

Almont Golden Jubilee

Watch Almont Grow!

Hundreds are watching the rapid growth of this young town which is the largest in the state for its age (it being only a yearling) and destined to soon become a city. I would like to see more people directly interested however and for this reason I offer for sale on easy terms a limited number of the most desirable lots in this flourishing town from \$25 to \$50 A LOT which is just like getting them as a Christmas present. Apply at once for your selection as there will be only a limited number sold on these terms and they will soon go. You will never get a chance like this again. For full information see

C. C. ATKINSON
Mandan North Dakota

Advertisement from Mandan Pioneer 1907

1906 - 1956



Skyline View of Almont 1956

50th ANNIVERSARY HISTORY BOOK

ALMONT, NORTH DAKOTA

1906 - 1956

ISSUED JUNE 1956



History Committee
Front row—Mrs. Joe Olson, Mrs. Don Klingensmith, Mrs. Axel Hoovestol.
Standing—Mrs. Grace Nelson, Mrs. N. E. Becklund. Not included in picture—Miss Ragnhild Feland.



Almont Commercial Club Front row—l to r—Ed Reef, Harvey Thorson, Everett Olson, Norman Hanson, Robert Atkinson, Donald McDowall. 2nd row—Gilbert Holle, Nels Becklund, E. E. Templeton, E. W. Hyde, Trygve Feland. 3rd row—Fred Ramsland, Edgar Skjolsvik, Herman Kaelberer, D. J. Klingensmith, Roman Peterson, Claude Ritz. Back row—Ben Ramsland, Sig Peterson, Morris Christianson, Norman Kilen, Axel Hoovestol, Alden Olson.

FOREWORD

A "bird's eye" view of Almont's history during the past 50 years has brought back memories to the large group of her citizens who have been taking a "look" at her past.

With the memories has come an appreciation for the many pioneers named and unnamed, who braved the early hardships and left a heritage greater than they knew.

Almont was truly a "Melting-pot" of nationalities and various cultures. Early business men did business in five languages. It was the trade center for settlers from five adjacent territories who had come from four European nations and older states in our own nation. Languages spoken were English, German, Norwegian, German-Russian and Bohemian. This frontier of different nationalities made for an alertness and variety of experiences that gave her children a real inheritance of fellowship.

Almont has become known as a community family noted for her hospitality to people of her own and other communities.

For many years there was no organized church in Almont, only an interdenominational Sunday School. Now much of the week's activities center around her three churches, the Evangelical Lutheran, the Wesleyan Methodist and the Roman Catholic. Though never large in numbers, she has been large in outreach. Her people have been scattered over thousands of miles with a desire to serve their God and fellowmen as missionaries, pastors, pastor's wives, teachers, doctors and nurses.

The History Committee takes this opportunity to express their appreciation to the Almont Commercial Club who sponsored this project, and to the scores of individuals who have given so generously of their time and efforts, their pictures and information to make this history book possible. Special thanks go to

all the business places and individuals who sponsored pages, bought advertising, or became "Boosters" of this publication. Appreciation also goes to Mrs. Martha Wetmore and Miss Margaret Rose, who so patiently helped and made available the records stored in the State Historical Library at Bismarck which was the main source of information. Also to Dr. Elwyn B. Robinson of the N. D. University history department for his helpful suggestions on the writing of local history and to the Historical committees of Turtle Lake and Garrison for their Golden Jubilee History books.

As the time for the work was comparatively short and the workers are amateurs in journalism, many items of interest are missing from these allotted pages, but the work done has been a labor of love for Almont—her citizens, past, present and future—and to the Lord who has poured so many blessings upon her.

The committee has been interdenominational and have counted it a high privilege to have had this opportunity to work together and with their neighbors on this project. They have been made aware that "History is not made by the majority, but by individual men and women."

The book is sent forth with the hope it may record some of the heritage of the past, give an appreciation of the present, and inspiration for the future.

Almont's 50th Anniversary
Historical committee

Mrs. Don J. Klingensmith, chairman
Mrs. Grace Nelson
Mrs. Axel Hoovestad
Mrs. Nels Becklund
Miss Ragnhild Feland
Mrs. Joe Olson



Almont, N. D., July 15, 1906. L. to R.: E. E. Templeton, F. W. Hyde, J. W. Burt, J. W. Hurley

ALMONT SURVEYED

July 4, 1906

A wave of excitement started in the homes around Almont today and went for many miles in all directions, especially south. H. H. Harmon, the county surveyor, E. W. Hyde and O. A. Young, brother-in-law of D. C. Kilkins, who owned the land, spent the day surveying the site for a new town to be located on the Almont siding.

The town was laid out according to the railroad, near the tip of the big V with lines running diagonal to section lines. It took all day to lay out the nine blocks of the original town site. One block they designated as court house square. Hyde and Young carried the chain for the surveyor. All enthusiastically welcomed the visit of Rickert Olson, who came to see what was going on in the old pasture. With well known Scandinavian hospitality he soon returned bringing a bountiful dinner to the hot and tired men, who had a picnic on the grass.

There had been a siding named ALMONT since the Northern Pacific railway came through in 1883. The name was suggested by the buttes in the vicinity, the word being coined from French "alta", high and "mount", hill. Beside the siding was a telephone booth.

The Almont siding was first seen by E. W. Hyde of Rauville, S. D., and his partner, J. W. Burt, of South Shore, S. D., last May when they traveled the Northern Pacific as far west as Glen Ullin looking for a site to start a new C. H. Chase Lumber company lumber yard and elevator in the NEW WEST. They chose Sims because so many new

settlers were unloading at Sims at that time. After ordering sixteen cars of lumber, they returned to S. D. The latter part of May, Mr. Hyde brought his family to Sims. Property values in Sims were too high to suit the men, so they decided to start a new town at the Almont siding.

Today the new town was surveyed and many families are excited at the prospect of a town 5½ miles closer than Sims.

July 15, 1906

ALMONT BEGINS

Several cars of lumber have been moved from the right-of-way at Sims where they were unloaded and brought to Almont. The new elevator has been started and plans are for a hotel to begin building at once.

July 31, 1906

George Chalmers, proprietor of the Heart River hotel, is erecting a large hotel and livery barn at the new town of Almont. It is nearly completed and will soon be ready for occupancy. When completed it will look very swell.

There were eight carloads of lumber unloaded at Almont the other day, a good sign that there is something doing. The prosperous town of Almont is building a grain elevator, capacity is 40,000 bushels.

A restaurant is open for business at Almont.

Lots at Almont are selling for \$100 each.

DeVaul Brothers are putting up a store in Almont.

August 3, 1906

Almont is planning a celebration for August 12th. Plans include a church service, a baseball game,

and lots of good band music by the Bohemian band. The business men of Almont are inviting everyone to come and enjoy the day at the new town.

J. R. Sherwood of New Salem is already running a restaurant in Almont.

August 12, 1906

ALMONT CELEBRATES

Early in the morning folks began to arrive from all directions for Almont's first celebration and to enjoy her hospitality. The change in five weeks from a pasture to a town seemed unbelievable to many. It was estimated that about 300 persons were present for the morning church services held in the lumber shed of the C. H. Chase Lumber company. Rev. Hughes, the Presbyterian pioneer missionary from New Salem, was the able speaker. The audience filled the benches, some sat on the ground, and others stood, for this first church service in the new town.

After a picnic dinner the crowd enjoyed a band concert by the Bohemian band. Those men certainly gave a fine concert of excellent music. The band consisted of 24 pieces. Players were settlers from the Bohemian Flats southeast of Almont and they knew how to play. In addition to their concert they played for the ball game which followed.

High point of excitement for the day was the baseball game between Sims and Almont. The Sims baseball team was already recognized as an outstanding team and were beautiful in their red uniforms. The Almont team played in overalls. They were men living near Almont or connected with the building of the town but had seldom if ever played together before.

Elmer Brown was pitcher for the game and Mr. Stevenson was catcher. Albert Anderson was left fielder, with Fred Zimmers, a rural school teacher, as center fielder. Cornelius Knutson, Amandus Larson, Ted Peterson, Clint McGary, and Byron DeLang completed the team with J. W. Burt and E. W. Hyde as managers.

Sims was up to bat for the first inning. To their surprise they did not get in a run. Neither did Almont. This was true for the first

A B. C. Plumbing & Heating Co.

Alvin Buman and Calvin Bauer
New Salem, N. D.

Almont Celebrates



The Town of Almont, Aug. 12, 1906. The buildings are: lumber shed, elevator, hotel, store, and restaurant

three innings. Sims got one score in the 4th and Almont tied it in the 5th. Sims brought in their second score in the 6th and Almont tied it in the 9th. This was enough to drive the crowd wild. In the last half of the 10th inning, Almont made a score and beat the game. McGary who brought in the score was placed on Hyde's shoulders and carried down town.

Almont's first celebration was a day those present will long remember. Her business men are happy over the fine response of the folks from so many places and over the prospects for the growth of their town. Five business places are in operation or under construction. They are the C. H. Chase Lumber

company's elevator and lumber yard, the Chalmers hotel, DeVaul's store, and Sherwood's restaurant.

A new town has begun and is on its way!

August 17, 1906 Early News Notes

Farming is the thing now and ranching, on a large scale anyway, is going out of fashion. The man with the lariat gives way before "the man with the hoe." This has been fine hay weather, and also it has been good for the ripening grain. Crops here are quite good except those put in late.

A large quantity of livestock will be shipped from Sims in the next few weeks. On September 7th, a

whole train load will be made up here.

August 31, 1906 "Mandan Pioneer" News Notes

A help to the great doings at Almont is a large hardware store being erected. The way Almont is growing isn't slow.

The new elevator at Almont is now ready to accomodate the farmers with their bumper crops.

Peterson and Bjorum started started threshing last Monday and as they have a fine rig and the crops are all good they are sure to meet with a great success.

