

Miscellaneous News Notes

friends and relatives at the school auditorium on Friday evening. The recent brides were: Evelyn Bate-man Peterson, Lois Williams Klop-fliesch, Valborg Peterson Fischer and Lucille Templeton Lucas. Each of them was presented with a cast aluminum cooker.

April 4, 1930

People of Almont have been watching with interest the installation of the high-line in Almont and are looking forward to the time when the current will be turned on.

Joe Hoovestol has begun work on the new City Garage to be built on the site of the former Timmer-man store. The people of Almont enjoy seeing the main street of Almont being built up again.

May 2, 1930

Mr. K. E. Julian has begun operation on the erection of a log cabin home here and F. E. Bickel, contractor and builder, arrived in Almont Monday to begin operation on the erection of a new office building for the Almont Lumber Co.

May 15, 1930

Almont folks are enjoying the convenience of electricity in their homes. The current was turned on Monday afternoon.

June 27, 1930

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Timpe attended the Fiddler's Contest in Stanton. Mr. Timpe took first prize in the contest.

August 15, 1930

Pursued for nearly 70 miles two men drove their light car across the prairie and escaped after robbing the Nelson-Templeton hardware store at 3:30 Friday morning. Four rifles, ammunition and a small amount of cash was taken. Joe Hoovestol who resides across the street from the store saw the men at work and turned in the alarm. Sheriff Handtman was notified and he gave the case at Mandan. He said the robbers appeared unusually familiar with the roads in this section, altho they drove their light car at a terrific speed.

March 27, 1931

The Isaac Walton league shipped in 25 pheasants and put them out along Curlew Creek.

August 14, 1931

The N. P. depot was completely destroyed by fire Sunday morning about 7 o'clock. Mr. and Mrs. W. Bakken who resided upstairs barely escaped as it began burning in the front part of the building. Papers and books in the office, freight in the storeroom, the furniture and clothing belonging to the Bakkens were all consumed by the fire. A strong wind helped burn the building in a short time.

Sept. 31, 1931

Mrs. C. Parkins was severely injured Friday when the granary door struck her—it being a windy day. Mr. Parkins was not at home and she lay unconscious for some-time before some one came to aid her.

Oct. 31, 1931

The corn show and literary program held in the school auditorium last Thursday was very well attended. The literary society rendered a splendid program and the contests held in connection with the corn show were enjoyed by all present.

1932

Mar. 18, 1932

A number of relatives and friends dined with Mrs. Jens Nelson in honor of her 81st birthday, Tuesday. Covers were laid for 18. Out of town guests were Mr. and Mrs. Walter Larson of Mott.

May 27, 1932

Neighbors of Mr. Rasmusson donated one day's work with tractors, plows and other implements for putting in Mr. Rasmusson's crop Tuesday.

There were four tractors, 40 horses and fourteen men at work on one field. Donations were made including seed, all of which were appreciated.

July 1, 1932

S.S. Picnics

The Methodist S. S. will hold their annual picnic in Pete Jenson's grove at the Heart River July 4th. There will be a short program of races and other sports. Everyone is cordially invited to bring their lunch and spend the day with them.

The Sunday Schools of the Sims-Almont Lutheran parish will picnic at the Edwin Solberg farm which

is the old Gus Johnson place on the Heart River.

July 22, 1932

Misses Eileen Becklund and Eleanor Peterson won the county demonstration contest honors for Almont Monday morning in the city auditorium. They will represent Morton county at the district contest to be held at the co. fair next week. The title of their demonstration is "Design in Dress for the Clothing Club Girl." The score was 96.

July 22, 1932

Mrs. P. R. Peterson entertained a number of ladies at her home Friday afternoon. A delicious lunch was served and everyone enjoyed a pleasant afternoon. Those present were: Mrs. J. R. Bateman of Glen Ullin; Mrs. Ed Kruger and Mrs. Ralph Peterson of New Salem; Mrs. A. A. Johnson and daughter, Tillie; Mrs. Theodine Feland; Mrs. Gabriel Peterson, Mrs. Oscar Olin and Mrs. John Olin of Sims; Mrs. Andrew Torgerson of Curlew; Mrs. Ben Olson, Mrs. Trina Johnson and daughter, Emma; Mrs. Otto Feland and daughter, Mabel, Mrs. Carl Knudson, Miss Anna Knudson, Mrs. Theo. Larson, Mrs. Thorvald Larson, Mrs. Tenius Ramsland, Mrs. Anna Nyquist and Mrs. F. L. Trovik.

Sept. 16, 1932

School started here Monday with the following faculty: Mr. Baird, Supt.; Mr. Kelly, Prin.; Miss Arlo-ween Cameron, of Krame, Home Ec. and Hist.; Miss Fern Albrecht of Annamoose, 7th and 8th; Miss Mabel Feland, intermediate and Miss Inga Clausen, primary.

Dec. 2, 1932

Several from this vicinity attended the poultry show in New Salem Saturday. Among them were Otis Malone and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Peterson, Eleanor and Mildred. Mr. Pederson received two blue ribbons for entrances in the chicken exhibit.

1933:

May 5, 1933

Over a hundred friends of Julius Bredvold gathered at the Jonathan Pederson home on Sunday for a surprise shower on him. A program

Farmers Union Oil Co.

William Rusch, Manager
New Salem, N. D.



Former Confirmants of Rev. T. K. Gaustad—1934

Front row, L to R—Joseph Johnson, Martin Johnson, Cornelius Knutson, Simon Johnson, George Wanstrom, Axel Larson, Joseph Olson, Rev. T. K. Gaustad, Ole Ellingson, Harold Ostereng, Carl Ostereng, Iver Larson, Andrew Holritz. Second row, L to R—Mrs. Andrew Johnson, Mrs. A. Richardson, Mrs. Geo. Wanstrom, Mrs. Ed. Christianson, Mrs. Mable Anderson, Mrs. Martin Willman, Mrs. Walter Bakken, Mrs. T. C. Keller, Mrs. Fred Swenson, Mrs. Geo. Reickel, Mrs. Andrew Torgerson, Mrs. Tom Ashbridge, Miss Hilda Johnson, Mrs. Albert Johnson, Mrs. Cornelius Knutson, Mrs. Andrew Holritz, Mrs. Ole Rud, Mrs. Nels Seim.

of musical numbers and a speech by Mr. Pederson was given in honor of Mr. Bredvold.

May 10, 1933

A storm raged thru this territory doing considerable damage. C. A. Knutson's barn and well house were demolished and a number of chickens killed. Jonathan Pederson's barn and garage were damaged. Rick Olson's farm buildings were damaged, and a number of chickens killed. It is also reported that Mr. Erlandson and son, Helmar, were knocked unconscious when lightning struck a large rock near by.

Aug. 25, 1933

On Friday evening a dozen friends assembled at the home of Mrs. J. Dinehart to celebrate her 80th birthday. Mrs. Dinehart was the recipient of a number of useful and attractive gifts and in a few

well chosen words voiced her appreciation of her friends and their gifts.

Nov. 23, 1933

Robert Gray, sheriff, and C. J. Kelsh, states attorney of Mandan, made a trip up here Monday for Indian skeletons recently found south of here by Wm. Knutson. They were found under a rocky ledge when excavating for a road bed. Only upon close examination of the skeletons and other contents of the grave was it determined it was an Indian grave of long ago.

May 11, 1934

New Almont Road

Almont has long waited for a road from their village to highway 10. On Tuesday three members of the county board, P. W. Blank, J. R. Fitzsimmons and Wm. Morman

went out and bought the right of way for the first four miles of the road. The road is now known as N. R. S. p492. It will start at the August Kriedt corner of 10 going straight south of there. Only four miles will be built at first. Almont is 8.6 miles from Kriedt's corner.

Dec. 10, 1934

Christmas Plans

About 10 mothers of the community took part in a gathering at the school auditorium Monday, where under the direction of John Rouzie of the Federal Emergency Relief, planning for the approaching Christmas was under discussion. Mr. Rouzie not only suggested many practical and new ideas, but brought with him a number of patterns and models of toys and playthings which were demonstrated. That the meeting was a successful one was evidenced by the fact that while the event was scheduled for a forenoon affair many of the ladies remained until late in the afternoon enthusiastically working out material for Monday evening the 17th. Mr. Cummins of Mandan read the constitution and explained the future activities of the club.

Feb. 15, 1935

A program was given at the German Baptist church in Hebron Sunday evening by the Lutheran male



Ball team of 1936. Front Row—L. to R. Palmer Johnson, Wilbur Wanstrom, Ed Reeff, Norman Kilen, Milton Johnson, Irvin Olin, Wilbur Sharff. Back Row—Leander Johnson, Willard Johnson, Chas. Wanstrom, Palmer Johnson, Barney Peterson.

Gaebe Pharmacy

Prescription our specialty. Complete Veterinary remedies.
New Salem, N. D.



Lumber Yard, 1945

quartette from Almont, including Christ Halvorson, Sigurd Peterson, Myron and Vernon Knutson and by the Misses Caroline Frey and Marjorie Nelson.

May 20, 1935

Mr. Rouzie, associated with Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Dr. Moberg of New Salem and three nurses conducted a clinic here Friday. Children up to eighteen years were vaccinated for small pox and inoculated for diphtheria.

July 24, 1936

Gospel Meetings Held

Garret Hughes and companion, Erling Ondal, are conducting meetings each evening at 8 o'clock in their Gospel Tent. Mrs. Baltruchat and son of Sweet Briar visited at the August Timpe home here and attended the gospel service. Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Purfeerst and Miss Evelyn Hanson visited at the George Purfeerst home Sunday and attended the Gospel meeting in the evening.

August 21, 1936

Elevator Changes Hands

P. D. Pfaff who has been mana-

ger of the Occident Elevator here for about 20 years and has served the community faithfully, has had to give up the position because of ill health. Paul Ewald of Hebron is the new manager.

October 12, 1936

500 Head of Cattle Leave Almont And Judson To Winter On Reservation

The Peterson Bros., Willman Bros., and George Ormiston left with their cattle totaling 500 head for the Ft. Totten Indian Reservation north of Sheyenne, N. D. to winter their cattle. They went to Jamestown and from there got a special engine on the branch line to Sheyenne. They say that they have put up plenty of hay to take care of an average winter. They have been haying steadily for the past month. A large sheep camp has been leased together with all surrounding Indian land. The severe drouth here this year had made it impossible to get enough feed to winter. Many of the farmers and ranchers have had to sell out most of their stock.

Nov 13, 1936

Night School

The night school here got under way this week with Hilda Johnson as instructor. The subjects being taught are public speaking, typing and bookkeeping.

August 12, 1937

News Items from the Almont Advance, Dagmar Pederson Stoeckel, Editor

The Almont Advance Starts Career Today

Today through the co-operation of the N. S. Journal, our little city of Almont is again able to enjoy newspaper service. While the start is small we feel the potential possibilities are here. We are not large enough to support a paper of our own, and we firmly believe this section in the New Salem Journal is a step in the right direction. Let's get behind this with our usual vigor and put it over for we are sure it will be of value to us in the future — Editor

Aug. 12, 1937

Paul Ewald, Pres., Almont Gun Club

The Almont Rifle and Pistol Club was organized at the high school with the following officers: Pres. Paul Ewald; V. Pres. F. L. Atkinson; Sec.-Treas. C. E. Kelsven; Executive Officer, Art Feland. In the near future it is hoped that the Almont and New Salem clubs will hold a shoot.

Aug. 12, 1937

Commodore Hoovestol Running Boat Line

Comm. P. H. Hoovestol who for the past months has been in charge of navigation on Lake Almont, went to Dunn Center a week ago where he initiated a similiar service on Lake Ilg.



Standard Oil Bulk Station 1935 and F. L. Trovik

Security State Bank

Paying and receiving station, Center, N. D.

We are assured this boat service will be augmented by a fleet of smaller crafts such as Jim Stoeckel's canoe. From all appearances Lake Almont is going to be a very popular resort.

Aug. 12, 1937

Tennis Court is Newest Addition

Our town boasts a new tennis court made possible by the WPA recreation program.

Aug. 12, 1937

Rattlesnake Killed

A large rattlesnake 40 in. long with 10 rattles was killed outside the Almont Lumber co. by Mr. L. J. Stoeckel and Charles Wanstrom.

Aug. 26, 1937

Almont to have New Sidewalks

Clarence Jacobson, WPA officer was in our city last Wed. outlining tentative plans with members of the city board for new sidewalks on both sides of Main st. It is to be completed altogether with government paid labor.

Aug. 26, 1937

Pioneer Lady Celebrated 91st Birthday

Mrs. Gabriel Peterson celebrated her 91st birthday on Thurs. A number of her lady friends gathered at her home to surprise her in honor of the occasion.

Sept. 2, 1937

Recreational Director Appointed

Harold Halvorson appointed recreational director for the city of Almont.

Sept. 2, 1937

Officials Say OK to Proposal of Park-Dam here

H. G. Wheeler, supervisor of the N. Y. A., and representatives from the state WPA and the state Game and Fish Dept. called at Almont to make plans for a park which will include all the land south of the creek and within the townsite.

