pudding. In June and July butter was churned three or four times a week—especially the Finns and Russians. We have had almost every nationality on the farm except the oriental. One year we had an African. Now we get along nicely with eight men.

Life has vastly changed for us all. From an era of candle light and kerosene lamps to one of electricity; from ice boxes or the cellar floor to refrigerators; from scrubbing clothes on a scrub board and heating water and sad irons on hot stoves to automatic washing machines, dryers and electric irons and mangles; from trusting to luck with home remedies to all the advantages of modern medicine; from a land peopled with many nationalities to the present "Dutch Mixture" that promises one nationality—all this has come and we are the better for it. We were happy in the old days mainly because we were young. Now we are grateful for what has occurred and curious about what lies ahead and which we who have lived past our allotted time will never learn about. I have always loved Warren. Mainly for the fine people who have made up this community, for the tree-shaded streets in the summer, the fields of ripening grain in the Autumn like a mighty ocean of gold whipped by the winds, and for the fact that we have been so blessed here in this wonderful country. Travel about this world has brought this fact home to me many times and I trust that you who come after will appreciate what you have and make it the better in your lifetime.

* * *

Written by John B. Erickson, Custodian of Warren High School 1896-1943

John B. Erickson, April 15, 1937

"In the fall of 1896, forty-one years ago, I commenced my work as custodian of the Warren High School. My salary was $25.00 per month.

At that time, we had a four room brick building—three rooms were used as class rooms and the fourth served as the Superintendent’s office and laboratory. Mr. H. E. White was then the superintendent of schools, having been elected in 1895. Mr. William Angus succeeded Mr. White as superintendent in 1898.

In those days we had neither electricity nor water works. I hauled the drinking water to the school house from the "old flowing well" located on Judge Grindeland's property. It was located near the river bank on the south side of his residence. It was hard to push the old water tank up the river bank. On rainy days when it was slippery, the old tank would slip backwards and all the water was spilled so I had to go and fill it again. When I got back to the school house, I emptied the water into four pails and into each pail I put a dipper. The pails were usually filled about five minutes before recess. I would then carry them outside and place them on a long wooden bench located on the east side of the school house. The children would march out in single file and take his turn to drink water. After recess, I would bring the pails inside again. Some of the naughty boys would throw the dippers out on the school grounds, and I would have to pick them up. I am sure that many of the men and women who attended school then remember the old water pail and the old fashioned dipper.

For lighting purposes we used kerosene lamps. These were used only in the high school room especially during the winter mornings and evenings. Many pupils used candles on their desks when they studied their lessons. I used a lantern in the basement and many mornings Supt. Angus would sit in the basement and read by the light of
for the purpose of identification and not ridicule, would result from so many people of the same name. So White Mule, Swedish Bird Song, Shoeman, Drayman, nicknames or "handles" were placed before their last birth congregated in search of land and chances to bett er record.

"...will be lost before those villages make them a matter of their living conditions, it was inevitable that confusion colored aspect of life in Warren. Their lives but all of them became part and parcel of one Charlie, County Seat, Kjerring, Snus Guben, Spit Eric, Carpenter, Gravedigger, Coalman, Miller, Cinnamon Kinghead, Bluey, Ring, Stud Horse, Boarding House, Bishop, Limping Jesus, Pussy-foot, etc. —the list is almost inexhaustible.

These stories really belong more to the communities of Alvarado and Oslo but are included for fear that they will be lost before those villages make them a matter of record.

Incidents of Early Days as Related to B. Everett Johnson by Pioneers of Vega

Northern and eastern Vega were homesteaded in 1880 and 1881, mainly by Swedes. Although most of them were poor, they had a variety of skills and by working together made a very liveable community for themselves and their children. Some who contributed their talents to this community were the following: John F. Carlson and Sandberg, who had been a blacksmith on the Melgard farm before he settled in Vega, were blacksmiths. Much of the furniture used by the settlers was made by a carpenter, Carl Wahlin. Having owned a dress-making shop in Sweden and owning a sewing machine, Mrs. August Johnson sewed clothes for the neighbors, including men's suits and overcoats, as well as for her own family. Henry Swanson had been a coachman for Theodore Roosevelt and until his death his driving of horses was a wonder to most of the youngsters.

Early lay preachers in the area were Henry Swanson and Alfred Johnson of the Lutheran faith; Emil Holmgren, Mission Covenant; Carl Wahlin, Baptist; Axel J. Lundquist, Independent Baptist; and Wallin and Person, Seventh Day Adventist. Each of these groups flourished at some time.

The first threshermen in the community were John Kurz, Peter Dahlquist, and Hiram Knutson. All threshing in the early days was stack threshing, some stacks so well done they were beautiful to see.

Andrew Nordlund and P. E. Anderson were the hunters of the community. They were often seen, even in their old age, following the trails of rabbits and other game. Game, except for birds, was not too plentiful in those days. One theory was that the prairie fires of the days before the settlers destroyed the mammals; this kept their number down. Old settlers say they never saw deer in Vega before the twenties.

The P. E. Anderson boys tell this story about their dad—he used a muzzle loader and had been out hunting one day and had come in with his loaded gun; he placed it in its customary place on the wall. One morning, some time later, his neighbor, Andrew Bowman, had a dog which came over and made a nuisance of himself. This most likely wasn't the first time such a thing had occurred for Anderson, thinking to frighten the dog, loaded his gun with a charge of powder and salt; forgetting about the previous load, he proceeded to blast away at the dog. Needless to say, it was the end of the dog which was the last thing Mr. Anderson would have wanted. He sheepishly came back into the house, hung up his gun, and as long as he lived none of the family ever mentioned the episode in his presence.

As much to be dreaded as the snow storms of the winter were the prairie fires of the fall and spring. Before the men dared leave home in the fall for jobs on other farms or in the woods, they always backfired their places. They plowed several furrows around their buildings and hay or grain stacks, left a space and then plowed some more furrows; they then burned the space between the plowings.

Three fires have been called to my attention, one in 1887 when the Strand home in Sec. 2 of Vega was destroyed. Another was one in which Manny Vickstrom burned his feet badly while trying to put out a fire in which the Vickstrom farm and hay stacks and the Andrew Pearson hay stacks were destroyed.
Charley Carlson tells of one fire when he was just a young boy. His father had taken a load of grain to Warren 10 1/2 miles away. Usually it was fairly late before he came home. This day someone came in to Warren from the west and met Mr. Carlson and said, "It looks like the whole west is burning up." He started for home as fast as he could with his horses. Mrs. Carlson and Charley, her oldest son, had also seen the fire and being in its direct path, she and Charley started to carry water soaking the thatched roof on the barn and the tops of the hay racks. They had only one team of horses and Mr. Carlson had them in Warren. The story had a happy ending as the wind turned just before the fire came to the farm. Mr. Carlson, coming home about the same time, got his plow out and plowed around the buildings. There were some very tired people as well as horses on the Carlson farm that night.

There were many snowstorm experiences. Per Person of Oak Park township had hauled a load of grain to Warren 15 1/2 miles away with his oxen and sleigh. Coming home he met a northerner and got lost. Giving his oxen their head, he let them find their own way. After some time the oxen fell into what seemed to be a hole and came to a sudden stop. On investigation he found that the end of his pole was pushed against a log cabin. The hole into which his oxen had fallen was the circle swept clean around the John Smith cabin by the wind. The house he had come to was three miles from his home. Mrs. Smith was home with her infant daughter; Mr. Smith had gone to the lower Snake, now Alvarado, for a load of wood. He was snowbound there for the night. Mr. Pearson had no way of getting his oxen out of their prison nor did he have much chance of finding the barn so Mrs. Smith invited both him and his oxen into her home to spend the night.

In a later storm, Mr. and Mrs. Anton Pearson were forced to spend a night in a neighbor’s straw pile. Both Mr. Pearson and the horses became lost; after driving around for a considerable time, the horses came upon a straw pile and stopped there. Mr. Pearson froze his hands badly digging in the straw for shelter.

The community was spared any widespread epidemics though several died of typhoid fever. Diphtheria took some lives, the latest being one of the Youngdahls who was stricken during a snowstorm when no help could be gotten.

School in the early days was very limited both as to finances and time. Finances were limited by state aid and the time was limited by the finances. School was held a couple months in the fall and some time in the spring. The older boys in the community had to help with the work during those periods so if they wanted to go to school they had to attend school in Warren or some other place. In 1897 when several came in to register in the Warren schools, Professor Walters told them there was no room for them. He advised them to hire their own teacher and run their own school. For two years until Warren again had room for those who wanted to attend there, a school was held in the Swanson School in section 2 in Vega known as The Vega College.

Walter Whitney of Warren was the teacher one year and Abraham Dahlquist the other. The teachers were paid $26 per month plus room and board which they had at the Swanson home. The young folks were permitted to use the school building, but there was no money available for fuel or any expenses so Mr. John Carlson loaned the boys his horses and they drove to the Snake River and bought a load of wood which they sawed and split for fuel.

Here is a list of those who, I have been told attended one or both years the school was held: John Sandberg, Carl Roadquist, Eric Anderson, Charley Anderson, Henry Bengson, Carl A. Johnson, John A. Harrison, Gust Carlson, Charley Carlson, Manny Vickstrom, Emma Vickstrom, Fred Johnson, John Johnson, Henning Person, John Swanson, Charley Hedin, and Gust Wahlin. The school cost the students some over $3 each per month.

Later Charley Carlson, Carl A. Johnson and John Harrison attended school in Warren. Charley Carlson had money to pay his way; John Harrison worked his way through taking care of Flanders' cow and horse; Carl A. Johnson worked his through one year taking care of Taralseth's 2 cows and horses, and taking care of August Lundgren's stock and baby sitting another year.

by Olaf P. Bjorklund

My father, Peter Bjorklund, came to the Red River Valley in the Fall of 1879 and took a homestead one-half mile west of the Snake River about eleven miles west of Warren. In the Spring of 1880 we moved from Cokato, Minnesota, and arrived in Warren on May 1st, 1880, seventy-six years ago. We had loaded the things we owned in a box car. This consisted of our household goods, the stock, a cow, two calves, some pigs, about a dozen chickens and a yoke of big oxen. We came to Warren about noon so we at once began loading up or belongings on a wagon and set out for Lower Snake about four o'clock in the afternoon. We drove West toward the March Farm where they had just started seeding, but it was very wet with water holes all around. West of the March Farm we struck soft ground so the oxen and the load were mired down. We finally had to unhitch the oxen and leave the load on the wagon, it was beginning to get dark and the only thing we could do was to start walking through mud and wading in water up to our waist.

My dad carried Ann, Mother carried Mar, I led the oxen, Albert drove the cattle, and Carl the youngest of the boys had to walk the best he could. All we had to go by was a light in the distance near the Snake River. My Dad said, "If only we can reach that light and the woods, we can make a fire and warm up until morning." We managed to make it and the light we saw was at Martin Johnson's log cabin. It was the only house for miles around. All the Sands lived there while building on their own claims. They were crowded for room for the family included Hans Sands and his wife Olee; Ole Sands and wife Martha and their children Oscar, Casper, Martin, Marin (later Mrs. Lewis Larson), and Martin Johnson. John Dallum was the chore boy. He helped to take care of the stock. Our new friends were very kind to welcome us and make us as comfortable as possible. Beds were made of hay and placed all over the floors. The next morning Ole Sands took his small ox team and helped Dad get our household goods and supplies home. There was no bridge so they all helped to build a temporary crossing over the river and then cut a road for half a mile through the brush and wood to get to our homestead. It was late Spring that year and fortunately the river was not high as it was the next two years when there was flood all over the land. The neighbors helped us haul in some logs so we got a log hut built. Here we lived for many years before we got a larger house. The bears would often prowl around at night and
scatter anything that was piled outside. I remember once that they discovered a stone jar full of lard which must have tasted good to them for they ate it all. Father shot a bear up in a tree at Martin Johnson’s place so we all shared bear meat which came in handy for food was not plentiful. We lived on wild meat such as rabbits, prairie chickens and once in a while a deer. Then there was plenty of fish in the river for us to catch.

Warren was not a large place at that time. There was one hotel, K. J. Taralseth had a small store south of the present one. Mike McCann had a blacksmith shop where Taralseth’s store is now. Across the street Guy Aubol had a hardware store and west of there Znerold had a small drug store which later burnt down. It took a whole day for my Dad to make the trip of eleven miles to Warren with the ox team where he hauled supplies to be traded for goods and other essentials.

There were bad floods in 1881 and 1882 so the water came up on the floors of the cabin. Snow drifts were laying on the river banks late in Spring so little seeding had been done until after May 1st. Dad talked to some of the men at the March Farm and they asked him if he intended to raise frogs and ducks where he had his claim.

It was far to the neighbors and not many houses were to be seen. The only house between Warren and Lower Snake belonged to a Mr. Huggard. The early settlers west of our place were Lars Lefstad, Lawrence Elden, John Walberg and Halvor Gunderson. Then to the southwest were the homesteads of Paul Hendrickson, Anders Skog and John Dallum. The pioneers north of the Snake River were Stone, Carlton and Mathia Swanson. During the following years more and more settlers came settling all around us. My uncle, Erick Brunsell, came directly from Sweden and took a homestead adjoining our land on the south side. Daniel Nordstrom and his wife and son, Dan, also settled in our neighborhood. Ole Larson and Ole Hendrickson filed their claims at this time. We shared our home, a 14x16 foot shack, with these good friends and relatives while they were building their claims.

From then on more and more settlers came every year. Among the early settlers were Peter Peaistrom, the Nordlund, Matt Peterson, Martin Peterson, Per Person, the Dagobergs, Lars Sundin, Gust Anderson, Per Kulle, Peter Iverson, Anton Hill, Ole Svard, C. Wahlin, A. Lundquist, Kagg, the Ranstroms, Emil Holmgren, Oscar Olson, Ole Berg, Carl Bergen, Nels Marksoon, Ole and Christ Stavig, and Erick Hogberg.

A few years later came P. H. Thompson, Halvor Olson, H. Nystrom, Peter Swanson, and John Holm. Many others should also be included in this list of sturdy, courageous and faithful settlers. Many have passed on but the younger generations with the same names have tried to take their places.

There were many Indians who lived and traveled in this area. They often came to our cabin and asked for a loaf of bread. Mother always gave them something and they went away very thankful for anything they received.

When we boys grew up, the only sport we had was hunting and fishing but it wasn’t often we could get time off from work. We used to walk five miles to the Red River, make a bonfire and stay all night. We always caught all the fish we could carry home in the early morning. Then it was to clean the fish, do the morning chores and sit down to a good meal of fish that Mother prepared.

Dad used to go work on the big farms during harvest and threshing to make some cash like most of the settlers did. When I was thirteen years old, I went to work on the old Palmer Farm. My job was cutting bundles. At that time, they used wire to tie the bundles and we had to use some kind of pliers to cut them. John P. Mattson was cutting on one side of the machine and I was on the other.

Time passes on! I was 87 years old on January 17, 1956. So many things have happened since those early years. In 1905 the village of Alvarado came into being with the Soo Line Railroad built through there. I continued to farm for many years and then I became a grain elevator operator for about twenty years. In 1929 we moved to San Francisco, California, where I lived until 1950 when my wife passed away. Since then I have made my home with my son, Al, and his wife, Agnes, at San Jose, California.

* * *

**Memories of Pioneer Days in Big Woods Township**

by Ole T. Imsdaal

This is a brief story of the pioneer and pioneer days in Big Woods Township in Marshall County, Minnesota.

The first settlers in this area came in 1879, among them Mathias Swensen and his two sons Simon and Hans who picked their homesteads but did not move the family there until the next year. Others were P. Tell (Robert Tell’s father), Nels Malm and his old parents, Charley Larsen, Hans Larsen, Hans B. Imsdaal (later Register of Deeds for Marshall County). There were also two Irish boys on Sections 14 and 26 whose names I have forgotten but they soon got cold feet, proved up and left the country. Later on Ole Efterfeld, Ole Tverstol Sr. and Andrew Heddan bought places and settled with their families.

In the Spring of 1880 came a caravan from near Willmar, Minnesota. They were Andreas Tondrum and family, John Enden, his old parents, his brother Martinus and sister Sina (later Mrs. Jens T. Imsdaal), and Johan Gjelhaug with his family. They came in four covered wagons drawn by teams of oxen and they had a herd of 50-60 head of cattle. It was a rough and hard trip taking about three weeks and they drove through wild, roadless country and had to forge bridgeless rivers with their herds and loads. Other new comers this year were Ole P. Oseth with family, Christ Alm, Ole Thomsen with family and Jens B. and Ole T. Imsdaal (cousins).

In 1881 Jon Haugen Sr. and his family came from Norway and settled in Big Woods on Section 22. There were also Ole Melo, Charley Johnson, Nick Nilsen, A. N. Jensen, Halvor Naeseth, Johan Lindemorn, George Paulson Sr., and Per Persen this year. Thomas Brosdahl came in 1884. In 1885 Hans Enerson and Svante Johnson, and also Jens T. Imsdaal (brother of Ole). In 1886 there were Osmund Enge, Halvor Harris, Erick Fjeld and in 1889 Alec Stuart, and Thomas and Andrew Storey. Mjoberg, Copps and Morberg were early settlers but I do not have the dates of their coming. Mr. Mjoberg and Ole Thomsen belonged to Fork after the Townships were reorganized.

Three log homes are still standing as a memorial to these old pioneers. The oldest one still standing was built by Jens B. Imsdaal in 1880 and is on the John Erickson farm in Oak Park. The second oldest and the oldest one in Big Woods is the one built by A. N. Jensen in 1881 and
later sold and moved to K. O. Knutson’s on the bank of the Red River. The third is the one built by Johan Gjelhaug in 1882 which is still standing on his old homestead and has been in use as a home until recently.

Big Woods and Fork Townships were organized into one organization July 26, 1880 and Ole Thomsen, P. Tell and Ole Imsdahl were elected to the town board in which capacity they served together for many terms.

Snake River runs through the middle of both Big Woods and Fork Townships and one of the first problems was to build bridges over the river. The county built a high bridge on the section line between 26 and 35 and for many years this was known as the Enden bridge. Two low bridges were built by the settlers out of logs and poles—the one between sections 11 and 14 known as the Malm bridge and the other between section line 15 and 16 in Fork Township known as the Thomsen bridge.

Mail was very irregular and also very scarce in those days. Someone had to walk to Argyle (called Louisa in the early days) to get the mail when it was convenient. The first post office for Big Woods was at the Hans B. Imsdahl home and Hans was made postmaster in 1882. Later it was moved to the Jens T. Imsdahl home in 1885 and the next move was to K. O. Knutson. K. O. had the post office for many years and had a store in connection also a ferry to cross the river. Later when a grain elevator was built on this site and the steamboat made regular trips between Grand Forks and Winnipeg, this became quite a commercial center. Mail came out once a week and some of the early mail carriers were Johan Gjelhaug, Erick Fjeld and H. Sebjornson, Sr.

The concern of these early settlers was to provide school and church. School district No. 8 was organized Dec. 5, 1882 and comprised all of the townships 156, range 50. Changes were made Jan. 6, 1892 and again June 25, 1896 at which time there were several school houses in the area. Halvor Naaseth taught one term of school in the Mathias Swenson home in 1882 and previously a short term was taught in Ole Imsdahl’s log house. The first school house was built on Ole Imsdahl’s land. Some of the first teachers were Charley Bradley, Cora Sle, Miss Donahue, Miss Stone, and Ed. Frank. Children came from the northern end of Big Woods and many of them had several miles to walk.

The first baby to be born to the settlers in Big Woods was John A. Gelhaug, son of Johan and Anne Gelhaug, who was born in July 1880. He was baptized at the first services held in Big Woods in the Fall of 1880 when a Rev. Solstad came to visit the community from Crookston and held services at the Mathias Swenson home because they had the largest house. People walked, and drove to the services that day with mosquito netting around their heads to protect themselves from the swarm of these pests that came out of the tall grass as they traveled through it.

Big Woods Lutheran Church was organized in 1883 and Rev. Fingar Jorgenson from Grand Forks was engaged as the first minister. There had been several visiting ministers before that, among them Rev. Solstad, Rev. Offedal, Rev. Flaten, and Rev. Nykrem. Ole P. Oseth was elected to lead the singing and held that position for 35 years. Johan Gelhaug taught Sunday School these early days, and the children met alternately at the homes of Mathias Swensen, Haaken Haakensen, and Johan Gelhaug. Children walked for miles to attend, and were always rewarded by a good dinner at the end of the session in the home where they met. The first church was built in 1896. While it was under construction strong winds blew it down twice and when it was finally completed it was a little crooked on its foundation but it stood and served the congregation for many years.

The farm equipment we started with was crude and primitive, and at first consisted of only a pair of oxen and a breaking plow. In the Spring the seed was broadcast by hand and dragged into the soil with a harrow. In spite of the hardships, everybody seemed carefree and happy and even the oxen were content. If you met one of your neighbors, you always had time to chat and crack a joke with him while the oxen would chew their cud. When you were ready to continue on your way, there was no cranking or shifting of gears but only to say “giddap” and the oxen stretched and started at the same slow pace.

Our trips to market were the hardest on the oxen for we had many miles to Warren or Argyle; started at daybreak and came home sometimes during the night. On the way home there was generally a group of us together so the time wasn’t long and it did not matter whether it was storm or darkness, we could rest assured that the oxen would take us safely home. They must have had a sixth sense in finding their way home. Argyle was short on water at this time and they had a village well on the residence block of Olson & Holen and here the whole town took their drinking water. Because of the shortage of water, they put up a sign $10.00 fine for watering your cows here.” For us to go down to the river meant another mile or two for our poor oxen so we risked watering them at the well. Once, when we were thus engaged, Dr. Stone came walking by and stopped and shouted to us “Don’t you see that notice, or can’t you read?” Victor Morberg, one of our group, always had a ready answer and he started to read $10.00 fine for watering your cows here”—“But,” he said, “these are not cows—they are oxen.” The doctor, seeing he had lost, walked on and we had a good laugh.

Two of the worst things we had to contend with was the mosquitoes in the Summer and the prairie fires in the Fall. Unless you have had the experience, you can never imagine how bad the mosquitoes can be with grass knee deep and willow brush all over the prairie interspersed with water puddles. Mosquitoes were so thick that on a sultry day it was impossible to walk with the wind for it would bring the whole swarm in your face. We had to make smudges for the stock, and horses and they would get so wild they would lie right down into the smudge and burn themselves, so it was necessary to put a fence around the smudge. A person can get used to most anything, however, and after repeatedly being stung your skin would get thick and hard as hoghide so there was no more feeling, but it certainly tested a person’s patience.

Mathias Swanson was the first and hardest hit of anyone by prairie fires in this township. As stated before, he came and homesteaded in 1879 on section 34. He built a house and stable, and put up a lot of hay for his stock and then moved his family up in 1880. He had 40 head of cattle, 35 sheep, and 2 horses and it took him 19 days to move from Willmar, Minnesota. He had everything fixed on the way home there was generally a group of us together so the time wasn’t long and it did not matter whether it was storm or darkness, we could rest assured that the oxen would take us safely home. They must have had a sixth sense in finding their way home. Argyle was short on water at this time and they had a village well on the residence block of Olson & Holen and here the whole town took their drinking water. Because of the shortage of water, they put up a sign $10.00 fine for watering your cows here”—“But,” he said, “these are not cows—they are oxen.” The doctor, seeing he had lost, walked on and we had a good laugh.

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them for home but before he got there he could see the hay and buildings on fire and everything burned to the ground—even a covered wagon box which had been placed on a piece of breaking and used for sleeping quarters for some of the boys.

This was a tragic picture with all the stock left without feed or shelter and everything burned black as far as the eye could see—and Winter was expected any day. The first thing to do was to locate some feed. In the bend of the river where Oslo is now located, the fire did not hit and here they were able to put up hay from a lot of dead grass. Syver Hoff, living near Oslo, had put up some hay which was saved, and Mr. Swanson got two stacks from him, and he bought two stacks of oats from a man closer to Grand Forks. Mr. Swanson rebuilt, and lived there that Winter. Of course, he had good help from his boys. Simon was then a grown man, Henry M. (later a resident of Warren) was also grown, Andrew was 16 years old, Bernard 14, Martin 12 and Anton 8. He also had a hired man. Many in his place would have given up in despair, but Mathias Swanson was an old Viking with courage and faith.

There was another big prairie fire Oct. 17, 1888 when many lost their hay and buildings. An old man, Ole Pederson, was burned to death on Section 11 where Lars Aasand later lived. Pederson was going out to let the cows out of the stable when he was caught by the fire and was found later on the manure pile dead. Simon Roe was also badly burned when he tried to save some hay he had on the prairie near where Mr. Strandquist lived later. When he was found everything had burned all around him and his clothes were burned off, but he was alive. He was brought to the home of Nels Malm’s parents where Mrs. Malm cared for him the best she could. The nearest doctor was in Crookston and Simon was later moved there.

Every Spring we watched for signs of a flood for, then as now, the two rivers threatened to overflow their banks. The biggest and most destructive flood was in 1897 and as far as the eye could see—and Winter was expected any day. The first thing to do was to locate some feed. In the bend of the river where Oslo is now located, the fire did not hit and here they were able to put up hay from a lot of dead grass. Syver Hoff, living near Oslo, had put up some hay which was saved, and Mr. Swanson got two stacks from him, and he bought two stacks of oats from a man closer to Grand Forks. Mr. Swanson rebuilt, and lived there that Winter. Of course, he had good help from his boys. Simon was then a grown man, Henry M. (later a resident of Warren) was also grown, Andrew was 16 years old, Bernard 14, Martin 12 and Anton 8. He also had a hired man. Many in his place would have given up in despair, but Mathias Swanson was an old Viking with courage and faith.

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Every Spring we watched for signs of a flood for, then as now, the two rivers threatened to overflow their banks. The biggest and most destructive flood was in 1897 and every flood since then has been measured by the size of this one. Everyone had his private boat and it was put to good use for the water was high and stayed that way for a long while. On that memorable Easter, there was a big storm with cold, high winds, and waves. Everyone fought to save his home and belongings and many of the houses rocked in the wind like boats on the water. The farther north you went the deeper the water and the greater the destruction. We could look out of our windows and watch parts of buildings and dead cattle float by, but fortunately no human lives were lost.

In spite of many hardships, the old settlers loved the Red River Valley and were happy. They were of sturdy stock and tackled their work with a courageous and strong hand and with faith in their hearts. They believed they had found the choice land of uncle Sam, “a bit of heaven," and they saw beauty in this spot of greenery framed by the two rivers and the woods “Big Woods.”

Pearsons in Vega

by Delphia Pearson

Andrew Pearson decided to come to America because it was very hard for the common class in Sweden. They had heard that this was the land of “Golden Opportunity.” However, in spite of all the hardships which they suffered, they were not too disappointed and were glad that they came. They thought it was wonderful to have a home of their own.

When Pearsons and Norrlunds came from the “old country” they had a ticket to Chicago. From there they didn’t know where to go—most possibly Kansas. In Chicago there was a Mr. Johnson who was trying to induce settlers to come here. He convinced Pearsons and Norrlunds that it was the right place to make their new homes. They arrived in 1880. A short time later several other people from that same place, Trumenberg, Sweden, came here. All of Vega township was originally settled by Swedish people.

Work was not easily gotten. The large Woodward Farm and the railroad hired the most laborers. One could occasionally get work for other farmers. One would sometimes pitch hay for an entire day and get 75¢; the worker would also have to board himself if he were to receive that much.

At first Andrew Pearson planned to continue his former trade, that of a blacksmith. He even bought a lot, but there was already one blacksmith in Warren. He soon decided that there was not enough work for two of them.

There were only 80 acres left for homesteading close to Warren and he took that. Here they built a two-room sod house.

He soon decided that the 80 acres wasn’t enough, so he went to section 10 in Vega township and took a tree claim. Here he planted five acres of trees, black poplar. These trees didn’t grow well in this part of the country; so he turned the land over to preemption and paid $500 for the quarter section.

When Andrew Pearson first farmed in Vega he lived in a big barrel that dishes had come in. (His home was still by Warren and he hadn’t built a house here). These barrels were big enough so that one man could crawl in them and sleep without getting wet. It was about 10 miles between the two places so, of course, he could not go back and forth every day.

Six years after they came, 1886, they sold their homestead and came to Vega to live. Emil Pearson, still of Vega, was three years old at the time.

The first team of horses which Mr. Pearson bought cost $500; while the first binder sold for $300. The four most important things to be sold in the store were coffee, sugar, flour, and tobacco. One couldn’t buy chairs, clocks, etc. in Warren. These were gotten at Crookston, about 33 miles distant.

There were no cattle to be bought, but one family was moving through and they had some. There was a flood so they decided to wait at Pearsons place for a while. They let him buy a cow. Winter food for her was put up by Mr. Pearson’s cutting some grass with a scythe and Mrs. Pearson’s raking it together and stacking it by hand.

When Pearsons came, there was not a tree between Warren and the river. They had to have a guide to show them the place in Vega; he used a compass to keep from getting lost.

The three greatest hardships which the pioneers suffered were snowstorms, prairie fires, and lack of water. Vickstroms would drive their cattle a distance of five miles to Snake River to water them. By the time they came home, the cattle were thirsty again. The blizzards were much worse than now because there were no trees or windbreak.
Some people were not at all satisfied, while others were quite happy and contented. One lady wrote home that the mosquitoes were an inch long and she had welts on her body as big as her fist. However, by the time they got settled, no one could have been happier than she.

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by Bernard Sundin

The year I was born, 1881, my parents, Lars and Louisa Sundin, left Gottenberg, Sweden, emigrated to America and came to Warren on June 23, 1881. My father went out to look for a homestead to file on and he found a piece of land thirteen miles northwest of Warren that he liked. Here he built a house on the 160 acre claim and we settled down there to live. He bought a cow so that we would have milk but all the groceries had to be carried home from Warren. We were about one mile from the river and neighbors were few and far between. At first there were some Indian families living there but after a year or so they moved away. The first year we lived there, father went out working but the second year he started working his own land. He bought a pair of oxen, broke the sod, seeded it and harvested 300 bushel of wheat that first year. When I got old enough to help, I joined him in the fields. We now had three teams of oxen and more cows. I shall never forget the spring when my father seeded. I always liked to be along because father kept his shot gun on the seeder. If some wild geese came over and landed on the field, father would unhitch one ox and walk beside it so that he would not be seen by the birds. This would enable him to get quite close. No other method would have been very successful because the gun he had was a muzzle-loader that required a reload after every shot and would not have given him enough time to load up again. One time my father shot two geese with one shot. For six years my father farmed with oxen then he sold them and been very successful because the gun he had was a muzzle-loader that required a reload after every shot and we had a drought and father had to go east of Argyle, 26 miles away, to put up hay. When winter came, that hay had to be hauled with four-horse teams to our farm, a very cold and wearisome journey. My father’s land had increased to 520 acres and the family had grown. There were nine children: Nima (Mrs. William Gunderson) (deceased); Hilma (Mrs. Alfred Nelson) (deceased); Lydia (Mrs. Nels Anderson) (deceased); Esther (deceased); Mabel (Mrs. Joe Vixie); Lawrence (deceased); Emanuel (deceased); Rudolf (deceased); and myself. In 1902 I married Alma Peterson from Lengby, Minnesota, in my father’s home and we lived there until 1907 when we moved first to Alvarado and then to East Grand Forks.

Who Remembers?

by Nettie Golden

Who remembers? “The Peddler Lady” who went from house to house with her satchel full of pins, ribbons and lace to sell to the town ladies; the “Chimney Sweep” with his high hat and yodeling song. He carried a gunny sack attached to a rope with which to clean the sooty chimneys; the “Gypsies” who came to town and camped north of the present power house. We hurried home when we heard they were in town; the “Tramps” who rode into town on freight trains and stayed under the railroad bridge near the power house. They sometimes worked for food, but when the next train whistled, their promised jobs were forgotten and they were again on their way.

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One of Warren’s Earlier Dime Stores

by Donald F. Swenson

E. E. Swenson had been a traveling salesman for a Twin City dry goods firm which went out of business during the Depression. Out of a job, and considering his years of experience serving small stores throughout Minnesota and North Dakota, “Swen” decided to become a merchant himself.

Swenson’s Variety Store (with a street sign simply reading “5 & 10”) opened its doors on November 13, 19--, a warm and balmy day which made the Christmas decorations in the display windows and throughout the building seem out of place. The first customer was Henry Taralseth and, as such, he won the door prize of a pudding pan.

The original store was located in the F. C. Larson Furniture building, but its immediate success soon made it necessary to move to larger quarters next door to the Warren Sheaf where it stayed in operation until shortly after World War II.

Those of you who recall the dime store will immediately remember the cheerful smile and friendliness of “Katie” Ferguson, the chief clerk for most of the store’s existence. Mrs. Evelyn Swenson managed the store when “Swen” became the Warren Postmaster and her children, Donald and Elizabeth, helped out after school unpacking merchandise or waiting on the penny candy trade.

In those days a penny could purchase a little sugar pie in a tin pan with a tiny tin spoon for eating; candy beans scooped up in a small wooden bean pot; strips of black licorice studded with sweet sugar dots; sugar cigarettes
with red tips; chewy, mint-flavored green leaves; jaw breakers; chocolate drops; candy cigars; and bubble gum packages with cardboard pictures of screen stars or champion athletes. There were also penny toys, including a pen wiper made of chamois with a little American flag on it, tin whistles, bird callers, little glass animals with metal collars; and clay marbles, six for a penny. Agates were five for a dime. There were glass bottles shaped like automobiles and airplanes filled with tiny sugar pills . . . and metal zeppelins with a windup key for the propellor . . . balsawood gliders that would really soar on windy days . . . paper kites . . . wooden Tinker Toys that leaped, kicked, clanged and jingled when you pulled the string . . . walking dolls that loped haltingly down an incline . . . wooden canoes with plister Indians . . . clam shells which when dropped in a glass of water would pop open and produce exotic Japanese flowers . . . tops and yo-yos that hummed and whirred . . . tin clowns and circus animals that whirled and danced when a magnet came near . . . tiny metal speedboats called “bathtub putt-putts” which were powered by wee candles burning under small pans of water which produced the steam propulsion . . . stern-wheelers powered by rubber bands . . . celluloid capsules that moved mysteriously as the metal pellet inside moved from end to end . . . and in the Pet Department, aquariums filled with guppies and goldfish . . . and live baby turtles with painted shells.

The Record Department sold Bluebird and Decca 78s three for a dollar and featured Artie Shaw, Glenn Miller, the Andrews Sisters, Bing Crosby, and the Ink Spots, to name a few artists of that era.


The School Supply counter featured thick paper tablets for five and ten cents (Shirley Temple covers in full color), 3 ring binders, bottles of ink, erasers, pencils, pencil boxes and sharpeners (plain or fancy).

The Gift Department was Mrs. Swenson’s personal pet and displayed ceramics and pottery from Austria & Czechoslovakia, wooden nesting dolls from Russia, hand-blown glass decorations from Italy, Quimper ware from France, Devonshire pottery from England, hand carved figurines & animals from Scandinavia.

Many of the products in the Cosmetic Department no longer exist, so a few names are mentioned to jog your memory: Lady Esther Face Powder, Tangee Rouge, Odor-O-No (with sponge attached to the cap for application), tiny bottles of perfume for 10c labeled “Blue Waltz,” “Radio Girl,” “Ben Hur,” and “Parfum Wesmay” by Mae West . . . Cutex Nail Polish and pencils of nail whitener . . . Kleenex at 2 boxes for a quarter . . . Campana Italian Balm, Chamberlains Lotion, Three Flowers Brilliantine, Fitch Dandruff Shampoo, Wildroot Hair Oil, Jap Rose Soap, Gillette Blue Blades, Ipana Toothpaste (for healthy gums), Pepsodent, Drene Shampoo, Bobby Pins-Hairnets-Fine Combs-and gooey green colored “Wave Set” . . . large ten cent bottles of Bay Rum (for external use only) many of which found their way to the hobo camps down by the railroad tracks!

The Coca Cola cooler by the front door was popular with everybody. Chilled by cakes of ice delivered daily by the iceman, “Coke” was brought twice weekly by truck from the bottling plant in Crookston. At five cents per bottle, it is hard to figure how anyone involved made a worthwhile profit.

Thank you for reading and reminiscing about the “good old days.”

My Memories of Warren—1916-1937

by Ruby Tell Strandberg

I moved to Warren back about 1916 with my parents, Robert and Alma Tell, from our farm in Big Woods Township in Marshall County. Our farm was originally homesteaded by my Grandfather Peter Larsson who changed his name to Peter Tell to avoid confusion at the post office. He did not get along with his brother in Sweden so he emigrated to Willmar, Minnesota. It might be of interest to some that Peter was an uncle to Carl Larsson, one of the great painters of Sweden, whose home is now open to the public as a national museum in Sunborn, Sweden, and whose work can be found in gift shops across this country in the form of post cards, correspondence cards, trays, etc. My father was born in Willmar, Minnesota, and came with his father, at the age of six, to Big Woods Township to make their home. My mother, Alma, came from Varmland, Sweden, at the age of eleven, with her parents, the Fellmans, and settled in Alma Township, Marshall County.

I was born in the original log cabin built on the farm and I lived there until we moved to Warren and lived at 19 Wentzel Street. How well I remember the thrill of turning a round button switch and seeing instant light. What a wonderful sensation after only seeing and using kerosene lamps!

Our home was close to the Warren Hospital, a very going institution at that time, with a good staff of doctors and a nurses training school as well. As there were no motels and only two or three hotels at that time, patients who came from way out in Dakota pleaded with my mother to at least board them or let them sleep in for 1 or 2 nights. Once they got in, they often stayed for weeks because any surgery meant a long convalescence at that time. I was happy about the situation as I could go and visit the young patients at least so had many friends from miles away.

After attending school in a rural schoolhouse for about two months, in first grade, the Washington School house looked huge to me. I soon adjusted and was most happy with so many friends around. In spite of all the children, Mr. Holmquist kept us all in hand. In winter when there were snowstorms, I always envied the children who lived on the East Side or further away than I because they would get a sleigh ride home, courtesy of the dray line in town. My father would come and guide a few of us home, which, of course, was no big deal compared with a sleigh ride.

North Star College meant higher learning for many and music lessons for me. When I walked to my lessons, I always managed to stop at the Soo Depot and give up my pennies to the candy machine, always well-supplied with small chocolate bars. To earn money, the college had several basket socials we could always attend and, of course, as a young girl I too enjoyed sharing a basket of goodies with a handsome young man.
High School days in Warren were the best and bring much reminiscing for me on the four years spent there. I was one of many fortunate to have had Mrs. Leora Cassidy, Mathew Halvorson, Birkland, Hanson and others as teachers who really had their students at heart. Our favorite place to meet as teenagers then was the "Swan" and "Bakkes" which had a balcony and was always in use after school.

Taralbrace and the Peoples Trading Co. were the two big stores in Warren. For me, one could buy anything from groceries to fur coats in them. People’s Trading Co. delivered their goods by a horse-drawn red wagon that was driven by a Mr. Johnson. Speed wasn’t the thing but it delivered the goods. Taralbrace’s Christmas parties for the kids every Christmas was a fun thing with "Shorty" Holbrook as the clown... and a good one... who demonstrated the new toys.

After graduation from high school, we moved back to the farm and I went on to further education after which I did social work for sometime. I married Clarence Strandberg and we had two children: Robert Charles of Portland, Oregon, and Louise (Mrs. Bengt Nilsson) of Edina, Minnesota. Clarence and I moved to Portland, Oregon, because of his poor health and I am now alone, still living here, as Clarence died in 1972.

**Jonas H**

Elroy Johnson has written a most interesting and dedicated book about his father, Jonas H. Johnson entitled “Jonas H.” Jonas was born near Bolinas, Sweden, in 1866 where his father worked in the lumber business for $24.00 a year and where the family lived on a three acre rocky farm from which was eked out a very frugal living. From his aunt he borrowed the equivalent of $66.00 and emigrated in 1884. Since he came to Warren, I am copying a section that tells of his life here. (editor)

“The summer of 1884 gave promise of a bumper wheat crop in the Warren area. Large farms west of town had several thousand acres each seeded in wheat. It was on one of these farms that Jonas and Nils Berg (from Sundsvall, Sweden) found work shocking grain. The spread was known as the Woodward Farm (now the Melgard Farm) and it had a unique feature in the respect that the horsepower consisted of 88 mules and one horse. The lone horse was used by the farm manager, Lem Rafferty, to make the rounds as supervisor. Sometimes he rode horseback, at other times, he used a buggy. The lonely traveling horse and rider were indispensable. They kept the 88 mules on the move.

When Nils and Jonas joined the crew of shockers, it totaled 22. This crew set up wheat shocks for 21 binders. The standing grain made a beautiful sea of gold waving in the breeze. The cut sheaves were not so beautiful because they had to be set up into shocks, which represented a great deal of back-breaking labor and sweat under a merciless sun. Breakfast, which came at six o’clock, consisted of wheat cakes or oatmeal and bitter coffee. The crew was taken to the harvesting area in wagons. At noon the meal was brought to the field. The fare consisted of cooked beans, salt pork, soggy bread and bitter coffee. The following day, Rafferty came by with horse and buggy to observe the shockers. He criticized some for setting up sloppy shocks. Others he commended.

Now the fleet of binders was coming abreast of the shocking crew. Suddenly, a driver pulled his mules out of the line-up, crawled off the binder seat, and doubled up with stomach pains. Too much beans and salt pork? Rafferty called to a couple of shockers to get the sick man to the buggy and then asked the crew if anyone could drive four mules and a binder. Jonas raised his hand. He had never driven but a single horse in Sweden and that one was so stubborn that only three in the community could drive him. These four mules couldn’t be as stubborn as that horse. But Jonas soon found out different. Mules are sentimental creatures. To a bull whip they will not respond. Nuzzle them individually and talk to them in any language and they seem to understand. Of course, Jonas knew nothing about a binder. The knotter, the kicker or the bull wheel didn’t mean much. But he had a binder which was in good running order, and he pulled in back of the other binders, and he set up no more shocks that season.

Harvest and threshing were over. Those who handled mules stayed on for plowing. And Jonas could now handle them. Twenty-two gang plows cut a wide swath in the stubble. At the end of a day, more than a hundred acres had been turned over. At noon feed and water was brought for the mules. For the men it was the same fare as before: beans, salt pork, soggy bread and bitter coffee.

The Snake River wound its sluggish way through the area. It had small tributaries that ran through the Woodward Farm. Among these run-off areas grew black currants, chokecherries, black haws and wild sugar plums. Chokecherries and currants had been cleaned by the birds but plums and black haws were hanging from the trees. The mules had to be rested every mile. When this happened near a plum thicket, all the drivers headed for the plum trees and gorged themselves on sugar plums and black haws. It seemed to take the edge off the bean and salt pork diet and seven hors was a long time between meals.

In harvest as well as plowing, a rain would stop all activity. When it rained, the men got their keep but no wages. Those who hired on in the Spring for $15.00 a month were paid despite the rain.

With a November freeze, field work ended. They decided not to join a lumbering crew to the east but remain instead in Warren and earn a living cutting wood and shoveling. They found a woman in Warren who rent out a room for $4.00 a month and equipped with cooking utensils. Thanksgiving found the Swedes settled in their quarters and their Thanksgiving Dinner consisted of rabbit stew, dumplings and boiled potatoes — and a dozen doughnuts that had been purchased for a dime. Cottontail rabbits were plentiful along the river. Jackrabbits were common on the prairies. An occasional prairie chicken helped to vary their diet. Potatoes were cheap at 40c a bushel.

In 1885, spring came late. The Snake River was overflowing its banks and flooding the fields. It would be mid-April before the fields could be harrowed. When they arrived at the Woodward Farm on the first of April, there was work to do but not in the field. Over six thousand bushels of seed was being fanned. Three fanning mills were being operated, two men to a mill. One man turned the crank while the other kept the hopper full and dumped the screened grain into a bin. Two weeks were needed to complete the fanning operation. In another area, men were busy unbinding harnesses, scrubbing them in a saddle soap solution and later soaking them in harness oil.
The process was slow and tedious. Each strap of the harness had to be scrubbed in the soap solution, then to the harness oil bath and then allowed to dry. Usually, the surplus oil was wiped off. Then followed the procedure of assembling the harness. Forty-four sets of harness to be cleaned and oiled consumed a lot of time. A third group of men were busy servicing the machinery. Worn parts had to be replaced, wheels greased and moving parts oiled. A tongue on a drill had to be replaced, wheels greased and moving parts oiled. A tongue on a drill had to be replaced. Whiffle trees and eveners were shaped from two-by-fours and fitted with straps, a clevis, or a tug hook.

A certain amount of bickering and bantering was common in the crew. It often spun off into racial ridicule. There were a number of Irish boys on the all-season crew. One lonely Finnander seemed to hover near the Swedes as did two Polish boys. A lack of communication was chiefly at fault. These “newcomers” just did not have a grasp of the English language. The Norwegians and Danes seemed to pick up the language faster. Why? Nils questioned one of the Norwegian boys and got a quick answer: “Anyone knows that a Swede is a Norwegian with his brains kicked out!” And the fun started. There were a few bloody noses, chairs and a cracked-up table.

June was splurging itself all over the prairie. Wheat stood like a carpet of green over the land. A sea of waving green so huge that one could drop the whole community of Bakkange in and it wouldn’t make a blob. Why, this country was so big that you could throw all of Sweden into it and scarcely know it was there. And it was beautiful in a vast, majestic sort of way. But it was too huge, too level, like the top of a table. As June gave way to July, the haying season started. It took a lot of hay to feed 88 mules the year around. Some wagons were used to haul hay to the mows of the horse barns. Others were used for stacking in the field. Bucking poles with a team at either end were also used to push hay to the stacks. Stacking hay became very difficult when bucking poles were used because the hay became twisted and snarled so it was almost impossible to shape a good stack. Not far from the main buildings on the farm ran a little creek, a tributary of the Snake River. It was called a “coulee.” The men threw a few rocks and dead limbs together in a bend and formed somewhat of a “swimming hole.” With clay at the bottom and mud on the banks, it wasn’t too inviting. Horse play was the accepted routine at the “hole” but Nils wanted no part of it. When others went into the coulee, he took a bucket, dipped out some clear water upstream and doused himself the best he could. He knew he came out cleaner than the others.

Haying gave way to harvest. Jonas drove four mules on a binder and Nils stayed with the shocking crew. When threshing commenced, Nils took field pitching rather than drive a bundle team. It was harder work because one never seemed to get a minute’s rest but at least there wasn’t the agony of driving the mules up to that noisy separator. If even a small belt came off and started flapping, right then you could have a runway.

November was here. In two weeks all field work would come to a halt, machinery cleaned and oiled for winter storage and another season had ended at the Farm.”
we dreaded an epidemic. There were no modern conveniences then. Water had to be carried in. Remember the slop barrels and the outhouses that stood in the back alley? There were very few cars then and men and school children walked home to eat at noon. A county nurse came to examine you in the cloak room of the school for bad adenoids and tonsils. No provisions were made if you needed attention. Clothes were patched and patched again. Shoes were resoled at home where also hair cuts were given. Flour sacks were sewed into pillow cases, sheets, dish towels or whatever else you needed. In the Spring you carried down the mattresses and pounded and swept them. Walls and ceilings were Kem-toned and you had a fresh clean room. Sunday newspapers cost 10c. Mother and I would walk to the old Mission Covenant church for evening services that sometimes lasted until 10:30 p.m. We would tie a thin dime in the corner of a hankie for the collection. I hope our Lord blessed those dimes. Ministers too have changed. Then they preached "fire and brimstone." Now it's "God's love and salvation."

Summertime meant Chautauqua and tent meetings. Gypsy bands would come to town and raid the stores. The Warren City Band would play in the Great Northern Railroad Park and on the Island Park. On Memorial Day school children would meet at the old fire hall and march to the cemetery with apple and plum blossoms. The highlight of the year was not Christmas but the County Fair. Admission was charged at the gate but because my father was a policeman at the gate, we got in free. We enjoyed the exhibits, the evening events and the fireworks the last day of the fair were beautiful!

No one locked their doors, there was a curfew, people walked to church and to school and to work. The neighbors visited when they hung out the family wash. Remember the Easter hats, white gloves and new shoes for those who could afford them? Girls wore white dresses for confirmation and graduation. Reading, writing and arithmetic were taught. Now no one seems to enjoy reading, very few can write legibly and arithmetic is badly done. Some can't write or balance a check book or spell and many depend on computers to add or subtract.

Years ago it was a disgrace to misspell and spelling bees were common. At home and at school discipline was strict. Music was enjoyed and memorized and I can remember my father singing verse after verse of one of his favorite Norwegian songs. We had good teachers. One of mine was Minnie McGrath Gunnarson. School picnics and church picnics were held at Riverside Farm, Island Park and the Old Mill when it was only a sheep pasture. Our fun was ice skating and sliding down the river banks. My dad made skis for us, shaped them and put them in a boiler of hot water to bend them . . . and we called them skis and they served the purpose. Summer time we would walk the railroad tracks and the railroad ties to see how long we could keep our balance before falling off. We all grew up, went through school in Warren and earned whatever money we could.

* * *

Recollections of Raymond Peterson

When tragedy struck our family and our father, August Peterson, became ill with tuberculosis and was confined to the sanitorium in Thief River Falls, Minnesota, we wondered, "How could we survive?" Mother's concern and goal was "If we can only get all the children through school, everything will turn out right." It was her cheerfulness, optimism, determination and strong faith in God that kept our family intact to reach that goal. We were self-sufficient in our basic needs through those years with a cow, chickens and two large gardens which provided all our vegetables. Then, too, there were occasional rentals from relatives who stayed at our home while attending school. However, it was the warmth, kindness and unselfish generosity of the many family friends in Warren and surrounding farm areas which really sustained us during many of those trying days. One November seemed particularly bleak as we wondered what Thanksgiving would be like that year. Mother said, "We will pray for our needs." There were two turkeys for us that Thanksgiving!

A loan from Dr. Theodore Bratrud enabled me to continue my education at the University of Minnesota after graduation from the Warren High School. I supplemented my income needs by working in restaurants and at other jobs including that of instructor in Anatomy at medical school in my senior year. I graduated in 1928 as a Dr. of Medicine with a Master of Science degree in Pathology and began the practice of Pathology in Butte, Montana. Now I was able to repay my debt to Dr. Bratrud, assist the family and help the others.

Wendell and Carrell graduated from the University of Minnesota as Doctors of Medicine. Wendell specialized in orthopedic surgery and received his specialty training with a fellowship at the Mayo Clinic. In the army during World War II, he practiced orthopedic surgery at the Gorgas Hospital in Panama and at the Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C. After the war, he established his practice in Tacoma, Washington, where he was highly respected during his many years of service until his death in 1973 at the age of 61. Carrell received a scholarship in radiology and is a Fellow of the American College of Radiology. During the War, he served in the Navy as a medical officer aboard an attack transport carrying troops across the Pacific and participated in assault landings in the Philippines and Okinawa. He lives in Oakland, California, where he continues his practice of Radiology.

Mildred, an excellent pianist, helped support the family by working at Peoples Trading Company as a secretary after graduation from high school. She, too, became ill with tuberculosis and was hospitalized at the sanitorium in Thief River Falls but never fully recovered and she died in 1937 at the age of 32.

Mae graduated from the Swedish Hospital in Minneapolis as a Registered Nurse. During the war years, she served in many areas of the South Pacific war theatre as an Army Nurse. Until recently, she continued to work as a nurse in Fullerton, California, where she lives with her husband, Ed Barker.

Melville attended the School of Mines in Butte, Montana, and the University of Minnesota until his enlistment in the Air Force. Throughout the war years and after the war, he served as an instructor in navigation. He is now a supervising inspector for Underwriters Laboratories and resides in Redlands, California.

Through the years, we learned that adversity, when it isn't too overwhelming, can be a blessing in disguise in giving us the strength to continue when things seemed difficult and in molding the character of our lives. All of us
are grateful to our many friends in the Warren area for their generosity and we are thankful for the privilege of growing up among people whose friendship, kindness, and concern for others demonstrated a humanitarian spirit which could never have been experienced anywhere else.

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Warren, A City of Bridges

by Olaf Halverson, Nome, Alaska, Sept. 5, 1956

“A City of Bridges” is a title which can scarcely be applied to Warren today but if the wheel of time could be spun backward, we would retreat to a time when Warren was truly “A City of Bridges.”

Let us investigate the location and cause which brought our such early great beauty to Warren. From a scientific standpoint, it is based on geology especially the formation and changes in the course of the river, in this instance the Snake River. It is a principle called steam capture and takes place especially with slow, meandering rivers.

The Snake River actually has changed its course in past history and experienced geologists from the University of Minnesota could easily, by sampling the soil along the old course, determine by chemical or oxidation stages of the soil, establish the approximate time that this took place.

The inlet of the captured course began south of what was Professor Sjostrand’s house (now the home of Jon Holter at 755 North Division Street) and near the former home of Charlie Erickson. It then followed the alley south of Henning Johnsons and Jens Goldens, along the west side of the former Norwegian Methodist church called the Coulee Bank church for that reason, then an eastward bend swinging around to the north side of Hotel Warren, then just north of the Youngdahl home and south of Captain Olsons (now the home of Clifford Stafslen at 529 North Minnesota), then by Skoogs (now the home of John Short at 528 North McKinley), now curving northwesterly by Nelsons (now the home of Mrs. Clarence B. Johnson at 239 West Park) about 200 feet east of the former Swedish Covenant church, turning west by northwest close to the Larson house passing close to the former Myhre home (now the home of H. Q. Melgard at 709 Division Street) and then joining the Snake River about 500 feet in a continued course.

That made almost a complete island in the heart of what is now the City of Warren and this accounts for the luxuriant growth of beautiful trees close to the center of town. A similar situation is now in evidence and makes possible the Island Park.

Close to the junction of Main Street and Central Avenue and about 200 feet north of Hotel Warren, there was a great conjunction of four bridges which came in from the four cardinal directions of the compass; north, south, east and west. This strategic junction of four bridges acquired a most interesting and humorous name “The Catch-on Corner” from the fact that lovers would often meet at this point. It was not considered the best of behavior by the more reserved society to be seen waiting restfully on the railing at this corner and was similar to the more refined idea of strict absence from meeting the southbound train of the Great Northern Flyer.

On Minnesota street, there were two bridges; one on the east side and the other on the west side. The one on the east side and the other on the west side. The one on the west side of Larson’s store held a great fascination for me because it was our pathway to the Washington School (now the site of Warren’s hospital). Beginning with Miss Jennie Wood for the first grade teacher, I ended with Miss Nellis Payden (later Mrs. Rasmus Hage) in the seventh and Miss Costello in the eighth grade.

At Larson’s Hardware Store, I bought kerosene for 15c a gallon to keep the kerosene lamps burning at the home of Mrs. Marie Swanson. The long hitching rail by the east side of Larson’s store held a great fascination for us. The three-inch, seventy-five foot pipe lay horizontally on four foot poles and horses were tied to the long pipe. For all the boys going home from school, the long pipe was a pneumatic tube and by speaking in the north end, people passing by the south end on Johnson Avenue would be startled to hear their names called out from mid-air with no one in sight. They would look up, around, and everywhere. At the corner of Larsons was located a large, heavy iron, artistic water basin with an automatic float to keep the water at a constant level. This was the watering place for the teams of horses that would come into town.

Passing by Lodoen’s blacksmith shop, we saw and understood all the thoughts so beautifully portrayed in Longfellow’s poem, “The Village Blacksmith.” We beheld the sparks from the large emery wheel, the anvil chorus ringing out from the large anvil, the shoeing of horses and the re-rimming of wagon wheels performed so well by a very hard-working blacksmith, Andrew Lodoen. “Each morning saw some new task begun and each evening saw its close.”

The last bridge was the one running east and west just west of the Covenant church. Thus all these numerous bridges made Warren a city of bridges. But, alas, time has brought many changes and the bridges of Warren have disappeared. Their value to tourist attraction may or may not have been great. The first bridges to disappear were the ones on Minnesota Street where the debris from Warren’s greatest fire, the Taralseth store, filled the street. Others have been slowly replaced by successive fillings.

A dike formed by filling in the street close to the original entrance now keeps out high water. I still recall how at high water in 1907, the river took its old course and isolated our homes. Boats piled up and down the old coulee, like the little boy in Holland, I saw the first trickling of water coming down the alley way and finally filling the coulee to an eight foot depth.

It would be fun to stroll once more “The City of Bridges” and behold by-gone faces and life in the horse and buggy days. How we would be thrilled to hear once more the old “hellos,” to see the friendly smiles; and hear the good wishes of our truest friends.

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Annette Hansen at 90 Years

(Editors note: In a pamphlet published by the Lutheran Sentinel for February 14, 1980, this story on Annette Hansen and her life as a minister’s wife appeared. From it has been taken this that pertains to her life in the Warren area.)

"I suppose I could say I was born in a little house on the prairie in Northern Minnesota, near Warren in Marshall County, in 1889 on October 4. My parents, John J. and Albertine Anderson, had come from Wisconsin some time before that. They moved from the place where my grandparents had settled when they came from Norway. My mother was born in 1865, and she was a baby when they immigrated. My mother grew up in 1865, and was a baby when they immigrated. My mother grew up in 1865, and was a baby when they immigrated. My mother grew up in 1865, and was a baby when they immigrated. My mother grew up in 1865, and was a baby when they immigrated.

Those were hard days for my mother, as she was afraid of prairie fires, and also of Indians. There weren’t many who had electric lights, and in the country we didn’t have any.

I think almost everyone had a rain water barrel, as the well water was hard and alkaline, but it was good and healthy to drink and to cook with. My father dug the wells by hand, and they were curbed. We pulled water up in a bucket until later years when we had a pump. We washed clothes by rubbing on a wash board which wasn’t too hard after all. We used a boiler to heat the water and also to boil the white clothes. And they really got white! Most of the time we had homemade soap. And we could buy some big brown bars for washing clothes if we ran short. For hand soap we could buy some real nice toilet soap. In the winter time we thawed snow or melted ice for soft water to wash with.

For cooling things in the summertime, we hung milk, butter, meat and other things down in the well. We had dirt cellars under the house, one for potatoes and other vegetables, and one for foods like milk, cream, canned fruits and jelly.

As the family grew larger, my father added more rooms. The first one-room house was the main part of the house as it was quite large. That is where I was born and later on married, as I was married at home since my father had been sick for a long time and was just able to sit up. The people of Warren had expected us to be married there, as they had a new church. But I belonged in the country, and we didn’t have a church yet, using one of the school houses or a home for services. We did have a minister from Norway for awhile, and he preached at Warren and also in the country on occasion.

My older brother and sister were confirmed in Warren in Norwegian. My mother taught us to read Norwegian and also started us in the Catechism, Explanation and Biblical History, as we had no Sunday School. When it came my turn to be confirmed, I went to Wisconsin and stayed with my grandparents and was confirmed there. I had finished eighth grade by that time, and when I came back I went to school one more year. After that I had to stay home and help my mother with the work, since my older sister got married and moved away.

Work was harder on the farm than now, with all kinds of machinery. Then almost everything was done by hand in haying and harvesting. I can well remember the first binder and some other machinery. So before I left the farm, we had easier ways of doing things. Also my younger brothers were growing up, so the work was easier for all of us.

About this time, the people in Warren and in the country where we lived wanted a pastor from the Norwegian Synod. So they wrote to the Mission Board, and they sent a young man up there who had just graduated from the Seminary at Hamline, near Minneapolis. He was Emil Hansen of Twin Valley, Minnesota, a graduate of Luther College, Decorah, Iowa, and of Hamline. He was stationed at Warren as they were better organized than out in the country.

I remember the first time he came out to see my folks, and he came often, as my father was sick for quite some time. My brothers used to tease me, and say "I think he likes you." It made me sort of embarrassed when he did come, and it seemed he came quite often. When he had been out looking up people and preaching farther away, he often stopped in for dinner on Monday on his way back to town. He visited my father, and we had a good chance to get acquainted.

He soon organized a congregation and had regular services. The women also organized a ladies aid, and my mother was the first president. She invited the ladies aid from Warren to our home. We enjoyed that as it was quite a feast. We served a real meal of rullepølse, sauce, jelly, buns, cake and cookies. The women from Warren enjoyed coming out in the country. They all had a horse and buggy, and the finest buggy was that of Mrs. Judge Grindeland, a real surrey with fringe on top, large enough to take three or four women along.

The ladies aid worked hard in the summertime, when they would have ice cream socials, with home-made ice cream, real cream and eggs, and other goodies. Sometimes we had services in a nearby woods, with a picnic afterwards. I guess the ladies aides have helped to start a lot of churches with the collections from such affairs.

The second year Emil Hansen was at Warren, we became engaged. We didn’t plan to get married for awhile, as they were told at the Seminary not to marry a girl from the congregation they were serving. So I planned to go to the Ladies Seminary at Red Wing, Minnesota, to study music. But when Emil got back to Warren he had received a letter of call from Forest City, Iowa. He accepted that so we were married in September and moved to Iowa in November, 1908 when he was installed as pastor. It seemed like the Lord took a hand in matters so we could get married." (Editors note: Mrs. Annette Hansen now resides at 1403 West 20th Street, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57105, and would enjoy hearing from those in the McCrea and Radium areas. Her husband died in March of 1956.)

* * *
The Valley Springs Water Company

by Marsha Grindeland

The Valley Springs Water Company was organized in 1906 by P. H. Holm as president, L. E. Fredrickson and Oscar Edlund as treasurer and general manager.

It was located in the Lamberson Building on the corner of Main Street and Bridge Street where the present Vern's Standard Oil station at 315 North Main is located. The water came from a spring one-half mile east of the fair grounds and near the river. In 1909, Mr. John Grindeland with his family which consisted of his wife, son Arthur and daughter Martha moved to Warren from Sherburn, Minnesota, to manage the Valley Spring Water Company.

Manufactured products which included soda pop of all flavors, ginger ale, root beer, etc. as well as distilled water were sold and distributed to all the surrounding towns and villages. At that time, deliveries were made by a horse-drawn cart and the railroad instead of modern-day trucks. There were four or five employees on the average, one of the main bottlers being Mr. Herman Amundsen who later lived in Fordville, North Dakota.

Mr. Grindeland built a similar factory in that town and sent Mr. Amundsen there to manage it. In 1917, because of the First World War, sugar became very expensive and scarce, there being no rationing then. This condition caused a great hardship to a business of this nature and because of it, the establishment was closed.

My Recollections —

by H. Q. Melgard

My recollections of the early days of the Snake River farm in the fall of 1909, my dad purchased the Snake River farm or the present Melgard farm, taking over the operation in 1910. I remember the first trip to the farm, when we were to see it the early spring of 1910. The snow was still on the ground and a man with a team and sleigh took us out the 4½ miles to the farm. I was really surprised at the buildings. The big house, the many barns and machine sheds, plus buildings housing graineries and buggy sheds, chicken house for 150 hens and a few roosters.

When dad bought the farm, he purchased only 3,500 acres, sections 21, 27, 29, 16 half sections on 15 and 9 and a quarter section on 28 and 30 and 80 acres in a wood lot on lower Snake River north of Alvarado, Mn. The first year the land was seeded but due to not receiving any rain until September, it took only 3 days to thresh the grain.

... things I remember about the farm, was the amount of machinery involved. As I recollect there were 8 drills, 8 drags, 30 wagon gears, 13 of these being grain tanks the rest hay wagons and manure wagons, 23 - three horse binders, 2 threshing machines plus steam engines, straw stackers, 13 gang plows, 8 hay mowers and rakes plus 125 head of horses and mules, plus a stallion and a jack. The farm also operated the elevating grader to build the roads for the township, which required 20 head of horses or mules plus 3 drivers and 2 other men to operate it; what fun it was to be allowed to come along and watch them operate it.

In regard to the buildings that made up the farm there were 3 barns for the horses, mules, cattle and one for the hogs. Of the barns, one was for the foal mares, one for the cattle which numbered 120 head or more and hog barn for 200 hogs and the horse barn for 125 head, two elevators, one 50,000 bushel capacity on the farm and one in Warren, with 26,000 bushel capacity, 2 big machine sheds, one for the 23 binders and 13 gang plows the other for two steam engines plus separators plus 13 grain tanks plus a lean shed that housed the spare parts for all the machines. One building for the feeding of the crew including, sleeping quarters for the cook and waitresses, dining area, plus kitchen, plus store room for supplies. The big house where the folks lived during the times that they were there. The cottage that Mr. Woodward, the former owner lived in while here from Wisconsin to oversee the farming operations. The regular crew of men lived in the upper part of the big house and part lived above the store building across the road from the big house. The store handled all the needs for the men, including clothes, shoes, sox and tobacco and snuff thus saving the men from going to town to get things. This also kept them from drinking and getting in trouble.

There was a ice house that held 40 tons of ice to keep the 8x10 ft. walk-in ice box cool to keep the meats and milk that were needed. There also two root cellars, where the produce of the garden was kept. We also had a green house where a man who was the gardener started the plants early. The gardener also was the canvass maker when the binders were out cutting the crop and also the harness repair man during the winter when all the harnesses were taken apart, washed, fixed and oiled in Neats Foot harness oil.

During the Spring, Summer and Fall when the full crew were used we usually had 50 to 60 men. These men were usually quartered in different areas; the Finlanders in one place, the French in another, the Scandinavians in another as you couldn’t put them altogether as fights would occur. We also had a blacksmith shop, where we had a Russian-born smith. He repaired machinery, built wagon wheels and set iron tires on the wheels, sharpened plow shares and shod the horses and mules that traveled the roads. I remember we also had a machine that was used to make rope from twine. I remember that the farm was very self-sufficient making everything that was needed.

Our buggy shop had five buggies, two rubber tired, which we still have and three regular buggies, one used by the field boss or foreman and a double buggy used to drive to town for things that were needed. We also kept five driving horses that were used to move the buggies. We also had a nice body of water, caused by damming the coulee with a wooden spill way on the dam, where my brother Arthur and I used to sit and try to catch fish using string, a bent pin for a hook and a tree branch for a pole. No luck. The men also used the body of water for swimming after a days work and on weekends. I also remember that they had a lot of fun. We also had a boat and boat shed that we enjoyed.

Getting back to the crew of men and the feeding of them. This required butchering a hog every week and a beef every two weeks. We had a regular butchering shop set up. A scalding tank for the hogs and a place to hang up
the beeps during the butchering. The meat was cut up and placed in 30 gallon jars in a brine solution in the walk-in ice box. We also had a smoke house where cured the hams and bacon that was used.

In the early days at the farm when the farming was done with horse and mule power, the day started at 4:30 a.m. when the bell rang and the crew went to the barns, curried their animals and harnessed them. At 5:30 a.m. breakfast was served and at 6 o’clock a.m. the men went to work. The big bell that rang then is still at the farm in the same mount. How things have changed to the present day.

Another duty that occurred in the early days was the way mother made all the soap using a big 50 gallon cast iron kettle, lye and lard that had accumulated. Building a big fire under the kettle and cooking the lard and lye and water mix. Mother made many batches which were put in forms to cool and harden and then cut up in bars. Mothers soap would really clean dirt out of things and was strong enough, I believe, to take off your skin.

In care of the livestock, I remember that for the mare barn Otto Forslund, uncle to my wife, was barn boss. For the horse barn we had a man caring for and cleaning the barn, cattle barn and hog barn. Had two men for their care and one man to keep the barn full of hay and straw and feed. The barn bosses had their sleeping rooms in the upstairs of their barns. The illumination for the barn was followed the reapers, so when a man pulled out of the cuttings were the times when harvest started and threshing began.

The best part of harvest was when all the binders were working. To keep them running we had a binder machine man who drove a buggy and carried his tools and followed the reapers, so when a man pulled out of the cutting with trouble, he would be there to fix the machine. We also had a man with team and special wagon, which carried twine, extra canvases and parts for the binders, also water in kegs for the men who got thirsty. This wagon would travel in the opposite direction of the binders and on being needed would drive to the binder that needed repairs.

There also was the shocking wagon who hauled the workers out to the field and who also carried water in kegs for the workers. He also kept track of the shockers so they would do a good job.

The threshing season was very interesting, usually 12 bundle teams, with four grain haulers, using four horse teams. Engineer, fireman, water hauler, separator man, two spike pitchers that helped feed the separator. It was interesting to watch and listen to the steam engine. We had Buffalo Pitts Steamer and 40x60 Pitts separator. This separator was equipped with a Maple Bay blower which made a very distinct sound which was pleasant to hear. All of this was of very much interest to me as I was a young boy and very impressed with this operation.

Prior to threshing, we would have the engine gone over to get it ready. I remember Joe Thomas coming out and putting new flues in the engine as the water was hard on them, and they would leak. I imagine that operation is a lost art. Prior to using the engine, the state boiler inspector would test the engine and certify that it was O.K. to use. I remember as a boy that the inspector was from Viking and was called Ole. I forget his last name. Of the engineers who ran the engine when I was a young man, the one I remember best was Thomas O’Keefe who later was our City Police Chief. The last engineer who operated the steam engine until we changed to gasoline power was a man by the name of August Johnson who was also our last blacksmith and who also ran the farm elevator, cleaning seed and grinding feed for all the stock. How times have changed during my time. Our farm has changed from the early days when the land was first opened by 250 oxen who broke the sod with walking plows and who all perished but two during the first winter due to freezing as there were no decent place to keep them. Due to this, Mr. Woodward, who owned this bonanza farm and who also had a lumber mill and large timber holdings in Wisconsin, shipped in lumber from his mills and a crew of carpenters and built barns and needed buildings. To supply power he sent to France for Perchon horses and a stallion, and also bought a large number of mules in Missouri and shipped them up here and that was the power that was used until we changed over to tractors.

Another good thing about having a large bonanza ranch in the area was it gave a chance for the new settlers in the area to have a place to earn some money and to buy horses and cattle to help them get started on their own homesteads. A large number of the farmer settlers owe their existence and being able to farm was due to the work and money thus earned on the Woodward farm and later on the Melgard farm.

The transition from animal power to tractor power began in 1928 when we purchased 1—15-30 M. Deering tractors. These replaced many teams during the plowing season and later we bought a W22-36 which pulled four bottoms and really helped during the tillage seasons. In using this tractor power we found that is was far superior to animal power as a man could do more work than several men and do it better.

Later on we purchased a 39-57 Minneapolis tractor and 38-64 Minneapolis separator to replace the old steam engine and old Reener separator. This cut the amount of man power over the old way by four men, a lot more efficient and easier for moving and maintenance. In 1932 we bought a F20 M. Deering tractor on rubber tires and then a Model M. on rubber. During this time we bought our first combine, a Minneapolis-Moline pull-type combine and M. Deering pull-type swather. The next year we bought a John Deer Number 17 pull-type combine.