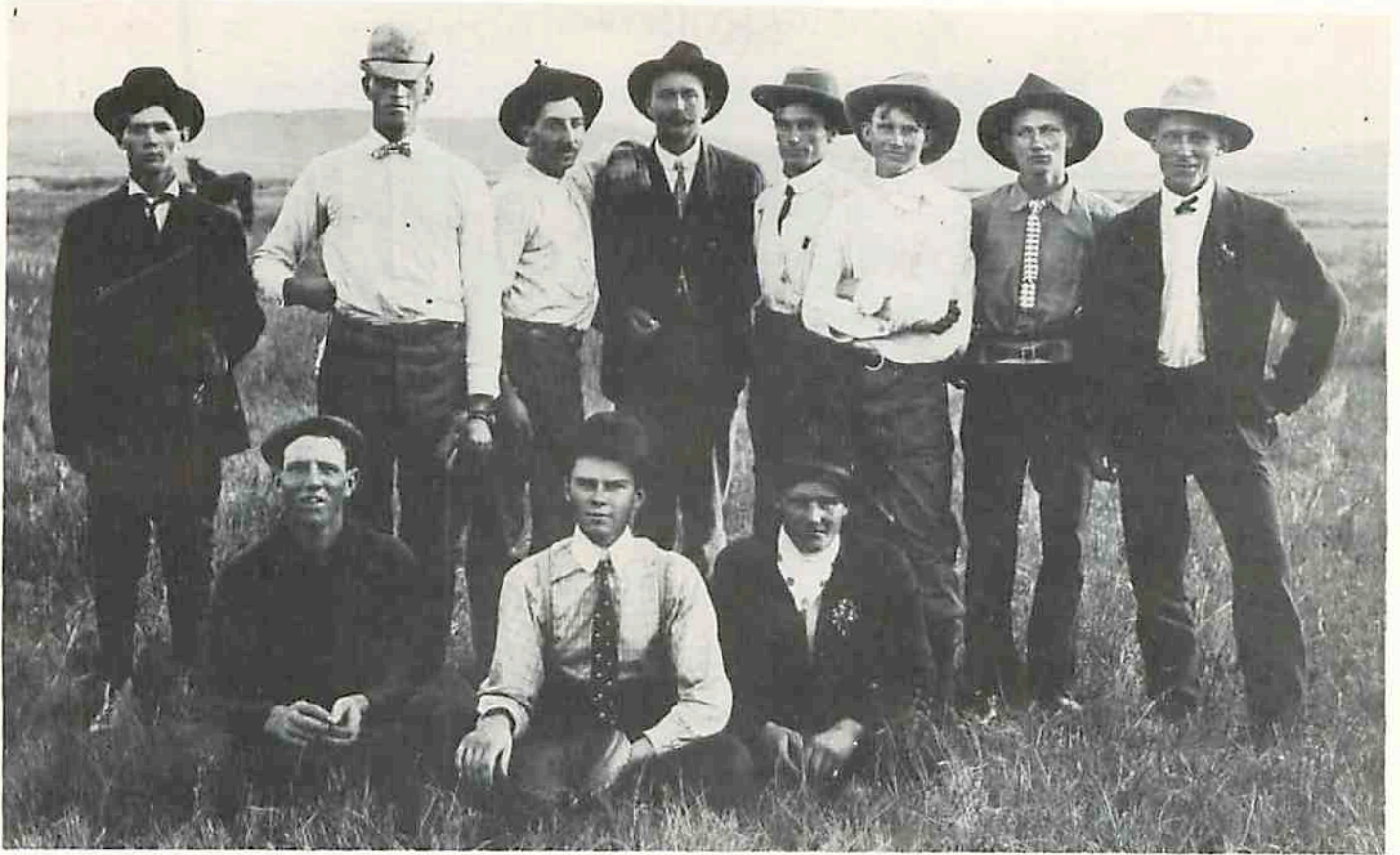
C. G. Wright is busy turning over the sod for homesteaders with his large plow.



Church Service, August 12, 1906

Almont Commercial Club

Almont, N. D.



Almont's First Baseball Team

Standing: McGary, Albert Anderson, Seimers, E. W. Hyde, J. W. Burt, Cornelius Knutson, Amandus Larson, Ted Peterson. Seated: "Red" Brown, Stevenson, Byron DeLange.

Sept. 7, 1906
Stay On Your Claim

Homesteaders are warned to live up to the requirements of the law. "If you have a homestead in North Dakota and expect to make final proof on it, you had better go and live on it at once . . . There is a wild scramble for North Dakota farm land just now and every possible ground for contesting a claim is being sought by landseekers . . . The general prosperity of the farmers in the state and the excellent prospects of continued prosperity are responsible for the number of contests which have been started recently," said a land office official this morning.

Reprint from "Mandan Republican."

November 23, 1906
Bumper Crop of Grain to Almont

Almont is one of the busiest places in Morton County now days, so you can judge from that, that

there is nothing small about Almont except DeVaul's grocery store and it is being built larger.

Everybody out there is doing a good business. Splendid crops of flax and potatoes were raised all through that country and the wheat crop averaged 18 bushels to the acre. The big difficulty is in getting the grain to market.

Farmers from as far away as South Dakota are hauling grain into Almont. Because neither the Township or County Board would help Almont get bridges at the beginning, they built two bridges. Ties were used for the foundation covered with 8x10 40 ft. timbers and planks laid crosswise. At one bridge the wagon wheels cut the approaches so badly that even the snatch team could not help them through.

A bumper crop and the farmers could not get to the elevator. Things looked dark for the new town. In desperation Mr. Hyde took the train to find the Railroad Supt., Mr.

Rappljey, to lay the need before him of cutting the right-of-way fence and making a crossing by the curve.

Supt. Rappljey was in Dickinson. He hesitated at first because it was a dangerous thing for everyone, but finally gave a permit to cut the fence and notify the section foreman to put planks by the tracks to make a crossing. Hyde returned to Almont that evening and by 4:00 P. M. the next day the wagons of grain were crossing the tracks.

The bumper crop soon plugged all the elevators along the line. One day C. C. Atkinson, a conductor on the N. P., helped them get a large new car that had come with immigrant goods from the East. They loaded it from the scales, putting in over 2000 bushels or 123,000 lbs. in an 80,000 lb. car. They watched it go around the Curve, weaving as it went. But the groaning car arrived in Duluth and was written up in their papers.

Excerpts from "Mandan Pioneer and Morton County News."

Almont Homemakers Club

Almont, N. D.

Some Almont Firsts



Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Hyde, Founders of Almont



First Postmaster and First Bride and Groom;
Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Templeton



Confectionery Storekeeper, Dave Pederson



Banker J. Bondous



Baby John Almont Hurley



First Implement Dealer,
Mr. and Mrs. Jens Nelson



Miss Karine Jacobsen, First Teacher



Restaurant Proprietor, J. R. Sherwood



Ben Bird and Horse

Feb. 1, 1907

Ranching and Farming Conflict

Dear Sir, A dispute has arisen in this neighborhood in regard to the herd law. The controversy is over a field of corn which on account of severe weather, the owner was unable to take off the field. A neighbor's cattle running at large roamed over the field and the owner of the corn takes them up and claims damages. Will you kindly inform us as to the exact law on the point? An Inquirer.

Ans. The herd law of North Dakota says: "It shall be lawful for cattle, horses, mules, ponies, swine, goats, and sheep to run at large from the first day of December till the first day of April each year, except within the corporate limits of any city or village, but nothing in this code shall be construed to repeal any special act establishing a fence law for any county of the state." As interpreted all stock has a right to run at large during the above months, consequently owners of hay, grain and other such crops must protect their property by a suitable fence or otherwise, or stand the loss should any occur from stock running at large.

April 22, 1907

First Sunday School Organizes

Sunday School started last Sunday, with the following officers elected:

Superintendent, Mrs. E. W. Hyde.

Assistant Superintendent, John Frey.

Secretary and Treasurer, Miss Ruth Sherwood.

The first meeting of the school will be held in the law office of Hiram S. Goff at 10:30 A. M. next Sunday. Come all and if there is not room for all we will arrange for an "overflow meeting" somewhere else.

Almont Advertiser.

April 26, 1907

New Bridge

The new bridge south of town

will be completed in a few days. Welcome the bridge and roads for that means the making of the town.

May 10, 1907

Weather Headlines the News

Wednesday was first real summer day—but the next day it snowed, which means the biggest crop of No. 1 Hard Wheat ever raised in North Dakota.

May 13, 1907

Lucky Joe

Joseph Olson is nothing if not lucky. He lost two mares about a month ago, and just recovered them near Sims, but now there are four of them. Things not only grow in North Dakota, but they multiply.

May 31, 1907

Northern Pacific Branch

Lines Surveyed

The construction of the branch lines out of Mandan is an assured fact. The surveys have been completed and the deeds for the right of way are being rapidly filed in the register of deeds office. Just when active work of construction will begin is not known, but it is believed work will be begun this summer.

June 10, 1907

Atkinson Addition

C. C. Atkinson, the N. P. brakeman who has been such a booster for Almont, has purchased land adjoining the town site and had it surveyed into a second addition naming it the Atkinson addition. Before a well was dug in Almont, he was a real friend to the men in throwing off ice to help make the creek water more palatable.

August 16, 1907

ALMONT'S FIRST ANNIVERSARY

In July and August 1906, the first buildings were erected in Almont. Now the town contains about 20 business houses, and every lot in the original townsite has been sold. The prospects are good for the town doubling the number of the business houses before August 12, 1908.

The business men of Almont are a progressive bunch of hustlers. A few weeks ago they met in Holritz Bros. store and decided to celebrate the founding of the town. Committees were appointed and a splendid program of entertainment furnished the visitors for two days.

Early Monday morning, the people from the surrounding country began to arrive and at noon several hundred were present to enjoy Almont's hospitality. The Valley Forge Brass band was secured to enliven the occasion with music and they certainly made good.

The festive occasion was ushered in Monday by a splendid address delivered by the brilliant young orator from Carson, Simon Pederson.

In the afternoon a ball game between Almont and Carson was played before a large audience and was won by Almont by a score of 7 to 3. This was followed by horse and foot races and concluded with a dance in the evening.

Tuesday's program was a repetition of the previous day. Attorney James Campbell of Mandan was the orator of the day and acquitted himself with great credit.

The oration was followed by a recitation by Mrs. Compton which was well rendered. The game Tuesday was between Almont and Sims. The latter won by a score of 3 to 2.

The following committees had charge of the celebration and in performance of their work covered themselves with glory.

Program Committee — E. W. Hyde, Fred Holritz, John Frey.

Entertainment Committee—Fred Holritz, Roy Davenport, P. R. Peterson.

Race Committee—B. C. Bird, E. A. Holritz.

Finance Committee—Jens Nelson, Roy Davenport.

Dance and Music Committee — John Davenport, C. A. Knutson, Clarence Berglund.

Baseball Committee—Joe Caserly, Andrew Holritz.

Advertising Committee — G. H. Anderson, E. E. Templeton.

Al's Service Station

Dodge, Plymouth, Allis Chalmers Dealer

Al Becker, Owner

Glen Ullin, N. D.



Sod House and Oxen



Street Scene with Grain Wagons 1907



One Hour's Hunt—Ben Bird and John Fry 1907

That Almont will grow and become an important commercial center in Morton County goes without saying. A bunch of hustlers like those composing the above committees would make any town grow.

