

§ Notes of Yesteryear §

As a project for the Bicentennial year (1976), I wrote a weekly column with the Almont News, for the New Salem Journal, entitled "Notes of Yesteryear." I researched old newspapers — The Bismarck Tribune, New Salem Journal, Mandan Pioneer Press, Almont Arena and Almont Advertiser — to find items of local interest for the column, which I wrote for two years. The following articles are from those columns.

JANUARY 24, 1908

Almont is a new town, located on the main line of the Northern Pacific Railway. It is growing rapidly, but there are still a few lines of business not represented. The territory tributary to Almont is being rapidly settled by progressive farmers. Anyone interested may have information desired by writing the Almont Commercial Club.

For good live news, from a good live town, in a live paper, read the New Salem Journal Almont Correspondence.

The Lutheran Colonization Co. telephone line to the Heart River has recently been repaired and telephone service has again been established.

The NWA will give a basket social and dance at the city hall on Friday evening, January 31. Everybody invited. Good order and good music.

A meeting of businessmen, an Almont Commercial Club was organized. The purpose of the club is to work in the interest of and so secure such industries and improve the town as possible. One of the first steps to be taken is to have a city well drilled and a movement has already been started to secure a drilling outfit. With the question of good water solved, work will be taken up in the way of securing industries such as a brick yard, creamery, roller mill and others that may be of benefit to the town.

John Olin of Sims was in Almont Monday afternoon. John says he is buying a trainload of cattle for eastern markets.

Bacon and Filkens have purchased two complete st-

eam outfits and will begin breaking their lands near Almont on a wholesale scale in the spring.

Hogan Anderson went to Seim, N. D., Tuesday morning in search of a bunch of horses that strayed away last fall. Mr. Anderson made the trip of 150 miles on horseback.

Steps have been taken to organize a creamery at Almont this spring. This enterprise has been advocated here for some time, but nothing has seemed to materialize up to this time.

It is intended now that the organization be perfected and work commenced at once, so that the supply of ice necessary can be laid in before warm weather sets in.

Feb. 1908 — At the regular meeting of the Commercial Club Tuesday evening, the subject of discussion was fire protection. While Almont is hardly able to provide a first class water system, it is very essential that some sort of protection be provided, and a committee was appointed to learn something about the advisability of purchasing either a chemical engine or a gasoline engine.

About 50 teams are at work hauling rock for a shipment to Bismarck for government work along the Missouri River. We understand that about 9000 yards will be shipped from this area.

Feb. 21, 1908 — At a meeting of the Almont Creamery Assn., held in the town hall last Thursday afternoon, the following officers were elected: Pres. Hogan Anderson; V. Pres. B. Schmitz; Sec E. M. Willman; Treas. N. E. Beck-

lund; directors J. Held, Richard Olson and Christ Kaelberer. A conditional contract was made with the Creamery Package Co. for machinery and steps were taken to obtain a site for the erection of the plant.

Feb. 28 — One of the most delightful social events of the winter was a party given at the August Timmerman home in Sims last Sunday for the young people of Almont and Sims. Luncheon was served at noon, after which the afternoon was spent playing whist, parlor pool and other interesting games. After dinner, music, literary games and contests furnished amusement. Among those present were Karen Jacobson, Christine Nelson, Lena Pederson, Mary Minton, Hattie Goff, Ann Johnson, Cicilia Jacobson, H. S. Goff, N. E. Becklund, John Frey, Roy and John Davenport, J. C. Johnson, Adolph Nelson, Severen Jacobson, Jonathan Pederson and G. H. Anderson. Mr. and Mrs. Timmerman are royal entertainers and the young people of Almont will long remember the good times enjoyed at the home on this and other occasions.

In 1908 the New Salem Journal carried news columns from the following communities: Almont, Sims, Lark, Sweet Briar, Little Heart, Blue Grass, Dog Tooth, Judson, Carson, DeVaul, Flasher, Carl, Devils Den, Cedar, Valley Forge, Fleak, Jack's Lookout, Paradise, Pretty Rock Noel, Howe, Pearce, Esther, Three Buttes, Diamond, Youngtown, Valley View, Stebins, Wade, Rosebud, Strain and Miner. These were communities in Morton County,

which at that time included Grant County. here were also news columns from Krem, Cambridge, Hub, Hazen, Stanton and Mannhaven in Mercer County and Fairview, Center, Pinto, Nisbit and Alplin in Oliver County. However these columns did not appear in every issue. Edward Sullivan was the editor and publisher and the subscription rate was \$1 a year.

The Almont Arena, a newspaper published in Almont for 5 years, was edited and published by Ray L. Lindner. The subscription price was \$1.50 a year.