In the year of 1934 we turned in 36 horses and mules and bought two T20 M. Deering crawler tractors, 4-14 front power drill with big hitches so they could pull two drills each. This was the year of our first dust storms and we had a great deal of land to replant. My brother-in-law, Ed Forslund, and I did nearly all the seeding with our outfit.

During the coming years we traded in our combines and swathers and bought four John Deere 55 self-propelled combines and two J.D. self-propelled swathers. After using these combines for several years we traded them in on 3-85 self-propelled John Deeres. In the mean time we purchased two J.D. 720 diesel tractors and W820 J.D. diesel plus 4-4010 J. Deere diesels and a D-6 cat crawler with dozer blade, one Allis Chalmer B tractor and two used Massey Ferguson 50 gas tractors. These we still have and are used for utility work around the yard, one used exclusively with a dirt, mowers and snow bucket.

These tractors and machines were used in our farming operations until 1967 when we had an auction sale and sold all the surplus equipment, with the exception of the 2
Reminiscences of a Warren Teacher — Circa 1930

by Margaret Powers Swenson

When I stepped off the Winnipeg Flyer on an early September morning back in 1929, I had no way of knowing that 51 years later I would be asked to reflect on my recollections as a member of the Warren High School faculty during the years of my tenure (1929-1936). The request came, interestingly enough, from former student Lloyd George Melgard who has become historian-designate, having edited the 75th anniversary booklet and now the centennial project.

What was Warren like in the early '30s? Those were depression years when salaries were minimal, teachers could not afford cars, nor would the budget allow much for entertainment. Furthermore, most of us had just graduated from courses in education warning us not to become “suitcase” teachers as school boards frowned upon such activity, so teaching and taking part in community activities became our WAY OF LIFE.

With the departure of Mrs. Leora Cassiday and a number of other faculty members at the end of the previous school year, there was a great influx of newcomers to the system in the fall of '29. Those of us who began as strangers that September became lasting friends, and over the years we mourned in unison the passing of some of our beloved co-workers: Signe Carlston, Edina, Minnesota, and E. Lawrence Swandby, Edina, Minnesota. Oscar Knutson, Roseville, Minnesota, a former Judge of the old 14th Judicial District and Emeritus Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court was unable to attend the luncheon last October due to illness. These men spent most of their early years in Warren and now average seventy-seven years of age. They are in quite good health and derive much pleasure during their years of retirement.

It is amazing how such elderly minds can bring forth events of the past in detail, but we remembered the days of our boyhood in Warren most vividly and visits to other towns and cities in the Red River Valley.

We noted the progressive changes of the last seventy years from wood sidewalks and the sticky gumbo streets and roads after a rain; the back breaking labor by men, horses and mules to the paved cement sidewalks and roads of today and the modern farm machinery on the farms, the trucks, tractors and combines that make it possible to the harvest of crops in less time.

As young boys we worked on the Spaulding and Melgard and other smaller farms. We pulled weeds, King weed, Canadian and sow thistle for ten hours a day walking through the fields ten to sixteen miles each day and received ten cents an hour. We hoed potatoes and corn fields and when the plants were a foot high we cultivated weed, Canadian and sow thistle for ten hours a day walking through the fields ten to sixteen miles each day and received ten cents an hour.

During the harvest season we shocked grain for about three dollars a day and hauled bundles to the threshing machine or grain to the elevators for three fifty a day. The dinner bell would ring at 4:30 a.m., and we'd get dressed, harness our teams, have breakfast and be on our way to the fields by 6:00 a.m. Dinner was at noon and supper at 8:00 or 9:00 p.m. after we had unharnessed, watered and curried our horses or mules. The lunch wagon would bring coffee, milk, sandwiches or cookies or doughnuts to us in the field about 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., and sometimes a full meal in the field when we were too far from the farm buildings to return at noon. The horses were watered and fed in the field also. The Melgard farm had over one hundred head of horses and mules and twenty-seven binders, each pulled by three mules or horses. A special wagon was loaded with twine and spare parts for the binder, two thresher machines and numerous grain trucks to haul the grain to the two elevators—one on the farm and one in town.

The Spaulding farm had a herd of purebred Holstein cattle and pedigree bulls and Heifers that were shipped...
from Friesland, Holland. The Frank Brothers' farm (east of Warren) had a herd of prize Hereford beef cattle.

We remembered the days when the Independent Workers of the World came to town and loitered around the State Bank of Warren across from the Taralseth Department Store. They wouldn't go to work for the farmers for less than $5.00 a day and board and room. After several days of loitering the local police and county sheriff ordered them out of town. We recalled the large grain crops with wheat threshed at forty-eight bushels to the acre with a price of $5.00 a bushel during WWI. We received $6.00 per day. When the farmers could not get extra help for the harvest the stores and courthouse were closed and the men went out and shocked and helped with the threshing without pay. They were treated to feasts of fried chicken, roasted beef and pork and all the fresh vegetables they could eat, and home baked bread, rolls, jellies, pies and cake, by the ladies on the farms.

It was fun to recollect the days we worked at the Lundgren Brickyard northwest of the Snake River. Archie's dad, Carl Allen, was Superintendent, Edward Lundgren supervised the building of the kilns with the dried green brick; his father, August Lundgren, was the owner. Boys and girls were paid ten cents an hour or fifteen cents for turning the brick on edge on the slats in the long racks — 5,000 bricks to each rack. When the brick was dry enough for the kilns, the kilns were built about twenty feet high with air spaces and tunnels at the bottom to receive the cordwood which was kept burning day and night until the green bricks turned a nice cream color. Midnight snacks of chicken (baked in the ashes in the tunnels), bread and coffee always brought out a lot of kids looking for a handout.

There was always a good market for the Warren brick and when the kilns were cool the plastered clay walls were carefully torn off, the brick was loaded onto wagons and hauled to the Soo Line or Great Northern railroad yards and stacked into box cars for shipment to the buyers. Straw was strewn between the layers of brick.

In the fall we helped pick potatoes for three cents a bushel and the best ones were put in gunny sacks to sell to the local store. We worked after school until dark and on Saturdays. Saturday evening we could collect from two to three or four dollars, depending on how hard and fast we had worked.

There were no sanitary, chlorinated swimming pools in the Valley when we were kids. Two swimming holes were available, old Pigseye in the River through the woods off Central Avenue, and when more houses were built at the north end of the street we had to go to the Rosendale Farm north of Greenwood Cemetery. Occasionally we got a trip to Middle River and the Old Mill for a Sunday School picnic and were allowed to go swimming twice. We rode out in a horse-drawn bus from Holcomb's Livery, a long three-hour ride. We ate bananas and candy and sang to pass the time away. Quite often when we found it time to go home we'd find our clothes tied in knots or high up in a tree.

When the harvest season was over our parents insisted we get to school. There was the usual pretense of disliking to get back to books, classes and study, but we secretly admitted to ourselves we were glad to be back with our classmates, school athletics and parties.

The four grades in high school, 9 through 12, had an enrollment of 160 to 170 students and always more girls than boys, so all the fellows had to get out for football practice or there wouldn't be a team. Football equipment was the bare minimum. We were furnished pants and the backfield had helmets. Our mothers sewed padded patches on the elbows and shoulders of our jerseys and shoemaker Strom or Franzen put cleats on our work shoes. We played against Argyle, Stephen, Crookston, Hallock and Thief River Falls. We won some of the games and lost some, but the game against the North Dakota University second team was one we all remembered. It was played on the field south of the courthouse where your new modern schools have been erected. They were big, husky players, well coached and equipped with helmets, shoulder pads, football shoes — the works. We couldn't remember all of the fellows on our team, but there was Hank Halvorson, Bill Dixon, Hunter Quistgard, Casey Bakke, Ted Erickson, Hank Knutson, Otto Edwarth, Ray Swandby, Chet MacArthur, Tim and Arnold Lindstrand, Andy and Harry Morkassel, Rueben Rosenhahn, and Quintin and Arthur Melgard. Archie Allen, Clinton Erickson and I were substitutes. Our guys were getting pushed all over the place and some knocked out, so we all got into the game and got knocked on our rears too.

Basketball was the sport in which Warren excelled in the teens and early twenties. We played the same schools as we did in football and the personnel of the teams was composed of players Casey, Ray, Otto, Bill, Tim and Arnold, Oscar, Hank K., Hank H., Hunter, Morkassel, and some of the smaller fellows as substitutes. A game against Crookston played there stands out in our memory. Casey was held scoreless and Ray made all 19 points winning the game 19 to 0.

Another tough game was with T.R.F. on our home court. It was a fast, rough and tumble game. One of the T.R.F. players roughed up Hunt Q. and later Hunt had a chance to even the score and knocked out his opponent cold. The incident caused a near riot and the game was never finished. Warren was leading at the time, and the player that was knocked out was LeBree who was the son of the Pennington Co. Sheriff. Warren came close to winning the regional title that year, but lost to Fosston on our court. The Fosston team was coached by Stadsvold, who was a member of the University of Minnesota basketball team that won every one of their games in the Big Ten Championship. It was a big disappointment not to get to Carleton College for the State Championship games.

We talked of the culture in Warren during our school days in the 1910 to 1921 era. The churches had fine choirs and the high school put on plays. The winners of the Taralseth Declamatory contest for the best orator and comedy reader were given a gold and silver medal respectively. Often the best orator was given the honor of reading the Lincoln Gettysburg Address at the Memorial Day program in Greenwood Cemetery.

Even the youngsters had an opportunity to display their talents. Some of us were in the "Tom Thumb's Wedding" musical. It was coached by a couple of professionals with some local talent assisting and after weeks of practice the big night came and we were dressed in tails and the girls in formal dresses of that period. Some of the songs were "When You and I Were Young Maggie," "In the Good Old Summer Time," "Annie Laurie," etc.

There was great talent among the adults too, and Roy Prytz and Annar Myrhre, who were employed at the Peoples Trading Co., had been professional actors and singers. They produced directed and coached such plays as "The Chimes of Normandy," "Forty-Five Minutes
from Broadway," and others, all played at the Opera House.

In the spring of the school year the senior class always had a class day with their evening program of creative skits and the senior class play, which was very good entertainment, as each class tried their utmost to outdo the previous graduating class.

In the summer there was the Chautauqua, with its lectures, musicals and the Swiss Bell Ringers. Businessmen of the city made a guarantee of money to bring the series to the community. Those were the days also of "Ole Skrathult," the popular Scandinavian comedian. His company came to town every year with new plays and played several nights to maximum crowds in the Opera House.

Ella Lundgren was a college music graduate and gave piano lessons. She organized and taught a group of boys piano and directed a boys' chorus of thirty of us for about a year. We gave a concert in the spring and later that summer she became very ill and died. We all attended her funeral and felt a great loss at her death.

The first Juvenile or "Kid" band in the area was organized by Emil Daloff, who was a printer at the Warren Sheaf. It started with a small group and he and Charlie Grinder gave us our first horn lessons. We had practice sessions in the hall on the second floor of the Fire Hall about three nights a week from 7:00 to 9:00. In about a year we had our first public appearance dressed in our new white band caps, white pants and shirts and black bow ties. We marched and played a funeral march in the Memorial Day parade and also played in the program in Greenwood Cemetery. We gave a concert every Friday night in the Bandstand in Great Northern Park across from the Tarlseth Store. We always saved one of the marches we had practiced to be played as the Winnipeg Great Northern Flyer pulled up to the depot about 9:20 p.m. The height of our band career was playing at the Marshall Co. Fair, getting paid a lump sum and also free passes to all three days of the Fair. We also made a trip to Hallock, Minnesota on the Great Northern local and played for their Fourth of July celebration, as Warren had no celebration that year. The one hundred and fifty dollars we earned went to pay for our new helicon bass horn and to buy new music scores. We also marched in the parade and played at Crookston when Co. I left for WWI and France.

Rev. Bartholow of the Methodist Church organized the first Scout troop in Warren. Some of the boys made second and third class Scouts but the Reverend was transferred and that stopped Scouting until the American Legion took it over. At that time Clarence Spaulding was the first captain of the Home Guard during WWI. We recalled that Governor Burnquist came to Warren and other cities in the Valley to inspect the Home Guard units. The Scouts were invited to participate in the parade and inspection. We had to wait outside of the New Hotel Warren which was built on the site of the old MacIntyre "Windsor Hotel" next to the coulee while the official party went into the Hotel for lunch. When they came out the Governor gave a few brief remarks and shook hands with us all so we were thrilled and felt rewarded.

We all remembered World War I and the many Warren area men who enlisted in Co. I and went to France, and also the flu epidemic of 1918 and 1919. I had a job with The Peoples Trading Co. for $60.00 a month, and candled eggs as required by the new state law at that time, and the lady farmers got thirty cents a dozen, paid in trading chips that could be used in the store only. A twenty-five pound box of prunes was $1.00, as was a large wood box of soda crackers (ten pounds), also three pounds of coffee which we ground from fresh roasted coffee beans. Some ladies bought the whole coffee beans and ground them at home. Sugar and white flour was rationed and was three pounds for a dollar and the flour went from $3.00 a hundred-pound sack to about $9.00. Wool clothing and shoes became very expensive, more than doubling in price. The customer had to sign for the sugar and was allowed three pounds at one time and an extra twenty-five pounds for the canning season. Vinegar came in fifty-gallon oak barrels. We drilled two holes in the top, one for the pump spout and the other smaller one to get a free flow.

There had been a few cases of flu in the spring of the year, but after school started in the fall of 1918 it became more intense and when it reached an epidemic stage the schools were closed. There were cases of small pox also, and I was confined and quarantined, as were two of my sisters. Dr. H. M. Blegen vaccinated all of our family and a large number of other folks who had been exposed. All of the doctors were busy caring for the sick and H. M. Swan­son, the only undertaker in town, cared for the dead and bereaved. Bill Dixon drove Dr. Anderson in a cutter with his father's team of horses on the country sick calls so the doctor could get a little sleep. Later they had an ice boat on skis with a motor and propeller at the back to speed across the fields of deep snow. They were dressed in sheepskin pants, warm boots, sheepskin coats and had charcoal foot warmers and laprobes to keep warm. Both Dr. Bratrud and Dr. Anderson had big Buick cars and we remembered the tragic drowning of Mrs. Rasmus Hage and their baby in the Red River at Oslo. The Stanley Steamer didn't make the climb up the hill and backed off the ferry and into the river. Dr. Anderson made the eighteen mile drive from Warren to Oslo in eighteen minutes in his big Buick, which was a very fast drive in those days.

Chester remembered when his folks moved to Warren from Ardock, North Dakota, and his father had the first Rural Free Mail Delivery from Warren. He was paid $750.00 a year and nothing extra for his horse and buggy and it took ten hours a day or more to cover the route.

The Marshall County Fair was an exciting time of the summer. The exhibits, the carnival and dance pavilion drew big crowds, but the horse races and free acts in front of the grandstand were most popular. We recalled seeing the first airplane that came to Warren. It was a biplane similar to the one the Wright Brothers flew successfully. It took off from the inner circle of the racetrack and just made it over the trees at the north end of the fairgrounds. After circulating the grounds several times the pilot made a safe landing. A year or two later another pilot with a slick looking Monoplane was unable to make a successful flight.

The Spaulding farm had a large flock of sheep, over 1,500 at times, and when the warm weather came and after the lambs were born, the sheep were sheared. Oliver Ostlund and I had a job sewing wool sacks from gunny sacks and then filling the sacks with the wool, packing it solid with our feet. Then the flock was herded east on County Road I about eleven miles to the sand ridge grazing land. When the little lambs were tired we would pick them up and put them in a grain wagon to rest. Castrating and dipping were two other processes that had to be accomplished. A large metal water tank was dug into the
ground and carboleum, five gallons at a time, poured and mixed with a full tank of water and the sheep dipped into it. Then the sheep were put in a corral and watched until they were okay. In the fall they were herded back to the farm.

In the late fall when the river was frozen we could skate on it until the heavy snowfalls. Then the snow was shoveled off and the old steam pumper from the Fire Department was used to pump water from the river to flood an area for hockey and skating. Billy Newman, the wood carver and cabinet maker, made our first skis. We went to his workshop and he would make a mark on the wall for our height and then make the skis one foot longer than we were tall. He was a very skilled worker and selected wood with fine straight grain, chiseled the groove by hand and bent the head of the ski upward by soaking the wood and then applied steam after they were tied to a curved block. Then he taught us to wax and polish them. Shoemaker Strom made the ski straps. We went skiing on the river bank and the river and across the prairie. Melgards had horses in town and it was great sport to tie a rope on a whipple tree behind a horse and hang on as the horse would gallop out to the farm where we would often stay overnight.

Sleigh rides with oyster stew suppers and box lunch socials out in the country was another kind of entertainment. On one such an occasion we had to stay in the Boxville schoolhouse all night because of a severe blizzard.

Dances in the Opera House and the Eastern Star and Rebecca Lodge rooms were fun nights. Dave and Oscar Peterson were favorite musicians, playing the violin and piano, and Herb Anderson the clarinet. Oscar played the piano by ear but played any tune once it had been played for him. Edith Allen played the piano and sold sheet music in Taralseth's Basement Store so she would play the new tunes for him. Dave was quite an improvisor and filled pint bottles with varying amounts of water until he had the octaves of notes in tune. He would then play selections on the bottles with xylophone hammers. He was very popular with the dancing couples.

In the summertime baseball was the popular pastime. Golf was not in vogue at that time. Warren had good hometown talent and later became a member in the Northern League playing games with Grand Forks, Fargo, Duluth and Winnipeg. They then had some professional ball players join the home talent, a catcher, a couple of pitchers and infielders. They were great games to watch, but the most exciting games were with the T.R.F., Crookston, Argyle, and Stephen, as there was intense rivalry between the towns.

Our luncheon get together also reminded us of the all Warrenite parties we had in Minneapolis many years ago. Chet MacArthur was the promoter that got them going along with Mrs. Leora Cassidy.

The other evening on Johnny Carson’s TV show the emcee and several actors and actresses mentioned they had come from small towns of only a few hundred good, homey folks, and remarked they were glad they had been reared in a small town. So it would be remiss for us not to express our appreciation of the courage, industry, civic-mindedness and sense of citizenship responsibility that the pioneers of Warren had and exercised for the benefit of the community and for the future generations. Many were immigrants from other countries and endured physical hardships, personal losses and grief, but they had strong faith in God and in themselves and the sincere desire to make a better life for their families. So they started churches and Sunday Schools and supported the efforts to establish and improve and public schools and obtain qualified teachers for their children.

We remember with gratitude the inspiration and leadership of Superintendent “Gummy” Gumelquist, Principal Leora Cassidy and the many outstanding teachers of our school days in Warren. Often we were the recipients of excellent talks during assembly hour. On one such occasion Mr. Holmquist led off with the following quotation: “Mighty of heart-Mighty of mind-Magnanimous — to be this is indeed to be great in life, to become this increasingly is indeed to advance in life, in life itself and not in the trappings of it” A quote by the English writer John Ruskin in “Sesame and the Lillies.”

Certainly the pioneers of Warren and the surrounding area not only advanced their own life but advanced the life of the whole community and we are proud of what they accomplished, and thankful we had the opportunity to be reared in such a wholesome community.

It is good to note that a like spirit of those pioneers is alive in our old home town, because a community depends on the welfare of all who reside there. By fostering this spirit and by trading and supporting the business men you will help pay the taxes that maintain the school, provide the police and fire protection and other services and facilities that your community may offer, thus helping yourself to better things in life.

So in this centennial year we offer our congratulations for the progress you have made over the past seventy years and our best wishes for the continuance of like progress throughout the next century.

Viola Erickson was born in Warren about the year 1921 with Dr. H. M. Blegen and Mrs. Sena Larson in attendance, the youngest of four children of Mr. and Mrs. Selmer Erickson. Mr. Erickson died and the mother married Ole Giskass. He adopted the children of his wife. They operated the east side Warren restaurant “The Swan” for several years moving to Moorhead when Viola was about five years of age. There she graduated from
high school and attended Concordia College for two years. Then she secured a job with a Fargo Bank. Shortly afterward, she started on a vacation to California never to return to her job for a scout saw her and got her interested in modeling with the Walter Thornton Agency. After fourteen years she began to appear on national network TV shows, such as Edward Morrow’s “Person to Person” as the wife of the world-famous Industrial Designer, Raymond Loewy. Mr. Loewy was born in Paris, France, on November 5, 1893. He had married for the second time (and her first) Viola Erickson on December 22, 1949, in Greenwich, Connecticut. They have one daughter, Lawrence Loewy.

The Loewys have maintained lavish residences on Long Island, a Fifth Avenue apartment, a chateau in the suburbs of Paris, the French Riviera, a “pied-a-terre” in Paris, a villa in Mexico, a desert home in Palm Springs, California, which Raymond Loewy designed and recently sold as they are moving to France where he wishes to spend his last years in his native land.

Mr. Loewy has designed such things as the Avante Studebaker in 1963, space suits for National Air Space (NASA) and now has a contract designing hydrofoils, wrist watches, tractors, motorcycles for Russia, and the list goes on and on.

Mrs. Loewy has been described as “the most attractive package ever to wear the Loewy label, quite belting her age of 59. In the offices of Loewy and Snaith, Inc., she is more than a decoration, acting as vice chairman of the firm and since Snaith’s death a year ago, undisputed second-in-command. Her attention to business side of things frees Loewy’s hand for artistry.”

Mr. Loewy has written: “The presence of a well-formed and well eye-lashed young female, whether gown-ed in a Dior or wrapped in a piece of burlap (or even just plain) is enough to make me happy, my inspiration is she, my fun is she, my desire to live is she — she conveniently happens to be my wife.”

East Side of the Tracks —

by Ella Peterson

(Editors Note—Mrs. Ella Peterson’s memory of Warren in the early 1920’s is sharp and clear. Enjoy this walk down the east side of Johnson Avenue with her in about 1921. She promises a similar trip on the west side of the tracks in a future story.)

It is really nice to see the Pioneer Land & Loan Co. building being rejuvenated and going to be put to good use again. I remember when I first came to Warren it had the name emblazoned in lights along the top of the building. It really looked nice on that corner.

We will stroll down Johnson Avenue going east. Next we find the North Star Drug Store, “Shorty” Eklund, proprietor, Art Gunnarson, pharmacist, and Iva Truhn, sales lady. (Art was Doc’s brother). It was told a scrap book was kept out in the back where different ones could write humorous bits, current events and jokes. Every once in a while some one would come in just to go back and see what was new in the scrap book, much to everyone’s enjoyment.

The 4th of July was coming up and the store windows were being decorated for the big day. One day a little boy came in with a note from Adolph Franson (shoe man), quote: “please giv my boy Edwin, three rolls of crap paper, one of red, one of white and one of blue.” I’m sure that note went into the scrap book. I wonder where that book went to? It would be interesting to see who all wrote therein. (The A and J Printing is in this building now).

Then next door we had a confectionary. It changed hands so many times it’s hard to keep them straight, but I first remember it was under Albert Larson and Steve Ovak. Later Art Larson and Mel Pearson. Frank Truhn with Mrs. Justice Carlson as cook under the name, The Green Lantern. Then later O. J. Giskass, then known as the Swan, a place to while away an evening enjoying a dish of ice cream or hamburgers, Denver Sandwiches, etc., and playing the graphonola and later records. I remember Iva Truhn, Jennie Hjelle and Lillian Johnson Tullar as some of the waitresses, and I’m sure many more. This building has for many years housed the Swift Electric with Les Truhn as its manager. At the present time it is being used as the Warren Jewelry Store.

Then moving on to Farrell’s Jewelry store with a lot of beautiful hand painted dishes, cut glass and jewelry. Everett Skalman was his watch repair man. He had his work bench right in the window. He repaired watches with the eye “loop” in one eye and the other out the window “watching all the girls go by.” He was a nephew of Ed Skalman our undertaker at that time. I might mention Mr. Skalman. He was known for his ability as a sharp shooter and one time telephone Swanson told me “that feller cost me a lot of money.” I said, “How come?” “He would drive along and shoot the insulators off my telephone posts.”

Mrs. Skalman was a very attractive woman who made her own hats and clothes, the most stylish woman in the area. She drove a black Essex car with velvet drapes at the windows and flower vases on each side of the interior. We teen agers thought that was about as high as anyone could ever get.

Then on to the East Side Grocery, Simon Styrlund proprietor, where I met my husband to be, Oscar (Patsy) Peterson. Billy Stromberg was the other clerk and delivery boy. He drove a Ford runabout with a small truck box on the back. Oscar was waiting on a customer and fishing pickled herring out of a wooden pail the first time I saw him. Well, I did a little fishing around there from time to time buying groceries and as you know I caught him. We did most of our grocery buying there as mother bought a house on the east side of town and it was the closest store. Geo. Znerold was also a clerk there.

The next building housed Pearson’s Bazaar. They, too, sold a line of beautiful things and it could be really called a 10 cent store at that time with lovely carnival glass, vases, and bowls, 9 and 10 cents apiece. Mr. and Mrs. Pearson were the owners and Lucille McArthur was the clerk.

Then there was Langrader’s Meat Market which had burned before we came to town. There was also another big building where we would find Billy Neumann who was crippled, but it didn’t deter his ability to build the most beautiful hope chests, with lids inlaid with different sizes and colors of wood, which brought him many prizes at the state fair.

Then I think Herman Ransstrom had a garage there for awhile in about the space where we find 1-0-1 now. Then on the corner Cote had his bakery. Viola Langrader took care of the front as saleslady and she was a niece of Mr. Cote. Julius Wedman was his baker and the last I heard he was still living in Jamestown, N.D. He played his
violin quite well. I remember how great we kids thought bakery bread, rolls and Bismarks were since we seldom got bakery things in the country. In time we realized mamma’a bread and rolls were better after all. Leo Four-
nier bought the bakery from Cote and moved it to the cor-
ner and added it to the back of Holm’s Jewelry and operated it there till it burned to the ground. Jevning
operated a very nice bakery on that location.

Then on east, across Second St. stood the old Win-
chester building, used mostly for storage. Ingvald Bakke
repaired cars there. Bill Bradley had his paint and interior decorating business in a part of the building and living quarters upstairs. On warm summer evenings Bill and other old timers could be seen out front on a bench whittling
and spinning yarns. Hardware Hank is now in that spot.

Next was the lumber yard with August Bystrom as
the manager. They had two daughters and I understand that one daughter, Louise, and her husband are managers of KFNW radio station at Moorhead.

Then on the corner was the Grace Methodist Church.
At that time it faced Johnson Avenue. Since, it has been remodeled and turned so it faces east. The one time Wat-
tam hospital is across the street, now known as the Win-
dahl apartments.

Now we will cross the street and go west again up Johnson Avenue. First there is the Strand Theatre, still standing and remodeled. Mr. and Mrs. Bill Goodroad managed and were owners at that time, and showing silent films. I remember the thrill it was to see the pianists coming up the aisle in the semi-darkness, turning on the light, setting up their music and cue sheet, and starting to play. Pianists were Agnes Lundgren, “Flossie” ‘Farrell, and sometimes “Happy” Rudloff. I remember my husband telling me when he was a young boy his brother-in-law who had come from Syria couldn’t read the captions under each picture, so he would ask Oscar to go with him and of course paid his ticket. Every change he would poke him and say, “what does it say?—Now, what does it say, Oscar?” People turned around and if looks could kill we both would have been dead, so he tried to wiggle out of going with him, but, it was a temptation since that way he could get to the movies and get his ticket paid for.

For a time a man by the name of “Shelly” Charles operated a roller skating place there.

Then Clifford “Tecka” Nyland took over the Strand and showed movies. I remember the first talkie (about 1927) starring Al Jolson in “The Singing Fool,” a real tear jerker with Al introducing the song, “Sonny Boy.”

“Tecka” ran a real clean place and I can see him walk-
ing up and down checking with a flash light to see that everyone was keeping his place. Children were’t running back and forth with pop and popcorn, and disturbing people in those times. Movies were clean and entertaining. Remember Norma Talmadge in “Smilin’ Through”?—

Then on to the next place where we find W. F. Powell Ford Co., with Mr. Powell, sons Ralph and Willis and A. A. Harris, Fords sold for $475 then. Charley Olson and my brother Walter Goplin were employed in the repair shop.

Across the street on the corner was Adolph Franson, show repair man in Warren for many years. He had a nice line of leather high top button and lace shoes, and oxfords for men, women and children. My neighbor lady, Mrs. P. O. Erickson, a Warren pioneer mother, told me that one Saturday evening she went up to Franson’s shoe shop to buy a pair of shoes. She told him what she wanted and just then Mrs. Franson strolled in with Margaret and Elmeda in the baby buggy and said she wanted to leave them there while she did some shopping to which Adolph replied in Swedish, “Ny hur jag inte tid for unger for nu skal Mrs. Erickson ha nyo skor, ack skar ock fina skor” as she squinted up and down the shelves for the right shoes and sizes. Translated that reads, “Now I haven’t time for kids. Mrs. Erickson wants new shoes, shoes, shoes and fine shoes.” Nevertheless the girls were left there. Mrs. Erickson got her shoes and all went well.

Next door Al Lempke had a tailor and dry cleaning establishment. Mrs. Lempke was a sister of Anton Endahl and Mrs. Furuseth Olson. In that same building we had a meat market, I think. V. V. Gordehamer in charge till he moved over to the west side. Then Dewey Walley and Fred Tullar opened a little restaurant there for a while. I remember Charley Holmgrens, Sr. lived upstairs, a walk up stairway on the west side of the building. Mr. Holmgren will be remembered as a rural mail carrier.

Their daughter Marie now lives in Friona, Texas, and son Charles married (my Dale’s) first grade teacher, Isabelle Williams. They lived in Janesville, Wis., and perhaps still do.

Then next is a separate building Bill Johnson operated a photo studio. At that time they ran a north-
west beauty promotion among the photo studios and dif-
ferent towns participated. I remember most of them and here are the names of the beauties from Warren, Iva Truhn Ovsak, Edith Allen Anderson, Alma DuCharme Pihlstrom, Rachel Hunt Lindgren, Alice Langseth Snyder, Clenora Lystrud Nyland, Della Winberg Tollef-
son, Edna Knudson, Mrs. Bill Johnson and I think a couple of nurses and one girl, a Miss Anderson who married Sam Hilleboe. These pictures were beautifully featured in the rotogravure section of the Minneapolis Tribune or Journal. Bill Johnson later sold out to Mr. Raveling. The stores were in the block now occupied by Hartz, Coast to Coast and Ben Franklin stores.

Across the alley were two small stores, a surplus store; Stuemke’s barber shop, and Albert Golden’s Jewelry and Watch repair. It was later demolished and rebuilt, and this is where Sletten Olson’s law office was located.

At the time I came to Warren, Tornell was occupying the large brick building built by ‘Grandpa’ H.J. Golden in 1892, which is now the H & H Store. Mr. Tornell operated a furniture store and sold pianos, player pianos and Col-
umbia Graphonolas. During the noon hour Oscar would go over there and play the latest recordings, playing along on the piano and learning the latest songs. He knew just enough about notes so he could write out the lead note for the sax player. The rest didn’t need notes. They never bought music and the members of their band consisted of Arno LaRoche, sax; Bill Clark, drums and vocalist; Dave Peterson, piano and trumpet. They were known as the “Nite Owls” and enjoyed popularity for many years in the late twenties and early thirties.

Then we come to the big red building, The First Na-
tional Bank. The Bank used the west part of the building, H. L. Wood, president; C. A. Tullar, vice president; R. E. Thomas, cashier; C. F. Pihlstrom, assistant cashier. The east part was occupied by Mr. Black who operated a barber shop. There the clientele had their own barber cups and brushes with every Tom, Dick and Harry having their names on their own cup. Then they had another accom-
modation where men could go and take their baths because every Tom, Dick and Harry didn’t have their own bath those days. When you saw a man come carrying a set of clean underwear and shirt you knew he was going in for a real clean-up! Then there were several offices upstairs and dentist Bren has his office up there. Later “Doc” Gunnarson had his office there for some 50 years until his retirement.

Well, I think I’ll stop on this corner, think and dream for awhile. Perhaps the west side in a future time.

There was: Chautauqua days, all our little walking bridges, not to forget “Catch on corner” on the west side coming up.

**West Side of the Tracks in Warren Circa 1921**

by Ella Peterson

Here we are back on Johnson Avenue once more. We will start at The West Hotel and proceed east.

Clarence and Margaret Johnson took over the management of the Hotel when his parents Mr. and Mrs. Mathias Johnson retired. They continued to serve family-style meals. Good home-cooked meals. I imagine 25 to 35 cents a meal. Clarence went over to Boardson every morning for fresh meats.

Several old gentlemen had their home there. Some of those I remember are Charley (Rike) Anderson, Louis Ostlund, Aaron Hillman, Frank Nordenberg, Henry Olson, Pete Nyland and his son Alvin had their meals there but lived in their own home. Pete was the father and Alvin the brother of Inga Sommers.

Farmers in for the day put their horses in the barn and then they would come in for their meals too (the men, that is). I can still see those men sitting in the shade on benches beneath the trees in front of the hotel. When they got tired of their own plank they would move over to the next plank in front of Mrs. Lindquist’s hotel, perhaps to get another viewpoint (a real spit and argue club).

Johnsons had one son, Melvin, better known to his friends “Mutt.” He and Hallward Blegen peddled back and forth on their wooden “Kiddie Kars.” Melvin and his wife live here; they have two daughters. Janet Arnold lives in Moorhead and Judy Krabbenhoft lives in West Fargo. Mutt’s mother, Mrs. Margaret Breeden, resides in Karlstad at the Moorhead and Judy Krabbenhoft lives in West Fargo. Mutt’s father, the brother of Inga Sommers.

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Judith (Judy) Blegen, Hallward’s daughter, is with the Metropolitan Opera Company in New York City and has been heard several times of late. She has appeared on the Johnny Carson show when she had been in concert in the Metropolitan Opera Company in New York City and has performed in the Los Angeles and San Francisco areas. Her grandfather, Dr. H. M. Blegen, was our good and kindly doctor for many, many years.

I remember one day Margaret and little Mutt went up to Argyle on the “Local” to spend the day with her folks, coming back in the evening. I was to keep (hotel). I had made dinner and was busy in the kitchen when the back screen door opened and in popped Clifford (Red) Johnson and Art Larson. Cookies were bought in large boxes and kept on top of a high cupboard. This cupboard was built in two parts, the lower part having a ledge and Art hoisted Red to the ledge, from there he could reach over and into the box from where he filled his pockets and handing some down to Art. I was helpless. And how they knew they were up there? (Maybe Mutt had bragged.) I was happy to see them clear out before Mr. Johnson came in. They are both living on the West Coast. Perhaps their ears are burning right now. Who remembers the comic strip, “Hans and Fritz,” those two rascals!

Then we move across the garden to Mrs. Lindquist’s Hotel, a good cook who also served family-style meals. Ernest Youngdahl and his son, Walter, were real good pals. One day while playing out in the back yard a tempting aroma came floating on the breeze. Walter snuck over and found pies cooling on the window ledge. He was able to slip one out and the two went and had themselves a pie social.

Another Hans and Fritz!

Walter Lindquist built his own radio, the first in Warren. People were astounded as they listened and heard voices and music on the contraption he had assembled. The family later moved to Minneapolis where he met with a fatal accident at a young age.

I believe the next to occupy that building was Jacob Brown. He had a harness and shoe repair there, with the family living upstairs. Now for many years Art Jensen has operated a Sheet Metal business there.

Then on to Fritz Larson’s Hardware and Furniture store, one of the really pioneer dealers. Fritz just recently sold his business and we are happy to say he is still hale and hearty and doesn’t look a day over “thirty-nine.” We remember San Frid Sandberg who for many years was employed there as a tinsmith. At that time Clifford Lund and Luther Haugen worked there as salesmen. I think of the time my husband and I went there to look for a gas stove. It was the type you had to pump up with what resembled a bicycle pump. Luther was demonstrating all the fine features of the stove. He pumped it up and said, “It really is quite simple to operate, just turn the valve, light your match”... and Poof! Boy, did we move. Some “Finger Fingerson” had been fooling around with it and left one of the valves open, releasing gas into the tray under the burners. But, it burned itself out in a hurry, nothing serious. We bought the stove and enjoyed it for many years. Wonder if Luther remembers this incident?

Myrtle and Luther are back living in the old hometown after living on the West Coast for several years.

Larson sold records, too. Gene Austin was a popular singer at that time. I still have some of his recordings and many of the big bands. That was music!

Then came the era of radios. My brother Walter bought an Atwater-Kent, a long box-type thing with two or three controls on the front. To begin with, we used earphones, passing them from head to head. Someone would ask, “Do you hear anything?” Sssss! Quiet! A nod and a smile indicated you were hearing something.

The first thing I can remember was Harry M. Snodgrass playing piano from the Federal Penitentiary in Kansas City, barely audible but what a thrill to hear something coming out of nowhere. Later he got a speaker affair. Some of the best stations were WGN and WLS, Chicago, The Wrigley Building. Bands like the Nite Hawks, the Orioles from the Edgewater Beach Hotel could be heard nightly. Then there was Paul Whiteman, Coon Sanders, The Dorsey Brothers, Isam Lads, just to name a few. The comedians like Amos and Andy, Fred Allen, Herb Shriner, The Baron Monchousen — “Was you der Charley?”

A lot of the religious programs came from Zion City, Ill. Closer to home, WDAY, Fargo. Those first years we had Hildegard Usselman, organist. One of the first announcers was Ken Kennedy. Some of their local talent—remember
The Texas Ranger, Little Patsy Lou, Lem Hawkins, The Fairmont Old Timers, Charley the Can-washer, Lars the Turkey Buyer? Ike Endahl of Warren played harmonica with them for a long time. Then there was the “Man with a Thousand Fingers,” that was my husband when he played piano with them a few times, and Charlie and Cedric, a father and son team from Sabin.

Then came the first Christmas with radio! We were to go out to the country. Since no one had radio out there yet, Walt was persuaded to take his radio along. It must have been 30 below and there they were, he and his cousins, putting a pole on top of the barn and a wire leading to the house top. So after a big Christmas dinner everyone was to retire to the front room and hear this wonder. The reception was really quite good since there was no interference out there and everyone enjoyed and thought it was great to hear something out of space.

Well, we better get back to Johnson Avenue. We cross Minnesota Street and there we find the Swedish Bank which was incorporated and renamed The Warren National Bank. Chas. Wittensten, president; J. Dagoberg, vice president; A. A. Johnson, cashier; Frank Wittensten, assistant cashier. Today we find the Ken Nelson Agency there. To the back of the same building was the old post office, A. N. Nelson, postmaster; also E. R. Kezar, August Johnson, and Clarence Johnson for many years. Wilmoth John Carlson carried mail up our street for years before he went on a rural route. E. E. Swenson acted as postmaster for a while, then Mrs. E. E. Swenson, also Vic Odman and “Bill” Schaefer. Our present postmaster is “Young” John Carlson.

Then at the next building Hans Urtes operated a men’s clothing store. He later sold out and perhaps someone used the building till Louis Fine and his son Harry employed there as a saleslady, and I think Ruby Larson for a while, then Mrs. E. E. Swenson, also Vic Odman and “Bill” Schaefer. Our present postmaster is “Young” John Carlson.

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Then, as now, we find the Sheaf office next door. Edgar and Oliver still on the job with the third generation, Neil and his wife Marilyn and the boys lending a helping hand. J. P. Mattson was at the helm in those first days. Ole Forde, Emil Dahlol and “Chuck” Lund were employed there and several more since. Vernon Olson has been with the Sheaf for many years, also Cliff Stafslien. I better add that Neil Mattson is the managing editor and not just a helping hand!

Boardson’s Meat Market next door, one of the old businesses in Warren, Andrew the owner was in charge for many years and when he retired his son Clarence took over the market. Pete Swanson, one of the first butchers working there, later Lawrence (Butch) Wilson worked there for years, and Danny Myszkowski, another long-time employee. They later moved across the street into the once Peoples Trading Company store and are still operating there as Boardson’s Fairway. Clarence passed away 2 years ago. I remember many a time I would go up the alley and in the back door at their old location and find Walter or “Mac,” peeling pails of potatoes for “potatis kury” for which they were and are famous.

The next building Mrs. Christina Nelson operated a Hat Shoppe. We girls used to go in and try on some of those beauties but I doubt we ever could afford to buy one. Gunnar Swedberg occupied the west part of the building as a Tailor Shop. Mrs. Nelson sold out to May Nelson and she operated the hat shop and later added a beauty shop. She then needed more room and persuaded the State Bank of Warren to renovate the building next door east which at one time housed the old post office and was the first State Bank of Warren building. She went into the ladies ready-to-wear business with Mary Quistgard and it was known as the Mary May Style Shop, now owned and operated by Margaret Stafslien. May passed away after many years in business here in Warren. Einar Eidem had his barber shop in the east end of the building which is now a part of the Mary May Shop.

Then we had Quistgard’s Drug Store next, and Bakke’s Sweet Shop. We kids spent many an evening there having our “little dicks” and playing the old Victrola, changing off turning records and cranking the machine. My husband told of one comical incident. He went in to Bakkes for a cup of coffee. The ever-meticulous gentlemen, Mr. Mathwig and Ed Quistgard, were sitting at the counter having a hamburger. A real messy catsup bottle was sitting out of Mr. Mathwig’s reach and he asked Mr. Q. if he would please pass him the catsup. Mr. Q. obliged and just as Mr. M. reached for the bottle, Mr. Q. pulled down on it and Mr. M. got the messy part of the bottle right in his hand. Mr. M. looked at Mr. Q. and said, “Why, Mr. Quistgard!”

Then we had the State Bank building which gave part of the building to what was then the Shultz-Nordstrom Barber Shop. My cousin Conrad Windahl was employed there for a time when he returned from Barber School in Minneapolis. When the barber shop closed, this part was opened up to give more room to Bakke’s Sweet Shop and it was then renamed The Wagon Wheel. “Unk” Bakke sold out and it changed hands several times, Riopelles, Shultz, Cliff Engelstads; the latter operating it till the building burned down.

We still miss that building on the corner, a true landmark. The first officers I remember were O. H. Taralseth, president; H. L. Melgaard, vice president; C. A. Nelson, cashier; Carl O. Knutson, assistant cashier. Later Walter “Shorty” Holbrook, Dick Shultz, Dick Schirber, Delos Austinson and Harold Bustrack. Phil Kotts built and operates a pharmacy on that corner. This building also houses the designer shoppe and attorneys offices of Kruta and Muldoon.

Across Johnson Avenue: Two or three years ago I did a write-up on Taralseth’s “the Big Store,” so I won’t go into that again, but I want to mention a little incident I heard the other day. Everyone remembers the evercongenial Ralph Taralseth and how he greeted everyone no matter how old or young, “Hello, young lady,” or “Hi, young man.” Well, that one day as he was entering his store he met “Mons” coming out. He plunked his hand on top his cap and said, “Good morning, young man,” his cap fell off spilling candy kisses all over the floor. I suppose that could be called “Mons’ most embarrassing moment!” But, not Ralph’s first encounter with kids and candy.

Across the alley the old fire hall, upstairs the city recorder’s office, Carl Youngdahl, recorder. These rooms were also the council chambers. The city hall was used for a lot of doings. The Nite Owls did a lot of practicing up there, I know. The building housed the fire engines and the department until just lately when they built a beautiful new structure just west of where the West Hotel used to be.

Then the Lundgren-Wittensten building, which now houses the city offices. Mr. Haugen is our present city clerk.
And then we come to The Peoples Trading Company, that too used to be a beautiful store. They sold a lot of hand-painted dishes, lamps and a nice line of ladies coats and dresses. Myrtle Winberg Haugen and Audrey Swandyke Golden were the sales ladies. In the men’s clothing were Hans Mittgard, Art Wittensten, Prytz, Annar Myhre and Charley Johnson, shoeman. The grocery department were Elmer Lindberg, Sam Olson, August Ostlund with Gust Johnson as the delivery man. Remember him with his little cart and horse? Then, too, he pushed a two-wheeled cart at times. Mr. Chas. Lundquist was the manager during that time.

Across the street we had the old lumber yard with Julius Nyquist manager. How good that lumber smelled after a rain shower and in winter a blizzard and a wind whined through that slatted fence. That lumber yard office landed out near Pembina, N.D. Today we have the new beautiful State Bank building on that corner with Harold Bustrack as its president.

Next we find Albertina Nordgren’s little hospital, which is no longer there. But the house just back of where it used to be still stands and that used to be called the “pest house” where contagious cases were kept. A lot could be said about that place.

Then on the very corner Adolph Franson and family lived and he moved his shoe repair there from uptown. They were a family of three girls and five boys. Those boys helped their mother with everything. They rubbed clothes on the washboard and hung out lines of the whitest clothes. When the washing was done they came out with pails of soap water and scrubbed that wooden sidewalk all the way out to the big sidewalk; it was as white as bone. I observed this from the West Hotel across the street and marvelled at how that other could get all that work out of those teenagers.

Today Our Savior’s Lutheran Church occupies the entire half block, a beautiful edifice. Pastor David Christiansen is pastor.

This is getting too lengthy. If I don’t wear our my welcome with the publishers and the public, I will do the Main and First Street at a later time. Then there are still the bridges and Chautauqua.

**Down Main Street in the 20’s**

*by Ella Peterson*

On the very north end of Main Street we have the Power House and of course that has been remodeled much since those first days. At first they used coal to keep those engines going and on warm summer nights when we had doors and windows open we could hear the night watchman scooping and shoveling coal into the furnaces. If I remember right it seems they were Fairbanks-Morse Engines.

Victor Malm, Carl O. Johnson and Peter O. Erickson were the main Engineers. Floyd Donaldson, Theodore Westberg worked there part time too. Old Pete was the brave one. When the burned out bulb needed replacing Pete scaled that ladder to the top of the tower. He received five dollars each trip. His son Walter used to go up there and stand on his head which scared the daylights out of us watching down below. Walt lives at Wickenberg, Arizona.

I remember summers when Matt Halvorson came home on vacation how he enjoyed going over the the power house and pull the whistle at noon. He was still active and about at that time. Many older men use to go there and spend the time of day. Elof Wassgren, Charley Anderson, Gust Johnson, Christ Swanson, to name a few.

Near by stood the Section House. The Nelson family lived there as Mr. Nelson was section boss at that time. The house was situated right in line with a railroad spur which swung in by the Power house where they unloaded coal. Twice the car ran the spur and landed in the kitchen. Fortunately no one was injured. Well, two trains in the house was quite enough so it was moved further south and out of reach.

It has been a change in temperature since we strolled down Johnson Avenue last summer. It is crisp and cold as we go “Slip Sliding Away” down the street today. That reminds me of the days Strom and Johnson had their Dray Line across the way and we could hear the zing, zing, zing as they sawed wood by the cord wood pile. (Seems like we might be going back to those days.) Today we find Wilbert Westberg and Son in business there.

Then we have the old Norwegian Methodist Church (now the Assemblies of God). Remember the old coulee bank that afforded every kid in town a sliding place? They were like ants on that hill, skis, sleds, pieces of cardboard anything that would slide. How much fun it was to watch them and to listen to their happy voices at play. One day I went with (little) Dale to the hill, I slid down a few times on the sled, then I was going to be brave and go down on skis when a tree met me. That was the end! Now that coulee has been filled in as has all the other coulees in town. They were perhaps a nuisance but they made the city picturesque with all their little walking bridges of which there were thirteen. Today there remains only two.

One such bridge started just a little ways south of the church and went south to Park Avenue. There it was met by another coming down from the west starting just east of the Clinic. That was known as “Catch-On” corner. Then across Park another started and went right up to the northeast corner of the Hotel. I asked my sis-in-law Julia how it got its name (she was a teenager in those days). She told me that at that time the salesmen came in on the flyer, the draymen met them and took their trunks and wares to the Hotel where they set up their merchandise in the showrooms and the merchants came there to do their ordering. Well, I suppose when the salesmen’s day was over they came out to see what there was to “catch-on” to. I am sure many a flirtation blossomed while sitting on those bridges on a warm, moonlit summer evening, with the frangrance and the beauty of Mr. Snyder’s flowers all around, who could ask for a more romantic setting. The top railing of that bridge could tell quite a story with all the hearts and initials carved in that weather beaten wood.

Earl Allen was our police man, a short, stocky little man with a black mustache, who walked his beat, up and down the street.

Main Street used to have a curve in it. It was straight in front of the Hotel, then it took a little curve to the east around the coulee which had a clump of beautiful oaks and a rock garden in it (it should never have been straightened). Every day that we walked down town across that bridge we would stop and admire the flowers and the vegetable garden down below. It was a joy to behold. Charley Snyder was Warren’s Luther Burbank.

I might add here that he also maintained the Great Northern Park. What a beauty spot that was in those
days. The Band stand in the middle with a large Calla Lily bed in front of it and cinder paths going out to the four corners with more flowers at both ends. Spreading Elm trees. Lilac Bushes with benches scattered around made it a park to be proud of. People who passed through used to remark about its beauty. Then the nights the Band played their concerts it was really a live town. People tooting their horns in applause. The Depot platform full of people and when the Flyer pulled in passengers would lean out the windows and applaud. There was more life down town in the evenings back then than there is today.

We had several restaurants where we could go for a cup of coffee. Home made pastries and most of them served ice cream. It will be hard for some people to believe we had all this at one time. The Hotel also served meals at that time. C. R. Snyder and son Paul operated the Hotel then. In 1936 they sold to Joe and Kari Herbranson. Their children Jean, Tom, Kal and Kari Jo attended and graduated from High School here. Joe and Kari live at Bagley. In 1956 they leased their Hotel to the Roy Enquets. Today we find the Hillmans there.

Next to the Hotel and the south we had Henry Bengtson’s Lunch room. He was a happy, congenial man singing his “Fal-Der-AI” as he waited on his customers. His daughter Helen worked for him. Mrs. Bengtson prepared the meats at the home for sandwiches, etc. Also pastries could be had and coffee. All the old fellows in town found a haven there. Weekends the men from the Woodward farm came in. Some with knapsacks which had to be replenished for the coming week. Such life saving things as tobacco, snuff and chewing tobacco and other goodies.

Now we skip the Bank (but how we miss that old landmark!). Today we find the Warren Pharmacy on that corner with Charles Steffen as proprietor. I have mentioned the bank and the Taralseth Store in previous stories so we skip over and just south of the Taralseth Building we had the Old Home Restaurant with Arthur and Ella Golden in charge. As we entered, there was six large tables to the left a long counter with stools. There one could get good home cooked meals and pastries. We spent many an evening there over a cup of coffee. I remember one time I was there when W. F. Powell drove up and parked his Model T or A jumped up on the sidewalk and bumped into the front of the building. Art dashed over, opened the door and said, “Come right in, Mr. Powell.” As we are writing this, word has come to us of Mr. Goldens death in California. They have lived there for the past thirty years. Soderberg is in that building now.

Next door we had C. L. Stevens, Editor and the Warren Register office. My mother worked for the senior Stevens people when she was about 17. I think she said there were five Stevens brothers at home at that time. One day Mrs. Stevens asked her to bake a cake. Then she added, “How do you test a cake to see if it is done?” Oh, my mother said, “I just run a broom stick through it.” Of course she knew she meant a straw from a broom, but it was good for a laugh.

The Register building was dismantled and today we have a new brick building there occupied by the offices of Myhre, Drenckhahn & Williams.

Fred Swanson operated a Harness Shop in the next building. He sold out and went back to Sweden.

In 1923 our first Cash and Carry store opened in town in that building with Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Haskins as owners. I think they came here from Grafton. They had one daughter Marion. After a few years they sold out to Gunnar Swedberg. He opened a Tailor Shop and later they added a clothing store. It became larger and larger until finally they moved into the Taralseth Store building. They were in business there for many years when they sold out to Diamond. Lily still lives in Florida and comes back in the summers for a visit. Today we have Rodney Erickson in that store.

The Warren TV with Gale Swanson owner occupies the old Fred Swanson building today.

The Berget Block which Mr. Berget erected in 1896 has housed many businesses. He was a photographer (and a good one). The photos he took eighty years ago are just as clear today. After his death his son Norman succeeded his father in the business and has remained our photographer to this day. Also that building has housed many barbers, Ole Olson, Martin Olson, Adolph Hove, Simon Olson and now his son Forrest Olson. (I guess the Olsons have it.) Several lunchrooms have operated there too, Axel Holmgren, Carl Martinson and his brother John, and today it is known as the Main Street Cafe and operated by the Lubarskis.

In the next building we had the City Cafe owned and operated by Mrs. Lena Thorson and her daughter Helen. A son “Tous” the man about the place. Mrs. Thorsons sister Ida helped in the kitchen. Helen took care of the front. Evenings when we stopped in there for a lunch, friends would be visiting the ladies in the kitchen. Mrs. Carl O. Johnson, Mrs. August Ostlund, Mrs. C. F. Johnson and others chatting over a cup of coffee. Today we have Cliffs Tavern in that place.

On the corner where the Bakery now stands we had Holms Jewelry. Ragnar (Buster) Holm had his watch repair on the left side and Judge Holm occupied the right side of the store. He was our Probate Judge for many years. I am sure old timers like myself remember the photograph in the window with a large morning glory horn and the dog looking into the horn listening to HIS MASTERS VOICE. They had an outlet in the north wall from where they played records for everyone to enjoy. Judge Holm was a great kidder and tease. His wife took the brunt of his teasing. I always had an idea that he was Norwegian but in talking to a relative of his they assured me he was a genuine Swede. The reason I thought so was because of a story he told my Mother. She was having a cup of coffee with Mrs. Holm when he came in and joined them. As usual he had a story. He asked my Mother, “If she knew how Swedes came to be?” Well, she said, “I suppose the same way Norwegians came to be.” No, he said, “when the evil spirits were driven into the swine herd they swam over to Sweden and became Swedes.” UFF DA! I am sure many remember the little dog house he had on the counter with a dog inside. It was attached to a tube with a bulb on the end which he had back of the counter, when he squeezed the bulb the dog jumped out and barked. He used to keep kids spell-bound and he seemed to enjoy entertaining kids.

Across the street where the old creamery still stands we had our skating rink with a high board fence around it. At that time we had a fine hockey team. Good enough to play the U. of N.D. Members of the team were Hjalmer (Jally) Sather, Walter Erickson, Harold (Hudix) Olson, Ralph Neegard, Ernest Youngdahl and Albert (Abby) Hanson. Among the best girl skaters we would have to say Louise Erickson, Teckla Olson and perhaps the Skoog girls. Margaret Hanson Layton told me not long ago that...
skating from the Dixon (Second Street) Bridge out to the Borquist farm (now Bob Filipenis) was considered a feat of endurance. Then they would bring with them a salt shaker and a potato for roasting in the many fires along the banks. This was having a big time and the old Snake River was really enjoyed in those days. Then lets hit across the tracks to the east side.

There was Geo. Smiths Dray Line. He handled wood, coal and ice. I remember the iceman at that time was Jens Sorensen, a husky brawny man he handled those big blocks of ice with ease as he chipped them into shape for the ice box. Kids running behind the wagon picking up chips of ice which were especially appealing on a hot summer afternoon.

Then across the street to the north was some old buildings. They were dismantled that first summer. In the beginning my father-in-law had a Tailor Shop in one of them. Then next door was Nishes, a sactuary for many a lonely soul. I am sure he sold more hamburgers than anybody else in town. Mrs. Lohner did the cooking there for a long time until Mr. Nish got married and then Margaret did the cooking. H. J. Olson worked with them till they sold out and moved to Baudette.

Then he bought the lunch room and operated it for many years till he went to work for the City. Mutt just retired recently. Someone asked once how did he get the name "Nish?" Perhaps it was because his name was George.

My husband had been at Nishes one day for a cup of coffee. He had heard the funniest conversation and if I had had a tape recorder I could have made a fortune. He said Anton Endahl and Martin Anderson were talking about the terrific storms they used to have in Norway. "Nei, but you shall have herd. Furst it lighten and toonder saw it joost skrell in the Fjel. Den down kom the regn saw it joost soosed in the bak." Skrell is a loud cracking noise south coming back every summer to set up his popcorn stand on the lot where Quality Motors keeps its trucks today.

Coming north the old Bank Building and the Pioneer Land and Loan Co. have been mentioned in previous writeups. North of that we had the old Steam Laundry and Pilhs trom-Lind Meat Market. These buildings were burned to the ground. Today we have the Jack & Jill Store on that place. Also there was an undertaking parlor in that space and that burned to the ground during the worst storm to ever hit the Red River Valley in 1942. No one knew of the fire till daylight, due to the blizzard, the roar of the wind and storm.

Then there was the Northern Hotel operated by Mrs. Bossmann and her daughter Florence. Many people roomed there and also had their meals there. Summer afternoons they could be seen sitting on the south side of the building getting their sun tan. Mrs. Bossmann was a kindly soul and spent many a time at our house with Grandma Peterson.

On the very corner where the Peoples Bank now stands we had the Lund Paint Shop. Fagerberg and Nelson (Fag & Ike) used it as such for a long time. Dave Peterson had a Tailor Shop in one part of the building. There were living quarters upstairs for two families. Frank Truhn had his office there for a while too.

Across the street we had Hans Swansons spacious home. He owned the Telephone Co. and so most people called him "Telephone Swanson." The telephone office was just north of his house. The Bob Sommers occupy the building now. Many "Hello Girls" were in his employ throughout the years, so to sharpen or memory a little bit (of the ones I recollect) Cecelia Raaquist, Anna Cheney Kilfoyle, Freda Westberg Anderson, Lily Holson, Gustie Nelson Wood, Jennie Swanson, Emily Carlson Erickson, Agnes Johnson, Agnes Swanson, Florence Bossman, Edna Johnson Klet, Freda Sorensen, Inga Sommers, Agnes Pilhs trom Olzson, Rose Ovsak Kranz, Hazel Schantzen Hennebry, Gladys Lundberg Andeen, Evelyn Truhn Anderson, Helen Plencner, Jennie Hjelle Martinson. That's quite a few but there may have been others too. I think those girls knew every telephone number by heart and sometimes when we were together in a group and it was to be a deep secret they talked by telephone numbers which left the others of us quite in the dark. Today we miss that cheerful Hello and Number Please.

Another bygone era.

Vell am "op nort" now on First Street as far as I am going. So this is the end of the journey for now. "Dere faar leve saa vel da!"

Warren — City of Bridges

by Ella Peterson

I will start "in my little corner of the world," which is up by the Power House.

In the beginning there was a bridge on Main Street north of the Power House. This was the main artery into Warren at that time. Maybe the bridge on Second Street was built a little later and that was known as the Dixon Bridge. On that corner stood a huge barn and a second hand store owned and operated by W. H. Dixon. This is the lot where Quality Motors keeps its trucks today.

Now we go back to the Main Street bridge. Once during one of Warren's many floods the water was so high it went over the railings of the bridge and someone with a team of horses missed the middle of the span and ended up with one horse on the outside of the bridge. Eric Nordlund seeing the seriousness of the situation and the struggling horse, jumped in and cut the harness, thus freeing the animal.

When I first moved here, all the people who drove used this bridge. In the late twenties or early thirties, it was deteriorating badly and was dismantled. Then a bridge was built on Minnesota Street instead which up to that time had been a dead end street ending up in a beautiful clump of choke cherries. This was right in front of where
Nettie Golden now lives. Today that bridge takes care of traffic from across the river. That side of town has grown considerably since those early years. But what I want to really write about is all the cute little walking bridges we had in Warren as a result of the coulee wending its way through town. Today only two remain.

We had one such bridge just west of the power house that crossed right over to where Bill Lindberg lived. This was short cut for people when they walked (as many did in those days), kids on their way to school and the mail man.

I spoke to John Carlson who was our carrier then. I asked him about a little bridge he scammed across on and up he bank just east of where Agnes Swanson now lives. “Yes,” he said, “Norman Berget and I furnished the material and Leonard (Cotton) Johnson built it. Then we put a cable on it so when the river got high it wouldn’t float away."

There was a little bridge back of where Clarence Dau’s now live which ended up by Dick Vaneks. I was told that Charley Erickson who lived across there then built that out of wooden crates and boxes he got at Taralseth Store where he was a clerk for many years. And so of course walked over it every day otherwise he would have had a long way around and if part of it drifted with the flood just another crate or two was enough to make it walkable again.

Just west of the old Covenant Church was one. For awhile it was in bad shape but it was repaired and is still in use today. Walking on west to Montana. Then south of Oscar Melgards was one over a wooded ravine to the road. At that time the road coming in from the west made quite a turn south over towards where Wages Motor Supply is located today and then back to the bridge. Montana swung east just south of John Pearson’s house and slanted up to the bridge. If you can imagine that.

Then straight south across the tracks on Montana there was one that went west through the woods and ended up back of where Mrs. Adolph Larson lives now. This afforded the many people who lived and worked at the Spaulding Farm a short cut into town.

There was one across town from Island Park to the now John Engelstad farm. Hilleboes (early owners) and later M. E. Engelstad sold milk and many a Warrenite crossed that bridge with their buckets of milk. Wish we could do that today (especially at that price!).

There was one built from the old Hospital when Emmaus was there so that guests from the Home could walk over and enjoy the afternoons in the park.

I think it is still there if it wasn’t washed away in last spring’s flood. Now, back into town. Just east of Wilma Johnsons and directly in front of where Henry Filipis now live was one which connected with the sidewalk on the east side.

From Stafsliens going south to Youngdahls house was a bridge and right across the street in front of the Post Office was another. Twin Bridges. One just east of the now Warren Clinic to the corner, one coming down from the north and one from the east all met there and thus we had “catch-on-corner.” Then across the street we had one long one all the way up to the wall of the Warren Hotel. This was a beautiful spot where one could stand on that bridge and look down on all the gorgeous flower beds and rock gardens that Mr. Snyder kept there. This has all been filled in and its hard to imagine today what it looked like back then.

Ernest Youngdahl told me a little story one day, many kids played down under those bridges and in the summer time the coulee would be full of king weeds. They used to make paths all the way from their house to where Melgards live in those tall weeds. One day he and Walter Lindquist were down there playing, they had cut off some stalkes, wound the ends with rags, stuck them in oil and were going to make torches. They set fire to them and some sparks ignited some dry grass and when they saw they couldn’t put if out they got out of there as fast as they could go. He ran home and into the little house behind the big house hooking the door and watched proceedings from a knothole in the wall. He saw more smoke ascending, soon the fire whistle started screaming, scared stiff! He saw Mr. Swandyke by, Ralph Taralseth and his own Dad and soon the whole fire department. There was no damage to the bridge (fortunately for them), but, I am sure Ernest’s Dad who was a fireman himself knew who the arsonists were so close to home.

There was one just east of the now Warren Grain & Seed which connects with First Street on the other side. This bridge was blown up one spring while dynamiting for ice but after a couple of years it was rebuilt and in good use today.

Then there was one south of the Soo Depot which was built when the North Star College was going strong. It was removed lately.

These bridges made Warren unique and picturesque. People who visited here used to call it the City of Bridges and remarked about them. Evenings in summer kids congregated on these bridges, some one with a harmonica, someone else with a uke (so popular then). We would sing and harmonize those evenings away. Some brave young fellow would walk the railings, some busy carving their initials into the wood. (Would have been interesting to see those today.) Kids didn’t have access to cars in those days so they had to stay in town and make their own recreation, and we had fun! Someone said the other day, “I wish we had some of these bridges today,” Ja, but who of us could get on those railings today? And where could one find a uke?

For people who are strangers to Warren, maybe I should tell you where this coulee went meandering through town. The inlet was just behind where Dau’s and Melgards live. Then it went east up the alley to just south of Nettie Golden’s house then south and west of Ralph Norlund, across the street and back of the Assemblies of God Church. (At that time it got the nick name the “Coulee Bank Church” because of its location.) Then it angled east and south and curved west right north of the hotel and west throught where the Post Office now stands and on west between Youngdahls and Stafsliens and on through Henry Filipi’s lot and on back to the Snake. Making a complete island in the heart of the city. I was told that the coulee was filled in by remains of the Taralseth Store fire and Mabel Youngdahl told me the kids used to pick up trinkets out of the debris. She still has a beautiful little blue vase she found there which she still has as a keepsake.

Island Park is also surrounded by a coulee. I remember my husband used to tell me of a man who owned a little boat and on Sunday afternoons they would go down to the park and he would give them a canoe ride around the park for a nickel. Big Deal! (It must have had more water in it than it does today.) In those days, they also had a nice band stand and the band played concerts there. People brought lunch baskets, visiting and having a nice sociable afternoon. The park was really an attraction.
Remember the song: "How dear to my heart are the scenes of my childhood, when fond recollections presents them to view."

Oh, those good ol’ days!

**Chautauqua Days**

by Ella Peterson

The Chautauqua had its origins in the lyceum movement which began in 1826, an early form of education in the United States.

After the Civil War, the Chautauqua originated at Fair Point on Chautauqua Lake in New York. In 1874, the Rev. John H. Vincent and Lewis Miller organized an assembly for the training of Sunday School teachers and workers at Fair Point. The meeting place became famous and after 1876 was known as Chautauqua. Gradually, the programs expanded from solely religious to more general in nature plus entertainment. Tents were used as Chautauqua players made their rounds over the United States bringing a little bit of culture to the frontier. In the peak year of 1924, the traveling Chautauquas visited about 10,600 communities and were attended by over 40,000,000 persons.

The decline of the Chautauqua came about because motion pictures and radio provided entertainment, the automobile allowed people to travel to larger centers, the public was growing more sophisticated, and the development of service clubs, women’s clubs and similar groups that absorbed the time and interest formerly devoted to the Chautauqua.

Now, it’s time to get back to Ella and the Chautauqua in Warren:

**Chautauqua Days in Warren**

It was in the “Good Old Summertime” and how I remember the joy and anticipation when we heard Chautauqua was coming to town.

The big tent was erected just east of the then Washington School. This is where the Warren Hospital has its parking lot now. It was a rather large tent and had a stage at the south end. I think they used the collapsible wooden chairs from the two school for seating.

Entertainment was good and ‘clean.’ I remember a beautiful lady attired in a light blue chiffon gown, wide blue hat, long gloves and blue slippers and carrying a flowered parasol singing “In My Beautiful Alice Blue Gown.” Another in Japanese dress and setting sang “Poor Butterfly.” They had great accompanists.

Then there were Magicians, Ventriloquists, Jugglers, Ballad Singers, Minstrels and Dixieland Music. A varied program of entertainment. Chautauqua went on for several days. Entertainment was good and many of the acts and actors were from the Orpheum Circuit which played in the larger cities. I dare say, it was as good and better than much we see on TV today. I can picture all the grand ladies from the “Yankee Bend” walking the sidewalk down Johnson Avenue on their way to Chautauqua. They were equipped with sofa pillows, fans and parasols. It wasn’t fashionable to be suntanned in those days and this distinguished the City Ladies from their Country Cousins. Oh yes, we tried to stay “lily white” too by cutting off stockings and pulling them up over our arms and wearing straw hats when we went out in the fields with lunch for the men.

I can see those ladies, Mesdames Taralseth, Spaulding, Braggans, Quis tgard, Cassidy, Stevens, just to name a few. Not many rode back then and seemed to enjoy a stroll in the summertime. Then, after the afternoon showing, it was to go home for supper and return for the evening’s program.

It got pretty hot in the afternoon and that is when the ladies fans came into action. After a while, they would open the side flaps of the tent and then it became quite comfortable.

The evenings were something else when the mosquitoes put in their appearance, singing and stinging. We didn’t have sprays or insect repellents in those days, but I guess we would sit through anything to be entertained. Smudges were built around the outside to help alleviate the pests. I am sure the entertainers didn’t appreciate the smoke. There was no thought of air pollution then and we are still alive to tell about it.

If someone wonders where the Yankee Bend is, it starts at the bend where the Melvin Aases live and goes north up Fourth Street. Guess most of the Yankees lived up that way.

Chautauqua came to Warren for the first time in 1914 and played for several years, but, in 1924, the promoters had a deficit so it did not play. Perhaps that was the last time. I cannot remember any after last year. Just another memory out of the past.

**93-Year-Old Remembers It “Like It Was”**

David Johnson, who wrote these memories, was a son of August and Oliana Johnson who came to section 24, Vega Township, in June 1881. David’s brother, Carl A. Johnson, was the first white child born in Vega Township. August and Okiana had three sons and four daughters. David Johnson stayed in the area and farmed and ran a chicken hatchery until about 1949 when he sold his farm and moved from this area.

I am now going on my 93rd year with good health, mind and body.

Memories from 90 years of living – Born in log cabin with sod barn — rope between house and barn to guide during snow storms and our fuel was wood. I took 17 loads hauled from 10 to 15 miles per year, cut up logs by hand. Sea grass 6 to 7 feet high. Warned not to go into it to get lost. Breaking up the sod in the hot summer time. I enjoyed following the breaking plow, the furrow felt so good not so hot. First crop was flax, then blue stem wheat that grows up to 5 feet tall. Oxen was our motive power. A church was built and our house were God fearing people. I remember a man going to church driving an ox riding on a hayrack. Roads were built up on the section lines. With the gumbo we had west of Warren riding on a wagon after a rain the wheels would fill up so it got great big balls of mud. Horses could not go any farther so had to get off to dig off the mud.

My father heard that he could get 10 cents a bushel more for wheat in Grand Forks than in Warren. So he decided to go to Grand Forks with 50 bushels of wheat. He drove his oxen and started out at daybreak. Before he got to Grand Forks the oxen got so tired they wanted to lay down. Had a long pole with a sharp nail in the end. This made the oxen willing to go. On the way home the oxen had nothing to pull so he got home about 4 p.m. and made $5 for his efforts.
In 1895 we had the biggest wheat crop ever. When the sleighing was good my father made two 17-mile trips to Warren with wheat a day. Warren received over a million bushels of wheat that year. So much the elevators could not hold it and some was put on the ground.

Things kept improving so there was a homestead almost every half section. In about 1915 the cars came into use. I had maybe the first Ford west of Warren. Then we started to drive to Minneapolis on gravel roads and it took 8 to 10 hours to drive. We ate a lot of dirt.

That reminds me on my second trip to Europe I crossed the Atlantic in 5 hours and 40 minutes. In those early times our best crop of wheat was about 18 bushels to the acre. Well, after I had left Warren my brother wrote that they got 60 bushels to the acre. I wonder where I could find that much wheat. That was progress.