Reprint from Mandan Pioneer.

John Frey

John Frey, one of the early storekeepers in Almont came here and built a store in 1907, which later became known as the Timmerman store.

He was born near Odessa, Russia in 1882 and came to America with his mother in 1893, and settled in S. D. for a while. Later he came to N. D. where he has remained until the present time.

He was assistant Sunday School Superintendent when he lived here and now lives at Turtle Lake, N. D., where he has been Sunday school superintendent for 33 years.

December, 1907

ALMONT ILLUSTRATES HOW NORTH DAKOTA TOWNS GROW

Almont, Morton County, celebrated its first birthday the 12th and 13th of August and now, in existence for thirteen months, it has twenty-two business concerns: namely, two banks, the First State bank organized this spring with C. F. Peterson of New Salem as president and John Bondus as cashier; the Farmers State bank just organized with E. W. Olson, president, and N. E. Becklund, cashier. Capital, \$10,000 each. Two elevators, the Chase company, E. W. Hyde, manager, and the Lyons company, P. A. Caldwell, manager. Three stores, Fred Holritz and Son, C. A. Knutson & Co., and John Frey, each carrying a complete line of dry goods, groceries, etc. in large commodious stores. One hardware store with J. P. Casserly, proprietor. Three lumber yards; the Heart River Lumber Co. with Clarence Berglund, manager; the Mandan Mercantile company, with Henry Lechteuger, manager; and the C. H. Chase & company with E. W. Hyde, manager. One implement store, Jens Nelson & Sons. Two hotels; the Almont hotel, J. R.

(Continued on page 11)

American Legion Post 261

Almont, N. D.



Townsite, 1907



Lover's Cliff



Lumber Yard with County Road Grader (1907)



First Almont School House



Creamery



Auto Livery



Main St., Looking North — Just a Dream



N. P. Depot



Elevators



East Side, 1907



East Side, Main St.



Restaurant and Bank



West Side, Almont



Center Section, West Side Main



Business Section from Above



Hyde Residence—1st house built in Almont

(Continued from page 8)

Sherwood, proprietor; and the Tischler hotel with John Tischler at the helm; and one restaurant, with James Bateman, proprietor. One livery and feed barn with Bird and Connelly, owners who employ four men and have eight teams, also do draying and grading. Two meat markets, A. N. Pellette and C. H. Larson, proprietors. David Peterson has a confectionery, and J. R. Thompson at the forge of the blacksmith shop. One drug store, Davenport Bros. Dr. Barton, from Turtle Lake, is the efficient M.D. One barber, Frank Todt; one lawyer, Hiram S. Groff; E. E. Templeton is postmaster and one hall 24x60. A school house is just being finished and two teachers will be employed this year.

The Almont Advertiser with Jasper A. Smith, editor, keeps everyone posted on the doings of the hustling village.

Contractor Fred Birch and crew are at work on the new depot. It is to be a two story structure 24x55 feet with a large freight room and is said to be the finest depot between Mandan and Dickinson.

The Lutheran Colonization company as the name implies, is engaged in settling the vacant lands in this country and is considered one of the strongest of its kind, being capitalized at \$250,000 and organized under the laws of Minnesota. The officers are among the prominent bankers and professional men of the state.

E. E. Templeton, representing the Lutheran Colonization Company of Almont says, "The crops in the territory adjacent to Almont, in spite of reports, are very good, except in a few cases. General reports are flattering and especially so the report from the southern territory. This condition will act as an incentive to land buyers and businesses already show great activity. Prospects were never better for the dealing in real estate, which the company owns, including about 47,000 acres of choice farming and dairy lands in this country."

Almont is situated at the bend of the Northern Pacific railway and has fine roads leading into town from all directions. A terri-

tory on the south reaching into the fertile sections of the grain growing country, even into South Dakota, makes a great future assured for the town. Its citizens are progressive and enterprising and work together for the advancement of the future city of Almont.

A local item in the "Mandan Pioneer" of a late date says: "Even cold weather does not hinder the growth of this busy little city, for during the one or two cold days last week the sound of the hammer could be heard as usual. The only delay since the town started has been the shortage of carpenters and other workmen."

There is long distance telephone service and an opera house and city hall.

Almont is situated on the main line of the Northern Pacific railway. Its officials noting the hustle and progressiveness which characterized the people of this little city has offered encouragement by erecting for them one of the finest depots to be found on the Yellowstone division.

We might add incidentally that the business men of Almont have all the business they can do, so any one desiring to go there and go into business need not be afraid of being run out of town. As the businessmen of Almont are not built that way.

The farmers of Almont boast of the best crops raised in the state this year (1907). Anyone watching the loads of grain coming into the elevators at that point would have no reason to doubt the truthfulness of that statement.

D. C. Filkins shipped a large steam plow from Minneapolis to Almont last week where he expects to turn over many acres of the black soil.

The great coal deposits near Almont may boom the town in the near future as it is rumored there will be a plant erected there early next spring for the purpose of briquetteing lignite.

KEEP YOUR EYES ON ALMONT

Reprint from the North Dakota Magazine, December, 1907.

Anderson Ace Hardware

Call in and get acquainted.
Bismarck, N. D.



Scholars of Almont School 1908 Front row—l to r—Willie Sherwood, Johnny Tischler Feronica Tischler, Verna Bird. 2nd row—Carl Sherwood, Frank Tischler, Ross Sherwood Henry Peck, Magaret Young, Gladys Bird. Back row—Robert Bird, Glen Peck, Agnes Knudson, Amanda Nelson, and Clara Knudson. Teacher—William Hensleigh. Not on picture—Joe Tischler.

SOME ALMONT FIRSTS IN 1908

March 20, 1908 was Almont's first election. Only one ticket in the field. That first year the big interest was the vote for the new jail—it carried by a big majority.

Almont's first public "Market Day" was held on April 4 and a large list of useful articles were on hand for the sale.

First ball team of Almont organized—N. S. Journal—April 17,

1908. The Almont Baseball team was organized Monday evening with the following officers: Manager C. C. Johnson; Captain, Adolph Nelson. The Johnson batter has been secured for the season and the boys now have reason to feel confident of winning a big percent of the games this summer. The citizens of Almont are willing to contribute toward the support of the team, and it is hoped that we may see some good baseball this summer.



Curlew School 1908 Front row—l to r—Alvin Olson, Bennie Olson, Ovald Feland, Alice Anderson, Anna Olson, Clara Anderson, Nora Feland. Back row—Lena Linstad (teacher) Beas Olson, Jinx Olson, Melvin Olson, Albert Anderson.

Almont Has New Creamery

The Almont Creamery is open for business with Mr. Louis Larson of Winthrop, Minn. as buttermaker.

The creamery proposition has been agitated very strongly here ever since Almont was started, and last September a traveling salesman was in town trying to interest persons in the matter. No definite move was made until in Feb. of 1908 when R. F. Flint, state dairy inspector, and M. F. Cart of Minneapolis, held a farmers meeting here on the question of organizing a creamery, and on the strength that enough stock was sold and milk pledged.

Stock subscriptions were sold liberally and one week later the creamery was organized with Hogan Anderson, president; B. Schmitz, vice president; E. M. Willman, secretary; and N. E. Becklund, treasurer. Directors were: Jacob Held, Rickart Olson and Christ Kaelberer. In April, 1908 Sec. of State Alfred Blaisdell issued a charter to the Almont Creamery Assn. with \$3,500 capital. Incorporators were: Hogan Anderson, Jacob Held, E. M. Willman and others of Almont. A site for the creamery was secured from Hjalmer Anderson, just south of town where good drainage could be had. The first step was to build an ice house before the early spring thaw. The ice house was completed in March and 40 tons of ice were put up. The creamery was completed the first part of May and machinery installed.

Farmers became interested in the creamery as they realized that dependence on crops alone would necessarily result in failure and diversified farming is the only way of building up a country.

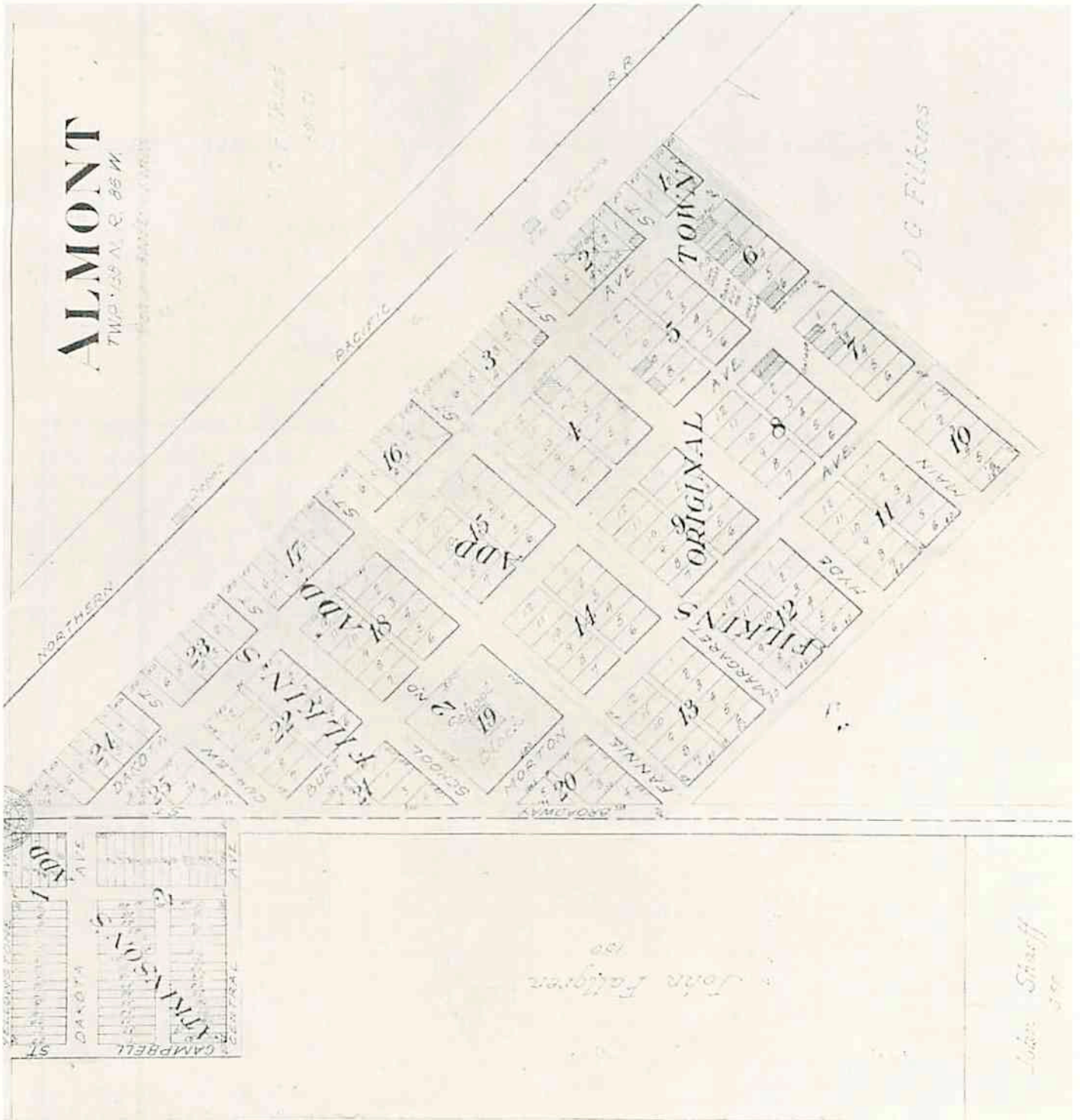
Sept. 18, 1908

Tobias Olson brought a carload of dairy cows up from Minnesota last Saturday. We understood Otto Feland is to have half of them. This is a wise move as they have a creamery in the immediate vicinity and we see no reason why they shouldn't make money. Here's wishing them success and much of it.