The first issue, published December 21, 1910, carried advertisements and wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the following business firms in Almont:

C. H. Chase Lumber Co., E. W. Hyde, Mgr.; Farmers State Bank; City Meat Market, J. N. Scharff, Mgr.; Mandan Mercantile Co., machinery and building material, C. P. Bergland, Mgr.; E. E. Templeton, Realtor and Insurance; Almont Pharmacy, J. W. Hurley, Prop., P. L. Stanton Pharmacist; The First State Bank of Almont; J. Nelson and Sons, Hardware

Merchants Hotel, A. L. Clark, Mgr.; G.G. St Clair, Physician and Surgeon; Ellingson Store, O. C. Ellingson, prop.; Livery, Sale and Feed Stable, Stage lines, B. C. Bird, Prop.; Thomas Miller, Blacksmithing and Horseshoing; Fred Holritz and Sons, General Merchandise; C. A. Knutson and Co., Groceries, dry goods and hardware; August Timmerman, groceries and dry goods; The Palace Cafe, Weaver and Smith, proprietors; G. G. Chamberlain, Blacksmithing; Frank Todt, barber; J. R. Sherwood, Hardware; and E. E. Templeton, Auctioneer.

Jan. 31, 1908 — N. E. Becklund, John Fry, E. E. Templeton and G. H. Anderson, four of Almont's bachelors entertained in the city hall last Saturday evening. The first part of the evening was devoted to progressive whist, the prize winners being Roy Davenport and Christine Nelson and Carl Joersz and Lena Doelke won the booby prize. At midnight lunch was served at the Almont Cafe, after

which several hours were spent in dancing.

Feb. 7, 1908 — The old school house at Sims was sold at public auction to E. Morrelle last Monday. The building will be torn down and removed. The removal of this building marks the passing of one of the old landmarks of what was once a rustling little mining village. The school house at the time it was built was probably the finest building of it's kind in the western part of the state.

March 20, 1908 — The first election in Almont was held Tuesday at the school house. There was only one ticket in the field and the only question of any importance was the vote on building a jail in Almont. This was carried by a big vote.

April 13, 1908 — Five car loads of emigrant movables were unloaded in Almont this week.

On Saturday, April 4, Almont will have her first public market day. At present, the list of articles offered for sale is a very large one and by the time set for the sale there will be enough stuff for sale to satisfy everyone. These market days have proven very popular in other places and indications are that the result will be the same in Almont.

Hans Jensen, living 6 miles south of town was injured in a runaway Sunday.

April 2, 1908 — O. B. Adams closed a deal last week for a lot upon which he expects to build a new hotel this spring. We understand that the hotel will be a 2-story building, have plenty of rooms and is to be modern in every respect.

May 15, 1908 — The annual building boom has commenced in Almont again. Among those who are at present building are Mr. Gillis of New Salem who is erecting a business block. W. Hurley is building a store building, and there are several residences to be built in the near future.

June 19, 1908 — The Almont Creamery was opened for business Wednesday morning. The patronage from the first is very good and is reported as increasing steadily. There is now no doubt but

that the enterprise will be a paying one both for the customers and the community.

July 31, 1908-Sims News

Our town has increased in population about 300 the last week as we have four crews of Italians at work raising track.

Sept. 18-S. P. Weekes shipped seven cars of cattle Friday to the Chicago market. His son in law, Cha. Weibke, accompanied him. Amund Johnson also shipped several cars of choice beef steers Friday.

George Ims, who has been acting as veterinarian at the Timmerman Ranch, came to spend Sunday with his folks.

Nov. 20 (Sims News) John Jacobson purchased the house and lots owned by Mrs. J. Wadson, located just south of town. Mr. Jacobson has already established his residence there and has been busy all week in making some needed improvements.

Nov. 27 (Sims News) Religious services were interrupted again last Sunday evening by persons who apparently have made every possible effort in the last few months to become public nuisances. It is time that such practices are stopped. We can respect, to a certain extent, the man who can take liquor and attend to his own business at the same time; that is his business and privilege. But there should be no respect for the man who makes his bottle an excuse for breaking in with disorder on every public function in his community. Such a man has no place in society until he has been taught to respect the law, and surely there is a law to cover such instances.

Dec. 18 (Sims News) Tenius Thompson was badly hurt in an accident in Feland's mine the later part of last week. Just after he had lit the fuse of a blast of dynamite, the light went out in the chamber in which he was working and he was unable to find the exit. He called for help, and Joe Schollaert crawled in on hands and knees, and just as he entered, the blast exploded. Thompson was buried by the coal and received severe injuries in his side, while Schollaert was hit by a piece of coal, breaking his arm. Both are doing nicely and consider themselves lucky that it proved not worse.

May 7, 1909 - Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Stoeckel of Watertown, S. D. have moved to Almont and are nicely located over the Farmer State Bank. Mr. Stoeckel is employed at C. H. Chase and Co. Lumber Yard at this place.

Frant X. Todt's new barber shop is nearing completion. We expect it to be ready for the fall rush.

May 14, 1909 - The Almont Baseball Club organized here last Tuesday with the following officers: Dr. J. M. Mc.Gibbons, Mgr., Neil Gillis, capt. We are now looking for a game with New York, Chicago, Cleveland or any other city of the same class. Come on boys, we will play anything that can swing a bat.