We raised sugar beets. A good crop was about 8 tons to the acre. Now I understand they get close to 20 tons to the acre. I have traveled quite a bit in my days, Far East, Near East, to Africa, South America. In traveling to those countries you see so much misery and poverty, one can be so thankful that one is an American. It is like coming out of prison into liberty. People have said they felt like getting down and kissing the ground when one arrived back in the USA.

I will say that the good Red River Valley is the most favorable place to live. The easiest place to make a living. There is peace and tranquility here.

About literature, as far back as I could remember, about 75 to 80 years, I have read the Sheaf. I remember J. P. Mattson, the school teacher, post master and editor of the Warren Sheaf. A man that I admired. He was honest, straightforward and a man one could depend on. One good quality he had was he was a Republican.

I lived in Warren 60 years and could get out of Warren but I could never get Warren out of me.

With the best of luck in the future,
Sincerely,
David Johnson
1416 S. Glendale Ave.
Glendale, Calif. 91205

THE BIG STORE

Mrs. Ella Peterson has a fantastic memory and also an intriguing story-telling ability. This is her masterful contribution which she has entitled:

I REMEMBER THE BIG STORE

August 1913. My mother wrote a poem (some 30 verses long) about this trip to Warren and it starts out with the month and year.

I was just a little girl but I remember everything about it. It was quite an event in my life. I am sure we were as excited about this journey as most people are today taking a trip abroad.

We drove with a horse (Dick) and a mule (Jack) and a double buggy. Not a very stately rig but, we got to Warren without any trouble. With plenty of hay, oats and water in the tanks the motors kept running. We arrived in Warren after 4 hours on the road (6 m.p.h.) We drove to the West Hotel where old friends welcomed us, Mr. and Mrs. Matthias Johnson. They were the grandparents of "Mutt" Johnson. The horses were put in the barn. Every hotel had a barn in those days.

My father, Sam Goplin and A. C. Gast launched and organized the township of Marsh Grove in 1884 and he was their clerk for many years which often prompted errands to the court house. This time the family came along to seek medical aid, shop and visit. That afternoon we went down town.

What I remember the most was the thrill I got when we walked into The Taralseth Store Basement! Wonders of Wonders. (Not Alice) But Ellas in Wonderland. The first thing my eyes beheld was a bevy of China dolls with kid bodies, (in their boxes) propped against the wall on the top shelf and for a good reason. They were untouchables. We could not afford anything that elaborate. My mother was quite artistic. She bought doll heads, sewed bodies, stuffed them with cotton, made dresses, knit caps and booties and when they were finished we were pleased and happy as could be with our home made product. My dad made a doll bed which I still have.

I am sure that people today would scarcely believe if they were told about the toy department and the rest of the wares that could be found down there. Archie Hatfield was in charge and he certainly kept a well stocked store. Dolls and doll furniture, cupboards, dressers (with mirrors), doll trunks, buggies, real china dishes, even stoves. Ranges just like mother's. They were malleable iron with oven, warming closet, lids and lifter. Coaster wagons with wooden boxes, trikes, games of all sorts. Who remembers the jumping-jacks? Two pieces of wood fastened together at the middle with stout cord and Jack in the center. When pressed at the bottom he would perform all sorts of tricks. Then there was the monkey on a string. The string was fastened on something overhead and when the string was pulled he crawled up and down. He was made of metal. Then there was the iron trains, cars and mechanical banks. All iron. No plastic in those days. Toys were made to last.

Then the shelves and tables full of dazzling glassware. Cut glass bowls, water pitchers and glasses, vases, sugar and creamers, hand painted China cake plates and other pieces, mostly from Bavaria, Austria and Germany. I bought a little China bowl about the size of a tea-cup with four little feet underneath, a blue fluted rim, with Chinese ladies with parasols painted all around. It was precious and I held it in my hands all the way home. (Think I paid 10 cents for it.) My sister bought a vase in a frosted green shaped like a corn cob. Mother shopped for materials for our school dresses.

Well our shopping done and back to the hotel. We sat out in front on a bench between two trees and watched an occasional car go by. It was peaceful and quiet and we thought the lights down Johnson Avenue great. They were lovely! Five white frosted globes on each pole. One large one in the center and four smaller ones around. Looked like a great white way. If I say so, they were prettier than the ones we have today, but most likely not as efficient. (I remember my husband telling me the night these lights were to be turned on for the first time he and his brother Dave walked to the west end of Johnson Avenue and watched as the lights were switched on. It was such a thrill and they were so proud of these lights.)

If I remember correctly — the last of these lights to go was the one in front of Hans Swanson's telephone office on First Street.

Well, after a couple of days we were to start our homeward journey. We had a most enjoyable time and we thought being back on the farm would be rather boring.
But we had a nice trip home and once out in the country-side we stopped by a grove where we picked the best wild plums and chokecherries. Dad knew the short cuts and sometimes he would take us across a meadow. We were in no hurry, no traffic, no radio in the buggy to bug us. Just the song of birds and the rock and roll of the buggy wheels.

My grandmother who had been bedridden for 11 years was most happy to see us home safe and sound after such a long and hazardous journey! My Aunt Aletha stayed with her while we were gone.

Well time went on — After a few years my father became ill and passed away. The next year my grandmother died. That fall Mr. W. F. Powell came out to see my brother, Walter, and he went to work for the Powell Ford Co. where he worked for many years. Then my mother decided to sell the farm and we moved to Warren where she had purchased a home.

I was nearly 17 then (Oh! to be nearly 17 again instead of nearly 70! Uff Da!)

The Taralseth Store was still the big store. That basement still had a lot of charm for us teenagers. Saturday nights found us down there. Agnes Lundgren was at the piano playing all the latest hits. (Yes, they maintained a music department and sold sheet music too.)

We sang such hits as — “Three O’Clock in the Morning,” “Doodle-Doo-Doo,” “Barney Google,” “Margie,” “Peg O’ My Heart,” “Carolina in the Morning,” to name a few. After our sing-a-long we would cross the street to Bakke’s Sweet Shoppe, pile into a booth in the balcony and order our usual “little Dick.” Which consisted of a scoop of ice cream, a dash of chocolate and a handful of cherries with marshmellow cream, pineapple Delight. “They were great. Several scoops of different colored ice creams with marshmellow cream, pineapple syrups topped with cherries and nuts. (Think of the calories, but, who thought of calories in those days?)

Up in the balcony was a beat up Victrola and well worn and scratchy records. We changed off winding and turning the records. We had a good time! Then when we knew we had better get home, we WALKED home.

Back to the basement, I remember how at Christmas Mr. Taralseth put on parties for the kiddies. Dick Schultz and Walter Holbrook dressed as clowns, tumbled around and did all sorts of tricks and stunts much to the enjoyment of the youngsters. Little girls dressed in their finest, and did all sorts of tricks and stunts much to the enjoyment of the youngsters. Little girls dressed in their finest, with beautiful dolls in doll buggies paraded around. It was a gala time for the kids. They also maintained a rug department. Lovely Oriental rugs. Linoleums and Con-goleums. Dennison paper craft and demonstrations were held down there in charge of May Nelson. Clerks were Edith Allen and Eula Pearson.

In the office we found Dick Schultz, Hannah (Monson) Odman, Nellie (Olson) Brodin, Ella (Dahlin) Golden, Ellen (Pearson) Malm, Olive (Olson) Samuelson, Ella Hill, Donna Taralseth. I do not know just in what order they came.

In the hardware were Iver Winberg, Henry Peterson, Gene Westman, Carl (Plot Mons) Ranum, and most likely the congenial Boss himself, Ralph Taralseth. Mrs. Taralseth (Lottie) is still hale and hearty, active in her church. A sweet lady who we are always happy to have with us.

In the grocery department Clerks were Joe and Steve Ovsak (how those two boys could whistle) then there was Charly Erickson, Clarence (Pete) Peterson and Clarence (Kook) Johnson. In those days we had delivery service. Carl Lodoen did the delivering and when he was ill at one time Ernest Youngdahl took care of his horse and delivering till he was well.

I remember when we got our first beauty shoppe in town. In the little room off the balcony, Miss Peggy Homme from Roseau in charge. “Boo-a-Doo” Marcel’s were the style. (I can still smell those hot irons and her swinging it around to cool it. We thought we were pretty keen when he had had one of those.) Later we had Della (Hoffner) Renner and Vera (Campion) Larson and then we got permanents which was quite an improvement.

Remember the first home permanents? When once in and they started to smoke. Oi! Oi! Now its getting hot over here! Now over on the other side — Hurry! Lift it! It was to grab a pencil or knitting needle. Just so one could cool off the spot. Strange we didn’t get bald. (I’m getting away from the store.)

In the ladies ready to wear was Mabel (Hanson) Holbrook. In the dry goods we had Mr. Mueller, Della (Lindberg) Bernard, Sylvia (Hilleboe) Severin, Tillie Sedlacek, Edna Stock and Myrtle (Winberg) Haugen. After several years on the west coast we are happy to have Myrtle back living in Warren.

Mrs. Taralseth was in charge of the mens ready to wear also Hans Urtes. Mr. Urtes later started his own clothing store. My husband always said, “Hans missed his calling, he should have been a singer-actor he was talented in both.”

In the shoe department we had John Halvorson. He was a lot of fun and would tease us girls and sing us a Skandinavian ditty, I can hear him ask, “Vat size do you waunt? Vat color do you waunt?” and with hands behind his back look up and down the shelves for what we vaunted. I remember my mother telling when she worked in Warren at the age of 17 for the Stevens people. John Halvorson and Iver Lodoen had just recently arrived from Norway. On Sunday afternoon these two could be seen promenading down the streets, long dark coats, high hats, white gloves and walking sticks. She said, “They were really two grand looking fellows.” Shoe clerks at Taralseth’s after John Halvorson were Charley (Shoeman) Johnson and Clayton Layton who is now living in Jamestown, N. D.

I want to mention a couple incidents which bring to mind the ever so neat and courteous Mr. Mueller. My mother-in-law spoke very little English, not having been in this country too long, needed some elastic. She asked one of her girls what she should ask for. They told her “elastick.” By the time she had done a few errands at other stores she had forgotten. She waited a while thinking it would come to her but it didn’t so she thought she would take a chance that he might just know. She went to Mr. Mueller and asked him for “En jard Karutz a.” She repeated several times “Men jag kunde inte fa den dumma mannen at farsta.” (I could not make that dumb man understand) so she started to act as if she had something pulling and stretching. He turned and came back with a roll of elastic, one end dangling, pulling, stretching and smiling asking her “Is this what you mean lady?” “Ja, Giv me en jer.” “Du skal tro jag gik ut ganske skamens.” (You better believe I went out feeling foolish).

One time after we had moved to Warren my aunt had come down for a visit. She and mother went up town to do some shopping, mother to look for shoes and my aunt wanted to get some material so she went over to the dry
Given by Mrs. C. E. Stinchfield, at Woman's Club, Monday, Feb. 15, 1937.

In the year 1874 Charles Wentzel came to Warren driving a bronco hitched to a buggy. He took a claim and later built a home on the farm where M. T. Engelstad now has a dairy. He had trouble later in holding his home from fortune hunters as it was valuable, due to the fact that it was on the Snake River, was well-drained and near the future town site. Warren was first called “Snake River,” Farley Post Office, and was located a mile south, about where the Godel farm now stands.

J. P. Nelson, father of A. B. Nelson, came home here in 1878 and built the first home within the city limits. He first lived in a dug-out in the bank of the Snake River. Boughs were used for a roof until they were annoyed by the snakes dropping from the ceiling into their rooms. Then muslin was used for the ceiling. Here they were visited by Indians and not far from their yard they could see the prairie chicken and the deer that often wandered by. This home is the present home of Mrs. Frank Wittensten.

The Great Northern Railroad was built into Warren in 1878 and in the same year the town’s name was changed to Warren. It was named after a railroad official. Some pressure was brought to bear upon the railroad officials and the town site was moved to its present one on the Snake River. At first the section house was the depot, eating house and grocery store. This was kept by William Gilbert. Salt pork and dried apples came in barrels and a sack thrown over the dried apple barrel was used as a bed for the dog. So when a customer came in and wished to buy dried apples, the dog was disturbed, the apples sold to the customer, the sack replaced, ready for the repose of the dog. Mr. Gilbert later moved his stock of groceries to a store on the lot where Mr. Swedberg's Dry Goods store now stands. The back part of Mr. Swedberg's store is the original store owned by Mr. Gilbert. He was afterwards accidentally shot by Emmit Rossman who with three others went on an exploring trip in our north woods with dogs and toboggans. Mr. Gilbert died from the effects of the accident.

The first hotel was located where the creamery now stands and Main Street was the principal street for a couple of years. W. H. Bradley, brother of Mrs. Holcomb, plowed the first furrow for the first street in 1880. There was no bridge crossing the Snake in those days and the only way to cross it was to ford it. The large herds of cattle which were taken north to Winnipeg to market had to swim the river.

Mrs. Ross was the first white woman to cross the river. She crossed it before the railroad bridge was built. In 1879 and 1880 many immigrants from southern Minnesota and Wisconsin came to the Red River Valley. The grasshopper and chinch bugs had taken the crops in southern Minnesota so they left their farms and came north. These people were mostly Americans. Later many from the Scandinavian countries came and settled in and around Warren. The American born settled on the east side of the railroad, the Scandinavians on the west side. Fourth Street and Park Avenue both being built on a curve of the river, Fourth Street was called Yankee Bend to distinguish it from the bend on the other side. Now one finds the inhabitants not divided as to nationality by the railroad. These two streets are two of the oldest streets in Warren.

The first school building was here in Warren and stands on the southeast corner of the block that is north of the Soo Depot.

The first church building was the M. E. Church, built on the lot now owned by Wm. Forsberg.

The first newspaper was owned by the town and after changing hands every few months, was purchased by W. R. Edwards who published it for about two years, then sold it to Mattson and Mussey. J. P. Nelson was the first lawyer and his partner was Mr. Flint. Mr. Nelson had much to do in getting the town site where it now stands and in developing it along many lines.

Dr. Beach was the first doctor and his wife later became a practical nurse. No dentist located in Warren for several years. If you had a toothache, you just suffered, or had it pulled by a doctor, or drove to Crookston.

It is hard to realize what hardships the early settlers went through. No roads, only tracks through the snow in winter and the waving grass in summer. One was guided by section posts at the corner of sections. One lived in the south half of section 10 or the northeast corner of section
19. There were no bridges across the coulees that in spring were small rivers, no electric lights, side-walks, telephones, furnaces, bath rooms, no hospitals or nurses, no movies or radios for amusements. When one was sick the neighbors went in and acted as nurse, taking turns in sitting up with the patient.

The train was often delayed for several days by storm. There were no sleeper then, so travel was not a pleasure and mail was not regular. There was no town pump but each house had a well in its side or back yard. Nearly everyone had a barn where they kept the driving horse, a cow and a few chickens. The cows were staked out in some vacant lot in the morning and every evening one could see the string of cows coming home one by one, followed by the boy of the family.

Shade trees and flowers were early set out to beautify the town and Warren is now admired for its many trees and flower gardens. Baseball was the common diversion for the men in the long summer evenings. Croquet was also a common pastime. Both men and women rode horseback as one could often get over roads this way when not passable with a buggy or wagon. The men enjoyed hunting ducks, geese, prairie chicken, crane, moose and deer.

Warren has always had much musical talent and in the early days friends would gather at a home and spend the whole evening singing the old and new songs, giving public concerts as early as the eighties. When one was invited to supper, perhaps boiled potatoes with the skins on would be served, with fried salt pork, milk gravy and dried apple pie. But true hospitality was there. They were entertaining friends, not paying back social debts. The school was soon enlarged and Warren may be justly proud of its interests in giving its children the best they could afford in education. Many of them have gone into law, medicine, dentistry, nursing, science, teaching, ministry, agriculture and business.

Some of the pleasures we will never have again are, the wonderful sunrise with not a tree to break the view, the boom of the prairie chicken miles away, and the morning song of the meadow lark. Groves and many homes now dot the prairie. The fields have been plowed and no place left for the wild game to feed and nest. The acres of prairie aflame with the red Prairie Lillies; the Blue Bells and Lililies of the valley have all been plowed under. The yellow and purple Lady Slippers are so scarce now that it is hard to find them. The wild rose had had to fall before the road scraper and the scythe. The wild strawberry with its rich flavor is seldom found today for its home has also gone under the plow. But we have diversified farming and gardening now so that the farm does not depend on only one crop. The early settlers knew nothing of vitamins, etc. and yet the clear air and life of peace and industry made them as healthy and happy as we. They and their children have been the backbone of our community. They had discouragements and disappointments and mounted them. If they lost their crops from drouth or blight or hail or rust, they did not expect their debts to be canceled or themselves to be fed and clothed by the government. They economized more closely, went without pleasures and often necessities to balance the budget. They had love for their church and sacrificed for it. They respected those high in authority, the laws of the land and the decisions of the courts. They taught their children to be industrious and to have respect for honest labor. These early settlers of Warren, whose word was as good as their bond, are respected today by all who know them. Are we instilling in our young people today those fine qualities or have they the idea that the world owes them a living, more pay and shorter hours instead of showing results by honest thinking and giving of ones best, which is always recognized in any land?

Handles · · · ·

In the move from the new world from Scandinavia, many an immigrant found his last name too difficult for Americans to pronounce or spell or too common in the particular area they found themselves and took their middle name which was their father’s first name with “son” added to it and used that. As a consequence, they lost to their descendents part of their heritage and they flooded the telephone pages with Johnsons, Olsons, Petersons, Nelsons, Iversons, Andersons, etc. so much so that identifying names or “handles” were attached to their name for the purpose of separating one from another. It is a characteristic of this community that so many names still exist in the memories of its citizens as well as being in active use. To avoid embarrassment, I shall just list the nicknames so that the reader can appreciate the profusion of “handles” they acquired upon coming to America and to Warren.

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<td>Big John</td>
<td>Rosie</td>
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Old Marshall County Court House in 1908.

New Marshall County Court House still the same today.

Cooking class, North Star College.

Picture was taken in 1902 in front of Scandia Hotel which was located on 1st Street and north of Johnson Avenue where the present Jack & Jill Grocery Store now stands. In this picture are Mrs. Oscar Bossman, two hired girls, and Mr. Oscar Bossman, proprietor. The four Bossman children in the foreground are Ruth, Edith, Astrid and Florence.

Hamburger Days in the early 1930's.

Marshall County Jail and Sheriff's residence, 1911.

75th Diamond Jubilee in the 1950's.
John Abrahamson Family

by Cora Ranstrom

John Abrahamson was born on May 9, 1861, and came to the Warren community in 1881 from the St. Paul-Red Wing communities. At first he lived near Alvarado but in 1886 he homesteaded in Vega Township and from large oak logs of from 12 to 16 inches in diameter, he built a house which still stands and has been used continuously. On December 3, 1892, he married Anna Marie Johnson who had come to Vega Township in 1881 at the age of seven with her parents, Frank and Vendla Johnson. Together they worked hard to meet expenses, to pay off the land and to bring up a family. They planted a large tree claim one-half mile long that required a lot of tending and now these large trees are being made into lumber. At one time during the early years, there were three successive years of crop failures and groceries and other things had to be purchased on time. Then the following year was very good and the trusting Mr. K. J. Taralseth was the first to be paid. Mrs. Abrahamson died on September 8, 1941. Mr. Abrahamson died on February 23, 1949. Ten children were born to the Abrahamson family:

- Esther
- Grace (Mrs. Gene Swanberg) of Warren, Minnesota
- Clarence, Cora (Mrs. Ranstrom) of Warren, Minnesota
- Helen
- Fred, Loren, Olga (Mrs. Elmer Mathiason); and
- Lester of Warren, Minnesota.

John Anderson Family


Both Mr. and Mrs. Anderson were born in Norway, he in 1859 and she in 1865. They emigrated to America and were married at Little Falls, Wisconsin, in October of 1883. They came to Warren in 1887 and secured some land east of Warren in McCrea Township. Here like other pioneer families, they started farming with oxen, lived in sod-roofed buildings, and suffered many privations. The children used to attend school near the old Ostrom farm and near A. J. Hall. In 1917, Mr. Anderson sold the farm to Mr. Warner and moved to Oxford, Pa., where he lived until his death in 1926. Mrs. Anderson passed away in 1953. Twelve children were born to this union: Jorgen; Amelia (Mrs. Fred Rother) of Northeast, Maryland; Anetta (Mrs. Emil Hanson) of Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Albert; Cora (Mrs. Carl Knutson) of Viking, Minnesota; Henry B. of Oxford, Pennsylvania; Arthur of Seattle, Washington; Melvin of Detroit, Michigan and Joel.

John G. Anderson Family

by Lorenda Anderson

John Anderson was born in Smaland, Sweden, on September 23, 1844. After leaving Sweden, he stayed for a short time in Germany and then came on to the United States and settled in Valparaiso, Indiana. There on September 26, 1875, he married Christine Josephine Bergstrom. She had been born in Smaland, Sweden, on June 7, 1854, and had come to America at the age of five with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson moved to Minnesota in April of 1879 and took a homestead in the SE 1/4 of Section 24 in Warrenton Township. Mr. Anderson died on March 8, 1930 and Mrs. Anderson passed away on October 19, 1934. Their three children were Havida, Lorinda and Levi.

Peter Anderson Family

by Eleanor Anderson Goplin

Peter Anderson, who was born in 1865, emigrated from Jarntland, Sweden with his parents, brothers and sisters in 1880 and they settled in Foldahl Township. As a young man, Peter worked on the Woodward farm near Warren (now the Melgard farm) until he homesteaded in 1892 on Section 28 in Foldahl Township. He was married the following year, 1893, to Mathilda Larson and they established and built their home, a log cabin, on that land. In 1908 they built a new home.

Mathilda Larsen was the daughter of Johannes Larsons of Vastergotland, Sweden, and was born in 1872, coming here to America when she was 18 years of age with her 12-year-old sister. She worked on the Olson-Holen farm west of Argyle, Minnesota. She then homesteaded land for her parents who came a few years later. This farm is now owned by the Loren Jorgenson of rural Argyle.

Peter and Mathilda made their home in Foldahl Township until 1919 when they retired and moved to Warren and purchased the Mathwig home at 226 North Fourth Street (now the home of Jerry Quanrud family). After living there for three years they purchased the John W. Thomas forty-acre plot south of Highway No. 1 and built a new home until they died: Peter in 1941 and Mathilda in 1958. On this property is now situated the new high school and grade school of Warren as well as the Engelstad Addition of Warren. Peter and Mathilda Anderson were the parents of five children: Einer (deceased); Alice...
John Backlin Family

John Backlin, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jonas Johnson was born January 9, 1867, at Helsingland, Sweden, and he came to America settling in Warren in the month of July, 1888. He worked on the Pembina Farm where he became acquainted with Lena Elizabeth Bjorhovde, born October 6, 1871, in Nordfjord, Norway, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Knut Bjorhovde, who had come to Warren in May of 1892. Like many an other immigrant, he found many people with the name of Johnson so he chose the name of Backlin. John and Lena were married on November 26, 1896, and they settled on their homestead, the SW¼ of Section 22 in McCrea Township in the spring of 1897. Complete ownership of their farm was obtained when President McKinley signed their homestead certificate in 1899.

Upon arriving on their homestead, they found only a small shack so building was the next task. With no roads and lots of water, they could only get within a quarter of a mile with the horses and wagon so had to carry the lumber the rest of the way. To get money for groceries, he and Mr. Andrew Bengston, their closest neighbor, used to haul cord wood to Warren. They would leave early one day, drive to Marsh Grove east of Rokke’s and load up. They would stop at Amundson’s overnight and drive into Warren the next day and unload. For this they received $3.00 a cord for wood that had cost them $1.50 a cord and two full days. Since they could haul two cords, their total earnings were $3.00. Mr. and Mrs. Backlin had four children: Clara (Mrs. Floyd Donaldson) of Oakland, California; Oscar of Warren; Ruby of Warren; and Clarence of Bozeman, Montana. Mrs. Backlin passed away in 1954. John Backlin died on Oct. 30, 1956.

John Barlow Family

by Mrs. Peter M. Enge

John Barlow was born on December 5, 1865, in Nordfjordeid, Norway, the son of Samuel and Pernelle Bjorlo. He emigrated to America in 1887 coming first to Wisconsin where he worked in the logging camps. Two years later he came to Warren where he at first worked on the Woodward Farm and the Tullar farm. On October 6, 1899, he was married to Eline Hjelle (born on September 26, 1875, in the same part of Norway) who had come to America in 1896. To this union were born two daughters: Mrs. Bertha Hedquist of St. Paul, Minn. and Pearl (Mrs. Peter M. Enge) of Oslo, Minn. Moving to Warren in the early 1900’s, Mr. Barlow was employed at the electric power plant for fourteen years. He also worked on the section gang and was the janitor of the high school and the court house. Mrs. Barlow died on December 25, 1943, and Mr. Barlow on February 18, 1955.

Andrew Bengston Family

Another early settler in McCrea was Andrew P. Bengston who was born in Sweden on July 4, 1872. At the age of fourteen, he came to Superior, Wisconsin, where his older brother, John was living. A few months later the two of them came to Marsh Grove township and the following year Andrew began his employment with John Cronkhite who lived just west of Argyle and he lived there for eight years. On Nov. 11, 1896, Andrew Bengston and Kari Osberg were married in the home of her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Anderson who lived in the home now occupied by the Oscar (Patey) Petersons. Mr. and Mrs. Bengston rented what used to be known as the Head farm just North of Warren and then bought the SE¼ of Section 22 in McCrea in 1904. In 1910 they bought the N½ of the same quarter. On this farm they made their home for fifty years before retiring and moving to their present home on First Street. Mr. and Mrs. Bengston have been the parents of seven children. A daughter, Dagney, died in infancy and two others, Esther Malm and Glyn, lost their lives in a swimming accident in 1925. Those surviving are a son, Quentin, who lives in Nebraska and three daughters, Mrs. Myrtle Powell, Mrs. Hazel Berge and Mrs. Leona Neighbors, all of Minneapolis.

John Henry Bengtson Family

by Doris Bengtson Bossman

John Henry Bengtson was born in Sweden on March 15, 1877, and at the age of fifteen years, he came to America making his home in Vega Township with Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Johnson. On October 1, 1906 he was married to Esther Maria Johnson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Johnson. Five children were born to this union: Ruth, Dorothy, Carl, Helen and Doris Mae. Only Ruth of Portland, Oregon and Doris Mae (Mrs. Arthur Bossman) of Warren survive. Mr. Bengtson operated and owned a cafe and lunch room on Main Street between the old State Bank building and Hotel Warren until his death on December 6, 1942. His wife, Esther, died on April 23, 1964. They resided at 212 West Park in Warren.

Martin J. Berget Family

by Norman Berget

Martin Berget, Warren Pioneer photographer, was born in Nordsinni, Norway in 1863. At the age of 18 he
came to America and settled in Warren in 1891. At the time of his death in 1927 he had operated a studio in Warren almost continuously for nearly forty years. The location of his first studio was on North First Street near the original telephone office. In 1905, Berget constructed a two-story brick building on Main Street where his son, Norman, continued to operate a photography studio until his retirement from business in 1976. Many of the Berget photographs were sent by residents of the Warren community to their homeland relatives. This helped to strengthen the bonds between the people of the homeland and the new land. In 1897 Martin Berget was united in marriage to Anna M. Svenning, daughter of Karl and Bergitte (Johansen) Svenning, and they lived at 821 North Minnesota Street. Anna had taught in the Ostrom and Burnside schools. To this union were born: Agnes (Mrs. L. C. Simenstad) of Osecola, Wisconsin (deceased); Olive of Minneapolis, Minnesota; and Norman. Anna died in 1954.

Norman Berget married Edla C. Peterson on August 27, 1931, and they continue to live in his parental home at 703 Minnesota Street. Four children were born to them: Charles of Fridley, Minnesota; James (deceased); John of Mounds View, Minnesota; and Ann (Mrs. P. Zavoral) of Fargo, North Dakota.

Andrew Boardson Family

by John Short

Andrew and Anna Elizabeth Boardson.

Andrew Boardson was born in Christiansand, Norway on April 26, 1876, to Martin and Inger (Knudsdotter) Boardson. He came to the United States in 1882 with his family. In about 1903 he started working with C. J. Philstrom in the meat market. He was married to Anna Elizabeth Swanson on November 19, 1903. Anna Swanson Boardson was born in Nillestad, Ostergottland, Sweden on May 17, 1876. She came to the United States in 1881 with her parents, Adolf and Anna (Pehrson) Swanson and settled in 1884 in Bloomer Township of Marshall County. To Andrew and Anna Boardson were born six children: Walter, Clarence, Invald (Mack), Monrad (Muns) (all of the foregoing deceased); Harold of Minneapolis, Minnesota; and Ruth (Mrs. Raymond Short) of Hot Springs, Arkansas. Andrew passed away in 1947 and Anna passed away in 1968. Three grandchildren remain in the Warren area with one keeping active in the grocery business.

Arthur Bossman Family

by Mrs. Arthur Bossman

Arthur William Bossman was born in Portland, Oregon on December 11, 1918, to Arthur and Clara Bossman. He came to Warren at the age of four months, attended the Warren Public Schools and graduated from the Warren High School in 1937. He married Doris Mae Bengtson, daughter of Henry and Esther Bengtson, on December 21, 1937. To this union were born five children: Patricia Mae of Moorhead, Minnesota; Beryl Delrene, Robert LeRoy and Arthur William, Jr., all of Warren; and John Bennett (deceased). Mr. Bossman, a brickmason by trade, has been active in many community activities and has held offices in various organizations in Warren. He is a veteran of World War II and served as 9th District American Legion Commander from 1976 to 1977. He is presently serving as Warren Centennial Chairman and his wife, Doris, is serving as secretary.

Oscar Bossman Family

by Florence Bossman

Oscar Bossman

Hannah Bossman
Oscar Bossman was born in Sweden on April 28, 1864. He came to America and Warren and worked at the Warren Mill. He was here for a couple of years and then returned to Sweden. While there, he married Hannah Olson, who was born on March 13, 1868 in Ostergotland, on the month of July 1892 and they returned to America in September of that year, their trip being their honeymoon. He worked at the Warren Mill for a few years and then bought the Scandia Hotel (later called the Northern Hotel) which was located on North 1st Street about where the parking lots are between the Peoples State Bank and the Jack & Jill Store. He also operated a livery stable in Warren. Mr. & Mrs. Bossman were members of the Evangelical Covenant church. To this union were born eight children: Arthur (deceased); Edith (Mrs. Elmer Gormanson) of Waukesha, Wisconsin; Ruth (Mrs. Peter Wick) (deceased) of St. Paul, Minnesota; Astrid (deceased); Florence of Warren, Minnesota; Herbert (deceased) of St. Paul, Minnesota; Alice (Mrs. Martin Gormanson) of South St. Paul, Minnesota; and Alvera (Mrs. Ole Nielsen) (deceased). Oscar Bossman passed away on March 5, 1906. Hannah Bossman was married to L. O. Dahlin on October 11, 1909, and he passed away on March 4, 1923. Mrs. Dahlin and Florence continued to operate the Northern Hotel for many years. When they sold the hotel, they moved to their new home at 428 East Prairie Avenue. Hannah Dahlin passed away on December 2, 1957.

J. M. Bradley Family

by Adelbert Harris

John Martin Bradley was born on September 9, 1835, in Lancaster, Ohio. He was married there and when his son, William Henry, was born, his wife died. John Bradley was married again in August 1859 to Hannah Jane who was born April 2, 1839, in Circleville, Ohio. In 1880, Mr. Bradley and his eldest son, William Henry, came to Warren from Aledo, Illinois, bringing with them horses and farm machinery. They built a shack two miles east of Warren and started breaking prairie land for farmers who had taken homesteads in that vicinity. Late in the summer, Mr. Bradley filed on a tree claim three miles south of Warren in Farley Township where they built a sod house and barn. Mr. Bradley returned to Aledo, Illinois, and sent his next son, Edward, back to help William take care of the stock during the winter. In April 1881 they loaded household goods and more machinery and livestock and started again with their family to their new home. Mr. Bradlay and Charles, the third son, came with the stock car and the rest of the family came by passenger train. Mr. Bradley died February 8, 1886, and was buried in Warren. Mrs. Bradley passed away in Longmont, Colorado, on January 17, 1906. The following children were born to Mr. Bradley and his second wife: Edward Lionel, July 26, 1860; Margaret Elizabeth, Jan 22, 1862; Charles Alexander, June 30, 1864; Mary Jane, October 3, 1866; John Sherman, October 9, 1868; Sadie Belle, November 29, 1870; George Hiram, January 30, 1873; Ira Martin, April 8, 1875; Harvey Hershel, June 2, 1877; Frank, August 14, 1879; Rose Louise, November 20, 1880; Harry Brewster, December 5, 1883.

Dr. Theodor Bratrud

Theodor Bratrud was born in 1874 in Fillmore County to Ole and Elsie Bratrud. He received his education in Spring Valley High School and graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1896 and from the Northwestern University Medical School in 1897. In 1900 he came to Warren where his reputation as a surgeon spread and his practice increased. In 1903 he went to Europe for lecture and clinical courses at hospitals in Vienna, Paris, Berlin and London. In 1906 he became associated with Dr. Anderson and was one of the instrumental men in getting a hospital built in Warren. In 1921 the hospital was turned over to the Red River Valley Conference of the Augustana Lutheran Church for management. Dr. Bratrud in company with his brothers, Edward and Arthur moved to Grand Forks but soon returned to Warren and had their clinic over the Warren National Bank. In 1930 he was asked to head a new St. Luke’s hospital in Thief River Falls but death came to him on December 6, 1930.

Dr. Bratrud was a brilliant surgeon, a generous man and was responsible for many of the Warren youths getting their education, along with his younger brother and relatives. His skill made the Warren Hospital the focal point for all who desired help and the hospital still remains that for the city of Warren and the surrounding countryside.

Carl Wilhelm Carlson Family

by Adelbert Harris

Carl W. and Ida Sophe Carlson.

The following children were born to Mr. Bradley and his second wife: Edward Lionel, July 26, 1860; Margaret Elizabeth, Jan 22, 1862; Charles Alexander, June 30, 1864; Mary Jane, October 3, 1866; John Sherman, October 9, 1868; Sadie Belle, November 29, 1870; George Hiram, January 30, 1873; Ira Martin, April 8, 1875; Harvey Hershel, June 2, 1877; Frank, August 14, 1879; Rose Louise, November 20, 1880; Harry Brewster, December 5, 1883.
Carl Wilhelm Carlson was born in 1863 in Sweden and emigrated to Warren where he had relatives in 1896. He found work on the farm in the surrounding area and then worked for Cornelius Knutson hauling fuel oil and kerosene up to Stephen and elsewhere. Then for the next fifteen years he worked for the Warren Milling Company. He was married in 1898 to Ida Sophie Nelson who had originally come in the 1890’s to Des Moines, Iowa from Sweden where she was born in 1865. To this union were born Clarence H. (deceased) and Wilmuth J. Carlson of Warren. Mr. Carlson died in 1916 and his wife died in 1914.

Wilmuth J. Carlson Family

Wilmuth J. Carlson was born on October 19, 1901 in Warren to Carl and Ida Carlson. He became a member of the Warren Postal system and was a city carrier from 1923 to 1941 and a rural carrier from 1941 to 1965 when he retired. On July 20, 1928 he was married to Pearl I. Schumacher, who was born on October 31, 1904 in Walsh City, North Dakota, to Fred and Louise (Loeslie) Schumacher. Their children are Corinne (Mrs. Merle Nelson) of Warren; Mitchel who is a student at Moorhead State University; and Robert and Dorothy (Noel) Strunk of Warren, who was born on December 26, 1938. John secured employment at the U.S. Postal system and was a city carrier from 1923 to 1941 and a rural carrier from 1941 to 1965 when he retired. On July 20, 1928 he was married to Pearl I. Schumacher, who was born on October 31, 1904 in Walsh City, North Dakota, to Fred and Louise (Loeslie) Schumacher. Their children are Corinne (Mrs. Merle Nelson) of Alvarado and John W. Carlson of Warren. Mrs. Wilmuth Carlson died on November 15, 1973.

John W. Carlson Family

John W. Carlson was born on November 15, 1936, to Wilmuth and Pearl (Schumacher) Carlson in Warren. He graduated from Warren High School and was married on August 3, 1957, to Sharon Strunk, the eldest daughter of Robert and Dorothy (Noel) Strunk of Warren, who was born on December 26, 1938. John secured employment at the U.S. Postal system in Warren and in 1979 was appointed Postmaster of the U.S. Post Office in Warren. Sharon is employed by the legal firm of Myhre, Drenckhahn & Williams in Warren. They have four children: John who is attending the North Dakota State University; Mitchel who is a student at Moorhead State University; and twins Jodi and Jill of Warren. They reside at 137 North 7th Street in the home they built in 1958.

Guy F. Carlton Family

Mr. Carlton was born in Stearns County, Minnesota, October 19, 1872, to Francis W. and Lydia (Duncan) Carlton. Francis W. Carlton came to the lower Snake River in 1876 after farming failure in Stearns County, Minnesota, caused by grasshoppers. In 1879, his family joined him and that year a great fire swept the country of all the brush and changed the face of the valley. Several persons were burned to death and only a small clearing near their home saved the family. Mr. Guy Carlton, one of the seven children, grew up in the locality and after completing common school, he took a business course and taught for a time. Following that, he became a bookkeeper and wheat buyer for the Warren Manufacturing Company (a flour mill located where the Warren Grain and Seed Company is now located) for three and a half years. He then worked for the Minnesota and Dakota Elevator Co. for a year and in June 1900 organized the Farmers Elevator Co. and was chosen secretary and treasurer of the company as well as manager of the elevator in Warren which stood where the Miller Oil Burner Co. is now located on Main Street across from the Warren Creamery. Mr. Carlton was married in 1898 to Miss Nellie Stevens, sister of Charles L. Stevens of the former Warren Register newspaper. Both Mr. and Mrs. Carlton have passed on and two of their children, Thomas and Helen (Mrs. Archie Sinclair) live in California.

George D. Cheney Family

George D. Cheney was born in Akron, New York in 1865 to Dudley and Christie (McDermott) Cheney. He migrated to this area to work for and with his brother, John Cheney, manager of the March Farm located west of Warren. He married Frances Gorsuch in 1923. George died in 1956. Their two children are Charles G. Cheney of Warren and Nell (Mrs. Lloyd Horgen) of rural Warren. His widow, the much-loved Fann Cheney, resides at 626 North Central Avenue.

Hannah Stanla Cheney

by Mrs. Jim Kilfoyl

Hannah Stanla Cheney was born in 1854 on an island off the northwest coast of Russia, this island having been deeded to her father by the Czar of Russia with the understanding that it was to be the home of the Stanlas for as long as they lived. Here she was taught by her parents had made arrangements for her to leave for America with an older sister. When she was eleven, she and her sister left Finland and arrived in New York City. They went south to Mobile, Alabama, to work for the Moline family, acquaintances of their father. She stayed with the family for many years first taking care of the children and then learning the fine art of cooking from the old negro mammas. When the Moline family went abroad, Hannah Stanla went to work for the Wyard family and when they purchased a large farm near Litchfield, Minnesota, she went with them there. Here she met and married John Cheney. Later they moved to the East Farm or the Spaulding Farm where Mr. Cheney was the barn boss and she did the cooking. Later they moved to the West Farm or the March Farm where Mr. Cheney became the foreman and she managed the house. Later they bought a piece of land at Snake and decided to farm for themselves. All the cultivating, seeding and harvesting was done by oxen power and it was very slow work. In 1895 they moved back to the March Farm and their former positions. Mrs. Cheney was a versatile woman. She could sew up a gash in a man’s arm, make her own baking powder, concoct a fairly good coffee out of parched barley, assist at the birth and lay out the dead for burial, and when company would come, she would take her shotgun and a team of horses and a buckboard and bring back a nice bunch of prairie
chickens or she would take the rowboat and travel a ways on the Snake River and come back with a couple of wild geese. In 1904 they bought the old Topper farm from Eric Anderson. In 1908 they moved to the Woodward farm and stayed until 1910 when it was sold to Mr. Melgard. They then moved back to the March farm where Mr. Cheney died on June 22, 1916. In 1917, Mrs. Cheney bought a small home in Warren where she lived until her death on August 24, 1946. The three children of Mr. and Mrs. Cheney were Dudley, George and Anna (Mrs. Jim Kilfoyl) all of Warren.

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**Galusha O. Cross Family**

Back row: Helen, Mr. Cross, Jessie, Mrs. Cross, Feletia. Front row: Lulu, Nellie, Bessie. 

Mr. Cross was born in Oswego County, New York, January 20, 1854, the only son of Anson and Mary (Panoyer) Cross, both descendants of old New England families. When Galusha O. Cross was but a child, his parents settled in Nenah, Wisconsin, where he worked in his father's shop and learned the cooper's trade. He continued there until the spring of 1878 when he went to the Red River Valley country to inspect the lands in that region. He located on a farm in Polk County twenty-four miles from the nearest trading center, Crookston. In 1894 he removed his family to Warren and 1899 disposed of his farm interests and with Mr. Cook engaged in the real estate business. Mr. Cross was married in 1879 to Miss Jessie Whipple and they were the parents of seven daughters know for their beauty, wit and charm: Helen (Mrs. Clarence Spaulding), Feletia (Mrs. Henry Dahleen), Bessie (Mrs. Martin Myrbo), Jessie (Mrs. George R. Barrett), Lulu (Mrs. Putman Spaulding), Nellie (Mrs. Byron Cowles), and Mary. Mr. Cross died in 1916 and Mrs. Cross in 1933. The former Cross home at 229 East Nelson Avenue is now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Rollie Toupin.

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**Eugene Dady Family**

Eugene Dady was born in Vermont, entered the army at nineteen years of age, fought in the Civil War, and came to the Red River Valley in the 1870's and to Warren when it first started. He was married on July 6, 1882. From December 1, 1883, to January 1, 1887, he was the Sheriff of Marshall County. From 1887 to 1912 he was known to every youngster in Warren as the fearsome Marshal Dady. He had two sons, Howard and Jerimiah. Mr. Dady passed away on January 1, 1912.

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**Evart Dagoberg Family**

Evart Dagoberg was born in Sweden on December 3, 1850, to Lars and Elna (Iverson) Anderson. He was educated in his native land, graduating from the foremost agricultural institute in Sweden, and he there took up bookkeeping and worked as an accountant about ten years. He came to America in 1882, and located in Oaks Park Township where he developed a farm of two hundred and forty acres. In 1875 he was married to Miss Elna Munson. In 1899 he was appointed deputy auditor and for two years served in that capacity. In November 1900, he was elected treasurer of Marshall County. He served in that capacity until he retired and was succeeded by the late Mr. Fred Bakke. He traveled about this country and spent two years in Europe before returning to make his home in Minneapolis where he died on November 12, 1921. Mr. And Mrs. Dagoberg had two children: Cornelia (the late Mrs. Hans Mitgard) and Esther (Mrs. Nels Bystrom) of Los Angeles, California. While in Warren, Mr. Dagoberg built a home near the hospital on Wentzel street now owned by Phil Kotts.

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**The Dalquist Families**

In 1865, Peter, Lars and Eli Dalquist left Appelo Vasterdalarna, Sweden, and came to Castle Garden, New York, and then to Iowa before making their home in Wisconsin a few miles from Eau Claire along the Chippewa River. By hard work and saving, they were able to send for their father, mother, sister Karn and her husband Per Skoog and their brother Erick and his wife, Brita. To cross the Atlantic Ocean took forty-five days.

Peter had married Ingeborg Halseth who had come from Trondhjem, Norway in May of 1868 to Wisconsin. Later they moved to Lake Park, Minnesota. Eli Dalquist married Anna Selberg. In 1978 Peter Dalquist and his family and Eli and his family came to Warren. Since there were neither roads nor bridges, they had to cross the Red Lake River by using the railroad bridge for the covered wagon and the cattle swim the river. Peter homesteaded the southeast quarter of Section 20 in Warren Township. Eli took a homestead on the southeast quarter of Section 8 in Warrenton Township. There they built a small cabin and when the members of the family arrived from Sweden, they were welcomed in to stay with Eli and Anna Dalquist until they could build their own cabins on their own homesteads.

Lars Dalquist and his wife, Mary, and their children sold their farm in Wisconsin in 1879 for $1,000 and packed up their possessions consisting of two horses, two cows, some chickens, a barrel of meat, a barrel of flour, a few pieces of furniture and two railroad carloads of lumber to build their home. They arrived late in November of 1879, Mary and the children arriving first as Lars came on a slow freight with the cattle and provisions. Since Lars had arrived too late in the season to build on his homestead, they lived with Eli and his family in their one-room cabin for the first winter. After six years of enduring many hardships, they became well-established and were
very busy until the sudden death of Lars. This left Mary to manage the farm and take care of the children. Her oldest son, John, then a 13-year-old, took over much of the work and stayed on the farm after the other children had grown and left home. John rented the homestead from his mother who lived with John until her death at the age of 84. After her death, John purchased the farm. He married Ester Johnson on December 9, 1904, and they were the parents of eight children: Walter (deceased); Agnes (deceased); Minnie (Mrs. Elmer Ranstrom) of Vega Township, Alvarado, Minnesota; Clarence (deceased); Lillie (Mrs. Walter Malm) of Alexandria, Minnesota; George (deceased); Helen (Mrs. Walter Hickman) of Vega Township, Warren, Minnesota; and Harriet (Mrs. Stanley Johnson) of Alexandria, Minnesota. John Dalquist was active in church, township and community affairs up to his death on February 12, 1940. Mrs. John Dalquist passed away on February 11, 1963.

Clarence Dalquist rented the home farm on January 1, 1940. He was married to Mildred Carlson, the twelfth child of Charles J. and Amanda Carlson of Stephen, Minnesota, on June 12, 1940. Mildred had taught school in District No. 6, Warrenton Township, for two years before her marriage. Clarence purchased the farm in 1944. In 1955 they adopted three children: Richard, Kathleen, and William. Clarence died suddenly from a heart attack out in the field on May 18, 1959. Mildred continues to make her home on the Dalquist farm in the new home that they built prior to her husband’s death.

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J. P. Easton Family

by Leora Easton Cassidy

Jeremiah Pollard Easton, better known to his friends as “Jack,” was born on February 2, 1852, to Elijah and Jerusha Jones Easton of Walworth, Wisconsin. The family moved to Minnesota in 1866 and settled near Owatonna where J. P. Easton received his education and where he met Anna Mehitable Magoon, born March 18, 1854, at Lowell, Mass., whom he married in 1875. They lived in Owatonna where he had a position of bookkeeper in a flour mill until 1880 when they moved to Marshall County and took up land about four and one-half miles southeast of Warren. Their neighbors were the Cross family, the Tullars, the Franks and the Bradleys. J. P. Easton farmed until 1887 when he sold it and moved to Warren and took up residence on Fourth Street where he went into the farm machinery business, then he became Postmaster, a position he held for many years. Later he became manager of the local Murray-Woodward Lumber Company office—later known as the Robertson Lumber Co., and finally he became superintendent of the St. Hilaire Lumber Company’s line of retail lumber yards, a position he held until his death. Mrs. Easton passed away in 1922. Four children were born to them: Susan (Mrs. David Grant) of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Leora (Mrs. C. A. Cassidy) of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Dana Magoon; and Chauncey of Cokato, Minnesota.

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Thomas Edgar Family

by James Edgar

Thomas Edgar was born in Eaglefield, Scotland on October 30, 1848, and married Jemima Johnston (born November 5, 1849) on January 21, 1876. For some time they lived at Ecclefghan, at Carlisle and at Floriston in the lake country of England before coming to America in 1882 with their four small children. They first came to Crookston, Minnesota, where John Edgar was born. From there they moved to Warren in 1884 or 1885 and there four more children including twins were born. Mr. Edgar, having been a railroad employee in Scotland, worked on the Great Northern Railroad until 1895 when they bought a farm in Brislet Township which had been homesteaded by the Franklin Family. Mr. Edgar died in December of that year and Mrs. Edgar maintained the family farm and home with the help of her sons. Mrs. Edgar passed away in 1924 and the farm remained in the family until 1941. The children of Thomas and Jemima Edgar were: Janet (Mrs. Henry Clark) of Bemidji, Minnesota; Mary (Mrs. Frank Robinson) of Thief River Falls, Minnesota; Thomas, Jr. of Warren; Jane (Mrs. Hugh Boyd) of Warren; John of Warren, Minnesota; and Irving of Warren, Minnesota. All are deceased including the two twins who died early in childhood.

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John Edgar Family

John Edgar was born November 18, 1883 in Crookston, Minnesota, and died on October 14, 1962. He married Lillian Eliza Boyd whose family came to Warren in 1904. She was born March 31, 1887 and died August 5, 1961. They lived at Baudette, Minnesota, where he was a logger. In March of 1918, they moved to Section 1, McCrea Township where they farmed. Later they moved to Section 33, McCrea Township and continued farming until the time of his death on April 8, 1931. Their children are: Donald LeRoy of Angus, Minnesota; Thomas Robert of Finland, Minnesota (deceased); Gertrude Jemima (Mrs. Edward Berg) of Thief River Falls, Minnesota; Roy Marlyn of Warren, Minnesota; Earl Woodbury of Warren, Minnesota; Richard Charles (killed at Iwo Jima, World War II); George Kenneth of Warren, Minnesota; and Cameron David (lost in an airplane crash in the South Pacific in World War II).

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Irvin Edgar Family

Irving Edgar was born on April 21, 1890, and died on December 31, 1964. He married Helen Godel, daughter of Henry and Sadie Godel, on November 15, 1917. Helen
resides at the Valhalla Apartments in Warren, and is a member of the Grace Methodist Church. Irving and Helen had three children, all of whom reside in the Warren area: Florence Mae (Mrs. Clem Weber), Lloyd Irving and Ray Harvey.

** Roy Marilyn Edgar Family **

Roy Marilyn Edgar was born February 14, 1917, and on November 29, 1944, he was married to Evelyn Poolman of Argyle, Minnesota. They farm in McCrea Township, Warren, Minnesota, and their children are: Phyllis Arlene (Mrs. Robert Nowacki) of Warren, Minnesota and Charles Roy of Warren, Minnesota.

** Earl Woodbury Edgar Family **

Earl Woodbury Edgar was born on April 15, 1920, and married Alice Olson of Newfolden, Minnesota, on July 6, 1941. He is custodian at the Warren Elementary School and they live at 622 East Ross, Warren, Minnesota. They have one son, Earl Wayne Edgar, of Brooklyn Park, Minnesota.

** George Kenneth Edgar Family **

George Kenneth Edgar was born on July 16, 1923. He was married to Ida Pletsch of Warren on July 10, 1947, and they reside at 118 East Fletcher in Warren, Minnesota. Their children are: George Kenneth, Jr. of Thief River Falls, Minnesota; June Edith (Mrs. Roy Wheeler) of McVille, North Dakota; John Edwain, Robert Thomas, Linda Kaye and Diane Lynn.

** James Dana Edgar Family **

James Dana Edgar was born on August 23, 1921, and was married to Constance Lucille Knutson on December 26, 1948. Constance was born at Bemidji, Minnesota on March 16, 1929 to Arthur & Myrtle (Larson) Knutson. James farmed in the Warren area for several years. He was employed as Field Supervisor for the Minnesota Crop Improvement Association until 1977. They now reside at 623 East Colvin Avenue in Warren. Their children are: Thomas Lee of Bourbonnais, Illinois; Richard James of Warren, Minnesota; and Pamela Kay.

** Florence Mae Edgar Jenkins Weber Family **

Florence Mae Edgar was born on May 20, 1937, and was married to James Jenkins of Oslo, Minnesota in October of 1936. He died on December 9, 1966. They farmed southeast of Warren and had five children: Ronald Irving of Warren, Minnesota; Gary James of Warren, Minnesota; Larry Ray of Grand Forks, North Dakota; Bette Kaye (Mrs. Ricky Solberg) of Warren, Minnesota; and Randy Lee of Warren, Minnesota. On February 24, 1968, Florence Mae Jenkins was married to Mr. Clem Weber and they live in the rural area outside of Warren where they built a new home but are employed in Warren.

** Lloyd Irving Edgar Family **

Lloyd Irving Edgar was born on May 15, 1921, and was married on October 24, 1944 to Rita Beaudry, the daughter of the Ivanhoe Beaudrys of Argyle. They reside in Warren and farm in the Warren area. Their children are: Sharon Theresa (Mrs. William Copp until his death in 1971, now Mrs. Ronald Abrahamson) and Terry Lloyd of Warren, Minnesota.

** Ray Harvey Edgar Family **

Ray Harvey Edgar was born on November 26, 1923, and married June Hamrick, the daughter of Frank and Anna Hamrick of Angus, Minnesota, on March 2, 1950. Ray owns and operates the March Liquid Fertilizer Company. They have five children: Susan (Mrs. David Lindquist) of Warren, Minnesota; Rebecca Leigh (Mrs. Scott Loeslie) of Warren, Minnesota; Kristy Ann (Mrs. Craig Hanson) of Crookston, Minnesota; Scott Ray of Warren, Minnesota; and Ellen Elizabeth Edgar of Fargo, North Dakota.

** Otto Edwardh Family **

Otto Edwardh was born on January 27, 1847 in Hogen, Elsbarstan, Westgotland, Sweden. He emigrated with his parents in 1881 and was naturalized on May 24, 1887. On June 26, 1884 he was married in Crookston, Minnesota to Othelia Anderson who was born on May 18, 1861 at Nyttopnar, Wermland, Sweden.

Otto was an active businessman interested in many things from selling insurance, to owning a saloon on the west side of town, to having a farm. He purchased the Palmer Farm in 1893 (now the Sedlacek Addition to Warren) and their home there was a center of hospitality for all of Warren as well as for immigrants coming from Sweden. Otto died on January 10, 1903. In 1908 the family purchased the former Grand Hotel at the intersection of Fletcher and 2nd Street and called it the Edwardh Hotel. Mrs. Edwardh died on July 3, 1945. To this union were born seven children: Hilma (Mrs. John Marsh) of Granum, Alberta, Canada; Oscar of Granum, Alberta, Canada; Peter of Hythe, Alberta, Canada; Ahaliba of Warren, Minnesota; Henrietta (Mrs. George Schmidt) of Sacramento, California; Judith Hazel (Mrs. Stuart Turneaure) of Ann Arbor, Michigan; and Otto of Warren, Minnesota.

** Charles Engelstad Family **

Charles Engelstad was born on October 25, 1926 in Warren, Minnesota, to Bernard and Carrie (Sahlberg) Engelstad. He was married to June Otto on November 7,
1947, the daughter of Adolph and Ida Otto, who was born on June 28, 1929. He became associated with Amundgaard Implement Co. in 1947 and in 1974 he became a co-owner of that firm, which that year erected a new building south of Warren along Highway No. 75. In 1958 Charles and his wife platted the Engelstad Addition on the south side of Warren on which many new homes, a church and the elementary school have been built along with three apartment buildings. They reside at 195 South 5th Street; are the parents of four children: Robert of Cottage Grove, Minnesota; Carla (Mrs. J. W. Hochhalter) of Bismarck, North Dakota; Brenda (Mrs. J. P. Johnsons) of Warren, Minnesota; and Jeffrey; and they are a fourth generation family in Warren.

** John Engelstad Family **

John Engelstad was born on April 8, 1927, to Melvin T. and Sophia Engelstad in Warren, Minnesota. He assisted his father in the dairy business and on September 19, 1948 he was married to Joan, who was born in Warren on September 25, 1927 to Melvin and Ruth (Nelson) Sillerud. In later years John ceased the dairy business and went into small grain farming. In 1976 he platted and developed the Parkview Addition to Warren from acreage formerly in his farm. They reside in the old farm home at 495 West Parkview and their children are: Theodore J. of Fargo, North Dakota; Victoria (Mrs. Larry Kerby) of Tampa, Florida; and Randall J. of Warren, Minnesota.

** Melvin Engelstad Family **

Melvin T. Engelstad was born in Fertile, Minnesota on March 20, 1889, to Nels Rasmus and Karen Engelstad. He moved here with his family in 1899 to a farm four miles south of Warren. On June 10, 1919 Melvin married Sophia Opheim, who was born on February 8, 1887, to Ole and Ingeborg Opheim in Jackson, Minnesota. In 1928 Melvin bought the Hilleboe farm located on the south edge of Warren which was originally the home of the first settler of Warren, Charles Wentzel, which then consisted of 217 acres. Here Melvin operated a dairy from 1928 to 1947. This farm is now owned and operated by their son, John. To this union were born: Alice (deceased); Viola (Mrs. John Standish) of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Millincet (Mrs. William Carl) of Rialto, California; John of Warren, Minnesota; and Carol Ann (Mrs. Luther Johnson) of Stephen, Minnesota. Melvin died on January 4, 1972, and Sophia died on August 12, 1972.

** Nels R. Engelstad Family **

Nels Rasmus Engelstad was born on January 13, 1855 near Oslo, Norway to Rasmus Nilsen and Anne Margrethe Engelstad. He came with his parents to Fillmore County in 1869 and moved to Fertile, Minnesota in the late 1870's. On February 27, 1880 Nels Rasmus Engelstad was married to Karen Tande, daughter of Jonah F. Braskerude and Christine (Solberg) Tande.

Mr. and Mrs. Nels R. Engelstad with their family of seven boys and two girls came to the Warren community in 1899 from Fertile, Minnesota, where they had homesteaded in 1882. They bought the farm formerly owned by William Bradley, one of the earliest settlers in this community, the farm being located about four miles south of Warren. Here they farmed 480 acres of land besides renting two or three quarters in addition each year which they operated all with their own help. In 1910 they moved to Northfield, Minnesota where the children had the opportunity of attending college. Two of the sons, Joel and Melvin, remained on the farm and operated it for a number of years and in 1950 it was sold to Helmer and Robert Peterson, sons of the late Mr. and Mrs. Jonas Peterson, who were esteemed neighbors during the time the Engelstads lived on the farm. Eleven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Engelstad: Robert of Aneta, North Dakota (deceased); Joel of Northfield, Minnesota (deceased); Alfred (deceased); Rev. Conrad Engelstad of Chicago, Illinois (deceased); Melvin of Warren, Minnesota (deceased); Selma (Mrs. Henry Tufte) of Northfield, Minnesota; Christine (Mrs. Grant Rundhaug) (deceased); Carl of Moorhead, Minnesota; Nathaniel of Chicago, Illinois (deceased); Luther of Santa Anna, California; and Esther (wife of Rev. Lawrence Stumme) of Muscatine, Iowa. Mr. Engelstad died in 1935 and Mrs. Engelstad in 1943 and both are buried in Northfield, Minnesota.

** Rasmus Nilsen Engelstad Family **

Rasmus Nilsen Engelstad was born on January 24, 1827, and his wife, Anne Margareth (Erickson) Engelstad was born on February 8, 1829 at Modum, near Oslo, Norway, and they came to America with their two sons, Christopher Rasmus, born on November 3, 1852, and Nels Rasmus, born on January 13, 1855, to Minnesota in 1869. They are buried in Warren’s Greenwood Cemetery.

Christopher Rasmus and his wife, Petrolina ( Olson) Engelstad, who was born on October 18, 1856, lived south of Warren and they are also buried in Warren. Eight children were born to them: Rebecca, Gilbert, William, Theoline, Cornelius, and Olive (all deceased) and Bernard of Biwabik, Minnesota, and Lena of Milbrae, California.

Bernard was born on December 4, 1893, and he farmed south of Warren. He was married to Carrie Sahlberg in 1922 and they had five children: William, Mae, Charles, Selmer and Russel. Carrie died in 1931. Bernard then married Pearl Olbekson of Oslo, Minnesota, and they had three children: Leland, Delberne and Wayne.

** Ole J. Engen Family **

by Chester and Obed Engen

Ole J. Engen was born in Trondheim, Norway and came to America in 1880, settling first in Sandsville Township, Polk County. He and his wife lived in a sod home on the NE1/4 of Section 26 and with the two oxen they brought with them, Mr. Engen broke up his first land. In those days the countryside was dotted with swamps, covered with grass taller than one’s head, and infested with mosquitoes that were a torment day and night. In the winter of 1885-86 their sod home burned and they lived the remainder of the winter with nearby neighbors. The frame house they built in 1886 is still
standing. In 1890 they replaced their oxen with horses. The five children born to Ole and Christina Engen: Merit who was born in Norway died at the age of fourteen from lack of medical skills, Annar (1881-1945), John (1884-1976), Minda (1886-1967), and Isaac who died at the age of seven.

In 1905, Annar Engen who later married Marie Hendrickson in 1918, took over the 400 acre farm and was for over forty years a raiser of fine horses, principally Percherons. Mr. and Mrs. Annar Engen were the parents of nine children: Obed of Warren, Minnesota; Chester on the home farm; Marion (Mrs. Paul Frei) of Stephen, Minnesota; Russell of Fargo, North Dakota; Ruby (Mrs. William Fox) of Billings, Montana; Reuben (Ruby’s twin) of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Donna (Mrs. Stanley Gladys) of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Deloris of Minneapolis, Minnesota; and Harold of Great Falls, Montana.

John Engen who was born in 1884 had great talents in the field of mechanics and made many repairs in his shop as well as being the custodian of the Alvarado School. John died in 1976 and his wife Ellen in 1957. They were the parents of two children: Emery of Richmond, Virginia; and Eleanor (Mrs. Wendell Westberg) of Warren, Minnesota.

Minda Engen never married but cared for her parents until they died and for her brother, John, when his wife died. She passed away in 1967.

The youngest son, Isaac, did not live more than seven years when he died from lack of modern medicines of pneumonia.

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John B. Erickson Family

by Elna Erickson

John B. Erickson was born on Dec. 15, 1863, in Sunne Socken, Varmland, Sweden, the youngest of five sons born to Erick and Kjerstin Larson. He emigrated to America at the age of twenty-three, arriving in Warren on Christmas Eve, 1886. That winter he lived with his brother, the late Peter Erickson at Viking. In the Spring of 1887 he came to Warren where he worked on various large farms in this community and also at the Warren brick yard. On Nov. 16, 1889, he was united in marriage to Christine Olson who was born on Oct. 8, 1865, in the same province, and was the daughter of Olaf and Karin Olson.

Mr. Erickson accepted a position as building custodian for the Warren Public School in the summer of 1896. This position he held for forty-six years until his voluntary retirement because of advancing years in the fall of 1943. During that period he became the well-known, respected and loved friend of every youth who received part or all of their education there.

Mrs. Erickson was a member of the Evangelical Covenant Church in Warren and served as president of the Ladies Aid for fourteen years as well as treasurer for a number of years. She died at her home on Feb. 4, 1935, at the age of sixty-nine. Mr. Erickson passed away on April 6, 1950, at the age of eighty-six years. Six children were born to them, namely: Dora (deceased); Elna; Gilmer of Portland, Oregon; Ingeborg (Mrs. B. A. Engen) of Downers Grove, Ill.; Theodore of Dickinson, North Dakota; and Clinton of Redondo, Washington.

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Douglas Farrell Family

by Adelbert Harris

Douglas Farrell was born in Bellevue, Iowa, on August 16, 1861 and was educated in the Bellevue public schools. He moved to Argyle in 1887 and opened up a jewelry store and a watch repair shop. In 1894 he moved to Warren and lived here until he died. He and Miss Anna Blank were married on June 25, 1895, and to this union were born two children: Lucille (Mrs. Lyle Noble) of Spokane, Washington and Kathryn (Mrs. Charles Bell) who lives in Florida. Mr. Farrell died on March 13, 1926. Mrs. Farrell is living in Los Angeles, California.

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Erick Forslund Family

Erick Forslund was born in Svarthvik, Medelfrad, Sweden on September 20, 1872, the son of Johan and Anna Margareta (Grund) Forslund. He came to Warren from Sweden in 1888 at the age of 15 years and secured work on the Snake River Farm of Woodward Farm (now the Melgard Farm) where his brother, John, was foreman. In 1901 he built a home at 523 North Montana Street (now the home of the Gladwin Lynne family) and was married on August 9, 1901 to Ellen Erickson, the daughter of Lars and Bergitta Erickson and who was born on November 30, 1879 in Soderham, Helsingland, Sweden. In 1902 he became the foreman and with the exception of a short time spent in Michigan at an auto plant and a year spent at the Spaubding Farm, he spent most of his life at the farm until he retired. Erick died on December 12, 1957, and Ellen died on September 10, 1960. To this union were born four children: Edmund of Warren, Minnesota; Hazel (deceased); Alice (Mrs. H. Q. Melgard) of Warren, Minnesota; and Clarence of Janesville, Wisconsin.

* * *

William Forsberg Family

William Forsberg was born August 18, 1870, in Albert Lea, Minnesota, the son of John and Amelia (Anderson) Forsberg. He moved to Marshall County in 1884 and took up farming. He was elected Sheriff in 1900 and held that office until 1915. He was married on Dec. 11, 1902, to Miss Sadie C. Sihlberg at Strandquist, Minnesota.
From 1915-1917 he was an insurance and collectors agent in Warren. From 1917-1919, he was a special police officer for the government guarding terminal elevators at Warren for Spaulding Elevator Co. From 1919-1949, he was the Justice of the Peace and the city assessor for Warren.

Mr. Forsberg held many positions of trust in his lifetime and was a charter member of the Marshall County Agricultural Association and served as its president for more than twenty years.

He passed away at Warren on Feb. 4, 1949. Mrs. Sadie Forsberg continued to live in their family home at 220 Third Street until her death.

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H. I. Golden Family

by Audrey Golden

Hans I. Golden was born November 22, 1861, in Norway. He came to the United States and arrived in Warren during the month of August 1883 where his first job was working on the section crew of the railroad at $1.15 per day. In 1884 he sent a ticket to his girl friend, Miss Andrine Swanson, in Norway and she came to this country and they were married on December 24, 1884. In 1895 he built a two-story building which was used as a store and living quarters on the site where Peoples State Bank is now located. Mr. Golden was a cabinet maker from Norway and in Warren he did cabinet and carpenter work. Later, he started a furniture store with the usual sideline of undertaking. About 1900, he sold his undertaking line to H. M. Swanson. In 1906, he built a two-story brick building now occupied by the Malm Furniture Store where he moved his furniture business. Mr. Golden sold his furniture business to Adelbert Harris in 1942. Mr. Golden was a charter member of the Norwegian Methodist Church and a Superintendent of the Sunday School for many years. He passed away on July 7, 1946. The Golden children are as follows: Jennie (deceased); Albert of Warren, Minnesota; Olga (Mrs. G. Kvisgaard) deceased; Arthur of Los Angeles, California; Oscar of Crookston, Minnesota; Harold of Warren, Minnesota; Clifford of Broadview, Illinois; and Myrtle (deceased).

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Harold Ellsworth (Bud) Golden Family

by Lila Eukel Golden

Harold Ellsworth Golden, son of Harold N. and Mabel (Johnson) Golden of Warren, Minnesota, was born on June 8, 1921. He attended Elementary and High School at Warren and upon graduation went to work in the Warren Theater and drove a school bus. On July 14, 1942, he entered the United States Army serving with Charles Cheney in the Standard Oil Gas Station on the corner of Highway No. 1 and Highway No. 75 (Bridge and Main) while working part-time at the Warren Post Office as a substitute clerk and city carrier. On April 18, 1949, he transferred to Rural Route No. 3 out of Warren. Later he transferred to Rural Route No. 2 and served there until December 29, 1978, when he retired. On September 16, 1949, he married Lila June Eukel, daughter of Lila and Fred Eukel. They built a home at 121 North 4th Street and in 1964 they built another home at 204 North 4th Street in which they still reside. Four children were born to this marriage: Edward Lee of Grand Forks, North Dakota; Peggy (Mrs. James Duray) of Fargo, North Dakota; John Clifford of Warren, Minnesota; and Steven James of Warren, Minnesota.

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Harold Nathaniel Golden Family

by Lila Eukel Golden

Harold Nathaniel Golden was born on February 27, 1895 in Warren, Minnesota, the son of Hans I. and Andrine Golden. He worked for the Warren Telephone Co. as a repairman, starting in October of 1912 and right up to his retirement in November of 1975. He was married to Mabel Johnson, daughter of Ludwig and Julia Johnson, on August 11, 1916. Mabel passed away on October 21, 1974. Harold continues to live in the home he built in 1921 at 327 East Prairie Avenue. To this union were born three children: Cecil (Mrs. Harry Grappe) of Puyallup, Washington; Harold (Bud) of Warren, Minnesota; and Joyce (Mrs. Arthur Howard) of Warren, Minnesota.

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Andrew Grindeland Family

Glady's, Louise, Clarice, Estelle, Synneva.

Andrew Grindeland was born November 20, 1856, in Highlandville, Winneke County, Iowa, the son of Ingebrit and Lucy Grindeland who had immigrated from Voss, Norway. He received his education at the Decorah Institute in Decorah, Iowa, and following that taught school for three years in the public schools of Hayfield, Minnesota. In the fall of 1878, he enrolled in the Law School of the University of Iowa and graduated in the spring of 1882. Following graduation, he left for the Minnesota frontier and settled during the month of July at Warren. Here he set up his law office. On the fifth of October the same year, he made a return trip to Iowa and was married to Miss Inger Forde of Big Canoe, Iowa. As a young attorney, he was active in the public affairs of both the community and the state. As member of the city council, he drew up the original city charter and articles of incorporation of the city. He served for a time as city recorder. From 1889 to 1890 he acted as Judge of Probate Court for Marshall County. From 1899 to 1903 he was a member of the state Normal School board. He served as a
State Senator from this district form 1899 to 1903. In March of 1903 he was appointed District Judge of the 14th Judicial District of Minnesota. He was consecutively re-elected to this position until ill health caused him to resign on November 20, 1930. He was a charter member of the Norwegian Lutheran Church and during his lifetime he held many responsible positions in both the national church organization and in the fields of education where he served as a member of the board of trustees of St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota; Luther College, Decorah, Iowa; and Grand Forks College. To this union seven children were born: Louise (Mrs. O. F. Melby) of Thief River Falls, Minnesota; Synneva (Mrs. W. A. Knapp) of Warren, Minnesota; Clarice (Mrs. J. A. O. Larsen) of Columbus, Missouri; Ingolf of Warren, Minnesota; Evelyn (Mrs. E. E. Swenson) of New Brighton, Minnesota; Estelle (Mrs. Robert Bryant) of Minneapolis, Minnesota; and Gladys of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

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John M. Halvorson Family

John M. Halvorson was born in Trondheim, Norway. He came to the United States, and settled in Warren where he became an employee of the K. J. Taralseth Co. in the shoe department and where he became a citizen. In 1898 he married Amanda Langeland of Highlandville, Iowa, who was a niece of Mrs. Andrew Grindel and. To this union were born: Valborg (deceased); Henry M. of Boston, Massachusetts; Clara (Mrs. Knute Hiland) (deceased); Agnes (Mrs. Neil Giere) of Winter Park, Florida; Louise (Mrs. Oscar Knutson) (deceased); Gertrude of Des Plaines, Illinois; Synneva (deceased); and John Paul (deceased). John was a long and faithful custodian of Our Savior's Lutheran Church and Amanda provided a bountiful table for the teachers and others who boarded at their home. She is honored by having a circle in the Ladies Aid named after her and they both were honored by their children when a scholarship fund was established at Warren High School in memory of them.