A. W. Lucas Co.

Home of Brand Name Merchandise "Bismarck Shopping Center"
Bismarck, N. D.

PLAT OF ALMONT





Rabbit Hunters—Benny Ringham, John Thompson, George Chamberlin, Eugene Meyers, Albert Anderson, Andrew Knutson

South Branch Booms July 9, 1909

Almont is the busiest town along the line this spring: hotels and boarding houses full all the time, and the stores doing an immense business from early in the morning until late at night. More grading outfits, horses and men have been unloaded here than at any other point, which keeps business moving all the time.

Henry Wallace was appointed marshal by Sims township yesterday for the village of Almont for the rest of the year at a salary of \$65 per month. Henry Wallace is an old hand at the business and ought to make good. There being so many strangers, laborers and other class of men in town at the present time, it was necessary to have somebody look after the town's interest while the rest are asleep.

Mrs. W. K. Everingham of Memphis, Tenn., arrived here Tuesday to join her husband, who is making Almont his home for the present. He is construction supt. for one of the largest contractors on the new line south of here.

Mr. Everingham received his new 35 horsepower Maxwell automobile Wednesday and will use it in his work on the new line. J. J. Collins, one of the sub-contractors on the

new line south of here, shipped in a car load of horses which he recently bought for grading work. J. M. Griffith has just shipped in several cars of railroad grading machinery and will commence work on the south line in a few days.

Milwaukee R. R.

It is reported that the Milwaukee has started grading on their new line in the southern part of the county.

July 9, 1909

Ben Bird, Deputy Sheriff

Great excitement prevailed in Almont the latter part of last week after the broad-day hold-up on the outskirts of the village. A tramp, or a man appearing to be a bad actor, claiming as his name W. A. McCarty, beat and knocked down a stranger and then robbed him of some \$12.00, which he had on his person. After getting the money he started across the hills to make his get-away. Deputy Sheriff Ben Bird was soon on a horse following him, overtaking him. He refused to stop when called to and Ben Bird shot in front of him, and he fell to the ground as if dead. Mr. Bird, riding right up to him, ordered him to get up. He made no move. He was requested a second time to get up, and as Mr. Bird did not care to get down on the ground with him, or-

dered him to get up or he would put something into him that would make him get up, and the man suddenly came to life and was taken back to town. On the following day, Friday, he was bound over to the District Court and taken to Mandan Saturday morning by Deputy Sheriff Ben Bird.

New Salem Journal.

July 16, 1909

Government Land Dwindles

There are now less than 150,000 acres of government land in the Bismarck land district. Fifteen years ago there were 12,000,000 acres of government land in this district that was not filed on. "160 acres means independence for life!"

August 15, 1909

National Land Co. of Almont

We have 20,000 acres along the Heart River in Morton county, Range 85, 86, 87, Twp. 136. We have good farm or stock propositions. For any information write or call on local representatives: M. Flinn, Carl, N. D. or E. E. Templeton, Almont, N. D.

New Salem Journal.

1909-1911

Do you remember when.....
..... 1909

—Mr. and Mrs. J. Nelson returned from their trip to Europe in 1909? When the Ben Horsch house was quarantined? German church services were held in the First State Bank with Rev. Wittfront as leader?

—When the farmers did not get in their fields before the middle of April in 1909?

—When Christiana Nelson was the Almont representative in the New Salem subscription contest?

Buehler Funeral Home

Warren Buehler, Manager and Director

June 4, 1910

Fire Burns Much of Almont

Last night fire destroyed both elevators, the lumber yard and Mr. Adam's barn. It was a close call for the entire town. Folks in Glen Ullin saw the red sky but the fire department came too late to be of service.

The fire is thought to have been started by a passing train emptying its fire box and the wind blowing the flying sparks under the elevator driveway. Since it was after 9:00 P. M. at night, the men had just left the elevator. In fact some of them had seen the sparks flying as they walked away.

The elevators were enveloped in flames before anyone could get to them. Last year's bumper crop had filled them to overflowing as 2,000 to 3,000 bushels of grain was being hauled in daily and cars were difficult to get for shipping. Two loaded cars were moved with pinch bars and saved from fire. A filled gasoline tank was expected to explode but only the curbing burned and the top melted.

To save the Mandan Mercantile Co. lumber yard, Mr. Berglund stood by his building pouring water on it and had men pour water on him. Burning shingles were flying everywhere and many small fires were extinguished from roofs and sidewalks. Children were taken to the school house for protection and safekeeping. No one was hurt in this big fire, for which everyone was thankful.

Burned wheat is now being sold for \$10.00 a double wagon box load and plans are for immediate rebuilding of the elevators and lumber yard.

Dec. 21, 1910

Almont Arena Reports On Business

During the past few weeks the germ of progress has been especially active among the people of Almont and has inoculated the business men with the desire for a bigger and better known Almont.

J. W. Hurley opened drug store and secured doctor.

City Meat Market sold to Sharff. Ellingson opened the new store in post office building.

Sherwood bought Casserly hardware store.

Tischler hotel sold to Clark—now Merchants Hotel.

Velie Auto Agency opened.

Newspaper established.

One thing quite noticeable here and not to be seen east of the river is the number of farmers who came to do their trading for the winter, nearly all have the cash to buy with. This condition is being commented on quite freely by the commercial travelers and those who make this town, report sales and collections better than in any other place of its size along the N. P.

Businesses Advertised In First Issue

1. C. H. Chase Lbm. Co., lumber and grain. E. W. Hyde, Mgr. at Almont; F. W. Warner, Mgr. at Lark.
2. Farmers State Bank, N. E. Becklund, cashier; G. H. Anderson, asst. cashier.
3. City Meat Market, J. N. Shaff, prop.
4. Mandan Mercantile Co., C. P. Berglund, Mgr.
5. E. E. Templeton, Lands, Homestead relinquishments, Ins.
6. Almont Pharmacy, J. W. Hurley, prop.
7. First State Bank of Almont, H. R. Lyon, Pres., P. T. Halvorson, cashier, C. L. Timmerman, V. Pres., Miss M. Gillis, teller, C. L. Timmerman, director, H. R. Lyon, director, C. F. Peterson, director, J. Nelson & Son.
8. Fred Holritz & Sons.
9. J. R. Sherwood, Prop. (bought Casserly Hdwe. store).
10. Dr. G. G. St. Clair.
11. Ellingson's new store.
12. Livery, Sale and Feed Sale, E. C. Bird, Almont-Carson; Almont-DeVaul stage lines.
13. Thomas J. Miller, blacksmithing, horse-shoeing.
14. C. E. Knutson & Co.
15. Aug. Timmerman, Almont and Sims, N. D.
16. Merchants hotel, A. L. Clark, Mgr.
17. Excerpts from Almont Arena, Vol. 1 No. 1.



Early Brush car with J. Nelson and Amanda



Almont's first car with Hiram Goff, owner and driver. Also in the picture is J. W. Hurley with his car, Almont's second.



Street scene: Mary Timmerman, Lawrence Nelson, Christine Nelson, Amanda, and Earl Bird in front of Timmerman's store.

Feb. 18, 1911

Almont Butter Scores High

While the local Creamery didn't take any of the prizes at the convention in Jamestown recently, its butter scored high marks and received honorable mention. Our buttermaker, Louis Larson, can feel proud of the standing of the Almont Creamery.

May 27, 1911

Arena Changes Hands

Ray L. Lindner assumes the management of the Almont Arena from Mr. McNeil who has interests in Montana that need his attention at the present time.

June 2, 1911

Ray Lindner purchased the plant, good-will and contracts and vicinity of the Almont Arena. Our Aim is to give Almont and vicinity a 1st class newspaper and to work for the interests of the city at all times.

July 8, 1911

Almont has new Doctor

Citizens are elated over getting a new doctor in town. Dr. W. T. Cain who for the past 2 years has practiced at Underwood, N. D. has purchased the Almont Pharmacy and will be here soon. Now we will be able to receive the best medical treatment right here at home.

July, 8 1911

Banks Consolidate

The latter part of last week a deal was consummated whereby the two banks of this place were consolidated and hereafter the business will be done in the Farmers State bank building. This was a very important business change and the best for the town.

B. & B Garage

General repair work and welding.
New Salem, N. D.



APRIL 22, 1911

Farmers State Bank

Local Businessman Appointed As Land Commissioner

G. H. Anderson was appointed by Judge Amidon of the U. S. Dist. court as U. S. Commissioner for the Bismarck land office.

The news of the appointment was gladly received by the homesteaders and merchants. Formerly, when the homesteaders wished to make final proof upon their claims, they were compelled to go to Bismarck or Mandan to do so. The trip made by rail was quite an expense, taking from three to four days to complete. Beside the regular fees, there was additional expense for car fare, witnesses time, room and board. This appointment meant that the money would be spent at home and was estimated that about \$10,000 a year would be saved to people of Almont.

