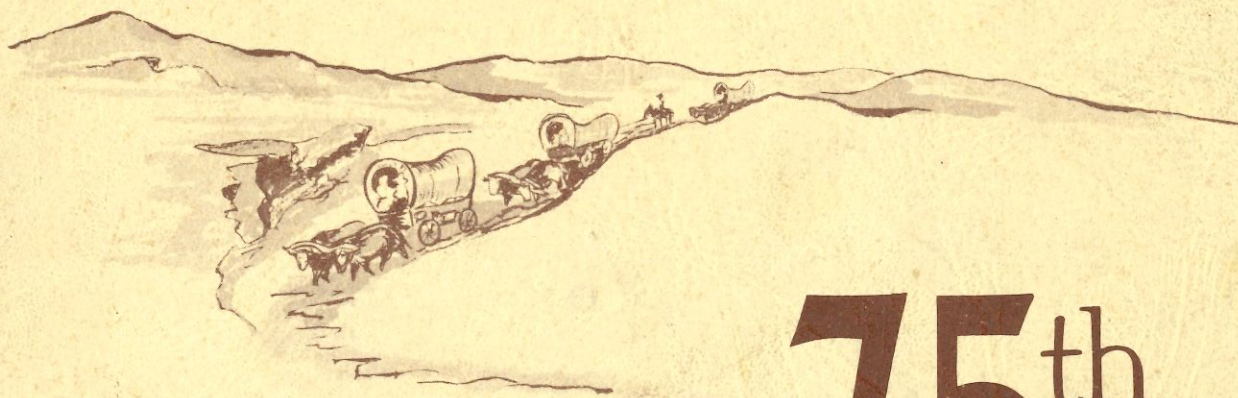


BERESFORD'S

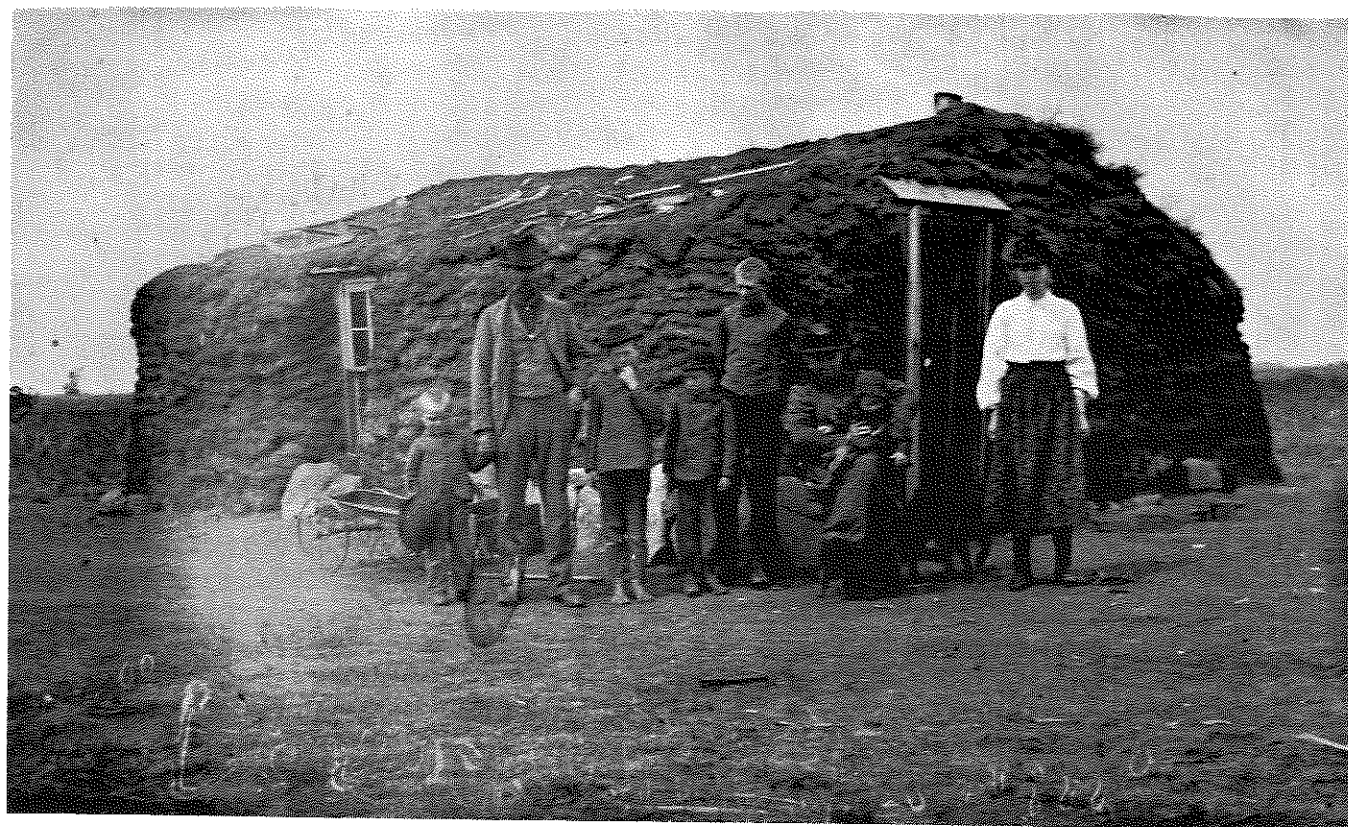


75th

DIAMOND JUBILEE



1884-1959



AN "OLD SODDY"

Foreword

It has been little more than three-quarters of a century ago that early pioneers were hunting antelope where the city of Beresford now stands. Today, as we look at our modern city with its churches, schools, homes, park, businesses, public utilities, trees, grass, and flowers, the more deeply we appreciate the sacrifices made by our fathers and grandfathers. Such knowledge increases the justifiable pride which the citizens of Beresford and the surrounding area are taking in the marked progress attained in only 75 years.

Progress of this nature did not just happen. It came about only through the combined efforts of many individuals, working hand in hand for a common cause, which was to build a good town and

community in which all could happily live, work, and rear a family.

That job has been well done. Beresford is a good place in which to live. That the spirit of cooperation still lives has been thoroughly demonstrated in the past months by the hundreds of people who have so unselfishly worked side by side, giving so liberally of their time and talents, to make this Diamond Jubilee such an outstanding success.

It has been a distinct privilege and honor to serve as your general chairman. My sincerest thanks and appreciation to every individual, especially all committee chairmen, who have made this the greatest event of our history.

Lloyd M. Wass, Chairman
Diamond Jubilee Celebration

REMEMBRANCE

Remembrance is the only paradise out of which we can not be driven away.

—Jean Paul Friedrich Richter

Dakota History

After gold had been discovered in California, and with the great westward migration which followed the close of the Civil War, so many problems loomed that military posts were established at strategic points for government control of the situation. Ft. Pierre was one of these points. However, it was finally decided that the point should be established farther south and Ft. Randall came into being.

A transcontinental railroad was the dream of many, because of the high hopes aroused by the gold craze in the West, and many places were hopeful that they might become eastern terminals for the possible railroad. For instance, St. Paul promoted the construction of a government wagon road to the south pass of the Rockies. The first section, extending from Mendota (Ft. Snelling) to the Missouri River at the mouth of the White River just below Chamberlain, was built in 1857. But nothing came of it.

Settlement was made at Sioux Falls, but was slowed for a five-year period because of the reflex of the Minnesota massacre of 1862.

In 1851, the Indian title to the lands east of the Sioux was extinguished. The region between the Sioux and the Missouri as far north as a line extending from Pierre to Watertown, approximately, was opened in 1859. On July 19, settlers were admitted to these lands and upon that day a fringe of homesteaders entered from Sioux City to Ft. Randall. Thus Elk Point, Vermillion, Yankton and Bon Homme were founded.

Sioux Falls set up a provisional territorial government in 1858, but the regular territorial government was provided by congress by the act of March 2nd, 1861, when President Buchanan signed the law which made Dakota a territory.

When Abraham Lincoln came into office, he appointed territorial officers and William Jayne thus became governor, and the temporary capitol was located at Yankton. Governor Jayne arrived in Dakota in the spring, and called an election for delegate to congress and a legislature. General John B. S. Todd was chosen for congress, and the legislature was convened at Yankton, in March, 1862.

The growth of the population was slow. But there were a few brave enough, and hardy enough, to seek to settle on a homestead in Dakota Territory, in spite of blizzards, grasshoppers, prairie fires, and unfriendly Indians. Then one day the discovery of gold in the Hills brought a rush of people there.

And finally, in 1889, the long-sought crown of statehood was bestowed upon us, and we were South Dakota, with a sister state to the north. In the years

of 1871 and '72, thousands of people were thronging into the Territory. In our particular section, the ports of entry were Sioux City, Calliope and Akron, where it was made possible to ford the Big Sioux river.

The immigrants who came to the Beresford area tended to settle in relation to their nationalities. So it was found that south of Beresford are the "sturdy Irish," the substantial God-fearing Swedish settled west, the hardy sons of Norway to the northeast, and the peace-loving Swiss, came, too, though in fewer numbers, and set up farming in a colony north and east of Beresford. Most of the Swiss had already become citizens through residence in Wisconsin, but a few came directly from their native land. And not to be outdone, perhaps, a few Germans also came to settle near Beresford environs, mostly to the south.

We like to think that, from this amalgamating of various nationalities, the people of our small city have learned more easily, and more thoroughly, the truth that, although national characteristics may be present, we are, after all, just people—people who are learning how to live together peaceably, and with the goal of better living ahead for all, when our understanding is increased.

Trails

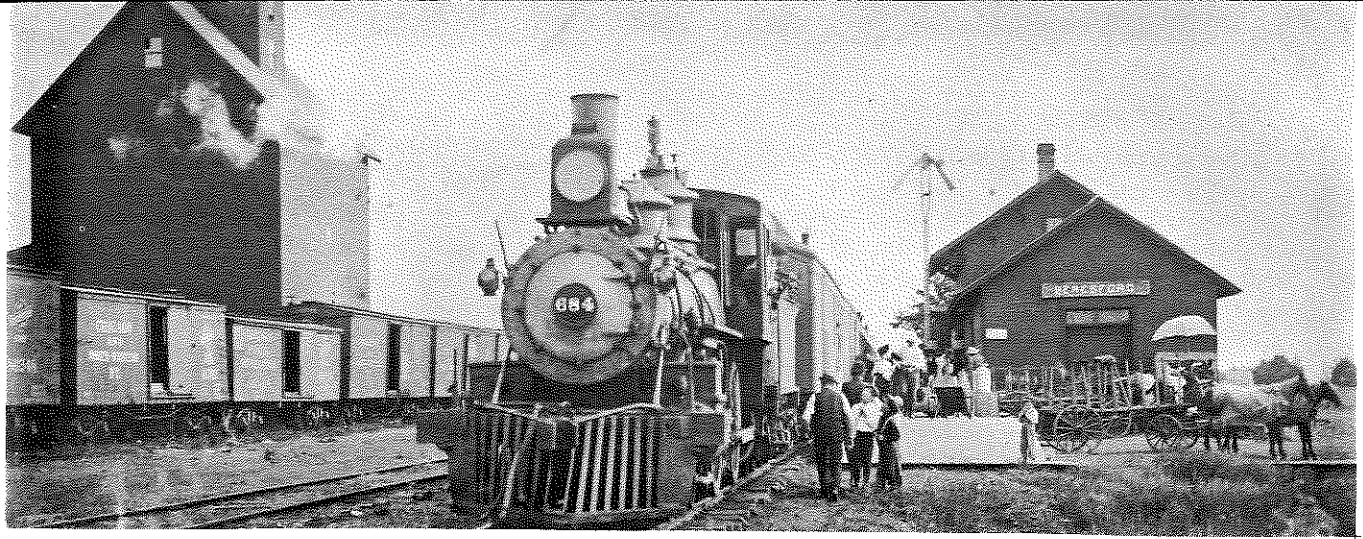
Marked trails were few, but there was a military road which had been actually surveyed from Lodi, near Vermillion, to Canton. It ran from Lodi through Glenwood township by the Peter Smith farm, through the Art Wilbert property and passed between the Lars Larson and James Thompson farms on the line just at the west edge of town.

Then it angled on northeast, cutting a corner of the Baltz Schmid farm, and went on to Canton. Traces of this trail could be distinguished long after its use was discontinued for the ruts were nearly two feet deep.

Another military road went from Sioux City to Sioux Falls, running west of Canton near the John Steensland place. Indians packed goods along this trail for a Sioux Falls man named Howard. This road extended as far as the Missouri river to Fort Randall.

The military roads were surveyed and laid out by the government at the time of Indian hostilities, shortly after the Civil War, and forts were established at Yankton, Vermillion, and Sioux Falls. A trail following a northerly course out of Vermillion reached as far as Sioux Falls, going through Centerville.

The mail was brought to Beresford from Vermillion by a carrier named Shurtleff, and Charles Sundling relayed it through Gothland and Calliope. From Gothland, north bound mail was carried through Hudson and Eden to Sioux Falls by Dennis Fuller.



DEPOT AND TRAIN

Historical Facts

Dakota Territory was formed on March 2, 1861, in a bill signed by President Buchanan. But no great rush was made to settle the land, partly because of the Civil War. Yet by the years 1871-1872, there was thousands of people thronging into the area, settling upon homesteads which the government would give title to, when certain requirements were fulfilled. One of these specifications was actual residence upon the land for a certain period of time. "In the words of one of the earliest settlers, 'Homesteaders bet the Government \$14.50 that it couldn't starve them out in 5 years.' If the claim seeker won, he was given his land and 20 years of grace before having to prove up and pay taxes."

In 1870, Indian reservations were established. Therefore, since that date, the Indians have lived in quite restricted localities on these reservations.

Beresford was founded in 1883 by the Western Town Lot company—or we might say by the C. & N.W. Railroad. Such was the case with most of the towns of this area. The town was named after Lord Charles Beresford, an admiral in the British navy. He also was one of the capitalists who helped promulgate the laying of the railroad through Beresford in June of that year. The railroad had been laid as far as Hawarden by the fall of 1882, and was continued to Huron the following year. An item in *The Beresford News*, of September 6, 1883, states that "Thru trains will be run from Huron to Chicago on and after September 10th, and we will enjoy the luxury of a daily mail."

Another date most worthy of mention is that of the year 1884, the year which saw Beresford incorporated.

And the final date—South Dakota was made a state in 1889. Now the reader is challenged to remember these dates.

"It takes a heap o' livin' to make a house a home," are words we have from a wise poet. And we may extend them, most aptly, to the collection of homes that go to make up a town, and a community.

Beresford, the Garden-Spot City of South Dakota, celebrates this June her 75th birthday anniversary, her Diamond Jubilee. She has known the "heap o' livin'," or at least is well on the way toward the realization of it. Such a shining diadem of achievement is not easily earned. For the records prove that the past 75 years have been times of struggle as well as of triumph. There have been drouths, grasshopper devastations, severe wind storms, disastrous fires, and many other forms of discouragement, as well as the drudgery and hardship of the early pioneer day. But the spirit of the people has remained high, and the town has prospered because of it.

The reader, if he (or she) is not an "old settler," and the chances of that are very slim, indeed, may well wonder and query how the town of Beresford came to be located where it is. Certainly, before the days of paving and of "hard-top" on the city streets, high-pitched voices have been heard to declare that this location was a big mistake, that the higher ground to the south would have been a far better selection, would have indicated, in short, more mental realization of what a city site should contain. (All this, with hub caps mired in mud).

However, the records set us straight on this matter. The facts are that the railway company selected the present depot site because it was "ideal." A level space was desirable so that shunted cars could not easily roll down hill, and at no other spot this side of Alcester was there a space so level and so sufficiently large. Thus the location of Beresford was determined.

Early Structures

One is rather chagrined to learn that the very first structure erected in the town of Beresford was that of a saloon. However, such is the stated fact. It was operated by a man named D. Choquette, a French name which must have proved too arduous, or too hi-falutin' for the Anglo-Saxon tongue, so was commonly uttered as Sackett by the pioneers.

This no doubt "popular" establishment was located on lots now occupied by the Wass Repair Shop, east of the postoffice. Later the structure was destroyed by fire. However, the records state that, as time went on, there were a considerable number of saloons in the town, on both sides of Main street.

The second structure built is presumed to have been that built by G. S. Joscelyn on the west side of Third street, exact location not known. It was used first as a drug store, and occupied by Joscelyn and Ford for some years. Mr. Ford was an experienced druggist and Mr. Joscelyn also. Later, the building was moved to a lot north of the Gardner Hotel to be put into service as a work shop first, then used as the home of an elderly man, John Grubel.

Those who ever tried to enter the building during this stage recall with smiles that one was forced to practically crawl through the rooms, so overwhelming was the amount of "junk" collected and stored in the rooms by its inhabitant. Eventually it was declared a fire hazard and was torn down. The old man, Mr. Grubel, went to live with relatives.

The Conoco Station now stands where this second Beresford structure spent its last days—that "second building," and the dismantled Gardner Hotel, once the James Fitzgerald building praised as having the "best foundation ever laid in town," has been wrecked also to make way for the erection of the Conoco corner.

Beresford's first frame house, referred to in the first edition of the *Beresford News* as "fast approaching completion," was later moved to a lot north of the present Dr. D. L. Cotton home. It then was occupied by the Henry Claussen family for many years.

The concluding reference to it in the *News* was, "That bay window has an eastern look John." In the day when claim shantys and dug-outs were "popular" abodes, no doubt a two-story frame house with a bay window would seem quite pretentious, indeed.

Eli Ricard, Homesteader

And who was the first man to settle in what is now the city of Beresford? The distinction apparently belongs to a man named Eli Ricard. Mr. Ricard brought

his family here about the year 1872. He filed on a homestead and on an adjoining tree claim. The James Walsh home is on a part of this land, as is also a part of the former J. W. Steadman farm, now occupied by Alvin R. Henderson.

It was the policy of the U. S. government at that time to require actual residence of the land, so that all speculators and land grabbers could, as far as possible, be eliminated. Mr. Ricard built a frame house on his homestead, at the spot where the Wm. Walters home now stands. And in this house was located at Beresford's first Post Office, with Mr. Ricard as Beresford's first postmaster.

Mr. Ricard, as we may judge from his name, was of French descent, and ardently loyal to his ancestry, as is the case with most people. It is not strange, therefore, that he should choose the name Paris for the designation of the new postoffice. However, as more and more settlers came, of varying nationalities, a conflict developed between the name Paris for the postoffice, and the name Beresford which had been given to the town after the railroad had been built. As a result, one day Mr. Ricard is reported to have "bundled up the whole outfit and taken it over to Davey Stephen's store, and Mr. Stephen then acted as postmaster until an appointment was made."

It seems that Mr. Ricard may have been quite instrumental in routing the railroad where it is, for there was a rumor to the effect that "Eli Ricard offered the railroad company 80 acres of land if they would build the railroad across this particular place. This offer evidently was accepted as the railroad runs right along where his claim was located."

Eli Ricard was also Beresford's first furniture dealer. In addition, he carried, too, a small stock of coffins. He disposed of this business in March 1887, the buyer being J. N. Wass. Mr. Ricard moved to Toledo, Ohio, and later, to California. He met death from burns in an explosion, as he was attempting to start a fire in his stove, about the year 1921.

GEORGE ENGLER

George Engler was born in Iowa March 10, 1864, and at the age of 21 he came to Vermillion. He homesteaded in Union county three miles southeast of Beresford in 1886, where he made his home until 1899. He was an active member of the school board.

In 1920 he and his family moved to Beresford, building the residence on South Third street.

In 1889 he was married to Mathilda Bruehler at Freeport, and to this union were born three daughters, Mrs. Lucille Kelley, Mrs. Loretta Meile, and Mrs. Johanna Henle.



DAVID STEPHEN STORE—1886

David Stephen, Pioneer Merchant

No account of early day Beresford would be complete without a special mention of David Stephen. For to all the settlers of that period, the name meant a great deal.

"Dave" opened a general store $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of the present site of Beresford, and for part of that time also conducted a postoffice there. He had come west to Dakota territory from Missouri, in 1872, driving a team of horses, and some other horses, also.

In January, 1873, his wife and children joined him on the homestead. At that time, since all the goods from his store must be brought in over land, he freighted from Sioux City during that while. And, like his neighbors, he also broke some few acres for broom corn planting. With the Sioux City market 60 miles away, it took at least 3 days for the journey there and back. Imagine, then, the picture. When he had a stock of brooms ready, and when he needed more store supplies, he set forth to the city to the south, and his wife became, with the aid of the older children, the caretaker of the home inside and out.

Soon his business had so increased that he hired freighters, and hired salesmen, too, so that it is said that the waiting teams of oxen about his place of business, which he had named Sunnyside, reminded one of a pioneer camp meeting. (It would seem that this canny Scotsman, for he had been born in Aberdeen, Scotland, Sept. 18, 1841, it would seem that this Scotsman was a most optimistic man — Sunnyside proves it).

But Mr. Stephen was more than merely optimistic. He was also a real true friend to the farmers of the territory. It can be said, as, no doubt was true, that he was a "lover of trade." Apparently he was that. But his dealings were so full of consideration for the needy, so full of the milk of human kindness that he often was much put upon for his trust in all human beings.

In 1880, he moved to Calliope, Ia., with his stock of goods, and built a large store building, put in a general stock, and also continued to buy large quantities of grain, and many hogs and cattle. He must have made quite a reputation for himself, for when the railroad was being constructed in '83, it is reported that Mr. Stephen was offered 3 lots in the new town, if he would come to Beresford and locate as manager of a general store. So his old building at Sunnyside was moved up, and, facing south, was located back of what is now the First National Bank near the Nissen blacksmith shop. Later, he erected a new store building which faced the east, on the corner. Mr. Stephen thus had the honor of becoming Beresford's first storekeeper, or merchant.