James W. Harris Family

by Adelbert Harris

James W. Harris was born March 13, 1848, at Hamilton, Ontario, and was married to Alwilda Flagg on June 5, 1872. He worked at building the Welland Canal with his team of horses until the fall of 1881 when he came west with quite a number of others, most of them settling near Mapleton, North Dakota. Mr. Harris and Oscar Holmcomb came on to Warren and Mr. Harris filed on a homestead about ten miles east of Warren and put up a house and barn. That fall he went back to Welland, Ontario, and spent the winter. In the spring of 1882, he and his family came to Warren and made their home at the new homestead a half mile north of where the Sommers farm now is. A Mr. Perkins and his family filed on a claim at the Sommers farm. Dan Bernard filed on a quarter a half a mile east of Perkins; Welling ton a half a mile north; Woolerys a mile west and Coles a mile east. Further toward where Radium now is, there were two "Tripp families, Fred and Will; the Allens and some others whose names I have forgotten. Prices were low, the weather none too good and after the big hail storm in 1887 that flattened all the crops for miles around, some of the settlers began to move out. The Harris family moved to Warren the fall of 1888 and Mr. Harris started a livery and sales stable. On February 24, 1889, Mrs. Harris died leaving four sons. In 1892, Mr. Harris was married to Grace Westfall and two years later he passed away on February 18, 1894. In 1897, Grace Harris married Mr. Wilbur Powell. She died on May 30, 1948.

Four sons that were born to James and Alwilda Harris were as follows: Adelbert, born May 17, 1877; George, born July 29, 1880; William, born Feb. 6, 1887; and James Roy, who was born Feb. 6, 1887. Of these four sons, only Adelbert survived. He was married to Bertha A. Blank on November 22, 1900, and they lived at 713 River Avenue. Two children were born to them: Aileen who is married and lives in Coon Rapids, Wisconsin, and James who died in childhood. Mrs. Harris died on August 11, 1963 and Mr. Harris on December 20, 1974.

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John S. Hilleboe Family

John and Clara Hilleboe and family

Theodore, Sylvia, Selmer, Agnes, Esther and Hilda.

John Hilleboe was born on March 30, 1865 in Adams County, Wisconsin, the son of Sigurd and Gertrude (Haug) Hilleboe. He attended Willmar Seminary in Willmar, Minnesota, and came to Warren in 1891 where he secured a position as bookkeeper at the K. J. Taralseth Co. store. In 1893 he was married to Clara Strand (born in Adams County, Wisconsin, on November 4, 1870) and to this union were born seven children: Agnes, Sylvia, Hilda, Ester, Theodore, Selmer and Strand. In 1900 he
and Mr. L. M. Johnson became engaged in the milling business but when the Soo Line refused to build a spur to his mill, he sold out and purchased the home-farm of Warren's first settler, Mr. Wentzel. Mr. Hilleboe was very active in civic affairs and helped start the Boxville Farmers Club and was president of it for four years. Mr. Hilleboe died of pneumonia on February 18, 1920. Mrs. Hilleboe continued to farm for several years, finally selling the farm to Melvin Engelstad (now occupied by Melvin's son, John Engelstad). Mrs. Hilleboe went down to Minneapolis to live with her daughters and on November 29, 1945, she passed away. Sylvia Severin of Minneapolis; Hilda Drury of Long Beach, California; and Strand Hilleboe of Billings, Montana survive.

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**Oscar W. Holcomb Family**

by Adelbert Harris

Oscar Holcomb was born in 1858 at Welland, Ontario, and came west with quite a number of others who settled at Mapleton, North Dakota. Later that same year he came to Warren and worked at different jobs until he was married to Margaret Bradley on November 3, 1884. He and his wife opened a grocery store where the One-O-One Service Station now stands and later on he operated a sales and livery stable. Mr. and Mrs. Holcomb had one daughter, Dora, who married a mining engineer and who lived in Whittier, California. Mr. Holcomb died in 1923 and Mrs. Holcomb passed away on June 21, 1945.

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**Ole O. Holson Family**

by Clara Knutson

On the 15th of May, 1881, Ole O. Holson, his wife Inger and six children: Ole, Anna, Moses, Andrea, Helen and Lena, set sail for this country. Four weeks later they arrived in Boston and journeyed by rail to Warren, Minnesota. Here they were met by old friends who helped them while he filed a homestead in Vega about twelve miles west of Warren and put up a small frame house. Here the family settled down in a midst of "mosquitoes, water and weeds." Game was plentiful and herds of deer were met as the family went out to get the cattle. Floods and prairie fires were other hazards they faced. In the twenty-one years Mr. Holson lived on this farm, the prairie was turned into fields, roads took the place of Indian trails, and sod and log houses were replaced with more comfortable homes. On March 20, 1910, Mr. Holson became suddenly ill with an attack of acute appendicitis. Because of poor communications, a doctor could not be summoned quickly enough and when Dr. Anderson did come, he was too sick to be moved to the Warren Hospital for an operation. He lingered for ten days and on April 1, 1910, he passed away at the age of sixty-seven. Of their children, Ole farmed in Canada and died leaving two daughters: Minnie (Mrs. Mellum of Thief River Falls) and Lillie (Mrs. A. Rafteseth) of Rosewood, who died on June 11, 1974. Anna and Helen died early. Moses lived in Oslo where he died in July of 1954 and left twin daughters: Lorice (Mrs. F. W. Aldrich of Arcadia, California) and Helen (Mrs. Wm. Phibbs of Seattle, Washington). Andrea (Mrs. Cornelius Knutson of Warren) passed away on September 29, 1939, and left five children: Clara, Arthur, Effie (Mrs. C. G. Nybakken) and Lawrence, all of Warren. Henry died on November 31, 1966. Lena (Mrs. Albert Kile), who was the youngest of Ole Holson's children, died on December 10, 1966, and left a daughter, Louise (Mrs. Oscar Myrfield of Warren).

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**David Horgen Family**

by Kathleen Kilfoyle Horgen

David was born on September 22, 1931, the son of Clarence and Alvina Horgen of McCrea Township, and it was there he attended school and spent his early years. For many years he helped with house-moving and later was an elevator mill operator, and he served in the U.S. Army in Korea. He was married on February 2, 1952, to Kathleen Kilfoyle, the daughter of James and Anne (Cheney) Kilfoyle of Warren where she was born on August 1, 1931. They reside in the parental home of Kathleen's parents at 302 North 5th Street and are the parents of two daughters: Suzanne (Mrs. Michael Weik) of Mentor, Minnesota and Mary Anne of Warren, Minnesota.

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**Aaron Johnson Family**

Aaron Johnson was born in Allgotts boda, Kronoberg's Lan, Sweden in 1957 to Jonas and Helena Jonasson, farmers, farming enough acres to insure a good living for their family of four daughters and four sons. Aaron was the youngest member of the family. The family's good circumstances were due, in part, to the money and property Helena, an only child, had inherited from her parents.

In the late 1840's stories of the fertile land and fabulous crops to be had in America reached Kronoberg's Lan and Jonas and Helena Jonasson, farmers, farming enough acres to insure a good living for their family of four daughters and four sons. Aaron was the youngest member of the family. The family's good circumstances were due, in part, to the money and property Helena, an only child, had inherited from her parents.

In the late 1840's stories of the fertile land and fabulous crops to be had in America reached Kronoberg's Lan and Jonas' sister and brother, together with their families, set sail for America in a sail boat. Jonas had too good a living in Sweden to be attracted by the flowing reports from America.

However, in 1862-1863 after investing heavily in an unsound business venture, he signed over all he had in order to protect his previous investments. The business
failed when Aaron was seven years old, and it was the years of poverty that followed that Aaron remembers of his homeland.

The news of the family’s plight reached the relatives who had settled in Vasa, Goodhue County, Minnesota. They sent a large sum of money with which to outfit the family and provide transportation to America. Instead, the money was used to pay debts and only the amount to pay for steerage tickets for Alfred and Frank, young sons of the family, was retained. Again the relatives made plans to bring the family to America but this time they sent the nine tickets required to bring the Jonassons’s and the aged grandfather to Minnesota. So it was that in 1869 Aaron, twelve years old, came to Vasa, Goodhue County, to a home provided for the family, near the Vasa Lutheran Church.

Goodhue County provided an interesting life for Aaron for friendly tribes of Indians were still roaming the countryside. Aaron attended elementary school there and was confirmed in the Lutheran faith by Dr. Erick Norelius.

In 1876 when Aaron was nineteen years old, great excitement prevailed in Vasa as word came that the James brothers, who had staged the great bank robbery at Northfield, were heading for Red Wing and would doubtless go through the Vasa community. Aaron joined the hastily organized posse. They found the place where the James brothers had made a short hideout, but that was as near as Aaron came to the notorious bank robbers.

In 1881 stories of the great northwest led Jonas and his sons to decide to move to Idaho. Frank and Alfred with their families left first, but upon arriving in Crookston they found their journey could not be continued due to the flooded condition of the Red River. While in Crookston, land agents persuaded them to change their plans and proceed to the Warren community, which offered much greater opportunities than did Idaho. They settled on farms northwest of Warren in that year and the following year were joined by Jonas, Aaron and John, all of whom began farming in Warrenton and Vega Townships.

On July 21, 1889, following the regular Sunday worship services held at the Dahlquist school, District No. 6, one mile from Aaron’s home, Aaron was united in marriage with Eda Frey who had come from Sweden, November 2, 1888, less than a year before. Aaron had a new seven room house built for his bride, now the home of son, Edward A. Johnson.

It was fortunate that the house was large as in the fall of 1891 when the typhoid fever epidemic struck the Woodward Farm, Emil Kastell and Charles Ranstrom were cared for at the Johnson home. Before they had regained their health, John Frey, Mrs. Aaron Johnson’s brother, also became ill and came to his sister’s home to be cared for. Mrs. Johson’s sister, Josephine (Mrs. Ole Ranstrom), who was making her home at the Johnson’s while her husband worked on the “Big Farm,” gave birth to her first son, Edwin, on October 15. On October 17 her brother, John Frey, died. Due to Mrs. Ranstrom’s weakened condition her sister and Mrs. Alfred Johnson, who was assisting with the nursing of the ill ones, kept the news of the brother’s death from her although the birth and death occurred in the same house. This was surely a time of trial but the strength of character of the early pioneers enabled them to carry on.

All the Johnson brothers had joined the Swedish Lutheran Church in Warren but in 1891 Aaron was chairman of the Organization Proceedings of the Immanuel Lutheran Church of Vega and from that time until he retired and moved to Warren he was a member of the church board. From 1896 to his retirement he served on the Warrenton town board. In 1939 Mr. and Mrs. Johnson celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

Aaron and Edna Johnson reared seven children: Edward (who married Hildur Ranstrom, now deceased) is a resident of the Good Samaritan Center, Warren, as is Anna (Mrs. Albert Dahlman). Hazel (Mrs. Theodore Ranstrom) lives in rural Warren. Deceased are: Emma (Mrs. Oscar Dahlman), Alice (Mrs. Elof Rud), Florence (Mrs. Conrad Swanson) and Harry.

Mrs. Johnson passed away in July 1943 and Mr. Johnson in June 1944 and were laid to rest in the Vega Immanuel Church Cemetery.
Everett of Warren, Minnesota; Elna (Mrs. Edward Miller) of Torrance, California; Dr. Alvin of Mesa, Arizona; Fredolph of Tanasket, Washington; Rev. Hugo of Los Angeles, California; Walter of Manteca, California; Bernice (Mrs. Kenneth Peterson) of rural Warren, Minnesota; and Roy of rural Warren, Minnesota.

C. J. Johnson Family

by Mrs. Charles Johnson

Carl Johan Johnson was born in Hjallmo parish of Ostergotland, Sweden, in 1864. He was married to Ida Augusta Saxin of the same parish in 1873 and they came to America in 1880, settling first in Iron Mountain, Michigan.

The Warren Sheaf of June 22, 1881, carried the news that a new Scandinavian Boarding House was to be erected on Johnson Avenue just west of Main Street. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson called their establishment “Hotel Svea” and the building, rebuilt and enlarged later, is the same building where Dr. A. E. Carlson had his office. It was a popular place for home seekers and emigrants. Mr. Johnson was also interested in farming and he conducted a butcher shop in Warren for twenty-five years. Six children were born to this marriage: Augusta (Mrs. Emil Nelson of Dundee, Oregon), Charles A. Johnson (md. Mathilda Lindstrom, d. 1942), Johan Gottfrid (md. Carrie Swanson, d. 1907), Malinda Louise (md. Frank Dahlgren, d. 1941), William Theodor (md. Gina Strand, living at Enderlin, North Dakota), and Ida Mathilda (1886-1895). Ida A. Johnson died in 1890.

Mr. Johnson was married the second time in 1890 to Helga Johnson and she died in 1895. In 1896, he married Carrie Larson and to this union one son was born, Gustaf Adolf, now of Des Moines, Iowa. Mr. Johnson and Mrs. Johnson both passed away in April of 1930 and a double funeral was conducted from the Mission Covenant Church on April 15, 1930.

Henning Johnson Family

Henning Johnson was born April 5, 1866, in Vestergotland, Sweden, the son of John and Maria Larson. He left Gothenburg, Sweden on May 15, 1889 on the Guyan liner (Alaska) and arrived in Warren June 1, 1899. He first worked for the Great Northern on the section line in Warren, Argyle and Angus and for a time at the brick yard. He helped run the hand press at the Sheaf Printing Office some evenings and he shocked grain on the Wentzel farm. He was married to Sophia Engstrom (born on August 15, 1870, in Stratjara, Halsingland, Sweden, to Swen and Johanna Margareta Engstrom) on March 22, 1892. He bought the SW1/4 of Section 29, McCrea Township and together with Fred Johnson he excavated for the Warren Hospital, the Swedish Lutheran Church, Boardson building, the Warren Sheaf building, and he helped make the first race track. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson lived in the home they built in 1892 at 621 Minnesota Street in Warren. They were the parents of four children: Mildred of Saint Paul, Minnesota; Edwin of Alexandria, Virginia; Elsie (Mrs. Walter Florin) of Eugene, Oregon; and George of Pine City, Minnesota.

Riley E. Kezar Family

Mr. Kezar was born in North Hatley, Quebec, Canada, on April 11, 1855, to Chauncey and Lucy Kezar. His mother died shortly after he was born and his father died in 1870. In the Spring of 1879 in company with his brother-in-law, Mr. Rooke, he came to Marshall County and there Homesteaded the SW1/4 of Section 10, Warren Town Township. He arrived in Warren with but six dollars and he worked on the railroad and also at odd jobs in Crookston and Euclid. In 1880, he secured work on the Spaulding Farm and afterward assumed charge of the engine room at the Warren Flour Mill and was thus employed for about five years. In 1884 he married Miss Lena Nelson who had immigrated here from Sweden with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Anders Nelson. Shortly afterwards, he started a furniture store. In 1889, he moved to his farm with his wife and four children and he later related that the first years on the farm were the hardest he had ever spent. He was obliged to haul water for drinking and for fuel, he had to travel to Lower Snake River. On July 21, 1901, Mrs. Kezar passed away at the age of thirty-seven from cancer. Finding it very difficult to care for his family, Mr. Kezar married again in 1902 to Anna Mary Hickman. Until the mill was sold in 1905, Mr. Kezar managed to work at that job and to do his farm work during slack periods at the mill and with the help of hired hands. After 1905, he devoted his time to farming and operating steam engines for threshing. One of his many labor-saving inventions, none of which became popular, was a feed grinder run by a windmill. In 1907, he sold his farm and started the Golden Rule Store with two partners but the stock of that store had to be liquidated in order to satisfy the creditors of his two partners and Mr. Kezar lost everything. He went back to operating steam boilers and in August of 1911 while fixing a steam engine on the Wood Farm, he led the owners bull out to water as the hired man was afraid of him. While doing so, the bull butted him against the barn wall and he was instantly killed. Mr. Kezar and the first Mrs. Kezar were the parents of eight children: Erwin, for 30 years a postal clerk in the Warren Post Office, of Ezeconida, California; Alfred; Lucy of Hillsboro, Oregon; Florence (Mrs. Alvin Mattson) of Tujunga, California; Stella; George of Viking; and Clarence of Viking. The former Kezar farm is now occupied by the Havlock Nichols family.

James Kilfoyle Family

by Kathleen Kilfoyle Horgen

James Kilfoyle was born on June 14, 1889 at Donaldson, Minnesota to John and Kate Kilfoyle. He attended rural school there and came to Warren in the early 1900's where he worked as a drayman, a milkman, and during World War I he served in the army as a cook. In February of 1924 he was married to Anne Cheney, daughter of John and Hanna (Stanla) Cheney. Anne was born in Alvarado on October 2, 1893, and later moved with her parents to the March Farm and received her education in Warren, graduating in 1913 at the head of her class. Prior to her marriage, she had taught in rural schools and had been head telephone operator in Warren. James later became
the custodian of our Greenwood Cemetery and performed that duty until his death on April 9, 1960. Anne followed him in death on October 17, 1961. They resided at 302 North 5th Street in the home her mother, Hanna Cheney, had purchased in 1917. To this union three children were born: one died in infancy; Louella (Mrs. Harold Vadney) of Renton, Washington and Kathleen (Mrs. David Horgen) of Warren, Minnesota.

** Willis A. Knapp Family **

by Mrs. W. A. Knapp

updated by Margaret Strunk Saetre

Willis A. Knapp was born in Nashua, Iowa on July 15, 1872, the son of Jefferson and Jennie (Elder) Knapp. He was graduated from the Nashua High School and a School of Business in Chicago, Illinois, and he came to Warren in February 1890 where he was employed by his uncle, Lafayette Lamberson in the Bank of Warren. In 1904 he became secretary and treasurer of the newly-formed Pioneer Loan and Land Company. In March of 1915 he served as president and owner of the incorporated Pioneer Land and Loan Company, an agency for handling real estate and investments. Later was added grain elevators, wholesale seeds and feeds and lumber. Mr. Knapp served as president of the Commercial Club of Warren and on the U.S. Highway 75 committee. He was a charter member of the Eastern Star and was a member of the Masonic Lodge, the York and Scottish Rites and the Kem Temple. He was married to Dorothy Earhart of Joliet, Illinois in 1929. She passed away in 1931. In 1938 he married Synneva Grindeland Strunk, daughter of Judge Andrew Grindeland. "Bert" Knapp passed away in Orlando, Florida on February 11, 1945.

Synneva Grindeland was born at Warren on November 4, 1884 to Judge Andrew and Inger (Forde) Grindeland. She graduated from Warren High School in 1901 and the University of Minnesota in 1905. She taught Latin in Tower and Little Falls Schools and was high school principal at Fosston and Thief River Falls public schools. She was married to Wilbur Strunk and from that union were born: Robert (deceased) of Phoenix, Arizona; Genevieve (Mrs. Bruce Pierard) of Marshall, Minnesota; and Margaret (Mrs. Warren Saetre) of Thief River Falls, Minnesota. She returned to Warren to live in 1930 and continued to make her home here until her death on October 28, 1971, just six days short of her 87th birthday. She was active in civic affairs and following the death of her husband, she succeeded him as president of the Pioneer Land and Loan Company.

** Arthur Cornelius Knutson Family **

Arthur C. Knutson, son of Cornelius and Andrea Knutson, was born on March 17, 1913 and is a life-long resident of Warren, Minnesota. He began work at the Warren Post Office in 1934 and retired on June 30, 1973. On July 14, 1940 he was married to Hjordys Beatrice Anderson, daughter of Oscar and Emma Anderson of Alvarado, Minnesota. They have two sons: David of Fargo, North Dakota and Richard of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

** Bottolf Knutson Family **

Bottolf Knutson was born on December 1, 1865 in Nordfjord, Norway, the son of Knut Peder and Ragnild Palsdotter Bakke, and came to Fargo, Dakota Territory, in 1886. He met and married Rachel Satren, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Satren of Satren, Horningdal, Norway, who was born on August 30, 1864 and who came to Warren in the early 1880's to live with her sister, Ragnhild (Mrs. K. J. Taralseth). Besides her parents, she left a sister, Brita, and a brother, Rasmus, at home. They moved to Superior, Wisconsin in 1893 where he was a pioneer dairyman. In 1916 they moved to Warren with their family and purchased a farm from Mr. Hunstad. After rust and smut destroyed their first crop and seven lean years followed, they were forced to return to Superior, Wisconsin and resume their dairying business. Bottolf died in January of 1940. Six children were born in Superior, Wisconsin: Karl of Warren, Minnesota; Bertha (Mrs. George Bowling) of Mason City, Iowa; Oscar of St. Paul, Minnesota; William of Eau Claire, Wisconsin; Myrtle (Mrs. Lloyd Anderson) of Truman, Wisconsin; and Kenneth of Superior, Wisconsin. Of these children, Oscar and William survive.
Knutson passed away on February 18, 1942. Five children were born to this union: Doris (Mrs. Logan Rhodes) of her brother-in-law, Moses Holson, he bought out the Swanson business. Mrs. Knutson's Good Samaritan Center. Mr. Knutson, 1909, the son of Bottolf Knutson Bjorhovde and Rachel (Satren) Bjorhovde (name later changed to Knutson). In 1916 he moved with his parents from Superior, Wisconsin, where his father had a dairy farm, to a farm he had purchased from Mrs. Hunstad. After rust and smut destroyed their first crops and seven lean years followed, they were forced to return to Superior, Wisconsin. Oscar had attended elementary school and two years of high school in Superior and upon coming to Warren, he attended and graduated from the Northwest School of Agriculture in 1919 and the following year attended and finished the Warren High School in 1920. He attended St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota for one year, being forced to drop out the following year due to lack of finances. In 1923 he entered the Law School at the University of Minnesota, graduating in 1927. Upon completion of law school, he returned to Warren and entered into the practice of law with the late Julius J. Olson. Mr. Knutson remained with him until Mr. Olson was appointed to the district bench in 1930. In 1934 Oscar was married to Louise Magdalene Halvorson, the daughter of John and Amanda (Langeland) Halvorson of Warren. To this union were born twin sons Richard Henry and Robert Owen, and Ann Joyce. Oscar practiced law until 1941 when he was appointed the 14th Judicial District Judge by Governor Harold Stassen. In 1948 he was appointed Associate Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court by Governor Luther Youngdahl where he served until 1962 when he was appointed Chief Justice by Governor Elmer L. Anderson in which capacity he has served until his retirement in 1973. His wife, Louise, died in 1955 at the age of 48. His twin sons are lawyers in Minneapolis and St. Paul and his daughter Ann Joyce (Mrs. Victor Lee) resides in St. Charles, Illinois. In 1968 Oscar married Katherine (Mellby) Anderson, the daughter of Dr. O. F. Mellby and Louise Grindeland Mellby. They reside at 751 Upper Colonial Drive, St. Paul, Minnesota.
Lafayette Lamberson Family

Lafayette Lamberson was born on November 6, 1854, at Grafton, Wisconsin. He obtained his common school education at Durand, Wisconsin, and Waverly, Iowa, and in 1872 took a commercial course in Chicago. He began his business career as a clerk and served in that capacity eight years. In 1879 he engaged in the mercantile business for himself in West Union, Iowa, and was married that year to Miss Mary Elder. In 1883 he established a bank at Perham, Minnesota, with a Mr. Green. He remained in Perham for one year and then sold out coming to Warren where he and his uncle, the late B. G. Gill of Chicago established the Bank of Warren with a capital of $30,000.00. This was the first bank in Marshall County and was operated by Mr. Lamberson until 1908 when it was sold to the State Bank of Warren. During his many years of active business life in Warren, he engaged in the real estate business handling lands for others and placing his own large tracts upon the market through the Pioneer Land and Loan Company which Mr. Lamberson began in 1904 with Mr. W. A. Knapp. He served as president of the company until 1915 when he retired from the company, and it was sold to Mr. W. A. Knapp. About 1900, he bought the former Billy Box Farm one mile west of Warren and known as the Riverside Farm. He stocked it with Polled Shorthorn cattle, Shropshire sheep and Poland China hogs and his livestock were prize winners at the Minnesota State Fairs and the South Saint Paul Fat Stock Shows.

Mr. Lamberson was one of the first mayors of the city of Warren to which office he was elected in 1891. He also served as a member of the town council and also on the school board. Mr. Lamberson was preceded in death by Mrs. Lamberson who died on September 24, 1934. Mr. Lamberson died on July 31, 1938. Two children were born to them: Flora and Gill E. Lamberson.

Fritz Larson Family

Fritz C. Larson was born on December 31, 1891 in Warren, Minnesota to Martin Lauritz Larson and Augusta (Johnson) Larson, the third in a family of twelve children. He obtained his grade school education in Warren and took a short commercial course at the North Star College. He began his retail career in his father’s hardware and grocery store in 1907. When the Warren Co-op took over the Larson business in 1912, he continued as manager of the hardware department. Later he became general manager. When Peoples Trading Co. acquired the Co-op, he stayed on as a manager of the hardware department. In 1923 he bought the business with a silent partner. Since 1941 he operated F. C. Larson Co. as its sole owner and as an affiliate of Our Own Hardware Co.

He was married on September 22, 1914 to Emma Lunde of Union, North Dakota, who was born on October 26, 1889 to Theodore and Bertha (Halvorson) Lunde. To this union were born three daughters: Geraldine Minsky of San Francisco, California; Irma (Mrs. James P. Forslund) of Grand Forks, North Dakota; and Joyce (Mrs. Richard Lahl) of Fort Collins, Colorado.

F. C. Larson was president of the Minnesota Retail Hardware Association in 1940, has served Warren as alderman for nine years, mayor for four years, water and light commission member for two years, rationing board chairman for five years, merchants association president for ten years, church board officer thirty-three years, vice-president and director of the State Bank for twenty-eight years. He is perhaps the oldest living native son of Warren. He sold his F. C. Larson Co. to Mel Lund of Bemidji, Minnesota, on May 1, 1973, who after two years operation sold it to Charles and Julia Tydlacka of Red Lake Falls, Minnesota, who named it the Warren Hardware. Fritz and Emma Larson still remain active and interested in church and civic affairs and reside in their home at 305 South Division Street.

Johannes Larson Family

Johannes Larson was born in Sweden in 1835, married Miss Gustava Larson who was born in 1843, and immigrated to America and Warren in April of 1893. Five of their ten children preceded them. Emma came in 1888, Mathilda and Hannah in 1891, and John and August in 1892. Mr. Larson purchased the SW¼ of Section 6, Foldahl Township, from Alfred Gustafson who returned to Pennsylvania. Here he farmed until his death in November of 1910. His wife passed on in April of 1927. Their granddaughter, the daughter of John Larson, now Mrs. Lauren Jorgenson, lives on the home farm. The ten children of Mr. and Mrs. Larson were as follows: Emma (Mrs. Charley Olson), Mathilda (Mrs. Peter Anderson), Hannah (Mrs. William Larson), John; August of Los Angeles, California; Charlotte (Mrs. Peter Olson), Edwin; Ellen (Mrs. Carl Dahlin) of Warren; Hildur of Argyle; and Elvira (Mrs. Arthur Hogberg) of Argyle.

M. L. Larson Family

Martin Lauritz Larson was born on June 14, 1858 in Wistertoten, Norway. He came to Goodhue County, Minnesota on March 22, 1878 and spent four years there. In 1882 he came to Crookston and worked for the railroad building side tracks at Argyle. He later came to Warren and was employed on the Frank Green farm at $25.00 per month, including room and board. He also worked on the Pembina, March and Spauling farms as a blacksmith and repair man. He became a salesman in Frank Whitney’s hardware store in 1888 and a year later went into partnership with Mr. W. N. Powell on the present Hardware
Hank site. They operated a hardware and tinsmith shop business for several years and then Mr. Larson became sole owner through 1894.

In 1895 he bought a 20 x 50 foot frame store building located on the present Warren Hardware store site and he added a tin and sheet metal shop to the north end. He also remodeled the store with new shelving and display counters.

Having installed new shop equipment he hand-made pails, milk cans, bath tubs, wash boilers, water tanks and many other hardware items as well as large galvanized iron cisterns which were buried underground for rain water. He also sold hardware, stoves, paint, wire fence, farm machinery and wind mills.

In 1904 he bought and moved a two story vacant frame drug store building from the site of the present Warren Pharmacy corner and connected it to the building already there. This later became the F. C. Larson Co. store and a complete new front was installed in 1941.

In 1905, together with I. N. Lodoen, they organized the Warren Mercantile Company, which was a general department store. It contained hardware, groceries, dry goods, shoes, ladies and men's wear, and they also bought cream, eggs, wool and cord wood. After two years operation the dry goods, shoes and clothing section was closed out and the west room was leased to Claude Hanson who operated the "Dreamland" theatre until a fire nearly destroyed the building. After repairs the same space was occupied by E. L. Reed and his harness shop for several years.

M. L. Larson then with the help of his sons, Albert (who became a skilled tinsmith) and Fritz, continued the shop, hardware and grocery departments until 1912, when it was sold to the Warren Coop-Merantile Co., who leased the entire store area and operated a complete department store until 1915 when it was acquired by the Peoples Trading Co.

Mr. Larson was active in civic and community affairs and served one term as city alderman.

On April 15, 1888 he was married in Warren by Rev. P. M. Samuelson, to Miss Augusta Johnson, who was born on October 10, 1865 in Ostergotland, Sweden and came to Warren in 1885. They raised a family of twelve in Warren (nine boys and three girls), before moving to Turlock, California with part of the family in 1913. There they were to enjoy their golden wedding on April 15, 1938.

Children of the Larson family are: Martin Melville of Fargo, North Dakota; Albert Emmanuel (deceased) of Gustine, California; Fritz Conrad of Warren, Minnesota; Dr. Walter Willy (deceased) of Starbuck, Minnesota; Dr. Frans Albin of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Elmer David (deceased) of Stockton, California; Ruth Adeline (Mrs. W. A. Johnson) of Stockton, California; Wilbert Otto of Denair, California; Richard Joseph of Bonita, California; Theodore Louis of Turlock, California; Ella Cornelia (deceased) of Stockton, California; Hazel Alvira (Mrs. Earle C. Edberg) of Turlock, California.

Andrew Lodoen Family

Andrew Lodoen was born in Hornindal, Norway on July 9, 1860 and died in Warren on October 17, 1942. He was the oldest of six children and gave up his inheritance to a farm in Norway to come in America. He married Mathilda Nelson in 1869 and to this union were born eight children: Florence, Nels, Gundy, Einar, Sigfred, Della, Alice and Edla. Andrew operated a blacksmith shop in Warren until he retired when his son, Sigfred, took over the shop.

Peter Lundberg Family

Peter Lundberg was born in northern Sweden in Osthammar and at thirteen years of age he joined the Swedish Navy. After many years as a sailor he came to this country and Warren where he met and later married an Eva Sahlberg, who had been a seamstress in Sweden until she and her brother, Carl, emigrated to this country around 1883 and 1884, where she joined her other brothers, August and Adam Sahlberg, who had emigrated earlier and were employed in Warren as carpenters. They were married in Warren on August 29, 1885, and lived in Warren for some time and where their children Ernest, Tecla, Esther and Carl were born with both Ernest and Carl dying as infants. They later moved to a forty-acre farm five miles north of the village of Viking and there Agda and Hilda were born. Peter wasn't a farmer at heart and when there was an opening for a janitor in the newly-opened Warren Hospital around 1905, he accepted the job and worked there for seventeen years until his health failed at the age of sixty-six. He worked with Dr. Theodore Bratrud and head nurse Mrs. Green. Later his family moved back to Warren after selling their farm, which Hilda remembers as their little Paradise, to a Mr. Sand from Alvarado. Mrs. Lundberg took sick and was a patient in the Warren Hospital for eight years. Mr. Lundberg took sick and passed away in 1927. Mrs. Lundberg lived with her daughter for another nine years until she died on July 10, 1936, at the age of 78. Of the family only Hilda Lundberg Patron lives and she resides in Apt. 212, 121 South Fern Street, Cambridge, Minnesota 55008 where at the age of 81 she is devoting her spare time to bringing cheer to the retarded children, a job she has done now for almost eight years.
August Lundgren Family

by Clinton Lundgren

Mr. and Mrs. August Lundgren.

Mr. Lundgren was born in Wargarda, Sweden, March 31, 1855, and was the second in a family of ten children. In 1880, he decided to visit America to see his brother with the intention of returning to his native land, but he saw opportunities in the new country that appealed to him. He took up residence in Minneapolis and worked in a brick yard. In 1881, he decided to take a trip to the Red River Valley, which at that time Jim Hill was promoting. He saw further opportunities in northwestern Minnesota and decided to settle in Warren. He returned to Minneapolis for a short time and then came back to Warren in 1883, at which time he went into the manufacturing of brick. These brick that Mr. Lundgren made became well-known as the Warren cream-colored brick and were popular in many areas. In 1887, Mr. Lundgren also started in the Implement business, which is still carried on by his son Clinton. This is one of the oldest Implement firms in Minnesota which has continued in the same family.

In 1888, Mr. Lundgren was married to Miss Mary Lindquist of Carver, Minnesota. They were the parents of eleven children, Ella, Edward, Ebba (Mrs. Carl Rasmussen), Mable (Mrs. Karl Wold), Robert, Esther (Mrs. Geo. Pearson), Florence (Mrs. Harold Hegstrom), Clinton, Erling, Alice (Mrs. Robert Rietman), LeRoy.

Mr. Lundgren was very active in community and church affairs. His first office was in 1886, when he was elected to the office of County Treasurer which he held for one term. He was on the City Council for several terms, as well as Mayor. He also served for many years as the Treasurer of the Red River Valley Conference (Augustana Church), school board, bank director and on many civic organizations.

His wife died in 1909 and Mr. Lundgren died in 1936.

Erling Lundgren Family

by Jane Lundgren

Erling T. Lundgren was born on January 10, 1920 in Warren, Minnesota, the second son of Edward and Edith (Lindsstrand) Lundgren. He attended school in Warren and Ada and graduated from the Warren High School in 1937. He entered the military service in September of 1940 at McCord Field, Tacoma, Washington, and in 1941 his unit was embarked for the Philippines with a stop at Pearl Harbor on November 28, 1941. The next morning his convoy left for Guam Island and eight days later it was attacked by the Japanese. The convoy then headed south to Suva, Fiji and then to Brisbane, Australia, where his squadron was stationed. In 1943 he was moved to Lae, New Guinea, where he was stationed until early in 1944 when he was returned to the United States and Dale Mabry Field, Tallahassee, Florida, and he was discharged in September of 1945, returning to Warren.

Erling started working for his uncle Clinton Lundgren in 1945 as an appliance salesman with the Warren Implement Company. On June 30, 1946 he married Jane Hess, daughter of Harry and Gertrude Hess. In 1952 the appliance business was separated from the Warren Implement Company and named "City Appliance" and moved to 109 East Johnson Avenue. In 1957 Erling purchased the appliance business from his uncle Clinton Lundgren and in 1962 he purchased the building at 113 East Johnson and expanded his business. Erling and Jane are the parents of two children: Susan (Mrs. Donald Anderson) of Warren, Minnesota and Bruce of Minneapolis. Erling and Jane reside in the home they built in 1950 at 349 East Nelson in Warren, Minnesota.

John S. MacArthur Family

John S. MacArthur was born February 12, 1868 in Paisley, Ontario and with his father emigrated to Ardoch, North Dakota. In 1896 John MacArthur and Luella des Jardon were married in Dubuque, Iowa. In 1899 they moved to a farm three miles west of Warren until 1906 when they moved to Warren and Mr. MacArthur took the job as rural mail carrier on Route No. 1, a position he held until his retirement in 1933.

Seven children were born of this union: Earl Sinclair and Chester D., both now of Minneapolis; John Phillip, who died in infancy; Elizabeth, who resided in Warren for many years prior to her death in 1975; Lucille (Mrs. Harry Andrews) of Owatonna, who died in 1972; Lou (Mrs. John Barwise) of St. Paul; and Nathalie (Mrs. J. T. Harvey) of Minneapolis.

Mr. MacArthur died July 19, 1950 and was preceded in death by Mrs. Mac Arthur on June 3, 1944.

P. B. Malberg Family

Mr. Malberg was born February 24, 1858, in Red Wing, Minnesota, to John and Christina Malberg who had emigrated from Sweden. He grew to manhood on a homestead near Cannon Falls and in the fall of 1881 he came to Excel Township in Marshall County where he took up a pre-emption. He worked out on other farms until
1886 when he went to farming. In 1887 he was married to a Miss Minnie Holm from the Cannon Falls community.
In the fall of 1894 he was elected to Clerk of Court of Marshall County which office he held for four years. In 1896 he built a residence on Central Park Avenue in Warren. In 1900 he moved to Viking but in 1904 he was elected to County Auditor, a position he held for four years. In 1909 he moved back to Excel Township where he spent the rest of his life farming. Mrs. Malberg died in 1938 and Mr. Mahlberg passed away in the Spring of 1952. Their family consisted of the following children: Cyrus of Viking; Irene; Mildred (Mrs. Ed Malquist) of Rose Hill, Virginia; Egbert of Viking; Stella (Mrs. George Sands) of Alvarado; Vernon of Steiner; Hubert of Yuma, Arizona; Fillmore of Steiner; and Nina (Mrs. Olaf Simonson) of Watford, North Dakota.

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Edgar Mattson Family

Edgar Mattson was born on December 15, 1899, the son of John P. and Josephine (Oberg) Mattson. He was married on June 1, 1922 to Anne Swanson, the daughter of Nels and Mary (Jensen) Swanson of Goodhue, Minnesota, and she was born on January 23, 1896. Edgar has been associated with the "Warren Sheaf" all of his life starting at an early age helping his father put out the newspaper. He has also been involved in all manner of civic endeavors throughout the intervening years as well as with the Warren Hospital and the First Lutheran Church. They are the parents of two children: Neil of Warren, Minnesota and Mary Ann (Mrs. William E. Hansen) of Silver Bay, Wisconsin.

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Edward Neil Mattson Family

Edward Neil Mattson was born on September 26, 1926 in Warren, Minnesota to Edgar and Anna (Swanson) Mattson. Following graduation in 1944, he joined the Air Force for nine months until World War II ended in 1945. He graduated in 1948 from the University of Minnesota where he majored in journalism and he worked for one year on the staff of the Patchoque Tribune on Long Island, New York before returning to Warren.

On September 10, 1950 he married Marilyn J. Erickson, elder daughter of Ralph and Esther (Haaseth) Erickson of Vega Township where she was born on December 26, 1930. Following her graduation from Alvarado in 1949, Marilyn worked for Dr. C. A. Gunnerson of Warren.

Neil authored a booklet "Red River Carts" and worked his way up in the Minnesota Historical Society to its presidency 1970-1974. He is now president of the Marshall County Historical Society. He has been active in civic affairs as well as serving on the Minnesota Newspaper Association executive board. He has been managing editor of the Warren Sheaf, acquiring almost full interest in 1972. Marilyn has also worked part-time at the Sheaf since 1972 as have many of the children.

They are the parents of nine children: John Peter of Roseau, Minnesota; Kathryn Ann (Mrs. Warren Lam) of Denver, Colorado; Jean Marilyn (Mrs. Robert Hanna) of Coleraine, North Ireland; Eric Neil of Warren, Minnesota; Steven Ralph (deceased); Brian William of Warren, Minnesota; Duane Robert of Warren, Minnesota; Kendall Warren of Warren, Minnesota; and Angela Christine of Warren, Minnesota.

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John P. Mattson Family

John P. Mattson, father and grandfather of the present publishers of the Warren Sheaf, was born in Savanah, Illinois on December 18, 1857, and except for the years he was securing his formal education, he lived with his parents in Carver County, Minnesota until 1882 when he was one of the first graduates of the Winona Normal School. That year he came to Warren, settled on a homestead in Vega Township, and taught the first term of school in District 6. In 1883 he was elected Marshall County Superintendent of Schools, serving in that capacity for two years. He also operated a night school in Warren to teach Scandinavian immigrants the English language.

In 1886 Mr. Mattson, in partnership with H. E. Mussey, purchased the Warren Sheaf in which publication he held an active interest until his death in 1932. He left the newspaper business for a brief time in 1888 to accept a teaching position at Hope Academy in Moorhead, but returned to Warren after two years to resume publication of the newspaper as the sole owner of the newspaper.

Mr. Mattson was active in affairs of the community during his long residence in Warren. He was a member of the Commercial Club and served as its secretary for many years. He served as a member of the school board in Warren and was its clerk for many years. He was one of the founders of the North Star College (now extinct) and he was active in church work at First Lutheran Church where, as a young man, he served as superintendent of its Sunday School. He was an active member of the National and Minnesota Editorial Associations. For seventeen years he was the Postmaster for Warren under the administrations of Presidents McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt and Taft. In politics he was a Republican and often served as a member of the State Central Committee.

On July 2, 1885 he was married to Miss Clara Jose­phine Oberg, who died in 1919. Nine children were born to this union: Alvin (died in 1944) and C. Waldemar (died in 1944), who were the publishers of the Thief River Falls Times; Adolph (died in 1919); Edith (died in 1956); Lilly (Mrs. E. N. Schoen) of Ortonville, Minnesota (died in 1964); Edgar and Oliver of Warren plus two daughters who died in infancy, Alice (died on April 2, 1888 at 1½ years) and Astrid Elinore Caroline (died on August 13, 1901 at 11 months).

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Oliver (Cy) Mattson Family

Oliver Mattson was born on July 12, 1903 in Warren, Minnesota, the youngest son of John P. and Clara Jose­phine (Oberg) Mattson. He graduated from Warren High school in 1922, spent two years at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota, and one year at the University of Minnesota. He returned to Warren in 1925 and became associated with his father in editing the Warren Sheaf until his quasi retirement from active work in 1979.
following an illness. He and his brother, Edgar, purchased the newspaper from their father in 1930. On July 2, 1932 Oliver was married to Esther Jorgensen, a daughter of Anna (Hanson) Jorgensen of Pilot, North Dakota, who was born on April 15, 1905. Both have participated in community affairs and he has been associated with the Marshall County Fair since 1931 and has been its president since 1947. In 1959 he was elected president of the Minnesota Federation of County Fairs. He has been elected to the board of directors of the Minnesota Newspaper Association in 1952 and its president in 1959. He and his wife reside in their home at 426 East Ross and are the parents of a daughter, Marlys (Mrs. Clement A. Nelson) of St. Paul, Minnesota.

* * *

A. P. McIntyre

Mr. McIntyre was a Civil War veteran having fought for the Union from early 1862 until the war closed. He joined the Minnesota Regt. at the age of seventeen and was engaged in the war in the South but was returned to Minnesota to fight Indians which were then making war on the white settlers. It was that experience in this war that earned him the name of "Colonel Mack." He came to Warren in the year 1878, being one of the few men here previous to the entry of the Great Northern Railroad. At that time, he homesteaded on the farm later owned by W. H. Grange and now owned by Isadore Weslowski, located two miles east of Warren. In 1879 his wife, Maggie, whom he married in 1869, came to assist him in building his new home. After two years of farm life, they moved to Warren and opened one of the first hotels in Warren. The Warren House. It was not strictly a hotel but more of a boarding house, with one or two rooms for rent. In 1885 they opened the Windsor Hotel, after spending two years in Montana where Mr. McIntyre held a government position. With meager facilities and a poor building to contend with, they made the Windsor a favorite stopping place for traveling men for thirty-three years until the building was sold to make way for the Warren Hotel building which now stands on the same site.

He was one of the first Marshall County or Polk County citizens to discover the existence of a one and one-half mile strip between Marshall and Polk County and belonging to neither. His energy and work helped to bring that piece of land into Marshall County. The addition of this land made it possible for Warren to be the county seat for it is necessary for the county seat to be located one mile from the county line, if possible.

Mrs. McIntyre died in April, 1922 and Mr. McIntyre passed on in March of 1925 at the age of eighty-one years.

* * *

Andrew Melgard Family

by Lloyd George Melgard

Andrew was born in Hundorp, Gudbrandsdal, Norway on January 21, 1980, to Lars Myhre and Ane Melgard. In the spring of 1887, he came to America by sailing vessel settling at LaCrosse, Wisconsin, where his brother, Ole, was employed. He attended school in that city and in Black River Falls to perfect his English and in the spring of 1888, he set out for Fargo, Dakota Territory, where he

Andrew Melgard Family

Walter, Arthur, Mr. and Mrs. Melgard, Quintin and Bernice.

secured employment through the help of his brother, Hans, with the Fargo Loan Agency and where he joined the Dakota Territorial Guard and became a corporal. Four years later in the spring of 1892, he came to Warren to become an assistant cashier in the State Bank of Warren, which had just been organized by his brother, Hans, and K. J. Taralseth. He served in that capacity for two years and was promoted to cashier, which position he held for eight years. He sold his interests in the State Bank of Warren in 1902 and bought a bank in Goldendale, Washington, where he learned the Indian language to communicate with the native customers of that bank. In 1906 he sold that bank and entered the banking field in Moscow, Idaho with his brother, Hawkins, selling his interests there in 1946. In 1910 he purchased the Woodward or commonly-known Snake River Farm northwest of Warren, one of the large bonanza farms in the Red River Valley, which farm he operated until his death on November 16, 1964. He was married in 1894 to Minnie O. Carper in Leiter's Ford, Indiana, the second daughter of Mortical Cloud Cline and Nancy Jane (Freels) Carper, who was born on August 18, 1876. He built a home at 525 North Division Street in 1895 and they resided there until their deaths, Minnie passing away in that home on October 6, 1957. To this union eight children were born: Walter of Moscow, Idaho (deceased); Bernice (Mrs. Gunnar Schelderup) of Honolulu, Hawaiii; Inez Dolores (deceased); Arthur of Los Angeles, California (deceased); Homer Quintin of Warren, Minnesota; Ethel Mercedes (deceased); Minnie Othelia (deceased); and Lloyd George of Warren, Minnesota. They are survived by three children, six grandchildren, twenty-one great-grandchildren and ten great-great-grandchildren.

Homer Quintin Melgard was born in Goldendale, Washington on October 29, 1903. He married Alice Forslund, the daughter of Erick and Ellen Forslund of Warren, and to them were born: Homer Quintin, Jr. (deceased) of Florida; Calvin of Warren, Minnesota; Robert of Warren, Minnesota; and Richard of Janesville, Wisconsin. He was
Lloyd George Melgard was born in Warren, Minnesota on November 3, 1916; attended schools in Warren and in Minneapolis; entered the United States Army as a private on December 7, 1940, and was discharged in 1952 as a captain, serving in both the Pacific and the European Theaters. Since that time he was associated with the operation of the Melgard Farm until his retirement in 1968. He resides on the Melgard Farm in Warrenton Township.

Andy Morkassel Family

by Helen Mapps Morkassel

Andy Morkassel was born on September 16, 1899 at Vega Township to Gullik and Gerty (Bowman) Morkassel. He grew up on his father’s farm and attended rural school and the Warren High School where he graduated in 1918. He served in World War I. On October 3, 1922 he was married to Helen Mapps, the daughter of John and Marion (Reed) Mapps of Joliet, Illinois, where she was born on April 11, 1899. They lived on the former Gullik Morkassel farm where Andy was a diversified farmer specializing in Guernsey cattle, small grains and certified seed potatoes. He planted windbreaks and fruit trees and was amongst the first named as “Master Farmers” during the annual short courses held in Warren. Both have been active in community affairs, 4-H, Farm Bureau, etc. They have watched the growth of the agricultural field from horse-drawn two-bottom plows to giant tractors and plows which turn twelve or more furrows at a time, huge combines that can harvest more grain in one day than one man could grow in a full growing season, from horse and buggy and “tin-lizzie” transportation to the beautiful cars and airline service of today, and finally, the recognition that farmers are intelligent, highly-skilled people and much more important to our nation’s economy than mere producers of food. To this union were born: John (deceased) of Ada, Minnesota; Jean (Mrs. C. L. Hanson) of Livermore, California; Paul of rural Warren, Minnesota; Mary (Mrs. Adolph Hopka) of rural Warren, Minnesota; Ruth (Mrs. B. Kristensen) of Burnsville, Minnesota; and Neil of Williston, North Dakota. Andy and Helen retired in 1964 to a home at 660 North Central Avenue where they are enjoying life as well as their twenty-two grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Nels Munson Family

Mr. Munson, Ida, Mrs. Munson, Hannah.

commence on June 1st, 1882, said contract period twenty-five years and the capital stock $50,000.00. Mr. Munson was one of the stockholders and the head miller. The mill flourished for a number of years and the site of this business was where the present Warren Grain and Seed Co. is now located. On Dec. 7, 1889, Mr. Munson passed away. His widow, Carrie Munson, continued to live in their home at 423 Division Street until her death on October 23, 1933. Two daughters survived Ida (Mrs. August Lundgren) of Hillsboro, Oregon; and Hannah (Mrs. Victor Odman) who lived in her parental home and had long been an employee of the County Treasurer’s Office.

Aslak Myrfield Family

by Mrs. A. B. Johnson

Aslak Myrfield, age 20, the son of Ole and Carrie Myrfield, and Ingeborg Kosine, age 26, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Kosine of Telemarken, Norway, came across the Atlantic by boat in July of 1881 as sweethearts. Their first destination was Broadhead, Wisconsin, where they were married and where their first three children were born. In 1887 they moved to Marshall County and lived on Menzel’s farm near Argyle where Aslak got work. A year later they moved to a homestead of Aslak’s brother, Ole Myrfield, in McCrea Township. Here they lived in a one large room log house about 7 1/2 miles northeast of Warren. They farmed the land with a pair of oxen, some old machinery and later they got a team of horses. They raised chickens and pigs and sold whatever they could spare. Ingeborg would walk to town with a couple of grape baskets filled with eggs to exchange for groceries, a distance of fifteen miles round trip. By 1899, they had saved enough money to buy the NE ¼ of Section 7 in McCrea Township about five miles from Warren. Here they built a four-room house and moved in 1900. Ingeborg died on September 24, 1936, and Aslak on January 5, 1937. After that the farm was sold to Stanley Truhn. Five children were born to this union: Clara, Oluf, Annie (Mrs. Sig Benson), Hannah (Mrs. George Jorgenson) and Carrie (Mrs. A. B. Johnson).
John Neegard Family

John Neegard was born on April 16, 1914 to Martin and Kristina Neegard at Black Hawk, New Ontario, Canada. The family was temporarily residing in Canada and they returned to Warren, Minnesota when John was two months old. John was married to Leona Olson, the daughter of Arthur and Olga (Gustavson) Olson of Newfolden. Leona was born on October 7, 1921 on the farm, homesteaded by her grandparents, Paul and Christina Olson (Jo) in New Solum Township.

John worked for the Minnesota Highway Department and he retired in 1975 after 30 years of employment. Leona is employed as the administrator of the Warren Good Samaritan Center. In 1968 they built a home at 124 West Marshall. John suffered a stroke in 1978 and is presently residing at the Good Samaritan Center.

To this union were born: Patricia (Mrs. Hal Anderson) of St. Peters, Missouri and Gary, who is a doctor of chiropractic in Robbinsdale, Minnesota.

Marvin Neegard Family

by Ruby Asp

Back: Ralph, John, Doris, Ruby, Myrtle, Walter and Marvin. Front: Mr. and Mrs. Neegard.

Martinus O. Neegaard (original spelling) was born in Osterdalen, Norway to Olaf and Martha Neegaard on August 15, 1868, one of eight children. He came to this country in 1886 with his sisters Dorthe and Gequina and brother Nels. Gedina married Edward Halvorson and Nels married Annie Moen and settled near Pinewood, Minnesota, where they farmed and worked in lumber camps. Dorthe married a Mr. Roen and moved to Canada. The family was temporarily residing in Canada where they farmed and lived for two months old. John was married to Leona Olson, the daughter of Arthur and Olga (Gustavson) Olson of Newfolden. Leona was born on October 7, 1921 on the farm, homesteaded by her grandparents, Paul and Christina Olson (Jo) in New Solum Township.

John worked for the Minnesota Highway Department and he retired in 1975 after 30 years of employment. Leona is employed as the administrator of the Warren Good Samaritan Center. In 1968 they built a home at 124 West Marshall. John suffered a stroke in 1978 and is presently residing at the Good Samaritan Center.

To this union were born: Patricia (Mrs. Hal Anderson) of St. Peters, Missouri and Gary, who is a doctor of chiropractic in Robbinsdale, Minnesota.

Anders Nelson Family

by Oscar F. Nelson

Born in 1840 in Östergötland, Sweden, Anders Nelson grew up in that country, married and in 1880 with their three children they emigrated to this county settling first in Muskegon, Michigan, where Anders worked in the sawmills. In 1881, prompted by the desire for a farm of their own, they moved on to St. Paul, Minnesota, where immigration officials told them of the new frontier—Warren, Minnesota. They arrived in Warren about the first of April and were given advise by Peter E. Dahlquist on the types of soil. The settled in Vega Township, were charter members of the Lutheran church in that township, and their children attended school in District 6 which was built in 1882 and in which J. P. Mattson was a teacher. Anders Nelson passed away in 1900 and left three children: John (Nelson) Anderson, Andrew P. Nelson, and Lena Nelson.

John (1858-1939) and Andrew (1870-1951) took over the operation of the farm. Andrew married a Miss Hilda E. Anderson from Sweden (1875-1925) and to this union three children were born: Oscar, Elmer Rudolph of Washington, D.C.; and Edith (Mrs. M.L. Hallbert) of Seattle, Washington.
Clifford W. Nelson Family

Clifford W. Nelson was born in Warren, Minnesota on June 10, 1898, the son of Peter A. Nelson and Christine Nelson. He attended the Warren public schools and graduated in 1917. Clifford began his business activities in 1925 when he assumed the operation of the Cities Service Oil Station and bulk oil business. In 1931, Cliff and his brother, Ed, founded the Nelson Motor Co. in Warren and Cliff was active in the management of this business and also in the Nelson farming interests until his death on April 21, 1965.

On August 14, 1935, Cliff was married to Clara E. Peterson, the daughter of John and Betty (Erickson) Peterson of Warren, Minnesota, who was born on April 25, 1910. Two children were born this union: Paul C. of New York City, New York; and Linda (Mrs. Nicholas Barna) of Honesdale, Pennsylvania. His widow resides in the home they built at 503 North Division Street.

Clifford was very active in civic responsibilities as he was a member of the City Council and the Board of Education of the Warren School District. He was instrumental in the period of reorganization of the school district which was followed by the construction of the new high school building in 1953. He also served as a leader in the fund drive for the new Warren Hospital.

Edward E. Nelson Family

Edward E. Nelson was born in Stephen, Minnesota on February 7, 1893, the son of Peter A. and Christine Nelson.

Edward came to Warren as a young boy where his father was employed for the Great Northern Railroad as section foreman. He attended the Warren Public Schools, the North Star College, and attended North Dakota State Agricultural College in Fargo for two years following his military service in World War I, where he served in France with the U.S. Army.

After his return from military service and school, he took over the operation of Nelson Farm in McCrea Township.

In 1931 Ed and his brother Cliff founded the Nelson Motor Company in Warren, and Ed was active in this business and the management of the Nelson farming interests in the area until his death September 4, 1961.

Ed was active in veterans’ office, as he was Past Commander and Adjutant of the Warren Post 27 of the American Legion, and served one term as Ninth District American Legion Adjutant in 1942-1943. He was a Warren Boy Scout troop committeeeman from the time the troop was organized until his death. He served on the Warren City Light, Water and Power Commission for many years.

On February 15, 1921 he was married to Judith Engstrom (March 25, 1897-September 26, 1973) of Alexandria, Minnesota. They had four children, Warren E. Nelson (1921-1977), Lois Nelson Amundgaard (1924), Robert P. Nelson (1931), and Janet Nelson Gulden (1934).
John August Nordgren Family
by Mrs. George Cheney

John Nordgren was born in August 1846 in Varmland, Sweden; married Miss Marie Caroline Swanberg; and came to this country in 1882. He first homesteaded in the township of Foldahl twelve miles east of Argyle but after his wife died in 1892, he first moved to a farm north of Warren for a year and then into Warren in 1893 where he married again and started a farmers stopping place at 118 Johnson Avenue. After his second wife died, his daughter, Albertina, took over the establishment and turned it into a much needed hospital for the community. Mr. Nordgren returned to Sweden in 1900 where he spent his remaining days. Five children born of his first marriage remained in this country, namely: Oscar, Albertina, Axel William, David, Amalia Caroline (Mrs. George Cheney) and Harold Levi.

Clarence G. Nybakken Family

Clarence G. Nybakken was born on June 29, 1908 on a farm in Goose Prairie Township in Clay County near Hitterdal, Minnesota, the fourth of five sons of Ole and Lizzie (Velo) Nybakken. After graduation from high school in Hitterdal, he attended the American Business College in Fargo, North Dakota, and worked first for the Security State Bank in Hitterdal in 1928. Here he met Effie Knutsen of Warren who was teaching school there. On July 1, 1930 Clarence began work at the Peoples State Bank in Warren. In 1932 Effie accepted a position with the Alvarado School and taught there until they were married in Warren on July 18, 1934. Clarence began work as a bookkeeper but in 1948 he was appointed executive vice-president. In 1961 he was made the president. On June 30, 1969 he retired though he continues to serve as chairman of the board of directors. To this union were born two children: James Willard of Moss Landing, California and Lois Andrea (Mrs. Larry J. Kresl) of Amery, Wisconsin. Clarence and Effie reside at 303 North Fourth Street in Warren, Minnesota.

Andro Palya Family

The late Andro Palya, pioneer resident of Tabor township, was born in Czechoslovakia in 1857 and came to this country in 1875 where he worked in the Pennsylvania coal mines for two years. He moved to Minneapolis and secured work on the Irwin Farms where he made the acquaintance of Joe and John Bren who were also working there. They told Mr. Palya of the land they had bought in Tabor which was then called Osvita. When the Brens moved to their farm, Mr. Palya went with them and bought a quarter of land in Section 18 but he continued working on the Irwin Farms to get enough money for farm equipment which consisted of two horses, a wagon and a plow. In 1883 he was married to Anna Baloc and the same year they moved to their farm. When they arrived in Angus, they hitched the horses to the wagon with all their belongings which consisted in part of 1 pig, 8 chickens and 1 rooster. It was seven miles to their farm and they traveled through swamps and water up to their wagon box. They stayed with the Joe Brens until they finished building a house on their land. They helped found the Slovak Evangelical Lutheran congregation in their own home on the farm west of where the present church stands. They conducted services every Sunday and invited a minister from Minneapolis twice a year to administer Holy Communion. In 1897 a church was built.

Captain John Olson

John Olson was born in Hafvero, Stockholm, Sweden, on February 14, 1832, and emigrated to America with his wife and children coming to Warren in 1880. He was a worker of metals as well as being proficient in other lines. His title of Captain he brought with him from Sweden where he once commanded a small steamer. Shortly after arriving here, he left his family in Warren and took a trip to the Pacific Coast. An interesting fact about that trip was that he walked back the entire distance. Captain Olson died on November 21, 1910. He left two daughters: Mrs. John O. Larson of Sanborn, North Dakota and Mrs. Frank Koepe of Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

Christ Olson Family

Christ Olson was born in Gjovik, Norway, May 5, 1862, to Mr. and Mrs. Ole Olson. In 1883, he emigrated to America and Goodhue County in Minnesota. The following year he struck out for the Red River Valley coming to Warren where he worked on some of the large farms in the surrounding community, one of them being what was formerly known as the Woodward Farm which is now the Melgard Farm. He took a homestead in McCrea Township on the NE1/4 of Section 22 and on March 13, 1895, he was married to Mathilda Sundeen. To this union two children were born: Carl Olson of Wheat Grove, Pennsylvania, and Mrs. Ellen Anderson who passed away in 1946. The mother of these two children died while the children were small and in 1901 Mr. Olson married Christine Johnson. To this union six children were born: Adolph of Trenton, Michigan; Olga (Mrs. Axel Larson) of Warren; Nettie (Mrs. Lindstrom) of Warren; Edgar, who is still farming the old home farm; and two children who died in infancy. In 1916, Mr. Olson purchased an additional quarter section, the NW¼ of Section 23, from his cousin Carl Christoferson. Both Mr. and Mrs. Olson were members of the McCrea Lutheran Church which Mr. Olson helped build. After a period of three weeks of illness, Mr. Olson passed away from a heart attack on September 23, 1936. Mrs. Olson died at the age of sixty-four on September 16, 1944.

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and Mr. and Mrs. Payla donated land and services, board-
ed the carpenters and throughout the years showed a deep
concern for the welfare of the church. Mr. Payla through
hard work prospered and his holdings grew. He helped
organize and invested in almost every new organization
that sprung up such as creameries, elevators, the Tabor
bank, the Tabor Mercantile Co. store, etc. Nine children
were born to the Payla’s: Andrew, Anna, Susan, Mary,
John, Sophia, Helen, Albert and Lillian. Of these, five sur-
vive: Anna Barosko of Racine, Wisconsin; Mrs. George
Kerestes of Warren, Minn.; Mrs. Stephen Bren of Grand-
view, Washington; Mrs. Otto Giese of Chicago, Illinois;
and Mrs. Francis Pope of Elmhurst, Illinois. Mrs. Andrew
Payla died April 16, 1959.

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Andrew Pearson Family

In April of 1980, Andrew Pearson and wife and three
children arrived in Warren and settled on Section 24 in
Warrenton Township where he built a sod hut on the
eighty acres that remained in that section for
homesteading. Not feeling that was enough land, he took
a tree claim on Section 10 in Vega Township and farmed
both for a while. In 1886, he moved his family to Vega. In
1912 they moved to Warren and spent the remaining
years of their life here until they passed away—Andrew
 Pearson in 1923 and Mrs. Pearson in 1924. Of the three
boys and three girls born to them, Oscar of Saint Paul,
Minnesota; Emily (Mrs. Jens Swanson) of Winthrop, Min-
nesota; Ellen (Mrs. Victor Malm) of Warren; and Emil N.
Pearson.

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C. G. Peterson Family

by Eleanor Johnson Peterson

Carl Gustof Peterson was born to Carl August and
Emma Fredricka (Anderson) Peterson in Vadstena,
Oreborgs sockaen, Ostergotland, Sweden, on November
27, 1879. The parents of their three older children, Gustof,
Anna and Oscar, came to America in 1883 and home-
steaded on a farm twelve miles east of Argyle in Wanger
Township. In 1900 the family moved to Warrenton Town-
ship five miles north of Warren on a farm now farmed
by Mark Backstrom. In January of 1904 Carl August Pet-
erson died and Gustof assisted his mother with the farming.
To Carl August and Emma Peterson were born: Gust,
Oscar, Anna, Earnest, John, Zelma, Almer and Beda.
Earnest and John died in infancy.

Gust was married to Emma H. Wahlin in December
1905. Later they moved to Warren where he purchased a
meat market in 1908 which he had for a couple of years.
He hired out as a tinsmith and worked with Carl Ranum
in the K. J. Taralseth Co. In 1917 he bought the house at
228 East Fletcher from Harry Bernard. That same year he
started to work for W. A. Knapp at the Pioneer Land and
Loan Co. where he was the farm overseer. On February 7,
1941 his wife, Emma, died. Upon Mr. Knapp’s death in
1945, he became manager of the company, a position he
held until January 1, 1953. He was retained as a farm
manager until 1962 when his health forced him to retire.
Gust and Emma were the parents of Carl Raymond
(deceased) of Maple Lake, Mentor, Minnesota; Gustof Mil-
ford (deceased) of Crookston, Minnesota; and Helen
Louise (Mrs. Sanford G. Mickelson).

On January 24, 1950 Gust was married to Eleanor
Johnson, daughter of Carl and Hilma Johnson. She
attended the North Star College and Nurses Training at
the Warren Hospital on their three year program so she
obtained her R.N. in 1927. She continued her nursing until
her marriage. On December 8, 1971 Gust died. His widow
continues to live in Warren at the Valhalla Apartments.

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Jonas Peterson Family

by Mrs. Clarence B. Johnson

Jonas and Betty Peterson were among those who left
their homes in Dalarna, Sweden and came to America in
the early 1890’s. Britta Erickson came to Warren in 1892.
She took the name of Betty. Her fiancé, Jonas Persson,
came to Warren a year later. He took the name of John P.
Peterson. After working and saving for their new home,
they were married on November 28, 1894. He worked at
the brickyard and in 1896 they moved to the Rudy farm to
work for Mr. Rudy. The farm was located in Farley Town-
ship six miles south of Warren. Later they rented the farm
and after a time they bought a half section of land adjoin-
ing the Rudy farm. Here they built a new home and farm
building. After he retired in 1939 and he and Betty moved
to Warren, their sons, Helmer and Robert, took over the
family farm. They were later joined by their sons. Seven
children were born to them: Arthur (deceased); Wilma
(Mrs. Clarence B. Johnson) of Warren, Minnesota; Hildur
(Mrs. William Peterson) (deceased); Helmer of Warren,
Minnesota; Robert of Warren, Minnesota; Clarence and
his twin Clara (Mrs. Clifford Nelson) of Warren, Min-
nesota. Betty Peterson died on February 3, 1947, and
John P. Peterson died on August 8, 1954.

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Peter Peterson Family

by Ella Peterson

Peter Peterson was a tailor in Vestre Dalarna,
Malung, Sweden. He and his wife Kristina had four chil-
dren who were born there in Sweden: Emma, Victor, Paul
and Hannah. In 1882 Peter emigrated to this country
arriving in Stephen on October 21, 1882. His wife and four
children followed eight years later arriving in Stephen on
the Fourth of July, 1890. After a few years in Stephen,
they moved to Warren where he operated a tailor shop for
many years making suits for men. Here in Warren the last
four of their children were born: Ellen, Julia, David and
Oscar. Mr. Peterson died in 1919 and Kristina in 1947.

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Oscar Peterson Family

by Ella Peterson

Oscar “Patsy” Peterson was born in Warren, Min-
nesota on February 19, 1898, to Peter and Kristina Peter-
son. Early in his life he discovered he had a talent for music and though he never had any formal training, he could hear a musical number once or twice and he had it memorized for he played by ear. He played with various bands. One group known as the "Nite Owls" was composed of "Patsy" at the piano, his brother David who played banjo, guitar and violin, Bill Clark on drums and was the soloist, and Arno La Roche on saxophone. They were popular for years around the late twenties and early thirties. "Patsy" accompanied the now-famous singer, Peggy Lee, when she first started out singing at the Powers Hotel Coffee Shop in Fargo, North Dakota. Later he took a piano-tuning course by mail and as an employee of the Stanton-Becker and later the Daveau Music Company he was called on to tune the pianos for many famous artists — Sergei Rachmaninoff, Lauritz Melchior, Marion Anderson, violinist Arthur Spaulding, harmonica virtuoso Larry Adler to name a few.

On April 14, 1924 he was married to Ella Elise Goplin in Warren by Pastor Knute Winberg. She was born in rural Newfolden on August 7, 1905 to Sam and Laura (Webjornson) Goplin. To this union were born eight children, namely, Darren, Joel, Kent and Mark.

Oscar Peterson died in 1970 and Ella Peterson continues to live in their home at 717 North Main Street.

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P. August Peterson Family

by Ralph Peterson and Raymond Peterson

August Peterson was born on March 26, 1872, to Peter and Emma Janson in Molkom, Varmland, Sweden. He emigrated from Sweden to America in 1891 at the age of 19 and came directly to the Warren area where he worked as a carpenter. He returned to Sweden to visit in 1900 but came back to Warren in 1901 to stay. In January 1903 he was married to Carrie Dahlin, the daughter of Olof and Karin (Olson) Dahlin of Torsby, Varmland, Sweden, where she was born on April 2, 1878. Her father, Olof Dahlin, had emigrated to Alma, east of Argyle, in 1881 where he homesteaded and built a house. Then in 1882, the family was reunited when Karin and three daughters arrived. Olof had chosen land with trees, and life on the farm had its excitement with hard work and occasional visits by Indians who would peer in the windows and beg for milk and bread.

August Peterson built a house in 1903 on North Minnesota Street across from the power house. Here the family grew up and as the family grew, he built an addition to the house and expanded the cellar into a full basement. His business as a carpenter and contractor thrived until tragedy struck. He became ill with tuberculosis and was a patient at the sanitarium in Thief River Falls for some twelve years. On his recovery, he returned to his carpentry trade for a few years until his illness returned and he died in 1947 at the age of 75. Carrie spent her later years with her children in California and died in Fullerton in 1966 at the age of 88. To this union were born: Raymond of Fullerton, California; Mildred (deceased); Ralph of Los Angeles, California; Wendell of Tacoma, Washington (deceased); Mae (Mrs. Ed Barker) of Fullerton, California; Carrell of Oakland, California; and Melville of Redlands, California. This family was one of Warren's outstanding families producing three doctors, a nurse, an aeronautical design engineer, and an instructor in navigation and inspector for Underwriters Laboratories.

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Peter Peterson Family

Peter Peterson was born in Sweden on February 11, 1857. He married Kristina Jonasdatter on October 21, 1882. She had been born in Yettermalung, Sweden, in March 1862. Mr. Peterson emigrated alone and came to Stephen where he started a tailor shop and Mrs. Peterson and the four children arrived on July 4, 1890. They lived in Stephen for awhile and then moved to Warren where he was active in the tailoring business until he passed away in September 1919. Mrs. Peterson died in 1947. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson were the parents of eight children, namely, Emma, Victor, Hannah, Paul, Ellen, Julia, David and Oscar.

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Carl Johan Pihlstrom Family

by Mr. O. W. Carlson

Carl and Kristine Lovisa (Jansson) Pihlstrom were residents of Warren from the early beginning. Pihlstrom arrived in Warren from Ishpeming, Michigan on June 10, 1881. On March 13, 1883 he was married to Louise Jansson who had come to Warren from Sweden in June of 1882. Their marriage license was issued by J. P. Nelson, one of the founders of the city who was the Clerk of Court of Marshall County at that time.