June 11, 1909 - This section has been deeply moved by the sad accident which occurred last Wednesday evening at Lids-trom's crossing on the Heart River. Drowned were Frank Carter, 29 year old Carson mercantile businessman, and Miss Cecil Anderson, 18 year old school teacher, sister of Mrs. G. H. Anderson. They were returning to Carson with a four horse team on a triple box, heavily loaded with groceries loaded in Almont. High water swept horses, wagon, and all down stream. Carter's body was found 3 miles downstream and Miss Anderson's 9 miles. Two men riding along managed to reach shore. The entire community is plunged in gloom by the awful accident.

July 9, 1909 - It is reported that the Milwaukee railroad has started grading on their line in the southern part of the county. The Almont-Carson telephone line is now complete and is working fine and it does seem good to think that we are now able to talk to our neighbors at any time we have business with them.

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

Henry Wallace was appointed Marshall by Sims Township yesterday for the Village of

Almont for the rest of the year at a salary of \$65. a month. There being so many strangers, laborers and other class of men in town at the present time, it was necessary to have somebody to look after the town's interest while the rest are asleep. Mr. Wallace will Assist Deputy Sheriff Ben Bird.

The market report shown for Sept. 11, 1908 was: No. 1 wheat, 85 cents; flax \$1.07. oats, 35 cents; barley, 45 cents; bran \$21.00 per ton; shorts, \$22.00 per ton; flour \$3.10 per cwt; live hogs, 4 to 5 cents; dressed beef, \$7.50 per cwt.

Jan. 9, 1909 - Almont is going to have a new restaurant and James Bateman will be it proprietor.

Sept. 3, 1909 - While a laborer, by the name of Will Runge was tearing down an old granary for Herman Bethke, 14 miles south of New Salem, it caved to one side, while he was under the sod roof and killed him. Mr. Bethke was not at home but his wife heard it fall and found him under the timbers and sod. He was evidently killed instantly. He had started to work at this place only that morning, having been brought there from Almont where he had been robbed of his money a couple night's previous. He was 44 years old - from Wisconsin.

March 5, 1909 - The Heart River Lumber Co. sold their Almont holds to C. H. Chase Lumber Co. and the Mandan Mercantile Co. each taking half of the stock.

The Red Star Restaurant, which recently opened up with J. R. Bateman as proprietor, is doing a nice business.

March 19, 1909 - Immigrants are beginning to drop into Almont. Prospects are that Morton County will have a very heavy immigration as many are coming that bought and took up land during last year and the past winter. Plenty of room. We welcome all newcomers.

April 2 1909 - Sims - We understand that there is to be a debate at Almont on April 17; Socialism vs Republicanism. It looks as if the new Socialist Club is striking pay dirt; at least they are making people take notice.

Attorney Hiram Goff of Almont was seen spinning through town Tuesday in his touring car.

January 4, 1911 - (taken from Almont Arena) Bids will be received by the Almont Co-op Creamery Assn. until noon on Jan. 7 for the filling and packing of their ice house at Almont. Bids will be received either by the job or ton. Ice house to be well filled.

Jan.-28, 1911 - Robert Bird, Carl Sherwood and John Gillis have tried their hands at herding typlice and mixing ink in the Arena office of late. They will make a-one printers in the future.

Feb. 4, 1911 - There is considerable rivalry among the men who are hauling coal as to which shall haul the largest load. The record at the time stands at 7980 for Cornelius Knutson who brought the load to town Saturday last.

April 22, 1911 - G. H. Anderson was appointed U. S. Commissioner for the Bismarck Land Office by U. S. District Judge Amidon. This gives the homesteaders the convenience of making final proof locally.

June 10, 1911 - Oscar Thorson, Ben Olsen and P. R. Peterson went out to Joe Pederson's place Tuesday to assist finishing up his new residence. It is reported that wedding bells will soon be ringing.

May 6, 1911 - An event which comes seldom to the people of Almont was that of an old time drive of cattle passing through the country south of town. There were over 1500 head of Hereford cattle being driven from a ranch on the Knife River to the diminished Standing Rock Reservation in the southern part of the state. Many of the townsmen went to see the herd and several secured some very good pictures of the herd.

July 8, 1911 - Almont got a permanent doctor in the person of Dr. W. T. Cain. He purchased the Almont Pharmacy and will hereafter remain here permanently.

Almont takes the lead in butter test. Butter maker Louis Larsen is to be commended for his quality butter. It teated 93½ the highest score made.

July 15, 1911 - Rickart Olson's new barn burned last Friday night; cause of fire was lightening.

ing. He also lost about 100 chickens and a number of sets of harness. The barn, 60 ft. square, had just been put up last spring, costing \$1200.00

Dec. 23, 1911 - Sims Side-lights, The stork flew over town last Saturday night and as a result, Mr. and Mrs. John Jacobson are the happy recipients of a new baby boy. We have not seen Mr. Jacobson since the eventful night but it is safe to say he is wearing a broad smile. (The baby referred to was Dr. Leon Jacobson.)

Adv. - Merchants Hotel - rates \$2 a day. Auto Livery, feed barn in connection, clean warm rooms, A. L. Clark Mgr. Almont, N. D.

July 24, 1911 - On this day Ray Lidner, editor and publisher of the Almont Arena, has deposited \$10 in gold to be given to the one who collects the most number of subscriptions to the Almont Arena, from this date to 31st of August. N. E. Becklund cashier, Farmers State Bank, Almont.