Notice: Wanted

Boys between 18 and 25 years of age for N.Y.A. dam project in Almont. Pay is \$14.00 for a 22 hr. shift each of 2 weeks for a total of 44 hrs.

Sept. 2, 1937

State Stocks Wall-eyed Pike in Curlew Creek

500 Wall-eyed pike and yellow bellied bull heads were brought by State Game & Fish Dept. to stock the dam in park when completed.

Post Office to Occupy new Location

The original Almont Advertiser building, which has been located south of the Nelson-Templeton Co. was moved to a new location adjacent to the fire hall this week. After being reconstructed it will be occupied by the U.S.P.O.

Nov. 24, 1937

First H. S. Year Book to be Published

The A.H.S. Year Book to be published by the senior class. Marian Kelsven is the editor in chief.

1938

May 18, 1938

Mrs. W. W. Bond sponsored a music recital at her home on Sat. afternoon. She has been teaching piano the past year.

May 25, 1938

A grasshopper poison bait mixing project was set up last week. Geo. H. Wilson has been appointed foreman in charge of the local poison mixing squad.

May 25, 1938

Joe Hoovestol, star mail carrier is busy constructing a snow plane for use in carrying mail next winter.

Nov. 23, 1938

Work is progressing rapidly on a new telephone line south of town. The line will be connected with the Almont exchange Jan. 1.

November 10, 1938

SCOUT Court of Honor

The Court of Honor held at Almont was put on before a capacity crowd. Main address of the evening was by Hon. Robt Byrne.

The program which included the regular court of honor was as follows:

Overture, Hebron Concert Band.

Vocal trio, Carol, Dorothy and Marlys Knutson.

Male Quartette, Chris and Harold Halvorson, Sig Peterson and Paul Ewald.

Tap Dance, Mildred Peterson, Carol Knutson.

Marimba, Xylophone solo, Duane Hyde.

Girls Sextette, Ruth and Margaret Willman, Phyllis Hyde and Anna Wiebke, Carol Knutson and Mildred Peterson.

Bugle call, Wayne Becklund, bugler.

Pledge of allegiance, Burton Nelson.

Welcome, G. H. Anderson.

Response, S. E. Halpern.

Presentation of honors.

Bugle Retreat.

Scoutmasters benediction, Paul Netland.

National Anthem, Hebron Band.

May 10, 1939

The N.Y.A. boys have been working on the park site preparing the ground for the planting of trees and shrubbery for the park.

June 28, 1939

Lightning struck the barn on the E. W. Hyde farm and completely destroyed it with the silo and milk house.

Jan. 3, 1940

News Notes

A load of coal went a long way last week when Bill Knutson sold 5 tons of his coal to a trucker who went to Washington. The trucker had brought in a load of fir trees to this vicinity from Washington.

Jan 3, 1940

A telephone line is being built in the Curlew vicinity and will soon be completed and connected with the Almont exchange.

March 27, 1940

Joe Hoovestol has sold his garage to N. E. Becklund, who is remodeling it and will handle Socony Oil Products.

The Cracker Jack co. of Chicago has notified Eleanor Pederson that her letter was selected as one of the winners in their nation wide contest. Her prize was a Univex folding camera.

Georgia Stoeckel also won a prize of \$3 in an Amateur Camera contest. Her entry was a snapshot of her sister Ethel making friends with a wild mountain goose at Sully's Hill National Park.

1941

News Notes

Feb. 19, 1941

C. E. Kelsven has sold his business and fixtures to Chris Halvorson who is having the store remodeled. The Kelsvens, who have been in business 28 years, are moving to Sheridan, Oregon.

Feb. 19, 1941

Wm. Joersz purchased the old bank building and will open a Red & White Store.

Dec. 7, 1941

PEARL HARBOR! Japs attack the American bases at Hawaii and the Phillipines. Wilbur Wanstrom was the only one from our community who was at Pearl Harbor at the

New Salem Journal

Brings Weekly News.

New Salem, N. D.



Elderly people honored at Sims church 1945 Front row—l to r—Mrs. Theodore Ramsland, Rick Olson, Theo. Ramsland, John Olin, Mrs. Thea Ostereng. Second row—Julius Bredvold, John G. Johnson, Tobias Olson, Mrs. Otto Feland, Mrs. Sander Hendrickson, Mrs. W. W. Bond, Mrs. Oscar Olin. Third row—Pete Peterson, Rev. C. J. Fylling, Rev. Johns, Mrs. Pete Peterson, Mrs. Tobias Olson, Mrs. Amund Johnson.

time of the attack.

1942

ALMONT EXCEEDS RED CROSS QUOTA

Jan. 28, 1942

Almont's one week drive for the Red Cross War Fund ended with a benefit party which was a success from the social as well as financial standpoint. The party was held at the H. S. auditorium and consisted of a variety program and games for all ages. Almont's quota was \$100 and they realized \$66.65 from the party and \$104.50 from donations. Those serving on the fund drive committee were: Mrs. G. H. Anderson, Mrs. Sig Peterson, Otis Malone, E. E. Templeton and Chris Halvorson.

May 13, 1942

We are feeling the effects of the war more every day. Many of our boys are leaving to go into the Service. Sugar rationing has gone into effect, everyone is interested in sugarless recipes, and the rationing of meat and other foods will soon go into effect. Stamp books are being issued which will also be used for gas and shoes.

May 20, 1942

There will be a meeting on Victory Gardens at the school house Sat., May 23. A speaker will bring the latest and best information on the insect and pest problems.

July 8, 1942

Thorvald Barstad returned to his home here after several months fishing near the Aleutian Islands. Mr. Barstad states that he was within 200 miles of Dutch Harbor when it was bombed and that he saw the formation of the enemy planes. The fishermen were notified of the danger by the U. S. Coast Guard.

Aug. 5, 1942

Salvage drives for paper, rubber and scrap metal are now on. The 2 service stations collected the following amounts of scrap rubber: Wright's Service Station, 14,127 lbs.; Becklund Garage, 6,390 lbs.

Sept. 16, 1942

Chas. Hoeger threshed 760 bu. oats from a 7 acre field.

Oct. 21, 1942

N.B.C. artists, Lulu Belle & Scotie, the Hoosier Hot Shots and Archie the Woodchopper, who were

featured at the Corn Show in Bismarck last week, were here doing a bit of pheasant hunting. The pheasants are plenteous around Almont this year.

1943

June 23, 1943

Mrs. Mary Knutson was honored at her home on her 83rd birthday Thurs., June 17, when members of the Almont Ladies Aid came to wish her a Happy Birthday and spent the afternoon with her.

Nov. 27, 1943

The Almont Exchange opened Nov. 1 and will give Almont & Community limited banking service. The exchange is located in the Gillis building and is under the management of John M. Gillis.

Dec.

Dec. 20, 1944

Pageant Portraying Nativity

Instead of the customary type of Christmas program, a pageant, portraying the chief events of the nativity, was given by the grade students at the public school. They were assisted by the High School Glee Club and a very outstanding presentation was made.

May 20, 1944

Dedication of Service Flags

The Lutheran congregation dedicated service flags and honor rolls in honor of the men and women serving in the armed forces. Special programs and services were held for the events.

1945 . .

Jan. 19, 1945

N. P. Wants to Abandon Road

A Railroad abandonment case was held in New Salem to discuss the views of the people versus the railroad company. Many Almont people attended to protest the removal of the railroad. Ex-Governor Shafer was the attorney for Almont. Several people from Almont also spoke their views.

A previous meeting was held at the high school auditorium for the purpose of discussing the removal of the railroad from Almont. The people were very much opposed to this being done.

August 20, 1945

Peace

When the war with Japan ended August 14, the Wesleyan Methodist church held special services for the community in thankful appreciation

New Salem Implement Co.

International Tractors and Trucks — McCormick Farm Implements.
New Salem, N. D.

of the peace which we had attained. The next day all the business places were closed in commemoration of peace.

1946 . .
March 25, 1946

Homecoming Banquet For Servicemen

The returning World War II servicemen and their families were honored recently at a banquet in the Almont School auditorium, sponsored by the Almont American Legion and Auxiliary.

Places were set for several hundred people at long tables decorated in a patriotic theme.

A program, featuring L. G. Thompson and the boys from the State Training School, was presented along with other local numbers.

The following is the list of World War II servicemen as taken from the Honor Roll in the post office:

Selma Aanstad
Clifford Anderson
Gordon Anderson
Edward Atkinson
Peter Bahm
Arnold Barstad
Warren Becklund
Leonard Bachmann
Rev. C. O. Brecto
Stanley Brinkman
Clarence Christianson
Conrad Christianson
Levi Dawson
Henry Elvik
Curtis Fallgren
Robert Feland
Richard Feland
Rudolph Feland
Clarence Giese

Sam Gillas
Christ Hagel
Jack Hagel
Ludwig Hagel
Eugene Hanson
John Hoeger
Albert Hasse
Harold Held
Martin Hoerner
Duane Hyde
Leslie Jacobson
Nicholas Jacobson
Milton Johnson
Palmer Johnson
Wilmer Kilen
Gudrun Kilen
Johan Kilen
John Kokkler
Theo. Kokkler
Wm. Kokkler
Howard Knutson
Geo. Mortenson
Burton Nelson
Henry Nyquist
Alton Olin
Warren Olin
Arnold Olson
Donald Olson
Everert Olson
Gordon B. Olson
Gordon K. Olson
Omar Olson
Reuben Olson
Alvin Peterson
Donald Peterson
Bennie Ramsland
Tobias Ramsland
Cleo Smith
Elmer Smith
Howard Smith
Kenneth Smith
Arnold Torgerson
Walter Torgerson
Gordon Templeton

Clarence Thor
Harvey Thorson
Wilbur Wanstrom
James Weekes
E. Margido Willman
Oscar Willman
August 2, 1946

Almont Observes 40th Anniversary

Nearly 1500 persons attended Almont's 40th anniversary celebration. A parade led by the American Legion and the New Salem band began the day's celebration. Floats representing various Almont firms and more than 40 persons on horseback followed. Almont defeated Judson 8 to 1 in a baseball game. Three airplanes took up passengers. There was a free movie sponsored by Almont business firms and in the evening a dance in the Legion hall.

At 1:00 p.m. the crowd went out to the arena 1½ miles from town. Preceding the rodeo an address was given by E. W. Hyde with Rick Olson, J. R. Sherwood and Ben Bird, old timers and honored guests of the day on the platform. By request Mr. Hyde gave some of the story of Almont's beginning, reminding them among other things of the 9 blocks in the original survey, one of which was designated Court House square, which became the school house block, and of the addition of 7 more blocks soon as the Filkins First Addition.

Though the possibility of losing the railroad was before them, they were looking forward and believed the Heart River irrigation project coming through the territory gave great promise for the future. He



Pioneers leading in buggy. Front seat—Ben Bird and E. W. Hyde. Back seat—J. R. Sherwood, Rickert Olson.



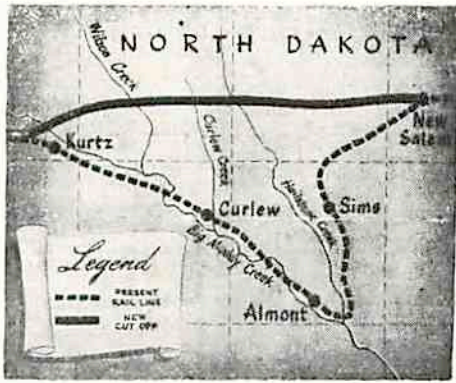
40th Anniversary Parade

New Salem Motors, Inc.

Chrysler nad Plymouth Cars.

Minneapolis Moline and Oliver Machinery.

New Salem, N. D.



Cut-off Railroad

urged them to hang together and make Conductor Atkinson's stickers still up-to-date "WATCH ALMONT GROW."

Then followed the horse show which consisted of pleasure horse and stake races, musical chairs, potato and scoop shovel races, calf roping, goat roping, wild cow milking, and pie eating contests. There was a horse-bicycle run race, a pony race, and cowboy and pony express race. All events were judged and prizes offered.

Dec. 6, 1947.

N. P. Railway Leaves Almont

The bright rows of windows disappeared in the darkness and the echo of the diesel's throaty whistle died away in the snowy hills.

Number 1 the west bound North Coast Limited, was making its last trip through Almont. It was Almont's last train and the conductor, C. C. Atkinson stopped in Almont to let four passengers off the train. They were Mrs. Edgar Skjolvsvik, Mrs. George Kaelberer, Milre, and Edith, who had come from Jamestown where they had attended a Cerebral Palsy clinic for Edith Ann.

Almont is at the bottom of a lopsided V which the original Northern Pacific survey party selected en route through western North Dakota in the 1870's.

Dirt-moving and bridge building were harder processes then and the surveyors followed water courses. In August, 1905, N. P. surveyors recommended straightening the line. As improved equipment came into use it was decided to cut off this loop, shortening the rail trip by 9.3 miles.

It was indeed a blow to the town and citizens of the surrounding community, but they held their heads a little higher and said, "We will make the best of it and thrive."