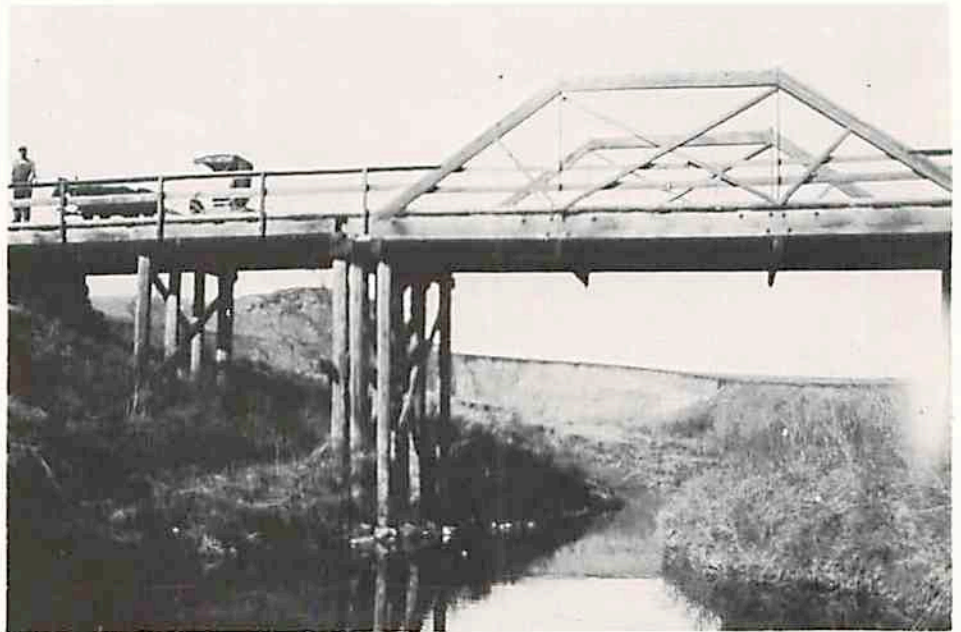
The new commissioner was to serve a larger territory, being the only one between Bismarck and Dickinson. He was also to be of assistance to the U. S. Marshall and deputies.

April 29, 1911

Two steam breakers are at work within a mile of Almont and the way the sod is being overturned is both satisfactory to the farmers and plowers. C. W. Wright is breaking 100 acres for C. A. Knutson and Timpe and Miller are breaking for Fred Anderson.

May 6, 1911

An event which comes seldom to the people of Almont was that of an old time cattle drive passing south of town. There were 1500 head of Hereford cattle being driven from a ranch on the Knife river to



Bridge across Curlew Creek



Morton James Steam Threshing Rig

the diminishing Standing Rock Reservation in the southern part of the state. Many of the townsmen went to see the herds and several secured some very good pictures of the herd.

August 1, 1911

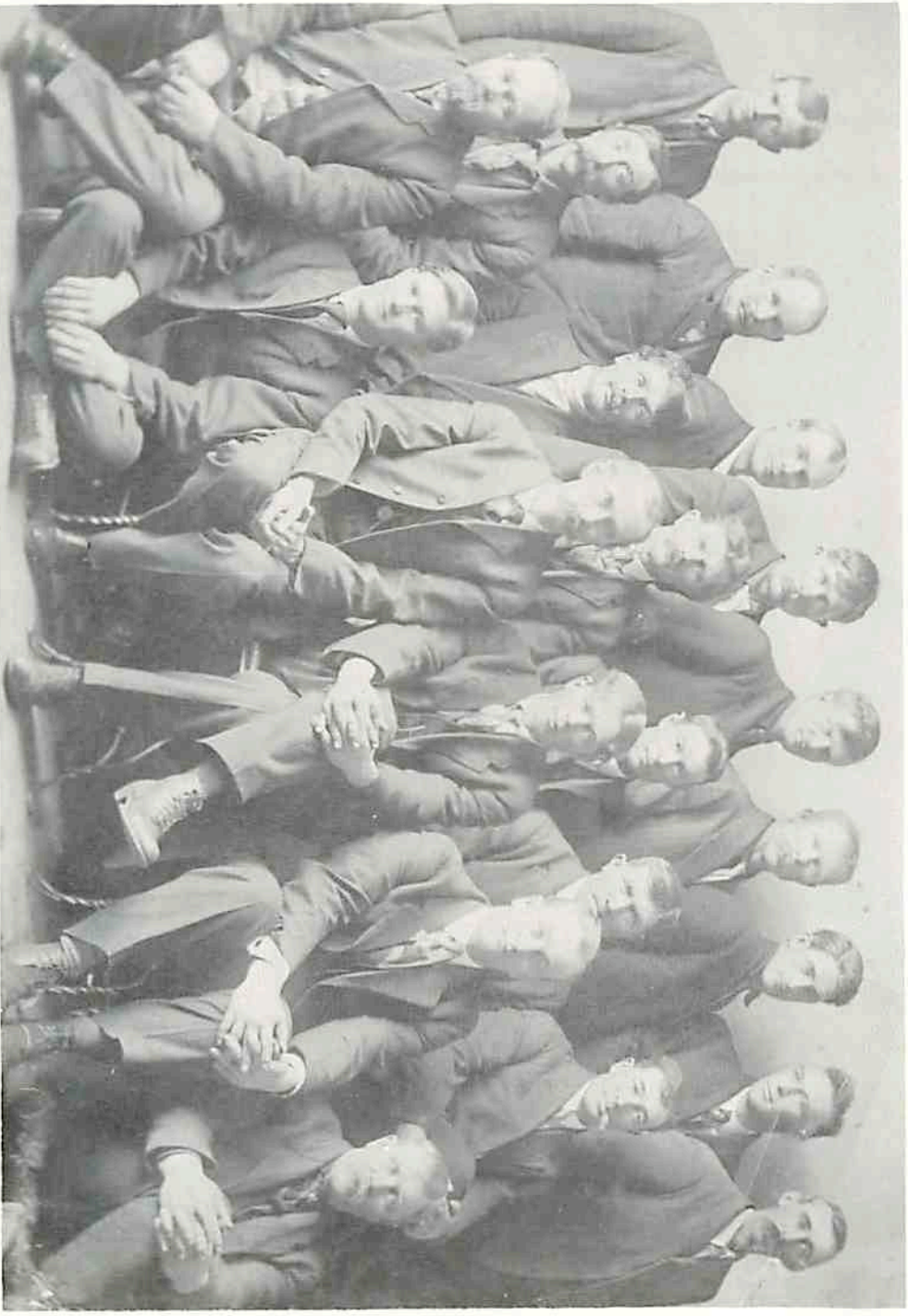
The Almont community was visited by one of those million dollar rains during the first part of the week which has helped the late grains. These were genuine soakers.

July 22, 1911

Almont gets one of four bridges in Morton county. The first of the four was allotted to Almont and

Lt. Thornton E. Becklund

Air National Guard
 Fargo, N. D.



Witnesses at Trial of Tenius Ramsland for Selling Coal, Mandan, N. D., Jan. 21, 1911
 Front row—Nels Jacobson, Byron Delange, August Timmeman, Tenius Ramsland, Judge Jakie Johnson, Theodore Larson, Center row—Annund Johnson, Hogan Anderson, Ben S. Olson, Jake Scharf, Rickert Olson, John Scharf, Back row—Otto Christanson, E. E. Erl, Carl Thor, Rudolph Feland, John Delange, Ben Bird, Norman Delange, Jonathan Pederson, Henry Stevens.

will span the Curlew creek south of town.

Sept. 2, 1911

The Occident elevator purchased the first load of wheat on Saturday eve. It was grown on the Art Fallgren place and sold for \$1.00 a bushel No. 1 Northern and tested 58 lbs. to the bushel.

July 2, 1911

A lady in the Heart river country dug one hill of potatoes that contained 64 good sized potatoes. She fed 3 haymakers 4 days and had 5 visitors for two meals. This may sound exaggerating to the readers but the lady does not want to sell her claim.

Sept. 2, 1911

T. J. Duncan who owns a fine big farm S. E. of Almont arrived in town Saturday from Lineville, Ia., with a carload of farm machinery,

stock and household goods. Mr. Duncan had rented his farm for 2 years but had a longing for North Dakota so came back to do his own farming.

Dec. 6, 1911

Knutson coal mining co. is shipping about 12 cars of coal a week now. — Most of this goes to Mandan and Bismarck.

Dec. 23, 1911

Mrs. G. H. Anderson will leave Saturday for Brisbane, N. D., to spend Christmas with her parents. Ben Bird will drive her across country.

Jan. 21, 1912

Government Coal Trial

The government contest case against Tenius Ramsland came up for a hearing last week and testimony was taken from a number of witnesses from Almont and vicinity

in this matter. As the govt. reserved the mineral rights on all homesteads, they charged Tenius with selling govt. coal. He was acquitted because he did not sell the coal—he just charged \$1.00 a ton for his labor of uncovering the coal and the cost of dynamite. The coal was still free. However he was fined \$50. or 5c a ton for what coal he had taken out. This vein of coal was 4½ to 6 feet thick and judged by coal men from St. Paul to be the best lignite produced in the state.

Almont Arena

(Note: Coal rights for 40 acres could be bought for \$240.00. This Tenius did, but the money was later refunded when the govt. relinquished mineral rights to the homesteaders.)

Do you remember when—1911

Cornelius Knutson brought in the

Roger W. Becklund

St. Olaf College
 Northfield, Minn.

prize load of coal weighing almost 3½ tons.

200 ton of coal were shipped from Almont during one week in January.

Noah Becklund received a Ft. Berthold claim at a recent drawing. 1912

C. A. Knutson & Cox store was entered on Wed. night and the robbers got away with about \$30.00 in cash. Entrance was gained thru one of the back windows but from now on the windows will be barred to all of these night prowlers.

Bumper Crop

Almont farmers are getting more grain per acre than any other section of the slope country. Two crops of oats threshed recently, the verified reports by weight tests by disinterested parties gave the following results: Matt Wohlman, 104 bushels per acre; John Fallgren 103½ bushels and the above fields were not considered the best while growing. John Fallgren barley 63 bushels. John Scharff, 33 bushels of wheat per acre. The smallest yield this year (1911) is 18 bushels of wheat per acre.

May 4, 1912

Almont on the Boom!

Cheer up old friend, don't be downcast

A first-class repair shop you have at last,

The time seemed long, but now how sweet

To get your carriage repaired so neat.

For ten long years, the people say They had to go twelve miles away, But now your town you need not pass

But get your work done up first class.

We'll paint your buggies and do it right, And fix the seats up snug and tight.

When you take your best girl out with you

Well, I guess you'll know just what to do.

Now if you need some work this spring,

While passing by just please call in Our wood is good, our iron is fine, And we'll steer you clear of the eyeless swine.

For fear you might pass our shop And patronize some dearer spot, You'll always find us on demand, At Angus Gilles' former stand.