Carl operated a meat market for about twenty years in a building which he had built early in 1883, situated on First Street. Christ Ahlm was the partner of Pihlstrom in the operation of this business until Ahlm moved to Big Woods Township. Then C. J. Johnson of Warren became the partner of Carl Pihlstrom. Later he sold his business and engaged in the mercantile business under the name of "The Golden Rule Store" with Hans Swanson of Warren as partner and later with Carl Lind, until 1909. He later worked as a meat cutter in meat markets operated by Andrew Boardson and others until 1920 when he retired.
Robert Porteous Family

by Jessie Porteous Andrew

Robert Porteous was born in Scotland and his wife was born in eastern Canada. They came to Warren about 1881 from Princeton, Minnesota, and settled in Warrenton Township about three quarters of a mile northeast of the Cook Schoolhouse. Later they moved to about four miles north of Warren. There were five children in the family: James now living in Saskatchewan; William also living in Saskatchewan; Bessie (Mrs. S. N. Rooke) of Cuper, Saskatchewan (deceased); Robert of Spokane, Washington; and Jessie (Mrs. Andrew) of Chicago, Illinois. Mrs. Porteous passed away on April 14, 1894. On June 1, 1898, Mr. Porteous married Mrs. Sarah Clear who passed away on April 12, 1919. In 1909, Mr. Porteous moved to New Solum and after his wife's death he resided with his son, Robert, in Middle River until his death on December 25, 1923.

Wilbur Powell Family

by Adelbert Harris

Wilbur F. Powell was born February 26, 1857, in River Falls, Wisconsin. On May 4, 1879, Mr. Powell arrived in Angus with horses and mules intending to farm. He returned to River Falls, Wisconsin, that fall and came back the next spring and worked near Angus and west of Argyle during 1880, 1881, and 1882. In January of 1883, Wilbur and his cousin, Winnie Powell, started a farm implement business in Warren which continued under the name of W. F. and W. N. Powell until the spring of 1889 when Mrs. Ida Gould, a sister of Wilbur bought out the interest of Winnie and the farm name was changed to W. F. Powell & Co. In 1902, H. L. Wood bought an interest in the business and the name was changed to Powell, Wood & Co. Later Mr. Wood sold his interest out to Mr. Powell and Mrs. Gould and the name again became W. F. Powell & Co. In 1934, the firm was sold to Adelbert A. Harris. Mr. Powell was married to Minnie Naylor on October 6, 1885. On March 2, 1896, she died and Mr. Powell was married again on September 29, 1897, to Grace Harris. They had one son, Willis, who was born on January 3, 1899, and lived in Thief River Falls, Minnesota. Mr. Wilbur Powell died on May 7, 1937, and the second Mrs. Powell on May 30, 1948.

Winnie Powell Family

by Adelbert Harris

Winnie Powell was born August 8, 1859, at River Falls, Wisconsin. In January of 1883, Mr. Powell came to Warren and went into partnership with his cousin, Wilbur F. Powell, in a farm machinery business. They continued in business until 1889 when Winnie Powell sold out his interest and went into the hardware business with Mr. M. L. Larson. After many years, he sold out his interest in this business and sold insurance until he died. On October 10, 1888, Mr. Powell was married to Jessie E. Hunter and to this union four children were born: Ina, George Newell (deceased), Laura, and Allen Winthrop. Mr. Powell who died on January 28, 1942, was preceded in death by his wife who passed away on January 6, 1919. A sister of Winnie Powell, Miss Eva Powell, came to Warren with her brother and taught school in the Warren schools for many years. She passed away on August 27, 1933.

John Roley Family

by Richard Roley

John Roley, one of the early settlers in the valley, was born in Smaland, Sweden, in 1847. He came to the United States in 1874 spending the first years in America in the vicinity of Valparaiso, Indiana, and Elgin, Illinois. He arrived in Warren on Christmas Eve in 1879 and stayed for some time at the home of John G. Anderson who had come to the valley earlier having homesteaded on the SE¼ of Section 24 in Warrenton township. In the spring of 1880, John Roley homesteaded on the NE¼ of Section 18 in Warrenton township. When not on the homestead, he worked on the Great Northern railroad. In the winter of 1880-1881, he spent the winter cutting cordwood together with the late Victor Cederlund at Crookston. He worked
on the railroad until 1882 when he married Louisa Peterson who had come to Warren in 1881. A family of seven children were born to them, four of whom still live: Elivia (Mrs. E. T. Eide) of Tacoma, Washington; Signey (Mrs. Oscar Peterson) of St. Paul, Minn.; Richard on the home farm; and Emmit on an adjoining farm.

As pioneer farmers in this country, Mr. and Mrs. Roley contended with the many hardships. There was little or no protection from the winter storms on the prairie until the trees they planted grew big enough, the wells they used in the summer often went dry in the winter, there was always the hazard of prairie fires and fire breaks had to be kept around all the buildings, and the mosquitoes were terrible until the many sloughs were drained off. No doubt much credit should be given the owners of the Snake River Farm for the way the land was brought to production as the early settlers copied the way that they ditched the fields and many a homesteader worked on the farm to get some cash until they could harvest some crops on their own land.

* * *

Peter Rutz Family

by Mrs. Ray Lutz

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rutz

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Rutz came from Carver County, Minnesota, in 1877 riding in a covered wagon pulled by a team of oxen that contained beside household goods: a walking plow; seed for corn, potatoes and vegetables; and thirty dollars in cash. Three children made up the family: Frank (born 1872), John (born 1876) and Mary (born 1877). They settled on the land in Comstock Township now owned by William Omahal and Mr. C. Streich. Frank Rutz started school when he was twelve, his teacher being the wife of Gust Wickman and the school house stood on the land now owned by Art Monroe.

In 1882, the Frank Schantzen family arrived with five sons and one daughter and homesteaded the land now owned by Art Monroe. On July 3, 1895, Frank Rutz married his daughter, Mary Schantzen. They purchased 80 acres of land in McCrea Township and built a one-room log house. Here they lived and worked and sixty-one years later finds their farm grown to 220 acres and their family consisting of four children: Gardy at home; Violet (Mrs. Oscar Peterson) of St. Paul; Richard on the home farm and Emmit on an adjoining farm.

As pioneer farmers in this country, Mr. and Mrs. Roley contended with the many hardships. There was little or no protection from the winter storms on the prairie until the trees they planted grew big enough, the wells they used in the summer often went dry in the winter, there was always the hazard of prairie fires and fire breaks had to be kept around all the buildings, and the mosquitoes were terrible until the many sloughs were drained off. No doubt much credit should be given the owners of the Snake River Farm for the way the land was brought to production as the early settlers copied the way that they ditched the fields and many a homesteader worked on the farm to get some cash until they could harvest some crops on their own land.

* * *

Jacob Sorenson Family

Jacob Sorenson was born March 24, 1859 in Dronninglund Sogn, Hjorring County, Denmark. In Denmark in 1884 he was married to Elsie Marie Moller (or Miller), the daughter of Soren Hansen Moller and his second wife, Inger Marie Bertelsen of Albak-Dronninglund parish, Denmark, where she was born on August 31, 1862. In 1877 the family immigrated to the United States and settled on a farm near Gibbon, Minnesota. They moved to Warren, Minnesota in the spring of 1902 and farmed. He died on December 15, 1905, leaving his widow with nine children: Soren of Warren, Minnesota; Nels of Warren, Minnesota; Elizabeth (Mrs. G. M. Engelstad) of Warren, Minnesota; Bertina (Mrs. M. C. Husted) of Reserve, Montana; Jens of McCrea Township, Warren, Minnesota; Marie (Mrs. A. P. Smith) of Ames, Iowa; Hans of Warren, Minnesota; Iger (Mrs. Nels Peterson) of Antelope, Montana; and Freda (Mrs. N. C. Wolfe) of South Haven, Minnesota. Of these children only Marie and Freda survive as of this time (1980). Mrs. Elsie Sorenson was one of the oldest members of Our Savior's Lutheran Church and was honored by the Ladies Aid by having a Circle, the Elsie Circle, named after her. She died on November 19, 1945, at the age of 83 years.

* * *

Charles L. Stevens Family

Charles L. Stevens was born in Macoupin County, Illinois, February 1, 1867, the eldest son of eight children born to Thomas F. and Eliza J. (Fletcher) Stevens. The family came to Marshall County in 1883 where the elder Mr. Stevens had established a law practice in Warren in 1882. Charles Stevens completed a law course at the Northern Illinois Normal School and was admitted to the Illinois bar in 1892 and to the Minnesota bar two years later. He began his practice in Warren but almost immediately became interested in newspaper work. In March 1887, Mr. Thomas Stevens and Mr. Dady established the "Warren Register." In 1894 Mr. Charles Stevens became the editor of the newspaper and continued so until the Warren Register was sold to the Warren Sheaf in 1929.

Mr. Stevens was married on September 1, 1898, to Miss Alice Wallace and they are the parents of four children, namely: Jean, Margaret, Ralph and Charles, all of Minneapolis. While in Warren, they resided at 702 Ross Street.

* * *

Andrew Stinar Family

Andrew Stinar was born in Czechoslovakia on September 30, 1868, to Andrew and Anna Stinar. He received his education between the ages of six and twelve when during the months of November to April they used to attend school in the Lutheran parsonage. After he was confirmed, he worked on farms and his yearly wage was $30.00. He emigrated to America and came to Minneapolis in June 1886 and got a job at a tannery shop.
where the wages were $1.50 per day. He came to Tabor, Minnesota, in 1888 and worked on the Irish farm for a few years before buying his farm north of Tabor in Farley Township. His brother, Tom, came to America in 1889 and his parents, two sisters and another brother, John, arrived in 1892. Andrew Stinar married Marie Bandzak of Minneapolis on July 6, 1890. Mr. Stinar bought his land from the railroad company for $8.00 an acre and started farming in 1889. This he continued to do until he sold his farm to his son, Andrew, in 1930. In the early days, oxen were used and then from 1895 on horses were used and Mr. Stinar kept as many as 24 head on his place. Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Stinar: two children passed away in infancy; John who died in June of 1955; Andrew who is farming the home place; George of Warren, Minn.; Anna (Mrs. Fred Jirmasek) of Vancouver, Washington; Thomas, Paul and Edward of East Grand Forks, Minnesota. Mrs. Stinar passed away in February, 1928. Mr. Stinar died April 26, 1957.

Charles E. Stinchfield Family

Charles Edward Stinchfield was born on February 23, 1870 in Cedar Mills, Minnesota. His parents had moved to Minnesota from Rockland, Maine and his father had served as a captain of the 4th Minnesota Regiment. He moved to Warren in 1898 and was superintendent for the Kellogg Commission Grain Exchange. He married Mary Frank on January 6, 1909. She was born on February 22, 1873 in Omro, Wisconsin of Albert Preston Frank, who was born in Gowanda, Erie County, New York on January 2, 1835, and Helen McQueen Thompson, who was born on April 4, 1844 in Paisley, Scotland. They lived at 624 North Fourth Street when that street was known as "Yankee Bend" from all the Yankees living there (that home is now occupied by Eunice Wages). To this union were born two sons: Frank Stinchfield of 4997 Henry Hudson Parkway, Bronx, New York and Grant Stinchfield of 7941 58th Ave. N., St. Petersburg, Florida. Mr. Stinchfield died on February 2, 1946, and Mrs. Stinchfield on December 8, 1945. Both are buried in Warren.

Robert Strunk Family

Robert Grindeland Strunk, the only son of Wilbur Rosco and Syneva (Grindeland) Strunk, was born on May 19, 1918 in Thief River Falls, Minnesota. He moved with his parents to Minneapolis until the age of 10 when he moved to Warren with his mother and two sisters. Here he attended school, graduating salutatorian of his class of 1935. He married Dorothy Noel of Thief River Falls in January of 1938. Mr. Strunk was wounded seriously while serving with the Infantry in Germany during World War II. While working for the Pioneer Land and Loan Company for his mother, Syneva G. Knapp, he built the lumber yard and later on the Cactus Bowling Lanes. He died in Phoenix, Arizona in September of 1979 where he had made his home since 1964. Robert and Dorothy have six children: Sharon (Mrs. John Carlson) of Warren, Minnesota; Gary of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Sandra (Mrs. Howard Goulden) of Warren, Minnesota; Robert of Mesa, Arizona; Mitchell of Oxnard, California; and Richard of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Karl Svenning Family

by Norman Berget

Karl I. Svenning, a Warren pioneer, was born in Karlstad, Sweden in 1844. As a young man he settled in Norway. In 1877 he married Berget Johansen at Bodo, Norway. They came to America in June of 1886 and established a home in Warren on North Division Street on the east side of the 500 block (now removed but once lived in by Andrew Boardson and family as well as the Clifford Engelstad family and others).

Shortly after his arrival, Mr. Svenning found employment as a harness maker in the shop of H. J. Bennewitz and J. A. Noyes, who succeeded Mr. Bennewitz in the business. Later Mr. Svenning started in the harness business for himself in a building on the site of the present Sletten Olson building at 114 East Johnson Avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Svenning had four children, now all deceased: Karl; Josephine; Anna (Mrs. M. J. Berget) of Warren, Minnesota; and Freda (Mrs. H. M. Christenson) of Silverton, Oregon. Mrs. Svenning died in 1917 and Mr. Svenning in 1923.

Agaton and Anne Swandby Family

by May Nelson

Agaton and Anne Swandby Family

Anne Swandby

With the promises of high wages, free land and the letters from their respective countrymen filled with exhortations to make haste to this promised land, many an emigrant set sail for this country. One such advertisement run by the Johnson Emigration Company in Norwegian newspapers resulted in Agaton and Anne Swenby’s (later changed to Swandby) decision to leave their homeland. With nine of their eleven children, they boarded the steamship at Fering, Norway, and in three weeks were in Baltimore, Maryland. From thence via the Saint Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railway they arrived in Warren on July 7, 1882. As typical of 1882 as of 1956, food was their first item of interest and the Swandbys recall how Alfred was sent to the store for food and
their first meal was eaten while they sat on the board walk at the tiny station. In quest of work, Agaton became a carpenter and helped build the old Whitney building for D. A. and Frank Whitney—it occupied the site of the present Hardware Hank. Two months later, Agaton and five of the nine children contracted “Red River Fever” now known as typhoid fever. He died in September, 1882 and left his wife, Anne, with the nine children, four of preschool age. Her ceaseless work and courage in raising her family was characteristic of the women of her native land. When no doctor or nurse was available, she nursed the sick, or cared for the new baby. She baked bread for the neighbors hired hands and she organized the first Norwegian Sunday School and kept her friends and neighbors busy with the “Kvinde-forenings.” She passed away at the home of her daughter, Anna, on April 3, 1917, at the age of eighty years. The eleven children of this family are as follows: Azora (Mrs. Alfred Lund) of Hurdal, Norway, (deceased); Agnes (Mrs. John Blawd) of Warren, Minn. (deceased); Josephine (Mrs. John B. Nelson) of Warren, Minn. (deceased); Laura of Shelby, Montana (deceased); Hilda (Mrs. M. O. Sortedahl) of Red Lake Falls, Minn. (deceased); Alfred C. Swandby of Warren, Minn.; Hans Axel of Fering, Norway (deceased); May (deceased); Anna (Mrs. Charles Grinder) of Warren, Minn. (deceased); Hans A. of Foston, Minn. (deceased); and Louise (deceased).

Alfred C. Swandby Family
by Audrey Golden

Alfred Swandby Family
Back: Lawrence, Audrey, Grace, Almer, Inez. Front: Violet, Viva, Mrs. Swandby, Julias, Mr. Swandby.

Alfred C. Swandby was born November 30, 1871, to Agaton A. and Anna (Melby) Swandby in Norway. He came with his parents, brothers and sisters to the United States, arriving in Warren, Minnesota, on July 7, 1882. Two months later his father passed away from Red River Fever. During the school year of 1882-1883, Mr. Swandby attended the Dahlquist School and lived with the Eric Dahlquist family where he worked for his board and room. Mr. J. P. Mattson was his teacher. In 1883, 1884, and 1885 he lived at the March and Spaulding Farm working for his board and room and attending the public school in Warren. From 1885 to 1895 he was employed by Powell and Larson and then by D. A. Whitney and W. N. Powell. On the nineteenth day of May, 1898, Mr. Swandby married Miss Bertha Bergo of Kerkhoven, Minnesota. To this union were born: Audrey (Mrs. Albert Golden) of Warren, Minnesota; Almer; Raymond of Minneapolis, Minnesota; E. Lawrence of Edina, Minnesota; Inez (Mrs. A. A. Westling) of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Viva (Mrs. John H. Neville) of Grand Forks, North Dakota; Grace; Violet of Grand Forks, North Dakota; and Julius of Maiden Rock, Wisconsin.

From August of 1895, Mr. Swandby was employed by the Peoples Trading Co. until in January 1907, when he took office as the Clerk of District Court after having been elected in 1906. He held this office until January 1, 1947, when he retired. He has been active in many civic affairs and for thirty years he served as Chief of the Warren Volunteer Fire Department. He was a veteran member of the board of trustees of Our Savior’s Lutheran Church and in 1946 he was presented with a life membership in the Warren Commercial Club, an organization of which he has been a member for fifty-two years. Mr. Swandby resided at his home at 40 Bridge Street until his death in 1958.

Harold T. Swanson Family

Harold T. Swanson was born on August 11, 1894 in Warren, Minnesota, the only son of Henry M. and Martha (Bjorgo) Swanson. He was educated in the Warren schools and attended St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. He served in World War I fighting in three major battles. He was taken prisoner by the Germans during the Battle of the Argonne and was released after 2½ months and returned home in 1919. He worked for the Marshall County Highway Department for 39 years, the last 25 years of which he served as County Highway Engineer, retiring in 1956. He was married on December 17, 1924 to Edna M. Jensen, daughter of Christoffer and Kersten (Hendriksen) Jensen and she was born on July 17, 1897 in Port Arthur, Texas, the first white child born there. Until the last few years, they lived in the home that they built in 1953 at 305 North Third Street. Now they are residing at the Good Samaritan Center in Warren, Minnesota.

Henry M. Swanson Family

Henry, Harold, Eda, Stella, Martha, Millie, Emma.

Henry M. Swanson was born in Hedemarken, Norway on July 15, 1858, and came to America with his parents in 1859. He helped his father and mother develop their homestead and eventually went into the furniture and undertaking business. On April 8, 1885 he was married to
Martha Bjorgo, who had been born in Gudbrandsdal, Norway on March 14, 1860, and had come to America with her parents in 1864. For thirty-one years Henry was in the furniture and undertaking business until 1921. Henry died on September 5, 1924. Mrs. Swanson died on October 4, 1935. They were the parents of five children: Stella (Mrs. F. C. Bakke) of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Emma (Mrs. Arnold Foker) of Crookston, Minnesota (deceased); Millie (Mrs. B. D. Pearson) of Virginia, Minnesota; Eda (Mrs. L. A. Peters) of Hibbing, Minnesota; and Harold of Warren, Minnesota.

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Mathias Swanson Family

Mathias Swanson (sometimes known as Swensen) came to America from Hedemarken, Norway. He and his wife, Agnette, and family came to America in 1859 where they settled in Wisconsin moving there to Kandiyohi County, Minnesota, where they lived for a number of years. In 1879 the family came to Marshall County, arriving in covered wagons drawn by oxen, a trip that took six weeks. They were hard-hit by prairie fires in Big Woods Township. On October 18, 1879 a prairie fire swept everything away including all the hay that had been put up for the winter months as well as the buildings he had erected for his family. With the help of his sons: Simon, Henry, Andrew, Bernard, Martin and Anton and a hired man, they put up hay in a bend of the river where Oslo is now located, bought two stacks of oats from a neighbor, and rebuilt his homestead buildings. As the years passed, all the sons took up homesteads in the township of Big Woods. Later Mathias built a home for himself at 318 West Johnson Avenue (later the home of Dr. Blegen and family, Mr. and Mrs. John Slusar and now Mr. and Mrs. Milfred Westberg). Here they lived until Mathias died, after which his widow returned to Big Woods to spend the rest of her life with members of her family.

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Swanson - Golden - Halvorson Families

In April, 1888 Marie and Jens (Thorkildson) Swanson emigrated from Berbye, Enningdal parish, Norway, to Warren with his brother, Hans. The name Thorkildson was by 1894 changed to Swanson.

Jens Edvin Torkildson was born January 2, 1863 to Torkild and Anne Marie Andersdatter of Berbye, Norway. His wife, Marie was born October 9, 1856 to Anna and Jonas Petterson, Orr Province. They were married in Elsfborg Province December 30, 1886. Three daughters were born to them: Jennie Mathilda, Anita Valborg (Nettie) and Anna Pauline. Jens Swanson ran a dry goods business in Warren with his brother, Hans, until his death from typhoid fever, October 24, 1895. After his death, Marie Swanson washed clothes and cleaned for a living to support three young girls.

In 1906 two orphaned boys were brought to Warren from Grygla in eastern Marshall County. A home was found for these brothers, Matthew and Olaf Haugerud, with Marie Swanson and family. Matthew was born October 27, 1896 and Olaf, December 3, 1899. After finishing high school in Warren, Matthew and Olaf went on to school: Matthew to St. Olaf, Northfield (graduated 1923) and later to Columbia U. in New York; Olaf to St. Cloud Teachers and the University of Minnesota (graduated in 1926). Olaf taught school at Big Falls, Forest Lake and Indus, Minnesota before leaving for Alaska in 1934. There he was principal of schools at Nome and Kodiak until his death in 1960. Matthew taught science at Goodrich, Antelope, Minnesota and Miles City, Montana. A back ailment forced him to quit teaching and return to Warren in 1945. He lived at the Swanson - Golden home and later the John Halvorson home before entering the Good Samaritan Home in 1957. Matthew died on May 21, 1972 of a heart attack.

In 1911 Jens Golden, son of Bolette and Anton Golden, came to Warren from Schiebeck, Enningdal, Norway. Jens chose Warren, as his uncle, Hans Iver Golden, had resided in Warren since 1883. Jens was a carpenter in Chicago and Warren for the rest of his life. He was the builder of many houses in Warren. Jens served in France during the First World War. On November 8, 1921 Jens Golden was married to Nettie Swanson. Their two daughters are: Betty Marie (Post) and June (Dosen). Before her marriage Nettie was a dental assistant to Dr. Fred Bakke of Warren. Nettie has been active in the Methodist church and American Legion Auxiliary, serving as local unit president in 1937 and as secretary, Ninth District in 1940. Nettie resides at 722 N. Minnesota Street. Jens died on April 4, 1976.

Another daughter of Marie Swanson, Jennie, also was a dental assistant to Dr. Fred Bakke. Later she was employed at the Warren Telephone Office until the switchboard was replaced by dial phones. Jennie now resides at the Good Samaritan Home in Warren.

The third daughter of Marie Swanson, Pauline, married Dr. Charles Simon Raadquist, son of Ulrika and Svante Raadquist of Warren on April 23, 1919. They lived in Montevideo and Hibbing, Minnesota, where Mr. Raadquist practiced medicine, specializing in radiology. Dr. Raadquist died on November 9, 1956 and Pauline Raadquist died on May 14, 1974.

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Elmer E. Swenson Family

Elmer E. Swenson was born on February 4, 1889 in St. Paul, Minnesota. After his schooling he found work as a salesman for two wholesale houses in St. Paul and his area covered much of the northeastern part of North Dakota and part of northwestern Minnesota with his headquarters being Grand Forks, North Dakota. On June 21, 1919 he married Evelyn Amanda Grindeland, the daughter of Andrew and Inger (Forde) Grindeland, who was born on November 29, 1891. Evelyn had been a supervisor of music in the five schools of Thief River Falls, Minnesota, as she had graduated from the Lutheran Ladies Seminary in Red Wing, Minnesota, and had taught piano and voice in Willmar, Minnesota for two years at the Willmar Seminary. After two years in Grand Forks, they moved to Warren where they built a home at 673 North Central Park Avenue (now the residence of Frans Peterson). In the 1930's Elmer started a 5 & 10¢ store on Johnson Avenue, first in the western half of the F. C. Larson building and then in the building next to the Warren Sheaf. On February 5, 1935 he was appointed Warren Postmaster and held that position until his death on January 27, 1941. Elmer had been active in community...
affairs and was Commander of the American Legion Post in Warren from 1936-1937. Besides working in the store, Evelyn was also active in civic affairs directing the Warren Womens Club chorus, organist at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, where she also directed the junior and senior choir, and she gave piano lessons. On February 24, 1941 she was appointed Postmistress to fill the vacancy in the Post Office that resulted from Elmer’s death. She kept this job until October 15, 1948 when she resigned that job and moved down to Minneapolis where her children were living and where she continued to give music lessons for many years. She is presently living in New Brighton, Minnesota at the Innsbruck Health and Nursing Center near to where her daughter Elizabeth (Mrs. Dick Schafer) lives as well as her son, Donald, who resides in Minneapolis. Four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren bring her much pleasure.

* * *

K. J. Taralseth

Knud J. Taralseth was born in Hornindal, Bergen’s Stift, Norway, on November 2, 1948, the son of Ole and Olena Taralseth. Starting at the age of eight he tended herds of cattle in the mountains and at the age of sixteen he entered an apprenticeship to the carpenter trade. In the winter he fished for a living. In 1872 he sailed for America and came to Red Wing, Minnesota, where he secured work on the railroad. A year later he went to Minneapolis where he worked as a carpenter until 1875 when he returned to Norway to marry Miss Ragnhild Satren, the daughter of Ole and Breita Satren, on April 18, 1875. For three more years he worked as a carpenter in Minneapolis and then he moved to Osakis where he purchased a half-interest in a small store. He remained there until 1882 when he sold his interest and came to Warren. He started in the general merchandise in a very small way and branched out in other lines successfully, especially in banking. In 1888 he built the first part of the brick building in which he did his business. Later a second half was constructed. Then in 1910 the business was leveled by fire. On the same site the present brick building was erected in 1911 by his son, Ralph.

Prior to his death on October 14, 1905, he was Vice President of the State Bank of Warren, President of the State Bank of Fertile, a director of the Citizens State Bank of Oslo, a stockholder in the Bank of Alvarado and the Scandia Bank of Crookston, he had an interest in the wholesale house of Alfred Anderson & Co. of Minneapolis, and he was president of the K. J. Taralseth Company under which the general merchandise business was conducted. But it was not in private business alone that he was interested. In public affairs he took an active and prominent part. He served as a village trustee in 1884, 1885 and 1888; as president of the village council from March 1889 to March 1890; city treasurer from March 1891 to March 1893; city alderman from March 1896 to March 1898; mayor of Warren from 1900 to 1903; he was chairman of the meeting held on July 31, 1885, for the purpose of organizing the Warren Independent School District; he was elected a member of the Board of Education and chosen as its first president and he continued on the Board of Education until failing health caused his retirement.

Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Taralseth: Henry of Warren, Minnesota, Lena (Mrs. Ed Mosefin) of Fertile, Minnesota; and Ralph of Warren, Minnesota, now all are deceased.

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O. H. Taralseth Family

Olaf Henry Taralseth was one of the builders of the Warren community and he lent a steady influence during the years of inflation and depression between World Wars I and II.

He was born in Osakis, Minnesota, in 1878 and came to Warren in 1882 with his parents. He attended the public schools and was a member of the first graduating class. He then attended Carleton College and the Minnesota School of Business. After several years in his father's store, he became a bookkeeper in the State Bank of Warren. Through the passage of years he went up the ladder and was President of that institution until his death in 1940. In 1907 he was married to Minnie McGlinch and two daughters were born to them: Merece (Mrs. Ed Poslethwaite) of Fayetteville, North Carolina, and Dona Taralseth (both deceased). Henry was active in many phases of Warren's public life, serving for many years as president of the City Light, Power and Water Commission. An ardent sportsman, he closed many a deal for civic improvements while hunting with visiting bankers. He was interested in helping the farmers with their problems and he helped finance many of the local boys through college who are today successful in their fields of work. Henry Taralseth died of leukemia on April 18, 1940, and Mrs. O. H. Taralseth passed away on August 25, 1952. They are survived by two grandchildren, Edward Postlethwait of Los Angeles, California, and Linda (Mrs. Robert Donnelly) of Aila, Hawaii.

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Ralph Taralseth Family

R. B. Taralseth was born October 12, 1883, in Warren, the second son of K. J. and Ragnhild Taralseth. He was educated in the public schools and at Carleton College and began his business career as a clerk in his Father's store.
Upon the death of his father, he became general manager of the Taralseth Store. Ralph has always been interested in the civic affairs of the community and was for many years the Mayor of Warren. He has served with the Warren Fire Department for fifty years, many of those years as Fire Chief of the Fire Department. He was President of the Northern Regional Fire Association. He has been a director of the Marshall County Agricultural Association and President of that organization for several years. Like his father before him, he has been a contributor to civic improvements for many years. He was married to Miss Lottie Olson on August 23, 1916. To this union were born two daughters: Bonita Belle (deceased) and Janet Ruth (Mrs. Harvey Onstott) of Madeira Beach, Florida. Ralph died on February 10, 1962, and his widow continues to live on in an apartment over the old store. She will be 89 years of age in 1980, and is still active in Senior Citizen activities.

** John Tatro Family **

John Tatro was born on January 22, 1842 in Canada and came to the United States as a child. He had married Miss Maria Cass in 1882 and after living in North Dakota for nine years, he came to Warren in March of 1891 and homesteaded about 10 1/2 miles southeast of Warren. In 1901 he sold out and went to Wisconsin where he died in April, 1923. Mrs. Tatro passed away in January of 1896. Seven children were born to this union: Moses; Herbert of Oglivie, Minnesota; Eliza (Mrs. Fred Carter) of Mobridge, South Dakota; Elsie (Mrs. Bill McNamara) of Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin; Mary (Mrs. Dave Jackson) of Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin; Bertha (Mrs. Bill Buchenberg) of Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin; and George of Viking, Minnesota.

George Tatro was born on August 6, 1874 in Steele County, Minnesota and on July 13, 1904 he married Stella Gilbert, who was born on July 13, 1886 in Emmetburg, Iowa. Twelve children were born to this union: Sadie (Mrs. John Mortinson and later she married Leonard Hupp) of Oregon; Edna (deceased); Pearl (Mrs. Archie Sommers) of Warren, Minnesota; Fred of Warren, Minnesota; Archie (deceased); John of Thief River Falls, Minnesota; Helen (Mrs. Emergy Loranger) of East Grand Forks, Minnesota; Alice (Mrs. Roy Campbell) of Kent, Washington; Nina (Mrs. Charlie Rienar) of East Grand Forks, Minnesota; Irma (deceased); Dorothy (Mrs. Bennie Evin) of Warren, Minnesota; and Elizabeth (Mrs. Arnold Bjorgard) of Viking, Minnesota. George died on October 30, 1959, and Stella died on October 2, 1958.

** William Adelbert Wallace **

William Wallace was born on August 25, 1833, in Rome, New York. He came to Wisconsin as a young man and enlisted in the 23rd Wisconsin Infantry and participated in many battles of the Civil War including that of the Wilderness. He settled at Rice Lake, Minnesota, where he married Mary Naylor Hunter on November 25, 1886. In 1879 they came to Warren and homesteaded the SE1/4 of Section 26, Warrenton Township, which is one mile north of Warren. He was a charter member of the Masonic Lodge and one of the men who started the Methodist Church. Mr. Wallace died on October 31, 1920, and his wife died on December 17, 1920. There were no children.

** Dr. George Samuel Wattam Family **

George S. Wattam was born near Picton, Ontario, Canada, on July 10, 1856; was educated in the public schools of Bellville, Ontario, and graduated from the Medical College, University of Ontario, in 1884 and located in Warren, Minnesota, on August 21, 1884. Here he served as a country doctor for nearly fifty years. He was married to Emily L. White on December 21, 1887, and to this union were born four boys: Charles on November 3, 1888; William on July 13, 1890; Harry on June 13, 1892; and Kenneth on July 15, 1899. Mrs. Wattam died of tuberculosis on April 8, 1902. Following her death, the doctor started an intensive study of the disease and made a specialty of it. He was appointed as a member of the first State Tuberculosis Commission by Governor Van Sant. Much credit was given him for the successful issue of the initial attempt to secure legislation. Dr. Wattam resigned as Secretary of the Commission in 1912 after having helped so much in establishing plans for our sanatorium system. As president of the Lower Red River Valley Anti-Tuberculosis Association in 1910, he prepared and issued a four-page broadside entitled “A Call to the People of the Lower Red River Valley District to Organize in the Fight against Tuberculosis.” He said: “To combat the plague that is at the present time in the lower Red River Valley district, not a single organization, not a single trained nurse, not a single decent and safe place for a hopeless consumptive to die, nothing but five beds in the state sanatorium for curable cases and the single-handed efforts of a few tremendously handicapped physicians and health officers.” Dr. Wattam was an outstanding civic leader being very active in the early-day country seat fights, the Great Eastern highway, on the Board of Trade, the Chamber of Commerce, and for eighteen years he was a member of the Board of Education. Dr. Wattam retired from practice when he was 75 years old and he died on March 17, 1934, at the age of 77 years. He was survived by four sons: Charles, William, Harry and Kenneth Wattam.

from the book “Invited & Conquered” by J. Arthur Myers and submitted by Mrs. I. R. Olson, Angus, Minnesota, and from notes of Adelbert Harris, Warren, Minnesota

** Charles Wentzel Family **

Charles Wentzel was born in West Prussia, Germany, on April 18, 1841, and was the third child of seven children born to John and Rosalie Wentzel. A blacksmith in his native land, he came with the Wentzel family to Canada in 1863. After spending a year in Canada, he came to the United States and worked three years at the blacksmith trade near Detroit, Mich. In 1870 he came to Minnesota and plied his trade in Brainerd and Crookston. While thus engaged, he suffered an injury which caused him to turn his attention to agriculture and it was with the intention of developing a farm that he pushed into the unsettled north and became a pioneer. His first visit to Marshall County was in 1872 and his residence here in what became Warren dates from June 1, 1874. It was this
year that the early grant of land to the railroad company expired, the land then reverting to the public’s use, and Mr. Wentzel, then unmarried, hitched his broncho to a Red River cart and started for the Snake river with gun and traps. He erected a cabin and a barn on the banks of the river and employed himself at hunting and trapping in the counties of Marshall and Kittson. Those who had previously settled on the Snake River left that region when the railroad failed to send its line through there and Mr. Wentzel was left in undisputed possession, visited only by the wandering Chippewas. Crookston was his nearest trading point and there he went to purchase his supplies. It is said that he used to walk to Crookston and return with a sack of flour on his back. And another such hike had to be made to bring back sugar—a walk of sixty miles through sloughs, untouched prairies and with scarcely a sign of civilization. In 1888, he was married to Mrs. Mary Smith, nee Rudy, a native of Switzerland. As work began again on the railroad, settlers pushed in and Mr. Wentzel invested in a team and was engaged in locating the newcomers and breaking land for them. The railroad company caused him much trouble in holding his land but after some years of controversy, the decision was given in his favor, upholding his settler’s rights. Mr. and Mrs. Wentzel were the parents of two sons, Edward and Benjamin, and their farm encompassed what is now the John Engelstad farm and the land south of Bridge Street. Mr. Wentzel died on August 9, 1913. Mrs. Wentzel died June 7, 1927. A memorial to his memory was erected in the Island Park in 1940 by the Marshall County Historical Society, but that was destroyed by vandalism and has subsequently been replaced by another by the Marshall County Historical Society.

* * *

Ivar Winberg Family

by Edla Winberg

Ivar Winberg was born September 5, 1867 in Nordjord, Norway and came to this country and Warren in 1887 where he secured a job with K. J. Taralseth (also from Nordjord, Norway), a position he held there for thirty years. On November 22, 1895 he was married to Bessie Heglund. To this union were born three children: Leonard (deceased); Myrtle (Mrs. Luther Haugen) (deceased); and Della (Mrs. Tollefson) of Owatonna, Minnesota. Mr. Winberg was a life-time member of the Warren Fire Department and a member of the Warren local band. Mr. Winberg died on July 22, 1920, and Mrs. Winberg in 1931.

* * *

G. C. Winchester Family

George Clinton Winchester was born on January 29, 1851 at Madrid, New York, the son of William Henry Winchester and his second wife, Jane R. Keesey, a farmer and hotel keeper. He spent his boyhood in Madrid and later moved to River Falls, Wisconsin, where he grew to manhood. He moved to Minnesota and in 1882 he settled in Warren, then a frontier village and opened a store. He continued in the general mercantile business for twenty years with a branch store in Angus. He was active in community affairs and politics. He built his home at 524 North Fourth Street (then known as Yankee Bend) and it was the talk of the town as it cost the terrific sum of $5,600! (Later the home was purchased by O. H. Taralseth and is now the home of the Myron Haynes family.) He was married four times. His first wife was Mary Andrews of Fryeburg, Maine, whom he married in 1874 and by whom he had a son, Walter Henry Winchester of Flint, Michigan, where he was a long-time physician and was honored as Michigan’s foremost family physician for 1955. He next married Anna White, who died about 1890. He married Nellie Twombly, who died in 1897 after giving birth to Clinton Warren Twombly Winchester. His last wife was Florence Seeley. Mr. G. C. Winchester died at his home on February 25, 1910, and he and his wives are buried in the Warren Cemetery. His last surviving son, Clinton Winchester, died on February 11, 1980 in Jackson, Michigan.

* * *

Frank E. Whitney Family

by Claude Whitney

Frank and Martha Whitney moved to Warren from Lehighton, Pa., in 1882. In conjunction with his brother, D. A. Whitney, they built a two-story double-store building on the corner now occupied by the Red Owl. Frank opened a hardware store and D. A. dealt in furniture. Both families lived over the stores. Later he sold his share of the store to W. N. Powell and became the Great Northern Railway agent in Warren. Next he served for awhile as manager of the lumber yard owned by the Meehan Brothers of Thief River Falls, Minn. In 1899, Mr.
and Mrs. Whitney moved to Pequot Lakes, Minnesota, where he served as agent for the M & I Railroad until he retired. Seven children were born and of these only two are now living: Everett, Arthur, Walter and Claude were born in Pennsylvania and Charlie, Nellie and Frank were born in Warren. Only Claude of International Falls and Frank of Hopkins, Minnesota, remain of the Whitney family.

The Wood Family

by Adelbert Harris

Lorenzo G. Wood came to Warren on February 24, 1881 from Durand, Wisconsin. His family consisted of his wife, Harriet, and their four sons: Frank, James, Warren and Harry and one daughter from a previous marriage. Mr. Wood came here as superintendent and manager of the Pembina Farm, one of the largest and oldest of the "Bonanza" farms of that era. He managed the farm for six years and was succeeded by his son, Warren E. Wood. Lorenzo Wood then entered politics and was elected state senator on the Alliance Party ticket from the 52nd district—Marshall and Kittson Counties. Many relatives settled here shortly after Mr. Wood came but they soon migrated to other parts. Jane and Ula, daughters of Warren Wood, lived here many years.

Harry L. Wood was born January 24, 1868, in Durand, Wisconsin. He was educated in the Warren public school and the Archibald Business College of Minneapolis. He was married on December 6, 1890, to Miss Laura A. Flanders. After leaving school, Harry Wood bought wheat at a local elevators in North Dakota and Minnesota from 1889 to 1892 when he came to Warren to work for W. F. Powell & Co. from 1892 to 1902. Later he bought an interest in the business and the name was changed to Powell, Wood & Co. In 1904, he sold his interest in the business and became a cashier in the First National Bank of Warren and later was promoted to President, a position he held until his death. He was very civic minded and was a member of the Methodist Church as well as all the fraternal organizations of the city plus being a member of the village band and its early baseball team. Mr. Wood died in November of 1924 and Mrs. Wood died in 1944.

It is of interest to note that Mrs. Wood was the daughter of A. E. Flanders who moved with his family from Parishville, New York, to Crookston in 1882 and then to Warren where his son, Fred, worked for Mr. Lamberson in the Bank of Warren. Mr. Flanders lived to be ninety-one years old and was the last Civil War veteran left in Marshall County.

John Youngdahl Family

by Ernest Youngdahl

John Youngdahl was a locomotive engineer on the railroad in Sweden when he decided to emigrate from Sweden to America. With his wife Charlotte Marie and his son Carl, they came directly to Warren in 1882 and took a homestead in Vega Township which is now the Garfield Ransstrom farm.

Carl Youngdahl was born in Westmanland, Sweden in 1865 and was seventeen years of age when he came to Warren with his parents in 1882. He was employed during the early days as Emmet W. Rossman's foreman at Coon Creek, Minnesota, managing a brickyard. Later he moved back to Warren and ran the Robertson Lumber Co. and with Lundgren, Wittensten Co. for which firm he served as a bookkeeper and parts man. He was elected to the office of City Recorder which he held for many years until his death in 1933. He was also a veteran member of the Warren Volunteer Fire Department since it was organized. He was first married in 1892 to Miss Augusta Johnson and to this union three children were born. Augusta died in 1895 so Carl was left with three small children. These his parents raised. One of them is Hilma (Mrs. Alfred Malm) of East Grand Forks, Minnesota. The other two, Elsie and Emmet, died during the influenza epidemic of 1920. Carl's father, John Youngdahl, died in 1919 and his mother, Charlotte Marie, died in 1922. Carl married again in 1900 to Miss Emmy Johnson, who emigrated from Sweden in 1898 and came to Warren. She was born in Skipperstad Jonkopingland in 1871 and died in 1938 at Warren. To this union were born: Elizabeth (Mrs. Rueben Wasbottem) of Scottsdale, Arizona (deceased); Mable and Hazel (Mrs. Louis Schneider) of Warren; Carl, Jr. of Rockfalls, Illinois; and Ernest of Warren, Minnesota.

Ernest "Engst" Youngdahl was city electrician and lineman for 22 years for the city of Warren until he went into service in 1942. After the way, he went to work for Swift Electric Co. as electrician and estimator for 22 years until his retirement in 1968. He lives in the same house in which he was born in 1903, over 77 years ago, at 517 North Minnesota Street, Warren, Minnesota.
Ben Amundgaard Family

Ben Amundgaard was born in Argyle, Minnesota, on April 17, 1894, the second son of Even and Pauline (Bendickson) Amundgaard. He attended school in Argyle and became associated with his father in the farm machinery business. In 1935 the Amundgaard Implement Co. acquired the John Deere franchise in Warren. In the early 1940's, Ben moved to Warren to conduct that business. On June 9, 1946, he was married to Delirene Anderson, the only daughter of Anton and Lillian Anderson of Argyle, Minnesota. They are the parents of three children: Lillian (Mrs. Mark Sather) of Hanska, Minnesota; David and John of Warren, Minnesota. Ben and Delirene live at 505 East Ross in the home they built in 1966.

Andy Anderson Family

Andy Anderson was born on September 9, 1909, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Anderson of Oslo, Minnesota. He was married to Myrtle Neegard Schantzen, born Oct. 8, 1921 at Warren, who had two children: Loren (deceased) of Glendale, Arizona; and Chris Ann (Mrs. Loren Abrahamson) of Warren, Minnesota. Andy worked for many years as a painter and decorator for the H & H Company in Warren until his death on January 16, 1980, from a heart attack. To this union were born: Dwight of Warren, Minnesota; and Cheryle (Mrs. Allan Rugland) of Thief River Falls, Minnesota.

The Axle E. Anderson Family

Axel Edvard Anderson, local contractor and builder for nearly fifty years, was born in Hudiksvall, Sweden, on January 22, 1890, the son of Olav and Anna Anderson. While in Sweden he completed his education and technical training at the Bergslagernas Verkmastare and Teknikerskola (Masterworkman’s and Technical school).

In 1911, he followed in the footsteps of four aunts and two uncles and his older brother Ole, and emigrated to Winnipeg, Canada, where he worked on various construction sites, including the Fort Gary Hotel in Winnipeg. Before coming to Warren, he also worked in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. In 1914, he settled in Warren where he went into partnership with his brother, Ole E. Anderson in bridge and concrete construction. The partnership was dissolved in 1923 when his brother and Pete Melin bought the Warren Auto Company. Mr. Anderson continued his construction business until he retired in 1958.

In 1921 Mr. Anderson was married to Elin Jaderblom, also of Hudiksvall, Sweden, who had traveled to Warren for the marriage. To this marriage were born three daughters, Astrid (the late Mrs. George Totten), Birgit, and Anne. Prior to her marriage, Mrs. Anderson had trained as a teacher in Sweden and taught elementary and middle school in Sweden for eight years prior to her marriage. Born September 12, 1890, she was the daughter of Lars and Maria Jaderblom of Hudiksvall.

During his active years in Warren, Mr. Anderson worked on over thirty-eight buildings in Warren including both the remodeling and construction of the buildings. He built the first low-cost tilt-up concrete building in the country when he built the Silnes Motors building, now Toupin's Chalet. Although this type of construction had been used before, the costs were high. The construction process of this low-cost tilt-up construction attracted the attention of building contractors nationwide and articles and pictures were published in nationally circulated trade magazines which described the simplicity of the method. Other Warren buildings constructed by the same method include The Nelson Motor Company, The Amundgaard Implement Company shop, The PKM Electric Coop shop portion, the shop portion of the former Glen Olson Motors, a section of the Warren Cooperative Creamery, and the former Harry's Mobil Service Station at the junction of Highways 75 and 1.

Though many of the buildings on which Mr. Anderson worked have been destroyed, such as the old State Bank building, many of his buildings are still serving the needs of the Warren community. It was Mr. Anderson's wish that some of his work would remain as a living memorial to the community that he loved so much. Mr. Anderson died on January 26, 1968.

Mrs. Anderson was a member of the First Lutheran Church, where she was active in the Ladies Aid, the Woman's Missionary Society, and the choir. She is perhaps best remembered for the countless solos which she sang at funerals, weddings and church functions. Mrs. Anderson died on December 6, 1979.

Christian Andreason Family

by Arne C. Andreason

Christian Andreason was born January 20, 1869, at Arendal, Norway. He was married to Christine Peterson on May 6, 1891. She was born April 10, 1870, at Larvik, Norway. In 1895 they came to America and homesteaded the SW 1/4 of Section 18, Helgeland Township, Polk County, Minnesota. In 1937, they retired to their home on North Fourth Street, Warren, Minnesota. They were the parents of four children: Arne of Warren; Lenora (Mrs. Henry Rud) of Staples, Minn.; Carl (deceased); and Clarence of Minneapolis. Christian Andreason died on February 4, 1956. Christine died on February 10, 1948.

Nels Asp Family

Nels Asp was born December 4, 1892, in Sweden to John and Gustafva Asp, one of eight children. He came to this country with his parents when he was 19 years of age. John Asp with his sons Oscar and Nels, settled on a farm south of Newfolden with other members of his family living nearby. In a double wedding on October 22, 1919, Nels and his brother Ernest were married. Nels to Ella Thompson and Ernest to Dagny Thompson. Nels, Ernest and Oscar all became house painters and all three moved to Minneapolis. To this union of Nels and Ella were born three children: George of Santa Monica, California; Lloyd...
of Santa Maria, California; and Verna (Mrs. Peter Ulissi) of Penns Grove, New Jersey.

On October 7, 1949, Nels was married to Ruby Neegard, born at Black Hawk, New Ontario, Canada on June 18, 1910, and lived near Minneapolis, Trail and in 1972 they moved to Warren. He was talented in wood working including building and refinishing furniture and constructing Grandfather clocks. He died from a heart attack on September 10, 1979, and was buried with military honors in Warren. Mrs. Ruby Asp resides at 835 East Clinton Street in Warren.

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John Barlow Family

by Mrs. Peter Enge

John Barlow was born on December 5, 1865, in Nordfjoreid, Norway, the son of Samuel and Pernelle Bjorlo. He came to America in 1887 and first came to Wisconsin where he worked in logging camps. In 1889 he came to Warren and worked on the Woodward and the Tullar farms. On October 6, 1899, he was united in marriage to Eline Hjelle. She also was from Nordfjoreid and came to America in 1896. Both John and Eline Barlow were employed at the Tullar farm, she was one of the cooks and he was fireman on a steam engine. Moving to Warren in the early 1900’s, John was employed at the electrical power plant for fourteen years and he also worked on the railroad section and was janitor at the Warren High School and the Court House for a time. Eline died on December 26, 1943, and John died on February 18, 1955. They were the parents of Bertha Hedquist of St. Paul, Minnesota, and Pearl (Mrs. Peter Enge) of Bigwoods, Marshall County, Minnesota.

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Dr. H. M. Blegen Family

Halward Martin Blegen was born on August 7, 1885, at Rochester, Minn., to Prof. and Mrs. J. H. Blegen. He received his elementary education in the Minneapolis schools, received his B.A. degree from the Augsburg Seminary in Minneapolis and studied medicine at the University of Minnesota, receiving his M.D. degree in 1909. He took his internship at Minneapolis City Hospital in 1909 and 1910 and served as assistant Minneapolis City physician from 1910 to 1912 and later practiced his profession at Wahpeton, North Dakota, and Oslo, Minnesota, before moving to Warren on October 17, 1916.

On June 6, 1912, Dr. Blegen was married to Miss Clara Augusta Sletten, who was born on May 27, 1889, in Wahpeton, North Dakota, the daughter of Norwegian immigrant parents, Ole T. and Helen (Hanson) Sletten. She was a graduate from the Minneapolis City Hospital School of Nursing.

To this union, two children were born: Dr. Halward M. Blegen who was a member of the Western Montana Clinic at Missoula, Montana, and Dorothy (Mrs. Bernard Gimmesstad) who lived in Tucson, Arizona.

During his long period of residence in Warren, Dr. Blegen took an active interest in affairs of the community. He served as a member of the board of education of School District 2 for more than 20 years and was the president of the board at the time of his death. He was Marshall County Coroner and served as public health officer for the city of Warren. He served as chief of staff of the Warren Hospital; vice-president of the Oakland Park Sanitarium, Thief River Falls, board of directors; surgeon for the Soo and Great Northern Railways and was a member of the Great Northern Surgical Association; member and past president of the Red River Valley Medical Society, member of the Minnesota Historical Society; member of the Minnesota Medical Association; and president of the board of administration of Our Savior’s Lutheran Church of Warren. Mrs. Blegen was equally as involved in community and church projects that included such diverse things as choral groups and amateur theatricals.

Dr. Blegen died from Addison’s Disease after being in failing health for two years on March 26, 1942, and Mrs. Blegen died on December 29, 1970. Both their son Halward and daughter Dorothy died at comparatively young ages and unexpectedly. Dr. and Mrs. Blegen are survived by six grandchildren: Judith, Barbara, Halward and Timothy, children of Dr. Halward and Dorothy Blegen, and Amalia and Halward, children of Bernard and Dorothy (Blegen) Gimmesstad. It is of special interest in the multitude of friends of the Blegen family that two of the granddaughters sought careers in music and succeeded. Judith Blegen (Mrs. Raymond Gniewek) has
achieved starring roles at the Metropolitan Opera Company and at opera houses in Europe and Barbara Blegen (Mrs. W. T. Brown) who studied under Rudolf Serkin, is a concert pianist.

At the time of Dr. Blegen’s funeral, this tribute was paid him in a poem by Ella (Mrs. Oscar “Patsy”) Peterson.

He was so sort of cozy like,
So fatherly and kind.
To go see Doctor Blegen
Even children didn’t mind.
For he had a way about him
With grown-ups and the small,
This little Country Doctor
That made him loved by all.
So many things are brought to mind,
Of wounds he gently bound,
Of fevered brows, and through it all
“Lost lullabies are found.”
For when Sonny had the measles,
And the mumps and earaches, too,
“Call Doctor Blegen, Mommy,
For he knows just what to do.”
I can picture him with grip in hand,
A’ comin down the walk...
It would make one feel much better
Just to hear “Doc” Blegen talk.
Now in fancy, I can see him
Walking down a golden street,
And the folks that he had comforted
In death, their Doctor greet,
For he answered his last summons
Which must sometimes come to all,
And this Dear Old Country Doctor
Has answered his last “call.”

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Alva Lewis Bonnette Family

Alva Lewis Bonnette was born on February 24, 1906, in Lancaster, Missouri, to Leeadore and Minnie Bonnette. He attended school in Eldon, Iowa, to where his parents had moved and in the summer months he worked for his maternal grandparents, William Silas and Clarinda Amiss, on their twenty acre farm. After high school, he worked for the Rock Island Railroad; on a ranch near Alliance, Nebraska; with the Ohio Oil Company in Cody, Wyoming; as a farmhand near Mendota, Illinois; with the Pontiac Automotive Company of Detroit, Michigan; and as a painter for the State of Iowa. He was married to Esther Zuehl, the daughter of Fred and Clara Zuehl who farmed near Britt, Iowa, on February 20, 1929.

Early Easter Sunday morning, 1933, found Lewis Bonnette in an emigrant freight car on the siding of the Great Northern Railroad at Angus, Minnesota. The car was filled with some machinery, a few head of cattle, a team of horses, a sow with a broken leg and her litter, and a dog which had had puppies during the journey. With the help of Tom Taus, Angus resident, they were hauled out to a farm they had never seen. When they returned for the cattle, they were missing and were found a day later near Radium, 10 miles away. Esther came with their car from Iowa, a 1928 Pontiac coupe. In 1933, 1934 and 1935 they planted crops and what the drought didn’t kill, the grasshoppers ate. They harvested barely enough hay for the cattle but in 1936 they harvested their first grain crop. By late thirties, Lewis had purchased his first tractor and a threshing machine and threshed for his neighbors and he and Esther milked cows and sold the cream in Angus at Stroble’s cream station. In 1947, they donated forty acres for cropland for that year to the Melo Church and the seed flax and labor was also donated by the members of that church. Lewis drove the school bus for over twenty years during the 1950’s and 1960’s for the Warren School System. He is now retired and living on his farm which is being farmed by their daughter and son-in-law, Marlene and Mylo Carlson. Their other daughter, Betty (Mrs. Cameron Johnson), lives in Duluth, Minnesota.

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A. B. Brown Family

by Leona Hendrickson

Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Brown

Ara Broadwell Brown came from Jackson, Will County, Illinois, where he was born on May 5, 1881, to Elias A. and Elfretta (Mapps) Brown. He attended the University of Illinois at Champagne where he started the study of veterinary medicine. He moved to Minnesota due to severe asthma and found this climate brought him relief. He married Lurena Elvina Myers on January 18, 1905. She was the daughter of Albert Simon and Anna Louisa (Kurkamp) Myers, born May 28, 1884 in Will County, Illinois. They moved to the SW 1/4 of Section 28, Warrenton Township in March of 1908 under the sponsorship of W. A. Knapp who was a promoter of farm lands here with an office in Illinois. Later they purchased 120 acres, the east one-half of SE 1/4 of Section 29, McCrea Township on March 1, 1909, for $3,900 from W. A. Knapp and on April 5, 1915, sold it to George P. and Fanny P. Bernard for $4,800. In the summer of 1915 they moved to Warren where he managed the Duluth Cream Station for many years, traveled for two years for the Fairmont Creamery and later was manager of Peterson-Biddick Company. Ara died on November 13, 1951, and Lurena on November 7, 1969. To this union were born: Loretta of Warren, Minnesota; Pearl Elvina (Mrs. Bernard Safranski) of Portland, Oregon; Ethel Mae (Mrs. Bill Connole) of Portland, Oregon; Elias of Mokena, Illinois; and Leona Mary (Mrs. Orvin Hendrickson) of Warren, Minnesota.
Elmer H. Brown Family

Elmer H. Brown was born in Clarinda, Iowa on November 1890, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Brown who had immigrated to this country from Sweden and settled first near Essex, Iowa, and later in Shenandoah, Iowa. He was married in 1911 to Elsie Fulton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Christ Fulton of Clarinda, Iowa, who formerly resided in the state of Pennsylvania. In the spring of 1917, they moved to McCrea township and lived where the Jerry Kruger family is now living. In 1929, they moved into Warren where Mr. Brown was a salesman for Terrebonne cheese, Schultz honey and Surge Milking Machines. To this union were born: Doris (Mrs. Leslie Truhn) of Warren, Minnesota; Kenneth (deceased); Phyllis (Mrs. Marvin Willey) of Bloomington, Minnesota; and Lillian (Mrs. Lester Lybeck) of Alexandria, Minnesota. Mr. Brown is living in Alexandria, Minnesota. Mrs. Brown died in August, 1961.

George E. Copp Family

by Donna Copp Drews

George Enos Copp was born on April 3, 1872 in South Wales, England to Martha and Richard Copp. After his mother died, his father took the family and emigrated to the United States and settled in Braidwood, Illinois. At age 13 George went to work in the coal mines as his father was doing and his ancestors in S. Wales had done. George married Mary Ann Melbourn, daughter of Singleton and Annie Melbourn, in Braidwood on July 27, 1892. George left the mines and started farming in Lorenzo, Illinois and later in Wilmington, Illinois. In the years that followed there were four children born. They were Ida, Stella, William and George, Jr.

In March 1911 the family moved to Minnesota and settled on a farm 1 1/4 miles west of Warren. George and Mary moved into Warren in 1923 and William took over the farm. All the Copp children settled in Warren. Ida married Nels M. Engen and their children were Marguerite, Maxine, Rae and Richard. Stella married George E. Willey. Their children were Genevieve, Donald, Edwin, June, Marvin and LeRoy. William married Mae Blawd and their son was Harold. George married Eileen Grange and their children were Kenneth and Donna. All the grandchildren grew up in Warren and all graduated from Warren High School . . . in 1938 there were 4 cousins in the graduating class.

George E. Copp died in 1941 and his wife, Mary Ann, died in 1955. All members of the second generation of the family are now deceased except daughter-in-law, Mrs. George (Eileen) Copp, who is a resident of the Good Samaritan Center in Warren. Only one member of the third generation still lives in Warren. She is Donna Copp, now Mrs. H. R. Drews. Of the 4th generation, there are still two members in Warren. They are Mrs. James Frederick (Mynette Copp) and John Copp, children of Harold & Ione Copp. Of the 5th generation there are six grandchildren of Harold & Ione Copp. The Copp farm 1 1/4 miles west of Warren continues to be kept in the family as it is now operated by John Copp, great-grandson of George & Mary Copp.

William Copp Family

William Copp was born in Braidwood, Illinois on November 29, 1896, a son to George A. and Mary (Melbourn) Copp. He moved with his family from Joliet, Illinois, to a farm 1 1/2 miles west of Warren. In 1919, he married Mae Blawd, the daughter of John & Agnes Blawd, who was born in Warren on June 25, 1897. To this union was born one son, Harold. William Copp died on December 21, 1953 and Mae died on September 20, 1974.

Harold Copp Family

Harold Copp was born in Warren, Minnesota, on February 18, 1920, the only child of William and Mae (Blawd) Copp. He received his education in the Warren Schools and joined his father in farming operations. On June 12, 1942 he was married to Ione Oberg, the daughter of Walter & Minnie Oberg, who was born on December 24, 1921. To this union were born: William Harold of Warren, Minnesota (deceased), Mynette (Mrs. James Frederick) of Warren, Minnesota; Mary (Mrs. Daniel Skalsky) of Ada, Minnesota; and John of Warren, Minnesota. Harold died on June 29, 1966. His widow now resides in Grand Forks, North Dakota, where she is employed by Grand Forks Clinic.

William Harold Copp Family

William Harold Copp was born in Warren, Minnesota, on April 15, 1946, the first son of Harold and Ione (Oberg) Copp. He was educated in the Warren Schools and upon his father’s untimely death, he took over the operation of the Copp farm. He was married in 1965 to Sharon Edgar, the daughter of Lloyd & Pete Edgar, who was born on September 17, 1945. William met an untimely death through a tragic accident on August 20, 1971. His widow has subsequently married Ronald Abrahamson and resides in McCrea Township.

John Copp Family

John Copp was born in Warren, Minnesota, on September 13, 1955, the second son of Harold and Ione (Oberg) Copp. After the tragic death of his father and the completion of his education, he took over the farming on the Copp farm. He was married on March 4, 1978 to Debra Zutz, daughter of Dale & Betty Zutz of Radium, who was born on January 12, 1954. To this union a daughter, Jami, has been born, the fifth generation to live on the Copp farm.

William E. Crow Family

William E. Crow was born on March 9, 1904 at Minot, North Dakota, the son of Joseph A. and Alice Edith
(Mosher) Crow. He was married at Jamestown, North Dakota, on June 15, 1931, to Elsie V. Kyseth, daughter of Ole and Rena (Torgerson) Kyseth of Taylor, North Dakota. Elsie was born on January 27, 1902. They lived in Neillsville, Wisconsin, where their two sons were born and William worked for the W. G. Woodward Company. In July of 1938, they moved to Cavalier, North Dakota, and in August of 1948, they moved to Warren where William operated the dry goods store under the name of W. G. Woodward Company. In 1955, the Woodward Company stores were sold to C. R. Anthony Company and William continued working with them until he retired in January of 1969. They reside in the home they built at 520 East Ross. Son Robert and wife Carol (Oberg), formerly of Angus, Minnesota, now reside in Topeka, Kansas, where he is employed as construction engineer with the Federal Bureau of Transportation. Son William and wife Bonnie Ellen (McGregor), formerly of Crookston, Minnesota, now reside in Grand Forks, North Dakota, where he is the Budget Director for the University of North Dakota.

** John Davidson Family **

by Hazel Hurst

John Davidson was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota on September 30, 1878, to Christ and Rachel Davidson. His mother passed away when he was very young and he was placed in a foster home in Erskine, Minnesota, where Mr. and Mrs. C. Torgerson raised him until he left to go out to work. He was united in marriage to Emma C. Gerke at Erskine, Minnesota, in September of 1901. Emma was born in Barnesville, Minnesota in April of 1885. They moved to Holt, Minnesota, and to Thief River Falls in 1913. Mr. Davidson was a foreman on the Great Northern Railroad maintenance department and he worked for the Great Northern Railroad for forty years. In the spring of 1931, he was transferred to Warren, Minnesota, where he lived until he passed away on October 3, 1948, at the age of 71. Emma remained in Warren until her death at the age of 91 on July 25, 1976. To this union were born: Arthur (deceased) of Hibbing, Minnesota; Ernest (deceased) of Moline, Illinois; Jessie Howard (deceased) of Minneapolis, Minnesota; and Hazel (Mrs. Lester J. Hurst) of Warren.

** Gust Eckblad Family **

by Edith Eckblad

Gust Eckblad was born January 8, 1867, a son of Anders and Anna Anderson, at Elfsborgs Lan, Vastergotland, Sweden. He came to this country in 1887 and settled in Litchfield, Minnesota. On coming to the United States, he took the name of Eckblad, the name given his brother when he served in the Swedish army. On December 5, 1891, he was united in marriage to Hannah Quist. She was born September 11, 1862, in Sweden and they had known each other there. She had preceded him to Litchfield, Gust was engaged in the contracting business. In 1909 the family moved to Stephen where they lived until 1911 when he purchased the Warren Cement Works which he continued to operate until his retirement. To this union were born four children: Victor, Esther, Freda and Eddyth, all deceased. Hannah Eckblad died on August 24, 1934, and Gust died on April 27, 1965 at the age of 98 years.

** Andrew Eckstrom Family **

Andrew Nelson Eckstrom was born on August 21, 1877, in Malmo, Skone, Sweden, and came to St. Peter, Minnesota in 1892. He graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College in 1898 and taught in Henschley, Minnesota, until 1900. He graduated from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1904 and became a junior partner of Attorney Brown in Warren from June 1904 until he bought out Mr. Brown's law practice. He was elected County Attorney in 1912 and was re-elected many times and was holding that position at the time of his death. He was president of the Grygla State Bank for many years and on the board of First National Bank of Warren at the time of his death.

In 1908 he was married to Bertha Trost. She was born on March 15, 1886, in Nelson, Wisconsin, graduated in 1906 from the Moorhead State Teacher's College and taught school in Warren from September 1906 until her marriage. In 1919, having no children of their own, they adopted their daughter, Enid. Mr. Eckstrom died on August 22, 1929. Mrs. Eckstrom left Warren in 1937 after Enid had graduated from the Warren High School and went to Washington, D.C., where she attended school for that year. When she returned to Minnesota, she lived in Moorhead until she went to live with her daughter, Enid Hogg, in Hastings, Minnesota, in 1966. She died on September 30, 1977.

** Joseph Filipi Family **

by Estelle Filipi Holstrom

Joseph F. Filipi was born on June 20, 1883, in Silver Lake, Minnesota, a son of Joseph and Anna Filipi who immigrated to Minnesota in 1880 from Czechoslovakia
and settled in the Tabor, Minnesota area where they farmed and raised ten children to adulthood and lived to celebrate their 61st wedding anniversary.

Joseph F. Filipi was married to Albina Maruska, the daughter of Joseph and Stacia Maruska, on November 10, 1910. After farming until 1941, they moved to Warren, Minnesota. To this union were born three children: Estelle (Mrs. Carl H. Holmstrom) of Warren, Minnesota; Jesse of Phoenix, Arizona; and Angela (Mrs. Alfred Pasbrig) of Pasadena, California.

Joseph F. Filipi died in October of 1964 and Albina in March of 1974.

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Franks - Sandelin Families
by Dorine Sandelin Franks

Six boys and six girls were born to Andrew Jackson Franks and Mahala (Waltz) Franks in Indiana. Five of these boys came to Minnesota to farm and make their home, namely Charles, Levi, John, Perry and Mitchel. Charlie had settled in Indiana but came to Minnesota after losing his wife and baby in childbirth. So he was the first to come in 1912 after having purchased land from a man named Cook.

In 1913 he returned to Indiana just long enough to wed Mary Malia. He brought his bride to Warren, and they spent the rest of their lives here, with the exception of their retirement years that were spent in Fargo, N.D. They raised 2 children — Agnes (Mrs. El Jamieson) and William, both of whom live in Moorhead, Minnesota.

Arriving shortly after were brothers John, Perry and Mitchel; and some years later, Levi. The one remaining brother, Harvey, continued to live in Indiana as did the 3 sisters who reached adulthood: Stella (Franks) Baugh, Goldie (Franks) Podell and Arzella (Franks) Heims.

In 1922 Charlie, John and Mitchel were building roads, one of them being the road north of Alvarado. This was all done with horse power—one man driving the horses, another man guiding the scraper or scoop.

The brothers farmed the Pembina farm east of Warren—it included a large house, and bunkhouses for the men, several large barns and a good flowing well. Horses were used extensively, but the brothers also were the proud owners of a Rumley tractor. Also, in 1924 or 1925 they bought a Holt combine—one of the first in Minnesota.

Charlie also built the big red barn that stood for many years at the east edge of town, and housed a prize herd of Hereford cattle that were shown at several fairs.

They also farmed the Spaulding farm for a number of years. In 1933, Mitchel and Perry bought a farm 3 miles southwest of Warren in Farley Township; a few years later some adjoining land in Boxville Township that they bought from Bert Knapp.


Mitchel married Darine Sandelin in 1936. She and her sister, Vivian were born at Donaldson, Minn. in 1917 and 1912, respectively, to Eric and Hilda (Byquist) Sandelin. After Eric’s desertion in 1923, Hilda was forced to be the breadwinner. She worked in several households—a couple summers she cooked for Enebak’s road building crew, and in 1929 started cooking at the Franks farm—a job she had for 7 years. She also did laundry work at the Hotel Warren for many years while Joe Herbranson owned it. Vivian did housework, spent 3 years as a waitress at “Unk” Bakke’s restaurant, and 24 years as a clerk at the Warren Pharmacy.

Mitchel and Darine resided 40 years on their farm in Section 10. They had 5 children: Bonnie (Mrs. Eldor Orquist) of Thief River Falls, Minnesota; Marilyn Kasprowicz of Warren, Minnesota; Rovella (Mrs. John Weiland) of Euclid, Minnesota; Michael and Robert of Warren, Minnesota.


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John Richard Emanuel Franzen Family
by Mrs. Obed Engen

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Franzen and grandchildren: Ruth, Naomi, David and Louis.

John Richard Emanuel (Fransson) Franzen was born on March 24, 1887, in Savjo, Smoland, Sweden, the third child of Alfred and Emma Franzen, farmers in that area. In March of 1907 he left Sweden for America where he traveled to Chicago where his elder sister, Hilma, and her husband, William Dorhety, lived. For awhile he worked as a bricklayer apprentice. He accepted an invitation from his elder brother, Gustave Franzen, to come to Texas and farm with him in Collegeport and he did so for two years. Then he decided to go to Iowa where he had two more brothers, Carl and Oscar, as well as cousins engaged in farming. It was during this time that the brothers all decided to change their last name from Fransson to Franzen. In 1912, he returned to Sweden to visit his parents and a brother and a sister, Mimmie. Upon his return to Iowa, he met and later married Ruth Victoria Anderson in 1918 in Shenandoah, Iowa. Ruth was born in Chicago, Illinois, on December 3, 1891, the third child of Anton and Hellen Anderson both of whom had come from Sweden. In 1920 tempted by the possibilities of good fertile land in the Red River Valley, they packed up and arrived in Warren on March 1, 1920. They purchased a farm from Garfield Nicholls three miles north of Warren
where he planted 500 evergreens and many hundred other trees and which he referred to as his "monument." Drought and hard times forced them in 1927 to give back that farm to Garfield Nichols and he rented a farm 3 1/2 miles south of March Elevators which they later bought. John Richard Franzen died in February of 1966 but his widow continues to live in the home they built at 652 North Central Avenue in Warren with her sister, Ethel Anderson, who retired here from Chicago. Though the farm was sold to Earl McGregor, their one daughter, Helen (Mrs. Obed Engen) and her husband still own and live in the buildings.

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**Walter Goplin Family**
*by Eleanore Anderson Goplin*

Walter Goplin was the son of Sam and Laura Goplin, early pioneers of Marsh Grove Township, and he resided there until 1920 when he moved to Warren where he was employed by the W. F. Powell Company and also at the Ford Motor Company of Chicago, Illinois. In 1933 he was married to Eleanore Anderson, the daughter of the Peter Andersons of Warren. Previous to their marriage, she was a rural school teacher for five years. In 1934, Walter became custodian at the Warren High School and remained there until his retirement due to poor health in 1960. In 1958, Eleanore began employment at the Register of Deeds office for ten years and later in the Auditors Office at the Marshall County Court House until she retired in 1977. Walter died in 1969. Eleanore continues to reside in Warren. To this union were born three children: Norita (Mrs. Lyle Beaudry) of Argyle, Minnesota; Corrine (Mrs. Don Slaughter) of Bloomfield, Iowa; and Howard of Owatonna, Minnesota.