The old railroad bed was given to the county and much of the gravel has been used to improve the dirt road leading into Almont.

Almont's mail, express, and freight is picked up daily at North Almont.



C. C. Atkinson
N. P. Conductor who meant much to Almont.



Elevator Topples

This elevator was blown over in a wind storm during the journey from Almont to its new location at North Almont.

Jan. 28, 1948

American Legion Hall Completed

The American Legion hall was completed last week. A rounded roof was erected on the basement that had been finished last year, and an oak floor and a 10 by 32 ft. stage was put in the building.

Feb. 4, 1948

Miss Marion Kelsven who has been a nurse in a Portland hospital, went through Almont Wednesday en route to New York where she

will go by trans-continental airlines to Colombia, South America to be a missionary nurse.

Mar. 4, 1948

Our local cafe has again changed hands. Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Tavis of Glen Ullin purchased the building and equipment last week from Mr. and Mrs. Martin Hoerner who have been operating the place for the past year.

Summer, 1948

Funeral services were held for two Almont servicemen that had been killed during active duty on the European front in World War II. They were Eugene Hanson and Donald Peterson.

March 9, 1949

New Mail Route Established

A new mail route has been established from Almont with C. A. Knutson as carrier. This serves the people in Sims and Curlew every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

May 4, 1949

Annual Convention Meets In Almont

West Morton Inter-Church council met in the Wesleyan church in Almont May 1. Congregations from Glen Ullin, New Salem, Hebron and Almont were represented with the

Olson Funeral Home

Marvin Olson
Dickinson, N. D.



Stake Team Champions - 1948—l to r—Wendall Dawson, Roger Bond, Levi Dawson, Jake Larson, George Bruington, Robert Feland accepting trophy from Dr. Breslin.

First Congregational church in Glen Ullin having the most in attendance. The program included two numbers sung by a combined choir under the direction of Mrs. Robert Atkinson. New officers elected were: Pres., R. D. Reif; Vice Pres., Theo. Steinert; Sec., Howard Dukelow.

Sept. 28, 1949

New Telephone to North Almont

The Commercial club has constructed a telephone line connecting Almont with the elevator and depot at North Almont. The line is 8½ miles long and built expressly for community benefit. In addition to business phones Axel Nelson, Oliver Anderson and Walter Bakken have been given phone service. Members of the Commercial club, farmers and others interested in the project donated labor to erect the line.

The following list of names of those volunteering their services appeared in the New Salem Journal: Oliver Anderson, Axel Nelson, Edgar Skjolsvik, Norman Hanson, Andrew Kilen, Everett Olson, Trygve Feland, Sig Peterson, Wm. Knutson, Ted Hohbein, Walter Bakken, Leo Timpe, Ed Reeff, E. W. Hyde, Claude Ritz, George Kaelberer, Albert Stegmier, Otto Naucke, Ralph Tavis, Chester Harper, Don McDowall, Arnold Joersz, John Kilen, Reynold Olson, John Kiesel, Fred Ramsland. Any names omitted is unintentional.

Sept. 28, 1949

A new dry goods store has been

established in Almont by Ida Olson and is now open for business. Its location is in the old Post Office adjoining the old Kelsven store.

Nov. 30, 1949

Andrew Willman bought out the Almont Lumber Co. which includes the hardware and lumber business of E. W. Hyde. The new establishment will be known as the Willman Lumber Co. Bob Atkinson and Bernard Ringham who worked for Almont Lumber Co. will stay on in their present positions.

1950

Official Weather Report on Spring of 1950 by Fred Ramsland

The greatest snowfall on record according to snow gauge measure-

ments, was 83.3 inches. The runoff produced the greatest spring flood in the history of Almont. According to residents living along the Curlew Creek it was the highest flood stage in 57 years.

Flood stage was nearly 4 feet higher than set June 26, 1914, by a cloudburst. The spring flood of 1943 equalled that of 1914.

Flood waters poured into Almont from three points: The baseball diamond; near Carl Feland's residence; and the stockyards, where the creek had backed up from the swollen Sims and Hailstone Creeks.

At the peak of the flood, water in the street, between the former cream station building and the Willman Lumber Co. warehouse, was 34 inches deep. The water receded 12 inches between 9 A. M. and 8 P. M., April 17.

April 17, 1950

Almont Flood

For the first time in its history Almont was inundated by flood waters when the Curlew Creek went over its banks as a result of the unusual snowfall during the winter.

Many bridges were destroyed, including those located at Art Feland's and Charlie Hoeger's, and the steel bridge south of town which was built in 1911.

Warnings were received throughout the evening and by 4 A. M., April 17, all of the residents, with the exception of a few, had left their homes and were viewing the flood from the hill north of town.



Stake Team 1949 - State Champions Edgar Skjolsvik, Clifford Knudson, Art Feland, Sig Peterson, Alf Olin, Obert Barstad. Standing in front, Carl Knudson, Mgr. and Mrs. R. E. Breslin

Everett Olson

Contractor
Almont, N. D.



April 17, 1950

Tractors and boats were in operation throughout the day to observe the situation, and obtain food from the stores. Lunches were served from the Alfred Olin and Tenius Ramsland homes, which had not been reached by the flood waters. Many folk returned to their homes the same evening, but those remaining were housed at the Melvin Olson, Oliver Anderson, Walter Bakken, and Clarence Nellis homes.

With very few exceptions, most homes had considerable damage,

including basements filled with water. Several caved in, and many wells were ruined.

Until a foot bridge was built across the creek south of town, a boat operated above the dam, by Vernon Knutson, was the only means of enabling people from that area to trade in Almont. Later the bridges were re-constructed.

April 4, 1951

Bridge Threatened

The first warm weather days that we had last week caused the Muddy creek to rise and threaten the temporary bridge at the John Sharff crossing. Therefore to save the bridge, the planks were taken out Wednesday a.m. This left the folks to the South and West country with no way of getting to town except by driving around many extra miles over bad roads. However, a cable with carrier was stretched across the creek, where the former foot bridge used to be and now farmers, produce, and supplies are taken back and forth by this means of transportation.

Sept. 30, 1951

Sunday School Teachers Honored

The 25th anniversary of the Almont Lutheran Sunday school was marked by honoring two faithful workers in this service; Mrs. N. E. Becklund, Supt. and Mrs. Grace Nelson, teacher. Corsages and sterling silver hand-engraved candle holders were presented to the honored teachers.

The following poem was written at a tribute to Mrs. Becklund and Mrs. Nelson by Mrs. Roman Peterson:



Sunday School Teachers Honored
Mrs. Nels Becklund & Mrs. Grace Nelson



Snow Storm Street Scene, 1950

E. E. Templeton

Almont, N. D.



Almont High School Mixed Chorus, 1952

Front row, L to R—Gloria Hanson, Iona Hoovestol, Ramona Zemple, Ann Kary, Ann Marie Stegmeir, Leona Monson, LaVonne Ritz, Ange Kary, Mrs. Don J. Klingensmith, director. Middle row—Joan Knudson, Eunice Klingensmith, Marshall Feland, Ray Olin, Roger Becklund, Jerome Hegel, Leroy Ritz, Perpetua Doll. Back row—Caroline Larson, Charleen Reef, Adeline Larson, Clayton Anderson, Ralph Feland, Lester Hogan, Leonard Olson, James Harper, Warren Hoovestol. Not included in picture—Audrey Anderson, Shirley Kronberger, Charles Reef, Roger Nagel.

Most of us can remember
in the days not long ago
When we were little children
and sat in the very front row.
How we all looked forward to Sunday,
for it was a special day,
Mother, father, sister and brother
Off to Sunday school,
come what may.

Now Sunday school has continued
for 25 years or so,
The eager faces have changed
thru the years,
But all have been blessed we know.
For we've had some faithful workers,
Who have told us by word and song,
Of the birth of the baby Jesus,
and a wonderful Father, Our God.

And now we wish to pay tribute
To two who have helped in their way,
In bringing the message of Jesus
And teaching our children to pray.
We'd like to say "Thank you,
God Bless You"
For the faithful service you've given
Mrs. Beckland and Mrs. Grace
Nelson, may your work be rewarded
in Heaven.

October 10, 1951

Einar Olson is the new owner and proprietor of the Red and White store in Almont, which he purchased from the former owners, Mr. and Mrs. Donald McDowall.
May 9, 1951

Mr. and Mrs. Olaus Christianson sailed for Norway in May for an

extended visit to the homeland of Mr. Christianson. They visited relatives and friends of both Mr. and Mrs. Christianson and returned home in July. One of the highlights of their voyage was a storm they encountered while crossing the ocean.

April 23, 1952

Almont High School Mixed Chorus

The Almont mixed chorus participated in District V Music Festival in Bismarck, April 18, for the first time. The chorus sang the selections "Now Let Every Tongue Adore Thee" and "Hear Thou Our Prayer, O Lord" in the auditorium during the afternoon. They were given a rating of excellent by the judges.

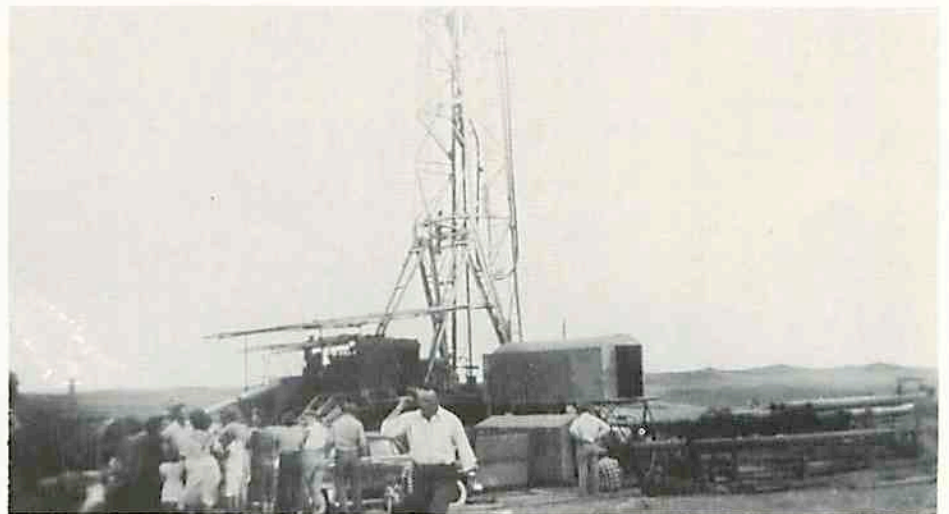
There were 35 high schools repre-

sented, with 1600 students participating in the event. Both the massed choir and the massed band were declared a success and slated to become annual events.

The mixed chorus is a musical group of high school girls and boys which have met twice a week in preparation for Christmas and spring concerts. Their large selection of music includes sacred songs, popular, semi-classical music and spirituals. The chorus was under the direction of Mrs. D. J. Klingensmith.

Hilda Johnson A—No. 1 Oil Well

The Hilda Johnson A No. 1 oil well was spudded in and oil drilling operations were begun August 17, 1952, on the farm owned by Miss Hilda Johnson, located eight miles



Hilda Johnson A No. 1 Oil Well

E. W. Hyde

Almont, N. D.

northwest of Almont: Sec. 30; Twp. 189; Range 86.

Howard Hoovestol of this community, surveyor for the Southwest Consultants, staked out the plot in which the well was located.

Timpe and Nellis had the ground leveling contract and the Deep Rock Oil Co. was in charge of operations.

Deep Rock Johnson "A" drilling stem test 6680-732 recovered 310 feet mud in 2 hours. DST 6740-51 recovered 30 feet gas-cut sulphur water in 3 hours. DST 6777-95 recovered 870 feet black sulphur water and 55 feet black gas-cut sulphur water in 1 hour, drilling at 6949 feet. Fargo Forum.

The wildcat well was plugged and abandoned on Nov. 1, 1952, attaining the depth of 8,103 feet. No shows of oil were found according to Deep Rock Oil Co.

August 27, 1952

Robert Atkinson returned home from Thule, Greenland where he spent the past 3 months with the North Atlantic Construction Co. as a bookkeeper. Due to ill health it was necessary for him to return much sooner than he had planned.

He came by plane as far as Minneapolis, a distance of about 5000 miles.

August 27, 1952

The Senior and Intermediate Girl Scouts with their leaders, Mrs. Claude Ritz and Mrs. Chester Harper assisted by Donna Knutson enjoyed a few days of camping at the Heart River. About 18 girls attended.

1953

Jan. 24, 1953

Attends Inauguration

E. W. Hyde was in the nation's capitol at the time of the inauguration of President Eisenhower on Jan. 20th. He had the pleasure of attending the ceremony and the privilege of a seat close to the speaker.

Feb. 18, 1953

Jackie Tavis Day

To celebrate Jackie Tavis Day in Almont, a program and dance were held with the entire proceeds being donated to Jackie, who was a victim of rhumatic fever and was bedridden several months. The event was sponsored by the local American Legion Post and Auxiliary.