G. G. Chamberlin

Jan. 3 1913

E. E. Templeton Resigns Post Office

After seven years as postmaster, giving excellent service during the entire time, E. E. Templeton has resigned his position to take effect at once in order to devote his time to other business. Uncle Sam is losing an able assistant. The notices for an examination for a successor have been given out to take place Sept. 13 at Mandan. At present there are three or four candidates for the office. They are O. C. Ellingson, A. Timmerman, J. R. Sherwood and C. E. Kelsven.

1914 NEWS

Jan. 10, 1914

A Kensington club sociable was held in the Nelson-Templeton building to raise funds with which to buy fire fighting equipment. Supper was served by the ladies at 25c a plate. Games and other amusements were arranged for. The Kensington Club was first organized in July 1911 at the home of Mrs. G. H. Anderson. Mrs. Roy Lindner was elected president and Mrs. Anderson, treasurer. The club met every two weeks at one of the members homes and the ladies did embroidery work. Lunch was served at which not more than three dainty eatables were to be had at a time.

May 15, 1914

A fire was narrowly averted last

week on Wednesday evening when some mail in the post office department of C. A. Knutson & Son store caught fire from a flying match spark. There being no light, Mr. Knutson had struck the match in looking for and giving out mail. Going back to the front of the store and working at his desk, a few minutes later, he noticed a blaze in the mail boxes. He put it out by throwing some old circulars at hand on the floor and stepping on it. Only damage, luckily, was cracked glass on the front of the boxes.

July 3, 1914

Sweet Briar and Curlew streams raised havoc with Northern Pacific tracks. All railroad and mail service was cut off for four days. Railroad tracks completely washed out for a distance of nearly a mile. Morton county bridges nearly all washed out and \$35,000 damage reported, altho road boss had some bridges tied to prevent their being carried away. Water rose to a depth of 6 ft. over two grades east of Almont which were put in in 1909. Sept. 25, 1914

Harvest of 1914

The average wheat yield was better than 15 bushels, many fields running as high as 24 bushels. Marquis and Velvet Chaff wheat varieties gave the best yields.

Some yields reported were O. B. Adams, 21 bu., Ludwig Sibla, 19 bu., Albert Mitsch, 18 bu., Martin James averaged 16 bushels of Velvet Chaff on a 101 acre field and sold it for the top market price of \$1.08. The best report to come in was from Jonas Olin whose yield was 33 bushels to the acre.

N. S. Journal item.

July 24, 1914

The Farmers State bank of Almont sold 3320 acres of land near Heart river to settlers from Southern Minnesota to be settled up next year.

Bismarck Grocery Co.

Home of groceries and fruit.
Bismarck, N. D.



Almont School, 1915 First row—Margaret Pippen, Lois Templeton, Edna Rasmuson, Ruth Malone, Carrie Christianson, Walter Rhodes, Viola Knutson. Second row—Lucille Templeton, Ellen Wright, I. Weinberger, Leonard Anderson, Mary Malone, Carl Feland, Trygve Feland, Ole Peterson. Third row—Marold Wright, Earl Bird, Oliver Anderson, Ole Feland. Teacher in back—Miss Clara Knutson.

The Hailstorm of 1915

Late one Friday afternoon in July a hailstorm so severe as to totally destroy thousands of acres of the most promising crops ever grown on virgin North Dakota soil, passed over a five mile wide strip of country just west of New Salem city limits, heading on westward then south down the Muddy and Heart river valleys. Farmers in its path had nothing left, not even potatoes.

Everywhere farmers were caught in fields with their teams, and many narrowly escaped death in getting unhooked from mowers and rakes. Horses ran madly here and there, through fences in hopes of escaping the pelting of the large clinker-shaped hailstones and were found later swollen and bleeding. Small pigs, chickens, turkeys, were found crippled or dead. Farmers reported dead rabbits and crippled or dead hawks as victims. A calf reportedly suffered a broken leg from the blow of the monster chunks of ice, larger than apples.

A high wind accompanied the storm, moving some buildings, damaging others badly. Shingles were pounded to splinters, rubber roofing cut to pieces, trees trimmed of every leaf and debarked, even the large ones down on the river bottoms.

One farmer tells of having borrowed from his neighbor a hayrack, entirely new, used it one half day when wind threw it 100 yards,

breaking every timber in it to kindlewood. Another reportedly had a new rack, just finished, on his wagon. As he had placed a piece of wood in front of a wheel to prevent its rolling with the wind, the rack lifted and came down on a spring wagon under which its owner was seeking shelter. The farmer was uninjured though both rack and spring wagon were badly damaged.

Passengers on Northern Pacific No. 7 that Friday verified the old settlers stories as to size and velocity of the hail stones; saying they were large and swift enough to drive through double windows and shades, making a clean sweep on one side of the train, and driving

passengers to the other side for shelter.

The destruction of the storm in a year when such beautiful fields covered the country with yields of 30 bushels to the acre expected, was heart breaking and a hard setback to farmer and dairymen alike for nothing was spared in the path of that storm. Some carried insurance.

The following people were some who suffered great loss, some having nothing left to harvest:

Chas. Wiebke	Jake Amdahl
John Olin	Ted Pederson
Jake Johnson	Theo. Feland
Gustave Kaelberer	Otto Feland
Henry Keller	Mrs. E. Willman
Mrs. Jacob Held	Charles Knudsen
Julius Bahr	Andrew Knutson
Joe Schollert	Joe Pederson
Mrs. T.C. Larson	E. W. Hyde
Hogan Anderson	Emil Keller
John Koba	J. R. Sherwood
Martin Peterson	Tom Duncan
John Parkins	George Kligh
Albert Mitch	Gust Sieverts
Oscar Olin	C. C. Compton
Richard Olson	John Thompson
G.H. Hensleigh	Angus Gillis
Herman Joresz	W. W. Bond
Martin Willman	Nels Olson
Abe Peterson	Chas. Hoeger

Chris Kaelberer figured he had a loss of \$3,000 above insurance. Steve Weeks stated the hailstorm trimmed him of \$45,000 on a couple sections of land down on the Muddy creek.

New Salem Journal items.



Upper Room of 1915 (Almont Public School) First row—Randeena Elvick, George Peterson, Lyle Rhodes, Aalga Knudson, Wallace Hyde. 2nd row—Ragnhild and Anna Feland, Albert Anderson, Alice Anderson, Thelma Hyde, Edith Bird. 3rd row—William Knutson, Cecil Rhodes, Carl Knudson, Katharine Malone. Standing—Mrs. Nellie Anderson, Teacher, Verna Bird, Dora Larson, Edith Malone.

Bismarck Credit Bureau

Clifford Geise, Manager
Bismarck, N. D.



Eighth grade graduating class of 1917 which played an important part in the erection of the Almont High School. Members of the class are: Left to right, seated in front row—Alice Anderson, Katherine Malone, Margaret Anderson. Second and third row—Lily Hanson, Ermine Lauzon, Edith Malone, Carl Knutson, Myrtle Baisden, Lena Anderson, Mrs. Nellie Anderson, Tea Henry Peck, Thelma Hyde, Clifton Lauzon, Anna Feland, Ragnhild Feland, Edith Bird, Verna Bird. Not included in the picture was William Knutson.

1916

Market Report

May 12, 1916

Wheat No. 1	\$1.10
Rejected wheat92
Flax	1.77
Potatoes, bu.40
Hogs, dressed	\$.07
Hogs, live05 $\frac{3}{4}$
Beef, dressed09
Beef, live05
Chickens07
Eggs15

June 9, 1916

Catches Coyotes

Dora Larson had the luck one day last week to catch five young coyotes. "Wished we were all that lucky."

June 9, 1916

New Stockyards

The N. P. Railway company is putting in new up-to-date stockyards at Almont with a capacity for 30 carloads of stock.

June 9, 1916

Cigar Factory

George Graham is having a building prepared for a Cigar Factory. He is putting out more cigars

than any factory in the state of North Dakota and is 300,000 cigars behind on his orders at the present time.

January 5, 1917

Shorthorn Breeders Association

The farmers in the vicinity are pushing to the front in buying pure-bred stock. Chris Bahr has made two trips to Minnesota the past year for the purpose of bringing out Shorthorn cattle. In all he brought out 33 head and there were at least eight other Shorthorn bulls bought at other places by men living in the Almont community.

Among the present owners of registered Shorthorn bulls are C. G. Christianson, Otto Feland, Hogan Anderson, Fred Held, Chris Bahr, and Arthur Bahr living near Almont and Fred Bopp of New Salem. Some of these men are talking of organizing a Shorthorn Breeders assn. in Morton County as a help in improving the stock throughout the country and to help them dispose of their surplus stock to an advantage. They are all pleased with the results they have had in raising the pure bred Shorthorn stock both for milk and for meat.

Jan. 8, 1917

New School Desired

The Commercial Club appointed a committee to get a petition and circulate same for a new school sufficient in size for the community. E. W. Hyde, C. A. Knutson and N. E. Becklund were appointed.

March 30, 1917

Almont Farmer Hikes Out With His Seeder

Chas. Hoeger, a farmer of the Almont Community who is one of the earliest field workers in this section, took the lead in seeding this spring when he rushed in ten acres of wheat during the mild days of last week, while many farms were still deep under snow.

June 8, 1917

Almont Graduation Class

The graduation exercises of the Almont Public School were held at the City Hall Monday evening of this week, there being a class of 17 graduates as listed above. The following program was rendered: Class Song; Presentation of Diplomas, Theo. O. Feland, Pres. of Board of Education; violin solo, H.

Ed Phillips & Sons

Bismarck, N. D.

Gunvaldson: "Down Where the Daisies are Blooming," mixed quartet; reading by G. G. Chamberlain; Sweet Pea Ladies-Primary Clapping song; Japanese Fan drill—Mother Goose; "The King of Love My Shepherd Is," Duet by Mesdames Templeton & Gunvaldson: "The Family Album," Violin Solo, H. Gunvaldson. The Class Motto "For Value Received We Promise to Pay."

Nov. 12, 1917

The Commercial Club appointed a committee, G. H. Anderson, C. E. Kelsven and E. W. Hyde, to take charge of dedication exercises of the new school house. Dedication was set for Friday, April 12, 1918. March 29, 1918

Red Cross Work

The Red Cross sale given in Almont last Saturday was a big success. Everyone did their bit by donating and buying. The amount taken in from the sale was \$123.00. The Red Cross ladies served a lunch which netted \$10.00 making a total of \$733.00 for the Red Cross. The Red Cross was established on Feb. 22, 1918. Mmes. Stark and Lang and Miss Elsie Stark all of Mandan and Rev. Dordahl of Sims were the speakers. On March 29, the Red Cross Society sent their first shipment of hand-made garments to Mandan. These articles were made by the Juniors and Seniors.

Sept. 6, 1918

Soldiers Arrive Safely Overseas.