On Monday morning John Johnson's team hitched to a buggy ran away; No. 8 had frightened them. Mr. Johnson was unhitching them at G G Chamberlain's blacksmith shop when the team took off down a side street, thence down main street, through a fence and into a pasture, here they became detached from the buggy and the horses stood around looking wise. Lawrence Nelson proved the hero of the day and captured the animals in due season.

Sept. 23, 1911 - I have received a few pattern hats and more are on the way. Also have children's caps, childrens hoods, Tam-o-shanters, auto hoods and hats. Call in and look them over at Mrs. Nellie Lauzon's, opposite the Post Office. Also good dressmaking done.

Axel Hansen purchased some seed flax last spring at Mandan which proved to be nothing but good weed seed. Moral: Trade at home for the best goods.

Jan. 6, 1912 - Lawrence Nelson has opened a pool room in the building south of the Post Office and you are invited to call and spend your unoccupied time in a social game of pool. Coffee, tea, soup, pie, doughnuts, cinnamon rolls, and egg, cheese, peanut and hamburger sand-

wiches served at the West End Lunch Room - Mrs. T. Barnard, Prop.

Jan. 27, 1912 - Joe Pederson and new wife were Almont shoppers Monday of this week. Joe is happy as a "loo-loo" bird.

The fact has been called to our attention that a few people(?), rather than take the Arena, borrow it from their neighbors. Don't bother your neighbor, he might need the Arena for shelf paper. Just step in each week and if you are short of money, take a paper for the "poor box", which is open to all comers.

Feb 3 - The Farmers Club have decided to hold a masquerade ball on St. Valentine's Day.

Feb. 14, suits are for rent at the Almont Pharmacy and a good supper will be served at the Merchant's Hotel. Good music has been secured for the occasion and a good time is assured. Come! Prizes to be given to the best dressed lady, best dressed gent, best lady dancer, best gent dancer, most comical dressed lady and most comical dressed gent.

March 2, 1912 - Will be Market Day in Almont. Farmers bring in anything you wish to sell from a dozen clothes pins to a threshing machine. Each of the merchants will sell one article at cost.

Sims- July 25, 1912 - Heavy wind, 2.3 inches of rain in 1/2 hour, and hail caused much damage. Eight freight cars on the Feland spur were blown into the main line and a west bound freight hit head on the eight cars. Engine and four cars from oncoming freight went into the ditch. No one hurt.

July 20, 1912 - Travelers from all sections who make states adjacent to North Dakota, state this state is far in the lead of the others in the grain situation this year, and not withstanding a few local drawbacks and hailstorms, the conditions are far better than for many years past.

To name a few who during this time made final 5 year Homestead proofs with the U. S. Commissioner, G. H. Anderson were: Elias Amandus Latson, Tobial E. Larson, Anna Larson, Gustav Kaelberer, Morton James, Olaf Fallgren, Hjalmer Anderson, Otto J. Olson, Anna

P. Compton, Karen Jacobsen, George Peck, Carl G. Thor, Jens Neilsen, Pauline Christianson.

August 31 - Sunday afternoon the people of Almont were shocked to see an apparently dead man lying in the middle of main street. A crowd quickly gathered and the young man was picked up. After working on the fellow the people were pleased to note returning consciousness. When the first thrill of the excitement was past, it was learned that the man was from New Salem and had imbibed too freely with joywater, and then had tried to ride a frisky bronco which objected to the spur and bucked the rider off and stunned him.

Sept. 14, 1912 - (from the Almont Arena) Almont farmers are getting more grain per acre than any other sector of the slope. Matt Wohlman's oats yielded 104 bu. per acre; John Fallgren's oats 103 1/2 bu. per acre. Weights tested by disinterested parties, Fallgren's barley gave 63 bu. per acre. John Scharff's wheat, 33 bu. per acre. Smallest yield reported was wheat 18 bu. per acre.

November 2 - Ads: Apples - \$1.50 per box, C. A. Knutson and Co. Almont. Dance, best and biggest of the season. Friday, Nov. 15 at Big Hall Almont. Music by Wang and Allen. E. E. Erb, Floor Manager Tickets \$.75

The Almont Arena was now cut to four pages with the subscription rate \$1.00

January 18, 1913 - Joe Pederson one of Almont's up to date and progressive farmers, who believes in diversified farming, brought to town three hogs, the first part of last week and sold them for \$73.64. Those hogs represent the products of farming and the student farmer is developing these side lines.

April 12, 1913 - The builders of the fine streets in Almont were greatly pleased with the encomiums heaped upon them by the people, in fact the streets speak for themselves and present as fine an appearance of a newly plowed field as it is possible to find.

April 19 - The Almont tennis club has had the court put in excellent shape and will soon be ready to take on all players in

the amateur class.

June 28 - Jens Nelson, who went to Dickinson to attend the Alfalfa Day, surprised a number of his friends by driving home a new Metz car.

July 19, 1913 - A business deal recently consummated was the taking of E. E. Templeton into the firm of J. Nelson and Son. The new firm style has not as yet been made public.