The response of the Almont com-



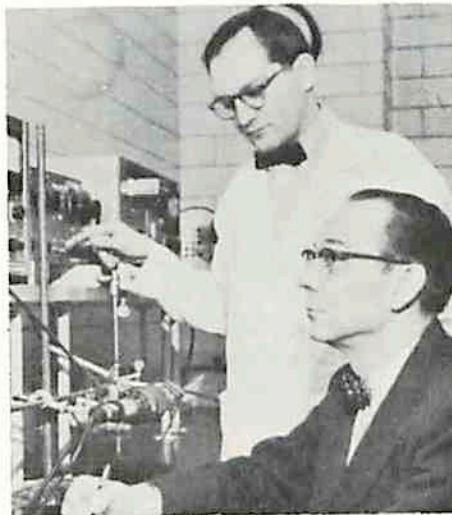
Jackie Tavis

munity and surrounding territories, including New Salem, Glen Ullin and Mandan, was heartwarming. The Mandan Elks band also presented a special program over KGCU radio station in her honor.

May 12, 1953

Dr. Jacobson Receives Medal

Dr. Leon Jacobson, of Chicago, son of Mrs. Rachel Jacobson of Sims, was honored recently in St. Louis, Mo., by the American Radium society. He was awarded the "Janeway" medal and invited to deliver the Janeway lecture at the annual convention of the society held in St. Louis. Since 1933, the American Radium society has sponsored a lecture at each of its annual meetings in memory of Dr. Henry Harrington Janeway, pioneer worker in the field of radium therapy.



Dr. Leon Jacobson

The lecturers are selected because of their outstanding scientific contributions and each is presented with the Janeway Medal.

Dr. Jacobson is one of the youngest and the first North Dakotan to receive the award.

He received his high school education in Almont, N. D. and was graduated from the university of Chicago Medical school, Chicago, Ill. At present, he is professor at the University of Chicago and director of the new research hospital built by the Atomic Energy committee for research on cancer.

Mar. 25, 1953

Fire Destroys Garage

Hoovestols Bros. are having a new quonset type garage built to replace the one that was destroyed by fire last week. Many men of the community have donated time and labor for building the new garage and the women donated food and helped to feed the workers. Mrs. Tavis kindly let them use her cafe dining room for serving the meals. This is another act of good will toward the unfortunate by the people of Almont and community.

May 27, 1953

Homemakers 25th Anniversary Silver Tea

Friday afternoon, May 22, Almont Homemakers club were hosts at a silver tea held in the school house in observance of the 25th anniversary of the club. A short program was given which included the reading of the history of the club.

County agent, Stanley Bale, gave a talk to encourage more women to join a club and showed a film. The refreshments served featured a 3 tiered decorated anniversary cake. July 5, 1953

Dr. and Mrs. Duane Hyde stopped in Almont for a visit with relatives and friends on their way from Chicago to Alaska where they vacationed before going to King City, Calif. where he has accepted a place in the King City Clinic.

Sept. 15, 1953

Almont Boy Becomes Attorney

Burton Fallgren, Portland, Ore., formerly of Almont, recently passed his bar examinations, was admitted to the bar, and sworn in by the Supreme court of Oregon.

Inar O., Alma and Ida Olson

Almont, N. D.



Sims-Altom Lutheran Choir, 1952

Front row, L to R—Joan Knudson, Ann Marie Stegmier, Mrs. Sig Peterson, Frances Nelson, Mrs. N. E. Becklund (accompanist), Caroline Larson, Joyce Larson, Mrs. Robert Atkinson, director. Middle row—Marlene Torgerson, Audrey Ritz, Shirley Timpe, Gloria Hanson, LaVonne Ritz, Iona Hoovestol, Donna Knutson, Adeline Larson. Back row—Duane Johnson, Vernon Knutson, Sig Peterson, Roman Peterson, Leonard Olson, Clayton Anderson, Roger Estrin, Jake Larson, Roger Becklund, Joel Johnson.

Feb. 11, 1953

Choirs Enjoy Trip

Members of the Sims-Altom choir enjoyed a trip to the P. R. Peterson ranch and had their regular choir practice and a social hour. Some food was brought by the guests but Mrs. Peterson had prepared a lot of extra goodies. The Petersons as well as the choir enjoyed the evening very much.

March 17, 1954

News Notes

The Altom Homemakers and Live and Learn Homemakers presented two skits at the New Salem Pool benefit program. Our community is interested in New Salem's pool as we know it will be a benefit to youngsters in our community as well as theirs.

May 12, 1954

Altom Commercial club was host to the Independent Basketball team and their coach, Rev. N. Jolivet, at the Tavis Cafe. The club decided to again sponsor a home beautification project.

May 12, 1954

Twenty-three tractors were used in a plowing bee for Elmer and Oscar Willman last Saturday. The Willman brothers had been seriously injured in an auto accident March 3 and were unable to do any of their field work. Oscar had been hospitalized six weeks and Elmer is still a patient at the Bismarck hospital.

June 30, 1954

A 70 mile an hour wind and heavy rain hit Altom Sunday and did considerable damage. A large barn on the Burton Hoovestol farm was blown over and completely destroyed. Several TV aerials and small buildings were damaged in town.

June 30, 1954

Lt. Thornton Becklund is flying for Civil Defense in Fargo at the present time. He received his Lt.jg in January of 1951 and has been trained as a jet-fighter pilot.

November 3, 1954

Knudson Elected Representative

Altom is to have one of their sons in the state legislature for the coming term. In yesterday's election Carl Knudson was elected representative from the 30th legislative district. He is a lifelong farmer in Morton county, as well as a well-known auctioneer and 4-H club leader. Altom people are proud to have him represent them and the rest of Morton County in the House of Representatives this coming term.



Carl Knudson, State Representative

Edmund C. Reef

Altom, N. D.

June 15, 1955

E. W. Hyde Honored on Birthday

People of Almont and old timers associated with early days of the community assembled in the school auditorium June 15 to celebrate the 84th birthday of one of the original founders of the village. Congratulatory messages to Mr. Hyde included a telegram from President Dwight D. Eisenhower, messages from Senators Milton Young and Wm. Langer, Congressmen Otto Krueger and Usher L. Burdick, former N. D. Gov. F. Aandahl and C. C. Atkinson of Mandan.

More than 300 persons attended the program and reception in the school which Mr. Hyde helped to build. His son-in-law Don Klingensmith was Master of Ceremonies. As the guest of honor entered the room believing he was about to attend a Flag Day celebration all the guests joined in the surprise by singing "Happy Birthday." Group singing then followed led by Mrs. Ardith Keller, with Mrs. Klingensmith at the piano.

Speaking briefly were the following:

Vernon Knutson, in behalf of the Community Club, N. D. Rep. Carl Knudson, Dr. O. C. Gaebe, Rev. E. Sollie, Co. Commissioner Herman Kaelberer, and E. E. Templeton.

Musical numbers included a vocal solo by Mrs. Keller, numbers by the Wesleyan Methodist Sunday School orchestra and the city band.

The group presented Mr. Hyde with a lounge chair.

TWO PIONEERS CELEBRATE

90th BIRTHDAYS

July 6, 1955

Ole Halvorson

Friends and relatives gathered at the school gym to honor Ole Halvorson, a long time resident of this community, on his 90th birthday. A program was held consisting of Norwegian songs, readings, and selections by the former male quartette: two of his sons, Chris and Harold Halvorson, Sig Peterson and Vernon Knutson.

Aug. 12, 1955

Rick Olson

In observance of Rick Olson's 90th birthday, members of his family arranged for an open house gathering for friends and relatives at the home of his son, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Olson.



Four Original Businessmen Still With Us
Front row, L to R—N. E. Becklund, E. E. Templeton. Back row—C. A. Knutson, E. W. Hyde.

August 3, 1955

Red Cross First Aid Class

Mrs. Vernon Knutson, graduate nurse, conducted two classes in Red Cross first aid. The first class was held in February and March and the second class in June and July. Altogether there were about thirty-six adults in these two first aid classes. Each class presented her with a gift in token of their appreciation.

Aug. 12, 1955

Return from Turkey

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Templeton, Terri and Penny visited with Mr. Templeton's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Templeton, after returning from Zehir, Turkey where they had spent two years. Mr. Templeton has been stationed there with the U. S. Navy.

April 19, 1956

Legion Hall Fire

The combined efforts of the New Salem and Glen Ullin fire departments together with the help of

local Almont people succeeded after nearly four hours in extinguishing a fire that started in the basement of the American Legion Hall early April 19th. Damage to the building was estimated at more than \$4000 but the fire could have been much more disastrous without the help of our two neighboring towns.

Almont to Have 50th Anniversary Celebration

At the Feb. 7th meeting of the Almont Commercial club it was decided to have a celebration of the town's 50th anniversary.

Appointed committee in charge was Sig Peterson, Everett Olson and Claude Ritz.

March 7

50th Anniversary Plans

At the Commercial Club meeting last night, dates were chosen for the 50th anniversary celebration. They are June 23 and 24. Plans include a parade, speaker, and a community chorus and music by the Almont band, on the 23rd, with a rodeo the main attraction on the 24th.

May 2

Vote to Publish History

The Commercial club voted last night to put the work of their History committee in permanent form and authorized drawing up of a contract to do so.

May 19

Almont's Picture Day

On Saturday May 19, 1956, the Almont History committee secured George Wright, a photographer for the Conrad Publishing Co. of Bismarck, to come to Almont to take pictures of all the present organizations in Almont and the surrounding community for the history book which is being written and published for Almont's Golden Jubilee.



Legion Hall Fire, 1956

Fred and Bennie Ramsland

Almont, N. D.



Almont Community Citizens

Front row, pioneers here since before 1890. Middle row, citizens here in 1906. Back row, citizens here since 1906.

Front row, L to R—Oscar G. Feland, Mrs. Martin Willman, Mrs. Agnes Whistler, Charles Hoeger, Oscar Jacobson, Mike Clausen, Tenius Ramsland, Charles Johnson. Middle row—Thorvald Barstad, Oscar Thorson, Tollef Christianson, C. G. Thor, Andrew Johnson, Mrs. Theo. Ramsland, Mrs. C. Wright, Martin Willman, Pete Thorson. Back row—Andrew Kilen, Alvin Peterson, Lars Handegard, Walter Timpe, Tollef Christianson, Edwin Bond, Leo Timpe, George Peterson, Mrs. Charles Johnson, Mrs. Fred Bopp.

The day proved to be a huge success insofar as the picture taking was concerned as the people of the town and community turned out in full force. The Band Mothers served lunch at the school house, (where the pictures were taken) during the day and it was a wonderful opportunity for friends to visit over a cup of coffee.

**June 4
Almont Jubilee Includes
Full Two-Day Program**

Almont's Golden Jubilee celebration June 23 and 24 will include an old settlers and pioneer gathering, parade, street games, program, dance, carnival and rodeo.

An old settler has been classified as a person living in Almont vicinity who was 20 years of age or older in 1906. A pioneer will be one who was in the area at any time up to and including 1906. Registration for these two groups is scheduled for 9 a. m. June 23.

There will be a parade at 10 a. m. followed by street games. Jack Swenson will be the guest speaker at the program starting at 1:30 p.m. Music will be by a community chorus, and old time quartet and the band.

The homemakers clubs are in charge of an evening program to get underway at 8. A Golden Jubilee Dance will be held in the Legion

hall after the program.

A rodeo and horse show will be held June 24, which includes races, cow riding, wild cow milking, calf roping and bronc riding. The Roger Bros. carnival will be in operation both days.

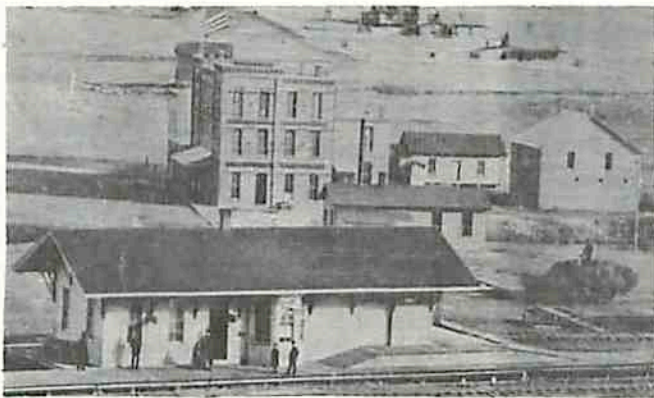
Also on display will be several antique and other memorable items that have had a part in the development of Almont.



Street Scene 1956

Economy Grocery

Ida and Lorraine
Almont, N. D.



Sims Townsite, 1885

SIMS HISTORY

When the Northern Pacific Railway made their railroad bed in 1878 they uncovered coal 35 miles west of Mandan. This, plus the fact that there was an abundance of very good spring water, stimulated a side track to be built. It was named Sims in honor of George V. Sims, chief clerk of the road in New York.