Word has been received from Robert Gray, Joseph Hoovestol and Lawrence Ims that they arrived safely overseas. On Feb. 22 these boys left Almont on No. 8 for Mandan. From there they went to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas where they

took their training in the Signal Corps.

Nov. 8, 1918

First Flu Casualty

E. E. Erb died at Almont Wednesday night where he has been sick since Saturday with Spanish influenza and pneumonia. He and Mrs. Erb have lived at Harvey, North Dakota for some time and he came to Almont on business and took sick while here. Mr. Erb was between 45 and 50 years of age and had lived at Almont for many years. He was president of the Commercial Club and an auctioneer for several years. About a year ago he was married to Dr. Jacobson Keats who was practicing medicine in Almont at the time.

Sept. 12, 1919

HOME CELEBRATION AT ALMONT A SUCCESS

Almont's Homecoming celebration in honor of her soldier boys was carried out last Saturday night and they were given a right hearty welcome. One of the greatest crowds that Almont has ever had was there to take part in the festivities, and Almont showed them all that her hospitality was unbounded for she provided for them all with a lavish hand. The short time they had at their disposal for the preparations seemed not to have lessened the results in the least.

First they fed them all, a most sumptuous meal served absolutely free, not only to the soldier boys alone, for the ladies who so graciously furnished and served it, counted that all present were good friends of the soldier boys and they wished to include all their families and friends in their hospitality.

That they were proud of all the boys and glad to entertain them

the very best they were able, was very apparent in the welcome they had planned and the work they did to carry it through.

As soon as the soldier boys had finished their supper, the speech of the evening was made by Major J. M. Hanley of Mandan, and was a very fitting one for this grand occasion. At the close of his address the roll call of the soldier boys was made and in this he was assisted by N. N. Jensen of Mandan. The names are as follows: Henry R. Anderson, George Arch, Harold Borden, Arthur Christenson, Harry Compton, Green Duncan, Olai Elvik, Carl Falgren, Oscar Feland, Earl Finkel, Herman Gabrielson, Niel Gillis, Robert Gray, Fritz Hoeger, Joseph Hoovestol, Lawrence Ims, Arthur Jacobson, Theodore Johnson, Willie Johnson, Christ Kaelberer, Arthur Kelsven, Christ Kilen, Gunnar Lidstrom, Aubrey Martin, Lawrence Nelson, Myron Nelson, James Nelson, Arthur Olin, Hjalmer Olson, Joseph Olson, Joseph H. Olson, Martin Olson, Glen Peck, Eddie Schwartz, John Slavick, William Slavick, Wilbur Scharff, Ross Sherwood, Magnus Svendsrud, Peter Thorson, Joseph Tischler, Martin Wohlman.

Died in France: John Trovik, Christ Lien.

Died in camp: Adolph A. Nelson, Herbert Schwartz.

Spanish War Veterans: Otis Malone, Fred Griswold, Joseph Homer.

At the close of this part of the program, there was a moving picture show in another hall, which was followed by a dance. Both of these were well attended.

Ole Feland

Almont, N. D.



Almont Public School, 1921

Front row—Leonard Anderson, Laverne Macklem, Irene Walker, Dorothy Templeton, Georgia Stoeckel, Myron Knutson, Bill Bird, Enoch Willman, Myron Stiler, Rueben Olson, Howard Hyde, Fred Overgard. Second row—Myron Mitzman, Sig Peterson, Vivian Nogle, Ragna Olson, Ruth Malone, Valborg Peterson, Lucille Templeton, Ingeborg Nyquist, Verna Williams, Reliance Peck, Lois Templeton, Carl Feland, Mortimer Anderson. Third row—Ole Peterson, Earl Bird, Wallace Hyde, Gertrude Willman, Olga Knutson, Elsie Willman, Viola Knutson, Anna Timpe, Evelyn Erlandson, Ida Olson. Back row—Oliver Anderson, Stanley Lucas, Trygve Feland, Edith Malone, Mary Timpe, Helen Sharff, Esther Erlandson, Verna Bird, Ida Mitzman, (Mrs. Anderson, Mabel Olson, Mr. Bugbee, teachers), Memi Nyquist.

June 13, 1919

First 8th Grade Graduation Celebration

Pupils of five districts get diplomas Monday afternoon at big community gathering. Major Hanley, State Supt., Miss Neilson, and Co. Supt. H. K. Jensen were the speakers.

This was the first community graduation exercise for Almont school and surrounding districts. Graduates from Almont school plus Sims district No. 8, Columbia No. 25, Feland, Olin, and Valley Forge were there to receive their diplomas. After the program and presentation of diplomas the people were served ice cream which the school board members had generously furnished.

Oct. 23, 1919

Andrew Kilens hold the distinc-

tion of being the last family in this community to arrive by immigrant car.

May 26, 1920

Almont Commencement

Almont High School graduated its first class last night. Members of the class were Edith Bird, Thelma Hyde and Andrew Willman. The motto chosen was "Strive and Succeed."

"Heimve" was played as an instrumental trio by Andrew Willman, violin, Wallace Hyde, cornet and Thelma Hyde, piano.

A large 8th grade class graduated at the same time. Mrs. Anderson presented the 8th grade class and Mr. Bugbee, H. S. principal presented the high school class with their diplomas, given them by Mr. Theo. Feland, president of the board.

Feb. 20, 1921

Almont School Picture

The Almont school has had its picture taken. This year the second high school teacher was added to the faculty as they have students in all four years of the courses.

Plans are already being made for the graduation of a large class this spring.

April 27, 1921

G. G. Chamberlain Funeral

The funeral of G. G. Chamberlain was held today with Rev. Hasse as the minister. The Commercial Club took charge of all arrangements as he had no relatives here and had been a long time member of the club. They buried him by his friend, E. E. Erb.

By recommendation of the Commercial club the school was closed in honor of this Almont Citizen.

Henry Fehring

Almont, N. D.



Almont Bible School, 1921

Front Row: Dorothy Templeton, Margie Nelson, Madaleen Templeton. Second row: Willie Hoeger, Enoch Willman, Christ Overgaard, Laurin Hyde, Fred Overgaard, Gladys Overgaard, Evelyn Ellingson, Minnie Fulton, Myrtle Falkenburg. Back Row: Howard Hyde, Reliance Peck, Trygve Feland, Verna Bird, Mrs. Hyde, Ida Olson, Verna Williams, Mrs. Nyquist, Lucille Templeton, Ingeborg Nyquist, Anna Feland, Ragna Olson, Thelma Hyde, Helen Olson, Wallace Hyde, Lydia Hoeger.

1922 OIL BOOM IN ALMONT

The following item appeared in the Mandan News, May 12, 1922. "That North Dakota will be thoroughly geologized this summer is the opinion of Dr. T. H. Duncan of Texas Petroleum company.

"You ask me if I think oil will be discovered in North Dakota? I wouldn't be spending all this money in the state if I didn't think so," he said.

During the summer of 1922 there was excitement in our community over the possibility of an oil boom, a prospect hitherto unthought of. There was at the time some activity in the northern part of the state and our local business men formed themselves into a group and named it the "Three Forks Co." They obtained the services of two geologists, one an independent man and the other was employed by the N. P. Ry. Co. The latter was

doubtful in his conclusion, but the independent geologist gave encouragement to the little company and some of its members were sent out to buy up leases, paying one dollar per lease. They extended their activities as far away as St. Anthony territory. This hope of new prosperity in oil discovery helped to dispel the discouragement of that summer's drought and resultant crop failure in many sections.

Very little was further accomplished, and the Three Forks Company was later dissolved.

1923

News Notes

O. A. Young, C. E. Kelsven, and G. H. Anderson were appointed a committee to plan and arrange for a tourist camp.

Several business men as well as the young men of Almont have tak-

en it upon themselves to provide a skating rink for the town. It will cover about 2 acres and will provide a lot of fun to anyone interested in skating.

April 24, 1924

The "Red Trail"

Cars were becoming numerous and popular for long distance travel which necessitated better roads. The state went to work on the national parks highway system which brought the "Red Trail" to Almont, running south from Sims along the N. P. Ry., coming down to the north edge of town and turning west to Curlew. This brought many tourists into Almont and a tourist court and camping site were made. Signs were posted along the Red Trail and the Commercial club sent donations to the Highway Dept. at Bismarck to help pay the expense of maintenance in our district.

First National Bank

Best wishes to Almont on your 50th anniversary.
Mandan, N. D.

First Old Settler's Picnic



OLD SETTLER'S PICNIC—1926. All pictured had settled in the community before 1890.

Front row—John Hanson, Flasher; Mr. Nelson, Jonas Lundstro. Mrs. P. H. Heovestol, Mrs. Jette Olson, Oscar Feland, Mrs. Ole Feland, Mrs. Oscar Olin, Mrs. Theo. Larson, Mrs. John Olin, Mrs. Theo. Ramsland, Mrs. L. N. Wang, Mrs. Olicia Lotspiech, Mrs. Amund Johnson, Mrs. Rick Olson, Mrs. Hans Anderson, Mrs. P. H. Hoovestol, Mrs. Jette Olson, Oscar Feland, Mrs. Ole Elvik, Mrs. Gabriel Peterson, Ben Rolstad, Gabriel Peterson, Mrs. Ed Ulrickson and children. Middle row, right side—John Olin, Alex Barth, Sr., Ralph Erhart. Back row, top—John Falgren, Joe Schollert, Theo. Ramsland, Ed. Holritz, Olaf Olin, Ole Mortenson, Ole Elvik, Geo. Ormiston, Sr., Hans Bjorum, Hans Anderson, Tom Eckwortzell, J. T. Nelson of Glen Ullin, I. N. Steen of Carson, Carl Ritz, William Weiss.

May 28, 1926

OLD SETTLERS PICNIC

Almont was the scene of a gathering of approximately 1500 people who had come for an old settlers picnic and reunion. People had come from Oliver, Grant, and Morton counties for a day of renewing old acquaintances and friendships.

The idea of this gathering was that of John E. Olin. Mr. Olin with the assistance of the Almont Commercial club made it a very enjoyable and successful day for everyone who attended.

In the morning there was the registration of the old settlers. In order to be eligible to register as an old settler he or she must have come to this locality before 1890. Mrs. S. P. Weekes had the honor of being the oldest old settler, having come from Wisconsin in 1871.

At the afternoon program E. W. Hyde served as chairman. Mr. and Mrs. John E. Olin were honor guests because he was the "father of the day." The program consisted of several numbers by the New Salem Boys' band. Speeches and addresses were given by such old timers and pioneers as J. E. Campbell of Mandan, J. T. Nelson of Glen Ullin, Colonel I. N. Steen of Carson. Attorney C. F. Kelsch of Mandan expressed

his appreciation for such a fine gathering. At the close of the program there was a ball game between the Carson and Almont teams. It was a ten inning game because of a tie at the end of the ninth. The final score was 20 to 19 in favor of Carson.