* * *

**William O. Gordon Family**

William O. Gordon was born on April 12, 1891, at Pelican Rapids, Minnesota, to Peter and Nette Gordon. He was married on January 16, 1915, to Mabel A. Peterson who was born on November 27, 1894, at Alexandria, Minnesota, to John E. and Selma (Shugren) Peterson. They made their homes in Bemidji, Shevlin, Warren and Greenbush, Minnesota, while William Gordon worked for the Great Northern Railroad as a depot operator. They moved to Warren in 1930 and they departed in 1934 for a new assignment. While here they entered into community and church affairs and were members of Warren's singing organizations. Later they moved to Cambridge, Minnesota, where Mr. Gordon died on January 8, 1977, and Mrs. Gordon died on January 11, 1980, eight years from the date of Mr. Gordon's funeral and she was buried on what would have been their 65th wedding anniversary. Children born to this union were: Eileen (Mrs. Charles Williams) of Winter Park, Florida; Kathleen (Kay Franke) of Cambridge, Minnesota; Robert of Willmar, Minnesota; and Patricia (Mrs. Melvin Barlow) of Winnemucca, Nevada.

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**Robert A. Graham Family**
*by Gwen Graham*

Robert Graham was born in Mandan, North Dakota on December 3, 1917 and was married to Gwendolyn Sorum on September 4, 1939. Gwendolyn was born in Hillsboro, North Dakota on September 17, 1920. Both received their primary and secondary education in Hillsboro and attended the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks.

In February 1940 Robert graduated from UND and went to work for Nodak Rural Electric Cooperative at Hillsboro until September of that year when he became principal of the high school in Galesburg, North Dakota, a position he held until April 1941 when he returned to work for Nodak in Grand Forks.

On March 12, 1945 Robert was appointed manager of P.K.M. Electric Cooperative, a position which he still holds. The family moved to Warren in July 1946, having purchased the former home of Walter "Shorty" Holbrook and still resides at 515 East Ross.

He has long been active in community affairs, and was the recipient of the Warren Civic Leader Awards for 1965 and 1971.


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**Walter H. Grange Family**
*by Donna Copp Drews*

Walter H. Grange was born February 19, 1868 in Orland, Illinois and his bride, Alvena Meyers, was born on March 17, 1865 in Lemont, Illinois. They were married December 5, 1888 and settled down to farming in Illinois. They had a family of six children: Edna, Pearl, Leslie, Marvel, Eileen and Allan.

In 1910 the family moved to Minnesota and lived in Warren until their new home was built on a farm 2 1/2 miles east of town, along the wooded Snake River in McCrea Township. Eileen and Allan attended Burnside School where their older sister, Edna, taught. The older Grange girls married and moved from Minnesota. Edna married Lloyd Kettering; Pearl married John Cleveland and Marvel married Paul Opsahl. All three couples settled in an area south of Aberdeen, South Dakota. Leslie Grange never married. He was an active businessman in Warren as well as County Commissioner until his sudden death in 1962. Eileen Grange married George Copp, Jr. and they made Warren their permanent home. Eileen is now a resident at the Good Samaritan Center in Warren. Allan Grange married Irene Olson of Argyle and they, too, have made Warren their permanent home.

Of the twelve Grange grandchildren, only three grew up in Warren. Kenneth Copp left Warren in 1948 and is living in Middlebury, Indiana. Donna Copp (now Mrs. H. R. Drews) continues to live in Warren. William Grange moved from Warren after college graduation and now lives in Brainerd, Minnesota. One other grandchild of the Granges now lives in Warren. She is Gladys Horning.
William Head Family

William F. Head and Mae Jean Head with their five children left their home in Pauline, Iowa, on June 16, 1901, where they were engaged in farming and made the trip by covered wagon to the small town of Ada where, because of floods and muddy roads, the rest of the trip was made by train by which means they arrived in Warren on July 16, 1901. After being in Warren a short time, Mr.

Dr. Chester A. Gunnarson Family

Chester A. Gunnarson was born in Hallock, Minnesota, in 1891 to Gunnar and Sophie Gunnarson, pioneer immigrants from Sweden. After graduating from Northwestern University in 1917 from their Dental School, he joined the dental practice of Dr. F. C. Bakke. He enlisted in the Dental Corps in World War I and served in France. In 1926 he purchased the dental practice of Dr. E. J. Bren where he continued serving a large area until his retirement in the 1960's. In 1919 he was married to Ethel Yetter of Hallock, Minnesota. She died in 1925. Their only daughter, Miriam, now lives in Minneapolis where she works at the Public Library. In 1927 he was married to Minnie McGrath who had come to Warren as a junior high school teacher in 1922. Both have been involved in community endeavors and been honored for it. Dr. Gunnarson was elected to the Pierre Fauchard Academy. A lifetime hobby of tree planting is responsible for the trees in the cemetery in the 1920's, the Warren Golf Course in the 1960's as well as dozens and dozens of horse chestnut trees on the grounds of churches, parks and the lawns of his many friends. Dr. Gunnarson died in September of 1973. Mrs. Gunnarson continues to fill her time with community projects and after selling her home at 121 South McKinley (now the residence of the Oscar C. Erickson family) she now resides in the Valhalla Apartments at South 7th Street.

Orvin B. Hendrickson Family

Orvin Bennett Hendrickson was born in Esther Township of Polk County, December 9, 1917 to August Herman and Mathilda (Fengstad) Hendrickson. He attended Lakeside Country School District 25 in 1937. He attended the University of North Dakota as a pre-med student until June 1942 when he entered the U.S. Army. He served two years in Cold Bay, Aleutian Islands as a dental laboratory technician.

During furlough in the U.S. he married Leona Mary Brown on October 11, 1944 in Warren. She was born July 28, 1918 to Ara Broadwell and Lucerna Elvina (Myers) Brown. She graduated from the Warren High School in 1936 and worked as a dental technician for Doctor C. A. Gunnarson until 1943. Later she was a secretary in the Emergency Crop Loan Office and other Federal and County offices from 1943 to 1947.

Orvin went to Saipan in April of 1945 where he remained until the end of the war.

With a partner, Clifford O. Horken, opened the H & H Co. in Warren in March 1946. Orv and Leona purchased Mr. Horken’s share in the business in April of 1948 and since have been its sole owners.

As a public service they started the “Voice of Warren Broadcast” August 1, 1955 and continued it until August 1976. It was broadcast weekdays from their home and became an integral part of their life.

The four children are: Mary Jane (Mrs. Richard R. Emerson) of Fargo, North Dakota; Charles Bennett of St. Paul; Kay Ann (Mrs. Robert Root) of St. Paul, Minnesota; and Warren Bruce of Tempe, Arizona.
Walter Hillman Family

Walter R. Hillman was born April 18, 1924 in Warren, Minnesota, eldest son of Aaron Hillman and Elizabeth (Johnson) Hillman. He was one of twin sons but his twin died shortly after birth. He grew up on his father’s farm in Vega Township and in 1943 he entered the Marine Corps where he served in the Pacific area until his discharge in 1945. On returning home, he hauled gravel for a couple of years and then went into bricklaying, working for various contractors until starting his own construction company in 1962. In 1950 he built a home in Warren and his family moved off the farm and into town. On July 21, 1952, he was married to Eileen Sund of Goodrich, Minnesota. In 1966, they purchased the Hotel Warren which is managed by Mrs. Hillman. Their three children are: Kathy (Mrs. Dwight Peterson) of Warren; Debbie and Steven of Warren.

Dr. Carl H. Holmstrom Family

by Estelle Holmstrom

Carl H. Holmstrom was born October 14, 1903 at Brainerd, Minnesota, a son of Charles and Betsy (Pearson) Holmstrom, natives of Sweden. He received his medical degree from the University of Minnesota Medical School in 1930 and took his internship at St. Mary’s Hospital in Duluth, Minnesota, before coming to Warren in January 1931 to begin his practice. He was married in 1933 to Edna Hanson. She died in 1941. Dr. Holmstrom was married to Estelle Filipi in 1944. She was born on February 17, 1913 in Angus, Minnesota, the daughter of Joseph and Albina (Maruska) Filipi. Their children are: Marcia (Mrs. James Neuenfeldt) of Minneapolis, Minnesota; John of Bemidji, Minnesota; and Robert of Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

Besides his medical practice, Dr. Holmstrom participated in many civic activities and was a member of the City Council for eight years during which time the first streets in Warren were paved. He was a member of the Board of Education of the Warren School District for 16 years. While on the Board of Education, the first section of the new high school was constructed. He spearheaded the fund campaign for the construction of the new Warren Hospital in 1958. He was honored by the community as a “Builder of Warren” and by the University of Minnesota as a distinguished alumnus. He died on March 1, 1976.

Mrs. Holmstrom continues to live in their home at 506 East Johnson Avenue.

Gummelius Holmquist Family

Gummelius Holmquist was born on January 30, 1872, in Bleking, Sweden, to Per and Johanna Person who assumed the name of Holmquist when they came to the United States in the spring of 1885. His mother, Gummelius and three younger brothers joined his father, sister and older brother who had come the previous year and had settled in River Falls, Wisconsin. He spent the next three or four years with an uncle, Nels Holmquist, of Svea where he worked, attended school and was confirmed in the Svea Lutheran Church. In 1889, the family moved to Kittson County where he joined them working on the farm and teaching rural schools. He attended Hope Academy in Moorhead, the forerunner of Concordia College, and Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota, from where he was graduated in 1901. After graduation, he went to New London as principal, then to Pelican Rapids in 1906. In 1912 he became superintendent at Long Prairie where he served until he assumed charge of the Warren Schools in 1918. He headed the Warren system giving the school statewide recognition for its standing until his retirement in 1934 when his deafness, he felt, kept him from doing an adequate job. He continued to make his home in Warren until 1947 when his wife, the former Anna Malinda Abrahamson, whom he married on August 26, 1903 at New London, died. After that time, he lived with his daughters. He died on May 3, 1960, was buried in Warren and is survived by Reuben, Goodwin, Harold, Marguerite (Mrs. McKibben) and Jean (Cole) and was preceded in death by his wife and two daughters.

Education in all its aspects was this great man’s work, hobby and complete interest. He expected, demanded and received the most from his pupils as well as his teachers. Stern, but fair in discipline, demanding but unequalled as a teacher, authoritarian but dedicated as an administrator, his driving intellectual curiosity was instilled in many of his students.

The Adolph Hove Family

Adolph E. Hove and Mary Inga Stark were both born near St. Thomas, North Dakota, and were married at Grafton, North Dakota on April 13, 1917. They came to Warren in 1926 with their two daughters and Adolph worked as a barber with Frank Stuemke for several years, and later purchased his own shop in the Berget building. Adolph and Mary moved to Bremerton, Washington in 1941 and later to Phoenix, Arizona. He continued to work after retirement until he developed lung cancer in 1973 and died in July of 1974. Mary was a resident in a nursing home in Tacoma, Washington in 1976. Children born to them were: Doris (Mrs. Harold Sabo) of Thief River Falls, Minnesota; Verna (Mrs. H. J. Hoogerwerf) of Boulder City, Nevada; Marlin of Phoenix, Arizona; Mary Elaine (Mrs. James Stanton) of Tacoma, Washington; and Ralph of Tacoma, Washington.

Art Howard Family

Arthur Leslie Howard was born July 1, 1917 near Warren, the son of Thomas James Howard and Olga (Stone) Howard. He attended grade school in Boxville Township and high school in Warren.

He married Joyce Virginia Golden, daughter of Harold N. Golden and Mabel (Johnson) Golden October 30, 1943 and they have farmed near Warren since. They lived until 1958 on the home farm, 2 miles west and 1½ miles north of Warren and then built a home in Boxville Township, 3 miles west and ½ mile south on the former George Cheney farm where they still reside.
While farming was his main vocation, other business ventures engaged in were custom harvesting, farm equipment sales and a Seed Conditioning Plant.

The Howards have four children: Robert James of Warren; Paul William of Moorhead; Kathleen Mae (Mrs. Ron Peters) of Phoenix, Arizona; and Leslie Gordon, Warren, Minnesota.

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Harry C. Howard Family

Harry C. Howard was born on June 13, 1921 at Warren, Minnesota, the younger son of Thomas and Olga Howard. He attended Boxville country school through the fourth grade and then started going to school in Warren graduating in 1939. He attended two years at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, and then enlisted in the Naval Air Corp and was in World War II from June 1942 through March of 1946. He took training as a torpedo and dive bomber pilot and took his qualification cruise on the U.S.S. Solomon and was assigned to the carrier Franklin D. Roosevelt but the atom bomb was dropped before he departed and he was released from service on March 6, 1946.

Harry was married on March 15, 1943 at Slayton, Minnesota to Muriel Furan, daughter of Martin and Jennie (Sagmoen) Furan, who was born on September 1, 1921. To this union were born: Thomas Clayton; Pamela Jo (Mrs. Donald Slusar); Stephanie Anne; Timothy James; and Anthony Wade.

Since 1946, Harry farmed with his brother, Arthur, had an implement and truck dealership and a custom combining operation for 25 years. They then started farming on their own and Harry’s two youngest sons, Tim and Tony, farm with him about 5,000 acres, half owned and half leased.

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Tom Howard Family

Thomas James Howard was born October 6, 1878 at Arnprior, Ontario, Canada, the son of Robert Gorman Howard and Catherine (McLauchlan) Howard. When he was 1½ years old, his parents moved to Dakota Territory and homesteaded west of the present site of Oslo.

As a young man he was the grain buyer for early elevators at Poland, North Dakota and then Bigwoods Landing, which was about 7 miles north of Oslo on the east bank of the Red River. The grain from this elevator was loaded on barges and pulled by steamboat up the river.

Tom married Olga Mathilda Stone, daughter of Hans Stone and Caroline (Graff) Stone, August 9, 1913 and they moved to a farm 2 miles west and 1½ miles north of Warren, where they farmed until 1943 when he retired and moved to Warren. To this union were born: Ruby (Mrs. John Scheie), Arthur and Harry, all of Warren.

Mr. Howard passed away January 1956 and Mrs. Howard is still living with her daughter (Ruby Scheie) at 613 E. Johnson Ave. in Warren. She celebrated her 92nd birthday, December 5, 1979.

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Lester J. Hurst Family

by Hazel Hurst

Lester J. Hurst was born in Motley, Minnesota, on September 19, 1904, to Joseph and Lillian (Wolf) Hurst. He was married to Hazel Davidson on September 1, 1934, and was employed for many years in the Warren Post Office. He died on January 1, 1976. Mrs. Hurst continues to live in their home at 723 North Main, Warren, Minnesota. To this union were born Carol (Mrs. Jerry Anfinson) of Austin, Minnesota, and Stuart Hurst of Warren, Minnesota.

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Elmer Johnson Family

Elmer Johnson was the third child born to Levi and Ellen Johnson on May 31, 1917 in Foldahl Township. He attended country schools in District No. 56 and No 106 until his father, Levi, became Marshall County Auditor in 1931 at which time his family moved to Warren and Elmer then attended Warren Public Schools. At the age of 14, he took over the responsibility of farming some of his father’s land. At 16, he was approached to help move a building from the Old Mill when it was sold to the State as a park. The building was relocated at the Larson Brothers Farm in the vicinity of the present State Park. This became a challenge to Elmer and he acquired and designed equipment to move other buildings. This he did until he was called to the Armed Forces in 1940. After training at Ft. Warren, Wyoming, he was sent to England where he became a member of the 128th Evacuation Hospital. On June 6, 1944, Elmer and that hospital were transferred to France and for the next thirteen months they followed the military action into Belgium and Germany. In July he was discharged with the Bronze Star for Meritorious Service. In December of 1946, Joan Fryer, whom he had met in Gloucestershire, England, arrived in Warren and they were married. Elmer continued the house moving and contracting operation until 1961 when a serious accident to his leg compelled him to leave the business and sell his equipment. He went to work for Hall Equipment Co. of Minneapolis and is now associated with the E. W. Wylie firm. In Warren, they built their home on North Second Street at 913 (now occupied by the Dennis VanSickle family) and at present they are living at 2711 East Gate Drive, Fargo, North Dakota. Three children born to them are Joy (Mrs. Richard Lavik) of Wallalla, North Dakota; Robin of Alvarado, Minnesota; and Beth Johnson of Hopkins, Minnesota.

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Harry M. Johnson Family

by Eileen Johnson

Harry Johnson was born in Dundee, Minnesota in 1896, the son of Haakon and Betsy Johnson. He and his parents moved to Twin Valley where he attended school. He and his brother, Arthur, operated the Northland Store north of East Grand Forks, Minnesota, for some time. In 1923, he was married to Lillian Erickson of Badger, Min-
nesota. She was one of fourteen children born to Andrew and Mathilda Erickson, both immigrants from Sweden, and Lillian was born in 1900. After their marriage, they lived in Minneapolis, Montana and East Grand Forks. They operated a general store in Oslo, Minnesota, for some time. In 1935, they moved to Spaulding Farm at Warren and in 1937 he purchased the farm in Boxville Township which his son now owns. They were the parents of five children: Harriet (Mrs. Dean Brenner) of Herman, Minnesota; Fern (Mrs. Howard Davidson) of Portland, Oregon; Harvey of Warren; Betty Harris of Minneapolis, Minnesota; and David Lee (deceased).

* * *

Wilfred Johnson Family

by Harriet Johnson

Wilfred and Harriet Johnson came to Warren in the fall of 1943 as classroom teachers and for Wilfred, instrumental music in addition. Through the next 31 years he helped the music department develop from an extracurricular activity to a curricular status.

Wilfred, youngest of seven children, was born on a farm near Osnabrock, North Dakota, to Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Johnson, pioneers in that area. Wilfred graduated from Minot State in 1936 and taught school and band for a total of seven years in three North Dakota towns before coming to Warren. He received his Masters degree from UND, Grand Forks, North Dakota in 1959.

Harriet Johnson was the oldest of three children born to Mr. and Mrs. John Borgen on a farm near Regent, North Dakota. Her parents were homesteaders in Hettinger County. She graduated from Jamestown College in 1937 and later took library science at UND. She taught school in two North Dakota towns before coming to Warren.

Wilfred and Harriet were married on June 1, 1941. They have four children: Bruce and Bradley born in 1949, Diane (Mrs. Myron Danielson) born in 1952 and Denise born in 1956.

Wilfred Johnson retired in 1974 after a total of 38 years in education. Harried retired in 1979 with almost 25 years as teacher and/or librarian. They continue to reside in Warren at 504 East Ross.

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Franklin Pierce Kays Family

Franklin Pierce Kays was born on May 6, 1871, and was married on September 18, 1895 to Minnie May Bosley in Hennepin, Illinois. She was born on March 17, 1872. They came to Warren from McNabb, Illinois on March 12, 1912 with eight of their nine children after buying a farm from Bert Knapp three miles south of Warren and one mile west of the Roan Elevator in Farley Township, Polk County. They farmed there until 1935 when they moved to Warren and lived in their home on 409 South McKinley until Mrs. Kays passed away on February 20, 1948. Mr. Kays died on January 3, 1968. Their children are: Marshall (deceased) of Thief River Falls, Minnesota; Carl (deceased) of Sun City, Arizona; Mable (Mrs. Casper Weber) of Lostant, Illinois; Norval (deceased) of Port Arthur, Ontario; Helen (Mrs. Norman Skurda) (deceased) of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Mary (Mrs. Leonard Godel) of Fergus Falls, Minnesota; Dorothy (Mrs. Henriry Girard) of St. Louis Park, Minnesota; Lois (Mrs. Alfred Lund) of Warren, Minnesota; and Maynard of Sun City, Arizona. The family picture was taken on the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Frank and Minnie Kays on September 18, 1945.

* * *

Phil H. Kotts Family

Phil Kotts was born on July 10, 1910 at Hope, North Dakota, son of Garrett William and Julia (Curry) Kotts. He attended school at Hope, North Dakota, North Dakota State University and came to Warren in March of 1940 to begin work at the Warren Pharmacy. On August 24 of that year he was married to Tressa C. Arndt of Foxholm, North Dakota, the daughter of August and Elizabeth (Eklund) Arndt. Phil has busied himself with civic affairs and served on the City Council. In 1978 he was honored for twenty years of service on the Volunteer Warren Fire Department. And he has received a citation and a life membership in the Minnesota Pharmaceutical Association for thirty-five years of continuous membership in the organization. Mrs. Kotts received the first Outstanding Woman of Warren Award in 1977. Phil retired in April of 1979. They reside at 106 South Division Street. Their three children are: Donald Arndt Kotts now residing in Poulsbo, Washington; Stephen Howard Kotts of Steamboat Springs, Colorado; and Nancy Elizabeth (Mrs. Robert Lucas) of Poulsbo, Washington.

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The Kenneth P. Kroll Family

Kenneth and Mildred Kroll came to Warren in 1948 when they purchased the Donald Whitehead Drug Store at 118 E. Johnson Ave., formerly the Ed Quistgard store.

Kenneth was born in Crookston, Minnesota, the son of Carl J. Kroll, who was born in Germany and came to Minnesota as a child with his mother, and Josephine (McLoughlin) Kroll, who was the daughter of Judge and Johanna McLoughlin of Grand Forks, North Dakota. The family moved to Red Lake Falls, Minnesota where Kenneth attended school, graduating from high school there. He attended NDSU, graduating with a degree in pharmacy. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Kenneth and Mildred were married April 14, 1942 in Fargo, North Dakota. Her parents were William G. John-
son, who was born in rural Cass County, North Dakota of Danish parents, and Fannie (Henderson) Johnson, who was born in Illinois. Her forefathers came to this country from England in 1722. Mildred was born in St. Paul, Minnesota, where the family lived a short time. She attended Fargo schools, graduating from Central High School after which she attended Dakota Business College.

There are three Kroll children, all graduated from Warren High School: Richard of Eagan, Minnesota; Kathryn (Mrs. Jeff Dale) of Minneapolis, Minnesota; and Janelle (Mrs. Steven Schoenbauer) of Duluth, Minnesota.

In 1970, Kenneth sold the Kroll Drug Store to Phil Kotts after the fire that destroyed his business. The Krolls still make their home at 733 East Fletcher Avenue in the home that they built in 1961. Kenneth continues to practice pharmacy in Crookston and Thief River Falls.

** Peter Kvikstad Family **

by Ruth Kvikstad Hanson

Peter Kvikstad was born on May 17, 1874 at Hundra, Sondre Fron, Gudbrandsdal, Norway, the son of Engebret and Kari Kvikstad. He emigrated from Norway in 1894 and came to Black River Falls, Wisconsin, and then went on to Crookston, Minnesota, where he attended Sathre's Business College. In 1899, he moved to Argyle, Minnesota, and secured the position of bookkeeper at the Olson & Holen Mercantile Store. In 1902 he was married to Emma Windahl. Emma had been born on February 16, 1884, in Grant County, Minnesota, and had come to Marsh Grove Township with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Windahl, in 1901. In 1930, Peter was elected County Treasurer, an office he held until he passed away on December 27, 1952. Emma died on August 6, 1966. To this union were born four children: Adele (Mrs. John Kurowski) (deceased); Elmer of Medical Lake, Washington; Victor of Thief River Falls, Minnesota; and Ruth (Mrs. Albert Hanson) of Warren, Minnesota.

** Charlie B. Laymon Family **

by Edna Olson Laymon

Charlie Bernard Laymon was the son of Freeman and Sophie (Lith) Laymon of Radium, Minnesota. His family came from Putnam, Illinois, in 1913 to Alma Township and later to Comstock Township, Marshall County. His father, Freeman, was born in Indiana and his grandparents in Ohio. His mother, Sophie Lith, was born at Essung, Skaraborg Lan, Vastergotland, Sweden, and in 1883 she emigrated from Sweden to Putnam, Illinois. On April 20, 1933, he was married to Edith Louise Knoll who was born on December 17, 1907, in the farm house in Comstock Township, Marshall County, the fifth child of Frank and Louise Knoll.

Edith's father, Frank Knoll, came from Rodnow, Pomerania, Germany, with his parents, Wilhelm and Johanna Knoll, in 1892 to Bellingham, Minnesota, and thence to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and then to Marshall County and Comstock Township in 1895. Her mother, Louise, immigrated in 1890 from Greifenburg, Pomerania, Germany, with her mother to Hillsboro and Mayville, Wisconsin. Louise and Frank were married on November 14, 1899 in Mayville, Wisconsin and then came to Comstock Township to farm.

Edith graduated from eighth grade in Radium and much as she wanted to go on to high school in Warren, there was no school bus transportation at that time or for a long time afterward and it was some expense to board a child in town so she could not go. Her father, like many at that time, did not think it important for a girl to have any more academic education than eighth grade. Her two younger sisters were to attend high school partly with the influence and help of their older sister. At the age of 13, she went to work as a domestic. From 1921 until her marriage in 1933, she worked in various homes in Warren of which the last 5 1/2 years were spent with the Ralph Taraseth family.

Charlie and Edith are now retired but continue to live on their farm twelve miles northeast of Warren which they purchased in 1944. They have two sons: Howard Arnold of Bloomington, Minnesota, and Donald Charles of Grand Forks, North Dakota. An infant daughter, Dorothy Edith, was born and died in 1939 from pneumonia as penicillin was new and at that time was only given to adults.

** Donovan Loeslie Family **

Donovan Charles Loeslie was born on October 12, 1938 in Warren, Minnesota, the eldest son of Herbert Carl and Delphi Ann (Sloman) Loeslie. He attended school at the rural Dahlquist school, Alamo, Texas; Washington Elementary and he graduated from the Warren High School in 1956. Donovan began work as an agent for Amoco Oil Company on November 1, 1963. On April 12, 1976, he purchased the Farm & Home Oil Company from Amoco. He also owned and operated “Mother's Drive-In Restaurant” for 2 1/2 years. On December 2, 1967, he married Glorianne Mae, the daughter of William and Frida (Tagetz) Alms, who was born in Denhoff, North Dakota on May 31, 1934. They farm, are active in church and civic affairs and he was elected the Econometric National Chairman for the National Association of Wheat Growers in 1980. They are the parents of six children: Lynn Renae (Mrs. Roger Dauner) of Ada, Minnesota; Dale Gerald; Drue Ann; Kipp Scot; Doni Doreen; and Malinda Mae (deceased). They reside on their farm 5 1/2 miles northeast of Warren.

** Herbert Loeslie Family **

by Delphy Sloan Loeslie

Herbert Carl Loeslie was born on November 28, 1912, to Charles and Louisa Loeslie at Radium, Minnesota, and attended school there. Due to his father's ill health, he began doing a man's work at an early age, hauling bundles at thirteen. At fifteen, he began "running the rig," a John Deere Model "D" with a 26" Wood Brothers threshing machine. The crew consisted of about six bundle haulers and two grain haulers. Later he had charge of the threshing ring among the Radium farmers with a 28" Mc-
Cormick Deering thresher powered by a 1428 Rumley tractor. This accommodated eight teams. In addition to field work, the care of livestock, etc., there was wood to be cut, hauled home, sawed and split for home, the Radium store and for sale. Ice was cut in large blocks from the Snake River by the Rutz farm, hauled to the store and packed in sawdust for summer refrigeration. Hay was cut, raked, pushed to the stacker with a sweep rake and one man leveled the stack. Grain was cut and tied with a binder and then shocked. Most of the work was accomplished by horse-power, man-power or woman-power. In 1938, Herbert married Delphy Ann Sloan, the daughter of Samuel and Susie Sloan of Viking Township. They purchased and moved to the southwest quarter and west half southeast quarter of Section 19 in Warrenton Township which the family still farms. In 1948, they moved to Warren and purchased a home on State Street. Later they purchased the present home on the northeast intersection of North First Street and Park Avenue, the former home of H. T. (Telephone) Swanson who built it in 1910. Six children were born to this union: Donovan Charles of rural Warren, Minnesota; Linda Louise (Mrs. Earl McGregor) of Radium, Minnesota (deceased); Michal Jean (Mrs. J. Wendell Sands) of Alvarado, Minnesota; Connie Ray (deceased); Ronald Herbert of rural Warren, Minnesota; and Glenn Scott of Angus, Minnesota. Herbert died on May 8, 1976.

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John William Mapps Family

by Helen Mapps Morkassel

John William Mapps was born on March 16, 1859, the son of Robert and Susanna (Shaffner) Mapps. He was first married to Maggie Grant on March 22, 1882. She was born on December 5, 1859, and she died on September 9, 1880 after having given birth to four sons: Arthur James of Joliet, Illinois (deceased); Charles Robert of New Jersey (deceased); Claude of Fort Wayne, Indiana; and Roy (deceased).

On August 17, 1893, John Mapps married Marion Reed who was born on February 19, 1866, and died on December 29, 1940. By this marriage, three daughters were born: Bessie Lorene (Mrs. Gil Lamberson) of Warren, Minnesota; Helen Eliza Susanna (Mrs. Andy Morkassel) of Warren, Minnesota; and Winnifred Reed (Mrs. Olaf Malm) of Mountain Home, Idaho (deceased).

Mr. and Mrs. Mapps and family moved here from Illinois in that influx of settlers brought here through the efforts of Bert Knapp and his Pioneer Land and Loan Company. Mr. Mapps purchased a farm in 1910 and moved here in March of 1912, living in rented buildings until a home could be built and a crop put in. The prairie land had never been broken up and when Mr. Mapps went out with his team and plow, he found a trail running across two quarters of the place he planned to plow and seed flax. He soon saw a fast-approaching team and wagon on this trail and stopped his work. The man jumped off his wagon, shook his fist in Mr. Mapps’ face, stamped his feet, yelled an incredible amount of words, leaped on his wagon and drove toward town. Mr. Mapps was sort of shook up as he hadn’t understood a word the man said … he was Swedish, of course. Later Mr. Mapps was told that Ole had been on his way to get a lawyer to stop that “foreigner” from plowing up his short-cut to town. Needless to say, Mr. Mapps and family, two and three generation Americans, were amused at being termed “foreigners.” That farm east of Warren is now being farmed by the Pinkertons. Mr. Mapps died on June 18, 1943.

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William and Mary Maruska Family

by Erwin Maruska

William Maruska was born in Alexandria, Minnesota on August 25, 1881 to Joseph and Staza Maruska. He was married to Mary Kuncel on October 30, 1906 at Tabor, Minnesota. Mary was born in Prague, Czechoslovakia on January 6, 1882 to John and Mary Kuncel. They farmed in the Tabor area until September 1938 when they moved to Warren where they lived until their deaths. William died on April 30, 1971, and Mary died on February 8, 1966. They had two children: Hedvicka (Vickie) who is deceased and Ervin of Warren. Two grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren are their descendants.

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Oscar Melgaard Family

by Oscar Melgaard

Oscar H. Melgaard was born on June 24, 1905 at Kennedy, Minnesota to Lauritz and Petra (Stakston) Melgaard. He was married on November 28, 1932 to Gunda M. Carlson, born on July 13, 1912 at Hallock, Minnesota, to Axel and Annie (Anderson) Carlson. They came to Warren in June of 1933 where he was employed by the Peoples State Bank of Warren until his retirement in 1973. Three children were born to them: Barbara Jean Lindenberg of Mankato, Minnesota; Gerald Melgaard of Thief River Falls, Minnesota; and Russell Melgaard of Luverne, Minnesota. They reside in their home at 503 North Montana Street which was the former home of August “Banker” Johnson of the former Warren National Bank.

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Daniel Myszkowski Family

Daniel Myszkowski was born June 1, 1929 in Lincoln Township, Section 29, to John and Hen Myszkowski. The family moved to Warren in September 1939. While attending school, Dan worked for Welfare Commodities; on rural farms; for Cliff “Lardy” Anderson’s Standard service station; for Tom Anderson, Cut Rate Grocery; and Prescott Larson; and the Howard Brothers Implement. He became associated with Boardson’s Food Emporium in 1949 and was general manager of the store in 1956 when Boardson’s moved across the street into the building that had been the People’s Trading Company and it became “Boardson’s Fairway.”

Daniel was united in marriage on November 12, 1956 to Henrietta Vasek of rural Tabor, Minnesota, the daughter of Frank and Bertha Vasek of Tabor. She was born on December 19, 1931, and at the time of her marriage she was employed at the State Bank of Warren. To
his union were born six children: Karen, Gregory, John, Joe, Renae and Peter. Daniel and Henrietta operate the "Elm Crest Motel" which they purchased from Roy and Lena Enquist and Dan also owns Danny's Place on Main Street.

**Ken Nelson Family**

Kenneth Sidney Nelson was born in Bagley, Minnesota, the son of Nels and Susanna (Olson) Nelson, and came to Warren from Grand Forks, North Dakota after military service with the U.S. Marine Corps as an officer. He bought out the Holbrook Insurance Agency. He had been married to Mildred Harriet Espeseth, daughter of Joseph and Florence (Jensen) Espeseth of Fostomed, Minnesota. After temporary housing elsewhere, the purchased the Dr. F. C. Bakke home on North Fourth Street where they continue to live. To this union were born: Steve of Warren, Minnesota, and associated with his father; Mary of Denver, Colorado; and John of Santa Barbara, California.

**Robert P. Nelson Family**

Robert P. Nelson was born in Warren, Minnesota, November 21, 1931. His parents were Edward E. and Judith Nelson. He attended the Warren Public Schools and graduated in 1949. After high school he attended Moorhead State College for one year. He served in the U.S. Army for two years from 1952 to 1954, with his service time spent in Fort Bliss, Texas and Andrews Air Force Base in Washington, D.C. Here he was assigned as a radar technician with an anti-aircraft gun battery.

After his discharge from the service, he returned to Warren to become associated with the Nelson Motor Company which was owned by his father Edward E. Nelson and his uncle, Clifford W. Nelson.

After his father’s death in 1961, he assumed the management duties of his father and continued in the business with his uncle. In 1965 he became manager when his uncle passed away.

Robert belongs to and has served on various community organizations including the Chamber of Commerce, American Legion, Lions, Warren Golf Club, and is a member of Our Saviors Lutheran Church. He is presently manager of Nelson Motor Company and Nelson Farms, family owned and operated businesses.

In September 1953 he was married to Dorothy Skoog (1931-1970) and they had three children born to them: Robert E. Nelson (Sept. 3, 1955), Richard P. Nelson (May 9, 1958), and Bruce A. Nelson (September 27, 1963).

In August, 1974 he was married to Carolyn (Carlson) Eklund of Watford City, North Dakota. Mrs. Nelson has three children: Sally A. Eklund Pestana (September 25, 1955), Julie K. Eklund Haugen (May 20, 1957), and Thomas M. Eklund (November 7, 1959).

**Simon Pedersen Olson Family**

Simon Pedersen Olson was born in Lancaster, Minnesota, the son of Simon and Emma (Johnson) Olson. He married Evelyn Corbett, daughter of George and Lillian (Welford) Corbett, who was born in Pembina, North Dakota. In World War II, Forrest was stationed in China-Burma-India Theatre of War. Upon his return, he attended the Moler Barber College in Fargo, North Dakota. He barbered first with an uncle in Grand Forks, North Dakota, before returning to Warren to barber with his father, Simon Olson, in his barber shop in the Berget Block on Main Street where Forrest continues to barber. After living on West Bridge Street, they purchased a home on 113 South McKinley where they continue to reside. Evelyn has worked for the Continental Telephone Company since 1965. They are the parents of Darryl of St. Paul, Minnesota; Kerry of Waukesha, Minnesota; and Patti (Mrs. Gerald Evin) of Anacortes, Washington.

**Ole P. Olson Family**

by Irene Olson Grange

Ole P. Olson came to this country as a young child from Norway. He was from a family of seven children, all of whom are deceased except Lizzie Hagleie who is 103 years old and resides at the Pioneer Memorial Home in Erskine, Minnesota. He spent all of his life as a barber in different towns in northwestern Minnesota including Warren. In 1912 he married Anna Marie Erickson who was born east of Argyle, the daughter of Pastor and Mrs. Erickson. At the time of their deaths, they were residing in Argyle, Minnesota. Ole died in 1950 and Anna in 1959 and both are buried in Argyle cemetery. To this union were born seven children: Irene (Mrs. Allan Grange) of Warren, Minnesota; Leona (Mrs. Raymond Bordenkircher) of Tigard, Oregon; Gordon of Grand Forks, North Dakota; Kenneth of Boulder, Colorado; Alvin (Mrs. Jack McGlynn) of Brush, Colorado; Ina Mae (Mrs. Leslie Gulleson) of Hermantown, Minnesota; and Floyd Emery who died in infancy.

**The Forrest Olson Family**

Forrest Olson was born in Lancaster, Minnesota, the son of Simon and Emma (Johnson) Olson. He married Evelyn Corbett, daughter of George and Lillian (Welford) Corbett, who was born in Pembina, North Dakota. In World War II, Forrest was stationed in China-Burma-India Theatre of War. Upon his return, he attended the Moler Barber College in Fargo, North Dakota. He barbered first with an uncle in Grand Forks, North Dakota, before returning to Warren to barber with his father, Simon Olson, in his barber shop in the Berget Block on Main Street where Forrest continues to barber. After living on West Bridge Street, they purchased a home on 113 South McKinley where they continue to reside. Evelyn has worked for the Continental Telephone Company since 1965. They are the parents of Darryl of St. Paul, Minnesota; Kerry of Waukesha, Minnesota; and Patti (Mrs. Gerald Evin) of Anacortes, Washington.

**Simon Pedersen Olson Family**

by Vona Dorr Carlson

Simon opened a barber shop in Warren, Minnesota in 1942 and continued in business until 1958. In 1958 when he operated a shop in Thief River Falls, the shop in Warren was operated by his son, Forrest.

Simon was born December 30, 1879 on Kilvik farm, which is almost on the Arctic Circle in Norway. It is located on the north side of the northern arm at the very end of Holandsfjord. It is in Meloy Commune, Nordland Fylke of northern Norway. He was baptized at his father's home and later registered at the Meloy Church of the Rodoy Parish. He was confirmed in Vor Frelsors (Our Saviors) Church in Onstad Township, Polk County, Minnesota, USA.

His father was John Olson Kilvik, son of Ole Pedersen and Lise Johnsdatter of Gronnas. His mother was Ane Pernille Carlsdatter, daughter of Carl Thomassen (son of Thomas Pedersen and Marith Andersdatter of Brevig) and Martha Johanna Elisabet Tideman Andreasdatter (daughter of Andreas Jensen and Ane Pernille Abelsdatter) of Kilvik.
In August of 1886 he arrived in Crookston, Minnesota with his parents and brothers, Konrad, Ole and Olav and sister, Lise. Others in the party were Johan and Regine Olson, Elling and Jacobie Olson, Bernt Abrahamson, and Pernille Lorntsdatter. Later many of these people settled in the countryside of Warren and started a church which they named Melo after their home place in Norway.

Simon grew up on a farm about eight miles north of Fertile, Minnesota, in Onstad Township. He helped on the farm, went to grade school and Concordia College in Moorhead, worked as a carpenter for a few years, and cut hair of the neighbors. Then in 1908 he decided to learn barbering from Torvald Haugen in Fosston, Minnesota. Later he taught his brothers, Ole and Olaf, the barbering trade.

In 1910 in Hallock he married Emma Johnson, daughter of Horace and Mae Johnson of Lancaster, Minnesota. He had a barber shop and lived in Lancaster, Minnesota for about four years.

Emma was born June 15, 1891 in Lancaster and died in the Erskine, Minnesota Pioneer Home, April 19, 1973.

Good health and energy were two characteristics of Simon and his relatives and ancestors. He was never in a hospital, except to give barbering services and when he died. He worked as a barber for 54 years until he died May 24, 1962.

Four children were born to this marriage: Forrest of Warren, Elaine and Duane, and a daughter who died in infancy.

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George H. Palmer Family

by Laura Palmer Johnson

George Herrick Palmer was born in Charles City, Iowa on November 29, 1868. He had 3 sisters. His mother died when he was very young and his father died in 1913. His parents are buried in Spencer, Iowa.

His wife, CoraBell Dean, was born in Spencer, Iowa on February 29, 1872. She was one of eleven children. Her father was in the Spanish-American War and also in the Mexican War. Her parents are buried in Spencer, Iowa.

They were united in marriage in Spencer, Iowa, October 30, 1892. In 1900, my parents, my grandfather Geo. Palmer, Sr., my uncle Chauncey Dean and his son Howard drove into Wisconsin in a covered wagon with the intention of homesteading and farming. Finding the land quite rolling and uneven for farming they returned to Spencer. In 1901, they moved their livestock and household goods by train and came to Warren, settling on a farm in McCrea Township. In 1904, they moved to the Green Mountain Stock Farm located four miles north of Warren and about 1/2 mile east of Luna (Warrenton Township) on a section of land owned by John R. Gier of Conrad, Iowa. Besides farming, they raised beef cattle, sheep and hogs. About 1944, my father, Geo. H. Palmer, bought a farm south of Warren and lived there until his death in April 26, 1948. Mother died June 11, 1941. There were four children: George A. (Lon) (deceased) of Warren, Minnesota; Laura (Mrs. Jalmer E. Peterson and later Mrs. Axel M. Johnson) of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Arthur (deceased) of Warren, Minnesota; and Ernest (deceased) of Hastings, Minnesota.

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Mr. and Mrs. George (Lon) Palmer Family

Lon was born in Spencer, Iowa, August 17, 1900. He came to Warren with his parents, Geo. H. and Cora Palmer in 1902. He married Minnie Yuergens, September 14, 1921. She was born October 27, 1900. Her parents are Edward and Stella (Strader) Yuergens. Lon and Minnie farmed around Warren until 1940. At that time they sold their farm 6 miles south of Warren and opened Palmer's Smokeshop—a lunchroom and cardroom—on the site where Marshall Co. Co-op Oil is now. He moved his Smokeshop across town into the building next to the Ken Nelson Agency. He sold it to C. A. Stymiest in 1945. In 1947 he opened Bunty's Cafe in partnership with his son-in-law, Bunty Engelstad. He sold to Bunty in 1948 and started as a car salesman at Nelson Motor Co. He held
that position until his death. Lon and Minnie were both very active in the Grace United Methodist Church of Warren. The Palmers are a five-generation family of the Grace United Methodist Church of Warren.

As a young man, Lon as an avid baseball player, filling the pitching position for the Warrenton baseball team. Five children were born to them: Lorene (Mrs. Wells "Bundy" Engelstad) of Warren, Minnesota; Robert Alonzo (killed in World War II); Lois (Mrs. Robert Swanson) of Viking, Minnesota; George Edward of San Jose, California; and Richard Dean of East Grand Forks, Minnesota. Lon died on February 21, 1973 and Minnie resides in Warren, Minnesota.

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John O. Pearson Family

by Marguerite Pearson

John O. Pearson is the son of John and Stena (Enrud) Pearson, who homesteaded in Thief Lake Township of Marshall County in 1900. He attended grade school in his home community, high school at the Northwest School of Agriculture at Crookston, Minnesota and Moorhead State College and the University of Minnesota. John was working for the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation in Burbank, California at the time of Pearl Harbor in 1941. During the next four years he was a soldier in World War II serving in the China-Burma-India Theatre War. After the war, he returned to school teaching and was elected Marshall County Superintendent of Schools in 1946. John was married in 1947 to Marguerite Lee, daughter of Sam C. and Regina Mae (Nelson) Lee of Newfolden, Minnesota. They have lived in Warren since then. John served as County Superintendent until 1972 (25 years). At that time the office was eliminated in Minnesota due to school district consolidation. He also worked as County Civil Defense Director for 15 years. He was appointed the first Executive Director of the Warren Housing Authority at Landmark Center in 1971 and retired on November 1, 1977. Marguerite has taught music for several years giving private piano lessons. They have three sons: Richard of Warren, Minnesota; Ronald of Tulsa, Oklahoma; and James of Detroit Lakes, Minnesota. They reside at 506 North Montana Street in Warren, Minnesota.

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Oscar A. Peterson Family

Oscar A. Peterson was born in Oslo, Norway, where he lived until he was eight years of age when he came to America with his parents living first in New Jersey and then later moving to the village of Viking where he grew up. When he was old enough, he began to work at the Spaulding Farm. On December 22, 1904, he was united in marriage to Elizabeth Hadler of Lake City who was a cook on that farm. In 1908 the Washington School was opened and he became custodian until his retirement after 43 years of service. In July of 1950, his wife passed away and in October of that year he too passed away and left to mourn their passing: Elsie Peterson of Drayton, North Dakota; Clarence Peterson of Bemidji, Minnesota; and Dorothy Olson of Warren, Minnesota.

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Dr. E. E. Pumula Family

Erven E. Pumula was born on January 23, 1914 in Duluth, Minnesota to John Oscar and Elina Pumula. He graduated from the Duluth Central High School in 1932, the Duluth Junior College and the University of Minnesota with a B.S. degree in 1938 and a M.D. degree in 1941. From February 1942 to February 1946 he served as a Flight Surgeon for the U.S. Army Air Force. He was married to Mildred Hendrickson and came to Warren in 1948 and with the exception of five years practice in Fargo, North Dakota and Crookston, Minnesota, he has been a doctor in Warren. Mildred died on October 1, 1972. To this union were born: William E. of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Julie Ovsak of Fargo, North Dakota; and Elina Peterson of Hazen, North Dakota. Dr. Pumula married Dorothy (Noel) Strunk in 1974 and they reside at 377 West Cross Avenue.

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Nick Plencner Family

Nick Plencner was born on March 29, 1924 in Warren, Minnesota to Michael and Mary (Kuznia) Plencner. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1945 to 1946 and was employed by the P. K. M. Electric Cooperative from 1947 to 1953. On November 4, 1947, he was married to Beverly Hennebry, the daughter of William Hennebry of Warren. In 1953 he operated the Red Owl Grocery Store in Warren until he sold the business in 1973. Since that time he has represented the Knights of Columbus Insurance Company. They reside in the new home recently built at 320 North 2nd Street on the site of the former Edward Hotel and are the parents of five children: Susan Johnson, Michael, Mona Johnson, Nikki Volker and Wayne.

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Ralph H. Plencner Family

Ralph H. Plencner was born on June 2, 1926 in Warren, Minnesota, the son of Michael John and Mary Ann (Kuznia) Plencner. Ralph grew up on the farm, attended rural schools and was in the Navy Sea Bees from 1944 to 1946. He was married on November 22, 1949 to Helen Marie Johnston, daughter of Melville and Margaret (De Mars) Johnston, who was born in Walhalla, North Dakota on March 17, 1930. Ralph has been employed by the city of Warren since 1953 as Superintendent of Utilities. They reside at 127 West Park and are the parents of six children: Carolyn of Fargo, North Dakota; Sharon (Mrs. Cal Neumann) of Thief River Falls, Minnesota; Mary of Fargo, North Dakota; Diane; Robert and Patricia.
Ed Quistgard Family

John Edward Quistgard and his wife, Florence (Cameron) Quistgard, moved to Warren from Grand Forks, North Dakota in 1908 and they rented a home at 239 West Park Avenue (now occupied by Mrs. Clarence B. Johnson). He opened his drug store which he named “The Warren Pharmacy” in what was the State Bank building block and his drug store was located where the Designer Shoppe is at 111 West Johnson Avenue. A little later, Mr. Quistgard purchased a house at the north end of Fourth Street for his family of two sons: Hunter and Cameron. One bedroom of the house had at sometime been papered with pages from the “Warren Register” and the births of the Cross twins, Bessee and Jessie, were listed in one edition. In this home, their daughter, Jean, and their son, Jack, were born and grew up. Later Mr. Quistgard sold the business to the Eckeren Brothers and it, in turn, was sold to Dr. Holmstrom and then to Phil Kotts and the present owner, Charles Steffen. Mr. Quistgard then purchased the drug store on the east side of town and operated it until his death in 1945 when it was sold to Kenneth Kroll. His place of business will be remembered by every student of those years for his famous 5¢ “Little Dick” — a scoop of vanilla ice cream in a coca cola glass with chocolate syrup over the top and a topping of peanuts. These were a “loss item” but he said, “Never mind, these kids are our future customers.” Mr. Quistgard was also noted and appreciated for his emphasis on cleanliness in his place of business. Both Mr. and Mrs. Quistgard have departed our midst as well as their son, Dr. Cameron Quistgard, of Kansas City, Missouri, but Hunter lives in California; Jean (Mrs. Harris Bakken) and her husband, with our grandchildren and twenty great-grandchildren.

Otto Henry Ranum Family

by Betty Lou Cleveland

Otto Henry Ranum was born in 1899 to Knute and Kari Ranum of New Solum Township. In 1923 he married Lorine O’Hara, daughter of Ed and Dora O’Hara of Thief River Falls, Minnesota. In 1927 Otto and family moved to Warren where Otto was employed by W. A. Knapp at the Pioneer Land & Loan Company as manager of the grain elevator. Later he was put in charge of the Pioneer Lumber Yard when it was built on the corner of Central Park Avenue and 1st Street North. In 1960 Otto purchased the lumber yard in partnership with Felix Bienek and changed the name to Ranum’s Lumber Yard. He was a member of the City Council for two terms. In 1962 he sold the Ranum’s Lumber Mart and retired to live in Thief River Falls, Minnesota. To this marriage two children were born: Betty Lou (Mrs. Orval Cleveland) of Poulsbo, Washington; and Chesley Patrick of Portland, Oregon.

Sanfrid Sandberg Family

Sanfrid Oscar Sandberg was born on September 7, 1890, at Piteo, Sweden near the Lapland border, to Mr. and Mrs. Eric Sandberg. Ione Jane Wolley was born on October 3, 1896 at Pequot, Minnesota, to William and Lillian (Hulbur) Wooley. They were married at Warren, Minnesota on June 19, 1916 and worked in Luverne, North Dakota, Edgeley, North Dakota and Cochrane, Wisconsin before returning to Warren where they resided and raised a family of six sons and two daughters. Sanfrid died in Warren on March 15, 1945, and Ione died in Los Gatos, California on April 1, 1979.

William Schaefer Family

William Henry Schaefer was born on January 1, 1917, northwest of Stephen in Donelley Township, to Julius August and Lydia (Obst) Schaefer. He attended grade school at Donelley Consolidated School, the Cook School, Warren High School and graduated from Central High School in Grand Forks, North Dakota. He worked in the lignite coal mines of western North Dakota; was a manager of a Safeway Store in Grenora, North Dakota; enlisted in the Coast Guard during World War II from 1941 to 1945, worked in the Cut-Rate Grocery Store of Prescott Larson in Warren, Minnesota; was a parts manager for the Warren Implement Company; became Post Master of the Warren Post Office in 1951 and retired from that position in 1978.

On September 10, 1949 he was married to Dorothy Wadsworth Sheldrew, the only daughter of Roy and Vera (Russell) Wadsworth who was born in Warren in 1921. They are the parents of Jerome of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Molly of Hastings, Minnesota, and they reside at 220 North Fourth Street in the home they built in 1951.

Sigvart Silnes Family

by Marlene Wittman Silnes

Sigvart Silnes, Sr., was born July 14, 1898 in Eide, Norway, the son of Torris and Gjertina (Folland) Silnes. The family emigrated to America in 1900 and settled in Halma, Minnesota. On August 1, 1933 Sigvart married Florence Edith Eklund who was born on August 1, 1907, the daughter of Irwin and Alma Sophie (Wixsten) Eklund of Hazelton Township. Sigvart and Florence moved to Warren in October of 1934 and he started an auto body shop across from the present Hartz Store on the corner of Johnson Avenue and 2nd Street. In 1938 he built a new shop, Silnes Motors, at the corner of Nelson Avenue and 2nd Street, which he owned and operated until 1966 when he retired. Sigvart has served on the Warren City Council and was Mayor of Warren from 1939-1950. One of his major projects was modernization of the municipal power plant which was completed in 1949 just prior to his resignation in January of 1950.

Sig and Florence are now active Senior Citizens still providing leadership and guidance in the Warren community. Children born of this union are Edith Florence (Mrs. John B. Soli) of Grand Forks, North Dakota and Sigvart Randolph Silnes, Jr. of rural Warren.
Thor Skavlem Family

Thor Skavlem was born in Veggli, Numedal, Norway in 1874. He came to the United States in 1903 settling first in Oslo, Minnesota and then came to Warren around 1908 and opened a watch repair and jewelry shop at 109 East Johnson Avenue. He left Warren in 1910 to go to Hoople, North Dakota, where he farmed with his brother, Halvor, then in 1913 he moved to Grand Forks, North Dakota, where he lived until his death. He worked for the Northern States Power Company for 35 years. In 1902 he was married to Gro Kjaerre in Norway. To this union were born five children: Mathila Schroder, Gladys Schimke, Ted Skavlem, Ingvald Skavlem, and Selmer Skavlem (deceased). Mrs. Skavlem died in 1930 and Mr. Skavlem in 1970.

Samuel Sloan Family

Samuel Eugene Sloan emigrated with his parents, John and Amanda Jane (Wayne) Sloan, from his birthplace at Waseca, Wisconsin on November 3, 1881, to first Iowa and then to Winnipeg, North Dakota. On November 1, 1905 at Jamestown, North Dakota, he was married to Susie Anna Drake, daughter of Clark and Rebecca (Steele) Drake and who was born on July 29, 1884, at Boscobel, Wisconsin. Her childhood experiences of responsibilities and her acquired knowledge of home medical remedies later earned her many a buggy trip answering calls for a nurse or midwife. Even in the 1930’s she went with Dr. A. E. Carlson of Warren on house calls and she was the first employee of the Good Samaritan Home. Their first child was born in a single-window sod house near Courtenay, North Dakota. Later they moved to a homestead near Robinson, North Dakota. In 1913 Samuel traded his homestead for land in Foldahl Township, Marshall County, Minnesota, where he operated a saw mill and farmed. They traveled by covered wagon to Foldahl, crossing the Red River on a ferry at Oslo with 28 horses swimming alongside. From 1922 to 1925 the family lived near Radium and in 1925 Samuel Sloan managed the Riverside Farm in Boxville Township until 1933 when the Sloans farmed in Wright Township and from 1940-1945 in Mc-Crea Township at which time they retired and lived on Western Avenue in Warren. Samuel Sloan died on September 10, 1955, and Susie Sloan died on December 25, 1958. To this union were born: Purl of Warren, Minnesota; Vivian (Mrs. Gordon Henley) of Fort Myers, Florida; Fay (Mrs. Howard Robinson) (deceased) of Goodland, Indiana; Mayme (Mrs. Carl Pothuisje) (deceased) of Goodland, Indiana; Mattie (Mrs. William Schussman) of Kalamazoo, Michigan; Riley of Warren, Minnesota; Dorothy (Mrs. Arvid Ranstrom) of Elbow Lake, Minnesota; Delphy (Mrs. Herbet Loeslie) of Warren, Minnesota; Marshall Warren (deceased); and Geraldine (Mrs. Leo James) of Ypsilanti, Michigan.

John Slusar Family

John Slusar was born on August 19, 1889 in Ashland, Wisconsin, to John and Mary (Matyas) Slusar, who were born in Czechoslovakia. John and his parents moved from Ashland, Wisconsin to Farley Township in Minnesota in 1898 and his parents lived on their farm until they died, Father John on February 28, 1936 and Mother Mary on December 22, 1942, and they were buried in Tabor, Minnesota. John farmed and on February 11, 1918, he was married down in Minneapolis, Minnesota to Helen Bakalar who was born in Czechoslovakia on May 15, 1900, to Mike and Anna (Grega) Bakalar and came with her parents to the United States in 1910. At first they lived in Clinton, Connecticut and then moved to Fifield, Wisconsin. Helen’s father died on October 1, 1949, and her mother on December 19, 1939, and they are buried in Fifield, Wisconsin. John and Helen farmed until they retired in 1945 and moved to Warren where they had bought the former Dr. Blegen home on West Johnson Avenue at 318. Here they lived until 1974 when the home was sold to Milfred Westberg. John died on January 10, 1972. Helen now resides in the Valhalla Apartments. They are the parents of: Maynard John, Ernest Andrew, Helen Darina (Mrs. Harlan Lindroth), Catherine Lillian, and Jeanette Ruth (Mrs. Paul Ohnstad).

Tom Stinar, Jr. Family

Tom Stinar was born in Farley Township in 1896, the eldest of seven children of Tom and Anna (Zipoy) Stinar, both immigrants from Czechoslovakia. He attended school in Farley and Tabor and was baptized and confirmed at the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Tabor. He farmed with his father until his marriage in 1920 to Esther Nelson, the daughter of Henry and Mary (Lunde) Nelson of Sandsville Township, who immigrated to this country from Sweden. Esther was born in 1892. They continued to farm in Farley Township until 1954 when they retired and moved to Warren. They were active in church and township affairs. To this union were born two children: Wallace, who farms the family farm with his son, and Eileen (Mrs. Harvey Johnson) of Warren. Mrs. Stinar passed away in 1964. Then in 1966, Mr. Stinar married...
Mrs. Lillian M. Johnson in Warren and they reside at 647 North Central Avenue.

* * *

Frank J. Stuemke Family
by Julie Stuemke Knutson

Frank John Ferdinand Stuemke was born June 22, 1890 in Altamont, Illinois, to parents Anna (Radtke) and Carl Stuemke. He was the third youngest of twelve children. He attended parochial school at Zion and lived at home on the farm with his parents until age seventeen at which time he went to work as a farm hand near Springfield and Auburn, Illinois, husking corn. In 1910 he worked in a powder plant in York, Nebraska. In the winter of 1911 he made stoke wood near Altamont. In March of 1912 he left for Thief River Falls, Minnesota, to work as a farm hand near St. Hilaire for N. Beebee and also William Siegert. In October 1912 he began learning the barber trade. Upon completion of his apprenticeship, he started his own barber shop at Alvarado, Minnesota in March of 1913 where he was active in community affairs, served as town constable and was also a member of the Alvarado Marching Band playing baritone and one of the few members who could read music. On June 11, 1913 he married Miss Johanah Koop of Thief River Falls. On the eve of their wedding a fire destroyed all of their clothing and household goods. He returned to Alvarado to find suitable living quarters and set up temporary housekeeping in a one-room apartment until they found two rooms at John Smith’s residence. Later he built a home in the Sands Addition. Several years later his health failed forcing him to stop working for about one and a half years. He returned to Thief River Falls to recover his health. He returned to part-time barbering under John Black at Warren and was finally able to buy the barber shop. He remained in the barber business until his retirement in February of 1972. To help feed his growing family, he started a “truck” garden and later built a greenhouse which was purchased by Reed Lamberson and is now known as the “Petal Patch” florist shop, the original greenhouse having been moved from the Stuemke property to its present site on Second Street. Eight children were born to this union: Edward of San Diego, California; Ruth (Erickson) of Tacoma, Washington; Arthur of White Bear Lake, Minnesota; Julie (Knutson) of Gunvick, Minnesota; Lydia (Parent) of Orange, California; Ruby (Crawford) of Tacoma, Washington; Johanna (Leisberg) of Hart, Michigan; and Bernice (who died in infancy). Mrs. Johanah (Koop) Stuemke died on July 29, 1945. On May 4, 1947, Frank Stuemke married Miss Hedwig Zinter of Thief River Falls. Mr. Stuemke died in 1974.

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John N. Swanson Family

John N. Swanson was born in Sweden on June 24, 1888 and came to Warren in 1911 where he was engaged in carpentry the rest of his life. In 1913 he was married to Hannah Northstrom in Minneapolis and to this union were born six children: Doris (Mrs. William Wilke) of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Marjorie (Mrs. Frank Merkel) of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Lucille (Mrs. Ellert Hove) of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Stanley of Warren, Minnesota; Curtis of Morton Grove, Illinois; and Dan of Rock Falls, Illinois. Mrs. Hannah Swanson died in 1930. In July of 1931, John Swanson married Hilma Olson who had originally come from Sweden. She died on July 8, 1946. Mr. Swanson died on August 15, 1958.

* * *

Oscar Carl Toftner Family

Oscar Carl Toftner was born in Gary, Minnesota, the first of November in 1886 to Gustaf and Laura Toftner. He was the oldest of ten children. He attended grade school and later he graduated from the buttermakers course at the University of Minnesota. In 1906 he married Olga Natalie Skoglund who had come to this country from Oslo, Norway at the age of sixteen with her parents. To this union were born six children: Clara, Orville, Mabel, Roy, Gordon and Marvin.

He was a butemaker at Erskine, Lockhart and Alma. In 1930, the Alma Creamery merged with the creamery at Warren and Oscar hauled cream from the rural routes to the creamery that stood where Ireland’s Lumber Yard now stands. William Lindberg was the manager.

In 1934 Oscar filed for sheriff of Marshall County against John P. Bordewick. Mr. Bordewick died suddenly in July of that year and Oscar won over the other opponents. He held that Sheriff’s job for sixteen years until 1950 when he was defeated by Sheriff Erickson. In 1952 Oscar filed for Probate Judge against Arnold Trost and won. He held that job until he died on October 5, 1958 from lung cancer. Three years later, Mrs. Toftner died. They lived on the northwest corner of Fifth Street and Colvin.

* * *

Frank Truhn Family

Frank Truhn was born in June of 1875 in Otter Tail County, Minnesota. He was married to Bevina Dressler who was born in August 1881 in Austria. They lived in Park Rapids, Minnesota where he worked for the Power House until he was asked to come to Warren to work for the city as they changed over at the Power House the transmission lines for Direct Current to Alternating Current. After several years he built a home at 741 North Fifth Street which he sold to Andrew Boardson after some years (now occupied by the Mel Lund Family). Frank and his family moved to a farm in McCrea Township for a number of years and which is now farmed by Stanley Truhn. Then he moved back into town and purchased a house from E. L. Tonnell on Fourth Street (now the home of Alfred Hanson). During this time, when Frank had completed the work at the Power House, he was made Superintendent of the Water & Light Department and held this position for twenty-three years. To this union were born: Pearl (Mrs. Henry Bren) (deceased); Iva (Mrs. Steve Ovsak) of Warren, Minnesota; Esther (Mrs. Carl Thorsen) of Gaylord, Minnesota; Stanley of rural Warren, Minnesota; Evelyn (Mrs. Leonard Anderson) (deceased); and Leslie of Warren, Minnesota. Mr. Truhn died in November of 1938 and Mrs. Truhn died June of 1955.

* * *
**Leslie Truhn Family**

Leslie Truhn was born on June 15, 1911 in Park Rapids, Minnesota, the youngest son of Frank and Bevina Truhn of Warren, Minnesota. He received his education in the Warren schools and worked for the city of Warren as an electrician for a period of 1927 to 1940. Later on he worked for the Swift Electric Co. and purchased the business in June of 1958 and later the building. He retired in June of 1976 and the building was sold to the Warren Jewelry Co. In June of 1934 he married Doris Brown, the daughter of Elmer and Elsie Brown. Doris had taught in the rural schools for three years and later was employed at the Marshall County Welfare Department as an accounting officer. They reside at 735 North Second Street and they have one daughter, Patsy Lou (Mrs. Robert Schumacher) of Camarillo, California.

**Hans Urtes Family**

**by Clara Urtes and Lyla Larson**

Hans Urtes was born in February of 1875 on the Urteseth farm in Vaardahl, Norway, the youngest of seven children. After graduating from school in Gjovik, he emigrated at the age of seventeen to LaCrosse, Wisconsin, where he worked in the lumber camps and learned the English language. Later he moved to Spring Valley, Minnesota, Madison, South Dakota, and Grand Meadow, Minnesota, where he became acquainted with Theodor Bratrud who later came to Warren as this community's outstanding doctor. In Devils Lake, North Dakota he worked as a clerk in a mercantile shop until that ceased business at which time he became the manager of the clothing department of K. J. Taralseth Store. Later he operated a men's clothing store in Warren until the depression years. In Arkdale, Wisconsin he was married on August 27, 1908 to Clara Mathilda Smedbron, whom he had met while she was teaching schools in Marshall County. Clara was the eldest daughter of Ellena (Warp) and Nels Smedbron. Nels had emigrated from Kongsberg, Norway. In 1909 Hans had a cottage built on Mars hall and North Minnesota Streets and here they lived for twenty years. Hans died in 1949. Clara went back to teaching in rural schools until she was 72 and she was the librarian for the Warren Public Library until she was 83 years of age. She died on December 18, 1978 at the age of almost 95. To this union were born: Hans Clarence of Baltimore, Maryland; John of San Marcos, California; Olive (deceased); Paul (deceased); and Lyla (Mrs. Llewellyn Larson) of Argyle, Minnesota.

**Roy Wadsworth Family**

Roy Wadsworth was born on June 4, 1889 in Springfield, Illinois, to Herbert and Irene (Gore) Wadsworth and came with his parents to Warren in 1901. Roy farmed with his father and later they bought a livery stable on first street. He and his father ran the stables for seven years and Roy took many of the doctors out into the country on their calls. He was a rural letter carrier from 1914 to 1946. He carried twenty years on Route No. 2 and twelve years on Route No. 1.

Roy was married to Verna Russell Sailor in 1916. Their only daughter, Dorothy (Mrs. William Schaefer) of Warren, Minnesota, was born in 1921. Verna, who was born on June 24, 1892 in Walnut, Illinois to James William and Mary Belle (Willey) Russell, died in March of 1964. Roy died in February of 1965.

**Ward Wages Family**

Ward Wages was born in October of 1895 at Alta, Iowa to Mr. and Mrs. William S. Wages. The family moved to Breckenridge, Minnesota while he was still young. He was educated and graduated from Breckenridge High School in 1913. In April 1918 he joined the Army Ground Service Aviation and was stationed in England and was discharged in December of 1918. He returned to Breckenridge and began clerical work with the railroad and was transferred to St. Paul, Minnesota. After three years with the railroad, he became an accountant for the Wholesale Bakers Supply in Minneapolis and worked there until 1933. He went into automotive supply work and in 1947 he came to Warren and made it his headquarters working with his two sons.

Ward was married in September 1921 to Frances Adams. They had four children: Ward of Warren, Minnesota; Ilmae (Mrs. R. B. Jacobson) of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Duane (deceased); and Gloria (Mrs. Dennis Lindstrom) of Roseville, Minnesota. Mrs. Wages died March 17, 1966 and Mr. Wages on February 25, 1980. They resided at 417 East Johnson Avenue.

**Eugene Westman Family**

**by Petra Westman**

Eugene Westman was born at Nastansjo, Sweden on February 12, 1895, the son of Jonas Wilhelm and Anna Christine (Fjelberg) Westman and came with his parents to America in 1905. His parents homesteaded in Roseau County and in later years moved to Roseau, Minnesota. On April 8, 1917 Eugene enlisted in the United States Army and served overseas with the 163rd Division, receiving his discharge from the army in 1918. On December 31, 1919 he married Petra Krogh who was born in Kirkaener, Norway in the province of Grue Solor, on November 9, 1895, the daughter of Theode and Kristine (Thorson) Krogh. Petra emigrated in 1910 to join her sister, Mrs. Olaf Syvertson of Middle River, Minnesota, where she and her husband operated a hotel-restaurant. In 1925 they moved to Grand Forks, North Dakota, where he was employed as a salesman. In 1931 they moved to Warren where he was employed by the Taralseth store and later as a salesman for concrete silos. He was a member of the American Legion and served as its Commander in 1935-36. He died suddenly on December 27, 1945 at the age of fifty years. Mrs. Westman served as a cook in the Warren School for many years until her retirement. She resides in her home at 730 North Division Street, Warren, Minnesota. To this union were born: Elizabeth (Mrs. Philip DesChene) of Tacoma, Washington; Eugene Ronald of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; and Paul Dean of Washington, D.C.
Wilbert Westberg Family

Wilbert Bernard Westberg was born on March 6, 1914 in Warren to Bernard and Hilma (Johnson) Westberg. Wilbert married Grace Jorgenson, the daughter of Elling and Mary (Gunderson) Jorgenson of Argyle and Alma Township. Grace was born on March 18, 1916. To this union was born one son, Milfred, who with his father operate the Westberg Dray in Warren. Grace is employed at the Good Samaritan Center and Wilbert also drives the school bus for the Warren School District. They reside at 212 West Marshall Street.

Joe Wiegert Family

Joe Wiegert was born in Germany in 1875 and came with his parents to Michigan when he was eight years old. As a young man, he moved to Coon Rapids, Iowa. Here he met Anna Klenner who at eighteen years of age had come to Coon Rapids from Austria where she had been born in 1879. They were married in Coon Rapids in 1903. In 1913 they moved to Warren and farmed, first on the Meyers farm northeast of Warren. In 1945 they moved to California where they lived in Long Beach until their deaths. Mrs. Wiegert died in 1965 and Mr. Wiegert in 1974. To this union were born: Pastor Arthur Wiegert of Perry, Iowa; Velma (Mrs. Ernest Boesel) of St. Paul, Minnesota; Eddie (deceased) and his twin Paul (died in 1977) of Northfield, Minnesota; Orvel (deceased); and Harold of Long Beach, California.

George Willey Family

by Genevieve Willey Brown

George E. Willey was born in Marshall County, Illinois on October 19, 1889 and moved to Minnesota in 1910 with his parents and his sister to relocate on a Pioneer Land & Loan farm southwest of Warren. He met Stella Copp who was born in Braidwood, Illinois on May 4, 1893, and moved to this area about that same time with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Copp, as she was teaching school in his district and boarded at the Willey farm. They were married on August 20, 1914, and for several years they lived on a couple of farms belonging to the Pioneer Land & Loan Company. In 1919 they moved to Warren when George got the job as a rural mail carrier. This he continued to do until his death on August 18, 1943. In 1946 Stella Willey moved to Minneapolis where she worked as a house mother for the Farm House Fraternity at the University of Minnesota. She died on May 8, 1976. While they lived in Warren, they lived on North Division Street in the home formerly built by Blawd and most lately lived in by the late Mrs. Garfield Nicolls (Gladyss Lincoln). To this union were born: Genevieve (Mrs. Elias Brown) of Mokena, Illinois; Donald of Canby, Minnesota; Charles of Rockaway Beach, Missouri; June Marie (deceased); Marvin of Minneapolis, Minnesota; and George Leroy of Lancaster, California.

Laurence Wilson Family

Laurence Wilson was born in Thompson, North Dakota to Sam Huus and Jonina (Hendrickson) Wilson. Sam was born in Denmark in 1872 and came to this country in 1888. His wife was born in Norway and came to this country when she was ten years of age. Laurence married Alvina Kolstad in 1917 and he was a long-time employee of Andrew Boardson and later Clarence Boardson until he retired. To this union were born: Vance, Bob, Margaret (Mrs. Clifford Stafslie), Betty (Mrs. Donald Vansickle), JoAnne (Mrs. Gary Clark), and Patricia (Mrs. James Bjorgaard).