On July 5, 1879, Mr. Charles W. Thompson, opened a coal mine for the N. P. Coal co. In 1880, a Post Office was established with Robert McKee as postmaster. In 1883, the town was laid out by the N P R R. This year saw great activity in Sims. Charles W. Thompson put up the first store in May, a bank was organized in July with Chas. W. Thompson, pres. and Theo. Shenkenburg, cashier. Shenkenburg was then postmaster. Also in this year the N. P. Coal co. built a very handsome and commodious brick hotel at the cost of \$15,000. This was opened to the public as the Oakes House. Here were the offices for the Coal Co. T. F. Oakes was pres., G. G. Sanborn, treas., Col. W. P. Clough, Secy. and attorney, and C. W. Thompson, Gen. manager. The output of this mine in 1884 was about 100 tons per day taken from

five different veins, one seven ft. thick and four veins 3½ to 4 ft. each.

The Carbon Pressed Brick and Lime Co. with investments at Sims totaling nearly \$30,000 furnished brick for the major buildings in Sims and in many neighboring towns, including the state capitol building and the Court house at Mandan. Officers were C. W. Thompson, pres., W. A. Dows, Vice pres., J. H. Hansel, secy. and Treas. In 1884 there were three stores, a lumber yard, two real estate offices, a Presbyterian church, and a common school (a \$5,000 building originally built for a community building).

Sims grew to over a mile in length. Two suburbs were laid out; Balasta to the north and Ramstown to the south. For protection against the uprising of Indians, a fortress was dug out on top of the Anderson hill. 400 government rifles were issued for this purpose. After about 6 years the Brick co. closed down, speculators moved west and workmen took homesteads as jobs became scarce.

In 1906 the population was 300. There were several coal mines, a Lutheran church, a common school,



Residents Since 1881
Mrs. Rachael Jacobson, Tenius Ramsland

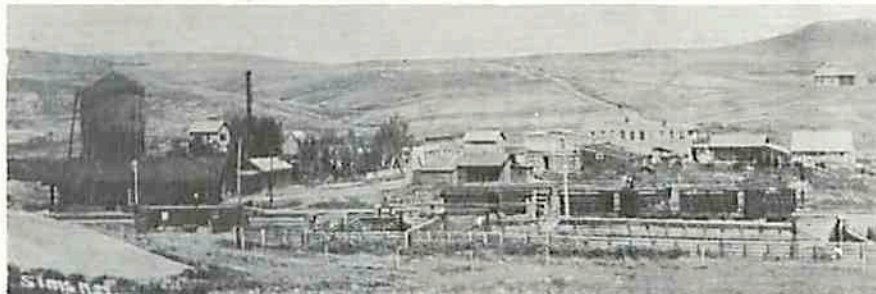
telephone service and a weekly stage to Heart. Andrew Anderson, contractor; Ira Etling, express and telegraph agent; Heart River Co., Carver and Flynn managers; Fred Holritz, Gen. store; John Jacobson, contractor; Hans Jensen, saloon; Anton John, livestock breeder; Lignite Fuel Co., Theo. Feland, mgr.; Dave Pederson, grocer; C. L. Timmerman, gen. store; S. P. Weekes, horses and cattle.

By 1910, most of the coal mines had closed down and the population census had gone down to 86. Fred Holritz maintained a general store for many years. After he retired, S. A. Johnson operated the store and served as postmaster, railroad station agent, and pumped and treated water for N.P.'s steam locomotives. Ervin Olin took over his uncle's duties after Simons' death. On Dec. 6, 1947, the N. P. abandoned their road through Sims and began service over its New Salem and Glen Ullin cutoff.

(Information taken from Andreas Atlas and History of Dakota Territory—1884; Dakota Territorial Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1884-85, North Dakota Business Directory of 1906, and census reports).



Sims School 1908



Sims Townsite, 1908

Sig, Marjorie and Bruce Peterson

O Bar O Ranch

Almont, N. D.

Town Officers And Post Office



Town Officers, 1956 Seated—Otto Nauche, Nels Becklund, Gilbert Holle, Ed Reeff. Standing—Everett Olson, Morris Christianson, Don McDowall, Robert Atkinson.

July 3, 1936

Almont Announces New Officers In Newly Incorporated Village

The following officers were elected to serve the recently incorporated village of Almont until the next regular election in March, 1937—Trustees: E. W. Hyde, N. P. Nelson, August Timpe; clerk, G. H. Anderson; treas., E. B. Ringham; assessor, H. G. Timpe; justice of the peace, J. R. Sherwood; marshal, August Timpe.

Prior to the order for incorporation which was issued on June 30, Almont was under the jurisdiction of Sims township with respect to its governing body. In order to facilitate negotiations with various federal agencies such as PWA, WPA and other matters in connection with needed improvements an election was held on June 16 to vote to incorporate as a village.

Among the projects sponsored by the town officers are the following: That of bringing the high line to town to furnish electricity, sponsoring the cement sidewalks, providing drainage for Main street, and the graveling of the streets in town.

Each year they set aside a day in spring as a clean-up day.

Present town officers are:

Trustees, Robert Atkinson, Everett Olson, Morris Christianson.

Clerk, Nels Beckland.

Treas., Gilbert Holle.

Justice of the Peace, Donald McDowall.

Town marshal, Otto Naucke.

ALMONT POST OFFICE

The Almont post office was established in the late fall of 1906. E. E. Templeton was appointed as postmaster. The post office was first located in the DeVaul store and Grover Brunker was the first assistant postmaster.

Later the post office was moved into the Fred Holritz and Sons General store and Ed Holritz became the assistant postmaster.

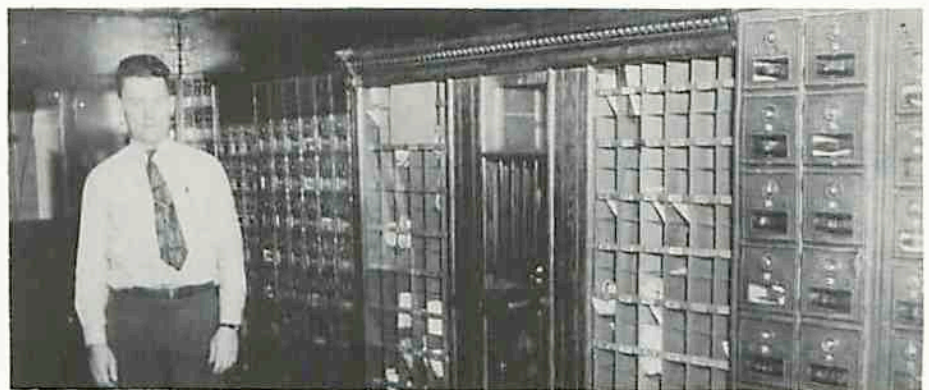
When Ed Holritz moved to Carson in 1909 the post office was moved into the Dave Peterson build-

ing where Ole C. Ellingson had put in a new general store and acted as assistant postmaster until 1912, when E. E. Templeton resigned as postmaster to go into business with Jens Nelson, as Nelson Templeton Co.

Almont post office had two routes and supplied Carson, Stebbins, Howe, Carl, Heart and DeVaul with mail in the early years. C. A. Knutson was appointed postmaster in 1912 and served until 1918. The office was in the Knutson store. C. E. Kelsven followed C. A. Knutson as postmaster in 1918 and served until 1933.

In 1920 C. A. Knutson was appointed rural route mail carrier, which position he held until March 1, 1955 when he retired. Vernon Knutson served as temporary carrier until Feb. 24, 1956 when Alden Olson was appointed as Rural Route Carrier in charge of the two routes.

Otis Malone followed S. E. Kelsven and took office in 1933, moving from Kelsven store into the present location Oct. 1, 1945. When Mr. Malone retired, Ben Ramsland was appointed acting postmaster. On March 1, 1949 he received his appointment as postmaster which position he still holds. At present (1956) the office has two rural routes, two Star routes and one clerk. Joe Hoovestol has been the Star route carrier for the past 30 years. Alma Olson has served as assistant post master for 18 years.



Interior of Almont P. O.—Ben Ramsland, Postmaster

Don's Electric Service

Don McDowall, proprietor.
Almont, N. D.

Wesleyan Methodist Church



Wesleyan Methodist Church

Sunday schools in outlying school buildings, carried much of the responsibility for the Heart River Gospel association, and helped to establish sister churches in the Philippine Islands and in Bismarck. A number of her young people are in full time Christian service.

The following ministers have pastored here:

Rev. L. D. Harris,	1928-1935
Rev. T. B. Bailie,	1935-1941
Rev. Ivan Jones and	
Rev. Geo. Gore	1941-1942
Rev. A. M. Wiley,	1942-1945
Rev. T. S. Lee	1945-1949
Rev. A. J. House,	1949-1950
Rev. E. V. Sollie,	1950-1955
Rev. R. T. McCoy,	1955-

The present pastor.

Methodist Sunday School

Almont's first Sunday School was organized in April, 1907 with Mrs. E. W. Hyde as Supt., Mr. John Frey, Asst. Supt., and Miss Ruth Sherwood, as Secretary and Treasurer. Their first meeting place was at Attorney Goff's office. Later meeting places were the different community halls and the old and new school houses.

For over 10 years the Almont Bible school was the only regular religious service in the community. It served the whole community as a Sunday School until the Lutherans organized theirs in 1926.

The Sunday School sponsored two special programs a year for the community, the 4th of July picnic at the Heart River and the Christmas program on Christmas Eve. It also sponsored special evangelistic meetings and Wednesday night prayer meetings and gave its sup-

The Wesleyan Methodist Church
The Wesleyan Methodist church of Almont was organized by Rev. J. F. Simpson, president of the Dakota Conference on May 14, 1924, with the following charter members: Mrs. E. W. Hyde, Wallace Hyde, Laurin Hyde, Thelma Hyde, Edith Bird, and Stanley Lucas.

The church was served for a few years by different itinerating pastors, the Rev. A. M. Wiley of Jamestown, N. Dak. serving most of the time until June, 1928. Also during this time several revival meetings were held, the Rev. A. M. Wiley,

Rev. A. J. Tiffany, Rev. Dick Wilson, and Rev. L. D. Harris, being the evangelist. In this way the work was to a place where a permanent local pastor was needed. The Rev. L. D. Harris was appointed to this work in June, 1928. The services were held in the school building. The need for a "House of Worship" was soon felt, and efforts to that end were rewarded in the building of a church, through the faithful labors and leadership of Rev. Harris. It was completed in 1930.

The dedication services were held in the afternoon of Nov. 21, 1932. Rev. Rufus Reisdorph, Pres. of the Dakota Wesleyan Connection at Aberdeen, S. Dak. delivered the dedicatory address. He spoke comprehensively on "Our Duty to the Church." The building was well filled with an attentive and appreciative audience. The day will not soon be forgotten by those who participated in its joyous activities.

The membership has never been large, but its influence under God has been widespread. With its emphasis on missions through the years, it has helped to encourage



Rev. A. M. Wiley



Rev. and Mrs. L. D. Harris

Stellar Home Improvement Co.

Kimsul --- storm windows, doors, awnings -- Alcoa Farm gates.
Midway, Mandan, N. D.



Wesleyan Methodist Sunday School

Front row—Ardythe Peterson, Duane Keller, Marian Peterson, Joel Miller, Wesley Peterson, Terry Miller, Karen Olson, Marylin Miller, Douglas Keller. Second row—Mrs. C. Hoeger, Chas. Hoeger, Mrs. McCoy and Bobby, Rev. R. T. McCoy, Mrs. Ingeborg Trovik, Mrs. P. Johnson, Mrs. Templeton, E. E. Templeton. Third row—Evelyn Keller, Alma Olson, Mrs. E. Keller, Mrs. Tobias Olson, Mrs. Anna Nyquist, Mrs. Martin Wohlman, Virginia Miller, Mrs. Everett Miller, Mrs. Don Klingensmith. Back row—E. W. Hyde, Michael Kronberger, Mrs. Cuno Peterson, Emil Keller, Ida Olson, Winona Olson, Philip Johnson, Alfred Olin.

from New Salem and Bismarck who came for frequent services and to the Presbyterian student pastors who served Almont for several summers. Best remembered of these was Rev. Alexander in 1912.

It has always been interdenominational in membership, even after becoming the basis for the Wesleyan Methodist Church. Young people of two generations give thanks for the Lord's message it brought to them. A Sunday School orchestra has added much in music for many years.

Mrs. E. W. Hyde served as its superintendent from its beginning until her death in December, 1949. Mrs. Ingeborg Trovik has served as its superintendent from that time to the present.

Missionary Society

The Women's Missionary society of the Wesleyan Methodist church was organized July 28, 1938 at the Warren Rickett home with the following charter members: Mrs. Thomas Bailie, pastor's wife, Mrs. Martin Peterson, Mrs. Warren Rickett, Mrs. August Olin, Mrs. F. L. Trovik, Miss Thelma Peterson and Miss Marjorie Olin. Several missionary meetings had been held prior to the organization date. Of these charter members only Mrs. Trovik still resides here and holds membership in the society.

At this initial meeting Marjorie Olin was elected president; Mrs. Bailie, vice-president; Thelma Peterson, secretary and treasurer. It was decided at this business session to hold two meetings each month,

one being devoted to a Scripture lesson, prayer and reports from the various missionary fields. These reports were taken from the Wesleyan missionary magazine.