But in 1909, Mrs. Stephen passed away. And the same year fire destroyed his business, and he became rather discouraged. He moved to Sioux Falls, and worked for a time in the stone quarry, but later on, he opened a broom factory there. After that, he entered the wholesale crockery business. Also, he remarried.

One memorable anecdote in connection with Mr. Stephen must not be overlooked. He often carried on his shoulders a baby organ, as he made his way to church services at the depot waiting room, or at the schoolhouse. With eight children in his home, he was a very fine church and temperance worker, and for a number of years acted as Sunday School Superintendent in the Methodist church. In fact, the first Sunday School in Beresford was organized upstairs over his store building.

His remains were brought to Beresford for interment and funeral services were held from the Methodist church, with the Reverends Dibble, Evans, and Jamison conducting. He was buried in the cemetery in Beresford, beside his first wife. His second wife survived him.

Letter From Ireland

CURRAGHMORE ESTATES:—

DIRECTORS:

THE MARQUIS OF WATERFORD.
THE MARCHIONESS OF WATERFORD.
LT.-COL. JOHN E. D. SILCOCK, B.A.
THE LORD PATRICK BERESFORD.
SECRETARY AND AGENT:
LT.-COL. JOHN E. D. SILCOCK, B.A.

ESTATE OFFICE,
CURRAGHMORE,
PORTLAW,
CO. WATERFORD

TELEPHONE: PORTLAW 1.
STATION : FIDDOWN

8th April, 1959,

L. M. Wass, Esq.,

Chairman, Beresford Jubilee Committee,
Beresford, S. Dak., U.S.A.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter, containing details of your City's Diamond Jubilee. May I, as head of the Beresford Family, wish you a happy, and successful Jubilee.

Admiral Lord Charles Beresford was my Great-Great Uncle, and his descendant and Grandson, Charles Blacque, lives five miles from here, in a beautiful Georgian house—Castletown. The Admiral's daughter, Kathleen Beresford, married General Ed-

mund Blacque, a Turkish Soldier, and they settled at Castletown, and were succeeded by their only child, Charles.

It may be of interest, that Admiral Lord Charles was one of my Great-Grandfather's three celebrated brothers, the others being Lord William, who gained a Victoria Cross in South Africa, and later introduced the American Jockey, Todd Sloan, to England, thus revolutionizing the style of race-riding in the British Isles. The third brother was Lord Marcus, who, for a number of years, was Racing Manager to King Edward VII, both when he was Prince of Wales, and later when he was King, during which time he had great successes on the Turf, winning three Derbys, and one Grand National.

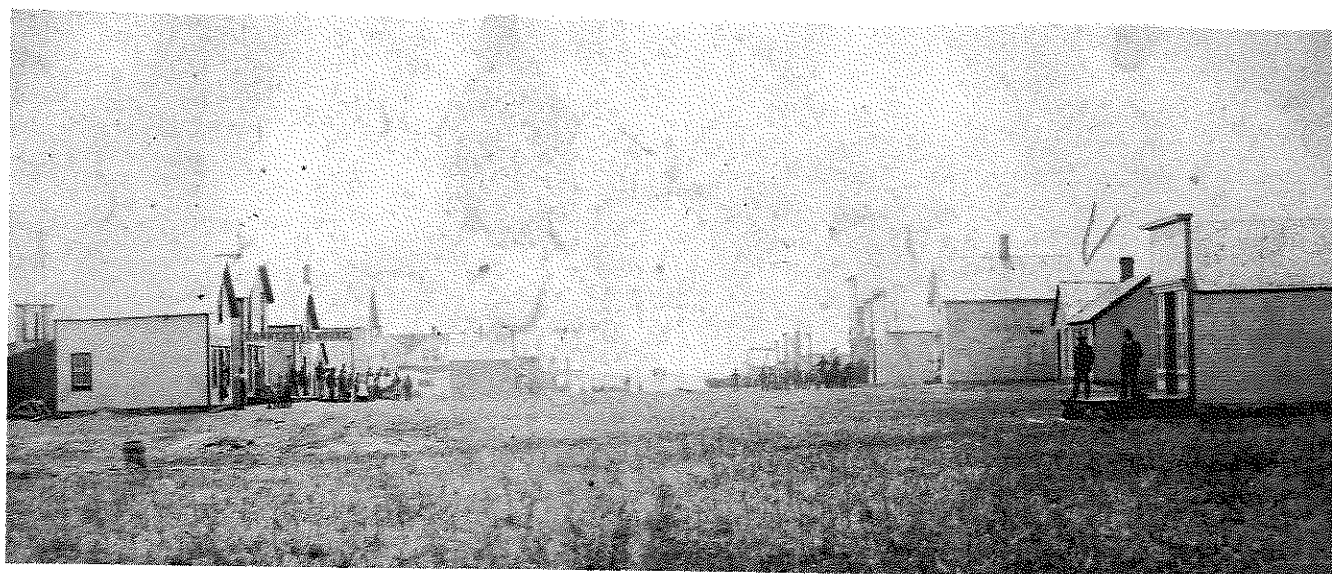
I trust this information will be useful to you.

Yours sincerely,
Waterford

W/GM.



BULOW PARK



MAIN STREET—1884

Beresford's Diamond Jubilee

A Jubilee Year reopens
History's Hall of Fame;
It finds there a colorful pageant,
World-circling in interest and aim.

To this land where the Sioux and the Mandan
May have hunted and fought with the Ree,
When the bison, the deer, and the beaver
Roamed widely, fearless, and free,
A lush land with beckoning horizons,
Land of the twelve winds and sun,
Untamed and as virgin as it was
When the years of our earth were just spun.
Came first, from far France, men eager
To gain here a living and name;
But here, on these trackless grasslands,
They remembered the land whence they came.
They recorded their town site as "Paris"
With a homesick ache and deep pride,
To help their children remember
The beauty that they were denied.

For ten years *this* Paris was center
Of the life of this countryside;
Till Marvin Hughitt's dream whistled
And brushed all aside in its pride.

So Beresford sprang from the prairie,
And an admiral of British fame
Who had backed Hughitt's dream with his shekels
Lives now in our prairie town's name.

Men followed the lure of the railroad
As Hughitt was sure that they would;
Some sped past, but many lingered
And helped the young town make good.
"To him that hath shall be given!"
Is an adage old and wise,
So David Stephens moved over
And started a new enterprise.
Then there was John R. Carleton,
A Civil War veteran,
Postmaster, printer, and justice,
A very versatile man.

Yes, the Jubilee Year is diamond
For in its Hall of Fame
There are many treasured moments,
Each starred with an honored name;
Because the town has given
To the state and the nation, too,
Governor, legislators, artists,
And a host in Army blue,
And many who quietly labored
To make the best come true —

Heaven grant, in the era just opening,
That Beresford's story may tell
Of many of equal honor
As serving God's purposes well.

—by Adeline M. Jenney,
Valley Springs, S. Dak.
South Dakota Poet Laureate

Beresford Firsts

As we search through the record for mention of Beresford's "FIRSTS" the realization that we are treading on precarious ground is more and more borne upon us. We have done our best to make no omissions, and we hope no one has been slighted in any way.

The first implement dealer and the first grain buyer in Beresford town was J. E. Sinclair. After he retired, he served in both the House and the Senate in the State Legislature. His death occurred in 1918.

Jere Reedy and J. L. Reedy operated the first hardware store in the town. Their firm name was J. Reedy & Co. Jere (Jeremiah) Reedy was killed by a stroke of lightning during a severe storm on April 26, 1900. J. L. Reedy went into the grain business, (also serving as postmaster later), and the hardware passed through several hands, and finally became the Norman Hardware Company. After the death of Axel Norman the stock was sold.

East of the Reedy Hardware, a General Store was erected by Thomas Brady. Another First, the lumber for his store was the first shipped in on the railroad.

The F. M. Slagle Lumber yard was established as the First, although the J. H. Queal & Co. lumber yard was opened the same year, 1883. The Queal's sold their line of yards to the Thompson Yards, Inc., sometime in the 1930s. C. B. Henrich was manager of the Slagle yard from 1889, while A. D. Loffler was manager for the Queal's for many years, though not exactly from the first days.

Thomas Kane Miller was the first shoe cobbler and barber. His small shop stood near where the Wagner feed store was located. On one side in the shop stood the barber chair, while the shoemaker's bench was just across from it.

George Bruehler, father of George and Chas. Bruehler, was the first harness maker in Beresford. He passed away in 1889.

The first meat market was operated by J. W. Steadman in 1881. Mr. Steadman erected the building, where the Westburg Feed Store now stands, and he and his bride lived in the rooms above. After some time they sold the market and purchased the Cary O'Connor farm adjoining town. This is now the farm occupied by Alvin Henderson.

Dr. Hill was the first doctor, and he was followed by Dr. Jerauld and a Dr. Sheehan. But to most of the residents of Beresford, Dr. A. V. Elliott, who arrived in 1888, and continued here the rest of his life, was the pioneer doctor. It is recalled, too, of Dr. Elli-

ott, that he owned the first automobile in the town. A "First" of another complexion.

Palmer and Churchill ran the first livery stable. It was located on the corner east of the Motor Inn. Walter Palmer, an old soldier, died at Vermillion, but it seems not to be known what became of Mr. Churchill.

The first blacksmith shop, so important in the early days, was operated by Henry Stiber, a bachelor. His right hand fingers were missing, but he had a way of strapping a hammer to his palm and could do all kinds of blacksmith work. Moreover, he played the violin for dances in a room over his shop.

T. L. Torgeson was a pioneer merchant, and for a time he printed his window signs and advertisements in the Norwegian language.

Thomas Malloy was the first section boss. He and his family lived for years in the same house which he and his young wife occupied when they came to Beresford, and where their son Richard was born, September 5, 1883. Richard was the first baby born in Beresford, according to the *Beresford Republic* of August 9, 1934, the Golden Jubilee edition.

Thomas Ronan, who came in from the Emmett community, was mentioned in the first issue of the *Beresford News*, as an "old settler with a large circle of friends," and as a "thorough business man."

Another pioneer firm was that of Messrs. C. D. Farrand & J. W. Woodward. But they sold out, and Mr. Woodward apparently went into the employ of "Davey" Stephen.

One account tells us that "Lars Rasmussen conducted the first meat market, and that James Birnie, Sr., who "came right from auld Scotland" succeeded him, until James, Jr., took charge because of the older man's advancing age. But at this writing, James Birnie, Jr., has also been dead for a number of years.

Also, the name of R. Z. Bennett was remembered for many years among the early settlers as a farmer who had gone into the grain buying business. He seemed to have been well liked, and later became connected with the banking business, also.

George S. Guenzel engaged in the furniture and undertaking business in the eighties, but he retired in 1912. He died on June 10, 1920.

W. E. Bussler opened his establishment for the practice of the tonsorial arts in Beresford, in 1888. And in 1923, he estimated that the whiskers he had severed would circle the globe several times, if placed end to end. Further, he intimated that he had the intention to make it around the globe several times

more before he quit. He passed away in 1941. Before his death he had officiated in the office of Fire Chief, to the apparent satisfaction of himself and his friends.

And in 1895, a Mr. Potter started a mill here, as well as an electric light plant—two other “Firsts.” But the business was foreclosed, and in 1896 the mill was taken over by Messrs. Crill, Wagner, and Field. Then in 1900, lights were again added, with new equipment. This was sold to a Mr. Doyle, in 1907, and he in turn traded to a man named Mason. Mr. Mason ran the electric lights only. During his ownership the plant was destroyed by fire. For a time the town was without the benefit of electric lighting, until in 1911, Mr. Wagner became the owner once again. However, the plant was finally taken over by the city.

We can not forget to mention the City Telephone Exchange, when we speak of “Firsts” in our city’s progress. This was added to Beresford’s improvements in 1901. Owned and operated by Morris Ryan and his wife, Tina, it served this community until 1918. Mrs. Ryan acted as chief operator in those years, and was night operator later when the business was sold to John Smith. At that time it was located where we find Al’s Market. Mr. Smith sold to the Bell Telephone Company, but later the exchange became the property of the City of Beresford. It remains so today.

We now come to the name of J. N. Wass, a well-remembered pioneer of the Beresford community. Mr. Wass, a native of Maine, came to the town in 1883. He helped his brother-in-law erect the building which housed the *Beresford News*. And we note his advertisement “Wass & Campbell, Contractors and Builders.” in the much-referred to original *News*. At any rate, J. N. Wass somewhat later purchased the Eli Ricard stock of furniture and coffins, and remained in that business for the remainder of his life. He had another “First” to remember, too, for he came in on the first train to run on the C. & N.W. railroad. Of that fact he was quite certain, for he knew that the track north of town was still being laid.

Charles C. Gifford, father of Jay Gifford, came from LeMars, Ia., to Beresford in the spring of 1885. He built a two-story building north of the present bank, and operated one of the first butcher shops. and operated one of the first butcher shops. He died on Nov. 19, 1886.

Beresford’s first banker was Mr. C. A. Potter who established the State Bank of Beresford in 1884. The bank was located approximately on the corner where the Wass Funeral Home now stands. Mr. Potter bore the reputation of being a good banker, and very prompt, always. He did not like others to be less so, either, and was inclined to asperity if kept waiting

for an appointment. He was not a married man, we learn, and that perhaps explains it.

Beresford’s first attorney was Jerome Mangan. He also operated the first book and stationery store in the “little frontier town.” Later, he served several terms as Union County Judge.

Mr. Will Byrnes is referred to as the “first teacher of the Sunnyside school. He later became a Canton resident, and took up the furniture and undertaking business there.

Mr. Stephen Godfrey was also an early day school-teacher, but he taught in the country at the Duncan children’s school, south of what is now the town of Beresford.

Beresford’s first livery barn was operated by Richard Reedy, and located approximately near the site of Al’s Market.

The first water mains in Beresford were laid in 1898. They replaced the old Town Pump brigade. The first well was only one hundred feet deep.

The first paving was laid in 1922. It consisted of 22 blocks, and cost over \$150,000.

The Davis Livery, later operated by Nels Soderstrom, was one of Beresford’s pioneer businesses. It was located where the Tri County Farmers Union now stands.

Beresford’s first hotel manager was Mr. W. J. Byrnes. He cared for the needs of the visiting public as best he could in rooms over the Nels Soderstrom carpenter shop. During this period, Mr. Byrnes was building a house which later he operated as an hotel.

A little later in the year, so the record runs, James Fitzgerald built a part of what was for so many years known as the Gardner Hotel. But Mr. Fitzgerald named it the Commercial House. It was constructed by Wass & Campbell. Six additions were known to have been later added. Mrs. Margaret Gardner operated it for many years. But the old landmark was finally wrecked, when the owner, C. O. Peterson erected the Conoco Service Station on that corner.

Beresford’s first druggists were Joscelyn and Ford. Theirs was the second building erected in the struggling, but growing, new town.

Beresford’s first electric plant was started in 1896 by Charley Potter. The plant, operated in connection with the flour mill, consisted of a 65 horsepower Murray Corless steam engine, an 80 horsepower boiler, and a 60 horsepower boiler. At this time the plant furnished electricity from sundown until midnight.

December 3, 1934—Beresford’s Water Softening and Filtration plant is presently to be installed. The city is bonded to the amount of \$14,000 and there is to be a 50,000 gallon concrete clear well.

Blizzard of '88

Seventy-one years ago this past January 12th, there swept over this area the fiercest blizzard that south-eastern Dakota and northwestern Iowa have ever known. More, they trust that, due to the advance of science with its weather forecasting, shelter belt planting, all-weather roads, etc., the invasion of such a storm can not occur again.

But there are those—a few—who can and do recall that ominous day when the blizzard came.

All agree that the morning was a mild one, and that life went on as usual. It was a cool morning, but the sun shone, and the children went off to school, while the mothers and fathers turned to the daily round of tasks—baking, dishwashing, cleaning, chores at the barns, grain hauled to market, and a hundred other such normal duties. In town the merchants opened their stores, and may even have glanced at the sky with a desire for a bit of snow so that winter stocks might move off the shelves.

About noon the ominous portents of an impending storm began to appear. The sky grew hazy, the sun lost its brightness, the winds switched back and forth and finally settled on the northwest as their best bet. As the wind settled down so did the temperature—down, down—10, 5, 0, -5, . . . The sky grew darker, the winds rose, but the mercury continued its downward plunge—10, -15, -20.

School was dismissed early, and the pupils were told to get right home—a warning fairly common when it appeared a storm was brewing.

And then the storm struck. With swiftness, and with deadly force it raced in as though it dared anything on the prairies to try to stop it.

And nothing could. In the next few hours it caused the deaths of more than 200 persons, and countless thousands of cattle were frozen in pastures, fields and rangelands.

In Huron, as soon as the storm struck, a steam whistle was blown to guide travelers toward the town.

In Lincoln county the children of one family ignored the teacher's orders and started for home in the storm. They perished. At Larchwood two Cleveland boys were driving 95 head of cattle across a field. The voracious gale swallowed up both boys and cattle. In Lincoln county Edwin Kylling started out after a load of hay and met an icy death. A Brookings youth was walking in the country when the storm front moved in. After wandering eight hours he crawled into a haystack. He emerged from it the next morning

with only slightly frozen wrists. These are a few of the incidents, the tragedies, of the storm.

Beresford residents also recall the storm as the worst they have known. Postmaster J. L. Reedy related his harrowing experience of it which was published in the Golden Jubilee issue, August 9, 1934. We give some of it here:

"Snow began falling in large feathery flakes between three and four o'clock in the afternoon. Mr. Reedy was in the hardware store which he and his brother Jere operated. As time passed, the snow became finer, the wind came up and it became terrifically cold. Darkness fell early and the storm outside the store raged—whirling, howling and snarling.

His brother Tom left the store in the P.M. to go to the J. W. Reedy home to care for the premises while the family was away. Joe Woodward and Al Johnson dropped into the store—rather, blew in, literally. As they were warming themselves around the stove voices were heard, but could not be located at first. Later, they were found to be some strangers who were out to find a store, probably Choquette's.

Mr. Reedy's worry over his brother became so intense that the three men, and Al's uncle who lived over the store, set out for the Reedy home. The four took a rope and worked slowly along the sidewalk on the west side of what is now Third street. Reaching the Potter bank where the Wass residence now stands they debated how best to proceed. There was nothing between that spot and the Reedy home. Just then the chimney of the Commercial Hotel burned out, and they were encouraged by its light. Joe Woodward volunteered to take one end of the rope, and they determined on a code of jerks. Joe started out over the seemingly insurmountable barrier of snow, but darkness was again upon them and after a time they were forced, nearly frozen, and with ice and snow coating their faces and clothing—to retreat to the store which they had left.

Here Mr. Reedy put in a night long to be remembered. The storm abated about four o'clock (a.m.), and as soon as there was a hint of light, he went upstairs and opened a window and walked out onto a snowdrift so firm that his feet never left a mark. He made his way to the J. W. Reedy house, and found his brother sleeping the sleep of exhaustion after his tussle to reach the dwelling. He had been wearing a dog skin coat, and this became so heavy with snow that he could not wear it. Had he not found a fence and followed it, he felt he might never have reached the house.

Stage Mail Service

Although the railroad was not laid until 1883, settlers had come and had taken up claims much earlier than that. And that brings up the question of mail, and of the letters from "home." How much they meant to the often homesick or disheartened homesteader. Or was there no method for the distribution of mail in those earliest days?

The answer to that is affirmative, for we read that before the railroad was laid in '83, Charles Sundling had accepted a position as stage driver. His route began at Glenwood, in Clay county, where he connected with the veteran stage driver, Shurtliff, then on to Paris (later Beresford), thence to Gothland east of town, where there was a store on the "Deane place," then to Linden, and ending the trip at Calliope. The following day would find him returning over the same route.

Mr. Sundling had experienced the flood of the spring of 1881, at Vermillion where, although it seems he was considered a Beresford resident, he had gone to act as section boss.

It is elsewhere recorded that Eli Ricard had first acted as postmaster at the Paris postoffice, and that Dave Stephens had taken charge later under the Beresford designation. But we shall here list the names of other men who have held this office: J. R. Carleton, W. B. Glidden, Tom Brady, R. Z. Bennett, and more recently, C. A. Ramsdell, C. L. Kemis, Wm. Brady, Fred Boller, and the present genial postmaster, Lee McMahon.

Excerpts From First Issue of *Beresford News*

Had you been one of those privileged to read the first issue of the *Beresford News*, back in the days when Dakota was still Territory, and not divided into North and South, and when there were only about

17 buildings in the little settlement, items like the following would have greeted your eye:

The potato crop is immense.

Prairie chickens are quite plentiful hereabouts.

Our merchants are having a fair trade.

No baseball in town yet. We have not had time.

The sound of the hammer is heard early and late in Beresford.

It is rumored that Mr. Ricard is soon to put a stock of furniture into his building adjoining the saloon.

S. H. Godfrey, of Sunnyside, was the first subscriber that paid in advance for the *News*. (In another source we are told that "the Duncan children went to school in the home of Steve Godfrey before the Sunnyside schoolhouse was built, and Mr. Godfrey was, himself, the teacher.")

C. W. Deane, one of Gothland's enterprising farmers, made us a pleasant call on this morning.

The only men in town who have any leisure time are the Doctors. Truly, we live in a healthy locality.

Through trains will be run from Huron to Chicago on and after the 10th of September, and we will then enjoy the luxury of a daily mail.

The hay crop was never better. Stacking is just about finished and the wet weather loss is comparatively light. Parties that have threshed oats in this vicinity report an extraordinary yield.

J. N. Wass took the train on Saturday last for Miner, Miner county to prove up on his homestead near that place.

Our merchants are laying in a large stock for the fall trade.

Just in case someone may be speculating upon what form of amusement the early day resident of our town may have had, it is recorded that Saturday afternoons became the time for sport and fun, and Third Street was the scene of many a horse race, foot race, with baseball always a favorite of many, too.