At the meeting later in the day it was decided to make Old Settlers' Day an annual event. In order to carry this out successfully each year it was agreed to have a set of officers and an executive committee. The officers were: John E. Olin, president; I. N. Steen, vice president; Edward Sullivan, secretary; and J. T. Nelson, treasurer. The Executive committee was: Philip Blank, Sr., chairman; E. A. Holritz, L. A. Tavis, Simon Pederson and Fred Leutz.

It was decided by the officers and committee to hold the next meeting in Almont. After the supper hour the people who desired to enjoyed dancing at the bowery, which had been built for that purpose.

Registration of the Old Settlers who are not on the picture:

J. O. Jacobsen, Amund Johnson, Mrs. T. E. Eckwortzell, Mrs. Ed Christianson, Mrs. Tollef Christianson, R. B. Olson, Anton Johnson, Mrs. Anton Johnson, Wm. Becker, Mrs. Mary Knudson, Mrs. Martin

Willman, Jonathan Pederson, Lena Pederson, W. F. Grimm, Olaf R. Feland, Tenius Ramsland, B. E. Kennelly, Sigval Olson, Angus Gillis, P. H. Hoovestol, S. K. Anderson, John Knutson, Mrs. Chas. Hoeger, Mrs. John Jacobson, Mrs. J. H. Hanson, Mrs. Andrew Torgerson, F. E. Bickel, Martin Peterson, Hilda Johnson, Mrs. George Wanstrom.

Theo. Peterson, Anna Peterson, F. G. Weinreich, B. Langenhorst, C. A. Knutson, George Ims, Mrs. S. P. Weekes, Mrs. Fred Swenson, G. A. Johnson, Anna Estrop McKendry, Minnie Olson Rovig, Clara Olson Rowe, Emma Olson McAdams, Bernt Ralstad, John Christianson, Ben Bird, Mrs. Theo. Feland, George Wanstrom, Oscar Jacobson, Bruno Just, John D. Thompson, Mrs. Grace Harper, J. E. Campbell, L. N. Cary, Mrs. Dena Bateman, Mrs. Nellie J. Olin, Mrs. J. Hedlicka, Mrs. Chas. Wiebke, Philip Blank, P. R. Peterson, Mrs. Caroline Boley, Mrs. B. W. Shaw, B. W. Shaw, Mrs. Agnes Land, N. O. Seim, Mrs. A. Holritz, Mr. A. Holritz, Mrs. Ida Ims, John Kahovic.

(It might be of interest to descendants of these or any other pioneers to know that any girl having a mother or grandmother living in North Dakota before statehood is eligible to be a "Pioneer Daughter of North Dakota").

Foremost Dairies Incorporated

We are here to serve you.
Mandan, N. D.



Lutheran Sunday School, 1926

First row—Orval Thurman, Vernon Ims, Edward Atkinson, Blanche Bateman, Jane Kennedy, Eileen Becklund, Eleanor Pederson, Warren Becklund, Carol Knutson, Grace Anderson, Mildred Pederson, Marvin Reetz, Adolph Ramsland, Elda Reetz, Laura Reetz, Ruth Hoeger. Second row—Tom Olson, Clifford Anderson, Luella Ramsland, Elvira Ramsland, Verna Anderson, Olga Halvorson, Marion Kennedy, Sylvia Thornell, Lillian Pederson, Burton Nelson, Lorraine Peterson, Pearl Anderson, Lucille Ramsland, Lillian Hanson, Vivian Bateman, Eugene Hanson. Third row—C. A. Knutson, Jonathan Pederson, Madeline Anderson, Thelma Peterson, Mrs. Jonathan Pederson, Mrs. J. Thornell, Bernice Ims, Mrs. Grace Nelson, Dagmar Pederson, Gladys Hanson, Gladys Overgaard, Ruth Pederson, Walter Bateman, Art Feland, Alfred Overgaard, Chris Olson. Fourth row—Emma Baltrushat, Clara Hoeger, Mrs. Martin Peterson, Mrs. Andrew Holritz, Walter Torgerson, Bob Atkinson, Arnold Torgerson, Harold Halvorson, Pastor J. Thornell, Mrs. F. L. Atkinson, Mr. F. L. Atkinson, Eugene Ims, Mrs. N. E. Becklund, Gordon Anderson, Mrs. Albert Anderson. Fifth row—Louise Hoeger, Mrs. O. K. Ovregaad, Ms. Ida Ims, Orie Ims, Martin Peterson and Clarence Torgerson. Sixth row—Thelma Torgerson, Lillian Knutson, Sylvia Ims, Ruth Torgerson, Mabel Feland, Lois Williams, Edna Thornell and Fred Holritz. Dec. 3, 1926

P.T.A. Organized

A P.T.A. was organized here last Monday night with an initial membership of 30. Mr. H. K. Jensen and Mrs. Goldman, State and Federal organizers, spoke. After asking for opinions of local people, they told them that it would make for better understanding between parents and teachers.

Prof. DeNoyer was chosen as Sec. protem and the following officers were elected. Pres., D. G. Smith; Vice-Pres., P. R. Peterson; Sec., A. Holritz; Treas., Mrs. G. H. Anderson.

The following committees were appointed:

Program, Mrs. Chris Halvorson, Miss Anna Feland.

Membership: John Jacobson, Mrs. E. W. Hyde, and F. L. Atkin-

son.

Social: Mrs. Henry Peck, Mrs. Carl Hill, Mrs. N. E. Becklund, Mrs. H. Holritz, chairman.

The first regular meeting will be held December 16, 1926.

News Notes

March 6, 1925

The dray business formerly operated by Myles Purfeerst was taken over by Leo and August Timpe.

April 20, 1925

The party putting the moving picture outfit in the hall has everything fixed up in good shape and will put on their first picture Sat. eve, Apr. 25.

May 29, 1925

The terrific windstorm did some damage to Almont property. The Lawrence Nelson barn was turned

over as was the shed at the Templeton home used as a laundry. Large sections of the fence enclosing the Hyde lumber yard were leveled to the ground and several smaller out-houses were blown over. A team belonging to Harry Jacobson was in the Nelson barn when it went over but they were unhurt.

March 5, 1926

The Farmers Co-operative telephone co. was organized by farmers living southwest of Almont, and will build 14 miles of line to serve that area.

May 11, 1926

\$250.00 was raised by the commercial club to help pay for 5 miles of telephone line and for the Almont quota for the Red Trail support.

March 4, 1927

The Almont School literary so-

Farmers Union Elevator Co. Grain & Flour

C. A. Giese, Manager
New Salem, N. D.



Cinderella's Reception—Play given by Almont Grade School, 1929

Bottom Row, L to R—Mildred Pederson, Jimmy Harris, Warren Becklund, Phyllis Hyde, (Mother Goose), Gordon Anderson, Doris Christianson, Laura Reetz, Ruth Hoeger, Helen Hoeger, Johnny Hoeger. Middle row, L to R—Beatrice Seim, Raymond Hoeger, Evelyn Timpe, Freddie Hoeger, Olive Timpe, Agnes Erhart, Genevieve Stoeckel, Ruth Seim, Wayne Becklund, Enita Sharff, Duane Hyde. Top row—Naomi Harris, Carol Knutson, Burton Nelson, Gordon Templeton, Eleanor Pederson, Berethe Bergstrom, Theresa Erhart, Mathilda Erhart, Clifford Anderson, Florence Stiler, Ida Olson, Dorothy Lotspietch, Lillian Pederson, Robert Atkinson, Eileen Becklund, Clifford Bergstrom (the cat), Kathleen Kelsven, Marion Kelsven.

ciety held their regular meeting in the hall last Thursday evening. A good program was rendered and a large crowd attended. Mrs. Christ Halvorson is the faculty advisor.

April 1, 1927

Almont had two quartettes at the Mandan auto show competing in the prize contest.

The ladies quartette was composed of Mrs. N. E. Becklund, Mrs. J. Thornell, Mrs. L. C. Nelson and Mrs. A. H. Bergstrom. The male quartette was composed of C. R. Hill, D. G. Smith, C. Halvorson with Geo. Ims and Erling Willman alternating.

Sept. 30, 1927

Post Office Safe Blown

The Almont post office safe was blown early monday morning.—

Postmaster Kelsven notified authorities and Sheriff Handtman about 1:30 Monday Morning, the robbers escaped with about \$200. The Sheriff was able to obtain but little information as to who did the job, except that it looked like the work of someone with experience in blowing safes. The U. S. post-office inspector also made a thorough investigation.

Dec. 23, 1927

Fred Reetz Injured

Fred Reetz of Almont was in-

jured when a hay knife dropped onto his foot. He nearly bled to death. He was taken to New Salem, with his foot packed in flour, where he received medical aid.

June 22, 1928

Almont Will Improve School Building

The School District decreed that they shall have an addition built upon the present school house for the amount of \$20,000. Ninety six ballots were cast in favor of the issuances of the necessary bonds while 44 were contrary—The new wing will furnish the school with an up to date gymnasium and additional class rooms. Steps will be taken at once to let the contract for its construction and it is planned that it will be ready for occupancy when school starts in the fall. It will be of brick design and fireproof in every detail.

January 25, 1929

Wool Growers Director

T. A. Ramsland returned Friday from Fargo where he attended a meeting of the directors of the N. D. Wool Growers Assn. He was re-elected to the directorship of that organization.

March 8, 1929

The Almont telephone exchange has been sold to Almont business

men, a group which is headed by F. A. Anderson. The company will own the line into Almont but all the equipment is owned by the business men.

April 19, 1929

Golf Club Meets

A meeting of the golf club was held recently and plans made for the coming season. Last year the course was open to all free of charge, but this year a membership fee will be charged to all members and a nominal charge to those who do not care to take out a membership, but wish to use the course from time to time. The greens are now being resurfaced and other improvements made.

May 10, 1929

The Stock Judging Team of Almont High School consisting of Harold Harris, Howard Knutson, and James Stoeckel left by car Wed. for Fargo. They were accompanied by Dorothy Templeton and Ruth Pederson who will represent the school in literary events and by L. G. Klopfliesch, Smith Hughes instructor, who has coached the boys in judging stock. Results, Harold Harris won the dairy championship receiving a gold medal. The team received 2 ribbons, 1st place in horse judging and 2nd in dairy

Farmers Union Locker Assoc.,

Groceries and Drygoods and Food Process.
New Salem, N. D.