At the other meeting known as a work meeting, after a short devotional period the time was spent sewing new garments, making bandages, repairing used clothing or making quilts for the orphanage home and foreign fields. The meetings were then and still are held in the various homes of the members.

Prayer is stressed as a vital factor in the missionary program, consequently in 1940 the society voted to join the All Day Prayer chain. Our society was assigned the second day of each month as a day of fasting and prayer. Each member was to choose a different hour

(Continued on page 54)



Wesleyan Women's Missionary Society

Front row — Mrs. Ingeborg Trovik, Mrs. Charles Hoeger, Mrs. Cuno Peterson, Mrs. Don Klingensmith. Back row—Mrs. Robert McCoy, Mrs. Philip Johnson, Alma Olson, Mrs. Everett Miller, Mrs. Tobias Olson, Mrs. Anna Nyquist, and Mrs. Martin Wohlman.



Wesleyan Young People's Society

Seated — Alma Olson, Mrs. Robert McCoy, Mrs. Philip Johnson. Standing — Lyle Peterson, Winona Olson, Rev. Robert McCoy, Philip Johnson, Virginia Miller.

Conrad Publishing Co.

Bismarck, N. D.

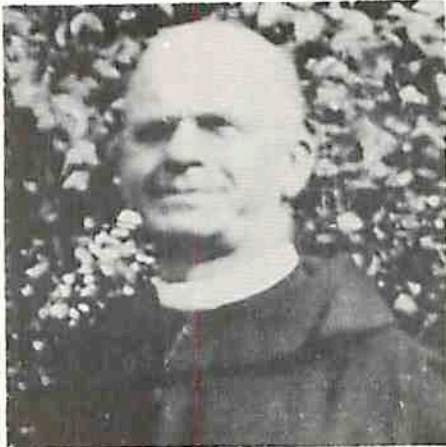
St. Leopold's Catholic Church



St. Leopold's Catholic Church

A Brief History of St. Leopold's of Almont

The early history of St. Leopold's Mission is somewhat sketchy and incomplete due to the fact that records of said time are very incomplete and much of the data was not recorded at all. 'Hear-say' has it that Mass was celebrated in Almont for the first time in 1911, services being held at the Timpe school



Father Bernard Fritz

house by one of the Fathers from Bismarck. Among the members of the parish of that time were Herman Timpes, Fred Spaths, Theo Stilers, Nick Meuchels and John Smiths. Evidently these early settlers were envisioning a church of their own from this time on, as there is record of a church dinner held at the Herman Timpe farm, at which they realized an encouraging beginning, and which little feat was staged quite regularly thereafter.

During the year 1915 to 1916 the Catholics of Almont were served by Rev. Vincent Wigit from St. Joseph's Church, south of Glen Ullin. It seems that during these first years Mass was celebrated only at irregular intervals. In January of 1917, through the efforts of Peter Pfaff, arrangements were made with Bishop Vincent Wehrle for His Excellency to meet the people of Almont and celebrate Mass for them. The people improvised an altar in the old Almont Hall, Bishop Wehrle bringing the Altar stone,

which is still being used at the present church. Almont was set up as a Station by Bishop Wehrle at this time and was taken care of by Father Justus O.S.B. at first. The first Baptism recorded was that of Ethel Stoeckel, May 13, 1917.

During the years of 1917 and 1918, the Station of St. Leopold was attended to by Fr. Justus and Fr. Felix O.S.B. The first class of Holy communicants made their first communion in the spring of 1918, Mary Timpe, Anne Timpe and Myron Stiler being of that group. Later, after the Almont school was completed, Rickart Olson, a member of the school board, was instrumental in obtaining the use of one of the class rooms for Catholic services, and it seems that the school was used until the basement of the present church was completed. However, from 1928 to about 1932, when Father Bernard Fritz O.S.B. came to Almont, it seems that services were discontinued. From 1932 to 1948 Father Bernard came from the Abbey of Richardton to pastor the Catholic souls of Almont, with the occasional help of Fathers Stanislaus and Eugene. In 1935 St. Leopold had its first large confirmation class, a group of twenty-six children, plus several adults. Mrs. Peter Pfaff helped Father Bernard in instructing the children during the years in which she lived at Almont.



Father E. Haspert

Catholic Christian Mothers

Almont, N. D.



Catholic Congregation

First row, seated—Jeff Timpe, Sharon Timpe, Margaret Froehlich, Claudia Timpe, Cynthia Timpe, Irene Froehlich, Daniel Froehlich, Bobbie Kronberger, James Froehlich, Darnell Christianson, Cheryl Christianson. Second row, seated—Darrel Nilles, Mary Kary, Diane Froehlich, Mrs. Oscar Feland, Mrs. Theo. Stiler, Ida Kronberger, Mrs. Alden Olson, Gregory Olson, Mrs. Conrad Christianson. Third row, standing—Mrs. Marvin Timpe and baby Brenda, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Nilles, Genevieve Stoeckel, Mrs. Val Kary, Mrs. Leo Timpe, Jacqueline Tavis, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Tavis. Fourth row, standing—Mr. and Mrs. Gadius Froehlich, Val Kary, John Kronberger, Ernest Vanilla, Eldine Staad.

The present church was built by the order of Bishop Wehrle in 1936. St. Leopold consisted of about 25 families at this time. With the help of the Catholic Extension society, from whom they received \$1,500.00 and the sacrifices of the people, Father Bernard, with the aid of the trustees, Messers Leo Timpe, L. Stoeckel, John Erhart, Chris Halvorson and Peter Pfaff, formulated the plans for the new church. The lots were purchased from John Frey. Construction of the building was begun in the spring of 1936 under the supervision of Joseph Pfaff. The altar was obtained from St. Joseph's, Glen Ullin, while most of the furnishings of the church were purchased by the Catholic ladies aid, who by this time had become very active and did much to complete the interior of this little House of God, in the years to follow.

The first group of children to make their first communion in the new church numbered nineteen. The first funeral from the church was evidently that of Cathrine Timpe in 1939, the latest being that of Barbara Kronberger who passed away Feb. 14, 1953.

In 1948, a couple years after St. Pius of New Salem became a parish with resident pastor, Almont was

turned over as a mission to St. Pius. Father Haeg was pastor and provided the mission with weekly Mass. During Fr. Haeg's time the interior of the church was completed, except for the rubber tile floor, which was installed in 1952. Father Haeg was succeeded in 1951 by Fathers Subutas and Miller, in 1952 by Fr. E. LaMeres and Fr. E. Haspert, the present pastor in 1953.

St. Leopold's very proudly boasts

of having given one of its sons to the priesthood of the Church, viz. Fr. Wilbur Staudenmaier, now of Appleton, Wis. and one daughter to the Sisterhood, Sister M. Simon O. P., formerly Agnes Staudenmaier and now stationed at Holy Rosary academy, Bay City, Mich.

At present there are twenty-one families, including mixed marriages, attending services at St. Leopold's of Almont.

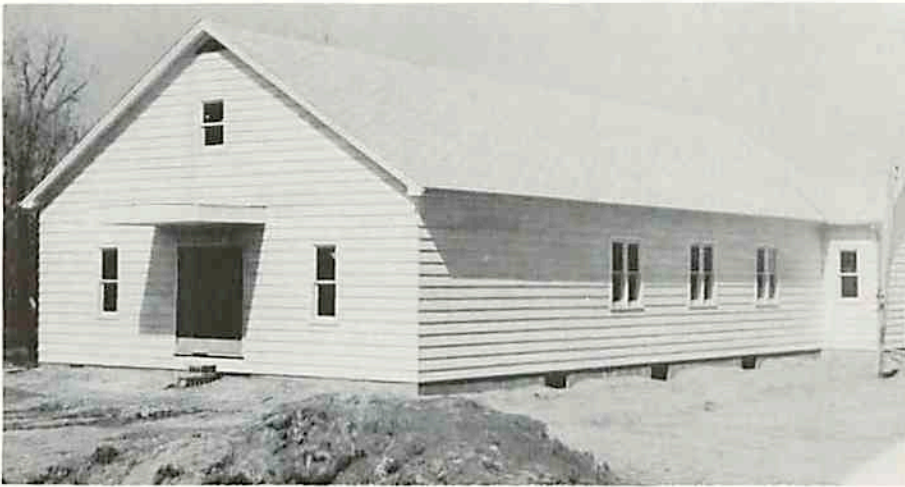


Catholic Christian Mothers Front row—l to r—Mrs. Alden Olson, Mrs. Val Kary, Mrs. Floyd Christianson, Mrs. Marvin Timpe, Mrs. Theo. Stiler. Back row—Mrs. Martin Doll, Mrs. Oscar Feland, Mrs. Clarence Nilles, Mrs. Leo Timpe, Mrs. Ralph Tavis.

Tavis Cafe

Home of Better Meals.
Almont, N. D.

Sims - Almont Lutheran Parish



New Lutheran Church Under Construction to be Dedicated Sept. 9, 1956

ALMONT LUTHERAN CHURCH

During the first years in Almont, Lutherans worshipped with other Christians in the community; but as time passed they felt a strong desire for their own place of worship. As a result of the untiring efforts of Mr. O. C. Ellingson and Mr. E. E. Templeton, the United Lutheran congregation was organized June 24, 1915 by Pastor Larson of Taylor. A ladies aid and "Willing Workers" girls' club was organized soon after.

In 1916 Pastor L. K. Dordal who was then serving at Sims was called to serve the Almont congregation also. The town hall was used for worship until a church building could be acquired.

This was accomplished by the purchase of the old Almont public school when it was offered for sale in the fall of 1917. It was moved to its present location and remodeled into a comfortable and adequate house of worship. Dedication services took place July 22, 1919, with Rev. Ulrich of the English Lutheran church in New Salem preaching the sermon.

After Pastor Dordal left Almont, the congregation was served intermittently by Pastors Halverson, Munson and Foss. In 1924 Pastor J. Thornell accepted the call, and under his leadership a Sunday School and Young People's Society were organized.

In the years that followed the

congregation was served by Pastors C. G. Nelson, R. Haakonson, C. Brecto, C. J. Fylling and the present pastor, Norbert Jolivet.

Three young women of the congregation have gone as missionaries to foreign lands: Eileen Becklund, Laura and Ardella Reetz.

On Pentecost Sunday, 1955, the congregation voted to erect a new house of worship. Work was begun on the new building in September, 1955. It is expected to cost about \$16,000 and seat about 300 when completed. Date of dedication has been set for September 9, 1956.

As work on the physical plant goes forward, it is prayerfully hoped that the spiritual life of the congregation will advance with it

under the Lutheran theme: Word Alone; Faith Alone; Grace Alone; and All to the Glory of Christ.

ALMONT LUTHERAN CHOIR

The choir of the church was organized under the leadership of Mrs. H. Gunvoldson, in 1916 when Pastor Dordal was serving the congregation. One of their first programs read as follows: Opening Devotions, Pastor Dordal; Song, "Sing me to sleep", Mrs. O. E. Ellington; Piano duet, Mrs. Gunvoldson and Beatrice Williams; Monologue, Verna Bird; vocal solo, Mrs. Gunvoldson, violin solo, "Holy City", Mr. Gunvoldson; "To the Haven of Rest", Choir.

The choir has continued to function through the years under the leadership of Mrs. Becklund, Mr. Kling, Prof. Lee, Sig and Marge Peterson and its present leader, Mrs. Atkinson.

The choir has rendered six cantatas, and besides assisting in the worship services of the church, has played an important role in musical history of Almont.

For more than 30 of the 40 years since the church was organized, Mrs. Becklund has been the church pianist and music director. Through her able and untiring efforts the church has always had special music to add to its worship services. To her, the congregation is deeply grateful.



Almont Lutheran Church

Roman Peterson

Bluffdale Ranch

Almont, N. D.



Almont Lutheran Sunday School, 1956

Front row, l to r—Larry Handegard, Bryan Ringham, Curtis Thor, Terry Smith, Mark Jolivette, Bruce Peterson, Charles Olson, Dale Olson, David Knutson, Randy Christianson, Jeffrey Knutson, Alvin Kilen, Larry Smith. Second row—Elliot Olson, Joel Olson, Chester Thor, Lester Feland, Gary Knutson, Royal Handegard, Stuart Olson, Kerry Wanstrom, Aaron Zemple, Douglas Thorson, Larry Hoovestol, Rex McDowall, Darell Hogan. Third row—Doreen Olson, Sharon Thorson, Peggy Thorson, Amy Kilen, Carol Feland, Mary Knutson, Peggy Atkinson, Sylvia Thor, Patty Feland, Pat and Penny Anderson, Lila McDowall, Lynn Peterson, Edith Smith, Orletta Kilen. Fourth row—Mrs. Grace Nelson, Linda Smith, Darla Olin, Ardys Brinkman, Linda Atkinson, Sandra McDowall, Mary Handegard, Marilyn Olson, Norma Kilen, Sandra Christianson, Anita Knutson, Veralyn Wanstrom, Rodney Peterson, Harvey Hogan. Fifth row—Mrs. Wm. Knutson, Mrs. D. McDowall, LaVonne Ritz, Laurel Harper, Doris Feland, Carol Kilen, Jerry Olson, Dean Feland, Jerome Willman, Sidney Harper, Carlylle Reef. Rodney Knutson, Ernest Feland. Mrs. C. Harper, Mrs. R. Peterson, Mrs. Everett Olson. Back row—Mrs. Carl Feland, Mrs. Marvin Olson, Arlene Maichel, Mrs. S. Peterson, Dorothy Hoovestol, Mrs. V. Knutson, Tharen Kilen, Beverly Brinkman, Corma Feland, Roger Hoovestol, Sig Peterson, Condon Knutson, Harvey Thorson, Lee Harper, Duane Thiel, Carol Atkinson, Mrs. Axel Hoovestol.