BERESFORD CITY POSTOFFICE



Early Beresford — 1885-86

By Mrs. Otto Rasmussen

After having his crop completely destroyed by hail, J. E. Sinclair moved to Beresford and became manager of the Peavy grain "flat house," forerunner of the present day elevator. Later, Archer and Howe took over and probably installed some labor-saving machinery not possible in the old-style flat house. The site where he operated across the railroad tracks from the depot is still used for grain storage.

All grain in the early days was delivered in heavy bags and was carried on the back of the men across a plank and unloaded into freight cars. One of the men who earned and got much credit for the heavy work was A. F. Crandall, who worked while studying for his law degree. He later practiced law in Beresford for many years.

After several years in the grain business, Mr. Sinclair turned the elevator over to his brother, George, who continued in that job for many years, until ill health forced his retirement.

J. E. Sinclair bought the first carload of machinery shipped to Beresford and sold it in the open space directly west of the depot. Later he moved to a building he had erected on the lots now occupied by Coast-to-Coast store and Albert Nordquist's Auto Salvage.

The present day Auto Salvage was the opera house and dance hall, gathering place of saint and sinner alike.

The bicycle was a popular means of transportation, and when Centerville staged a July 4th celebration, Beresford young people and some who were old enough to know better pedalled over in style. They walked back, pushing their dashing steeds uphill against a strong wind all the way home.

The boardwalk from Main street south to the school house had been at one time a stable institution, but later became a floating causeway, only touching bottom at both ends and in the middle where enough mischievous boys had jumped up and down on it, scaring smaller youngsters as they were splashed with mud on their way to and from school.

The Alsen WOW picnic was the event of the summer, starting with a farm dinner at noon. The Beresford band, speakers from out of town, big delegations from surrounding towns, concessions of all kinds, watermelons and ice cream, a ball game, and a dance in the evening ended the festivities. There was one celebration that ended suddenly with a cloudburst that sneaked in during a tight situation during the ball

game. There were a few cars on the grounds, and those who started for home in time were able to make it. Many didn't and were hauled in the next day off the highways. Those who did not get off the grounds spent the night sleeping on the floor or sitting up in the large house of Solomon Anderson, or in smaller buildings in Alsen.

Many events dated from the Alsen picnic—when it was discontinued one era ended and another began. The automobile was the coming thing, although present highways came much later. Some daredevil once came into the picture with an airplane, clipping off the tops of trees and swooping down over the crowd. It was decided by many that it was no longer safe to take a family to the Alsen picnic.

When Beresford finally became pavement conscious and started to grade Third street, preparatory to bigger and better things, high school commencement caught everyone right. A threatening storm sent people scurrying for cover in their finery. One young man, after escorting his lady friend home, started down Third street toward town. He pulled off his shoes and came splashing in in his bare feet.

There were show troupes which came to town, putting on a different show every night. There were Indian shows with medicine men selling Kickapoo Indian tonic guaranteed to cure everything.

One group staged a show in the open on lots near the pumping station, and because it was well advertised, a good crowd had gathered by early evening. At last cables and ropes were adjusted and everything was in readiness. The star of the show was on top of the water tank, and the manager on the ground. At the crack of a pistol, the master of ceremonies shouted, "Split the ozone, Polo!" He did.

The star came slithering down the cable, smashing his face into a telephone pole, and the show was over.

Politics played a large part in keeping up public interest. Toward the end of one big campaign during an election year, the GAR hall was engaged long in advance by one party. The committee of the opposition, having lost the hall, hired a special train from Huron to take the band, women, children, and especially any wavering members of the other side to Alcester, FREE, to hear the "Iron Moulder from Penn." give one of his three speeches allotted to South Dakota. There was a torchlight procession, a barbecue, and hot coffee. We had a wonderful time. The Beresford crowd was orderly and came home singing but tired. The election was held the next day, and was one (by one side or the other).

BERESFORD NEWS OFFICE AND POSTOFFICE—1883.—
J. R. Carleton, editor, in doorway next to son, William on tricycle;
J. N. Wass, extreme right; Mrs. J. R. (Louise) Carleton in
upstairs right window.

Editor J. R. Carleton

At the turn of the century, on January 5th, 1900, J. R. Carleton, the man who had founded the first newspaper in the Beresford settlement, passed away. He had attained the age of sixty years, and over, and due to increasing poor health it is recorded that his death might rather be looked upon as a "release, not a struggle."

"We live in deeds, not years," and the record of Editor Carleton's life proves that he had invested his time wisely. He had arrived in Beresford before there was either town or railroad. So it seems that in a "wilderness" he had the spirit and enterprise to establish a newspaper. There is nothing to indicate that he ever faltered in his faith that it would succeed. He acted also as Justice of the Peace, and tied many marriage knots, and was often consulted in legal matters.

He erected a building for the newspaper office, writing to his brother-in-law to leave his claim in Miner county to assist. The building was one of the first to be built, and the upper rooms were home for him and his wife. He was appointed postmaster, President Arthur making the appointment. When he resigned, at the beginning of President Cleveland's first term, he devoted every ounce of his failing health to the building up of his newspaper, the *Beresford News*.

Mr. Carleton was born in Newton, N. J., Feb. 12, 1840. At the age of ten, he was apprenticed to a printing firm in Pennsylvania. From that time on, he followed the printing trade. "He rounded out the last year of his life with a full half century of labor in his chosen field. He plied his trade in many of the largest cities, such as New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Minneapolis, St. Louis, New Orleans."

In the early days of the Civil War, he enlisted in Company L, 83rd Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry, a regiment sometimes referred to as "the flower of New York militia." He fought until the day



of the battle of Gettysburg, when his continued standing in a swamp for two days, knee-deep in water, proved too much for his vigorous constitution and he was treated in the hospital for acute rheumatism. After a lengthy period of recovery he re-enlisted with the Rhode Island volunteers, and served as hospital steward in the yellow fever hospital. He was awarded a special medal of honor for one gallant act of obtaining guarded supplies. However, he never claimed the medal.

After the war, he published a newspaper at New Orleans, then came north to Iowa. On May 15th, 1887, he was married to Miss Louise Wass, at Osage, Iowa. Two children were born to them, George, who died in infancy, and William. From Iowa, they came to Dakota.

In his last days the pangs of rheumatism once more bothered him so exceedingly that he might have become discouraged. He tried the climate of the Pacific coast, and treatment at Eureka Springs, Ark., but to no avail. However, he never gave up, and his mind remained clear, and until the last week of his life he continued to dictate for publication. He also was able to administer, with usual clear-headedness, the affairs of his business.

As we close the page on this pioneer editor of Beresford, we may well quote from his early editorial, "We are tied to no party, ring or clique, and are free to criticize the acts of all parties. We will advocate no measure that has not for its objective the welfare of our people." Freedom of the press has always been the aim of our best newsmen—those who desire that the people shall know the facts, so that they, in turn, can form considered judgments. And for that stated aim, as well as for his courage and faith in our town of Beresford, we mentally bow for a moment in respect to a fine man, our pioneer editor, Mr. J. R. Carleton.

Tornado

(Beresford Republic Aug. 9, 1934)

One of the most severe disasters the town of Beresford has experienced was the tornado on June 24, 1902. Much destruction of property was wrought, yet fortunately there was but one life lost. It had been intensely hot all day and the barometer very low. Toward evening the sky clouded over and lightning was continuous in nearly all directions. The storm seemed to gather in the southwest, but later shifted to the northwest, from which direction came a terrific wind with a velocity, it was said, of 80 miles per hour. The storm struck about midnight, which was very fortunate as most people were in their homes.

A Modern Woodman picnic had been held that day at Hawarden, and people coming in on the excursion barely had time to reach their homes.

While the storm was widespread in its area, it appeared to strike with special fury in smaller districts, and the country north and east of town caught it the worst. In these districts there were no windmills left after the blow and scarcely a barn remained standing.

In other directions it was less severe but destroyed groves, windmills, and an occasional outbuilding.

The greatest loss in Beresford was that of the then new Catholic church, estimated to have cost about \$15,000 and on which there was only \$3,000 insurance.

The Methodist church was also wrecked. The school house was destroyed, the property of Sam Engelbreth, his contract for a new building made shortly before the storm, including the purchase of the old one.

The destruction of the city water tank left the tower timbers pointing heavenward as if standing in an oil well district. The heavy planks of the tub were driven by the wind, behind the John Wass home and the Methodist parsonage, and could very easily have crashed through either roof.

The pumping station was blown away and Henry Jost's well digging apparatus and gas engine were badly damaged.

Electric light and telephone wires were damaged to the extent that the town was in darkness for several days and only about one-third of the telephone connections could be made.

In the city numerous barns and outbuildings were destroyed, trees uprooted, windows broken, and houses moved off foundations. Altogether, the property damage ran into tens of thousands of dollars, but everywhere there was a feeling of gratitude among the people that there had been no greater loss of life. Very few seemed discouraged, and since all were in the same boat, it was easier to brace themselves to the task of recovering the damage.

Red Terror

While prairie fires were more prevalent and highly dangerous, a fire in town, once many frame buildings had been erected, was fraught with peril to property and to life itself.

The earliest fire recorded in Beresford destroyed Choquette's saloon and a nearby structure. One of the worst fires occurred in 1894, burning the entire block at Third and Hemlock. This fire started about 4 p.m. in the Davis & Soderstrom Livery barn (where Tri-County Farmers Union is now located) and spread across the alley. The hay "burned like tinder," and several horses were suffocated.

W. J. Bulow has given this account of that fire:

"This fire came before the city water system was established, and destroyed all of the business houses in the block, then the main business section of the town. A bucket brigade was formed, but the small watering tank at the city well was soon emptied and the windmill refused to supply more.

"The only other available source of water was a well on the Gunzel lot south of his store. A large wooden hand pump supplied water from this well, and here the bucket brigade started, stretching two blocks in solid formation to the fire. Some residents in and near Centerville arrived on a special train to help Beresford residents meet the emergency."

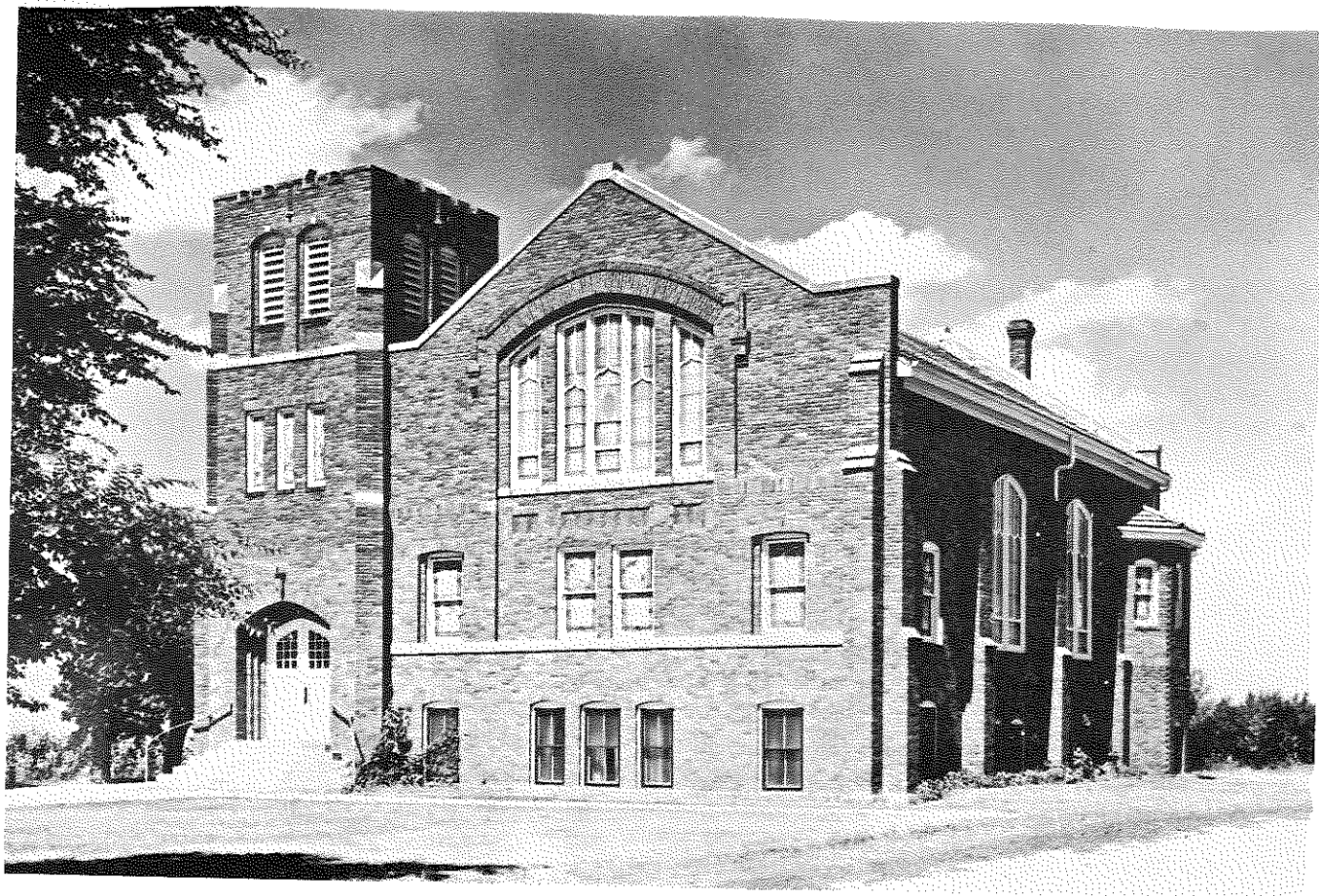
The brick walls of Union Banking company (presently Green Globe cafe), withstood the flames, although they wavered in the wind until they were later braced and rebuilt.

At the time of the fire Chris Wheelock was publishing *The Press*, a weekly newspaper. As the floor of the newspaper office burned, the heavy press crashed to the ground floor below, and the noise was heard throughout the town.

In 1916, the buildings between the Corner Drug store and Beresford State bank burned. One of these, occupied by F. P. McKee, was one of Beresford's oldest structures.

The old landmark, David Stephens store (site of First National bank) burned in 1918, taking the last of Beresford's first buildings. The Brady block was destroyed by flames at that time, including the I.O.O.F. hall, Birnie's butcher shop, William Ullmann barber shop, and a pool hall.

Other early fires included Reedy livery barn, Beresford's mill, and several elevators. However, since the organization of an efficient volunteer fire department in 1899, there have not been wholesale conflagrations such as used to strike terror into the hearts of early townspeople.



BROOKLYN EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Brooklyn Evangelical

The Brooklyn Evangelical Free Church dates its origins to a rather obscure meeting in the home of Nels J. Larson on April 17, 1882, at which time those attending organized "a religious corporation or association for the purpose of religious worship." The articles of incorporation were drawn up, notarized, and filed within a few weeks, forming the roots of the present Brooklyn church.

The small group was under lay-leadership, who themselves did most of the preaching, assisted occasionally by an itinerant minister. The first full-time resident pastor was the Rev. A. Fred Nelson who assumed his duties on April 1, 1901. Rev. Nelson still resides in Beresford.

The first building was erected by the congregation in 1891; the first parsonage, a quarter of a mile east, was constructed in the fall of 1904. This parsonage

served as the home for the pastors until 1945 when the present residence was purchased in the city of Beresford at 409 West Cedar street.

Construction of the present Brooklyn church was started in the fall of 1917 and the church was dedicated in May, 1918. Total cost of the building was \$21,851.73. Various improvements have since been made.

The usual departments of the church which came into existence in its early history include the choir, the Women's Missionary Society, the Youth organization, and the Sunday school. Each of these continues to function at the present time, making its influence felt near and far.

Fifteen pastors have served the congregation during its 77 years. Brooklyn Evangelical Free church celebrated its diamond jubilee in 1957.

The Rev. Philip G. Thorn is the present pastor.



FIRST BERESFORD MILL AND LIGHT PLANT

Town Incorporated

On July 12, 1884, a resolution was passed to incorporate the town of Beresford, Dakota territory. Trustees filing the document with the Union county commissioners were P. C. Stukey, first ward; J. B. Booker, second ward; Ed Johnson, third ward; G. S. Joscelyn, fourth ward; W. B. Glidden, fifth ward.

First ordinance passed by the board set forth compensation for various town officials, and the second listed license fees.

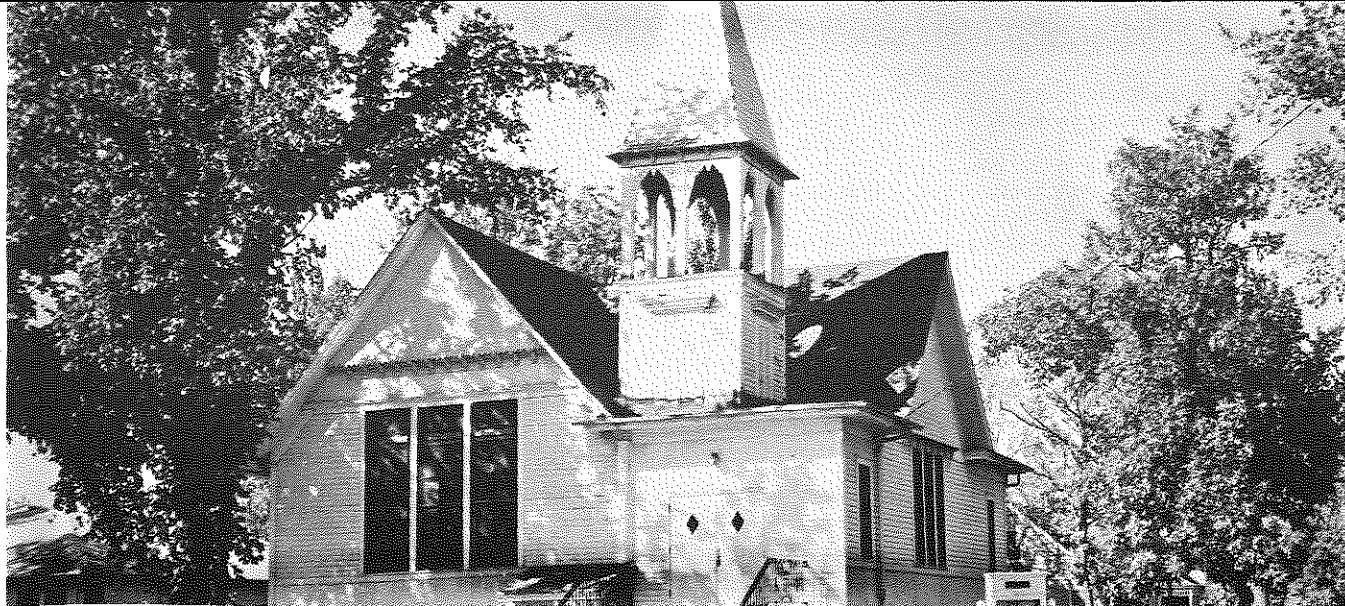
Construction of city sidewalks (two inch planks laid crosswise, spiked to 2x6 timbers) was outlined in ordinance five. Ordinance six listed penalties for permitting stock to roam at large within the city limits, while ordinance seven prohibited slaughtering of livestock except in accordance with town rules.

On Dec. 5, 1898, the council authorized a major water and sewer line project.

The town, in ordinance 38, granted permission to Beresford Telephone company, to set up poles, lines, and to operate the system in the town of Beresford. In 1924, under Mayor Andrew Bergstrom, the city purchased the telephone company, which has been municipally operated since.

A speed limit of six miles per hour was set for all horses within the city limits, and also stipulated that anyone moving steam engines across the boardwalks must first reinforce the walks with planks and assume all responsibility for breakage.

On Jan. 7, 1901, the city entered into contract with L. N. Crill, operator of the flour mill, to furnish electricity to the town.



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Congregational

The First Congregational Church of Beresford was organized March 9, 1884, with seven charter members: Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Sinclair, Mr. and Mrs. George Sinclair, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Glidden, and Mrs. Robert Gardiner. Mrs. Gardiner, a daughter of the Gliddens, is the one living charter member. Her present home is in Sioux City, Ia.

Early records give names of ten visiting ministers who held services in rooms above the depot until 1892 when the present church building was completed. The first resident minister, the Rev. W. H. Houston, was called in 1893, and received an annual salary of \$800. House rent of \$8 per month was paid by the church. Rev. and Mrs. Houston, who had previously worked in foreign mission fields, organized a youth movement called a "Mission Band."

The longest pastorate of the church began in 1894 when the young Rev. H. W. Jamison came as a graduate of the Chicago Theological seminary, and his ordination was celebrated in the new church. He and his bride made their first home in the Glidden house, but by 1896 a spacious residence had been completed on the church property. This parsonage became the social center of the church. The activities of Rev. Jamison's 22 year pastorate were numerous and vigorous. The Women's Missionary Society, the Women's Guild, and the Junior and Senior Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor were organized, and Wednesday evening prayer meetings were held regularly in the lecture room of the church.

The rural Gothland Congregational church, organized in 1891, was closely affiliated with the Beresford church, and through a carefully planned schedule Rev. Jamison was able to conduct Sunday afternoon services at Gothland from 1912 to 1918. On alternate Sunday afternoons he preached at the rural Pioneer

People's Union church which had been chartered in 1893.

One aspiration of the Jamison pastorate was to activate and stimulate a rich community life in the growing town of Beresford. Mrs. Jamison edited a W.C.T.U. column in the two local newspapers, and through her efforts several musical groups were formed. The Jamisons were intensely interested in all civic affairs, and there was sincere regret throughout the entire community when they answered a call to Newell, in 1916. In recognition of his consecrated devotion to his work through the years, the Degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon Rev. Jamison by Yankton college.

Eight ministers have given generous, dedicated service to the church since 1916: the Rev. J. B. Burkhardt, 1917-1920; the Rev. A. R. Hyatt, 1921-1930; the Rev. W. D. Harper, 1930-1941; the Rev. George M. Turner, 1942-1948; the Rev. E. C. Gomke, 1948-1951; the Rev. Paul Freeman, 1951-1953; the Rev. Reuben Koehler, 1954-1955. The present pastor, the Rev. Roger D. Grow, came with his family and began his ministry Sept. 1, 1955, and under his energetic guidance all organizations of the church are working together in a fine spirit of fellowship.