August 2 - Almont had a big fire Monday, Fire started in the barn at the rear of the Merchants Hotel and threatened for a time to wipe Almont off the map. The locals, though scorched by flame, nearly suffocated and blinded by smoke, fought on until the fire was out of danger. The women and girls aided in carrying water. Those treated by Dr. Gaebe for burns were C. E. Kelsven, N. E. Becklund, and E. E. Templeton. Damage was estimated at \$1200 for the barn, \$800 to the Holritz Store managed by C. E. Kelsven. Damage to Merchants Hotel and Pippen's household effects are estimated at \$500.

Judson Jottings - It is not an infrequent sight to see a number of people from this place going to Almont to trade on account of better opportunities to trade profitably at that place.

August 9 - Dr. A. O. Henderson of Mandan, doctor of Chiropractic, arrived in Almont Tuesday and made arrangements for office room at the Merchants Hotel and will be here Tuesday of each week.

February 22, 1913 - Chas. Hoeger carries off the palm for commencing spring work. Last week, during the fine warm days, he spent one whole day harrowing his fall plowed land. No trouble was experienced on account of frost, he reported.

Up to date, nothing has been positively learned as to the identity of the parties who entered the depot during the night last week and annexed two cases of beer. The report is current that a skeleton key was used to gain admission to the waiting room. Question, "Who has a key of that Description?"

Full page advertisement: BIG HORSE SALE - AT BLUFF DALE FARM - March 11, 1913, 40 Horses - Light and heavy draft and driving mares and

geldings. 2 Percheron Stallions. Auctioneer E. E. Erb. Clerk G. H. Anderson.

March 22 - The largest crowd that has attended any sale in this section of the country was at the Joe Pederson sale last Tuesday. The people came for many miles to be present and consequently the sale was one unqualified success and the credit for the same is given the Arena by Mr. Pederson.

Ad: Dance, April 1 - As this is an April Fools dance, everyone is supposed to spring a joke on someothers. Everyone who attends will be fined to the "foolest" extent of the unwritten law for acting any other way than foolish. Anyone exhibiting any symptoms of sanity will be quarantined and a recurrence of same will cause expulsion from the club. L. Nelson, Chief attendant, Dippy House, D. Forsblad, Hallucination dispenser.

July 3, 1914 (from New Salem Journal). A heavy 4 inch rain washed over a mile of NPPR track at Curlew last Friday. A concrete and steel bridge at Sweet Briar fell to the bottom of Sweet Briar Creek and about a mile of stone road bed swept away. Rail service was out for four days. Judson, New Salem, Sims and Almont had no mail service during this time.

August 16, 1913 - E. E. Templeton resigned as Postmaster. Candidates for the office are: C. A. Knutson, O. C. Ellingson, A. Timmermann, J. R. Sherwood and C. E. Kelsven.

August 30 - Sheriff Charles McDonald, his deputy Gabe Eckroth and States Attorney Bitzing, motored to Almont Wednesday and raided the Blind Pig, but the sty was empty and the alledged keeper of the place had literally taken to the tall grass for a number of townsmen saw him disappear over the banks of the Muddy Creek. The man sought was Charles Ellsworth.

Sept. 6 - H. G. Timpe has a new Minneapolis separator and is crowding the golden grain through as fast as he can during the nice weather.

Sept. 13 - The new Editor of the Arena will be Mr. Emil Wiedenmeyer, starting with this issue. Sims is importing lignite coal for the first time in its

history.

Sept. 20 - August Timmerman has recently installed a wagon scale in front of his main street store. John Galouner did the work. (The scale was moved from the Timmerman store at Sims.)

Sept. 27 - Bring your best girl, if she will not come, bring some other fellow's girl to the dance Saturday night, Oct. 4. Save the Bunny hug and the Almont Amble at the dance for Sam—he wants 'em both.

Nov. 8 - Sims - Now that the new Northern Pacific Dam is finished and filled with water, the young folks of Sims are assured of good skating this winter.

Nov. 15 - The Post Office question is still a matter of doubt as to whom the plum will fall. C. E. Kelsven has the highest standing in the examination, A. Timmerman the longest list of names on his petition and C. A. Knutson has the largest number of democrat names on his list.

Almont gets nice new white board crosswalks.

Dec. 13 - The Post Office was turned over to C. A. Knutson on Monday of this week.

May 9, 1913— Uncle Sam makes it possible to send a package C.O.D.

July 11, 1913 — J.W. Hensleigh, Teacher in Heart River School District, sued the district for \$40, which he claimed he had coming for janitor work. His contract read \$50 per month for a four month term. He altered it by adding \$10 per month for janitor work. In Almont Justice Court, Hensleigh won, but when appealed to County Court, the judge ruled in favor of the board, saying he had no contract as long as he had altered it.

Sept. 26, 1913—The funeral of Emil M. Willman of Sims was held in the Norwegian Church of Sims Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, Rev. Brans officiating. There were more than 100 teams bringing people to the funeral.