LUTHERAN SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School was organized in 1926, by Pastor Thornell, with Mrs. J. Pederson as Supt. Within a few months it had grown to a size of 90 members, including the Bible class which was taught by the Pastor.

It has continued to function regularly through the years, teaching the way of salvation to the children and young people of the congregation.

Whenever possible, it has had summer Bible School, and in later years has aided in the support of Miss Ardella Reetz, missionary, in Pakistan.

The membership has fluctuated according to the population in the community, but it has always proved a blessing to those who attended. Its present membership has reached a peak of 81, with Mrs. Grace Nelson as superintendent. Others who have served besides Mrs. Pederson and Mrs. Nelson are: Mrs. C. G. Nelson, Miss Caroline Frey, Mrs. N. E. Becklund and Reynold Olson.

LUTHER LEAGUE

The Young People's society, as

it was then called, was organized in 1926 when Pastor Thornell was serving the congregation, for the purpose of giving the young people an opportunity to express themselves in word and song, and thus develop their Christian lives. They had as a project the gathering of funds for purchasing a piano for the church.

When Pastor Nelson came, he suggested the name be changed to "Luther League", and prepared topics were brought into use. Funds were sent in to League headquarters to help support current missionary projects.

In 1930 the Bad Lands Bible camp was organized, and a group of Almont leaguers, with their advisor, attended; a custom which was continued until the Washburn camp was organized.

About 1938 the Luther League in Almont, which had hitherto accepted members of all ages, became strictly a youth organization.

The Pocket Testament movement has also been promoted among the Leaguers. In November, 1939 the Luther League attended the Rally at Bismarck with the largest delegation present from one vicinity.



Luther League Front row—l to r—Janet Feland, Corma Feland, Idar Handegard, Leona Monson, Dorothy Hoovestol, Bonnee Christianson. Back row—Arlene Maichel, Janice Ritz, Ralph Feland, Charlotte Kilen, Laurel Harper, LaVonne Ritz.

Harvey Thorson's

Stock and Grain Farm
Almont, N. D.



Lutheran Ladies Aid, 1956

Front row, L to R—Mmes. Elmer Smith, T. A. Barstad, W. E. Bond, J. Olson, Gurine Olson, Grace Nelson. Second row—S. Peterson, A. Kilen, R. Schwemmer, Carl Kilen, R. Atkinson, E. Skjolsvik, A. Hoovestol, C. Thor. Back row—H. Thorson, D. McDowall, Carl Feland, L. Handegard, O. Feland, N. Hanson, G. Holle, J. Johnson, R. Peterson, J. Hoovestol, V. Knutson, C. Harper.

ALMONT LUTHERAN LADIES AID

The Almont Aid was organized in 1916 at the home of Mrs. Jens Nelson. The first officers were: Mrs. Gunvoldson, pres. Mrs. Jens Nelson, vice pres.; Mrs. O. Malone, sec'y. Other early members included Mmes. Andrew Knutson, Nels Jacobson, Ben Bird, Ole Ellingson, Olaf Olson, George Ims, C. A. Knut-

son, N. E. Becklund, L. C. Nelson, G. H. Anderson and Albert Aanstad.

Membership has changed from 24 in 1926 to 13 in 1936 and has grown to 28 in 1956.

The Aid joined the Women's Missionary Federation in 1934 and since then has studied and supported the mission, charity and education departments of our church

synod. The members take turns giving the Bible Study each month.

At one time the aid adopted an Indian girl by keeping her in clothing. They also made a layette for the House of Mercy. A clothing drive for Lutheran World Action is sponsored every Fall and boxes of clothing and food are sent regularly to Ardella Reetz, missionary to Pakistan. We were hosts to the W M F Convention in 1948; honored the seven oldest members with Life Membership pins in 1951 and started a library in 1955.

May we continue to work in harmony to promote love for Christ and our fellowmen.

LUTHERAN MISSION CIRCLE

The Lutheran Mission circle was organized in February, 1956 at the Almont Lutheran church basement. The circle was organized by the Almont Ladies Aid with the help of our pastor's wife, Mrs. N. L. Jolivette, realizing that more could be done for the mission fields.

Invitations were extended to every woman in the parish. Ten ladies were present at the first meeting. Mrs. Joel Johnson was elected presiding officer and Mrs. Marvin Olson as treasurer.

The meetings are held the last Friday afternoon in every month and include a short devotional period and a story or feature from some mission field. The remainder of the time is spent sewing, tearing and rolling bandages and packing the articles to be sent.

A free will offering is taken to be used for postage on the packages. Light refreshments are served at the close of each meeting.



Mission Circle (Lutheran) Front row—l to r—Mmes. Norbert Jolivette, P. Thorson, J. Hoovestol, N. Hanson, A. Hoovestol, E. Skjolsvik, G. Nelson. Back row—E. Olson, T. A. Barstad, C. Feland, J. Olson, A. Feland, A. Kilen, M. Olson, J. Johnson, W. Anderson, R. Schwemmer, O. Feland, S. Peterson.



Almont Lutheran Choir Front row—l to r—Mrs. Robert Atkinson, director, Janet Feland, Corma Feland, Mrs. Everett Olson, Mrs. Joel Johnson, Dorothy Hoovestol, Mrs. N. E. Becklund, pianist. Center row—Arlene Maichel, Laurel Harper, LaVonne Ritz, Charlotte Kilen, Mrs. Roman Peterson, Mrs. J. Hoovestol, Mrs. Chester Harper, Mrs. Grace Nelson, Mrs. D. McDowall, Mrs. Sig Peterson. Back row—Eugene Harper, Roman Peterson, Joel Johnson, Sig Peterson, Don McDowall.

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New Salem, N. D.

Sims - Almont Lutheran Parish



Sims Lutheran Church

HISTORY OF THE SIMS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

In the late seventies and early eighties some Scandinavian pioneers who had migrated to America came to North Dakota and settled at Sims, west of the Missouri River about thirty five miles from Mandan. Sims was a lively, busy town extending over a mile in length with Sims in the center, Ramstown to the south and Balasta to the north.

The settlers who had come from a country with a religious emphasis felt that it was of great importance to establish a place of worship as soon as possible.

On September 30, 1884, the Scandinavian pioneers met with their pastor, to organize a congregation. They appointed the Rev. O. J. Norby as chairman and Christ Thomsen, secretary.

The Augustana Synod's Constitution was read. Then they named the congregation the Skandinavian Evangelical Lutheran Congregation of Sims. Books were selected to be used for Children's Christian instruction, and Hauge's Psalm Book was chosen for use in the church. The annual meeting was to be held the third Easter day of each year, and the pastor's garb was to be the same as in Norway. Forty-four members signed up at this meeting, and five more were ad-

mitted into the congregation before the end of the year.

The following officers were elected: Deacons: Staale Johnson, Christ Thomsen, one year; B. Ramsland and A. J. Johnson, two years; Amund Pederson, Aanen Johnson, three years. Trustees: Tobias Larson, N. Ostreneng, one year; Svend Johnson, Sakarias Engen, two years; Mathias Hanson, Jacob Olson, three years. Treasurer, N. Ostreneng, one year. Secretary, Christ Thomsen. Sexton, Sakarias Engen.

Of the charter members Rick Olson is the only surviving member.

The parsonage was built first to serve as a home for the pastor. The second story was to be used

for services and Sunday School until the church was completed. Religious school was held in the winter as the public school had fall and spring terms. The first pastors also served Taylor and Mandan.

The following pastors have served the Sims Skandinavian Evangelical Lutheran Congregation:

The Rev. O. J. Norby
 The Rev. T. K. Gaustad
 The Rev. G. N. Isolany
 The Rev. L. Breen
 The Rev. L. D. Dordal
 The Rev. H. D. Halvorson
 The Rev. T. H. Larson
 The Rev. J. Thornell
 The Rev. I. G. Monson
 The Rev. Lars Foss
 The Rev. Carl G. Nelson
 The Rev. Reider Haakenson
 The Rev. C. Brecto
 The Rev. C. J. Fylling
 The Rev. Norbert Jolivette

SIMS CHOIR

The first choir started about 1895 with Pete Peterson conducting and Mrs. Gaustad as organist. Mr. Peterson led the singing and choir for years. They did not always have a choir, but Pete would always arrange something for special occasions.

When Rev. Brecto came in 1937, he conducted a choir. For the past several years, Almont and Sims have had a joint choir with Mrs. Robert Atkinson as director. Last summer they divided the choirs. At present they have 22 members with Caroline Larson as director.



Sims Choir Front row—l to r—Iona Hoovestol (pianist), Mrs. Morris Christlanson, Mrs. Clarence Thor, Adeline Larson, Leona Monson, Caroline Larson (director), Wayne Jacobson. Back row—Clarence Jacobson, Eddie Willman, Linda Jacobson, Glenda Anderson, Rowan Wanstrom, Donavan Thiel, Mark Willman. Members not included in picture—Mrs. Mark Willman, Mr. and Mrs. Duane Johnson, Ray and LoAnn Olin, Bernice and Barbara Estrin, Bonnee Christianson, Jackie Larson.

Chase Chevrolet Inc.

For All Your Automotive Needs.
 Mandan, N. D.



Sims Ladies Aid

Front row, L to R—Mrs. Wayne Jacobson, Mrs. John Jacobson, Mrs. Theo. Ramsland, Mrs. Mary Gray, Mrs. Martin Willman, Mrs. Walter Timpe, Mrs. Clarence Jacobson. Back row—Miss Tillie Johnson, Mrs. Joseph Johnson, Miss Vendora Johnson, Mrs. Alvin Peterson, Mrs. Oscar Jacobson, Mrs. Andrew Johnson, Mrs. Tenius Ramsland.

SIMS SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sims Sunday School was organized about 1885 by Rev. O. J. Norby, who was the first regular pastor. As far as is known, the first teachers were Mrs. Underdahl, Pete Peterson, Rickert Olson, and Jonas Ims.

During the winter they held three months of Bible school in the various homes of the congregation with hired qualified teachers. Catechism classes were held at the same time as services, which were held about every third Sunday.

During these 71 years, Sims has had a Sunday School most of the time, teaching the children the love of our Lord and Savior. Willard Johnson was superintendent during the 40's. Last fall the Sunday School was reorganized with Mrs. Thorvald Larson as superintendent.

SIMS LADIES AID

The Ladies Aid of the Sims Evangelical church was organized in 1883 by a group of pioneer women. Charter members were Mrs. Pete Anderson, Mrs. Jacob Olson, Mrs. A. J. Johnson.

The history of the Aid is a story of long and faithful work by the members, inspired from the very beginning by love for God and zeal for His Kingdom on earth.

The hardships of pioneer days did not daunt these brave women.

Let us turn the pages of yesterday for a glimpse of pioneer aid days. The women came long distances to attend the meetings, us-

ing horses or often on foot, many times taking children with them and often carrying a babe in arms. They looked forward to these meetings when they could together learn more about God's Word, and unite in singing praises to Him. Prayer was a much used weapon in those days.

Annual suppers were served to the public and sales of articles made by the members were sold to the highest bidder for the purpose of raising funds to keep up the payments on the indebtedness of the

Church. When it seemed impossible to raise funds in this manner, the Aid voted to take offerings.

In 1944 the general federation of the church voted to simplify the work of many departments by combining them under five heads: Missions, Education, Charity, Life Membership and In Memoriam.

As we look back over the work accomplished through the years, we have reason to rejoice. The meetings are becoming Bible study periods and we notice more consecrated, Christian giving as we grow in fellowship with Christ and one another.

The Ladies Aid has contributed generously to various relief agencies sponsored by the Church as well as those in the community. We mention Lutheran World Action, and Clothing Drives for destitute countries.

In 1955 we honored four members with Life Membership: Mrs. Amanda Gray, Mrs. Minnie Olin, Mrs. Rachel Jacobson and Mrs. Helene Ramsland.

In 1956 five more were thus honored: Mrs. Andrew Johnson, Mrs. Joseph Johnson, Mrs. Martin Willman, Mrs. Oscar Jacobson and Mrs. Tenius Ramsland.

We trust that in the coming years each W.M.F. member may be drawn closer to her Lord and Saviour, and be a witness for Him in her personal life and testimony and that all may be done to God's glory and for the extension of His Kingdom on earth.