The present church was remodeled and modernized in 1923, and in 1929 the beauty of the interior was enhanced by the gift of cathedral windows. Under the direction of Rev. Koehler the new parsonage was constructed in 1955 and dedicated Jan. 15, 1956, by Rev. Grow.

In this brief sketch of 75 years in the life of the church it is impossible to express the deep gratitude of all to the dedicated pioneers and faithful members who have preserved and maintained the beliefs and ideals of the founding fathers, but their memories will ever be blessed.



Mrs. Will Thompson, 88 years on August 21, 1959. Resident of Beresford community for 79 years. Born Margaret Ellen Hunter. Mother of Mrs. Dora Eastman.

Mrs. C. H. Johnson, who, with her late husband, former state senator, C. H. Johnson, moved into Beresford from their farm north of town three and one-half years ago, was born near Elk Point in 1896. After attaining young womanhood, she taught in the rural schools of Union and then Lincoln counties. Married in 1921, she and Mr. Johnson then made their home on the land homesteaded by her husband's father. Their son, Harris, now makes the third generation to occupy it.

Mrs. Johnson recalls some tales often heard in her childhood days concerning the terrible flood in '81, near Elk Point. Her grandmother spent most of one day rowing a boat, in order to help save the small farm animals belonging to people living in the water's possible path. It was a time of serious distress, and much panic and anxiety.

It is of interest, too, that the grandmother, Mrs. Karen Ringsrud, was the mother of A. O. Ringsrud, our first secretary of state.

Mrs. Johnson "likes best" the people of Beresford, but she also stated that she was appreciative of the new school auditorium, she enjoys the park and the library, and she is aware of the great enjoyment which the swimming pool brings to those who can use it. And she did not forget to mention the satisfaction of the city delivery of daily mail.

All in all, Mrs. Johnson feels that to drive into Beresford certainly gives one the pleasant sensation of being in a most progressive little city.

Our Town's Name

"What's in a name?" queried the bard of Avon, "A rose by any other name would smell as sweet." Undoubtedly he had a point there, and proved it well, but still . . . we wonder . . . what might have been the difference had our small city been named after

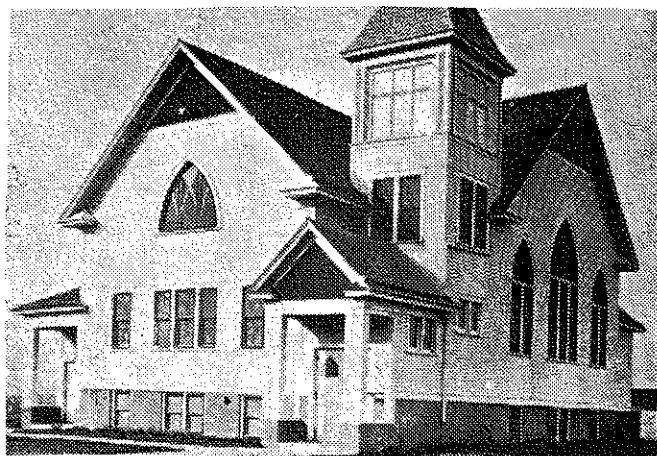
the beautiful French capital, and we would have been writing Paris, South Dakota, instead of Beresford?

To be sure, it would not have made one iota of difference in the "lay of the land." Nor would it hardly have affected the climate. The sun would have blazed down in summer upon us with just as much warmth and ardent enthusiasm, no doubt, as it does now when the sign of Cancer is upon us, and the cold wintry blasts which afflict us under the sign of Capricorn would be equally as icy whether the town was of French designation or of Irish (by way of the British navy). And there could have been no river Seine winding gracefully through the town, lending charm and also affording great avenues of trade. But there is one way in which we would have been very similar to the real Paris—we would have found ourselves in a very rich agricultural area. But no richer, you may argue, than we are now. Possibly not. But somehow we can not help but think that it would have been rather nice to have tried the French designation . . . "The last time I saw Paris her heart was warm and gay . . ." Who ever wrote so feelingly of London?

However, we are nothing if not progressive, and materialistic, and so we have our railroad, and we are named Beresford. And the railroad was a mighty fine improvement, too, especially in the days when we did not boast (or scarcely dream) of a car in every garage, nor a bus on every highway. And it was truly an honor to receive the name of one of the capitalists who was investing money in the C. N. & W. or so most appear to believe. And late information from the British embassy in Washington, D.C., discloses that according to Burke's Peerage, Beresford is the family name of the Marquess of Waterford, whose present family resides at Curraghmore, Portlaw, Waterford, Ireland. Lord Beresford was also an Admiral in the British navy.

No honest person could refuse to give credit where credit is due, but at least one individual is happy to reflect upon the philosophy of Robert Burns, at this point. "A man's a Man for a' that . . ." straight-forward thinking, and speaking, in a day when aristocracy was still strong. And, since the poet lived in the midst of it, what courage!

But, after all these devious wanderings, we are forced to admit that our small city is named Beresford, and as such is likely to remain. And another fact, too, remains. That is that our Beresford is going to be just what you and I make it. It is pretty fine, now, but if we try we can make it even better. So, what can we plan for improvement before another anniversary, our centennial, arrives? It is none too early to think of that.



DALESBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

Dalesburg Baptist

The Dalesburg Baptist church, first known as the Swede Baptist church of Bloomingdale, was organized June 25, 1871, in the home of G. Jonas Peterson and was composed of pioneers who had come from their native land of Sweden.

The Rev. Peter A. Ring of Big Springs was the first Baptist minister to visit the community. He led in the organizational activities and was assisted by George W. Freeman, pastor of the Baptist church of Elk Point, and by two laymen from the Big Springs Baptist church. Nine people declared their intention of forming a Baptist congregation. "On the same day, the first baptismal service of the church was held in the Vermillion river near Bloomingdale when four were baptized by Mr. Ring. Of the 13 charter members the following names are known: Hans Backman, Kristina Erickson, Olof Lind, Anna (T.A.) Olson, Jonas Peterson and wife, Kristina, and Lars A. Peterson.

The beginning was indeed small, for they had no church building or a pastor of their own. With a great deal of determination and strong faith in God, they held meetings in their humble homes, in a school-house, and in a granary.

During the early years the church was served by laymen and visiting ministers. Resident pastors have served the church since 1885.

Two church buildings and three parsonages have been built during the years. The present buildings were completed in 1919 and 1955 respectively.

Several young people of the church have through the years entered specific Christian service. Present membership of the church numbers 97. The Rev. Rawlin J. Johnson has been pastor of the church since August, 1950.



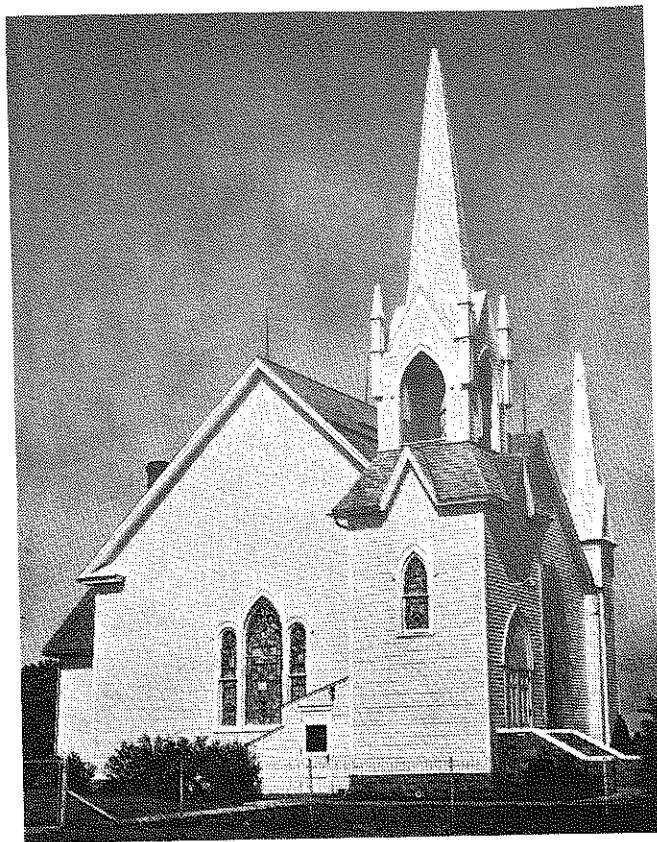
TRINITY CHURCH

In 1870 a congregation was organized under the name of Bethlehem Norwegian Lutheran church, serving eastern South Dakota and western Iowa. It started in a log house near Canton and was served by the Rev. O. E. Hofstad. After a few years, a group asked permission to organize a smaller church group south of Canton and including Patty Slough district, to still carry the name of Bethlehem.

The first building was erected at the site of the present Trinity church in 1875. All furnishings were made by members of the group. During the winter and spring seasons when roads were impassable, the congregation often gathered in small groups in various homes.

In 1902, the June tornado completely destroyed the church building, but within six months the congregation started the job of rebuilding. The present structure was dedicated May 20, 1906. The baptismal font, still in use, was a gift to the congregation from the Rev. O. A. Berge in 1895.

In 1918, Trinity joined Lands and Romsdal to form Moe parish. The Rev. E. J. Haanstad is pastor of the congregations.



SKREFSRUD LUTHERAN CHURCH

Skrefsrud

In the summer of 1909, a group of Norwegian Lutheran men gathered at the Erland Jacobson home to discuss the possibility of organizing a church. In August of that year, they met at the Andrew Thorson home with the Rev. J. A. Quello as leader. The congregation was organized Sept. 22, 1909.

Dedication services for the church, built at a cost of \$2,600, were held June 30, 1912. The church is located four miles north and three miles west of Beresford.

The following pastors have served Skrefsrud congregation: the Rev. J. A. Quello, 1909-1915; the Rev. J. J. Skarpness, 1916; the Rev. A. E. Distad, 1916-1920; Rev. Skarpness, 1921-1923; the Rev. J. O. Gisselquist, 1924-1937; the Rev. J. E. Borgen, 1938-1939; the Rev. T. A. Thompson, 1940-1944; the Rev. Emil Erpestad, 1944-1947; the Rev. Virgil F. Bjerke, 1947-1953.

The Rev. Olaf I. Rossing, present pastor, has served the congregation since 1953.



ROMSDAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Romsdal

Romsdal Evangelical Lutheran church was organized April 26, 1872, and was the beginning of Lutheran church work in the area. The Rev. G. L. Graven, first pastor, served over seven counties included in the parish from 1873 to 1898. Meetings were held in sod houses until a church was built in 1890 and dedicated July 10, 1892.

A tornado completely destroyed the building on June 24, 1902, and that fall work was started on a new structure which still serves the congregation. The church is located five miles north and four miles east of Beresford.

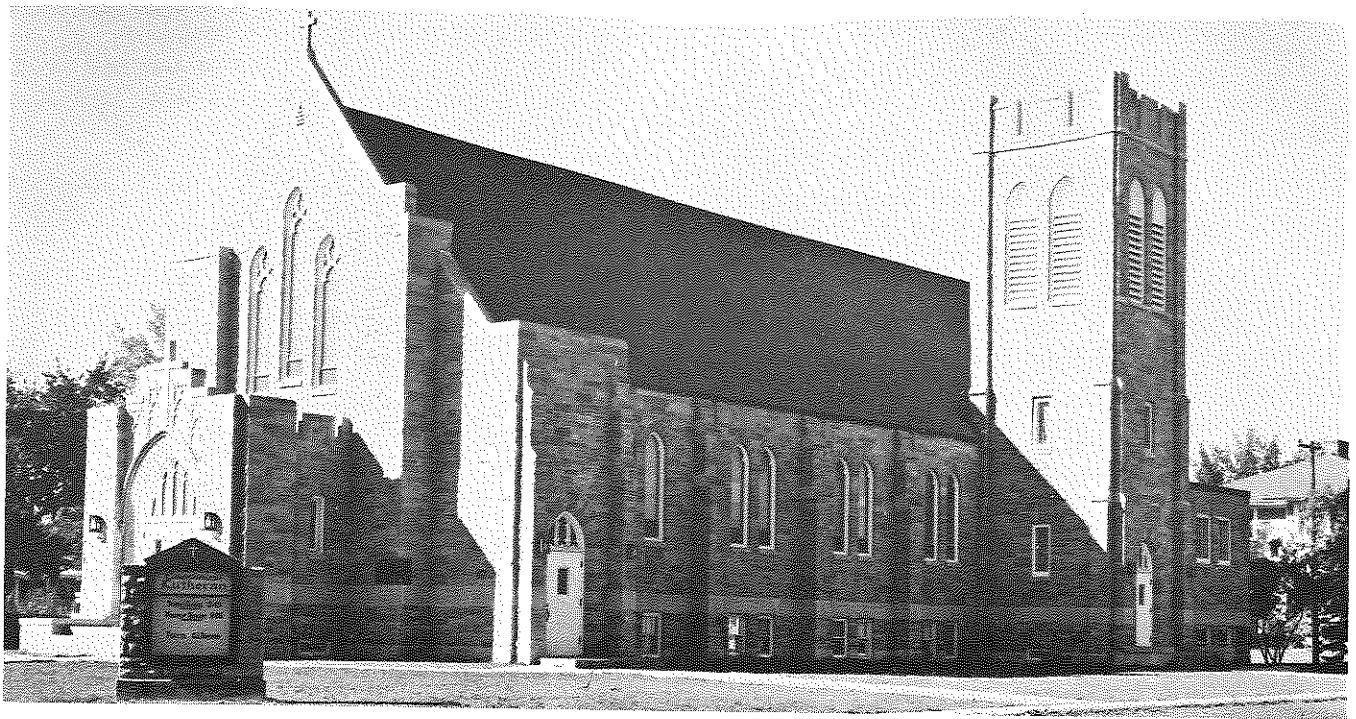
Ladies of the church organized the Women's Missionary society in 1877, and in 1903 the Sunday school was started. Other active groups include Lutheran Brotherhood, L.D.R., Luther League, Ladies' chorus, high school choir, youth choir, L.C.R., and the Mission group.

Many improvements have been made to the church property including the installation of a Delco light plant, now replaced by REA, in 1922; a full basement under the building in 1926; an addition which includes a sacristy and a modern kitchen in 1953.

In 1919, Romsdal congregation united with Lands and Trinity congregations to form Moe Parish. The 75th anniversary of the founding of Romsdal was celebrated in June, 1947.

Membership now includes 100 families or 300 souls. Services are conducted every Sunday morning by the Rev. Engval J. Haanstad, pastor.

Romsdal owes much to the faithful pioneers, departed and living, workers in the kingdom of God.



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Emmanuel Lutheran

Emmanuel Lutheran church had its beginning in June, 1893, when four pioneers, T. L. Torgeson, S. O. Steensland, A. Evenson, and C. Christopherson, met at the home of the Rev. G. L. Graven to organize a Lutheran congregation in Beresford. Rev. Graven acted as chairman and Mr. Torgeson as secretary. Emmanuel was the name chosen by the new congregation.

A building committee was named to decide upon the size and style of architecture for the new church, to be built on ground donated by Mr. Torgeson at the site now occupied by Cotton Chevrolet company. Construction was started, and in a little over a year the project was completed at a cost of \$1,719.20. Dedication services were held on July 8, 1894.

In 1894 the Sunday School was organized in the Torgeson home, and in this same year Bertha Fundingsland was appointed organist, a position she held for 34 years. The Ladies' Aid had been started two years before the organization of the congregation and has remained throughout the years a most active group.

The congregation enjoyed growth and development through the years and eventually outgrew the original church structure. In 1945 it was decided to build a new church on the corner of Fifth and Main street, and construction was started in 1946 under the pastor-

ate of the late Rev. Emil Erpestad. The cornerstone was laid in April, 1948, and the first service in the new building was held in the basement on June 26, 1949, before completion of the superstructure. First services in the new sanctuary were held later in 1949.

The new Emmanuel Lutheran church was dedicated to the glory of God on Pentecost Sunday, May 28, 1950, with the late Dr. L. A. Pierson, then president of the South Dakota district of the Evangelical Lutheran church, officiating. The Rev. Virgil F. Bjerke was pastor of the congregation at this time.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church has the following active organizations: Sunday school, Ladies' Aid, Luther League, Brotherhood, Young Adults League, L.D.R., L.C.R., a junior choir, and a senior choir.

Since its founding, the congregation has been served by the following pastors: the Rev. G. L. Garven, 1894-1901; the Rev. H. Moe, 1901-1903; the Rev. A. M. Mannes, 1903-1907; the Rev. J. A. Quello, 1907-1915; the Rev. A. E. Distad, 1916-1920; the Rev. J. O. Reitan, 1920-1923; the Rev. Louis Larson, 1925-1930; the Rev. T. T. Vikse, 1931-1935; the Rev. J. E. Borgen, 1935-1939; the Rev. T. A. Thompson, 1940-1944; the Rev. Emil Erpestad, 1944-1947; the Rev. Virgil F. Bjerke, 1947-1953.

The Rev. O. I. Rossing, present pastor, came to serve the congregation in 1953.

G.A.R.

Time, the great builder, and equally great destroyer, has worked much havoc with that once-so-celebrated organization, the Grand Army of the Republic. In Beresford, "the story of the boys of '61 who organized the General G. M. Dodge Post, No. 69, Grand Army of the Republic, has been told and re-told countless times." And, not to be omitted in the telling, is the fact that the Post was organized before the town was incorporated—two weeks before! But other events have dimmed the brightness of the tale, and it is now taking its place in history's memoirs, a fate inescapable by many fine efforts of the past.

The 14 men who originally made up the roster of the Post were Jerome Mangan, J. R. Carleton, R. A. Pierce, W. H. White, James Stevens, James Fitzgerald, John Davies, Nelson Patnoe, J. W. Churchill, Saul Stoner, Joseph Kimball, Samuel Keller, A. C. Brown, and J. M. Pierce. The last named was the only survivor of the group in 1927.

In the summer of 1927, Beresford was host to the State convention of the G.A.R. which was attended by 57 veterans, and about 200 auxiliary members.

In its heyday in the past, the Post had boasted 47 members. But when comrade Dewey arrived here from Iowa in 1913, he gathered together the five remaining old soldiers, and until 1929, when State Commander Dewey also passed away, they carried on as best they could.

The last to go was Job Pierce. The first State Commander was editor J. R. Carleton. The last was Colonel G. W. Dewey.

In the later days, all the work of the G.A.R. was turned over to the Woman's Relief Corps. And they undertook the functions of observance of patriotic anniversaries, and national holiday programs.

But back in the day when the town was in its infancy, and especially after they had built their hall (1888), the public life of the little town was centered in the G.A.R. Hall. It stood almost exactly two blocks east of the present Legion Auditorium.

Church suppers and bazaars, school entertainments, dances, public meetings of many sorts, as well as the funerals of the G.A.R. members were held in this hall.

In later years, Mr. Robert Pierce purchased the hall from the G.A.R. Post, and continued its use as an "Opera Hall." And after that it was remodeled into an automobile repair shop.

Mrs. J. R. Carleton was the first President of the Woman's Relief Corps, when it first organized. The

organization lapsed, and upon re-organization in 1926, to prepare for the state encampment the next year, Miss May Dewey was chosen President. Mrs. Ray Milliken now holds that office.

P.T.A.

One of Beresford's most important civic organizations, the Parent-Teachers association, was first organized in 1920 when Mrs. Burrd Ackley was elected president. After serving six years, Mrs. Ackley resigned to move to the west coast, and Mrs. C. L. Kemis headed the group.

The organization's influence was felt in many ways in the town, providing a place for parents and teachers to become better acquainted and to discuss problems incident to the proper rearing and educating of young children. The association interested the school board in various school improvements, including new playground equipment and electric lights for illuminating school grounds. This group also sponsored free medical and dental examinations for many of the school children. The original P-T-A was disbanded.

On March 23, 1954, under the sponsorship of the Twentieth Century Study club, Beresford Parent-Teachers' association was reorganized, with officers including Ed McGill, president; Mrs. Franz Ryger, Jr., vice president; Mrs. George Knudsen, treasurer. Shortly after the organizational meeting, the president and vice president submitted their resignations and Bill Vermillion became the acting chairman.

With the able leadership of officers and committee personnel, the P-T-A was carried through the difficult period of organization and has proved to be a valuable asset to the school and community. Information and inspiration have come from the programs presented at the six meetings held during each school year.

Projects of the P-T-A include sponsoring the polio vaccination clinic, providing funds for band uniforms, and sending delegates to district and state P-T-A conventions to keep the group informed and a working part of the national organization. Current project is to raise funds for choir gowns for the school chorus.

Citations have been received each year for membership increase and this year for the number of subscriptions to the National Parent-Teachers magazine.

Officers for the 1958-1959 season are the Rev. Roger Grow, president; Mrs. T. A. Peterson, vice-president; Mrs. Leo Scheuring, secretary; Mrs. William Jackson, treasurer.



BERESFORD METHODIST CHURCH

Methodist

A history of the "Methodist Episcopal Church of Dakota Territory" printed in 1888 states briefly that "a Methodist Episcopal church was organized in Beresford, Dakota Territory, in the fall of 1877, with ten members and five preaching places. There were now 81 members and six probationers."

The first Methodist minister was a circuit rider named Samuel Snyder who came to this territory in the fall of 1877. In April, 1881, William O. Redfield organized the first Sunday school.

A frame building was erected by the congregation in 1885 but was demolished by a tornado 17 years later. The present structure was built in 1914 with the Rev. J. B. Dibble as pastor. In 1919 the present parsonage was built.

In early years the ladies of the church added to its spiritual growth by organizing both a missionary and a ladies' aid society. On Sept. 5, 1940, after the consolidation of the three Methodist bodies, the women of the church changed their organization from the Ladies' Aid society to the Women's Society of Christian Service. Mrs. Zaidee Duerst was the first president; Mrs. Milton Wass, recording secretary; Mrs. J. C. Johnson, treasurer.