John Lawrence Wittman Family

by Marlene Wittman Silnes

John Lawrence Wittman was born in Lockport, Illinois on May 1, 1893, the son of John and Anna (Stahl) Wittman. The family moved to Warren in 1905 and purchased land in Section 20, McCrea Township. On June 9, 1921 John Lawrence married Lillie Jane Nicholls who was born April 21, 1900, the daughter of John and Ingeborg (Forsberg) Nicholls who had homesteaded in McCrea Township in the 1890's. John Lawrence bought land and raised small grains and dairy cattle. He purchased a threshing machine in 1923 and had his own "threshing runs" for over 20 years. He also made the rounds of neighborhood farms with his corn chopper at "silo filling time." Besides helping John with the field work, which meant driving the horses and riding the plow or grain binder, Lillie raised turkeys for spending money on her own. Her "turkey money" helped build the new kitchen on their modest 2 room farm home in 1926.

John Lawrence passed away in August of 1973. Lillie Jane celebrated her 80th birthday this centennial year and still resides on their farmstead in Section 21, McCrea Township. Children of this union are Laurel Edward and Marlene Yvonne (Mrs. Sig Silnes, Jr.), both of rural Warren.

Orval Wittman Family

Orval Herman Wittman was born on March 12, 1921 to Charles and Caroline (Hartwig) Wittman on his grandparent's farm, the Herman Hartwigs of rural Warren, Minnesota. On June 12, 1946 he was married to Eleanor Johnston, a daughter of Herbert and Anna (Madsen) Johnston of Mentor, Minnesota, who was born on March 1, 1922. They started in both dairy and grain farming. To this union were born: Kay Lavon (Mrs. Dan Fenley) of Laurel, Montana, and Gale Herbert of rural Warren.

Charles Wood Family

Charles R. Wood and Mary E. Wood came to Warren, Minnesota from Hersher, Illinois with their five children:
Fred, Arthur, Robert, Ruth and Russell. They traded one quarter of land by Hersher for two quarters of land five miles south of Warren where they homesteaded. Charles and the three older boys loaded their horses, some cattle, two pigs, a few chickens, plus some of their machinery in some box cars on the Great Northern railroad about the first part of March 1906 and traveled north to Warren, Minnesota. The four rode in the box cars all the way to care for the livestock. Mrs. Wood, Ruth and Russell came to Warren on the Winnipeg Flyer and by the time the freight train pulled into Warren on March 6, 1906; they arrived in a blizzard that they didn’t like very much.

Fred went back to Kankakee in 1907 as he did not like the cold winters and he is now living in a senior residence; Russell moved to Portland, Oregon in 1940 where he and his wife reside; Arthur passed away in 1968; Robert in 1965 and Ruth in 1978.

Robert’s son, Bob, is still living on the old homestead.

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Arthur Wood Family

Arthur L. Wood and Mabel Head were married in 1909 at Warren, Minnesota. They farmed south of Warren until 1943 when they bought the house from W. F. Tullar and moved off the farm to Warren. To this union were born seven children: Mavis, Harriet, Arletta, LeRoy, William (deceased), Gaylord and Phylliss (deceased). Arthur Wood died in July, 1968 and Mabel Wood moved to the Good Samaritan Center in 1972 where she now resides. Gaylord continued to farm until 1966 when it was rented out.

* * *
The early pioneers brought into this new land along with their oxen, their simple tools and their determination to take advantage of every opportunity that presented itself in this challenging land, their belief in the word of God. So it came about that first the Methodist congregation was formed followed by the Presbyterian and the Swedish Lutheran congregations. Prompted by nationalistic tendencies, the Norwegian Lutheran and the German Lutheran soon put up their churches with tall steeples. A Norwegian Methodist church was organized and likewise a Swedish Mission congregation was formed followed at a later date by the Catholic church. Gone are the Sunday services in other languages, three consolidations have decreased the number of congregations and yet Warren is the site of seven busy and growing churches whose histories follow:

Grace Methodist Church

by Ida Engen

updated by Leona Hendrickson

The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in November of 1879, at which time Warren was composed of only a handful of people. The railroad had however been put through and attracted by the reports of a rich and virgin soil, people from all parts of the country came and best of all, they brought the Gospel with them.

At the call of these early settlers a minister of the Gospel was soon in their midst. First there came a Baptist minister who stayed only a short time; then a Congregationalist minister preached for a while in the spring and summer of 1879, but some of the Methodists not being content with sermons that were "read off like a book" were hoping for a Methodist minister.

A Mr. Samuel Kerfoot of Emerson, Manitoba, was preaching in Crookston and was invited to come to Warren. After a short visit he returned to Canada but in November of 1879 he came to Warren and preached his first sermon. There were no public buildings in Warren so this first service was held in the barroom of the Minor House, (sometimes known as the Commercial Hotel) which was located on the southwest corner of what is now Main Street and Fletcher Avenue. That day with a bar for a pulpit and nail kegs and planks for pews, Rev. Kerfoot preached an earnest sermon that found its way into the hearts of those who came to hear him.

After the first service in the hotel, the Methodists met in the law office of J. P. Nelson located at first in the 500 block of North First Street, later across the tracks in the 400 block of Main Street. By spring the congregation had outgrown Marshall County Court House and later transferred to the School House upon its completion. During these early months leaders of the church were the Snyders, Craigs, Wentzels, Nelson and Davies. Principal of the school J. M. Brown, who was to become Supt. of Schools in Marshall County must have been deeply influenced by the church as he later became a Methodist minister.

Methodism boomed and the Messrs. Snyder, Mentzer, Gilbert and Rev. C. Campbell organized a building committee in the spring of 1882 with construction beginning in the fall of that year with a subscription of $1,700.00. It was built on the southwest corner of Fletcher Avenue and Third Street, as the owner of the lots where the church now stands on Johnson and Third Street, would not sell those lots to the church.

At the dedication, November 25, 1883, Rev. Frank Doran preached on the life and character of Stephen. Within 20 minutes all debts were paid on the church with the exception of $500.00 owed the Methodist Extension Service. Elder, Rev. George R. Blair also spoke the afternoon of the dedication and many of Warren's then 400 citizens and surrounding farmers were present. Rev. Campbell was the pastor throughout the building project and like many of his brother pastors supplemented his income by farming and dealing in livestock.

The story of his successor is one of the richest in the church annals. Rev. T. F. Allen "had a ring to his voice" (Campbell); "could be heard in every part of town" (anonymous) "had a voice that could wake the dead" (E. F. Spicer). Brother Allen made it so miserable for the devil that one Sunday satan is reported to have crawled into the church stove pipe and knocked the whole thing down during the service.

The church took advantage of Allen's evangelism during Warren's bonanza days and 96 persons were added to the rolls during his tenure of 1884-1886.

The building was moved to its present location in 1897, but was first placed facing Johnson Avenue. At that time beautiful stained glass windows were added to the church. On March 27, 1898 the church was damaged by fire with the windows removed by the firemen and church men in time to keep them from being destroyed. However these priceless windows were lost in the fire of 1943 and replaced with stained glass windows of far less elaborate design.
During many of these early years this was a 3 point charge as its pastor also served Wanger Township and Argyle Methodist Churches both founded in 1885.

The first parsonage was purchased by the Ladies Aid and still stands at 621 E. Riverside Avenue. During V. P. Mitchell's pastorate in 1920 a new parsonage was built north of the church for the sum of $10,000.00. That same year the Presbyterian Church which had been organized March 2, 1882, and which had put up a valiant fight for survival, officially dissolved with many of the members becoming part of the Methodist Church.

On April 4, 1938, Bishop Ralph Magee, the first bishop to ever come to our church, gave the keynote address to kick off the financial drive for the building remodeling. This included sealing the interior of the sanctuary with celotex. That same year under the leadership of Mrs. C. E. Stinchfield, the Ladies Aid president, a new project was launched which became their main money making endeavor, namely the food stand at the Marshall County Fair. This was the main food service at the Fair Grounds for 35 years, when it was rented out and finally sold in 1976 to the JC's.

During the pastorate of Rev. C. E. Haynes a national merger of the three largest Methodist denominations brought a change of names. The word Episcopal was dropped and this became the First Methodist Church. The Ladies' Aid became the Women's Society of Christian Service and The Epworth League evolved into the worldwide Methodist Youth Fellowship.

At this same time the church was turned to face Third Street and the a basement built, with hundreds of volunteer hours going into the project. But on May 27, 1943, just as the project was completed and dedication set within a few days, a fire destroyed the interior of the building, most of its furniture, books and some records.

Rev. W. A. Fleagle took over a few months later and undertook the rebuilding with priorities granted in spite of World War II shortages. Like Good Samaritans the Bethlehem (Scandinavian) Methodist congregation opened their doors for joint services leading the way to the merger of the two churches, May 22, 1949. They adopted the new name Grace Methodist.

In November of 1944, the structure was rededicated free of debt including the paying off of a mortgage that hung over the congregation for many years. This was mostly due to the dedication of Dr. C. A. Gunnarson, chairman of this building fund and his committee.

In 1967, Rev. B. B. Curtis led the establishment of a 3 point parish with the Euclid and Angus-Tabor Presbyterian Churches which is known as the WEA Parish. They now share confirmation classes, some services and exchange of programs. The church also houses the Head Start School 8 months of each year.

A 3 day Centennial celebration was held June 29th through July 1st, 1979 which was headed by Co-chairmen Leona M. Hendrickson and Percy Gilbert with Hazel Hurst and Lois Lund also on the steering committee. Highlights of that event were the publishing of a book, selling picture plaques of the church, a banquet, pageant and 2 Communion Services of Celebration with Bishop Wayne K. Clymer as the speaker and Pastor James Clausen, District Supt. Delton Kruger and former pastors assisting.

Pastors of Grace United Methodist Church:

Rev. Samuel Kerfoot—Late 1879
Rev. C. B. Brecken—1880
Rev. A. E. Flint—1880-1882
Rev. C. Campbell—1882-1884
Rev. T. F. Allen—1884-1886
Rev. J. W. Briggs—1886-1887
Rev. E. W. Symmonds—1887-1888
Rev. David Wolfe—Jan.-Feb. 1888
Dr. J. S. Green—Mar.-Aug. 1888
Rev. S. Z. Kaufman—1890-1891
Rev. S. S. Farley—1891-1893
Rev. C. B. Brecken—1893-1894
Rev. J. M. Brown—1894-1895
Rev. T. Billing—1895-1896
Rev. E. F. Spicer—1896-1899
Rev. W. E. Loomis—1899-1900
Rev. A. Hutton—1900-1901
Rev. A. H. McKee—1901-1902
Rev. Isaac Peart—1902-1903
Rev. G. E. Tindall—1903-1907
Rev. A. A. Myers—1907-1912
Rev. F. L. Erlougher—1912-1913
Rev. B. F. Donovan—1913-1914
Rev. L. W. Bartholow—1914-1919
Rev. V. P. Mitchell—1919-1922
Rev. B. E. Williams—1922-1924
Rev. C. H. Blake—1924-1930
Rev. J. Standing—1930-1932
Rev. T. B. Clark—1932-1933
Rev. E. R. Ingram—1933-1934
Rev. O. E. Weber—1934-1935
Dr. H. M. Holm—1935-1938
Rev. C. E. Haynes—1938-1943
Rev. W. A. Fleagle—1943-1950
Rev. C. E. Wittrup—1950-1954
Rev. Irving Palm—1954-1960
Rev. Charles Hawn—1962-1963
Rev. J. A. Richardson—1963-1967
Rev. Calvin Daniels—1969-1973
Rev. Russel Markkula 1973-Nov. 1978
Rev. James Clausen—Feb. 1979-

(Many of the very short tenures in the early church were due to student pastorates.)
were dependent on visiting ministers for their religious services.

Pastors who thus served the community were: J. O. Vavillin, L. A. Hocanson, Andrew Randahl, S. S. Kronberg and J. G. Lagerstrom. During the latter's stay in Warren, requests were made to start a congregation and according to the Warren Sheaf, Vol. 1, No. 30 of June 22, 1881, "At an informal meeting held in the schoolhouse it was agreed to organize a Lutheran church." Following this, on September 15, 1881, the following notice was posted: "Notice is hereby given that a meeting for the organizing of a Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church and for the election of officers for said church will be held in the schoolhouse in the city of Warren at one o'clock p.m., Saturday, October 15, 1881." This notice was signed by Peter Dahlquist, Andreas Anderson, Elias Dahlquist, C. J. Johnson and Eric Dahlquist. At that meeting, the church was organized and the early meetings were held in the first schoolhouse located where the old Warren High School stood (now the Landmark House site). When this first schoolhouse was replaced with a newer building, the discarded schoolhouse was purchased by the church and moved to the corner of Bridge and Division streets.

The first pastor of the newly organized congregation was Pastor Svante Udden. Since he was a bachelor and found living accommodations at the Nils Munson home at the corner of Division and Park, no immediate concern was felt for necessity of a parsonage. However, in 1892, a decision was made to build one for not more than $1,200.00. This building, the home now occupied by Mrs. Fred Abrahamson at 319 West Johnson Avenue, served as the pastor's home until 1917 when a new modern parsonage was built.

In January of 1900, plans were first discussed for the building of a larger church and a finance committee of the following men was set up: August Lundgren, Peter Dahlquist, P. B. Malberg, and J. P. Mattson. By 1900 they had raised $2,076.25 and a building committee was formed, the plans of H. C. Kolls of Chicago were accepted and the building contract let to Mr. L. S. Linder. In June of 1903, the church was dedicated. In 1905, the church bell was installed and 1906, the paintings that formerly adorned the entire front of the church were repainted by Mr. L. E. Fredrickson for which he received $145.15. The pipe organ was installed in 1909 and was dedicated on May 29 and 30, 1910, by Mr. Per Olson, guest organist from Minneapolis.

It is a matter of interest to note that the first schoolhouse that had served as the church was moved to Johnson Avenue where the Anderson Enterprise Warehouse is now located across from Our Saviour's Lutheran Church and next to the new Firehouse. It was used as a warehouse for the People Trading Company until it was purchased by Mr. H. M. Swanson who moved it again to its present site, remodeled it, after passing through several owners, it is now the home of Mrs. Anna Sherry of 204 West Nansen.

By 1907 the area served by the local pastor had grown to such an extent that a new plan was deemed necessary and the congregations of Vega and Warren petitioned to become a separate pastorate. Prior to this time, pastors were called upon to conduct services in as many as seven congregations in such places as Hebron, Salem, "Lower Snake (Elim)"., "Land Around Dahlquist School", and "Land around Paulson and Lindberg." The first pastor to serve this newly organized pastorate was Pastor E. O. Chelgren. In January of 1935, the name of the Warren Church was changed to the First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Warren. Much of the church activities have been connected with the Warren Hospital and the former North Star College, both Red River Valley Conference institutions.

Pastors who have served the Warren Congregation are:

- Svante Udden—1884-1887
- N. J. Sture—1888-1891
- O. S. Verne—1892-1894
- Alfred Bergin—1895-1897
- A. Mattson—1898-1903
- J. A. Mattson—1905-1907
- E. O. Chelgren—1907-1911
- F. N. Anderson—1912-1917
- S. W. Swenson—1918-1940
- W. E. Carlson—1940-1955
- L. G. Wasseberg—1957-1970
- T. E. Carlsgren—1971-

Dr. S. W. Swenson who served the longest period of time was called from his home and church by death on Feb. 3, 1940. Pastor Walter E. Carlson, who faithfully served the congregation for fifteen years left in September of 1955 to become the first full-time president of the Red River Valley Conference.

In 1957-58, studies were made regarding the feasibility of adding a parish education unit to the church structure. Ground conditions and structural weaknesses made it unwise to add on to or remodel the existing building. Investigation of a new building was carried through. In 1961, the congregation purchased property on the east side of town and proceeded with plans for a new building. A special meeting of the congregation in December of 1962 approved the plans and authorized the construction of a new building. Ground was broken in May, 1963 and the congregation worshipped in the new building in January, 1964. The organ was moved and completely rebuilt in the balcony. The $137,319 building was dedicated on April 26, 1964. The mortgage on the new house of worship was paid off and burned on the 10th Anniversary of dedication. The old church was demolished and the property sold. It is presently the site of the Federal Office Building.

In 1963, the Augustana Luthern Church merged with other Lutheran Church bodies to form the Lutheran Church in America. First Church has been a part of the Red River Valley Synod of the L.C.A. since that time.

After rehabilitation of the parsonage following a fire in 1975, the decision was made to sell the parsonage and, through a housing allowance, to let the pastor acquire his own housing.

Present members of the Church Council are: Mrs. Alden Pederson, Dennis Thureen, Mark Backstrom, Dean Dahlman (Chairman), Floyd Larter, Mrs. Erling Lundgren, Marshall Melbye, Robert Mattson, Mrs. Wilfred Johnson, Donald Nelson, Gordon Olson, and Leonard Olson.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

In the year 1882, Ingebrit Bjorseth, a pioneer old man, started a Sunday School, the first Norwegian Lutheran Sunday School in Warren. Unfortunately, he was too old and weak for this climate and soon left for the Pacific Coast. In the summer of 1882, one Rev. H. P. Hanson came her and held services in the little frame school house situated on the site of the present Warren Hospital. That year, he organized the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Congregation with P. O. Bloomsness, P. O. Erickson, Mrs.
Ole O. Halsa, Mathias Trostrup and Mrs. Enger Royem among the members. The minister was to have a salary of $300 per year but at the end of the year, the congregation had to notify him that they couldn’t raise the money to keep him any longer. Itinerant preachers came without invitation or credentials, among them Christie Janson of Minneapolis, a Swedish lay preacher called Bishop Johnson and a “Bergenser” who drove a pair of mules and was called “Mule Presten.” On February 22, 1885, the following persons: Andrew Grindeland, K.J. Taralseth, Bert Henum, Alfred Horgan, Johannes Enden, J.L. Olson, P. Bloomsness, Niels Amundson, Hans Brotum, and Christ Johnson met in A. Grindeland’s law office to ascertain if a congregation could be established. On March 22, 1885, a congregation called the First Norwegian Lutheran Church was organized. The following pastors served this congregation:

**As First Norwegian Lutheran Church:**
- L.M. Skunes—1895-1900
- J.H. Lawrence—1900-1901
- N.F. Kile—1901-1904
- O.J. Nolstad—1905-1909
- N.G.W. Knutson—1909-1917

**As Evangelical Trinity Church:**
- A.G. Quammen—
- T.L. Roholt—
- A. Salveson—1906
- Emil Hanson—1906-1908
- S.H. Aarnes—1908-1911
- P.F. Kjorland—1911-1915
- Gynther Storaasli—1915-1918

Despite the break in 1896, there was a desire for an amalgamation. In 1916 this was accomplished nationally and in 1918 the two congregations at Warren were united under the name of Our Savior’s Lutheran Church. The two churches were moved side by side, one serving as the church proper and the other as the Ladies Aid Parlors.

A gift of $29,000 to Our Savior’s Lutheran Church was received from the estate of Martha Grindeland who died at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, on February 20, 1965, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Grindeland and a graduate from Warren High School in the class of 1922. Due to a need for additional space for the growing Sunday School classes, a building committee was formed and in 1967 work was begun on the new and beautiful Parish Hall built by the same architect and construction firm and using the same type of Lannon stone as that in the church. It was dedicated on Sunday, September 8, 1968, and it included Sunday School rooms, Pastor and secretary offices, lounge, library and Narthex.

In 1967 a new pipe organ was built and installed at a cost of $27,900 and it was dedicated in November 1967 with Ron Pearson of the congregation at the console.

Pastors who have served the congregation since the union are:
- A.T. Tollefs—1918-1923
- H.S. Strand—1924-1929
- L.W. Halvorson—1929-1932
- L.E. Brynestad—1932-1941
- F.E. Eikeland—1941-1951
- M.R. Slicher—1953-1959
- Harold Hofstad—1960-1963
- Dale Peterson (lay pastor)—1965-1966
- Orval Moren—1963-1971
- David Christensen—1972-

In 1980 a new parsonage was completed at 712 North Montana at a cost of $65,000, the old parsonage being sold to Charles Engelstad for $20,000.

The congregation is being served by one pastor, a seminary intern and a secretary. Present baptized membership stands at 766, confirmed membership at 610.

**Bethlehem Church**

by Mrs. Jens Golden

In 1889 the Norwegian Methodist Church was organized and the first services were held in a rented hall owned by Mr. Slee which stood on the present site of the former Hans Swanson home. Some of the charter members were Mr. and Mrs. Eklund, Mr. and Mrs. H.I. Golden, Mr. and Mrs. Rundquist, and Mr. and Mrs. Jens Swanson. In 1894, they purchased a lot about a block north of Hotel Warren and in 1895, a neat frame building was erected at a cost of approximately $2700.00. It was during the pastorate of Rev. L.T. Torgerson that the church was dedicated. Two services were held each Sunday with Sunday School at two o’clock in the afternoon. Midweek prayer services were held in the various homes. Later on a Ladies Aid was organized and funds were raised by them through the sale of fancy work. In 1916 a basement was built and to finance this construction, programs were given by the choir in Warren and Stephen with Milton Golden as the accompanist.
Old and new Evangelical Covenant Church.

Evangelical Covenant Church

by Elna Erickson and updated by Mesdames Douglas Gloude, James Johnson and Robert Elseth

The Warren Evangelical Covenant Church was organized in July of 1882 in the Axel Skoog home located at the corner of Park Avenue and May Street (later changed to McKinley Street). This home at 528 McKinley Street North is presently occupied by John Short. Charter members were the following: Frans Franson, Svante Hanson, Emil Holmgren, August Pihlstrom, C. J. Pihlstrom, Axel Skoog and John Skoog.

In September of the same year, 1882, a business meeting was held at which time Emil Holmgren was elected chairman of the church and the other charter members constituted the board of trustees. The year the congregation was organized, a frame building was erected on the northwest corner of Park Avenue and Division Street. This was enlarged in 1908, 1925, and 1942. The congregation has owned three parsonages, the first on Central Avenue (625 North Central), the second on Ingolf Avenue (120 South Minnesota as we now know it today), and the most recent on the corner of Park Avenue and McKinley Street. This parsonage (525 North McKinley) was purchased by Pastor Richard Lundgren in 1977.

The church was incorporated on September 15, 1883. The following trustees were elected: Frans Franson, Emil Holmgren, John Peterson, Wilhelm Peterson, August Pihlstrom and C. J. Pihlstrom.

Simultaneously with the organizing of the church in 1882, Sunday school work was commenced. Mr. Emil Holmgren, who was the first chairman of the church, was also the first Sunday School Superintendent. Often times, offices were held by individuals for a number of years, some of which were Mrs. O. W. Carlson as Superintendent from 1936 to 1957, and Rosina Samuelson as Treasurer of the Sunday School for many, many years. Throughout the years, an outing, or a picnic, in the summer and the Christmas program have been highlights for our Sunday School. The biggest outreach of the Sunday School during the '70's has been the sponsoring of “Every Kid a Camper” which has provided the privilege for hundreds of youth to attend Bluewater Bible Camp at Grand Rapids, Minnesota. Our present Sunday School Superintendent is Dwight Peterson.

The Ladies Aid was organized in 1882. The first meeting was held at the home of Mrs. C. J. Pihlstrom.
Mrs. Andrew Znerold was elected as the first president. Mrs. Svante Hanson was the first treasurer. The Ladies Aid has faithfully served as an arm of the church until 1956 when its name was changed to Covenant Women. Regular business and devotional meetings are held monthly, and some of the women continue to meet in the afternoons for Sewing Days. At these meetings, items are made for various missionary needs. Mrs. Henry Harlow is Chairwoman of the Covenant Women at this time.

The Youth Work of the church began in 1895 when a Young Ladies Sewing Circle was organized. The first president was Miss Alma Dahlgren. The society was reorganized in 1908 and Miss Hannah Tangquist (the late Mrs. Albert Tornell) was its president. On January 16, 1920, the Young Ladies Sewing Circle decided to include men and then became the Young Peoples’ Society which, to begin with was attended by people of all ages, later changed to include only the youth. Today we know them as our Hi-League. The records indicate that from 1938 through the 1950’s the Junior League was an active program of the church. At present the Pioneer Girls, which consists of girls 7 to 16 years of age, are meeting weekly. The approximately 40 girls that meet are from various churches of the community. In 1955, the Young Adults’ Fellowship was organized and remains active at the present time.

A choir was formed in 1908 under the direction of Peter Jacobson. A choir has functioned intermittently over the years. In addition we have been ministered to by a String Band, Orchestra, Junior Choir, Hi-Y-Choir, Male Quartets, Trios and other such combinations.

Sons of the Church who have gone into the ministry have been: George Westberg, William Peterson, Arthur Peterson, C. F. Pihlstrom, Paul LeRoy Olson, Willis Holmgren, Howard Elseth, Steven Johnson and Robert Johnson. Hugo Johnson has also served as a missionary. Four ladies of our congregation have become ministers wives.

The following pastors have served the church since its organization:
- P.F. Mostrom—1882-1886
- P.M. Samuelsen—1887-1894
- A. Tornell—1894-1897
- P.M. Samuelsen—1897-1901
- P.J. Lindberg—1901-1902
- O.J. Lundell—1903-1906
- C.A. Jacobson—1907-1909
- K.A. Bercher—1910-1911
- F.L. Larson—1912-1912
- J.W. Wilson—1913-1915
- C.W. Olson—1916-1921
- Theo. Clemens—1922-1925
- C.V.S. Engstrom—1927-1930
- Sigfrid O. Carlson—1930-1935
- Theo. W. Danielson—1936-1940
- Arvid C. Carlson—1941-1953
- Gottfried Anderson—1953-1959
- Luther M. Englund—1959-1964
- Paul J. Johnson—1965-1971
- Richard L. Lundgren—1972-

Lots for a new church at 112 North 6th Street were purchased in 1966. Construction was begun in 1969 and the building was completed in 1970. The first service was held on April 12, 1970. Dedication service was held in June of that same year.

The present officers of the church are: Chairman: Douglas Gloude, Vice Chairman: Robert Elseth, Secretary: Mrs. Dwight Peterson, Vice-Secretary: Mrs. Donald Olson, Financial Secretary: Duane Nielsen, Treasurer: Henry Harlow, Trustees: C. Einar Johnson, Donald Anderson, Clarence Dau, Robert Kliner and Dale Peterson.

Deaconry: John Peterson, Maurice Sande, Roy Johnson, David Lindquist, Andrew Jensen and Mesdames Evert Erickson, James Johnson and Duane Nielsen.

The present membership of our church is one hundred and fifty.

Old and new Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod.

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

by F. J. Stuemke
updated by Corinne Nelson-Dolphy Loeslie

Although services were held in the Warren community beginning as early as 1879 (with visiting pastors who traveled from as far away as Ada via horse and buggy), Zion’s congregation did not become official until 1904 when they organized as a Mission. Services were first held in the John Rue farm home (NE ¼, Sec. 23 of Warrenton Township, the farm now owned by Ron Loeslie, life-long member of Zion congregation), with visiting Pastor Paul Ross serving until 1907, followed by Rev. F. J. Seltz of
Thief River Falls (who added the modern convenience of the Soo Line Railroad transportation in travel) from 1807-1910 and again 1911-1912. Rev. Rhode of Radium served in 1911.

It was Rev. Seltz who guided the organization of Zion’s Congregation, and on December 15, 1911 they officially became the German Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Missouri Synod. Charter members included Berthold Kammerer, Fred C. Hickman, Louis Giesing, J. R. Rue, and Herman Hartwig. On June 23, 1912 the first call for a pastor was issued to and accepted by the Rev. Wm. Bramschere of St. Paul, who served to 1915. Space was rented for services in the Norwegian Synod Church for a fee of $1.00 a week in the summer, and $1.50 a week for the winter months. The pastor was to receive a salary of $400 a year and free housing and transportation. These expenses were shared by the Warren, Radium, and Tabor congregations. On June 6, 1913 the first Mission Festival was held in Riegel’s Grove (now the Ragnar Stanghelle farm, located in McCreas Township, NE 1/4, Sec. 5).

Rev. Seltz again served as vacancy pastor from 1915 to February 17, 1916 when Rev. M. Hauser became the next pastor. There followed a series of memorable years. That fall the congregation incorporated, and the next year the three congregations jointly purchased a parsonage in Warren. The now vacant church structure on 4th and Fletcher was constructed in 1918 with F. C. Hickman, Gust Fischer, and August Prillwitz as the building committee. Building costs at that time totaled about $7,000 for the entire structure. September 1919 say the organization of the first Sunday School and the Ladies Aid Society. Mr. Frank Stuemke was instrumental in guiding the fledgling Sunday School, and he subsequently served as its Superintendent for 37 years. His devotion and labors assured the congregation that its young would receive “Christian Lehre” (Christian teaching), and Mr. Stuemke was honored at a banquet of appreciation in 1959.

Zion Ladies Aid had as its first officers: Mrs. Martin Hauser, Pres.; Mrs. August Prillwitz, Vice-Pres.; Mrs. F. C. Hickman, Secy.; and Mrs. F. J. Stuemke, Treas. Its first meetings were held in the homes of the members where songs were sung alternately in English and German. This gradually evolved into English only, and in recent years, meetings have been held in the church facilities. In 1942, the society became a charter member of the International Lutheran Women’s Missionary League: the official women’s organization of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.

The Walther League was the young people’s society for many years, serving the newly confirmed in fellowship and spiritual growth. In 1959 Zion joined with Immanuel of Radium for joint fellowship, and in 1968 the official name of the international organization became Active Christian Teens (A.C.T.).

Rev. Hauser, who oversaw the memorable and industrious years of 1917-1919 left the parish in 1924. Vacancy pastor was Rev. E. Kredit of Thief River Falls, who served the one year until Rev. M. F. Buenger accepted a call and served until 1941. He organized Zion’s first Bible Class. Rev. O. A. Sylvester served as pastor until 1947, when the parish was served in its vacancy by Rev. Wolfgang of East Grand Forks until Rev. Floyd Kruger accepted a call in 1948. Rev. W. O. Sprengeler became Zion’s next pastor in 1954. Under his guidance the Warren/Radium Parish jointly constructed a new parsonage just north of Zion Church, and Zion undertook the remodeling of its basement facilities.

Rev. Roger Fischer was installed by the parish in June of 1958, and he served until Sept. 1962. It was during his pastorate that Zion celebrated its 50th Anniversary in 1961. He was followed by Rev. Charles Beyer who was pastor from 1963-1966. Rev. Eugene Rall served as pastor from 1966-1969 and was succeeded by Rev. Henry V. Buchholz who served in the years of 1970 through 1974. In August of 1975 the Rev. Paul Presinger was installed in the pastorate of Zion and Immanuel Congregations, and continues to serve in that position to this time.

Interim pastors who have served during the later year vacancies include the late Rev. E. Borchert and the Rev. E. Behling, both pastors of a sister congregation in East Grand Forks, Minn. Several laymen of the Zion and Immanuel Parishes have also served as lay pastors in recent years, major duties centering on conducting services during vacancies and vacation periods. These laymen include: Gordon Sommers, Franklin Knoll, and Donavon Loeslie. Organists through the years have included: F. J. Stuemke, Mrs. Mary Kerestes, Mrs. W. O. Sprengeler, Mrs. Marlene Sihnes, Mrs. Judy Yutrzenka, Mrs. Jean Potucek, and Mrs. Corrine Nelson.

Zion has initiated many changes during the past few years under the guidance of the present pastor, Rev. Presinger; the most memorable of which was the construction of a new house of worship in 1979. The January, 1879 voter’s meeting of the congregation indicated a majority of the congregation were in favor of taking this monumental step forward in Christian growth, and on May 20th, 1979 ground was broken for the $250,000 structure located on the southeast edge of the city. Completed in early December of 1979, the redwood and stone building measures 76x96 ft., and seats 250 persons. It has 5 classrooms, a pastor’s study, fellowship hall, kitchen, sacristy and large nave with choir loft. A special feature of the church is the inclusion of items from the old church on 4th and Fletcher. These items include; the original stained glass windows (now set in the interior walls), hand carved oak pulpit, altar, and baptismal font (carving done by Billy Neuman), and the solid oak pews. Retention of these items and the incorporation of them into the modern structure has added the dimension of continuity as the congregation left behind their 62 yr. old building and moved to a modern edifice for new opportunities and growth.

The first service in the new sanctuary was held December 16th, 1979, with formal dedication held on February 3, 1980. Rev. Paul Presinger officiated at the Rite of Dedication, with the Rev. August Mennicke, Pres. of the Minnesota North District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, as the guest speaker. Also participating in the services were pastors of the Crookston Circuit and a former pastor, Rev. Roger Fischer, now of Watertown, S.D.

Throughout the years Zion has recognized God’s presence and continued blessings as expressed in the words of a familiar hymn: “Our God, our help in ages past; our hope for years to come.” Now with the buildings and dedication of the new house of worship, Zion publicly affirms: “To God Be the Glory.”

Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church

by Mrs. David Judovsky

From 1880 to the time a congregation was formed in Warren, Mass was said infrequently for the Catholic
The first Mass celebrated in Warren was in 1909 or 1910 by Rev. Claude Masonat. It is believed that the first Mass celebrated in Warren was completed that very summer. On October 10, 1915 digging operations of Springmier and Smith, the church was baptized at the Schantzen home. Also, his brother, Charles, was a member of our Parish community from 1901 until his death in June of 1979. St. Mary’s of Radium was a mission of our Parish for a few years but is now joined with us.

It is believed that the first Mass celebrated in Warren was in 1909 or 1910 by Rev. Claude Massonat. In 1914, when Father Joseph Fraling was pastor at Stephen, it became evident to him that a Catholic Parish must be established in Warren to care for the spiritual needs of a considerable Catholic population there. His first Mass was celebrated in the “Unique Theatre” (where Pete’s Hardware Hank, at 201 East Johnson is now) on November 29th with 75 people in attendance. After the services were over, an election of trustees was held. Mr. J. O. Herrick, who was the agent at the Soo Line Depot, was elected secretary and Mr. G. W. Smith, a drayman, was elected treasurer. The Parish was incorporated December 10, 1914.

The protestant people of Warren aided considerable in building up this Parish. One of them who deserves special mention is Attorney Julius J. Olson, father of Attorney Sletten Olson. In February of 1915, Attorney Olson formulated a subscription list for the new Church and backed it with a personal gift of $300 and the lot. It looks as if the ecumenical movement was on the way then.

It was decided to build a frame church for the sum of $4,000. With the help of the parishioners, especially the digging operations of Springmier and Smith, the church was completed that very summer. On October 10, 1915 Bishop Timothy Corbett of Crookston, dedicated the new building and on the same day installed the Rev. John P. Funk as its first resident pastor. Father Funk had the additional charge of Euclid and Oslo, which were missions of Warren at the time. A house on the lot southwest of the Church property was purchased as the first rectory.

The first baptism recorded in the new Sts. Peter and Paul parish was that of Katharine Ferguson (now Mrs. Ingrid Pedersen) in December of 1916, listing the financial position of the Parish and a list of names of the first years’ membership. They were: J. Costello, O. Douglas, Hugh Ferguson, Mary Ferguson, W. Finch, Mrs. M. Finnegan, Mrs. Charles Franks, Mrs. Healey, Thomas Hannaby, J.O. Herrick, M. Ketter, Mrs. Kilfoyle, N. Kobilka, E. P. Lennon, Mrs. M. Luxemburg, Mrs. M. McGillan, J. M. McDonald, Miss Macy, A. Malm, F. Mlenek. Also Thomas Ovsak, Sr., Joseph Ovsak, Stephen Ovsak, F. W. Peck, Oscar Peterson, T. Rutz, Michael Rymer, Joseph Rymer, Peter Rymer, Nich Schantzen, F. Schantzen, Ted Schantzen, Joseph Schilling, George Smith, Ira Smith, Adrian Smith, E. Springmier, Mrs. N. O. Stadium, J. Strob, and Mrs. J. Svoboda.

The first organ was donated to the church by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ovsak, Sr. The first organist was Mrs. In-golf Pedersen and the first choir director was Mrs. Cora Hatfield. Through the years, several of the Ovsak children played the organ, also Elizabeth Miller, and possibly others but the first organist who stayed for any length of time was Mrs. Earl (Ann) Kaliber. The Kalihers were here from 1949 until 1967 and during those 18 years, Ann played for both Sunday Masses plus the daily Masses, never missing a day unless she was sick or they were on vacation. Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Novak were married and joined our Parish in 1965. In 1966 when Mrs. Kaliber asked for additional organists, Bernadette Novak volunteered. She has been our head organist since Kalihers left. Through the years she has had help from Mrs. Norman Bruneau, Mrs. Felix Bienek, John Pryz- bylski, and Mrs. Tom Yutrzenka.

Father Funk celebrated his last Mass in the Parish April 22, 1917 and was succeeded by Father Joseph Qillian who remained but a few months. Father Thomas G. Merrill came in September of 1917. While here, he began work on the new rectory but was transferred in February of 1919 before its completion. Father T. J. Heavey replaced him but was only here a few weeks when he burned to death in a fire at the old parish house. On July 29, 1919 Rev. Patrick Lyons became pastor. He completed and took up residence in the new parish house. This is the house presently owned by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dubore at 404 North Fifth. During the time he was here he also had charge of the Oslo and St. Vincent parishes. While Father Lyons was here the first Confimation was held. The class was confirmed on August 7, 1921 by Bishop Timothy Corbett of Crookston.

Father Joseph Mulvey succeeded Father Lyons on August 2, 1924 and remained as pastor until 1949. Despite the difficult times of the depression, Sts. Peter and Paul Parish saw considerable activity during Father Mulvey’s tenure. He built a garage in 1925 and bought cemetery grounds in 1928 from J. D. Lawrence for $200.
On January 7, 1933, Father Mulvey invited the parishioners to take part in the burning of all the notes held against the Parish.

The upkeep of the Church and its heating during the long cold winters was a struggle during these years when financing anything was hard. Nevertheless, in June, 1933, the parish undertook to remodel the interior of the Church and on July 11, 1935, a thousand pound bell was donated by Thomas Ovsak, Sr. and his children—Thomas, Joseph, Michael, Mary, Anna, Barbara, Stephen and Rose—in memory of Mrs. Mary Ovsak, wife and mother, who died on September 25, 1934, and four deceased infant children. The blessing and dedication of the new bell was held August 4, 1935. It was christened St. Victor in memory of the church Mr. Ovsak belonged to in the old country.

In 1936 Father Mulvey purchased a new cemetery across from the city cemetery and the next year was able to remove the bodies from the old plot which was outside of town. He sold the old plot for $50 to Raymond Jensen.

The summer of 1938 saw an important new addition to the Church with the building of a new sanctuary and sacristy. This allowed the body of the church to be enlarged to accommodate about fifty more people. The final addition to the Church during Father Mulvey's pastorate was a new porch added in 1945. Father had also made plans to redecorate the interior of the Church, which was done in the Fall of 1947. He also assigned the first ushers to the church ever had. They were Louis Diedrich and Charles Ferguson and they served for many years until the present day system of rotation started.

In 1949, shortly before he was transferred, Father Mulvey celebrated his 25th Anniversary in the Priesthood. He didn't like a lot of fuss and refused any offer of a celebration but the Parish got together and presented him with a gift.

Father Nicholas Stumps succeeded Father Mulvey, July 22, 1949. He was an avid poet writer, and later became chaplain at St. Vincent's Rest Home in Crookston. In 1950 Felix Bienek's grandmother, Mrs. Elizabeth Warczak, died. Because her grandson was a member of our Parish, she left the church $1,000 to be used to purchase new vestments. While Father Stumps was here a serious furnace explosion damaged the Church.

Father W. F. Lemen succeeded Father Stumps on June 28, 1952. Father Lemen began immediately to make necessary repairs in the buildings and property. He remodeled the basement of the church and the kitchen, built a new garage, and added needed Parish office space in the rectory. Father Lemen was quite a hockey player, and every winter would have a skating rink in good shape for the youth of Warren to skate on. He was also instrumental in starting a tithing program in our Parish for funds for the new church building. While here, Father observed his 25th Anniversary in the Priesthood. The Parish helped him to celebrate by holding an Open House for him Sunday afternoon, March 12, 1961. The parishioners presented him with a gift of $1,000.

Father Lemen performed the funeral rites on July 11, 1953, for the first war casualty in the Parish, Pvt. John Poolman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Poolman, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Poolman donated the first $100 toward a new organ for the Church in his memory. In 1955, a new organ was purchased by Father Lemen to replace the old pump organ.

On July 18, 1963 Father Henry Monroe was appointed pastor. The children of this Parish really loved him as he always had time for them and taught a few grades himself. Back in the 40's an attempt was made to start a Men's Club but nothing really materialized until Father Monroe arrived. He formed the Men's Club that is active today. The first president was Daniel Myszkowski and the secretary-treasurer was Dave Judovsky. Father Monroe died suddenly March 3, 1965 at the age of 52, of a cerebral hemorrhage while teaching catechism to the children. He was buried in the Parish cemetery. Preacher at the funeral Mass was Father W. F. Lemen, former War­ren priest. A stone altar and cross were erected near his grave. These beautiful structures were donated by his sister, Mrs. Grace Miller of Hardin, Illinois. She also contributed the stained-glass windows in the Baptistry and a considerable amount of money for rectory furnishings, all in his memory.

Father Eugene R. Connelly was assigned to our Parish March 18, 1965 and served until August 10, 1969. In addition to serving as priest for our Parish, he was also Superintendent of Schools in the Crookston Diocese.

During his pastorate a new brick church and rectory were built to replace the old wooden structure. Blessing of the ground and construction of the buildings began on May 1, 1968. On February 12, 1969 the Parish vacated the frame Church and rectory at 5th Street and Fletcher Avenue and moved into its new quarters. The 12,500 foot structure cost $231,000, exclusive of furnishings. It has a seating capacity of 400. Over half the money required for the construction of the church was donated by parishioners. The building committee included Leo Four­nier, chairman; Paul Edman, Norman Bruneau, Louis Diedrich, David Judovsky, Emil Pribula, Ralph Plencner, Aaron DesJardins and Lawrence Marek. The finance committee included Stanley Danielski and Harry Kuznia, co-chairmen; William Mischel, Leonard Plencner, Nick Plen­cner, Ivan Johnson, Charles Dubore, L. J. McKinnon, Walter Waldorf and Carl Johnson.

The first baptism recorded in the new church was that of Caroline Jean Cook, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Duane Cook, on May 11, 1969. The first wedding was performed May 3, 1969 for Ronald Vanek and June Edgar. The first funeral was Byron D. Fournier of Hallock, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Fournier, held on November 19, 1969.

Shortly after moving into the new church, another organ was purchased from Mrs. Maxine Slusar. It was selected by Mrs. Leonard Novak and Mrs. Rodney Nowacki.

Father Louis E. Proulx, a native of Argyle, became pastor in August of 1969.

On April 12, 1970, the first class was confirmed in the new church by Bishop L. A. Glenn. In the early spring of 1971, two men of our Parish were appointed by the Bishop to serve Holy Communion. They were Sylvester Narlock and Emil Pribula.

On June 26, 1971, our present pastor, Father Edward Nistler, was appointed. In the early fall of 1971 we received four Franciscan Sisters who worked under the name of Area Christian Services. Two worked for the care of the sick and two worked in education. They served the parishes of Dorothy, Euclid, Oslo, Tabor, and Warren for three years.

In October of 1971, the first Parish Council was formed and consisted of six men, six women, two trustees, and two youth. The first Parish Council President was Daniel Myszkowski. He was succeeded by Paul Edman, Elmer Sabol, Art Drenckhahn, Charles Dubore, Don Votava,
Douglas Sorenson, and our present president, Ted Paul. The first council members were: Mrs. Howard Lamberson, Mrs. Richard Fitzsimons, Emil Pribula, Mrs. Don Bauer, Daniel Myśkowski, Mrs. Milan Sorenson, Mrs. W. L. Lamb, Mrs. Dennis Brekke, Sylvester Narlock, Joe Rayond, Richard Fitzsimons, Anthony Kozojed, Leo Fournier, Paul Edman, Linda Plencner, and Dean Danielski.

In 1946, under Father Mulvey, St. Mary’s of Radium was formed as a mission of Sts. Peter & Paul Church. Until they got a church, the people of Radium held Mass in the upstairs rooms of the old Radium Hall with Father Mulvey presiding. The Pentecost Church of Warren was then purchased and moved to Radium. This church stood where the Harry Kuznisas now have their home at 316 East Colvin. In 1948 St. Mary’s became a mission of Argyle with Father Rousseau and Father Reise saying Mass. It was again switched back to Warren under Father Nistler. In June of 1978 St. Mary’s closed its doors and its parishioners became members of Sts. Peter and Paul’s. St. Mary’s of Euclid then became a mission of Warren.

On Holy Saturday, April 14, 1979, Ray Burwell and Don Votava were commissioned by the Bishop of Crookston to serve Holy Communion.

On Saturday, June 9, 1979, Father Nistler celebrated his 25th Anniversary of his Ordination. A concelebrated Mass, with a dinner following in the Social Hall, was held in his honor. The Parishes of Sts. Peter & Paul’s and St. Mary’s of Euclid, presented him with a gift of a new Ford station wagon.

In 65 years, since the small group of people gathered in 1915 to start a parish in Warren, our church has matured and grown to a parish of about 250 families. With God’s blessings and love we will enjoy another 65 years. The changes have been many but we hope the people are better and stronger in their faith because of them.

Assemblies of God Church

by Rev. R. E. Fischer
updated by Gordon Wetterlund

The Assemblies of God church had its beginning in Warren with the purchase of the former Norwegian Methodist church building by the Minnesota District Council of the Assemblies of God in February of 1951. The opening services were held August 26, 1951, with Pastor R. E. Fischer in charge. A dedication service was held on November 9, 1951, at which time the building was formally rededicated. Reverend G. Raymond Carlson, Minnesota District Superintendent of the Assemblies of God, brought the dedicatory message and officiated at the dedication. The church was officially organized and affiliated with the General Council of the Assemblies of God on May 12, 1954. Those elected to serve on the first board of trustees were: A. E. Strandquist, Lawrence Dargus, and David E. Johnson was elected church secretary.

Sunday School was conducted from the opening of the church in 1951. The church has an active ladies organization, formerly known as the Women’s Missionary Council and now called the Women’s Ministries to cover a broader scope, meets once a month. This was organized in June of 1953. Mrs. Herman Lundeen was its first president and Mrs. Torkel Hvidsten was the first secretary-treasurer. There is also a youth organization called the Christ’s Ambassadors which meets regularly and has various social gatherings.

A number of improvements have been made in the building from time to time. In 1954 the basement kitchen was completely remodeled, in 1955 a new tile floor was installed in the church and new glass of a translucent nature replaced in the windows, new fixtures and a new gas furnace was installed as well as new church steps, in 1973 a new piano was purchased, new carpeting was laid in 1976, and in 1978 new song books were purchased and a new set of metal doors were installed.

In 1961 a rural farm home was purchased and moved to Warren to serve as a parsonage for the church and was placed on a basement at 504 West Edward Street. In 1965 a garage was added to the house and in 1975 the parsonage was remodeled.

On April 12, 1959, a mortgage-burning ceremony was conducted by Rev. G. Raymond Carlson who is now the Assistant General Superintendent at the National Headquarters of the Assemblies of God in Springfield, Missouri.

Pastors who have served this congregation have been:

Social life in the early days centered about one’s home and one’s church. To broaden their contacts and to band together for social enjoyment many of the early pioneers “joined up” with a fraternal organization. In Warren, the Masonic Lodge was the first organized but it was quickly followed by the Oddfellows, the Independent Order of Foresters, the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Lodge of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Lodge of the Knights of the Maccabees, the Yeoman Lodge, the Order of Redmen, the Order of Vasa, Miller Camp No. 861, R.N.A., etc. Histories of these organizations are, for the most part, unavailable but through notices in the newspapers of that period it is known that they existed and many had large memberships. Several of the organizations had insurance plans and many of those fell by the wayside when they raised their premiums so high that they “froze” out all members of advanced years.

**Warren Lodge No. 150, A.F. & A.M.**

This Masonic Lodge was first established in 1882. The first year the membership consisted of twenty-five of the early pioneers and the meetings were held over the Sleek Store which was located on the northeast corner of the intersection of First Street and Park Avenue. Later in 1888 the Lodge moved to new quarters over the K. J. Taralseth Co. and though burned out in the fire of 1910 they returned to occupy their new quarters when the present Taralseth store was built. Officers of the first year and the present year are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1882</td>
<td>Emmit W. Rossman</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>William A. Wallace</td>
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<td>William A. Gilbert</td>
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<td>Edwin R. Ross</td>
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<td>William W. Hunter</td>
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<td>Preston W. Stickney</td>
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<td>James C. McCrea</td>
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<td>A. E. Flint</td>
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<td>Mark Stevens</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Duncan A. Whitney</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>George Rossman</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following contains the names of all who have served as Masters of the Warren Lodge:

- Emmit W. Rossman
- P. E. Snyder
- W. A. Wallace
- Emery Johnson
- W. A. Gilbert
- A. J. Nordstrom
- P. L. Stickney
- W. W. Powell
- J. Hunter
- O. M. Mattson
- L. Lamberson
- W. E. Hanson
- G. S. Wattam
- C. L. Lund
- J. P. Easton
- C. E. Lundgren
- W. N. Powell
- George Sands
- H. L. Wood
- Roger Howe
- W. J. Brown
- Walter Flink
- D. Farrell
- C. G. Swedberg

- C. L. Stevens
- A. E. Gustman
- G. E. Keenan
- John W. Sands
- C. A. Nelson
- W. R. Holbrook
- A. N. Eckstrom
- R. E. Melbo
- A. A. Harris
- R. H. Quanrud
- R. B. Taralseth
- W. E. Johnsen
- J. A. Grindeland
- Jesse Filip
- R. E. Thomas
- H. Q. Melgard
- A. A. Ecklund
- Morris Maruska
- J. V. Odman
- Victor Aalbu
- C. A. Gunnarson
- Clifford Engeldal
- C. A. Wittensten
- Calvin Melgard
- C. Schultz
- Robert Graham
- Harveydale Maruska
- Percy Gilbert
- Huntley Filipi
- Leonard Olson
- Arnold Lamberson
- Gene Johnstone
- Walter Hillman
- John Richardson
- Cliff Bennett
- Albin Anderson
- William Porter
- William Schaefer

**Histories of Fraternal Organizations**

After World War II, interest in Masonry declined in favor of organizations based on fun and with the attrition by death it soon became apparent that without new members, the future for the organization was bleak. The loss of Lodge Headquarters in 1974 in the former K. J. Taralseth building due to higher rents that were financially impossible, speeded up the dissolution of this Lodge and just short of its 97th year, it was voted to join the Stephen Lodge and to give up the charter at the end of 1979.

**Warren Chapter No. 116, Order of the Eastern Star**

The Eastern Star chapter in Warren was organized on January 28, 1897, by Worthy Grand Patron, Thomas H. Warren, and constituted June 18, 1897, by Flora A. Patee, Worthy Grand Matron. The first officers were Mrs. Anna Farrel, W.M.; Guy Aubol, W.P.; Mrs. Grace Harris, Assoc. M.; Mrs. Cora Flanders, Sec’y; Mrs. Clara Bradley, Treasurer; Mrs. Fannie Lamberson, Conductor; Mrs. Alice Whitney, Assoc. Conductor; Miss Ida Farrel, Adah; Mrs. Jessie Powell, Ruth; Mrs. Mildred Hunter, Esther; Mrs. Edith Hewitt, Martha; Mrs. Jessica Cross, Electa; Miss Winnie Hunter, Warder; Mrs. Laura Wood, Organist; and John Keenan, Sentinel.

On October 3, 1947, the Warren Chapter observed its 50th Anniversary with Mrs. Minnie Gunnarson, W.M., and A. A. Trost, W.P., presiding at the formal ceremonies held in the Masonic Hall. Guest organist was Mrs. Mildred Wood Kaidahl, the daughter of the first organist. Four charter members were present: Mrs. Grace Powell of Thief River Falls, Mrs. Mildred Hunter of Stephen, and Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Melgard of Warren. Mrs. Anna Farrel, the first W.M. was unable to attend as she lived in Los Angeles, California. At present she lives in Long Beach, California, and it is believed this is the only Chapter in the state with a living Worthy Matron of 59 years ago.

Worthy Matrons through the years are as follows:

- Anna Farrel
- Edna Swanson
- Mildred Hunter
- Bessie Lamberson
- Fannie Lamberson
- Edith Brett
- Edith Hewitt
- Olive Wadsworth
- Anna M. Easton
- Edla Winberg
- Florence Winchester
- Florence Johnson
- Anna Farrell
- Helen Fink
- Jessie E. Powell
- Cleo Gustman
- Grace Powell
- Esther Mattson
- Emma Dady
- Ann Mattson
- Margaret Holcomb

- Dorothy Howe
- Letha Braggan
- Kari Herbranson
- LuLu Mathwig
- Minnie Gunnarson
- Bertha Eckstrom
- Magda Spilde
- Alice Stevens
- Alice Snyder
- Neil O. Thomas
- Ruth Stewart
- Agnes Campion
- Ethel Engeland
- Hattie Ecklund
- Elizabeth MacArthur
- June Bratrud
- Estelle Holstrom
- Edith Mattson
- Hjordis Knuston
- Georgia Campion
- Sally Filipi

- Anna M. Easton, Grand Adah of 1902; LuLu Mathwig, Grand Martha of 1917; and Georgia Campion, Grand Chaplain of 1931.

In 1974, due to the loss of quarters, the Order of Eastern Stars voted to give up their Charter after seventy-seven years of operation and service to the community.

240
Oddfellows Lodge

by Gunnar Swedberg

The Oddfellows Lodge was organized on May 21, 1895, with twenty-three members, Dr. I. J. McGillan, A. R. Gordon, J. P. Easton and O. G. Valtinson were the first officers. Other of the early members were James M. Brown, William S. Cobb, Anton S. McGinnis, E. T. Frank, Charles H. Sandberg, L. M. Rafferty, E. G. Woolery and Alfred Swandby who it the present Noble Grand.

The Daughters of Rebekah

by Cora Ranstrom and updated by Clarice Carlson

Bethel Lodge No. 158, Daughters of Rebekah, was organized on December 15, 1896, with 37 charter members. During the intervening years it apparently ceased to exist for it was reinstalled on October 16, 1923, through the efforts of Mrs. Mary Copp and Mrs. A. B. Nelson. In 1971, the Rebekahs sold their Rebekah Home which was the former West Hotel on West Johnson Avenue to the city of Warren. They then met in the meeting room of the P.K.M. building until September 4, 1973. At this time they moved into the New Fire Hall, as it was one of the provisions of the sale of their former headquarters. It is here that they continue to meet. The officers of the first year and the present year are as follows:

Mrs. John Sinclair—N.G.—Clarice Carlson
Mrs. George Magladry—V.G.—Ora Pinkerton
Miss Lena Holan—Sec’y.—Bess Swanson
Miss Maggie Kingston—Treas.—Grace Frederick
Miss Lizzie Wees—R.S.N.G.—Anna Westberg
Miss Maggie Loughridge—L.S.N.G.—
Mrs. L. M. Rafferty—R.S.V.G.—
Mrs. H. J. Bennewitz—L.S.V.G.—
Mrs. A. R. Gordon—Chaplain—Evelyn Olson
Miss Mary Frank—Warden—Grace Frederick
Miss Mabelle Fawcett—Conductor—Florence Silnes
Mrs. Guy Jarrett—I.G.—Loretta Brown
Miss Winnie Jarrett—O.G.—
Mrs. J. P. Easton—P.G.—

Musician—Doris Truhn

Past Noble Grands from 1923 on are: Mrs. Mary Copp, Mrs. A. B. Nelson, Sadie Forsberg, Emma Kvikstad, Audrey Golden, Loretta Brown, Millie Carlson, Mary Rogers, Minnie Farstad, Edith Brett, Amy Davidson, Irene Grange, Doris Truhn, Bessie Swanson, Elda Palmer, Jennie Quanrud, Florence Silnes, Evelyn Olson, Rena Fischer, Margaret Sveen (Bredeson), Anna Klemo, Hazel Hurst, Ruth Morgan, Lillian Tullar, Mae Sinn, Grace Frederick, Anna Westberg, Loretta Heyen, Cora Ranstrom and Clarice Carlson.

Modern Woodmen of America

Camp 2318, Modern Woodmen of America, was chartered on May 1, 1894, with 27 charter members. The organization prospered for awhile and they were instrumental in having an opera house erected which in later years was turned into the city auditorium. Later the membership in this insurance organization fell off and on December 29, 1948, this Camp was consolidated with Camp 2538, Argyle, Minnesota.

The Knights of Pythias

The Knights of Pythias was instituted on February 3, 1903, with 30 charter members. W.S. Day, T. Morck, H. L. Wood, G. C. Winchester, C. L. Stevens, C. A. Nelson, G. G. Johnson, R. C. Mathwig, and O. H. Taralseth were the first officers. This organization ceased to exist in the 1920’s.

The Order of Vasa

by Axel E. Anderson

Warren Lodge, No. 316, Order of Vasa, was organized on May 12, 1915, with the District Deputy, Hilding Alrik of Crookston, in charge of installations. The following officers were installed: L. M. Olson, President; Axel J. Nordstrom, Vice President; Julius Nyquist, Secretary; Justice Carlson, Financial Secretary; John Dagoberg, Treasurer; Fred Swanson, Chaplain; Ole E. Anderson, Installing Officer; Henry Johnson, Inside Guardian; and Hilmer Johnson, Outside Guardian. At the first meeting held on May 26, 1915, William Juring, Axel Olson, S. Ole Anderson, Carl W. Carlson, John G. Anderson, Louis M. Johnson, and John Swanson were initiated as members. These, together with the officers, comprised the charter members of the order.

During the next eight or ten years, the Lodge grew in membership so that at one time it had 120 active members but for various reasons, the membership has fallen off so that at the present time only a few members remain. In the early days when there were Vasa Lodges in Crookston, Alvarado, Strandquist and Karlstad, the members enjoyed many outings and had the opportunity to have speakers address them in the Swedish language. During its existence, the Lodge paid out one hundred dollars to each member in good standing at the time of his or her death. Sick benefits have also been paid to those who were in need of them.

HISTORIES OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Other organizations were formed in Warren and the surrounding area prompted by previous service in the military branches of the Armed Forces or by a mutual desire to better their living conditions and earning power, to train their children in the various phases of life on the farm, and to have a social center where they could meet and relax. In the city of Warren, other organizations were set up to teach the youth through Scouting, their elders through reading clubs and later Women’s and Mother’s Clubs, and to foster such organizations as the Public Library. Here are a few such organizations.
Post 27, American Legion

by Harvey Johnson

Warren Post 27, American Legion, was organized officially on December 2, 1919, following the receipt of the charter from the State of Minnesota. The group of servicemen, 98 in the first year, decreased to few in numbers in the late thirties but were augmented by the World War II and Korean veterans and later the Vietnam veterans until today the post has an all time high membership of 372. The post has the honor of reaching all time high in membership for the past eleven consecutive years.

Meeting in the rooms over the fire hall for years, the post changed its meeting place to the City Auditorium about 1940. In 1946, the Gordhammer building on Main Street was purchased for $1,500.00 where the post home is still located. In 1966, the dining room, lounge and kitchen were added. The large addition was added in 1973 where banquets and dances are held today. In 1978, the bar and lounge were completely remodeled. The post home now occupies an area of about 7,520 square feet and is the center of many civic activities.

The charter officers of the post included: Ingolf Grindeland, Commander; John G. Holan, Vice Commander; Dr. Baldwin Borreson, Second Vice-Commander; M. F. Pihlstrom, Adjutant and C. M. Bakke, Treasurer.

Charter members of the post according to the Legion’s records were:

Andrew Anderson
Sidney Anderson
Clarence M. Bakke
Adolph F. Bakke
Elmer Boyd
Baldwin Borreson
William Copp
Henry D. Erickson
Albert Golden
Theodore H. Hilleboe
Victor E. Holmgren
James H. Holan
Edwin G. Iverson
Axel E. Johnson
Carl O. Knutson
Marshall E. Keys
James Killoyle
Arthur J. Legault
R. O. Lodoen
Edward Lundgren

The Warren Post has been active in civic activities. They put on a play "45 Minutes From Broadway" in 1935. The post initiated its outstanding boy award of the Warren High School graduating class. The following boys have received the award:

1925 Raymond Peterson
1926 Harold Schee
1927 Ernest Palmer
1928 Sletten Olson
1929 Goodwin Holmqvist
1930 Halward Blegen
1931 Robert Enebak
1932 Merle Elickson
1933 Shevlin Nilsetuen
1934 Lawrence F. Knutson
1935 Donald Willey
1936 Harold Peterson
1937 Bruce Folkens
1938 Robert Wilson
1939 Robert Dahlof
1940 Clayton Lodoen
1941 Robert Reiser
1942 Henry Hanson
1943 Robert Holbrook

1944 Neil Mattson
1945 Duane Bjerke
1946 Arthur Vansickle
1947 LeRoy Willey
1948 Robert Nelson
1949 Donald Tolleson
1950 Robert Howe
1951 Paul Strandberg
1952 William Crow
1953 James Strandberg
1954 Marvin Lundin
1955 Calvin Sorenson
1956 Daryl Ranstrom
1957 Darrell Sedlacek
1958 Dewaine Sedlacek
1959 Rodney Carlson
1960 Terry Black
1961 Roger Hickman
1962 Robert Peterson

1963 Dean Peterson
1964 Paul Kalher
1965 Robert Mishebel
1966 Larry Peterson
1967 Bruce Filipi
1968 John Torkelson
1969 David Saetre
1970 James Bustrack
1971 Robert Johnson

1972 Wayne Torgerson
1973 Richard Stanghelle
1974 Bobby Nelson
1975 Donavan Knutson
1976 David Gloude
1977 Thomas Kozrijed
1978 Mark Potucek
1979 Todd Johnston
1980 Mitchell Anderson

The Post also sponsored an ice skating rink during most of the 1930’s. In 1927, a Legion sponsored basketball team was organized. In 1929, and for many years after that, the post sponsored Jr. American Legion baseball with A. D. Collette and Edward N. (Ike) Nelson in charge.

At the present time, the post continues to sponsor the outstanding boy award, the Boy Scout and Jr. American Legion baseball together with the Warren School patrol sending four girls and four boys to Legionville each summer. They also send two boys to Boys State each year. The Post has sponsored the 4th of July fireworks for twenty-one years from 1955 to 1976.

They have a full marching squad available for military funerals, Veterans Day and Memorial Day and have participated in many parades throughout the area. The squad has been under the leadership of Herb Drews since 1951. They have a concession stand at the Marshall County Fair and also are in charge of the car parking at the fairgrounds. They have contributed $2600.00 to Operation Heartbeat and give full support to Veteran’s Hospitals and all other American Legion programs. In 1971 and 1977 the post hosted the 9th District Conventions.

Rev. W. A. Feagle was the only post member to hold a department of Minnesota office. He served as Department Chaplain in 1946-1947.

Post members holding office in the 9th District include:
C. O. Knutson, Executive Committee—1926-27.
Dr. C. A. Gunnarson, Vice Commander—1928-29.
Victor Holmgren, Vice Commander—1932-33.
J. Herbranson, Vice-Commander—1948-49.
J. L. VanBuren, Vice-Commander—1956-57.
Clarence Peipkorn, Vice-Commander—1969-70.
Olger Olson, Vice-Commander—1971-72.
Arthur Bossman, Vice-Commander—1973-74-75; Vice-Commander at Large—1975-76; Commander—1976-77.

Harvey Johnson, Historian—1974-77.

Commanders and Adjutant of the post since its inception include:
1919-1920—Ingolf Grindeland, Commander; M. F. Pihlstrom, Adjutant.
1920-1921—Dr. O. Meland, Commander; M. F. Pihlstrom Adjutant.
1921-1922—M. F. Pihlstrom, Commander; Victor E. Holmgren, Adjutant.
1923-1924—Dr. C. A. Gunnarson, Commander; Paul Snyder, Adjutant.
1924-1925—Willis W. Powell, Commander; Leonard Winberg, Adjutant.
1925-1926—Harley Swensen, Commander; Marshall Kayes, Adjutant.
1926-1927—L. O. Winberg, Commander; Emery A. Johnson, Adjutant.
1928-1929—Elmer Rosendahl, Commander; Ed Nelson, Adjutant.
1929-1930—L. C. Hofmeister, Commander; V. E. Holmgren, Adjutant.
1930-1931—L. C. Hofmeister, Commander; V. E. Holmgren, Adjutant.
1931-1932—Roger Howe, Commander; V. E. Holmgren, Adjutant.
1932-1933—Emery Johnson, Commander; Willis Powell, Adjutant.
1933-1934—Eddie E. Nelson, Commander; Roger Howe, Adjutant.
1935-1936—Eugene Westman, Commander; Vernor Nelson, Adjutant.
1936-1937—E. E. Swenson, Commander; Vernor Nelson, Adjutant.
1937-1938—William Hennebry, Commander; Albert Golden, Adjutant.
1938-1939—Walter Miller, Commander; Albert Golden, Adjutant.
1939-1940—Andy Morkassel, Commander; William Hennebry, Adjutant.
1940-1941—George Copp, Commander; William Hennebry, Adjutant.
1941-1942—George Copp, Commander; William Hennebry, Adjutant.
1942-1943—Paul Snyder, Commander; William Hennebry, Adjutant.
1943-1944—Hans Olson, Commander; William Hennebry, Adjutant.
1944-1945—Hans Olson, Commander; William Hennebry, Adjutant.
1945-1946—William Godel, Commander; William Hennebry, Adjutant.
1946-1947—Donald Willey, Commander; Nels Freng, Adjutant.
1947-1948—Delos Austinson, Commander; Kenneth Copp, Adjutant.
1948-1949—Kenneth Copp, Commander; Walter Miller, Adjutant.
1949-1950—Les Nustad, Commander; Walter Miller, Adjutant.
1950-1951—Clifford Engelstad, Commander; Walter Miller, Adjutant.
1951-1952—Walter Miller, Commander; Warren Nelson, Adjutant.
1955-1956—Harold M. Johnson, Commander; Erling Lundgren, Adjutant.

1956-1957—Arthur Bossman, Commander; Charles Engelstad, Adjutant.
1957-1958—Charles Cheney, Commander; Dale Forslund, Adjutant.
1962-1963—Joe Fanfulik, Commander; Leo Sinn, Adjutant.
1964-1965—Leo Sinn, Commander; Clifford Stafslien, Adjutant.
1965-1966—Stanley Swanson, Commander; Arlo Rolandson, Adjutant.
1966-1967—Francis Forester, Commander; Donald Bauer, Adjutant.
1967-1968—Clarence Peipkorn, Commander; Oliver Peyton, Adjutant.
1968-1969—Oliver Peyton, Commander; Olger Olson, Adjutant.
1974-1975—Maynard Slusar, Commander; Duane Nielsen, Adjutant.
1975-1976—Roy Swanson, Commander; Duane Nielsen, Adjutant.
1977-1978—Duane Truhn, Commander; Bob Ullevig, Adjutant.
1978-1979—Ray Swanson, Commander; Conrad Goroski, Adjutant.
1979-1980—Ray Anfinson, Commander; Conrad Goroski, Adjutant.

* * *

Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 27

This organization was organized in the Spring of 1980 while Ray Anfinson was Commander of the American Legion. It has a charter of 102 adult and young members with Howard Lamberson and Ray Anfinson as its Advisors. The organization meets the second Thursday of every month and it emphasizes patriotism and the upholding of the aims of the American Legion. Eventually, they will have their own marching squad.

* * *
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 27

by Mrs. Jens Golden & updated by Dona Nielsen

Unit 27 of the American Legion Auxiliary was organized on December 1, 1924, by Dr. C. A. Gunnarson, Commander of the Post at that time, and Mrs. Leora Cassidy assisted in getting the unit started. Twelve members were present and signed the application for the charter which was presented in January of 1925 by Mrs. Rose Spencer, formerly of Warren, who was the Department President. There were 82 charter members:

Ella Abrahamson, Mrs. Carl Knutson
Cora Abrahamson, Mrs. Miranda Kramer
Mrs. Leon Airhart, Mrs. F. C. Larson
Mrs. John Anderson, Mrs. Orville Meland
Mrs. Fred Bakke, Mrs. Andy Morkassel
Mrs. F. C. Bakke, Miss Myrtle Morkassel
Mrs. Clarence Bakke, Olive Montgomery
Mrs. Arvid Bilequist, Mrs. Julius Nyquist
Mrs. Ed Bratrud, Mrs. Edward E. Nelson
Mrs. H. M. Blegen, Mrs. Sam Olson
Mrs. A. T. Campion, Mrs. Ingolf Pederson
Mrs. J. S. Campion, Mrs. Julia Pederson
Mrs. Leora Cassidy, Mrs. Freda Pederson
Mrs. Katherine Carlson, Mrs. M. F. Pihlstrom
Mrs. George Copp, Mrs. W. F. Powell
Mrs. A. D. Collette, Mrs. Ralph Powell
Mrs. Emil Dahlol, Mrs. Willis Powell
Mrs. Luther Engelstad, Mrs. Elmer Rosendahl
Mrs. Gotfrid Erickson, Mrs. Henry Rud
Mrs. Miss Edith Erickson, Mrs. Agnes Rud
Miss Teckla Furseth, Mrs. E. E. Swenson
Mrs. Henry Godel, Mrs. H. T. Swanson
Mrs. C. A. Gunnarson, Mrs. Sylvia Severin
Mrs. Inger Grindeland, Mrs. Paul Snyder
Mrs. P. P. Helby, Miss Mildred Snyder
Mrs. John Halvorson, Miss Mable Skurdahl
Valborg Halvorson, Miss Mildred Snyder
Agnes Halvorson, Miss Mable Skurdahl
Clara Halvorson, Miss Sophia Skurdahl
Mrs. H. M. Hanson, Mrs. Susie Stuhn
Mrs. Axel Holmgren, Mrs. A. W. Samuelson
Mrs. Victor Holmgren, Mrs. R. B. Taralseth
Miss Bernice Holmgren, Mrs. Lena Thorson
Mrs. Clara Hillberg, Mrs. Omer Thomas
Miss Ethel Hogberg, Miss Mildred Wallen
Mrs. Alma Johnson, Mrs. Charles Wittensten
Miss Alice Johnson, Mrs. Clinton Wittensten
Mrs. Emery Johnson, Miss Myrtle Winberg
Mrs. Kam uit, Mrs. Emma Wood
Mrs. Marshal Kays, Mrs. Minnie Wood
Mrs. Frank Kays, Mrs. Julius Zimmerman

The work of the American Legion Auxiliary is divided into many headings such as Americanism, Community Service, Child Welfare, Rehabilitation and Legislation. In 1943, the unit concerned itself with Red Cross production such as knitting, sewing and the making of surgical dressings: first aid education; and keeping up a correspondence with the service men.