Sims Sunday School

Front row, L to R—Roderick Olin, Kathy Jacobson, Marjean Olin, Melton Olin. Back row—Caroline Larson, Linda Jacobson, and Mrs. Alton Olin. Some members were unable to be present.

C & S Food Center

Conitz and Schwenkendorf
New Salem, N. D.



Curlew Ladies Aid

Front row, L to R—Ida Christianson, Mrs. E. Reeff, Mrs. P. Thorson, Mrs. J. Olson, Mrs. Tobias Olson, Hilda Johnson, Mrs. Geo. Wanstrom. Second row—Mrs. Emma Ostby, Mrs. Nels Seim, Mrs. A. Anderson, Mrs. E. Wanstrom, Mrs. M. Christianson. Back row—Mrs. C. Anderson, Mrs. S. Thiel, Mrs. Tollef Christianson, Mrs. A. Hoovestol, Mrs. Eugene Thorson, Mrs. Oscar Monson, Mrs. Oliver Anderson, Mrs. Marvin Olson, Mrs. Johan Kilen.

CURLEW LADIES AID

Curlew Ladies' Aid, Sims Evangelical Lutheran Church, was organized in November, 1909 with Mrs. Jacob Olson, president and Mrs. Rick Olson, secretary and treasurer. The annual meetings were held jointly with Sims Aid until 1921 when the Curlew Aid held its annual meeting at the Benson school in Curlew. To alleviate the problem of transportation for this closely settled community, services were also held at the Benson school.

Through the life membership department of the Women's Missionary federation twenty six members have been honored. Mrs. Ole Halvorson and Mrs. Tobias Olson were the first to receive certificates in 1946, and Mrs. Pete Thorson and Mrs. Joe Olson were the first to

receive Life Membership pins in 1949.

The activities of the Aid include the missionary and benevolent work of the church. Boxes and gifts have been sent to Ardella Reetz, missionary in Pakistan, India.

The Aid members have worked cooperatively for the extension of God's Kingdom.

SIMS ALMONT LUTHERAN BROTHERHOOD

The Brotherhood was organized in 1953 of men from both congregations. It is an organization to "Bring Christ to Men and Men to Christ." Meetings are held the fourth Thursday of each month. The meeting consists of devotions, prayer, Bible study, films and discussions.

The Brotherhood has purchased a movie projector to be used by the churches. They are sponsoring Family Night and Youth recreation night. Indoor and outdoor games have been purchased for the young people's recreation night.



Rev. and Mrs. N. Jollivette and Family



Curlew Ladies Aid, 1941

Front row, L to R—Mrs. Andrew Torgerson, Mrs. Andrew Kilen, Mrs. Joe Olson, Mrs. Ella Smordahl. Back row—Hilda Johnson, Mrs. Tobias Olson, Mrs. P. Thorson, Mrs. Ed. Christianson, Mrs. Nels Seim, Mrs. Geo. Wanstrom, Mrs. B. T. Olson.



Sims-Almont Lutheran Brotherhood Front row—l to r—Henry Fehring, Marvin Olson, Joel Johnson, Donald McDowall, Everett Olson. Back row—Axel Hoovestol, Norman Kilen, Harry Jacobson, Jake Larson, Sig Peterson, Roman Peterson, Clarence Jacobson, Harvey Thorson.

Morris Service

Morris Christianson
Almont, N. D.

Almont's Foreign Missionaries



Mr. and Mrs. Earl Erickson and Family

Laura Reetz Erickson

Laura Reetz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Reetz, was born April 7, 1919. In her early years she was influenced to be obedient to God's will and accepted Christ. Her mother passed away when Laura was nine years old. From then on she mothered her three younger sisters and two brothers. An infant sister Betty was cared for by relatives in Hebron. After graduating from Almont high school, she attended the Lutheran Bible Institute in Seattle, Wash.

In 1947 she married Earl Erickson of Seattle, who studied for the ministry there. He finished his course at Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minn. where he was ordained in 1935. The Ericksons have four children, Dorothy, Sonje, Luther and Christine.

In obedience to God's command "Go", the Erickson family left New York for Iraq in October, 1955 where they are serving as missionaries under the Lutheran Orient



Dr. and Mrs. J. B. Friberg

mission. They arrived at Mosul, Iraq in November and are now studying the Arabic language.

Her father, Mr. Reetz, has served the Lord in the Almont Lutheran church for many years as janitor and usher. Her brother, Delbert, and family live in Denver, where he too serves as a lay preacher. Another sister, Mrs. Elda Brinkman, lives in Almont and her youngest sister is Mrs. Geo. Knox, Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Miss Ardella Reetz

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Reetz near Almont, July 21, 1923, Ardella was next to the youngest of six children when her mother passed away in 1928.

She was kept in constant fellowship with God and His teachings thru the influence of Christian friends and took a stand for Christ at an early age.

Ardella graduated from Almont high school in 1941 and from the Lutheran Bible Institute at Seattle, Wash. in 1947. Desiring to become a missionary nurse, she trained at Emmanuel Lutheran hospital, Portland, Ore., graduating in 1950.

After a period in Minneapolis, preparing for the Mission field, Ardella was commissioned to serve as missionary nurse in Pakistan, at an impressive and solemn service held at Almont Lutheran church, Dec. 9, 1951.

She left New York for Pakistan in March and arrived at Peshawar, April 26, 1952.

Ardella immediately studied and learned the Urdu and Pushtu languages and with her spiritual and medical knowledge continues to help many Pakistani people physically and to believe in Christ Jesus.

She is under the appointment of the World Mission prayer league and is not supported by any church or organization but receives her needs thru faith and prayer and gratefully accepts gifts of love

Dr. and Mrs. J. B. Friberg

Eileen Becklund, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. N. E. Becklund, was reared in Almont and early in life learned to know and love the Saviour. Wanting her life to count for the most possible, she entered nursing.

After completing her training at the Minnesota University Hospitals



Ardella Reetz and Pakistani Children

she was married to Dr. J. B. Friberg in 1941. They were called by the Mission Board of the Augustana Lutheran Church to go as missionaries to East Africa.

Stationed at Kiomboi Hospital in Tanganyika Territory, Dr. Friberg did much by the use of medicine and his surgeon's knife to alleviate suffering among the natives. He often made the comparison that once he had cut through the dark skin of the African, he was exactly like a white man.

Mrs. Friberg assisted in teaching the women and girls to sew and care for their families properly, meanwhile making use of every opportunity to spread the Gospel among the natives. They found them very receptive to their message of sin and salvation.

During their second term Mrs. Friberg became ill with a severe type of malaria, and the family was forced to return to the United States. They cherish the hope of some day returning to Africa.

Marian Kelsven

Marian Kelsven, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Kelsven gave her heart to the Lord as a child of 10 one night in her home. She joined the Wesleyan Methodist church the



Marian Kelsven

Thompson & Harper

Almont, N. D.

Pastors' Wives



Anna Pederson Gunnarson

next year. Hoping to be a music teacher, she studied piano for 8 years. During one of her biology classes in Almont High she felt led to become a nurse. She took her training at Marion College and Methodist School of Nursing in Indiana, and received her degree from Seattle Pacific college.

The Lord had led one step at a time, for both her musical and nurse's training were needed in the Wesleyan Methodist mission at Medellin, Colombia, South America, and its village stations. With no resident mission doctor, she was on emergency call much of the time.

Her love for her Lord and the people made her loved by them and she saw a number won to the Lord, even under severe persecution. A bad case of malaria required her return home near the end of her term. She hopes to return to South America, and is now nursing in Portland, Oregon and active in the church there.

Kathleen Kelsven Edwards

Kathleen Kelsven, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Kelsven, yielded her life to Christ as a girl, during special meetings in the Wesleyan Methodist church. She was active in her local church, especially in the work among young people.



Mrs. Kathleen Kelsven Edwards

After receiving training at Miltonvale Wesleyan college she taught school a few years and then was a pastor of a church in Portland, Oregon, and secretary of the Oregon conference for some time. In 1952 she married Rev. Burdette Edwards and they are now pioneer pastors of the young Wesleyan Methodist church in Seattle, Washington.

Anna Pederson Gunnarson

Anna Pederson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Pederson, moved to Sims in 1885 when 15 years old. At the age of 20 she married Rev. Theo. Gunnarson and made her home at Veblen, South Dakota. Rev. Gunnarson served as Pastor there for over 45 years. He served 12 different parishes at one time, preaching as many as four sermons a Sunday.

They had 11 children, all still living. Since Rev. Gunnarson's death in 1930, she has made her home with her children. At present she is at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Solberg (Andrea) in Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Marjorie Olin Downes

Marjorie Olin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. August Olin, came to Christ during special meeting in the Wesleyan Methodist church while attending Almont high school. She later attended God's Bible School in Cincinnati. In 1943, she married Emerson Downes, a ministerial student there.

They have had Free Methodist pastorates in Michigan and Indiana. At present they serve at Red Key, Indiana. Marjorie counts it a privilege to share the news of a loving Savior with others.

Gwen Ann Trovik Whitney

Gwen Ann Trovik, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Trovik, was saved while in the upper grades during special meetings in the Wesleyan Methodist church. She put the Lord first in her life. She helped in the Sunday school work and as pianist.

In Dec. 1952 she married Rex Whitney, a Miltonvale College classmate. For three years she has taught school in Kansas while her



Mrs. Gwen Trovik Whitney

husband finished his college work and this first year in the pastorate. For over a year they and another couple had a Sunday radio program of sacred music. Their church is the New Hope Wesleyan Methodist church, near Concordia, Kansas.

(Continued from page 44)

so that if possible, there would be an unbroken chain of prayer throughout the day. This day of prayer is still being observed.

A Missionary reading course was introduced in 1948. A maximum of six books and a minimum of four and a study book were to be read each year. Certificates are issued at the close of each quadrennium.

As the work of the missionary program of the church has grown and expanded new offices and committees have been introduced.

Wesleyan Young People's Society

In 1918 an interdenominational society was organized known as the Young People's Christian society. Miss Florence Bjuge was



Mrs. Marjorie Olin Downes

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Almont Full-time Church Workers



Rev. Wilbert Staudenmaier

elected president of this large group.

A Wesleyan Methodist youth convention was held in the schoolhouse in August, 1929. During this convention the remaining amount in pledges was secured for beginning the erection of the Almont Wesleyan Methodist church. The next day a short sod-breaking service was held at the site of the church.

The Northwestern Youth district convention was held in the new church a few years later.

The purpose of this youth group has been to help the young people walk in the Christian faith with fervency and zeal. The present group has purchased a new sign for the church as a token of their love and appreciation.

Rev. Wilbert Staudenmaier
Wilbert Staudenmaier, son of



Mrs. Thelma Hyde Klingensmith

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Staudenmaier, came to the Almont community as a very young child when his parents took up their homestead on the Heart River about 1912. He took his first communion in the Almont parish in 1921 and was in his teens when the family left the homestead to give their children better educational advantages.

He was ordained in the priesthood some years later and is now a parish priest in Appleton, Wis. His last visit to Almont was in 1950, though he keeps in touch with many friends here through letters. A high point in his life was the visiting of the catacombs in Rome where the early Christian martyrs lived and held their meetings.

Agnes Staudenmaier

Agnes Staudenmaier, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Staudenmaier, came to the Almont community as a girl when her parents came as homesteaders on the Heart River. She was one of the oldest of a family of eight children. Not long after the family left for Wis. she entered training for the Catholic sisterhood. This year makes her Silver Jubilee, or 25 years as Sister Mary Simeon, O. P. She is now on the staff of the Holy Rosary Academy, Bay City, Mich.

The Staudenmaier family were a part of St. Leopold's Parish from its beginning.

Thelma Hyde Klingensmith

Thelma Hyde, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Hyde, found the Savior at the age of ten when Edith Bird and she read tracts sent by her mother to all Sunday school families. In 1930, she married Don Klingensmith, a Fletcher college classmate, then a Methodist pastor in N. D.

In 1936, the Woman's Home Missionary Board called them to be superintendents of their Ponca (Indian) Methodist mission in Okla, which included reservation and govt. institutional work. The Indian people gave them and their children, Joe and Eunice, a new appreciation of the Lord. They rejoiced to see young and old accept the "Jesus Way", the road to new life and abundant living.



Sister Mary Simeon, O.P.
(Agnes Staudenmaier)

Thelma Peterson Davidson

Thelma Peterson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Peterson, was converted at an early age and was much interested in missionary work as an Almont high school student. She first went to Kentucky when she was 16 years old and has been there as a missionary for about 20 years. She graduated from the Almont School and also from the Kentucky Mountain Bible institute at Mt. Carmel. She conducts Sunday schools, prayer meetings, and does visitation work.

In 1946 she was married to Peder Davidson. For many years they were stationed at Wheelrim Mission of the Wesleyan Methodist church. They are now at Waltersville, Kentucky. The mountainous country requires much walking, but they rejoice in bringing the message of Christ to the people in these mountains. Theirs is a Faith mission and gifts are gratefully received.



Mrs. Thelma Peterson Davidson

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