For 82 years the church has ministered to the several needs of humanity in this community in the name of "one who went about doing good." During those years, 37 ministers have served the church. Never once has this church been without a minister.

The Rev. Wesley Arms is the present pastor of the congregation.

Library

(From the files of the *Beresford Republic*,
Sept. 22, 1927)

No institution in Beresford is so thoroughly representative of community enterprise as is the Beresford free Public Library, conceived and nurtured through its early existence by the Beresford Study club and later, by popular approval, taken over by the city.

Responding to the city's need for a library, the Study club in 1923 appointed a committee on plans and arrangements to study the matter. This committee was composed of Mrs. A. S. Colby, Mrs. R. P. Sundstrom, and Mrs. A. S. Severson. When their report was made that, with the proper cooperation of the citizens, they would be able to carry out a library plan, the committee members, with Mrs. George Bruehler and Carl Seeger, were named as a library board with full authority to put the plan into execution in the name of the club. Mrs. Colby was elected the first president and Mrs. Bruehler the secretary-treasurer.

First contributions for the new library came from the club members themselves at a book shower, which resulted in 40 volumes, some reference works and some fiction. A few weeks later the public was invited to donate books, and almost 100 additional volumes were placed on the shelves by the public-spirited people.

Naturally there was need for a library foundation fund, and here again the members of the study club took the initiative, starting it off with a \$150 donation. A doughnut sale netted \$32.50; a French play, \$7; another entertainment, \$24.50; a contribution from the W.C.T.U., \$5, making a total of \$218.70. A tag day in November added another \$82.70 to the fund.

The first purchased books were added to the library July 31, 1923. Following the departure of Mr. Seeger, Mrs. J. W. Reedy was selected to take his place on the board, and assisted by Mrs. H. J. McCauley and Blanche Seeger, she served as librarian until Jan. 1, 1924, when Mrs. Lester Martelle was elected assistant librarian.

During this time the library had been growing rapidly, both in the number of books on its shelves and in popularity. As a consequence, Beresford Study Club members felt they could no longer sponsor it. Moreover a bank failure had wiped out the hard-earned funds. In July, 1924, the board appealed to W. J. Bulow, then city attorney, to present the matter of the city's taking over the responsibility of carrying on the work. Mr. Bulow complied with the request, and the council appointed a committee composed of Dr. J. S. Opland, E. R. DeRemer, and John Merrigan, to investigate the feasibility of the change.

At the December meeting of the library board, it was announced definitely that the city had agreed to take over the institution. Mr. DeRemer was named president of the library board to represent the council, and he in turn recommended the appointments of Mrs. Sundstrom, Mrs. Reedy, Mrs. Severson, and Mrs. Bruehler to serve with him.

The \$20 monthly allowance, which the city appropriated in June, 1924, to defray the actual running expenses, was increased to \$40 per month at the February council meeting in 1927. Whatever part of this allowance is not required for the upkeep of the library is used toward the purchase of new books. This, with the book fines and an occasional benefit entertainment, constitutes the only support.

However, in this year, 1959, the city appropriates \$200 per month for the library upkeep. The original library occupied a small area in the southeast corner of the second floor of the fire station, fitted with a few shelves built by E. R. DeRemer and Henry Hermanson—today the entire upstairs is devoted to the library work. Nearly 10,000 volumes are classified under the Dewey decimal system, and 20 magazines are received regularly. There are now reading tables, the stairway has been enclosed, and a "return box" installed for the benefit of patrons in the country.

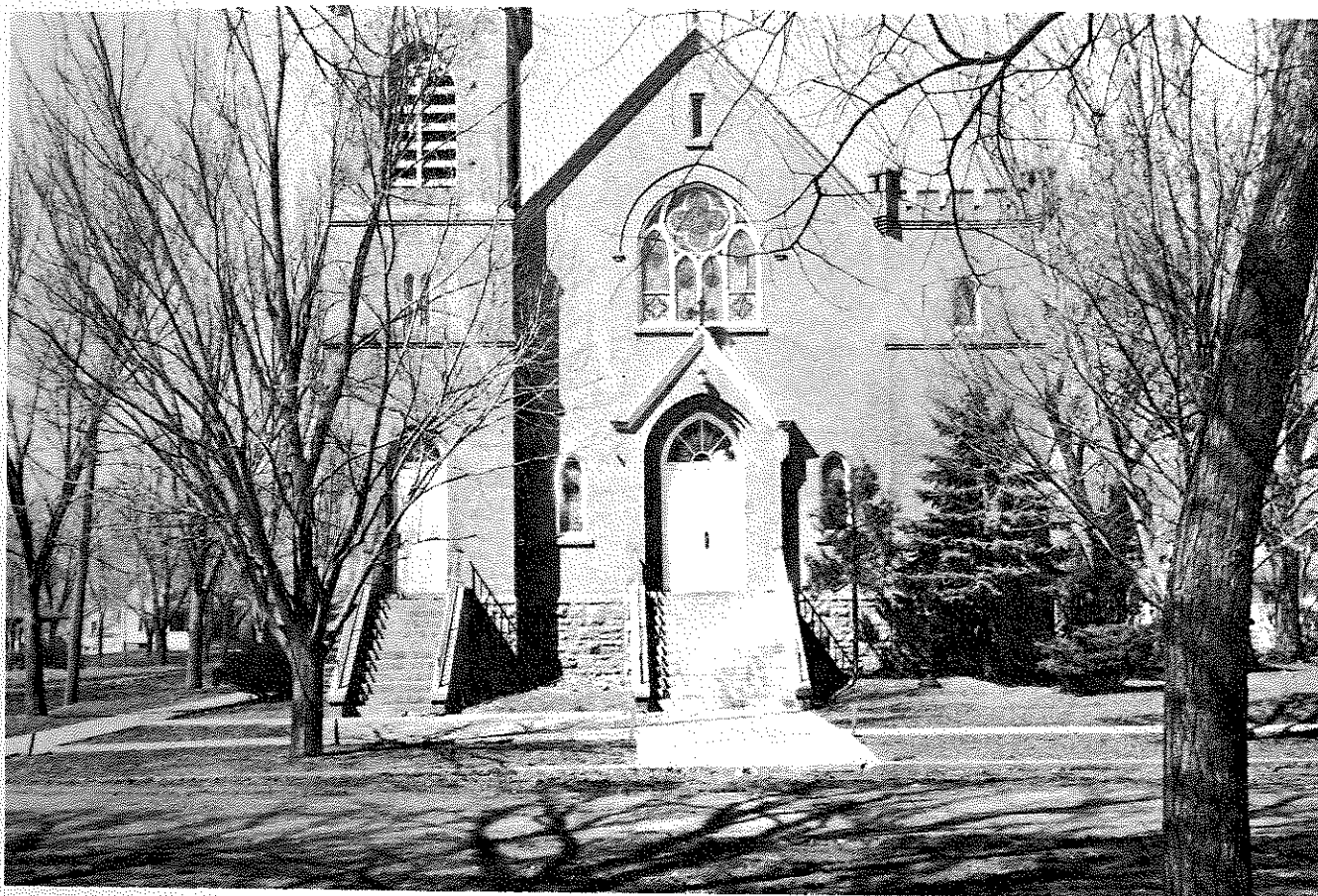
The library is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from 2-5 and 7-9 p.m. Mrs. Roscoe Frieberg is the present librarian and Mrs. Harry Bean her assistant. Secretary-treasurer of the board is Mrs. W. P. Iverson. Present board members are Mrs. J. L. Steadman, Mrs. George Bruehler, and Mrs. Claude Deane.

20th Century Study Club

The Twentieth Century Study club was organized Sept. 20, 1948, with ten charter members. By 1950, membership had grown to 18 and the club voted to join the National Federation of Women's clubs.

During the past ten years, the club has enjoyed many speakers, both from other communities and among its members. In 1956, the group was the hostess club to the Beresford Study club and the Progress Study club, at which time Mrs. E. R. Doering of Sioux Falls presented slides and a discussion of her travels to Europe.

The local unit of Parent-Teachers association was organized under the sponsorship of the Twentieth Century club, and many of the members have served as officers and committeewomen of the P-T-A. The club makes annual contributions to various fund drives and campaigns, and contributed \$50 to the swimming pool fund.



ST. TERESA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Teresa's

At the time of Beresford's founding in 1883, there were few Catholic families residing in the area now comprising St. Teresa's parish. These attended mass at St. Joseph's at Emmett, which had been organized in 1880, and priests from Emmett came to Beresford frequently to celebrate mass in various homes. The first mass was celebrated by the Rev. Michael Hogan on Dec. 30, 1883, in the home of Thomas Malloy.

In 1885, the number of Catholics had increased, and the Rev. J. V. McInerney came to be the first resident pastor. He was succeeded that year by the Rev. Edward Powers who directed the building of the first church. A second church was built by the expanding congregation in 1895 under the direction of the Rev. George Sheehan. In 1900 a new and imposing structure, considered to be one of the finest in the state, was erected. The Rev. James McNally

was pastor at that time.

A devastating wind storm in 1902 destroyed all three churches as well as many other buildings in the area, and for the next two years mass was celebrated in various homes and buildings in Beresford.

The present St. Teresa's church was built in 1904, under the able guidance of the Rev. J. J. O'Neill, and the building is adequate for the needs of the congregation to this day.

From 1885 to 1919, the church was served by 21 pastors; from 1919 to 1959, there have been five pastors.

There are about 140 families in the congregation in 1959, conscious of their obligations to their God, their country, and to the city and community in which they live. Father P. J. O'Connor is the present pastor of the parish.

Beresford Study Club

On a pleasant July afternoon in 1913, in the A. S. Colby home, Mrs. Colby and Mrs. W. J. Bulow conceived the idea of organizing a study club. They invited 14 ladies to the Bulow home and with those charter members, the club was organized, with the study of Shakespeare as the foremost objective. Mrs. F. W. Hoskins was elected the first president.

Later that year the club became federated with the stated objectives: the intellectual good of its members, the improvement of its locality, and the promotion of cooperation among its members.

Among the numerous achievements of Beresford Study club through the years are the sale of Red Cross stamps; contributions to the Sioux Falls Children's home; adoption of a French orphan for one year in 1917; sponsorship of the skating pond in 1917; requesting the school board to provide playground equipment (1919) which is still in use; sponsorship of the city library, lyceum courses, art exhibits, summer vacation reading programs; participation in the Golden Jubilee celebration with a "horse and buggy" number with Mrs. C. E. Wright as driver; presentation of a picture to the high school; sponsorship of the high school safety contest, and a garbage disposal program in 1936-1937.

The club also organized a Brownie troop in 1951, sent 39 books to Kansas and Missouri flood districts, raised \$70 for Korean war orphans, collected over \$500 at Halloween with the aid of school children for the swimming pool fund, and regularly makes many charitable and educational donations.

Annual contributions are made by the club to the cancer, polio, and Red Cross drives, the junior-senior prom fund, and the Sioux Falls Children's home.

President of the club at this time is Mrs. Otto Birnie.

Musical Arts Club

One of the newest organizations in Beresford is the Musical Arts club, organized April 8, 1957. The group meets on the fourth Monday evening of each month from September to May. The 14 members are required to take an active part in the programs of the club, which are based on a study of music and composers and a presentation of a "hymn of the month."

Special features have included a children's program given by children of the members; guest night when members presented vocal and instrumental music, and sponsorship of a community chorus which last year, under the direction of Allen Shannon, presented excerpts from Handel's Messiah.

The club is affiliated with the National Federation of Music clubs.

Progress Club

On Sept. 13, 1935, Mrs. Floyd Bergman, Mrs. Alfred Latendresse, Mrs. Oscar Graverson, and Mrs. Ed P. Olson met at the Olson home to organize a study club. The first official meeting was attended by 16 charter members who selected the name Progress club.

First officers of the club were Mrs. Bergman, president; Vera Huyck, vice president; Mrs. Latendresse, secretary; Mrs. Jay Gifford, treasurer. Objectives of the club were to promote intellectual growth and self-improvement, and advancement of a higher standard for the social, moral, and civic conditions of the town and community. On Oct. 1, 1935, the club became a member of the National Federation of Women's clubs at the state convention at Yankton.

Through the years the club has been instrumental in providing a skating pond for the youth of the community; equipment for the city park including a shelter for cooking, gas plates, tables, and benches; baskets of food and clothing for needy families at Christmas, and donations of books to the public library.

Mrs. Bergman, a charter member, served as president of the fourth district of the N.F.W.C. during 1955 and 1956.

Present enrollment of the club is 24, which includes ministers' wives as honorary members. Mrs. Melvin Sundstrom is president.

Tues-Sues

Tues-Sues Home Extension club was organized Oct. 3, 1956, with 18 charter members, to cooperate with others for the common ends of a more abundant home and community life.

Mrs. Howard Kennedy was elected president of the club; Mrs. Warren Johnson, vice president; Joan Wickstrom, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Dwane Walker, historian.

Members of the club participating in the county-wide home demonstration club program include Mrs. Kennedy, reporter; Mrs. Johnson, member of the planning committee; Dagny Osthus, music chairman, and Mrs. Paul Hybertson, a member of the mental health committee.

Mrs. Deane Fahlberg was selected as Lincoln county's Rural Homemaker of 1958, cited for her activities in church, extension work, P-TA, and outstanding ability as a homemaker.

Mrs. LeRoy Anderson is president of the club.



KOMSTAD COVENANT CHURCH

Komstad

No records are found prior to Oct. 23, 1874, of the beginnings of Komstad church although evidence in the records show that a few families held services before this time in their homes. Attending the first official meeting were Gustavus Norgren, Lars Peterson, and Adrian Isaakson.

On May 6, 1875, the congregation received five acres of land on which to erect a church. Hans Quarnberg donated lumber for the sills. Charles J. Anderson and Charles Jacobson served on the committee to raise funds for other building materials, estimated at an additional \$20.

Furnishings were sparse in the new church, and for two years there was no stove to heat the building. There were no benches until 1881.

The Rev. John E. Bodin came to serve the congregation in 1875, as well as conducting services at Mission church in Sioux City, Ia. Rev. Bodin received \$2.42 as his first year's salary. The remaining \$4 received in collections that year was sent to the synod.

In 1896, members built a parsonage, and the present edifice, located six miles west and three miles south of Beresford, was built in 1905. In 1916, under the ministry of the Rev. John E. Melin, the basement was enlarged to provide additional Sunday school space.

Relatives of two pioneer families, the Gustavus Norgrens and the Lars Petersons, installed stained

glass windows in memory of these charter members, in 1925. The painting "Jesus Knocking at the Door" was given in the memory of the Alfred Andersons by their children. As a tribute to the memory of departed loved ones, in 1941 a memorial fund was established and has since been used exclusively to make the sanctuary and church worship both more practical and beautiful.

Elizabeth Peterson, a missionary worker in China, and Lionel Seger, a worker in the Sudan Interior mission of Africa, have gone out from Komstad church. Annual appropriations are made to both home and foreign missions, with the latter receiving additional support from a fund established in memory of the late Mr. Norgren.

Sunday school was organized on Jan. 12, 1878, and has continued to be an integral part of church work since that time. Other divisions include Brotherhood, Ladies' Aid, two youth groups, and the choir.

The church remained non-denominational until its affiliation with the Evangelical Mission Covenant Church of America in June, 1954. Today both the local church and the denomination have deleted the word "mission" and are called "Komstad Covenant church" and "Evangelical Covenant Church of America" respectively.

The Rev. Dwight Johnson has been pastor of Komstad congregation since 1955.



ZION EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH

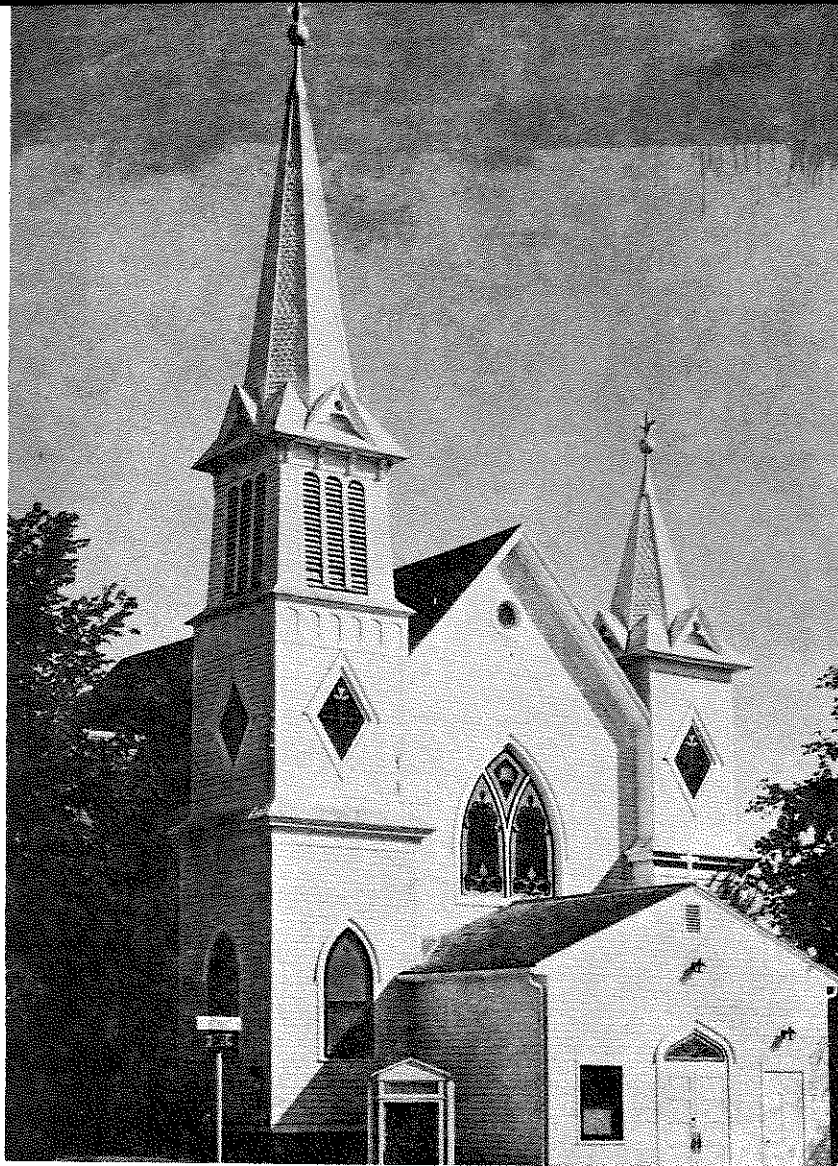
Zion Evangelical United Brethren

Zion Evangelical United Brethren Church was organized as a Mission Church in 1874. It was served by circuit pastors for many years. In the beginning there were only eight families and services were held in homes and later in the Pleasant Valley school house.

The first church building was erected in 1900, free of debt. Twice this church has been destroyed by wind and once by fire—each time being rebuilt. The present church was dedicated on June 17, 1945.

Organizations in the church include Women's Society of World Service, Adult League, Youth Fellowship, Young Married Couple's League, Men's Brotherhood, Boy's and Girl's Fellowship, as well as Adult and Junior choirs. The Sunday school enrollment is 48.

The church celebrated its 75th anniversary in 1949. The membership is 51 and present pastor is Rev. James E. Price.



NAZARETH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Nazareth Lutheran

In 1883, the year Beresford started, the Danish settlers organized their first church, known as the Nazareth Lutheran church. In the early years, services were held wherever it was most convenient for people to gather—in shanties, dugouts, or sod houses. In summer, open air services were conducted, and later, when schoolhouses were built, these, too, were used for church services. Nazareth Lutheran church was organized by people from St. Peter's church in Glenwood, St. John's church in Silver Lake, and others who had no church home at the time.

In 1885, the congregation purchased a small house for \$99 and moved it to the lot where the present church now stands. Records show that 50c was the cost of getting the legal papers. This building served as the house of worship until 1887 when the first church was built; the first parsonage was erected in 1891.

Pastor P. M. Petersen was the first resident pastor, serving from 1890 to 1897. He was followed by Pastor N. S. Nielsen, Pastor J. Markussen, and Pastor Erik Hansen. Pastor J. Knudsen served from 1909 to 1918; Pastor A. V. Neve, 1918-1942; Pastor E. W. Olson, 1942-1945. Pastor E. L. Erlander has served the congregation since 1946.

During the past 76 years Nazareth congregation has had faithful pastors and many consecrated members who have worked together for the furtherance of God's kingdom, with various branches of the congregation, the Ladies' Aid, Sunday school, Luther League, each contributing faithfully in harmony with the church.

Considerable money has been spent in modernizing and redecorating the church property during the past 15 years. The former H. P. Petersen residence, which was purchased when the old parsonage was sold, makes a comfortable home for the pastor and his family.

Girl Scouts

Beresford's first Girl Scout troop was organized in 1928, 16 years after the founding of the national organization. Evangeline Olson was the first leader, assisted by Dagne Soderstrom, Frances Brown, and Helen Skaff.

Except for two brief intervals, the organization has been active through the years. The American Legion auxiliary has sponsored Girl Scouts since its organization. Progress Study club is sponsor for Brownies.

Nationwide membership increased to 2,530,000 girls and 765,000 adults through the years, and as a part of regional planning, Minn-Ia-Kota council chartered in 1953 to have jurisdiction over several bordering counties and headquartered in Sioux Falls. Serving on the planning committee which organized the council were Mrs. Almer Steensland, Mrs. Al Henderson, and Mrs. Lowell Hogan.

In 1957, two members, Carolyn DeLay and Evelyn Frieberg, were selected to attend the international round-up held near Detroit. Each year almost all members attend a week of day camp held at Union county state park, and many go to the established camp at Lyon Lodge on Wall lake.