Mr. Willman was taken sick while attending to his duties as Deputy County Supt. of Schools out in the Haymarsh and Blue Grass territory. He passed away that evening in Bismarck Hospi-

tal. He was about 35 years old. A graduate of Decorah College and had some schooling at Moorhead Normal. He taught school in the Sims area where he married Miss Olivia Feland, She and five children survive.

March 6, 1914—(New Salem Journal) A serious accident which came near ending fatally, occurred in Sims Tuesday. James Jacobson's horse slipped on the ice throwing James violently to the frozen ground. He was unable to free himself from the saddle on account of his spurs being caught. Luckily a spur strap broke freeing him. He suffered a broken collarbone, lacerations and was badly shaken.

April 25 - Tuesday afternoon Hogan Anderson's three children, while driving home from school, were thrown from their wagon and quite badly hurt when the horse, frightened by an automobile, ran away and demolished the rig. One of the children was hurt about the head and for several hours was in a comatose condition.

Tobias Olson advertizes an auction sale for Wednesday, April 22. Livestock, machinery, household goods and miscellaneous articles. John Olin, auctioneer. C. F. Kellog, clerk.

Almont - Andrew Knutson has installed a big pump and gas engine on his farm south of town for irrigation.

Ben C. Bird announces his candidacy for sheriff of Morton County.

June 19 -

The Farmers Union will hold a program at Almont June 30, 1914. The program will include an address, ball game between the fats and leans, Bronc riding, foot races, rope pulling contest, pie eating contest, potato and sack races.

The last few issues of the Weekly Arena, with the final edition June 19, 1914, were edited by Edward R. Kruger of New Salem.

Nov. 12—Grant County men contest the election charging that the election board of Winger Township was intoxicated and made false returns. They turned in a vote of 49-0 against division.

Fred Hoeger, two and a half miles southeast of Almont was forced to move out on account of high water. Eleven bridges washed out in Sims township.

The Hogan family, two miles west, was forced to seek shelter at a neighbor Saturday and Sunday. At the Rick Olson farm, the pig pen and pigs were carried away. The boys pulled off their clothes and went in after them, saving all but two little ones.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Hoeger and children secured shelter at the Carl Schndel home.

Sims News— Wilhelm Ellingson is back from Norway after spending about a year there. He says Norway is alright as a place to visit but it is almost impossible for a man to live there after spending several years in America and especially in that part of the United States known as North Dakota.

July 24, 1914—Quite a bit of building is going on in the Almont area. Some projects include: Otto Feland, large machine shed; John Sibla, house; Christ Bahr, house addition; John Fallgren, hen house; Cyphass Doll, house addition; Oscar Olin, large barn; W. W. Bond, raising house addition; Roy Cunningham, house addition; John Thompson, machine shed.

The Farniers State Bank sold 3320 acres of land this side of the Heart River to Minnesota buyers.

Dec. 11 - A grand ball will be given in the Almont Opera House tomorrow evening. Music is to be furnished by Walkers four piece orchestra of New Salem.

August 7, 1914—Every corner of Morton County mourns the death of C. L. Timmerman. He passed away last Saturday after a year's illness of Bright's Disease. Born in Bremerhaven, Germany in 1860, he came to North Dakota in 1883 and started a store in Sims in 1889. He had two large ranches, one at Center and the Dogtooth Ranch near Raleigh. He helped start the Hannover Creamery Co., of which he was president and the Blue Grass Creamery. In 1894 he entered the banking field and helped establish banks

in Mandan, New Salem, Hebron, Glen Ullin, Center, Richardton, Flasher, Elgin and Golden Valley and supervised all of them. His hand was behind every move for public betterment and his advice was always sought. His funeral was from the Presbyterian Church and remains placed in the Union Cemetery in Mandan. His brother, August was his chief beneficiary. To the Mandan Library was given the felt banner from the first Morton County Fair. Certain relics to go to the North Dakota Historical Society and Indian relics to the Mandan High School as a nucleus for a museum. (We recently learned that the town of Timmer was named after C. L. Timmerman)

Sims news—August 7, J. F. Johnson has purchased a new King 36 HP auto. It is believed to be the most powerful auto in these parts.

Sept. 4—J. F. Johnson, C. R. Wright, Thos. Gray and Willie Johnson were going home from New Salem in Johnson's new high powered King auto, when the lights went out, the car went over a 30 foot embankment, jumped a gully and overturned. Wright got thrown free but the other three were pinned under the vehicle which though upside down, was still running, Wright managed to lift the car so the others could crawl out. None were seriously hurt. Johnson was able to drive the car to town for repairs the next day.

Thos Gray says that his third crop of alfalfa is about ready to cut which proves that this crop can be successfully raised in North Dakota.

Nov. 5, 1914—An attempt to split Morton County into three counties, Morton, Beaver and Grant, was defeated.

Jan. 8, 1915 - Heart River News, There never was a more prosperous time on the Heart River than now. The cigar factory is running night and day and way behind with orders. The Rose Dale farm has started a packing house and are killing hogs and cattle. You can get beef or pork by the pound or ton there.

Feb. 12 - The MIKO is the best kind of a 5c smoke and the

10c King is the smoker's ideal cigar. Made by Geo. D. Graham, Almont N. D.