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 27 has continued to grow and to be active in the local community as well as at the district and state levels where their first obligation is to the veteran and his family. Present membership is at an all-time high of 285.

The Auxiliary still sells the veteran-made poppy on the streets every spring and funds are used for projects in the V.A. Hospitals, the Servicemen’s Center at the Minneapolis Airport, for the Forgotten Child, for Legionville and many more. When men were called into service, the auxiliary was there to serve coffee and doughnuts and to wish them “Godspeed.” When a veteran’s family has a problem, the auxiliary is there to offer help. When a new citizen receives his naturalization papers, the auxiliary is there to welcome them.

Unit #27 is active in the community also. Each year a girl from the 11th grade in school is sponsored for a week at Girl’s State. Each year, an award is given to a girl in the 12th grade for good citizenship. Each year a scholarship for $100.00 is awarded to a deserving applicant from the senior class. Also there are donations of time and money to such projects as the new Godel Library, the Bicentennial Park downtown, for delivering “Meals on Wheels” to shut-ins, working at Child Evaluation clinics, etc.

A committee of the Auxiliary is in charge of the kitchen at the American Legion Auxiliary: Mrs. Olger Olson and Mrs. Duane Truhn. District Conventions were held in Warren in 1971 and 1977.

Gold Star Mothers of this organization are:

World War I:
Mrs. Amanda Erickson
Mrs. Jake Juveland

World War II:
Mrs. W. O. Braggans
Mrs. Harry Hess, Sr.
Mrs. George Jensen
Mrs. Lonnie Palmer
Mrs. E. Poolman, Jr.
Mrs. V. C. Rogers
Mrs. Winnie Edgar
Mrs. Edwin Vanek

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Another organization in Warren that is based on previous military service overseas is the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Began in 1944 with Mr. Zacharias as one of the organizers, the organization grew rapidly and then diminished in membership. Mr. Frank Tulibaski is the present Commander and Bennie Evins is its Quartermaster.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary

The Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Post No. 3823, was formed in 1945 with Mrs. Bessie Lamberson, the first president. Other charter members were Helen Akin, Anne Bodell, Clara Bodell, Bernice Bossman, Helen Cheney, Evelyn Cormican, Josie Cormican, Lillian Cormican, Ardith Fillipi, Helen Jankowski, Blanche Kralik, Lucille Larson, Sadie Martinson, Lizzie McGlynn, Clara Miller, Dorothy Nelson, Martha Olson, Ione Sandberg, Othelia Skunes, Bessie Swanson and Gida Zacharias. Proceeds from their work and from their “Buddy Poppy” sale went for hospitalized veterans and relief work for veterans’ widows and children. The Auxiliary had been an enthusiastic backer in all community projects.

Due to decreasing membership, the Auxiliary turned in its charter sometime after 1956.

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Boy Scouts
by Neil Mattson

Scouting began in Warren as an unrecognized unit about 1910 or 1911 with William Von Leverene as Scoutmaster. He was a Warren High School Industrial Arts Teacher. The premature attempt at Scouting died when he left the city. The group met above the old Whitney block with little brown scoutbooks and the main activity was baseball. Those in the troop included: Willis Powell, Ed Mattson, Kenneth Wattam, Neil Sinclair, Russell Wilson, Abner Wilson, Albert Beardsmore, Alvin Nyland, Adolph Johnson and Sinclair MacArthur.

A premature attempt at organizing Scouting in Warren was recorded in 1917-1918 when Rev. L. W. Bartholow, pastor of the Methodist Church started a troop. Upon his leaving the city in 1918, the troop died to be revived in 1924. Among the troop at this early date were Oliver Ostlund, Clinton Lundgren, Roy Severin, Lawrence Swandyke, Archie Allen, Lambert Lund, Oliver Mattson, Cameron Quistgard, Allen Powell, Ernest Hanson, Reuben Carlson, Ralph Stevens, Curtis Frank and Hunter Quistgard.

Warren Troop 50, Boy Scouts of America, was organized in 1924 in Warren under the sponsorship of Warren Post 27, American Legion, Dr. C. A. Gunnarson, Commander. As a result of action taken by the Warren Woman’s Club and the Warren Mothers Club favoring the Scouting movement, the Legion made its move. Special Scout committees from the Mothers Club included: Mrs. W. O. Braggans, Mrs. C. E. Stinchfield and Mrs. J. S. Hilleboe while the Womans Club committee included: Mrs. G. E. Davis, Mrs. Julius J. Olson and Mrs. J. O. Herries.

Warren Post 27 voted on May 13, 1924, to sponsor Boy Scouting in Warren. Dr. Gunnarson was elected chairman of the troop committee with the following also on the committee: Dr. O. N. Meland, Willis Powell, Emery Johnson and A. D. Collette. A. D. Collette was named Scoutmaster and the post voted $12.50 for the troop. The eight charter members of Warren Troop 50 included: Justin Swenson, Sletten Olson, Loren Olson, Curtis Herrick, Reuben Holquist, Grant Stinchfield, Strand Hilleboe and Clarence Utres. Grant Stinchfield went on to become Warren’s first Eagle Scout being raised to this coveted rank November 23, 1926.

The Boy Scouts made their first public appearance in Warren in connection with the showing of a movie, “Lost Battalion,” late in 1924. During October 1924, the Scouts also had a tag day sponsored jointly by the Legion, Women’s Club, Mothers Club and Commercial Club which netted $110.00. This was a favorite means of raising money for many years.

Named to the Troop Committee in 1927 were Harley Swenson, John Pearson and Paul Snyder. A. D. Collette was Scoutmaster from 1924 to 1926 with Emery A. Johnson as his assistant. Mr. Johnson took over the troop in 1926 and continued as Scoutmaster until his death in May 1954 with seventy-two Eagle Scouts being raised under his leadership. Knute Kiland was an assistant Scoutmaster for many years during the late 20’s and early 30’s. Roger Howe was added to the troop committee in 1932 and Edward E. Nelson has served since the late 20’s.

Dr. Gunnarson was the first registered Scouter in the council, signing up in 1923. Emery Johnson was the second recipient of the Silver Beaver, Scouting’s highest award, 1935, with Dr. Gunnarson getting the award in 1937. Mr. Johnson was the second in the council to receive the Scoutmaster’s Key in 1936.


After heading the troop committee for thirty years, Dr. C. A. Gunnarson retired in 1953 with Neil Mattson elected to succeed him. At the Annual Father-Son banquet in February 1953, Mr. Mattson was announced the Dr. C. A. Gunnarson Scout-of-the-Year award based on leadership, 15 points; advancement, 40 points; participation, 25 points; church work, 10 points; and conduct, 10 points. This award was given first in 1954 with Clifton Anderson and Larry Golden tying for the honor. Dennis Sailor won the award in 1955 with Robert Bossmann being honored in 1956.

In 1955, the Emery Johnson Scout-of-the-Year award was instituted for members of the Boy Scout Troop primarily, with the Dr. Gunnarson award to go to a member of the Explorer Post. The award was based on the same system with Bobby Bossmann winning the award the first year and Loren Knutson in 1956. The winner of this award also receives a Scout uniform.

Marking the close of an era, veteran scoutmaster Emery Johnson died May 24, 1954. Dr. W. W. Wrolson was elected to succeed him as scoutmaster and at the same time the group was split into the Boy Scout Troop and the Explorer Post.

Cubbing, a program for the younger boys, was started in Warren by Emery Johnson on April 13, 1929, even before Cubbing was fully organized on a national scale. Charter members included: Dale Pihilstrom, Earl Pearson, James forslund, Willis Golden, Arthur Bossmann, Robert Dahlof, Jack Quistgard, Robert Bordewich, Arthur Lohner, Robert Carlson, Gordon Gilbertson, Allard Olson, Robert Frazer and Jack Herrick. In order to revitalize the Cubbing program, a Cub Pack committee was named in 1953 headed by Neil Mattson with L. F. Knutson, Earl Kaliher, H. R. Drews, William Schaefer and Emery Johnson on the committee. Leonard Olson was selected as Cubmaster with Forrest Olson as his assistant.

Warren Boy Scouts have attended all national jamborees. With Emery Johnson as an assistant from the Lake Agassiz Council, he and Lowell Lindberg, Dennis Knutson and Kenneth Howe attended the Washington Jamboree in 1937. In 1950, Mr. Johnson headed the entire delegation from the council to the Valley Forge Jamboree with Robert Howe, Kay and Tommy Herbranson and Bill Crow attending. At the California Jamboree in 1953, Delane Heyen, Chesley Sommers, Loren Engelstad and James Forbes attended with Neil Mattson as assistant Scoutmaster from the Council.

The following list of Eagle Scouts were raised to that honor from 1926 to 1979.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Award Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grant Stinchfield</td>
<td>1936</td>
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<tr>
<td>Warren J. Hanson</td>
<td>1936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harold Braggans</td>
<td>1936</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theodor Braggans</td>
<td>1936</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theodore Carlson</td>
<td>1936</td>
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<tr>
<td>Halward Blegen</td>
<td>1936</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theodor Bratrud</td>
<td>1936</td>
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<tr>
<td>harold Holmquist</td>
<td>1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrell A. Peterson</td>
<td>1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Bordewich</td>
<td>1945</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Harry Hull
Jack Quistgard
Willis Golden
Robert Frazer
Kenneth Howe
Robert Dahlof
John Utres
Shevlin Nilsestuen
Raymond Manchester
Melville Peterson
In 1955, Neil Mattson received the Silver Beaver award and in 1965 Leonard Olson received that same award, the 2nd highest award a Scout can receive.

Since 1977, the Warren Boy Scouts have attended all District Scout Functions and the 1980 Council-wide Camperall. The Cub Scouts and Boys Scouts have been participating in the International Scout Exchange with Canada from 1976-1980. The American Legion is the sponsoring organization. The monthly Pack meetings are held at the First Lutheran Church. Gale Swanson is the present Cubmaster plus many other willing workers.

In the early years meetings were held twice a month, with several social meetings at which husbands were included. Through the years programs have been chosen to cover a wide range of topics. Many foreign visitors have told of their homelands and travelers have shared their impressions gathered on journeys world wide. The Arts have been studied, ranging from folk music to Broadway musicals to the Metropolitan opera; from American folk art, to modern, western and religious art; from plays staged by Mrs. Trost, to skits — serious and silly; from Chester Fritz Theater productions and the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, to reviews of Broadway theater productions as seen by various members. Book reviews have been numerous. Studies of Russia, China, the countries of Africa and South America are among those that have been educational; the government, a study of the political system, legislation and the aims and accomplishments of the UN have promoted political awareness. Staging a mock political convention was great fun. Among other topics have been: Pioneers in space, Religions of the world, Conservation of natural resources, the Environment, Civil rights, Equal rights, Elderhostel, Battered women and the Hospice programs as it relates to death and dying.

Members have been generous with time and talent as well as money for the betterment of the city and community. Money was raised for projects by rummage, white elephant or bake sales. On occasion an event would be
presented to the public at a small charge, for example: in 1946 the Madrigal Singers from UND gave a concert; in 1948 a lecture was presented by Dr. Joseph Kise, head of the Political Science Dept., Moorhead State College; and in 1953 a concert was given by the McDowell Club Chorus of Fosston, Minn. Plays staged and directed by Mrs. Trost were also popular. Among the causes benefitting were; Christmas baskets, the Public Library, Girl Scouts, scholarships, the Red Cross and major health fund drives.

As times and life styles change, memberships and the aims and purposes of an organization change with them. With the wish to participate more fully in services to the community, it became necessary to launch bigger events to help finance a greater variety of services. Thus in 1967 the Spring Style Show and Luncheon was undertaken. These grew in size and were maintained for several years. This project was replaced in 1978 with the annual House Tour and Boutique. Donations have been given to the many fund drives in the city, to the Day Activity Center, for camperships to Camp Sunshine, for improvements to city parks and playgrounds and to present “Art in the Park,” a day of arts and crafts for children, with local talent and the traveling troupe “Plain People.”

Some of the courses and clinics presented have been for: Halloween Safety, Blood Pressure, Diabetes detection, Safety for the Elderly, Drivers Refresher Course for Women, Bicycle Safety and cancer. A Spenco model was purchased for County Cancer Society use at their clinics.

Schools and students have benefitted by: a scholarship fund initiated in 1968, for a student continuing beyond high school; essay contests on Conservation and Conserving Minnesota forests; donations to band uniform funds in 1946, ’61 and ’80; items for the school library; traveling expenses for students to Science Fairs, Wrestling events and the Hugh O’Brien Youth Foundation Seminar; and trees planted on Arbor Days on the school grounds.

The City Council has been urged to improve the city parks, to provide better residential street lighting, and to create city zoning laws.

Present projects include: a Constitution seminar in June; continued improvements in city parks; beautification of the city auditorium grounds; support of the Community Arts Board; and assistance with the Warren Centennial celebration.

Women’s Club has been host to the 9th District clubs of the Minn. Federation of Women’s Clubs most recently in 1962 and 1973. In 1965-1966 the formation of Mawami Club in Warren was sponsored by the Women’s Club. Several members have served as 9th District officers: in 1964, Pres. Margaret Saetre, in 1974, Pres. Elva Bustrack. Each term was preceded by 2 years as V. Pres. In 1957, Hjordys Knutson was Secretary; in 1967, Vivian Knutson was Historian; in 1976, Rachel Peterson was Treasurer; and in 1980, Treasure Omdahl was Treasurer. Additional members have served as District Department Chairmen. At present Elva Bustrack is Home Life Chairman for the MFWC.

Officers for the coming year are: Mary Emerson, Pres., Ginny Krueger, 1st V. Pres., Jean Ulferts, 2nd V. Pres., Sharson Carlson, Sec.-Treas.

Past Presidents of Warren Women’s Club:
1907-08 Mrs. D. Farrell
1908-09 Miss Eva Powell
1909-10 Mrs. J. P. Easton
1910-11 Mrs. Bernard
1911-12 Mrs. W. N. Powell
1912-13 Mrs. A. A. Ayres
1913-14 Mrs. A. N. Eckstrom
1914-15 Mrs. W. O. Holcomb
1915-16 Mrs. C. E. Lundquist
1916-17 Mrs. C. A. Tullar
1917-18 Mrs. A. A. Ayres
1918-19 Mrs. A. A. Ayres
1919-20 Mrs. Geo. E. Davis
1920-21 Mrs. Geo. E. Davis
1921-22 Mrs. Geo. E. Davis
1922-23 Mrs. David Johnson
1923-24 Mrs. R. E. Thomas
1924-25 Mrs. R. E. Thomas
1925-26 Mrs. C. E. Grinder
1926-27 Mrs. Emery Johnson
1927-28 Mrs. H. M. Blegen
1928-29 Mrs. H. M. Blegen
1929-30 Mrs. C. A. Gunnarson
1930-31 Mrs. C. A. Gunnarson
1931-32 Mrs. F. C. Wittensten
1932-33 Mrs. W. H. Flink
1933-34 Mrs. W. H. Flink
1934-35 Mrs. Syneva Strunk
1935-36 Mrs. H. S. Frazer
1936-37 Mrs. F. C. Bakke
Mothers Club

by Mrs. Clinton Lungren

updated by Mrs. O. B. Hendrickson

The Mothers Club was organized in August of 1917 and was first named, "Mother’s Child Welfare Club," for the purpose of improving conditions in the community and educating mothers to better care for their families.

Mrs. C. E. Stinchfield was the first president and other known charter members include: Mrs. Andrew Grindeland, Mrs. R. C. Mathwig, Mrs. Julius Olson, Mrs. L. Lamberson, Mrs. W. O. Braggans, Mrs. E. E. Swenson, Mrs. G. Holmquist, Mrs. J. O. Herrick, Mrs. Arthur Robinson, Mrs. D. Farrell, Mrs. Gerge Davis, Mrs. C. L. Stevens, Mrs. A. E. Brown and Mrs. Hans Urtes.

One of their earliest and most important crusades was having a law passed making tuberculin tests for cattle mandatory, before mile from these animals could be sold in the city. They promoted and obtained gravel approaches to the Great Northern Station, worked for better schools, conducted a campaign against indecent literature on the news stands, filled Christmas baskets for the needy and helped provide funds for decorating Christmas trees in the business district.

In 1920, their most lasting project started, when they founded the Warren Public Library and some years the club was the sole support of that institution. The members have provided much volunteer labor to keep the project alive and they continue to give books and financial aid. Over the years the library has been in several downtown locations and in the basement of the City Auditorium until it is now housed permanently in the beautiful Godel Memorial Library.

When Island Park was the only city park and playgrounds, the Mothers Club sponsored its care, contributing much of the playground equipment, personally maintaining picnic tables and recommending improvements to be made by the city.

At present the Club sponsors the Warren Girl Scouts and some other groups they have assisted over the years include: Boy Scouts, Warren Hospital, Holiday Park Swimming Pool, toboggan slide, twice they have donated to the band uniform fund, helped to purchase an audiometer and provided a film for the Expectant Parents classes. They have contributed to the Red Cross, Care and One Fund Drive. The Fortunate Fours clinics were originated and staffed by club members.

First meetings of the Club were held in the court room of the Marshall County Court House, then transferred to the library and in October of 1923 they first began meeting in homes of members.

The Mother’s Club held the first rummage sales in Warren and these continue to be one of their main money making projects to supplement the yearly dues.

In this City Centennial Year of 1980 officers include: President—Mrs. Theodore (Elaine) Carlson, Vice President—Mrs. David (Joyce) Christensen and Secretary-Treasurer—Mrs. Robert (Carolyn) Nelson.

The following have served as presidents of the Mother’s Club:

1919 Mrs. C. E. Stinchfield
1920-22 Unknown
1923-24 Mrs. N. Q. Stadum
1925 Mrs. Julia Peterson
1926 Mrs. A. B. Brown
1927-28 Mrs. S. O. Engebak
1929 Mrs. A. R. Hatfield
1930-31 Mrs. J. J. Olson
1932-33 Mrs. A. R. Hatfield
1934-35 Mrs. B. B. Brett
1936 Mrs. L. O. Winberg
1937 Mrs. E. Mattson
1938 Mrs. H. M. Hanson
1939 Mrs. Melvin T. Engelstad
1940 Mrs. Hans Urtes
1941 Mrs. F. C. Larson
1942 Mrs. V. C. Rogers
1943 Mrs. Emery Johnson
1944 Mrs. Ed Johnson
1945 Mrs. R. J. Schribber
1946 Mrs. D. S. Ekenes
1947 Mrs. C. E. Lundgren
1948 Mrs. O. M. Mattson
1949 Mrs. Melvin Bjerke
1950 Mrs. Roger Howe
1951 Mrs. Victor Aalbu

Senior Meals and Activity Program

by Helen Jankowski, Co-ordinator

Warren Senior Meal site opened on December 26, 1973, in the former Swift Electric Building at 107 East Johnson Avenue and on September 1, 1977, it was moved to the old Opera House which is owned by the city and has been completely remodeled. This new site is used by the Senior Citizens rent-free.

The Warren hospital prepared the meals since the opening but as of April 19, 1980, the Grand Central Restaurant has been preparing the meals and delivering them to the Warren Senior Meal site where they are served by many faithful volunteers.

The goal of the program is to provide daily, low-cost, nutritionally sound and satisfying meals to low-income older Americans. Socialization, education and recreation are also very important parts of the program. Anyone sixty years or older is eligible for the program.

The Senior Meal program has received tremendous support from the Warren community.
The National W.C.T.U. was organized in November of 1874, and a branch of this temperance organization was begun in Warren in 1887 with Mrs. J. P. Easton as the first president. The slogan of the National Organization, "Fo God and Home and Every Land," defines the purpose. Scientific temperence and narcotics education have been a major part of the work of the W.C.T.U.

One of the outstanding services offered to the public by the Warren chapter was the operation of a "rest room" during the Marshall County Fairs. Since early records have been lost, we do not know the exact day by soon after Warren began having fairs, a 24x24 foot building was erected near the grandstand by Harry and George Bernard. Cribs for babies, cots for children, and chairs and rockers for adults were provided—many of them loaned by individuals or stores for that purpose. Until city water was piped to the grounds, ice water for drinking was also furnished as well as water for the wash rooms. Nearly every year the building was broken into and much damage done to equipment. During the building of the new grandstand, workmen entered without permission and used it as a bunkhouse and did so much damage that the ladies decided that the cost of repairs would be too great and in 1946 they sold the building which was remodeled and is now the home of the O. B. Hendrickson family.

Since 1956 they have worked with the Marshall County Temperance League whose aims are the same as that of the Womens Christian Temperance Union.

They have shown films in the schools, given out material to the school children and had a booth at the County Fair where they gave out temperance literature and served non-alcoholic drinks such as fruit juices.

On the state level, the W.C.T.U. sponsors a fine Christian camp in June that is well attended.

The following list of presidents have served the Warren Chapter of the W.C.T.U.:

- Mrs. Anne (J. P.) Easton—1887-1889
- Mrs. Clara B. Clark—1889-1890
- Mrs. Anna (L. C.) Ketcham—1890-1891
- Mrs. W. M. Taylor—1892-1893
- Mrs. K. O. Kaffman—1891-1892
- Mrs. Minnie (W. N.) Powell—1893-1895
- Mrs. Addie (Del) Wallace—1898-1901
- Miss Jane McCrea—1901-1903
- Mrs. W. N. Powell—1914-1919
- Mrs. Nettie (J. C.) McClary—1924-1928
- Mrs. Aurena (A. B.) Brown—1928-1929
- Mrs. Minnie (S. A.) Styrland—1929-1941
- Mrs. Aurena (A. B.) Brown—1941-1944
- Mrs. Helen (Levi G.) Johnson—1944-1945
- Mrs. Aurena (A. B.) Brown—1945-1949
- Mrs. Aurena (A. B.) Brown—1952-1959
- Mrs. Gladys Nicholls—1959-1966
- Mrs. JoAnn Sorenson (Doug) 1976-1977
- Mrs. Deanna Flaten (Mike) 1977-1978
- Mrs. Deb Stinar (Duane) 1978-1979
- Mrs. Kathy Edgar (Chuck) 1979-1980
- Mrs. Shari Swanson (Mike) 1980-1981

Women Jaycees

Jaycee Women's Creed

We, the Jaycee Women, are service, growth, and fellowship.

We believe that through us great lessons can be learned, worthy deeds performed and a hand of fellowship extended to millions of women everywhere.

May we leave the world a better place because we lived and served within it.

The Warren Jaycees Women were extended by the Crookston Chapter, chartering in 1976. The purpose of the Jaycee Women are:

1. To cooperate and assist the Jaycees on the local and state levels.
2. To promote civic, educational, recreational, and social interests of the community and state.
3. To provide opportunity for leadership training.
4. To promote and advance the establishments of young women's civic organizations to be known as Jaycee Women.

Membership for Jaycee Women includes all women between the ages of 18 and 36 years.

Since the chapter began they have assisted in many civic and community projects—including: participation in providing lunch and birthday cakes at the Day Activities Center, sponsoring Senior Citizens dances, assisting with the Crazy Day Kiddies Parade, flower bed at the public library, giving a baby receiving blanket to all babies born at the Warren Hospital, presenting a slide projector and cassette player to the Prenatal classes at the Warren Hospital.

Money has been donated to a number of charities, such as Muscular Distrophy, educational equipment for the Developmental Achievement Center, Kidney Foundation, etc.

Meetings are held once a month in members homes. Programs of educational and social interests are presented. Some topics have been: SID-Sudden Infant Death, Preschool Reading, Senior Citizens Program, Bartered Women, Alcoholism, CPR, How to talk to your Children about Sex—by Alice Collins, Planned Parenthood Educator.

The Warren Jaycees Women are affiliated at District and State Levels and consists of nineteen members.

The following have served as President of Warren Jayce Women:
1976-1977 Mrs. Deanna Flaten (Mike)
1977-1978 Mrs. Deb Stinar (Mike)
1978-1979 Mrs. JoAnn Sorenson (Doug)
1979-1980 Mrs. Kathy Edgar (Chuck)
1980-1981 Mrs. Shari Swanson (Duane)

Warren Lions Club

The Warren Lions Club was chartered on January 21, 1959 with 42 charter members. Thief River Falls Lions Club was our sponsor.

The first meetings were held in the banquet room of the Warren Hotel.

The first slate of officers included: President Erv Behsman, First Vice President, Bill Schaefer; Second Vice President, Dr. Lamb; Third Vice President, Lloyd Hill; Secretary, Russ Olson; Lion Tamer, Nick Plencner; Tail Twister, Warren Saetre; Two year Board members: Dr. Holmstrom, Clint Lundgren; One Year Board Members: O. M. Mattson and Ken Kroll; Charter members who are still active are Roy Engh, C. Einar Johnson and Harold Bustrack.

Through the years the Warren Lions Club has engaged in such community betterment projects as erection of a shelter at Wayside Park and Island Park, playground equipment at Island and Holiday Parks, furniture and equipment for Good Samaritan Home and Day Activity Center. Funds for these and other projects are raised mainly from the sale of Christmas trees and wreaths.

At the present time the meeting place of the Lions is the American Legion with 63 members on the roster.
**Warren Sno-Cat Riders Club**

by Jim Stengl

The Warren Snowmobile Club was incorporated in March of 1969 and became known as the “Warren Sno-Cat Riders Club, Inc.” Over the years, they have donated to many organizations causes such as the March of Dimes, Senior Meals Center, Good Samaritan Center, the Day Activity Center, the Argyle Group Home, the American Legion Club, the Centennial Park, the Skating Rink, the Girl Scouts, The Boy Scouts, the CB Club, the Lions Club, the Warren High School Band, the Alvarado Sportsman Club and to the racers from our area who participated in the “500” race such as Ken Andeen, Ron Zutz, Loren Zutz, Milo Monroe and Dale Loeslie. The amount of donations was well over $11,500.00 in the ten years they have been in existence.

They have served the community in other ways besides financial contributions, such as each year they have given Safety Training to the young people so that they might get their license to operate a snowmobile. This past year, the deer were starving so members went out on their snowmobiles and fed them. They served at many auctions around the area and they have had a concession stand in the pit area at the Marshall County Fair the past three years. And they have helped run the Winnipeg-to-St. Paul Race through Warren. They have earned money that they have donated in many ways such as Snowmobile Marathons, Auction Sales, Bingo Games, Snowmobile Races, Raffles, concessions at the fair, roller skating for the kids and bowling.

Past Presidents are as follows:

1969 Clarence Piepkorn
1969-1970 Ronald Dowell
1970-1971 LeRoy Vonasek
1971-1972 Al Kasprowicz
1972-1973 Al Kasprowicz
1973-1974 Francis Nichols
1974-1975 Dennis Anderson
1975-1976 Kenneth Poolman
1976-1977 Jim Fredericks
1977-1978 Glenn Halvorson
1978-1979 Bob Sommers
1979-1980 Jim Stengl

There are 87 charter members and 54 junior members.

**Mawami Club, District 9**

by Mrs. Poolman

In November of 1965, the club was formed and named “Mawami” from the first two letters in the words “Marshall County, Warren, Minnesota.” The club selected as its motto “Skill to do comes from doing” and decided that “yellow” would be the club’s color with the “Yellow Lady Slipper” as the club’s flower.

In December of 1965, Mawami became a member of the Minnesota Federated Women’s Club. The club consisted of school teachers, substitute teachers as well as wives of teachers. Later in 1967 membership was opened to any interested women in the community. “Welcome Basket” was one of the first major projects with Mawami members, armed with coupons from the local merchants, a copy of the Warren Sheaf and baked goods, visiting and welcoming new families to our Warren community.

Community projects have continued to mark their years with a silver tea for High School graduates, bake sales, card sales, serving lunch at the Day Care Center for retarded children, adopting children for remembering on special occasions, giving bingo prizes for Senior Citizens, cooperating with the Warren Women’s Club in a Halloween safety program, providing flowers for the triangular plot across from the hospital as well as building a brick planter and putting up a flag pole at that site, co-sponsoring films on venereal diseases that were shown to junior and senior high school students, distributing coloring books to students of the elementary school on the dangers of drug abuse, giving rides to Senior Citizens on their handicraft days, delivering “meals on wheels” to shut-ins, sponsoring a babysitting clinic, co-sponsoring a blood-pressure clinic, being in charge of the annual “Kid-dies Crazy Day Parade,” as well as supporting many other projects such as the International Science and Engineering Fair in Texas, the Minnesota Wrestling Exchange Team, the Warren Ambulance Corp., the Warren Hospital where the club re-decorated the Children’s Ward, the Annual Athletic Banquet and two scholarships, etc.

Everyone does her share in helping the club grow in service to the Warren Community for it is the belief of the club that “Skill to do comes from doing.”

Presidents have been: Mrs. Dorothy Hanson, Mrs. Sue Schock, Mrs. Deanna Swanson, Mrs. Virginia Hages-tuen, Mrs. Lee Payton, Mrs. Elizabeth Porter, Mrs. Karen Dunn, Mrs. Ann Pederson, Mrs. Marion Hickman, Mrs. Dorothy Evavold, Miss Carol Anderson and Mrs. Verona Poolman.

**Rod and Gun Club**

In 1953 the club held yearly crow hunts from April through August with points given for the most crows shot . . . skunks, pocket gopher, crow eggs and other gophers qualifying. Prizes were given to those five with the highest number of points.

About 1955, the trap range was moved to its present location adjacent to the County Fair Grounds.

And around 1956, gun safety classes were started and there was also an indoor rifle range.

In 1957, an archery range was set up.

The club also sponsored an annual meal for the 4-H members and for the Boy Scouts. Meetings were held nine months of the year, prizes were given for the largest fish caught and for the largest buck and doe killed.

Now the club has mainly to do with trap shooting but they are trying to get more interest aroused for the rifle and the fishing part of the club.

**Warren Riverside Country Club**

by Steve Nelson

The golf course was organized in April, 1946 by a small group of enthusiastic golfers (Walter Malm, T. E. Whitehead, A. E. Gustman, Arnold Larson, George Magoris, Frank Forbes and O. J. Oehnstad).

The fertile ground east of the Marshall County Fairgrounds and south of the Snake River was purchased from the Weigarts for $1800. The 1946 budget called for expenditures of $125.00 for grass seed, $35.00 for posts and $37.50 for plowing. This is far from the $35,000-$40,000 spent annually in the late seventies.

The club progressed in many spurts. In its early...
beginning, there was no clubhouse, so a Fair stand was used for the special events. A school house was moved to the present club house location at a cost of $1500 including foundation and moving expense in the year 1952. In 1955, the club enlarged the facilities by adding an addition on the northwest corner of the building and adding sewer and water. The combined cost was $2505.

In 1959 members decided they needed more room for storage of golf clubs and supplies, so the cart house was built for $6949. The members continued to support additional improvements. In 1972 a large patio was built on the east end of the club house at a cost of $3500; and in 1973, the members voted in the most significant change in the club’s short history. They voted to spend $25,000-$30,000 to switch from sand to grass greens. The Leo Johnson Company did the construction work and did a commendable job according to area golfers.

The addition of the new greens brought a renewed interest to the club and necessitated construction of yet another building. In 1974, the club built a golf cart storage building to accommodate 18 motorized golf carts.

In 1977, the club proceeded to add a dimension to the club fairways (which had remained the same for the first 30 years). Large earth movers were brought in to construct reservoirs and bunkers. This along with the planting of about 1500 trees gave the course a new and more interesting look.

The improvements have directly affected club membership and enthusiasm in the game of golf. In fact, another equipment shed with room for 10 more motorized golf carts was built in 1980. It seems a sure bet that this interest in golf will guarantee the club success in the coming years.

There are now 150 playing members.

** Warren Jaycees **

by Bob Kliner

The Warren Jaycees were chartered on April 20, 1971, with the following members:

Loren Abrahamson
Ronald Abrahamson
Ralph Albaugh, Jr.
Dennis Anderson
Dwight Anderson
John Anderson
Lowell J. Anderson
Michael Baird
Philip Beving
Duane Bock
Arthur Bossmann, Jr.
Dean Carlson
John Carlson
Joe Dunn
Laurie Forslund
Mike Franks
Don Gades
Dave Hagen
John Hendrickson
Warren Hickman
Stuart Hurst

Allen Jevning
Gerld Jevning
Tom Jewett
Al Kasprowicz
Jerry Kasten
Jerry Kruger
James H. Larson
James L. Larson
L. Pedar Larson
Donovan Loesie
Gladwin Lynne
Robert Mattson
Marshall Melbye
Roger Michel
Francis Nicholls
Donald Nowacki
Roger Omdahl
Paul Thompson
Edward Turn
Dennis Vesey
LeRoy Vonasek

Community development may consist of projects for the Day Activity Center, Senior Citizens, Youth, Community etc. so that we may have a better place to live. Individual development may consist of projects like Spiritual development, leadership or personal dynamics, personal finance planning, family life all to better the individual. Management development consists of awards, growth, retention, activation and such so the member can learn to set goals and attain them which is directly related to management. The Warren Jaycees are directly involved with the Minnesota and United States Jaycees in programming. They participate in district, regional, and state activities. There are currently 87 members in the Warren Jaycees. They have put a great deal of time into the Warren Community which makes the Jaycees organization a service to humanity which is the best work of life.

Past Presidents are:

1971-1972 Joseph Dunn
1972-1973 L. Pedar Larson
1973-1974 Edward Turn
1974-1875 Roger Omdahl
1975-1976 Jerry Kruger
1976-1977 Phil Thompson
1977-1978 Tim Anderson
1978-1979 Mike Williams
1979-1980 Bob Kliner

Present Officers and Directors:

President—Dave Lydeen
State Delegate—Rodney Chwialkowski
Secretary—Ron Anderson
Treasurer—Ron Loeslie
Ind. Dev. V.P.—Curt Myrfield
Comm. Dev. V.P.—Dave Kalinoski
Mgt. Dev. V.P.—Richard Edman—Jerry Malacek
Mike Flaten—Dave Nelson
Peter Hanson—Arlyn Stroble
Larry Korynta—Paul Torgerson
Chaplain—Rev. Paul Presinger

** Warren Schools to promote the growth of agricultural interest among our youth. **

A Country Life Day was held at the Warren High School in January of 1914. A program was presented by the associated schools with agriculture as the theme and vegetable gardening being stressed by the main speaker. Later pig clubs and corn clubs were organized. The first such club was organized in McCrea School District 29 in the Spring of 1915 and was known as the McCrea Corn Club—the object, to improve themselves, their homes,
their communities and to promote an intelligent growing of corn in McCrea Township. Other clubs in other schools quickly followed. That same year, Harvey Nicholls and Andy Morkassel won the acre of corn contest. All projects were known as contests at that time. With the coming of Autumn of 1915, arrangements for a Boys Club Pig Contest were completed and were under the direction of T. A. Erickson, club expert of the Extension Division of the Department of Agriculture, University of Minnesota and the United States Department of Agriculture. Special state prizes for Boys and Girls were given and were based on reports sent in by their leaders. Among these prizes were the first free trips to the Minnesota State Fair. Later, prizes were awarded to winners at the Marshall County Fair. A steady growth in membership was noted as more and more young people became interested. In 1923, there were 75 members and in 1925 there were 156 enrolled.

It wasn’t until 1926 when A. D. Collette was the Warren High School Agricultural instructor that these clubs were given the present name of 4H and were organized as Standard 4H clubs under state supervision. Again McCrea was first to organize under the new name. The projects taken were listed as contests and consisted of General Livestock Judging, sewing, gardens, pig, dairy, calf, poultry, lamb and baby beef. Thirty-two free trips were awarded that year which was quite a substantial growth from the two trips given in 1915.

1926 marked a big change in 4H work. Mr. Collette, the leader, believed every community in the county should be interested in organizing a club and asked that all adults who were interested in such work to take steps toward organizing a standard club. He offered to supervise the work help with the development of agriculture on a county-wide basis. Businessmen in areas outside Warren were contacted and urged to work with the 4H movement to promote the advancement of agriculture in their own communities. That same fall, the businessmen of Warren decided to sponsor a Marshall County Boys and Girls Club Achievement Day. All contests and projects were exhibited at the Marshall County Fair and I quote from the Warren Sheaf, November 3, 1926, “The Club Work department of the Marshall County Fair has grown by leaps and bounds during recent years until this department is one of the best on the grounds.” They still maintain or surpass that reputation.

The year 1927 saw a continuance of the growth of the 4H work. A membership of 300 was set for the county. Several new projects were added and a few of the older ones were expanded. Interest was growing all over the state at this time and many companies and corporations offered prizes as awards for good work, most of the awards being based on the records that were kept by the members and exhibited with their projects. Governor Theodore Christianson said to a group in Saint Paul, “I consider Boys and Girls Club work the greatest single thing in Agricultural Extension work as it gives practical instruction to the future farmers of the state and is even more practical than other forms of Agricultural Instruction.”

The first county-wide 4H picnic was held in 1927. The first Sheaf Showmanship Contest was started. The first Achievement Day was held October 27, 28, and 29—a three day event with contests, exhibits and speakers. The first 4H booth contest was held at this time and 9 clubs were in attendance. 4H showed steady growth and the next big step came in 1934 during the annual fall achievement day. The second annual banquet was held through the courtesy of the Warren Commercial Club and under the direction of Harold Harrison, Warren High School instructor and club leader. During the banquet, Mr. Harrison announced that R. A. Reieerson, Marshall County Extension Agent, would assume charge of the work for the next year as all 4H work would be affiliated with the County Agent’s office from that time on.

At present, nearly all phases of farm and home life are represented in the projects carried on by our 4H members. They receive practical experience in the care and management of crops, livestock, gardening, home environment, clothing, foods and nutrition, mechanical sciences, and many other projects. In fact, there are 48 different projects that 4-H’ers can enroll in. They also have opportunities to show what skill and knowledge they have acquired by exhibiting at the county fair, by giving demonstrations at both the club meetings and county activities, taking part in Share-The-Fun and in speaking contests. They train to be adult leaders through their projects and especially in the junior leadership project. The opportunities are many for the junior leaders who participate in the leadership of their club and county federation, state and national events.

The climax of the 4-H club year is the annual leaders’ recognition banquet at which some of the junior and adult leaders awards are presented. The other awards are presented at each club’s banquet or awards program. In the early years, all 4-H members were invited to the banquet but with the increase in club membership only the junior and adult leaders are invited.

When updating this report which was originally written by Mrs. Andy Morkassel, it was interesting to note that two of the first three 4-H clubs organized — McCrea 1923, and Holt 1925 — have been in continuous operation and have continued to grow. Boxville, started in 1924, was folded in the fall of 1977 and the members joined the Triangle 4-H Club. Many of the first members have served as local leaders and have children who have completed many years of club work and are now acting as adult leaders in their communities. We would like to thank and praise these faithful workers for the many hours of labor and time spent and the patient counseling they have given our youth. Their best reward being the thankful smile of a child as he was helped over the hard spot of a difficult task and they still thrill to the sound of a group as they repeat the 4-H pledge, the same pledge learned by boys and girls some thirty years ago:

I pledge my head to clearer thinking
My heart to greater loyalty
My hands to greater service and
My health to better living.

For my home, my club, my community, my country and my world.

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WARREN’S SONS WHO HAVE DIED IN MILITARY SERVICE

On Decoration Day, the people of Warren publicly honor the fallen dead of all the wars for Greenwood Cemetery contains the bodies of those who have served in the wars from the Civil War on to the recent Korean War—especially do they pay honor to those sons who died in the defense of their country whether it was in this country or abroad.

In the first World War, the following died: Joseph G. Erickson, Clarence V. Abrahamson, Conrad J. Westlund, Orpheus Heron Torgerson, Andrew Skog, and Otto Albert Anderson.

In the second World War, the following boys gave their lives: Theodore Braggans, George N. Powell, Cameron Edgar, William Rogers, Beryle Bossman, John A. Hess, Leonard Luxemburg, Charles Edgar, James D. Pierce, and Robert Palmer.

John Poolman was Warren’s only casualty in the Korean War.

Among those from Warren killed in the wars are five from World War I: Joseph G. Erickson, who died March 17, 1918 and was the first from Warren to give his life for his country in France; Clarence Victor Abrahamson, who died at Great Lakes; Conrad J. Westlund, killed in action; Orpheus Heron Torgerson of Radium, died 8:30 a.m. November 11, 1918; Andrew Skog, died in a camp near San Francisco; Otto Albert Anderson.

Among those from Warren to give their lives in World War II are: Lt. Theodore Braggans, who was killed in November, 1942 in a training accident at Corpus Christi, Texas; Major George N. Powell, who was killed in 1943 in the South Pacific; Aviation Cadet William Rogers who was killed in a training accident at Peco, Texas, in November, 1943; Capt. Beryle Bossman, who was killed Aug. 28, 1944 in France; Pvt. Leonard Luxemburg, who was killed Jan. 7, 1945 in Belgium; Cpl. Charles Edgar, who died in April 1945 from wounds received in Iwo Jima; Lt. James D. Pierce, who was killed March 21, 1945 over Formosa; Sgt. Robert Palmer, who was missing after a flight July 11, 1944 over Germany. Pvt. John A. Hess of Foldahl Township, who was killed Jan. 15, 1945 in Belgium. Pfc. Elmer Jensen of Warren, who was in a glider infantry unit, was killed in action over Holland on Oct. 3, 1944.

Pvt. John Poolman was Warren’s only casualty in the Korean War. He was missing after an action April 16, 1953.
In this section of the booklet devoted to the various sports enjoyed by this community over the past one hundred years, I will start out with hunting and fishing, not just because of its popularity but because in the early days it was a real necessity if one was to survive. One was able to bag all the prairie chickens one needed by just stepping out of one's homestead and venison was equally easy to find before the prairies lost their native grasses to the plow of the homesteaders. Fishing was equally as possible in the waters of the Snake River where pike, pickeral, catfish, etc. were easily caught and later when the land was ditched, one was able to find such fish in those ditches as they strove to find a place to spawn. Nowadays, it is not uncommon for the citizens of this community and area to travel to Wyoming for the hunting of antelope, Alaska for bear and Canada for moose. And as our local bodies of water are depleted or polluted by industrial fall-out, our fishermen travel to Lake of the Woods or far into Canada in search of good fishing.

A 1905 hunting party that included Bernard, Slee and Brown the Taxidermist.

Dr. Theodore Bratrud and Judge Andrew Grindeland after a good day's hunt. About 1900.

Dr. Fred Bakke and his catch.
Swimming was confined to usually the young boys who frolicked in the nude in the swimming hole near the fair grounds on what was once the Edwardhs Farm and later the Rosendahl Farm and at the “Pig’s Eye” swimming hole down on North Central Avenue near the present home of Franz Peterson which was even more polluted as everyone’s sewage emptied into the river in that area. Those fortunate enough to get to the Old Mill, used that “swimming hole” until later it was made into a state park and the “hole” was transformed into a spacious pool large enough to accommodate large groups of swimmers and where the waters of that pool were constantly being renewed with waters from the dammed-up Middle River. This was a W.P.A. project that has been enjoyed by thousands of citizens as well as tourists to this park.

Another place to swim was at Maple Lake outside of Mentor, Minnesota, which is about sixty miles from Warren and where several local citizens had their summer cottages. Later a fine swimming pool complex was planned and built for the new city park on the northeast edge of the community and here youngsters can learn to swim and be under the watchful care of qualified instructors and life guards.

Bowling was first enjoyed in a long building just south of the old telephone office and where “Telephone” Swanson later built his home on the corner of North First and Central Avenue. This was operated by Charles Slee. Later another bowling alley was operated on North First Street south of Dahlin’s Hotel or where the “Jack & Jill” store is located. This was owned by Erick Koppang and managed by Axel Holmgren. Then there was a long period of time when the local bowling fans had to look elsewhere for the pleasure of their sport. In the 1930’s, Mr. Mel Reiden built a bowling alley with young boys acting as “pin boys” in the western part of the old Peoples Trading Co. building that is now occupied by the Boardson Super Fair Market on the corner of Johnson Avenue and Minnesota Street. He sold that business to Mr. George Christianson and then it was sold to Mr. Antonious who operated it until his death. Then in 1960, Robert Strunk built the Cactus Lanes north of the city that was a model of the latest and best in bowling equipment. This business was sold to Cactus Lanes, Inc. and is now owned and managed by Don and Margie Bergman. This year, some 19 leagues and 150 teams of bowlers kept the lanes busy with their strikes and misses.

Tennis was unheard of until Henry and Ralph Taralseth returned home from Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota, and set up a grass tennis court on the vacant lot north of their parental home and the Blawd home (now the site of the Clara Nelson home at 503 North Division Street). Later a red clay court was built on the Southwest corner lot at the intersection of Wentzel Avenue and McKinley Street and that served those who played until it was moved to the northeast corner of the grounds of the Warren High School. Now modern tennis courts are one of the attractions of the new Community Park.

Archery as a sport and for early in-the-season-hunting of deer was encouraged by the late Carl Martinson who set up targets on his property on North First Street across from the Elmcrest Motel and instructed novices in that sport.

Those who desired to play golf used to have to drive up to Stephen to use their golf course, one of the earliest in this area. Then Mr. George Magoris and Mr. Dudley Cheney laid out a course on the Dudley Cheney farm west of Warren that was used for a short time. Then in 1946, a golf course was laid out east of the Marshall County Fair Grounds and a golf club was organized. Constant improvements and enthusiastic patronage has made it one of the best golf courses in this area and it consists of nine holes with buildings for lockers and for meetings and refreshments. There are now 150 playing members of the club.

Wrestling was not always confined to the County Fairs but was often a featured entertainment for the
**Wrestling**

**Strand Theatre, Warren**

**Tuesday, April 19**

8:00 o'clock p. m.

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**MAIN EVENT**

**Werner Rassmussen**
Thief River Falls 160 lbs.

*versus*

**Ernest Poolman**
Warren 168 lbs.

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<td>vs. Harold Stroble, Angus, 128 lbs.</td>
<td>vs. Harvey Cederholm, Warren, 152 lbs.</td>
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**Fans of the Northwest! Avail Yourself of the Opportunity of Seeing These Boys in Action.**

|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|


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If You Want Excitement You Will Be Sure to Get It Here

**Promoter:** Arnold Johnson  
**Referee:** Joe Soderberg

**General Admission, 35c**  
**Ladies, 25c**
In the last few years since wrestling has been introduced as a sport in our Warren High School, the interest and the support of the community for such teams has made it one of the leading sports of the school and saw a team travel down to Minneapolis to represent this school and community at the State Finals in 1979.

Wrestling — 1978-1979 Region 8 Champions


Hockey was played as early as 1908 with Argyle, Alvarado, Hallock, Roseau, Kennedy, Crookston, Red Lake Falls, East Grand Forks and with Drayton, North Dakota. In 1908, Argyle defeated Warren's newly organized hockey team by a 3-1 score on the local ice.

Hallock, Roseau and Drayton had indoor rinks even way back then. Warren had an outdoor rink with a fence around it and a warming house where the old creamery now stands on Main Street. Peter Nyland Jr. managed the rink for the "American Legion" at a salary of $50 a month. When there was a heavy fall of snow, all the hockey players would pitch in and help shovel the snow off by hand and muscle power. Before a game, the rink would be sprinkled with hot water from the "Warren Auto Company" then owned by Ole Anderson and Pete Melin.

The University of North Dakota introduced its first varsity hockey team, playing the Warren sextet to a one to one after two extra periods. The Warren team played the University a number of times and all were close games.

Later the uniforms and hockey equipment were turned over to the Boy Scouts but at that time hockey seemed to die out in Warren and it has been played but sporadically since then.

1924 HOCKEY TEAM

Front row: Harold Olson, Reuben Rosendale, Sig Anderson. Back row: Ernest Youngdahl, Walter Erickson, Ralph Negard, Jolly Sather, Spud Hanson.
Though card playing perhaps is not considered a sport by some, the playing of whist had its enthusiasts at the turn of the Century. A Whist Club was organized and illustrated below is a menu from the February 12, 1900, banquet that was either given in the Lyons House or the Windsor Hotel. As you read over the menu . . . in french no less . . . realize that this was before the frozen foods, canned fruits and air supply of today for perishable foods and before refrigeration as we know it, microwave ovens, etc. One could not now dine so well in Warren nor find such a meal in Grand Forks and if one duplicated such a meal in Minneapolis, the tab for such a meal would be very expensive.

Banquet of . . . .

Warren Whist Club
At Warren, Minn., Feb. 12, 1900.

Menu:

BLUE POINTS ON THE HALF SHELL.
BROOK TROUT, SAUCE À LA JULIENNE
POTATOES AUX NATURE

ROAST MUTTON WITH SAUCE À LA POIS FRANCHES
FRUIT SALAD

ROAST TURKEY WITH CRANBERRY SAUCE
POMMES DE TERRE MACHE

Dessert.
SWISS CHEESE
ASSORTED CAKE
CREAM CHEESE
FRUIT
COFFEE
SHERBET

Champagne, MUMM'S EXTRA DRY.

With the invention of snowmobiles or "snowcats", and the enthusiastic acceptance of them by the general public, it wasn't long before such enthusiasts banded together for mutual pleasure and planned outings. The Warren Snocat Club was formed in 1969 and this year has 141 members who look forward to our winters for the opportunities such cold weather and ample snow will give them to put their machines through all the paces they are capable of performing. One should mention at this time that during some terrible blizzards when the community was cut off from all outside transportation and communication, these vehicles transported both food for people, hay for animals and the sick to our local hospital and traveled where no other vehicle could.

And for those fortunate enough to own a bicycle, there was a Bicycle Club and they would drive up to Argyle on a trail that ran along side the Great Northern Railroad or they would go eastward along trails, stopping for drinks of water at the homes of early settlers, and visit Thief River Falls which was then a small place having a livery barn, store and a saloon.

The Warren Bike Club in 1893

Mike Holm, later Secretary of State; Alfred Swandyke, Marshall County Clerk of Court; Guy A. Aubel, United States revenue collector at Crookston, Minnesota; Bert Knapp, real estate man at Warren; Iver Lodoen of Warren; and O. H. Taralseth of Warren.

* * *
Taralseth Store Baseball Team


INDEPENDENT BASEBALL TEAM — 1940

1978 AMERICAN LEGION SPONSORED BASEBALL TEAM
Front Row: Jeff Westberg, Brian Peterson, Scott Kliner, Mitch Anderson, David Moen, Mike Cook, Kendall Mattson.
WHS 1903 FOOTBALL TEAM — An unusual set of circumstances brings this historic picture of Warren High School's first football team to Sheaf readers. The team played only one game, defeating Hallock 71-0 on a clear but windy Nov. 7, 1903, on a field at Hallock. Games were scheduled with Red Lake Falls but the weather prevented it and with Crookston but they didn't show up. All members of the team are thought to be deceased with Edmund Schwinke dying recently in Ohio where he had been a Sheaf reader all his life. Pictured, seated, left to right: Mark Oseth of Oslo, right end; Orion Clover, right half; Earl Beach, captain and full back; Erhard Anderson of Stephen, center. Standing, left to right: Charles Moulton, left guard; Harold Rodham, right guard; Arthur Ostrom, right tackle; Edmund Schwinke, left tackle; Berg Young, manager; Bernie Wentzel, left end; Andrew Sather, left half; and George Stockland, quarterback.

The picture was sent to the football coach of Warren High School by Hank Pearson of 8036 Afflerbaugh Court, S.E., Olympia, Wash. 98503. He writes, “I found the enclosed photo of the Warren football team of 1903 among some of my belongings while “house cleaning” the other day. How it got in my possession I will never know. And, being that I have never been in Warren, Minn., and likely never will be, and being that none of the members of the ’03 football team are ancestors of mine, I am turning the photo over to you. You can hang it up in the dressing room of your football team the next time you play Hallock as an inspiration. (You will note that the 1903 version of the Warren team annihilated Hallock 71-0 — that's kinda pouring it on, wouldn't you say, coach?). Good luck to the Warren Wolves or whatever they are called.”

Warren High School attracted students from other areas of the county in the early years to permit them to achieve high school education. Mr. Pearson knew the photograph was from Warren because it had Berget Studio, Warren, Minn. printed on the frame. This was the father of Norman Berget, who came here to open a photography studio in 1891 after spending several years in Grand Forks.

1920 Warren High School Football Team


Football has been a high school sport from way back in the 1900's and those who participated recall with pleasure the victories they won over other school teams.
Basketball has been an even more popular sport and this community had its independent basketball teams as well as its school teams. In 1917 under Coach Emery Johnson, Warren High School’s team were runner up in a regional tournament against Fosston played at Warren. Some of the players were Tim Lindsstrand, Casey Blake, Kitten Knutson, Hunter Quistgard, Wicky Edwards, Ray Swandby, and Arnold Lindstrand. In 1928 they were again runners up at the Regional Tournament played at Moorhead and got beat by Moorhead. Some of those players were Russ Thomas, Murray Head, Don Tornell, Munce Boardson, Sletten Olson, Frank Stinchfield, etc. under Coach Carl Lawrence.

In 1931 they again were runners up at the regional tournament and some of the players were Tenny Norstrom, Art Knutson, Ed Gurry, Harold Braggans, Grant Stinchfield, Bob Enebak, Stan Ostorn, Gumpy Westerlund and they were coached by Ted Birkeland. In 1934 they were District winners and some of the players were Quentin Bengston, Harold Wiebert, Mel Sedor, Donald Bryan, Yance Knutson, Lloyd Vansickel, Wm. Johnson, and Ed Perry under Coach Birkeland. Again in 1951 and 1954 the school teams were very successful.

Back row: Carl Lawrence (coach), Micky Peterson, Frank Stinchfield, Halward Blegen. Front row: Russell Thomas, “Mons” Monrud Boardson, Sletten Olson, Donald Tornell, Murry Head.
1911 Girls Basketball Champions

1920 Girls Basketball Champions
Hilma Skoog, Inez Johnson, Helen Lundgren, Ethel Johnson, Clara Halvorson, Esther Hilleboe, May Nelson, Teacher Alice Peterson.
Girls’ Basketball 1979 - 1980 Region 8 Champions


Volleyball A-Squad 1979 - 1980 Region 8 Champions

Boys' Track 1978 - 1979 Region 8 Champions


Ice skating was at first restricted to cleaned-off areas on the Snake River but later another skating rink was erected on South Minnesota Street north of where the Soo Railroad depot used to stand and across from the Washington School (now the site of the Warren Hospital). This rink was built by Ingolf Grindeland and Joe Staska and it was later managed by Bill Tullar. Apparently the wood needed to heat the warming house was being "snitched" by someone from the neighbors supply of wood and one neighbor, Charlie Hansen, father of Thorvald "Traveling Hen Shit" Hansen, got extremely upset by these forays on his winter source of heat and hollowed out a chunk of wood and inserted a stick of dynamite. In due time that particular piece of wood was taken and when it was placed in the air-tight stove, it blew that the warming shed to smithereens and ended that skating rink. Happily, no one was hurt. Later another skating rink was created on South Main Street that was the former site of the Lyons House and is now occupied by the Creamery Building. Here hockey games were played. In the succeeding years, rinks have been constructed by the city for the use of the community's youngsters in various places about the town.

The first trap shooting took place in the second brickyard northeast of the Power House around 1913. Douglas Farrel was one of the early patrons of that sport. Later a gun club was formed in Warren. Along with gun safety classes and efforts in the 1950's to eradicate pests such as crows, gophers, skunks, etc., the main interest is again trap shooting in a place adjacent to the Marshall County Fair Grounds.

Roller Skating has been enjoyed from time to time in Warren. In 1931, Shellie Charles, a professional skater, and W. H. Goodroad opened a roller skating rink in the Warren Opera House which was then called the "Strand Theater". Most of the time it has been enjoyed by the youngsters on the sidewalks of the town.

And if that wasn't enough, there was also horseshoe pitching, croquet, miniature golf, pool, billiard, softball, etc. so our community hasn't lacked for such entertainment.
Culture Comes to the Community

One could say that the first expressions for a better community began in this frontier town in 1897 when the first sermon for the Methodist Church was preached in the barroom of the Commercial Hotel with the bar for the pulpit and nail legs and planks for the pews. In a letter written by Mrs. Andrew Grindeland to her sister down in Iowa, she wrote of how the young people of the community had organized themselves into a singing society called the Valhalla Singing Society, that a poet in town had composed a poem for them and that her brother, Ole Forde, had composed a melody and it was just too beautiful to describe. This appreciation for music has carried right on down to the present time.

Mrs. Tullar gave a musical tea and to the surprise of the young matrons who were invited, that is just what they got . . . music and a cup of tea. And there were "sociables" at which time music, singing and "blind man's buff" were enjoyed. In 1881 a band was formed and it was decided to call it the Warren Cornet Band . . . and when they gave a concert, the admission was 10c.

And the community was visited by traveling musicians and entertainers such as Alexander Bull, son of the great violinist Ole Bull; a "loud talking machine" concert was held at the Opera House with admissions of 15c and 10c; "Uncle Tom's Cabin" played here en route from Minneapolis to Winnipeg where a fire destroyed all their scenery and costumes and the hounds were never to be found; occasionally a small circus set up its tents, and later the Chautauqua made annual visits setting up their tent east of the Washington School and attracting many to its varied programs of music, plays and speeches; Mr. Aoki, a Japanese nobleman, gave a talk on Japan to a crowded house; and Mrs. Carhart and Mr. Walpole sang at a Mid Summer recital. And to add variety, there were milk mush socials as well as bonnet and top socials at which time the men were supposed to decorate a woman's hat and the women to make tops out of wooden spools. And if that wasn't enough, local talent produced plays and minstrel shows, such as in 1915 when the Warren Dramatic Club under the direction of Nelson A. Lawrence of Winnipeg, presented "Thelma, the Norwegian Princess" before a large audience. Members of the cast were: F. C. Bakke, C. M. Bakke, William Dixon Jr., H. C. Matson, H. R. Stanchfield, N. Lawrence, R. E. Thomas, Miss Bess Cross, Mrs. Winchester, Miss A. L. Pickering, Mrs. Lawrence and Miss Rose Rosendahl.

But it was because of the Yankees who came early and settled along Yankee Bend . . . north Fourth Street . . . that much evidence of "culture" was brought to this community. In the late 1890's and early 1900's, life was much more formal than this casual age of plastic plates, paper napkins, canned beans and Coca Cola. Hostesses worked for months on the plans for their eight to twelve course dinners at which the guests came in formal dress . . . the men in white tie and tails and white gloves, the women in evening gowns with trains and long kid gloves that reached above the elbows and had to be buttoned with 16 or more buttons and for such a winter season, it was thought necessary to have at least eight changes of evening gowns.

Many a minister was chosen as much for his singing voice as he was for his preaching ability. And that appreciation of music was evidenced in 1924 and 1926 when...
VÄRMLÄNDINGARNE
F. A. Dahlgrens Folklustspel med sång och dans i sex akter gives på
Strand Theatre, Warren, Minnesota,
November den 24de och 25de
Föreställningen börjar kl. 8 e. m.
Biljetter till salu på North Star Drug Co.
efterlockan 10 f. m., Fredag, Nov. 21sta

Priser 75 och 50 cents.

VÄRMLÄNDINGARNE
FOLKLUETSPEL MED SÅNG OCH DANS.

Personerna

BRIKS PATRONER
ROY M. PRYTZ
WILHELM, hans son
CARL WALLGRIN
LOTTA, hans dotter
EDITH ALLEN
PROSTEN
ANSEL MORDSTROM
SVEN ERISSON I HULT, ahundetomten
PETER WICK
ELSAB, hans hustru
MRS. AUGUSTA LINDE af Minneapolis
ERIK, doters son
ANN SKLAR
OLOF I GYLLBY, rik bönne
J. M. OLSON
BRITTA, hans dotter
IRENE OLSON
JOHN HANSON VID STÖN, torpare
GUNNAR SVEDBERG
ANNA, hans hustru
MRS. H. M. BREDEN
ANNA, doters dotter
MRS. HEDWIG MELINDER
ANDERS, doters dotter
DR. C. A. GUNNARSON
PER, Sven EriSSONs dotter
HANS URTEH
STINA, Sven EriSSONs piga
MRS. E. O. NATWICK
BENGT PÅ ÅSEN, bondestam
ALFRED OLSON
LÖPAR VISSE
HANS URTEH

SVENSKA NATIONALDANSARNE.

VIOLET PARSONS
CLARA HALVORSSON
VALDRICK HALVORSSON
IRENE OLSON
INGOLF PEDERSSON

MLAN NYLAND
HENRY HALVORSSON
CARL LINDBERG

Sångprogram

1:a Akten: "Se nu såda ja stanna så var och grann." Växelspel. (Per och Stina)
"Jag sjunger och dansar så glad i mitt smul." (Erik).
"Varit att med lycka." (Erik.)
2:a Akten: "I sällskap skoget." (Anna)
"Hej hoppsläkt! Lustig och glad." (Anders)
"Och gossen gick sig ut en morgonstund." (Anders)...
3:e Akten: "Tukt, tukt, go' dräner." (Bodfellfast)
"Nu far jag dort." Växelspel. (Erik och Anna)
4:e Akten: "Gö® upp mig min vassa blå." (Anna)
"Nu jag sjungan har jag nått till den andra åren." (Jan Hanson)
5:e Akten: "Värmlandst," (Erik)
"Och när jag var en liten flicka." (Anna)

6:e Akten: (Drottningen) (Erik)

Erik och Anna: "Det är inte för att vi är sjunga," (Anna)
Warren Women's Club Chorus

Bottom row, left to right: Mrs. Ed Bratrud, Miss Agnes Lundgren, accompanist, Mrs. F. C. Wittensten, Mrs. E. E. Swenson, director. Top row: Miss Beatrice Holmquist, Mrs. C. E. Stevens, Mrs. G. E. Davis, Mrs. C. L. Spaulding, Mrs. R. B. Taralseth, Miss Agnes Halvorson. The Cup was won in 1924 at Moorhead, Minn.

Warren Women's Club Chorus

Bottom row, left to right: Miss Esmer Knutson, Mrs. Ed Bratrud, Miss Agnes Lundgren, Mrs. R. B. Taralseth, Mrs. F. C. Wittensten. Top row: Mrs. A. R. Hattfield, Miss Agnes Eilertson, Mrs. G. Davis, Mrs. E. E. Swenson, Mrs. C. L. Spaulding. Mrs. E. E. Swenson, director; Miss Agnes Lundgren, accompanist. The Cup was won May 18, 1926 at Detroit Lakes.
The Warren Community Chorus taken about 1930

Back row: In golf Pedersen, Dr. F. C. Bakkere, Ralph Taralseth, Lloyd Lundgren, Emanuel Hanson, George Magoris, Leslie Grange, William Lindberg, Edward Nelson. 3rd row: Ethel Hogberg, Elna Erickson, Dr. C. A. Gunnarson, Charles Grindeland, Arthur Golden, Clayton Bakke, Steve Ovsak, Joe Ovsak, Martin Olson, Mrs. John Sether. 2nd row: Sadie Forsberg, Grace Powell, Mrs. Stevens, Mrs. Engstrand, Hazel Bratrud, Hulda Skoglie, Agnes Lundgren, Clara Blegen, Minnie Gunnarson, Evelyn Swenson, Lottie Taralseth. 1st row: Nettie Lucier Pedersen, Florence Bossman, Cora Hatfield, Shirley Magoris, Ethel Hogberg, Edna Swan, John Sether (director), Irma Thompson, Miss Johnson, Ella Golden, Miss Ostrander, Helen Spaulding, Stella Willey.

And much credit should be given to the Warren High School and such musical directors such as Kenneth Sherwood who started the tradition of presenting some of the classics from the New York Musical Stage as well as from the Gilbert and Sullivan productions of the London stage and have raised the appreciation of all the students who have either taken part or who have heard such productions.

We may be far from the concert stages of Minneapolis and Winnipeg but a surprising number of citizens travel to both those cities to enjoy a play, a ballet, an opera, or a symphonic program. Warren is not a parched wasteland. It has produced artists, musicians, writers, singers and — rare though they seem to be in this day and age — ladies and gentlemen.

WARREN

Warren is where you don’t have to guess who your enemies are. Your friends will tell you.

Warren is one of the few places on earth where people past middle age are called by their first names when they saunter down the street.

Warren is where everybody knows everybody else’s car by sight ... and also when and where it goes.

Warren is where few people can’t get away with lying about the year they were born. Too many other people can remember them.

Warren is where people with various ailments can air them properly for sympathetic ears.

Warren is where, when you get the wrong number, you can talk for fifteen minutes anyhow, if you want to.

Warren is where the ratio of good people to bad people is something like 100 to one. That’s nice to remember.

Warren is where it is hard for anybody to walk to work for exercise because it takes too long to stop and explain to people in cars who stop, honk, and offer a ride.

Warren is somewhat like a big family ... ornery distant cousins, renegades and all.

Warren is where city folks say there is nothing to do, but those who live there don’t have enough nights in the week to make all the meetings and social functions.

Warren is where everybody becomes a “neighbor” in time of need.

Warren is where businessmen struggle for survival against city stores and shopping centers.

Warren is where those same businessmen dig deep many times to help with countless fund-raising projects.

Warren is where many teenagers say there’s nothing to do and then are surprised to learn that their big city peers are saying the same thing.

Warren, when all is said and done, is a nice place to live.
CONCLUSION

We have reviewed many facts of life in early Warren and much more could be written. Six months of work has gone into this effort and it is sincerely hoped that the results will be both interesting and a source of factual information to its readers. And possibly someone in 2080 will be appreciative of such facts when he or she prepares the next such book for Warren's 200th Anniversary.

And now before the booklet is brought to a close, I wish to thank those who helped by contributing material and in every case possible their names have been listed for proper credit. I would especially like to single out Ella Goplin Peterson for her interest and articles, and Keith Jankowski, one of Warren's native sons, and his co-workers at Richtman's-Midwest Printing, Inc., of 404-4th Ave. N., Fargo, North Dakota, for all their courtesies and help in transforming my sheaves of material into the book you now have before you.

Errors have possibly been unintentionally made and it would be appreciated to learn of such corrections and additions that would be of help to the person or committee of persons who will possibly compile the booklet for the 150th or the 200th Anniversary of Warren.

Lloyd George Melgard
Editor and Committee of one.

WARREN CENTENNIAL ORGANIZATION

Seated: Arthur Bossman, chairman; Mrs. Arthur Bossman, secretary; Roy Engh, vice-chairman. Standing: Ray Burwell, deputy chairman; Roy Swanson, deputy chairman; Neil Mattson, publicity; Edward Turn, deputy chairman; Duane Nielson, treasurer; and Phillip Thompson, deputy chairman.

All Faiths Service, President Ministerial Assn.; Centennial Book, Lloyd George Melgard; Children's Activities, Mawami Club; Class Reunion, Frances Fanfulik & Margaret Statslien; Commemorative Items, Harold Bustrack; Fireworks, Arthur Bossman; Fly In Breakfast, Clarence Dau; Golf, Steve Nelson; Horseshoe, John Hildenbrand; Museum, Phyllis Haynes & Ella Peterson; Pageant, Rachel Peterson & Rita Dalzell; Parade, Lowell Anderson; Pioneer Breakfast, Jaycee Women; Restoration—Band Stand, Roy Engh; Softball—Men, Robert Kliner; Softball—Women, Roberta Stengl; Welcoming, Gordon Sommers.
CENTENNIAL EVENTS

FRIDAY, July 4th
Pioneer Breakfast (65 years and older), Warren High School ............ (King & Queen Contest) 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
Softball Tournaments (Men & Women) .......................................................... 8:30 a.m.
Golf Tournaments ................................................................................. 8:30 a.m.
Horseshoe Tournaments, Holiday Park .................................................. 8:00 a.m.
Contests & Entertainment For Kids ......................................................... 1:00 p.m.
Dedication of Bandstand ........................................................................ 6:30 p.m.
Fiddlers Contests by RRV Fiddlers Association, Fairgrounds — Dance following .......................................................... 8:00 p.m.
Fireworks, Fairgrounds ........................................................................... 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, July 5th
“Fly In Breakfast,” Warren Airport ......................................................... 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Jaycee Beard Judging Contest .................................................................. 11:30 a.m.
Jogging Marathon, Angus to Warren Airport to Warren ................................ 9:00 a.m.
All Class Reunion, Warren High School .................................................. 10:30 a.m.
Parade ........................................................................................................ 4:30 p.m.
Dances (Old Tyme & Modern), Warren Fairgrounds ................................. 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

SUNDAY, July 6th
“All Faith Service,” Fairgrounds .............................................................. 10:30 a.m.
Centennial Pageant, Warren High School Auditorium ............................... 2:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Historical Museum, OPENED ALL THREE DAYS, Burlington-Northern Depot
Centennial Headquarters at Burlington-Northern will be open June 30 to July 6, 9:00 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Anniversary Plate

1880 - 1980

Miss Warren Alice Melgard


ADDENDUM

This book is a living memorial to its author, native son Lloyd George Melgard, who was graduated from Warren High School in 1935. He was born of a father from Norway, Andrew Melgard, and a mother, Minnie Melgard, from South Whitley, Indiana. Absorbing the cultural backgrounds of both, his insatiable interest in everything artistic started at an early age.

The now well-known collection in the restored and beautifully decorated farm home that was built in 1881 near Warren has grown through the years. The museum-like era of the home is enhanced by walnut parquet floors, white and oriental rugs, white damask draperies, imported Czechoslovakian crystal chandeliers, hand-carved furniture and many examples of his needlepoint. On one wall hangs a 6 x 9 foot wool hand-woven tapestry from Germany. There are oil paintings, crystal, porcelain, sculptures and bronzes from all over the world that encompass names like Beleek, Meisen, Waterford, Tiffany and Japanese artists such as Hokusai and Utumoro. European trips with his parents and in his adulthood have unearthed many interesting items from far places.

His local interests have been centered for many years in the Marshall County Historical Society, where for many years he served as the president. He has been active in the Warren Masonic Lodge, the Order of Eastern Star, and Our Savior's Lutheran Church. The war record of Lloyd George Melgard began with his enlistment as a private in 1940, service all over this country as well as in the Pacific Theater and Germany, and his discharge in 1953 as a captain.

"Plains of Plenty," Warren's history for the first 75 years, was compiled by Mr. Melgard in 1956. His knowledge of backgrounds of families, businesses and organizations are a rare combination for the compiling of this book with its history and anecdotes of Warren's first century.

This was added to the book in appreciation by the Warren Centennial Committee.

Arthur Bossmann, Chairman