Beresford now has eight troops with 95 members. Troop leaders include Mrs. T. A. Peterson, Mrs. John Bergman, Mrs. Earl White, Mrs. Lowell Hogan, Mrs. Lyle Jensen, Mrs. Ed P. Olson, Mrs. Almer Steensland, Mrs. Richard Girard, Mrs. Floyd Bergman, Mrs. Julian Eide, and Mrs. Cal Olson. Mrs. Al Henderson is serving her fourth year as district chairman.

Museum

In 1950 some friends gave Mrs. Edwin P. Olson some specimens of ore, crystals, petrified turtles, stuffed fowl, and smaller birds. This was the start of the National History museum in Beresford.

The Scamperette Girl Scout troop, of which Mrs. Olson was leader, helped her clean out a storage room above Hardware Supply company, and here the museum was housed.

Some of the interesting pioneer articles from this community include a haytwister, buggy charcoal foot warmer, bread mixing pail, carpet swing, 200-year-old beer keg, and a wooden barley fork.

Also included are service men's souvenirs and weapons, as well as hundreds of items in the natural history field. One of the most interesting items is a piece of back bone of a plesiosaurus, a prehistoric lizard who

swam in the middlewest Cretaceous sea 50 million years ago. This was found by Fred Smith, Mrs. Olson's father, at Union county park dam.

Jack Hoard, now in Panama, loaned the museum his entire collection of Indian artifacts excavated in South Dakota as well as other states.

Over 2,000 visitors have registered at the museum, including several from foreign countries.

Boy Scouts

The Beresford Boy Scout Troop was organized in 1914 by Mr. B. F. Morton. This was just 45 years ago, and there were possibly twenty boys in the first troop.

Camping was done by hiking to a camp site, sometimes with the aid of a team of horses, as far away, perhaps, as the river near Centerville. Only two of the first members now reside in Beresford—DeLoss Smith and H. J. Larson.

Later, the City Hall furnished the meeting place for scout gatherings.

Troop 11 has had active Scoutmasters. Some of them were: B. F. Morton, E. W. Sarda, C. C. Seeger, Chester Heisler, Arnold Stentjes, Henry Duitsman, and Carl Nelson.

Several of the scouts have attained the honor of becoming Eagle Scouts. They are: Charles Newell, 1938; Sterling Hogen, 1939; Wendell Peterson, 1941; Pierce Smith, 1942; C. H. Paston, 1942; Lee DeLay, 1946; Peter W. Nelson, 1958.

In 1941, when Wendell Peterson was awarded the Eagle badge at the Camp-O-Ree held in Sioux Falls, it was thought that he was the youngest ever to attain that honor in the state. He was 14 years of age.

Some of the scouts given Church awards are: Peter W. Nelson, 1958; Robert Frick, 1959; LeRoy Henle, 1959; Donald Tornberg, 1959.

Four Scouts have passed away. They are:

Charles B. Newell, August 14, 1920—1939

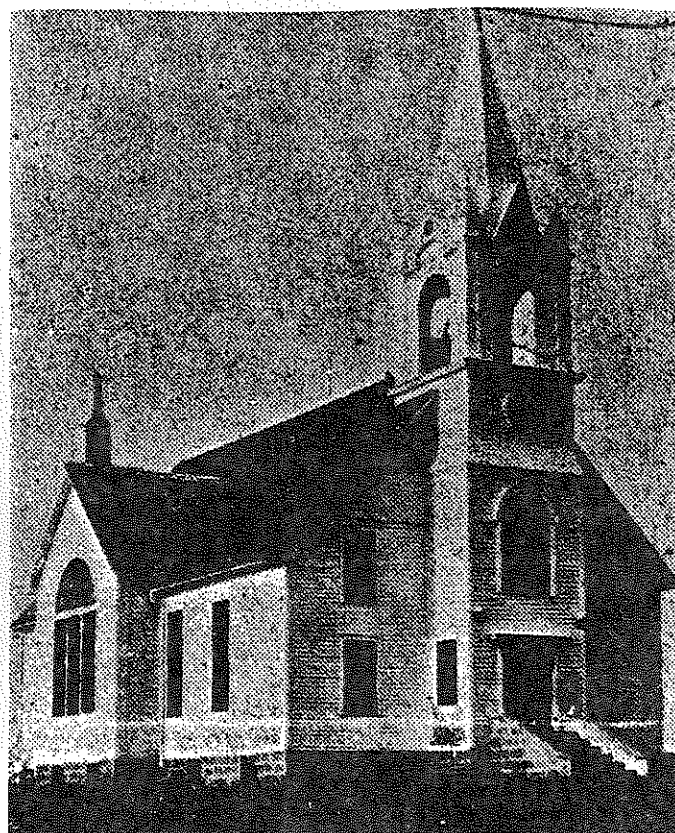
Peter Francis Gard, April 4, 1935—Sept. 10, 1951

Frank Wesley Spillman, March 25, 1940—Aug. 20, 1953

Neal F. Vermillion, January 19, 1947—1958

On Memorial Day the Boy Scouts assemble to decorate the last resting place of those departed with flowers.

At present the Scout troop numbers about forty. Sponsoring organization is the American Legion.



ROSENI LUTHERAN CHURCH

Roseni

The first settlers connected with Roseni congregation came to this community in 1869, gathering informally at homes for Christian fellowship before formal organization of the church in 1872. Pastor G. L. Graven was called to serve the group at that time.

Roseni congregation was a member of the Hauge synod which later merged into the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran synod, which became the Evangelical Lutheran synod.

The first building was built on the south side of the road ten miles south and two miles east of Beresford on land given by Mr. and Mrs. Ole Solberg. In 1895, a new church was built on the north side of the road. This building burned in 1911, and the present church was built in 1912.

Pastors serving Roseni include the Rev. G. O. Vik, 1892-1911; the Rev. S. L. Jacobson, 1911-1920; the Rev. E. E. Espelein, 1921-1923; the Rev. N. J. Klungvedt, 1924-1931; the Rev. N. O. Ensberg, 1931-1942;

the Rev. B. F. Molstre, 1942-1951; the Rev. C. H. Nelson, 1951-1955. The Rev. A. P. Nelson, present pastor, came in 1955.

Charter members of Roseni include Anfin Utheim; Johan Olbue, Mattias Stenvig, Jens Jacobson, Hans Heidem, Johan Stoem, Magnus Larson, and Eric Ronning. Others who were early members were Elling Hansen, Daniel Christopherson, Halvor Jacobson, Johannes Dybvig, Johan Larson, Andreas Stoem, Olaus Rendem, Peder Erickson, Mons Erickson, Ole Stoem, Bendik Duskar, Carl Stoem, Lars Oferson, Ole Solberg, Olaf Stoland, Halvor and Marvin Aalbu, Lars Solaas, Ole and Sivert Stene, Erick and Anders Sveggen, and Ole Lykken.

Roseni has three sons in the ministry of the church, Anfin Uthiem, Johan Olbue, and Peder Lerseth. Josephine Lykken is presently in parish work at Windom, Minn. The congregation, with St. Peter church, supports a missionary, Lila Sivesind, in Madagascar.

The Norwegian language was used almost exclusively until 1924; the English language has been used since then.



THE SUNSHINE FOUR—AL, MEL, MIKE, OLE

Sunshine Four

The Sunshine Four was started in 1940, for better or for worse, because Ed Blankenberg, secretary-treasurer of the Federal Farm Loan association, wanted a quartet to sing at the annual meeting. Not knowing where to find one, he picked four members of the Beresford Methodist church choir to be "it." The original foursome included Harvey Monk, Wilmar Schmid, Ole Hanson, and Al Henderson.

Mel Holm came to Beresford and replaced Harvey who didn't care too much about annoying the neighbors. In 1946, Wilmar just didn't have enough time because of his father's illness, so he was replaced by Mike Bak, then just out of the army.

The Sunshine Four became a member of the national quartet organization known as the S.P.E.B.S.Q. S.A., Inc., and in 1947 won fifth spot in national competition held at Topeka, Kans., against 34 picked quartets. Since then they have sung at numerous shows in all of the midwestern states.

It is doubtful if any other local organization has done as much to bring to the attention of so many people in so many places the name of Beresford, S. Dak. The theme song of the group is "Keep America Singing," and they have done their best to do just that.

LIONS

L—Liberty
I—Intelligence

O—Our
N—Nation's
S—Safety

In its comparatively short history, the Beresford Lions club has proved to be an asset for the entire community. The organizational meeting was held Oct. 19, 1954, and the formal Lions club charter night was held Dec. 1, 1954, with 30 community-service minded men as charter members.

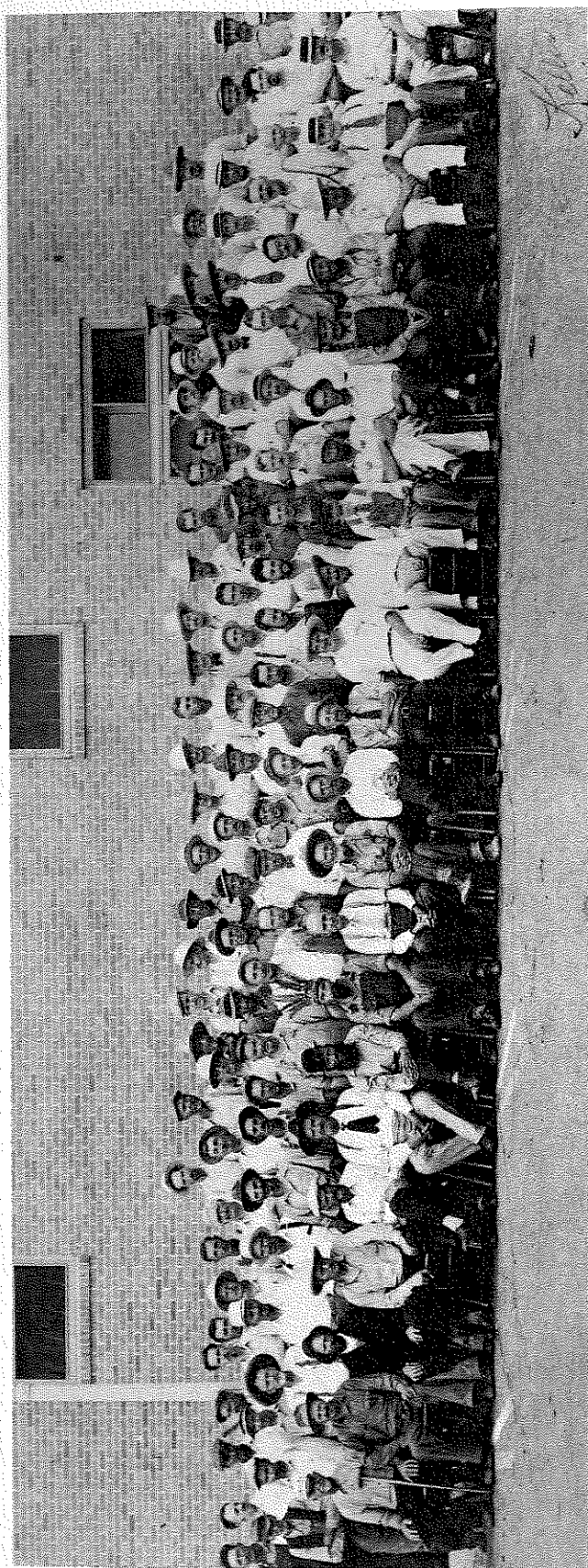
Possibly the largest and most important community project started and followed through to completion by the Lions was the Beresford community swimming pool. The club sponsored many fund-raising activities to help defray construction costs of the pool and coordinated the funds given by other civic organizations, business firms, and individuals.

Lion members accepted the task of selling house numbers and mail boxes so Beresford could take advantage of city mail delivery.

Other projects of the organization completed or in progress include the ice skating rink, several trap shoots and rabbit hunts, eye tests for grade school children, paying costs of eye examinations and eye glasses, sponsoring the city library improvement fund, the cooking shelter in city park, the White Cane campaign, and sponsoring the Alcester Lions club.

The group meets on the first and third Thursday evenings each month in the Masonic hall, with ladies of the Eastern Star serving the dinner meetings.

Officers are Dan Cotton, president; Selmer Hanson, secretary-treasurer; Bill Bierbaum, first vice president; Dr. J. H. Marek, second vice president; Earl White, third vice president.



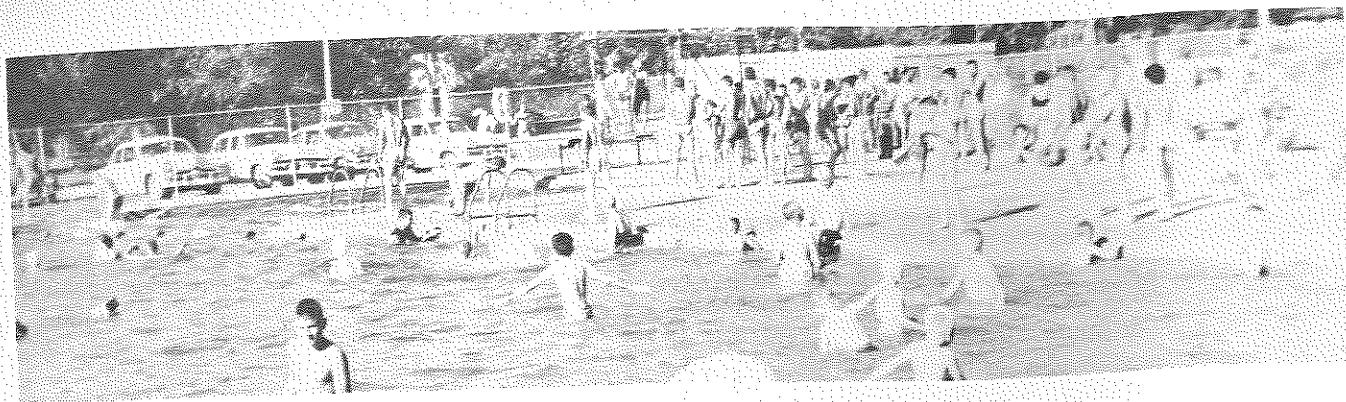
GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATORS, AUGUST 1934

First row: Wm. Thompson, Hans Jensen, Thorvold Johnson, Herman Bondhus, Leo Bailey, "Reverend" Hult, Henry Halverson, Unknown, J. N. Wass, Gep Candrau, Fred Smith, John Druican, Art Rocheau, Leo DeLay, Joe Voegeli, Carl Nelson, Chas. Weaver, Nels Johnson, Wm. Smith, Dr. H. J. McCauley, H. W. Hoskins, Andrew Severson.

Second row: Mr. Jorgenson, E. P. Olson, "Cappy" Martelle, Mr. Stoen, Unknown, Robert Thompson, Ludwig Rommereim, "Jap" Adams, Unknown, Williard Johnson, Joseph Johnson, Ed Westling, Ernest Bickett, Bert Garvick, M. V. Hilling, Ed Larson, Ned Stoner, Al Nordquist, Leo Scheuring, Cliff Johnson, Earl Hedeon, Ray Norelius, C. E. Wright, W. F. Smith, Ed Malloy, C. O. Peterson.

Third row: Bert Hutrud, "Doc" Harding, Geo. McIlvanna, Enoch Larson, DeLoss Smith, Willmar Schmid, Jack Ketter, H. Watson, Mr. Johnson, Ard Wilbert, Wm. Heurman, Moody Johnson, Dewey Johnson, Chas. Smith, Poli Latendresse, Holger Johnson, Harry Jones, Tom Voegeli, Olaf Hanson, Leo Reinartz, Louis Wilson, Ed Rasmussen, J. W. Kaye, Geo. Bruehler, Pete Gard, Adolph Hanson, Art Loffler, C. E. Warne.

Back row: Frank Willison, Unknown, Henry Thayer, M. Stephenson, E. R. DeRemer, Paul Smith, John Johnson, Lee McMahon, Schweitzer (Band Leader), Ernest Dann, Everett Kundert, Dr. W. P. Iverson, Bert Nodvedt, Hazen Larson, Bert McDonald, Mike Mangan, Si Hendrickson, Supt. M. H. Hogan, Reverend Blackburn (on horse), Jim Arnold, Frank Johnson, Harold Carpenter.



BERESFORD SWIMMING POOL

Pleasant Study Club

Pleasant Study club was organized in 1921 by a group of rural women who felt a need to share and study current problems and to gain a better knowledge and understanding of world issues. Mrs. Albert Birkland was elected the first president.

Throughout the years over 200 topics have been discussed, 60 books reviewed, and 30 guest speakers heard. Ten meetings and one outing are held during the year.

Annual contributions are made by the club to Red Cross, Crippled Children's hospital, State hospital, and other charitable drives. One of the current projects for community service is a visiting program for Bethesda Home for the Aged. Once or twice a month members visit the home to take residents for rides, to entertain them in local homes, to assist with reading or letter writing, to give birthday parties, and to serve refreshments.

In 1953 the club affiliated with the Federated Women's clubs, and has sent delegates to state and district conventions.

Membership in the club is limited to 20, with prospective members invited to join only if they are especially interested in the work of the club. During the past 38 years, attendance at meetings is usually 100%, proving that every woman is proud of her affiliation and endorses the club's theme, "strength through wisdom." A tradition in which hostesses take pride is the delightful and elegant manner used to serve refreshments.

Present officers are Mrs. Joe Determan, president; Mrs. Harris Johnson, vice president; Mrs. Elvin Rusten, secretary.

Mrs. Everett Eneboe is at present serving as secretary of the fourth district of the South Dakota Federation of Women's clubs. Mrs. Determan and Mrs. Graham are charter members of the club.

V.F.W. Auxiliary

Beresford's auxiliary to United post 2975, Veterans of Foreign Wars, was organized April 20, 1934, with 19 charter members. First officers of the group were Loretta Meile, president; Bettie West, senior vice president; Grace Bedard, junior vice president; Eva Swedelson, treasurer; Estella Jordan, chaplain; Bessie Keffer, conductress; Margaret Jacobson, guard; Hazel Klostegaard, Clara Sundstrom, and Christine Kirkebak, trustees; Mattie Anderson, patriotic instructor; Elsie Dahl, musician and historian; Martha Peterson, secretary.

The organization held the department encampment in 1936. This year it will celebrate the 25th anniversary with a membership of 106. Work includes projects for veterans and hospitals, as well as participation in community activities.

Present officers are Leona Eastman, president; Florence Lundeen, senior vice president; Blanche Olsen, junior vice president; Agnes Milliken, chaplain; Bonnie Hustrulid, secretary; Loretta Meile, treasurer; Mabel Jensen, patriotic instructor; Mattie Anderson, musician; Ann Neuroth, Ardis Jensen, and Ruth Hustrulid, trustees; Patricia Messler, Avis Messler, Ina Larson, and Lucille Farley, color bearers; Virginia Bovill, flag bearer; Elaine Merriman, banner bearer; Bessie Keffer, conductress; Ann Foisey, guard; Opal Dahlen, historian.

On Jan. 30, 1956, the V.F.W. Auxiliary Past President's club was organized with 11 members. Agnes Milliken is president; Bessie Keffer, senior vice president; Mattie Anderson, secretary-treasurer. Two past presidents, Maude Walter and Sarah Nygaard, are deceased. The Past Presidents' club project is working for veterans hospitals.

Dr. A. V. Elliott, Pioneer Doctor

Dr. A. V. Elliott, who was held in great esteem by the whole Beresford community, as pioneer doctor since 1888, died very suddenly one day as he stood on the street corner talking to some friends.

It seems that the doctor had been suffering from heart trouble, and following an examination in Sioux City, had been told he must have rest, as his heart action was weak. When the end came, he had been discussing with friends some of the phases of the historical edition of the previous week's *Republic* issue. When he fell unconscious on the walk, Doctors Haug and Toohey chanced to be near, and they resorted to every means known to the profession to restore his life but to no avail.

Impassable roads kept away many country people, and those from surrounding areas also, but the crowd as it was overflowed the Methodist auditorium so that as many were outside the church as inside at the funeral service. The Reverend A. R. Hyatt delivered the sermon, which was largely a eulogy of one whose life had been so suddenly terminated.

Dr. Elliott had graduated from Rush medical school, and had come here after his graduation. For years he had faithfully ridden the prairie roads day and night to minister to the sick. And he was a man of such broad interests, a lover of good reading, and of a philosophical turn of mind, so that conversation with him was interesting and enlightening. He was not fond of ostentation, but he did like to "keep up with the times" to some extent, and he had the first automobile in the town. Also, he was a great radio enthusiast.

In the remarks of the Honorable August Frieberg at the funeral of Dr. Elliott, he said, "I have heard all his competitors say with one voice, that he was always generous and courteous in his treatment of them. As a business man he was punctuality personified, and I do not believe a business man had ever to remind him of an obligation. He died a young man, but his has been a busy life. And it is said that the measure of a man's life is not his length of years, nor is it gauged by his wealth, or worldly distinction or honors. It is he who has been useful to his fellow men, and helped carry his neighbor's burden, and found service the highest attainment."

It seems indicative of the respect in which the doctor was held that a young competitor, Dr. L. A. Haug, who was possessed of an exceptional gift of song, should offer a solo and join in other musical contributions at Dr. Elliott's funeral. Very seldom is such a matter of record anywhere.

The obituary sketch informs us that Arastus Ver-



DR. A. V. ELLIOTT

non Elliott was born on December 11, 1865, near Buffalo Prairie, Rock Island county, Illinois. He passed away in Beresford, South Dakota, June 7, 1923.

The youngest of twelve children, he had always been ambitious for an education. For a year and a half he ran a country store in order to get the funds for schooling. At Rush medical college he was graduated with honors, and came west to locate as partner with Dr. Quigley at Hawarden for a time.

In 1891 he married Gertrude Whalen of Hawarden. Three children were born to them, Isabel—now Mrs. Matt Woolridge, Sioux City—Eva, and Cameron.

No human being, as we are so often reminded, is perfect. But in the case of Dr. Elliott his virtues far outweighed his faults, and he had endeared himself to the whole community, so that, when he was so quickly taken, the grief and the shock were almost unbearable to everyone in and around Beresford.