March 15, 1915 - Auctioneer E.E. Erb has traded his farm to J.R. Sherwood for the Almont Hotel building. Mr. Sherwood will move into the Erb farm and Mr. Erb will open the hotel about April 1.

Almont looks bad since the fire of last Friday night which completely destroyed the Timmerman Store, the Ben Bird Pool Hall. Frank Todt's barber shop and the Oliver Pippen Pool Hall. The fire started in the store building, cause unknown. C. B. Collins of Minneapolis had recently purchased the store; he says he plans to rebuild. Wells were pumped dry and a bucket brigade from the creek checked the spreading. New Salem fire fighters came in on train No. 1.

March 26 - The Kensington Klub will serve a supper April 3 at the Almont Hall and after the supper will have a sale of miscellaneous articles prepared and donated by friends. The proceeds are to be used for purchasing fire fighting apparatus. Everybody is most cordially invited. Supper served at 6 o'clock. Lots of good things. E. E. Erb, the general auctioneer who just bought the hotel, intends to feed the weary on sausage. He is buying up dogs now.

Nov. 12, 1915 - John Van Allen, the watch lifter and famous in Almont as a jail breaker, was located in Fort Yates, Mont. He made his get-a-way by digging his way through a two foot stone wall in the local jail and got onto a west bound freight train. The sheriff brought him from Montana and placed him in the Morton County jail. He had stolen a watch from G. G. Chamberlain.

May 21, 1915 - The following in the Almont area recently made proof on their homesteads, John Parkins (former, N. P. passenger brakeman), Adam Geise, Sophia E. Pederson, Nels Erlandson and Chris Bahr.

June 4, 1915 - Carl Ritz, living south of New Salem, in one of the best, and which will be in time, one of the wealthiest communities in the state of N. D. has let

contract to Robert Hoffman for a \$6,000.00 house. In size it will be 26X44 with 20 foot posts, it will have 5 rooms downstairs and three upstairs with bath, 20 inch stone wall and full basement with concrete floor. The finish will be fir with hardwood floors. To make it up to date and modern, it will have hot water heat and will be electric lighted. It will be one of the finest residences in Morton County. (Carl Ritz was the father of Claude Ritz).

July 18, 1915 - H. Mitzman, formerly of Worms is opening up a store in the old Hurley Drug Store building. He expects to be ready for business the later part of the month.

July 22 - A hail storm caused great damage, every window in Almont had to be repaired. Hail stones were as big as apples. Chickens, hawks and rabbits were found dead, great damage to crops especially in Heart River area.

August 23 - S. Reinholdson, the jeweler, has rented the Arena building south of the bank and will open a jewelry store as soon as the building is repaired.

August 13 - O. C. Ellingson has accepted the agency for the Baldwin Piano Co. and received a shipment of sample instruments this week.

The Almont dray line has a new man in the person of Melvin Olson, driving the mail to Carl on the mail route. He succeeds John Olson.

Feb. 25, 1916 - The McDugall blacksmith shop will be practically complete this week with the exception of installing machinery.

March 3 - G. G. Chamberlain has purchased the lots formerly occupied by the John Frey and Timmerman Stores, together with the Timmerman Lumber sheds. Mr. Chamberlain expects to have the buildings remodeled and use them for storing buggies and wagons.

March 24 - G. Gunvaldson arrived Friday from Alberta, Minn., with his household goods and his butcher outfit of tools etc. Mr. Gunvaldson expects to open a meat market in Almont as soon as the building is completed.

March 24 - Tenius Ramsland, the new proprietor of the Merchants Hotel, is busy cleaning up the building, painting and putting in new floors; he expects to open for business the later part of the week. Mr. Ramsland will without a doubt, give Almont the best hotel service that it has ever had.

Oct. - After being in business only two month, Mr. Reinholson passed away and was buried in Sims Cemetery. Watches that were left for repair, can be secured at the Farmers State Bank.

Sims - The N.P.R.R. is building a couple buildings in Sims to accomodate the Maintainer and Helper in connection with the Automatic Block System which is being rushed to completion.

The Sunshine Club has bought a beautiful organ for the church basement. These little workers efforts are highly commended.

People are urged to buy U. S. Liberty Bonds.

June 9, 1916 - The Northern Pacific Railway is putting up a new up-to-date stock yard at Almont, with a capacity for 30 carloads of stock.

George Graham is making arrangements for having a building prepared for a cigar factory. He is putting out more cigars than any factory in the state and is 300,000 cigars behind on his orders at the present time. (Ed. note - The present city park was the site of the cigar factory).

C. G. Christiansen, while on his way to Almont Saturday, had an auto accident. He was speeding with his Chevrolet car at the rate of from 30-40 miles per hour when the car jumped the road and broke a wheel. Luckily the occupants of the car escaped injury.

June 16, 1916 - 518 vehicles are registered in Morton County.

July 4, 1916 - The New Salem Band was at Almont for the 4th of July celebration in the city. The celebration was a success in every way and was attended by a huge crowd. Almont saw more people and automobiles last week on the 4th than it had for many a day. There were 200 autos and 2000 outsiders to celebrate the day with the Almont people. The ball game

turned out 5 to 5 in favor of Judson. The celebration went off smoothly with no accidents and all had a good time. (Ed. note - We don't know how Judson won with a 5-5 score!).