He was superintendent of the State Board of Health, and also active in Masonic circles. He was a Woodman, also. In 1917, he was made a member of the State Exemption Board, but resigned to enter the service as a Captain in the Medical Corps. After the war, he was honored by being elected the first Legion Commander, in Beresford, when the American Legion was organized here. At the time of his death, he was still a member of the Officers Reserve Corps, subject to call at any time, and government medical examiner for this section.

But, in Beresford history, the name of Dr. A. V. Elliott will be mostly remembered because of his courteous and kindly treatment of young and old, rich and poor alike. He was their pioneer doctor, and their friend.

The American Legion Auxiliary

The American Legion auxiliary, Meadors post unit No. 72, was organized Dec. 16, 1919, when 17 ladies met in the American Legion rooms with Eva Elliott serving as chairman pro-tem and Mae Dewey, secretary pro-tem.

A committee, Mrs. George Bruehler, Eva Elliott, and Mrs. A. L. Yorker, was appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws, which were adopted by the group on March 26, 1920. First officers included Mrs. J. V. Parker, president; Mrs. George Duea, vice president; Mrs. H. A. Nolan, secretary; Mrs. A. V. Elliott, treasurer. Early meetings were held in various homes semi-monthly.

The auxiliary has grown to include a present membership of 97, with Mrs. Charles Breuhler the only one with continuous membership since the unit's origin.

Throughout the years, the auxiliary has made every effort to aid all activities undertaken by the American Legion and to cooperate in civic projects for community betterment. It has continued its efforts to support all requirements of the department and made outstanding contributions for rehabilitation and child welfare, and support of hospitals.

For the past 12 years the organization has sent an outstanding high school girl as Beresford's representative to Girls' State. Poppy sales last year were over 2,700.

When the American Legion hall was completed, the auxiliary purchased chairs, furnished a complete kitchen, dishes, silver, and other equipment; two pianos, and assisted in remodeling the building after two fires.

The Legion auxiliary has also sponsored the Girl Scouts from the beginning; helped furnish the ward at Battle Mountain sanitorium in Hot Springs; furnished a hospital room at Custer; adopted two war orphans; conducted the American essay contest and awarded prizes to the winners each year; sponsored high school dances and the junior-senior prom for the past 17 years. Other activities include remembering the shut-ins during the holiday season, conducting health clinics, decorating graves, and purchasing grave markers for all deceased members.

The seven Gold Star Mothers are Mrs. James Birnie, Mrs. Susanna Olson, Mrs. Gena Peterson, Mrs. S. O. Steensland, Mrs. Meadors Peterson, Mrs. Cecil Clay, and Mrs. Albin Ambur.

Mrs. Mabel Kittelson is now serving as district secretary.

The auxiliary is proud of its many past achievements and continues to grow each year.

The American Legion

A charter was issued to the Beresford American Legion Post 72 on Sept. 16, 1919. Because Satisfield Meadors was the first man from this area to be killed in action, the post adopted the name Meadors.

Dr. A. V. Elliot served as the first commander, with a post membership of 68.

In the early 1920's, the present American Legion hall was built. The building was gutted twice by fire, and rebuilt twice, the last time in 1952.

Beresford's post has sponsored Junior league baseball since the start of the Legion program. They also send two boys to Boys' State each year, and have sponsored a Boy Scout troop since 1938.

Present membership, now totaling 238, is composed of veterans of World War I, World War II, and the Korean war. The post celebrated its 40th anniversary this year.

Rebekah Lodge

Beresford's first Rebekah lodge, Athalia, was organized Feb. 25, 1896, but disbanded Dec. 18, 1912. Through the efforts of Dr. G. R. Dietze, Beresford Rebekah lodge was again organized Dec. 29, 1925, in ceremonies conducted by William Bernhardt, grand master; Mary Burnette, assembly president, and officers of the Centerville Rebekah lodge.

Charter members included Mary Pierce, Hattie Wickstrom, Amanda Johnson, Ole Wevik, Charles Nielson, Ruth Hustrulid, Bert Hustrulid, Jacob Tschudy, Emil Tschudy, John Williams, Ed Larson, Vera Larson, Jay C. Gifford, John Raabe, Ida Raabe, and Dr. Dietze.

Present membership of the lodge is 75, which includes five of the charter members. Officers are Ida Henle, noble grand; Amy Smith, vice grand; Ida M. Gifford, secretary; Ruth Hustrulid, treasurer.

There is an active Three Links club within the lodge.

Fraternal Order of Eagles

The Fraternal Order of Eagles received its charter and was organized Sept. 24, 1951, with 63 members. Since its founding, the group has grown to include over 150 members.

The Holse building on North Third street, where the organization has met since its beginnings, was purchased by the Eagles in 1958.

The Eagles have sponsored the baseball team several years and also contribute to various fund drives conducted in the city.

Steadman Pioneers

John W. Steadman was born on October 18, 1857, at Owen Sound, Ontario, Canada. With his parents and their family, as well as the additional company of a large band of relatives, about 40 in all, he arrived at Sioux City, Iowa, in March of the year 1870. They had traveled by train to Sioux City, and there the group purchased horses, mules, and wagons, oxen and some implements and made their way to Dakota territory, to about the present location of Union County Park.

Rather than take time to build separate shacks, they concentrated on growing some crops. And they enjoyed a fine yield—Floyd Steadman recalls that his father often referred to the bountiful first years of farming on the new land. Potatoes, especially did well, as did beans, etc.

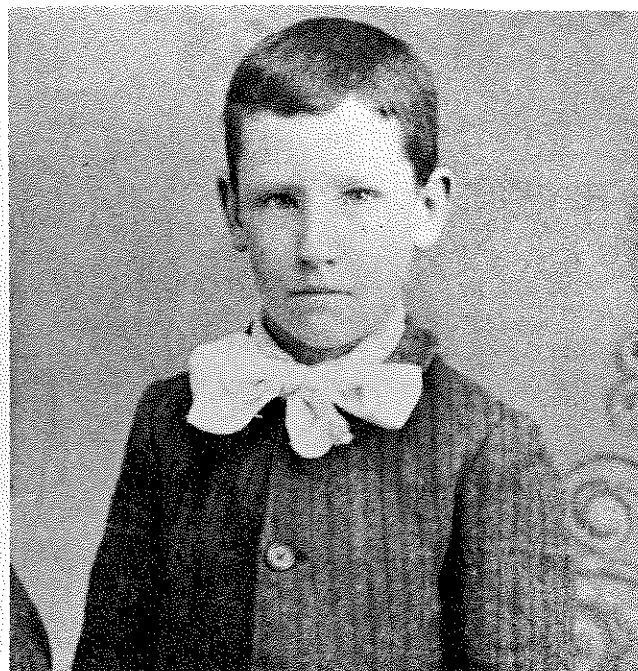
The whole party lived in a dug-out the first year, digging a large cave, which they covered with logs and dirt.

In 1872, the bitter winter weather caused a great tragedy in the group. Mr. Steadman's uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Hemstock, were frozen to death. When the storm came up, the husband had gone out to gather in the cattle, and when he did not return his wife went to look for him, although she was forced to leave alone in the house the two little daughters, one aged 3 years and the other a baby. The children were found by neighbors, a couple of days later. The older girl had kept her baby sister warm in bed. The mother and father had never found each other but their bodies were only about a hundred feet apart, frozen in the snow.

Coffins were fashioned for them out of boards taken from the upstairs flooring in Samuel Steadman's newly erected house, as no lumber was to be had, closer than Vermillion. The old house which furnished the flooring for the coffins is still standing, seven miles south of Beresford. Burial was on Anthony Steadman's homestead, later the property of Frank Dolan, and it is that cemetery that the highway recently by-passed. Later, J. W. Steadman's father, George Steadman, his wife, Geneva, and also a younger brother of J. W. Steadman, Elmer, were buried there. It is a dedicated cemetery.

J. W. Steadman lived in Vermillion for several years with his parents, and while there managed to attend school part of two winters, the first school built in Dakota Territory. During the summer he worked with a team, throwing up the grade for Dakota's first railroad—the Dakota Southern, from Sioux City to Yankton.

Mrs. Steadman was born near Postville, Wisconsin,

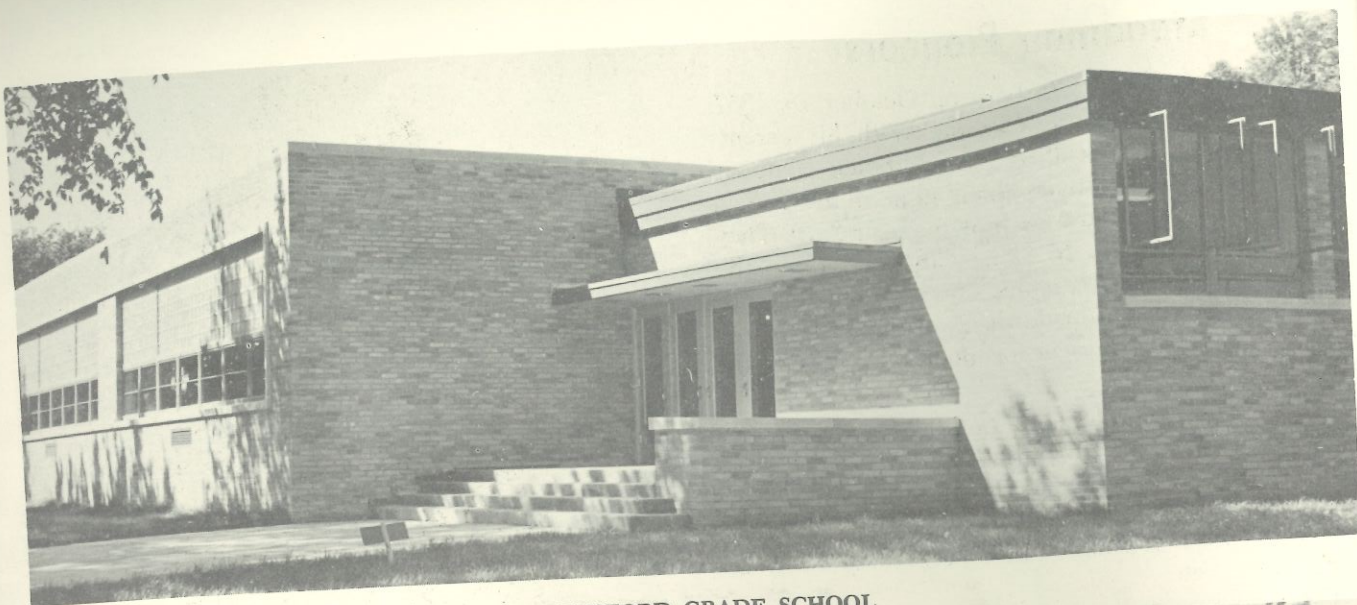


Morris W. Steadman, second boy born in Beresford—Nov. 29, 1883

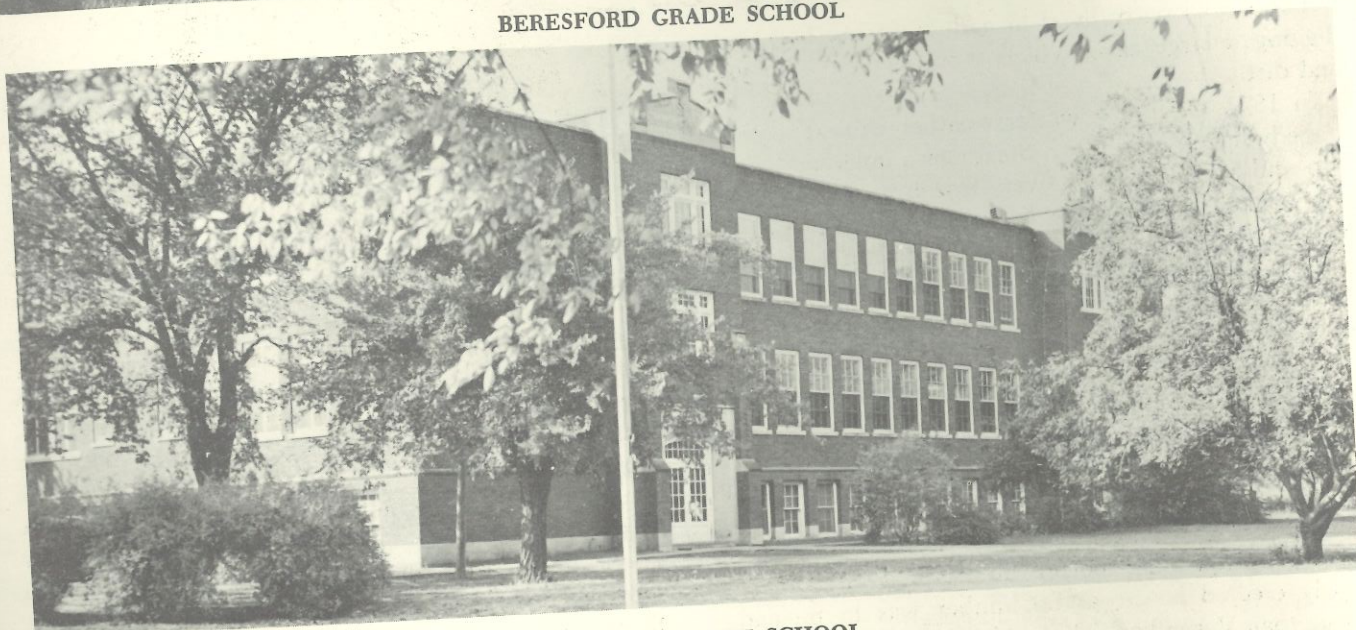
August 30, 1862. She came to Beresford about 1880, to stay with a sister, Annie Keon. She taught school in Emmett vicinity until she was married to Mr. Steadman. They first operated a meat market in Beresford, living upstairs over the building Mr. Steadman had erected for it—the first such market in the town. It was there that their first child, Morris, was born, on November 29, 1883. Since it appears that Richard Malloy's mother was actually in the town of Akron at the time Richard was born, it could be that Morris might "technically" claim the honor of being Beresford's first baby. (Now had he been born a girl there could have been no question! What distinction would have been his without a doubt! But it was not to be).

In 1885, the Steadman's purchased the Carey O'Connor homestead east of Beresford, and their other five children were born there. Floyd, Ray, Lester, Alva, and Lillian. The daughter is now Mrs. M. W. Schueler, of Minneapolis, Floyd lives in California, and Ray, also. Morris resides in Illinois, Alva in Hawaii, and Lester in the home town of Beresford. Floyd twice was elected to the South Dakota State Legislature, as Representative, and Alva was for some years the United States Circuit Judge in Hawaii.

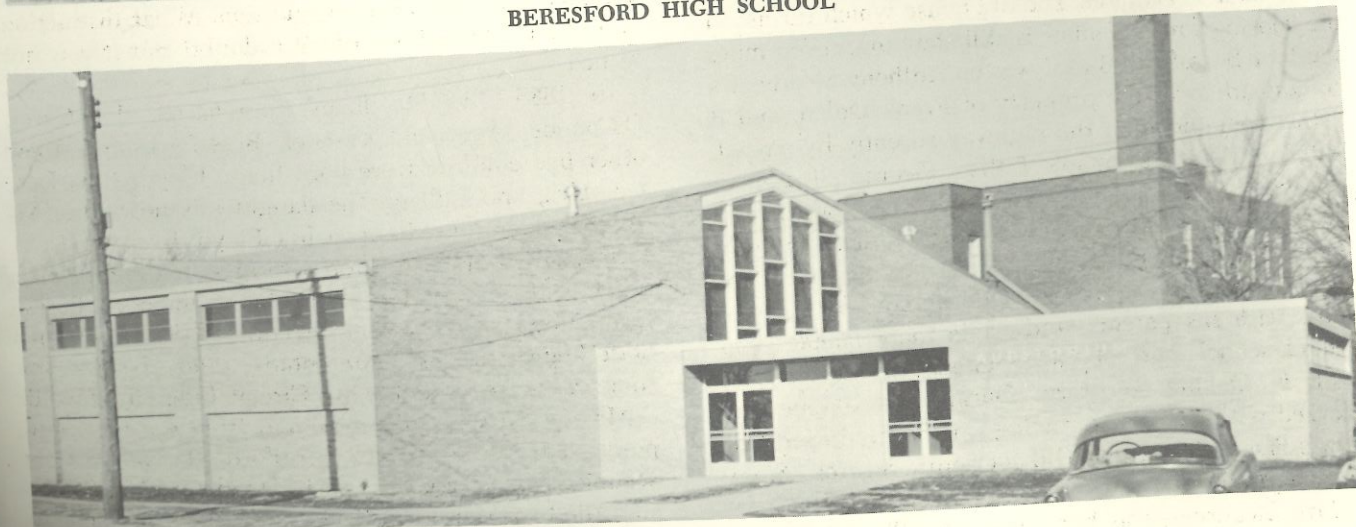
Mr. and Mrs. Steadman retired from the farm and purchased a residence in Beresford, the home now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Steadman. Mr. Steadman died in March of 1938, and his wife, Ellen, in April of 1950.



BERESFORD GRADE SCHOOL



BERESFORD HIGH SCHOOL



BERESFORD SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

Beresford School System

Few towns can boast of as outstanding a public school, or of as fine a High School building as can Beresford, was the sentiment of one editor more than thirty years ago and we feel that now the situation has improved.

The first school house was a small frame building set on the site of the present grade school. But it was not long until more room was required and it was then that, by common consent, that portion of the city lying over the line in Lincoln county, together with some outlying farm lands, were welded into one school district, and a two story frame building was erected to replace the one-room school house.

By 1900, the rapid growth of the town and the addition of the High School department made necessary a new building. So a grade school was erected.

Then, about 1925, more facilities were required for the high school, and a new \$75,000 building was erected just west of the original site.

In the 1927 survey, it was disclosed that the then Superintendent J. A. Roberts, Miss Mae Dewey, Miss Amelia Torgeson, and Miss Margaret Dolan had all served for more than fifteen years in their various positions in the City schools.

The Smith-Hughes Agriculture course was added to the curriculum in 1934. Mr. M. H. Hogen was then the Superintendent, with eight teachers in the grade school, and nine in the H.S.

Quite a far cry in a little over fifty years from the first school out in Sunnyside where a man named Stephen Godfrey, a Vermonter, taught and kept order, in a one-room building, with a willow switch hung on a prominent and convenient nail and dunce caps ready and waiting for a milder punishment.

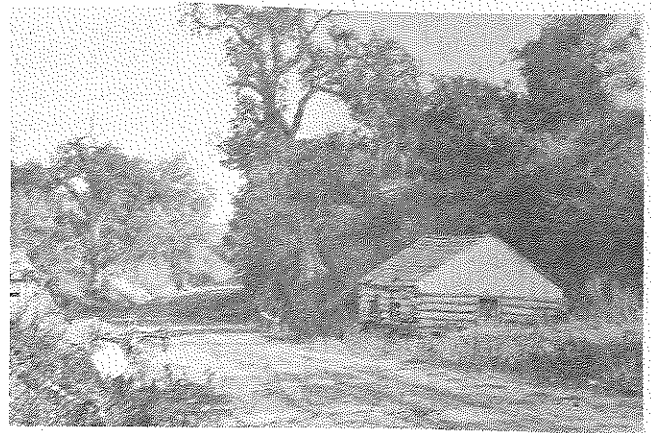
Perhaps the "bright spot" in that rather drab picture was the slate which each pupil must have, bound in red flannel edge.

Mr. W. J. Jerome was superintendent in 1896 when the first high school class was started. A Mr. Michel took the position in two years, and was succeeded by George W. Kephart, who was superintendent in 1901 when a four year course was established.

The cyclone of 1902 destroyed the frame school building.

In 1902, the first graduating class, consisting of one graduate, Minnie Fields, received its diploma. Since then, more than 400 graduates had received diplomas by the year 1927. The number has been greatly increased since that date, though exact figures are not presently known.

This year there is a total enrollment of 565 stu-



FIRST SCHOOLHOUSE IN DAKOTA TERRITORY

dents in the school, 325 in the grades, and 240 in the High School. There are 48 graduating seniors this year.

The basketball team under the coaching of George Ryan has gone to State "A" Basketball Tournaments the past two years.

Debaters and declam students are very active, as are also the Future Farmers and Homemakers. BHS has, too, an honorary organization, the National Honor Society, for students of high scholastic standing, character, ability, and leadership.

The school paper, *The Beresonian*, was started in 1931, and called the *High School News*. John Yttreness was the first editor. The paper has received many fine ratings, and is published as part of the *Beresford Republic*. Marsha Cable and Carol Tomberg are present co-editors.

The library was first located in the superintendent's office, and consisted of only a few donated books. C. C. Seeger was responsible for its origin and he began the Dewey Decimal System.

Success has also been attained in the music department.

On July 25, 1948, the brick grade school building burned, but by 1950 the new grade school, attractively modern in appearance and facilities, was ready for occupancy.

A school auditorium was erected in 1955 and in use in February, 1956. A cafeteria was installed in the auditorium and a hot lunch program initiated. An average of 300 meals are served per day.

Robert Cable, Jr., graduate of the class of 1958, was the first Beresford graduate to win a General Motors Scholarship at Harvard University.

The Beresford School system is improving and progressing each year. The Superintendent is Roger Price, and the Principal is R. G. Sweeley.

The Early Beresford Merchants

Vol. 1—No. 1 of The Beresford News, Dakota Territory bears the dateline, August 30, 1883. Published every Thursday by J. R. Carleton, editor and publisher. Terms: \$1.50 per year. Office in News building, Beresford, Dakota.

This most interesting newspaper consists of 4 sheets, the front and back pages carrying local news and advertisements.

On the front page, besides the notices given above, are found a Time Table—one train west at 9:43 A.M. and one east bound at 5:12 P.M. Two Elk Point lawyers advertise, Dr. R. A. Hill, Physician, and Wass & Campbell, contractors and builders guarantee their work to give satisfaction. Their shop is on Third Street.