Sept. 1916 - A public school opened Monday with Mrs. G. H. Anderson as principal and Miss Naomi Anderson of Brisbane in charge of the primary department. Total enrollment is 70 with 16 from outside the district.

Oct. 16 - Dr. Julia Keats, Almont's new physician, was in New Salem Monday evening.

Oct. 13 - Ben Bird was in Mandan last week with 10 head of running horses to take in the races at the fair.

Oct. 27 - Sims News - A Literary Society was organized in Sims School and the first program was last Friday. The chief number was a debate "Resolved that Woman's Suffrage Should be Adopted". Affirmative speakers were Lucille Olin and Anna Feland, while negative was defended by Erling Willman and Bjarne Peterson. Judges were Rev. Dordahl, C. L. Anderson and A. Holritz. The affirmative side won.

Nov. 1916 - Election on County Division (Ed note - Morton Co. at this date includes Grant County) Grant Proposal won with large majority, was sponsored by the Mandan people. Under this proposal, Morton County will have 47 townships and Grant approximately a like amount. The Washington Proposal, sponsored by the Heart River Farmers, with F. W. Mees secretary, would have given Morton 28 townships and Washington 69. The Lincoln Proposal would have divided Morton into three counties, Lincoln, Grant and Morton. Two previous elections had been held; one in 1912 (proposing split into 4 counties) and again in 1914 (Morton, Beaver, Grant) at which time all proposals lost.

Governor Hanna appointed Tom McDowall, Bill Wade and John Thompson as Grant County Commissioners.

Dec. 1 - Melvin Knutson hauling coal from the Knutson coal mine, went through quite an experience. While going down hill, the front end of the

box gave out spilling the coal on the horses and they started to run, upon hitting a rough spot, one wheel broke, and the wagon tipped with Melvin beneath. He managed to free himself though badly bruised, he suffered no broken bones.

Dec. 8 - Simon Johnson is the owner of a Dodge Roadster, there are now 9 automobiles in Sims.

Jan. 12 - Sims - At present two coal mines are operating in Sims area, one by Louis Severson and the other by P. H. Hoovestol.

The village of Almont made a good step forward when they ordered two chemical engines for fire protection for the city. The building next to the Farmers State Bank has been fixed up for housing them. It was a good move in the right way.

Drugs and medicines are kept at the O. C. Ellingson Store; Dr. Keats being druggist. Miss Borghild Peterson has accepted a position at the O. C. Ellingson Store and started to work there the fore part of the week.

Feb. 2 - Tom Gray, John Jacobson and John Larson have already put up ice for the summer.

Feb. 9 - The heavy business on the rail has made it necessary for the Northern Pacific to put on an extra pumper at Sims. The pump is running almost continuously night and day. R. T. Hoovestol is the new addition to the pump force.

The blizzard of last Saturday night crippled rail traffic to the extent that train's were running 36 hours late.

March 30 - Chas. Hoger rushed in 10 acres of wheat during the mild days of last week. He is one of the earliest field workers in this section. He is experimenting with 24 acres of spring wheat which he planted last fall.

Sims - R. T. Hoovestol is our new constable, having qualified for that office last Tuesday.

Section hand wages have been raised to \$2.00 per day.

March 2, 1917 - Under the direction of Miss A Moun and Lester Eatough, a number of Almont's young people are putting on a novel entertainment at the Farmer's Union Hall in

Almont March 17. They appear as Pumpkin Ridge Minstrels on a four part program. A basket social for the benefit of the Feland School District will follow the program. Admission is free to all bringing or buying a basket.

May 4 - As a result of the election he'd last Monday, Almont will have a new school building and offer high school education. Result of election was 79 for and 69 against.

May 18 - George Chamberlin delivered a Sandusky tractor to Simon Johnson of Sims last week.

Changes are being made in the station at Curlev and arrangements are being made to have 3 shifts of operators there soon. Curlew is also looking for the erection of an elevator at that place sometime this summer.

The Almont Fire Dept. tried out their new chemical engines Wednesday afternoon when the Almont N. P. Depot was set on fire by a passing train. The roof was destroyed but no further damage. Water was furnished by a locomotive.

A strong Red Cross Auxiliary was organized in our city recently with 57 members. a patriotic meeting and program was held April 19. Dr. Keats is chairman of the organization.

Severt Olson, who lives south of Almont, is building a house in town where his children will live while attending school. The Olson children have been attending school in Mandan, but now that Almont will have a high school, they can attend here.

August - Quite number have enlisted in the Armed Services the last months.

U. S. Government will be buying horses at New Salem Dec. 3 Bring geldings 5 to 9 years old. 1000 to 1500 lbs. No light greys accepted.

Jan. 22, 1918 - Sims, A large crowd attended the Pancake Social given last Friday evening at the church basement under auspices of the Young People's League. John Jacobson and P. R. Peterson made the pancakes. There had been a question as to which of the two men made the best pancakes, at the close of the evening they decided to