Thomas Brady, dealer in General Merchandise tops the double column ads to the left on the front page of the *News*, and below his come, Bartlett Minot, Land and Loan Agent and Notary Public, office in *News* building, F. M. Slagle & Co., Lumber and Coal, with yard at the depot; Mrs. Morebeck & Co., advertise their Millinery and all the latest novelties of the season at rooms over the depot; then more advertising by the *News* who want subscribers, and will furnish Job Work—new presses, and experience of 25 years. Also, to the right of the latter, and in 1 column size ad we find an invitation to buy a town lot in Beresford, a warning not to buy a stove until you see the "Acorn" at Reedy & Co., and finally Fine Shoes at Brady's. Above these smaller ads appear, in fine print, the notice of a Camp Meeting at Mr. McComb's grove, 4 miles northeast of Centerville, signed by J. G. Nowell, Sec'y.

At the top of the second column to the left we find Beresford referred to as "The liveliest Baby Town in southern Dakota. There follows a brief sketch as to its prospects—"lands that could have been bought for a song a few years ago are bringing prices never dreamed of by the most visionary . . ." And then are listed the various business places: David Stephens' store, the first place of business started in Beresford. His store building had been moved from Sunnyside about the middle of April. He has "an enormous trade." He also buys livestock, grain, and other farm produce. "He lately received the territorial appointment as postmaster and will go into history as its first government official. Mr. S. has a large store at Calliope which he will remove here as soon as possible."

J. Reedy & Co. come next below, with the listing of their Hardware goods, their tinshop, with all modern appliances of the tinner's art, and a reference to

the platform scale which stands in front of their building for the convenience of farmers.

Next are listed Joscelyn & Ford, with their drugs, medicines, etc., etc., including wallpaper. Then follow the John H. Queal & Co. lumber yard, with their stock in charge of Mr. von Harten, and the note that the yard has put up large coal sheds and will soon be able to supply the public with coal at low prices.

Churchill & Palmer representing the livery business are next. "They keep first-class rigs and parties desirous of looking over this beautiful section will find these gentlemen are ready to serve them at reasonable rates."

Thomas Ronan "believing in the prosperous future of Beresford, moved his stock of goods from Emmett during July and is now a Beresford resident." He deals "extensively in butter and eggs, carries a general stock of merchandise and does a thriving business." A reference is also made to the fact that "he is an old settler, and has large circle of friends and acquaintances."

We find after that Thomas Brady, who "deals in dry goods, groceries, crockery, glassware, lamps, etc., etc. He is a young man of sterling character, . . . courteous to all, and always ready to accommodate."

F. M. Slagle & Co., (first lumber yard in the town) announce that they are now putting in a lumber yard, and will carry a full stock of all in their line. The firm have several yards in Iowa and "bear the reputation of being square and liberal men to deal with." Mr. G. C. Tidrick will be in charge.

Parker Bros., about the middle of Sept. will open up a stock of general merchandise, consisting of dry goods, groceries, hats and caps, boots and shoes, notions, etc.

J. W. Reedy buys cattle and hogs and pays highest market price for them. "Mr. Reedy is one of the live men of Beresford and is always on hand with money, muscle or talk to aid in any enterprise in its behalf."

Peavy Bros. of Sioux City buy grain of all kinds.

Peter Holten keeps a general stock of goods . . . He buys farm produce.

John P. Davis does lathing, plastering, bricklaying, and ornamental work. He has worked in some of the largest cities of the Union.

"Chr. Jensen has his building well under way and will soon open up a fine line of clocks, watches, jewelry, spectacles, etc. Mr. Jensen has had a long experience at the business and is a fair man to deal with."

The Beresford House, operated by W. J. Byrnes,

is the only hotel in town at present. Mr. Byrnes "makes a good landlord and his house is constantly crowded with guests."

And the editor concludes, "Quite a number of residences will be built this fall which will add to the appearance of the town."

Taking everything into consideration we have reason to be proud of our growth and before another year rolls around we look to see our population doubled."

Also on the front page, and of great interest was the account of the School Meeting. "A special meeting was held at the school house in District No. 68, Union county, Dakota Ter'y., in accordance with notice previously given." The directors not being present, J. R. Carleton was chosen chairman. A vote was taken to move the school house from its present location to the village of Beresford. No opposition. Messrs. D. Stephen, Jere Reedy, and W. J. Byrnes were chosen to act with the school board to select a lot for the school building. Then the subject of the teacher's wages was taken up and \$40.00 per month specified as the highest wages allowed to be paid. The teacher must have at least a 2nd grade certificate. Voted to begin school on Sept. 24th, lasting for 6 months, with two weeks vacation beginning on Christmas Eve."

And later, on the page, we find this item. in Local Mention—The committee appointed to act with the School Board in selecting a lot for the School House, met with that body on Monday and a lot was selected two blocks south of D. Stephen's store. The building will be moved next Monday.

In this connection we learn, too, that J. W. Reedy was instrumental in getting the present site of the schoolhouse (grade school) donated by the Western Town Lot Co. And indeed, he hauled the schoolhouse in from the country and set it on the new school grounds in the fall of '83.

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM BACK PAGE OF BERESFORD NEWS

On the back page of the original copy of the *Beresford News*, first newspaper issued in Beresford, we find the following ads. They are of interest to us, for they inform us who our earliest merchants were:

Thomas Ronan, general merchandise, Churchill & Palmer, livery, feed, and sale stable, and also real estate and collection agency; Joscelyn & Ford, City Drug Store, Henry Stiber, blacksmith; Parker Bros., general merchandise; Peter Holten, Dry Goods, "and everything usually kept in a General Store"; The Beresford House, W. J. Byrnes, proprietor; John P.

Davis, lathing, plastering, bricklaying, and fine ornamental work; J. Reedy & Co., Hardware; D. Stephen, general merchandise; John H. Queal & Co., lumber and coal; Western Land Agency, Suiter & Gordon, managers, Elk Point, Dakota; and *The News*.

In the editorial column, of this August 30, 1883 newspaper, we find this interesting paragraph: During the year ending June 30, 1883, there were 22,491 homestead entries made in Dakota, covering an acreage of 2,267,227. There were 11,566 timber culture entries covering 1,765,259 acres, and the cash entries amounted to 1,518,091, making a grand total of 6,550,557 acres of land settled upon or improved during the past year.

Another item in the same column refers to the building of Dakota's capitol. The work was let to Charles W. Thompson, Bismark. He was low bidder by about \$2,000.00—his bid given at \$97,600.00. Bids were opened on the 17th of August, and construction of the main building "will begin at once." It was hoped that the building would be ready for use the coming winter. "The electric light will be used during the construction, and 500 men will be employed night and day."

It is always of interest to know how important the matter of an education appeared to the settlers of a new territory. So we pass on to our readers this information which also was given in the first *Beresford News*. Evidently, Editor Carleton was certain it would be of interest to his readers, and he lifted the paragraph from the *Vermillion Republican*: The Board of Regents of the University at their meeting here last Thursday elected S. A. Simonds, A.M. of Franklin, New Hampshire, as principal of the University for the next year, and Garry E. Culver, A.M., of Columbus, Wisconsin, and Dr. Epstein, of this place, as professors. Mr. Simonds was at one time Supt. of Public Instruction of New Hampshire, and has been for many years a noted teacher and organizer.

What Do You Like Best About Beresford?

This is a question which caught some rather off guard, but not for long. Some of the replies are:

"I have liked the way Beresford has kept up with the times and brought more improvements to our small city than most towns our size have," was the first thought of Mrs. Marie Ullman, who came here as a bride in 1914. But she quickly added, "One of the things I have appreciated, also, is the way friends offer to help in time of sorrow. Their sympathy means so much to me."

I Remember When

By Mrs. George Bruehler
From the Golden Jubilee Edition

While searching for historical facts among the pioneers in and around Beresford, many interesting and amusing incidents were recalled. Some of these could be verified, and others could not. At any rate, each happening had its place in the memory of some old settler, as interwoven irrevocably with Beresford's early history the words most often heard are "I remember when—"

George Grandreau: There were only trails through this country, and my father was sort of a locator, showing landseekers which claims had been taken. Eli Ricard came to take up a homestead and tree claim and I was with my father and Mr. Ricard when they located the claim land on which Beresford now stands. The railroad came through as far as Father's place May 2, 1883. It was Mother's birthday and the railroad men took Father and Mother to Hawarden in the engine and bought them a fine dinner as a celebration. The railroad went on through Beresford that same summer.

Isadore LeGrand: Before the railroad came in we drove in from Jefferson with a wagon and horses. We located east of town, and the house we bought was already built. It was made of pieces of sod laid like bricks, but the roof was shingled with wooden shingles. It had a "prairie chimney" which was a stove pipe running up through the roof. It made a comfortable home.

Mrs. Peter Smith: I was a girl 12 years old when Mrs. Dave Stephens asked me to come and take care of Maggie, the baby, while she helped her husband. Mr. Stephens was getting a load of brooms ready to take to Sioux City and he made the brooms after Mrs. Stephens sorted the broom corn. These brooms were traded for dry goods and groceries. He brought back a pair of shoes for me as part of my wages. The Stephens family then lived in quarters dug under the building which, when finished, became the Sunnyside store.

Mrs. M. E. Reedy: When I came to Beresford, I was the third woman in town. Mrs. Jocelyn, the druggist's wife, and her daughter were here before me. Mamie was the first baby in town. In those days, there was always company at meal time and there were usually extras to be stowed away overnight.

Mrs. John Steadman: I taught school north of town a year—although there was no town here—and about seven miles south of town the next year near the Lass farm. The Dolan and O'Connor children went to this

school. In 1882 we were married and in 1883 we built the building where the Warne shoe shop is located. We had a butcher shop in the front of the place and lived upstairs. Morris was the second baby to be born in town. Richard Malloy was the first. We lived in town about a year and a half before moving to our farm east of town.

J. A. Larson: The first construction train passed our farm in 1882. A car loaded with rails was pushed ahead of the engine and two rails at a time were pushed off and placed on the finished road bed. Then the train pulled up the length of these rails and two more were laid. Each night the train backed to Hawarden as there was of course no turn-around. I saw Beresford when it was nothing but stakes—not a building or a tree on the town site.

Mrs. Mary Sinclair: The public meeting house for all occasions was a room above the blacksmith shop located where Motor Inn now stands. When a minister of any denomination came to town the crowd gathered. Davey Stephens strapped his melodian to his back, packed it up the stairs to the room, and there was church. At other times, when music was available, the gay spirits gathered and tripped the light fantastic in this same room.

John L. Reedy: Uncle Joh nand I laid out Beresford's first race track. The west rim of the track follows almost exactly the portion of Sixth street where we now live. Racing and ball games were the main sports in those days. I believed I belonged to Beresford's first ball club—along with the Pierce boys, the Elliott boys, Jake Gantz and some others.

Mrs. George Bruehler, Sr.: We came in 1886 and at that time wild game was plentiful right near town. There were ducks on the ponds south of us and any number of prairie chickens right near by. George, my husband, loved to hunt and often while I was getting breakfast in the morning he would take his gun out and bring back more prairie chickens than our own family could use. There were probably just as many ducks, but we had more chickens, maybe because we liked them better.

Mrs. Joe Woodward: When we were first married and come to town we lived in what was called the "Hill" house. It was occupied by Dr. Hill and his family on the first floor and we shared the second with another family. There were few partitions in living quarters those days so we curtained off rooms to suit ourselves. Most of the families lived above or behind the stores along Main street. I don't believe there was a tree in town.

Early Personalities

AUGUST FRIEBERG

August Friberg, first mayor of the city of Beresford, was born at Kronebergsland, Sweden, Dec. 7, 1863, the son of Lars P. and Anna C. Friberg, and came with his family to Clay county, Dakota Territory in 1868. His parents engaged in farming there until 1899, at which time they moved to Beresford to retire. His mother died that year; his father died at the age of 91 in 1925.

After attending country and common schools, August Friberg obtained a certificate and taught school until he saved enough money to attend the University of South Dakota. Graduating with a bachelor of science degree in 1892, he studied law, was admitted to the bar, and opened his law practice in Beresford in 1893.

He served his first term as mayor in 1898, when the town of Beresford incorporated into the city of Beresford. During his first term, and two later terms, the waterworks and sewage systems were built. He was also city attorney for ten years.

Interested in education, Mr. Friberg was a member and president of the city school board for 15 years, and it was during this time that the then new school building was erected and that Beresford schools were placed on the accredited list. During two terms as state senator from 1903-1907, he made education his chief concern and it was through his efforts that many constructive school bills were passed.

From May 25, 1910 to Jan. 1, 1925, Mr. Friberg served as a member of the South Dakota State Board of Regents of Education of the University of South Dakota, and in 1927 was honored for his interests and endeavors in behalf of the university when that institution conferred upon him the honorary degree of doctor of laws.

He was active in church and Sunday school work of the Beresford Congregational church throughout his life here. He was also master of Masonic Lodge No. 132 three times, and a member of the state and American Bar Associations. During World War I, he was a member of the state council of defense. He was vice-president of Security State bank for many years.

On Jan. 1, 1901, Mr. Friberg was married to Tillie Westling, a daughter of John Westling, an Iowa pioneer. They had two sons, Arthur, a lawyer with his father for many years and now practicing in Benson, Minn., and Roscoe, who joined his father's law firm in 1927 and has practiced here since.

Mr. Friberg died May 16, 1932. Mrs. Friberg died in 1956.

VERZANI—FIRST WOMAN TEACHER

Finally, and at long last, after perusing columns and columns concerning the distinctive "Firsts" in our town's illustrious history, we come upon news of a woman who is also elevated to that honorable position. "What did she do?" you inquire.

By now you have probably guessed it—she taught school. And her name was Miss Celestia Verzani. We even found out that she boarded with Mrs. Jerry Reedy.

Whether or not Mrs. Reedy was a "matchmaker," or whether Miss Verzani was of a flirtatious nature, or, indeed, whether a certain Joe Parker, one of Beresford's early merchants, was so "persistent," we are not prepared to say. But we do know that Celestia and Joe were married. It is believed that Mr. Parker in an early day erected the building now occupied in part by the Burns market.

SVEN O. STEENSLAND

Sven O. Steensland was born on the 16th of September, in Hjelvesland, Stavanger, Norway. In 1881, at the age of 19 years, he emigrated to America, coming to Dakota Territory. On January 21, 1892, he married Miss Salmine Torgeson, and to this union three sons were born.

In the same year in which he was married he began the hardware business, and since that time had, until his death, continuously been in business in the city of Beresford. He was a charter member of the Emmanuel Lutheran Church here, and, with five other families, built the original part of the church, presenting in to the congregation, debt free. For many years he served in various official capacities. He taught a Sunday School class for over half a century. He served on the Board of Directors at the Bethesda Homes since the establishment of the Children's Home in 1896. Mr. Steensland served several terms as mayor of the city of Beresford, and also as Treasurer for several terms. And he was a stockholder and a director of the First National Bank in this city.

After he disposed of his hardware interests in Beresford, he built Beresford's first Locker, Freezer and Ice Cream plant, and also engaged in the oil distribution business, retaining the latter until his death. His death was sudden, due to a heart attack which took him within the hour. He was preceded in death by his wife, and one son, Theodore, during World War I. He is survived by two sons, Osmund of Sioux Falls, and Almer, presently the mayor of Beresford. He died on July 9th, 1949.

MRS. JOHN S. GARDNER, SR.

Margaret Stevenson Birnie, at the age of 10, came to Beresford with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Birnie, Sr., from Peterhead, Scotland, arriving in New York by steamship and then crossing the country by train to Dakota territory, arriving in 1887.

Mrs. Birnie was a cousin of David Stephens, pioneer merchant, and the family lived first with the Stephens over his general store. When Mr. Birnie opened his meat market, the family lived at various times at the sites of the present Gamble store, Standard station, Conoco station, Ed Reed building, and Al's Market.

Peggy attended Beresford school for two years and at the age of 12, started to work at the Jim Reedy home for 50 cents per week. From that time until her marriage, she worked in the hotel at Hurley, the Boyle and Engler homes, and at Beresford's Commercial hotel.

On June 14, 1899, wearing a dress tailored by Mrs. George Bruehler, Sr., Margaret Birnie was united in marriage to John Sterling Gardner, Sr., of Sheldon, Iowa. The couple lived in Sioux Falls a year before returning to Beresford, where they spent the remainder of their married life, operating the Lobby cafe at the site presently occupied by Mitch St. Pierre, until Mr. Gardner's death in 1923.

With the help of her son, J. S. Gardner, Jr., Mrs. Gardner continued to operate the cafe until 1925, when she took over the Gardner hotel. This operation continued until her retirement in 1954.

Some of Mrs. Gardner's most vivid memories include the blizzard of 1888 and the tornado of 1902 that took with it the school house and Catholic church.

MRS. A. O. GLIDDEN

August 4, 1927. After an illness of several months, Mrs. A. O. Glidden, an old time resident of this city and mother of Mrs. May Dann, died on Saturday evening at the home of another daughter, Mrs. B. R. Harris, in Greensburg, Kansas.

The remains were brought to Beresford yesterday for the funeral held this (Thursday) morning at the Congregational church, Rev. H. W. Jamison of Newell, preaching the funeral sermon.

Mrs. Glidden was born at Blendon, Ohio, on January 24, 1840. Her parents moved to New York state, then to Michigan, where she met and married her young husband, a carpenter. After his return from service in the Civil War, they finally located in Dakota Territory, and took up a homestead in 1873, five miles northwest of where Beresford now stands.

Mrs. Glidden was a charter member of the Congre-

gational church, and Women's Missionary Society here and was the first president of the W.C.T.U. in Beresford. Her remains were laid to rest in the local cemetery beside those of her husband and son.

HENRY C. JONES

October 20, 1927—Henry C. Jones, well-known Union and Lincoln county farmer, passed away here on Sunday after a long illness. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. A. R. Hyatt from the Congregational church and burial was made in the Gothland cemetery.

Mr. Jones was born in Wisconsin in 1854. He was married there in 1878 to Miss Clarissa Lower. The couple came to Dakota in 1888. They lived on a farm in the Gothland area until about seven years ago when they moved to town.

Surviving him are his widow, one son, Henry A. Jones, Jr., and three daughters, Mrs. W. P. Kinkner, Mrs. J. C. Gifford, and Mrs. R. C. Jackson, all of this city. He was a devoted member of the Gothland Congregational church, and of the same church in Beresford later. He served as clerk of the Gothland school district for almost twenty years.

R. Z. BENNETT

By Faith Bennett Jones

Beresford Republic, May 27, 1923

R. Z. Bennett, my father, came to Dakota territory in 1872 and took a homestead northeast of what is now Beresford. Mother took a claim just across the road, and they were married shortly after he proved up on his. The house they lived in was very poorly made and many times during snow storms they would get up with a white cover of snow around their heads and have to crawl further under the blankets.

To get wood, Father would go to Elk Point—one day to get there, the next to cut the wood, and the third day to get home. He drove the team of oxen and in cold weather would suffer intensely with the cold before arriving home. He had come from New York City, and knew little of farm life, so it was a hard work, and because of grasshoppers and poor crops, farming wasn't much of a success in those days.

My parents sold one of their farms to Finn Graham for \$1,500. They had heavy debts when they moved to town, and Father went into his uncle's bank.

When Father first came from New York, he had dressed like a city man, and when he started claim life, he hadn't money enough to buy other clothes. Guess it would have been amusing to see him drive his oxen with a high stiff hat and a dress suit. J. W. Reedy used to jolly him about it.

WILLIAM JOHN BULOW

William John Bulow, former South Dakota governor and U. S. Senator, was born Jan. 13, 1869, in Claremont county, Ohio, where he spent his boyhood. After graduation from the University of Michigan with an LL.B. degree in 1893, he came to the new state of South Dakota, then four years old, and opened a law practice in Beresford.

Mr. Bulow helped to develop the town, then almost virgin prairie, and participated in community life, serving as both mayor and city attorney for Beresford as well as states attorney and judge of Union county.

In 1926, the tragic death in a farm accident of Andrew Anderson, Democratic candidate for governor, placed Mr. Bulow in the contest, and he was elected by voters from both parties. He was re-elected to the office of governor in 1928.

Following his four-year tenure at Pierre, Mr. Bulow was elected to the United States Senate in 1930, and was re-elected in 1936. He retired from public life in 1942. For the past 20 years he has made his home in Washington, D.C. His present address is 3901 Connecticut Avenue N.W. However, he continues to call Beresford his home and votes by absentee ballot from here. In January he observed his 90th birthday anniversary.

Mr. Bulow made many contributions to the community, state, and nation during his years of public service. He was instrumental in obtaining for Beresford the modern post office and Third street pavement as a part of U.S. 77.

JAMES BIRNIE

While hardships almost unendurable were met and conquered by all pioneers, probably the severest test came to the James Birnie family who came to the Dakota prairies straight from their native Scotland. At Petershead, his original home, Mr. Birnie was a master butcher and ship owner. When his ship was lost in a storm and the family lost their home, servants, and most of their finances, a letter came from America telling of the opportunities in the new territory of Dakota.

Leaving one daughter, Mary, to come later, the family of seven children with their father and mother left Scotland for Beresford, then but a pin prick on the map. They were met at the small red depot by David Stephens, Mrs. Birnie's cousin. After exchanging greetings, Mr. Birnie looked about and said with his Scotch accent, "Far's the hock, Davey, to take the bairns to toon?"

The family made their home with the Stephens un-

til they could find quarters of their own. Mr. Birnie opened a small meat market in the corner by the Stephens store. Mrs. Birnie, accustomed to servants to handle all household chores, rapidly adjusted to the hardships of homemaking on the Dakota prairies. Two more Birnie children were born, Davey and Myrtle.

A few years later a diphtheria epidemic broke out, taking the lives of the two youngest children and another, Alice.

As the years passed, the meat market expanded and Mr. and Mrs. Birnie became active in many civic projects, recalling with pleasure but not homesickness their earlier and far different life in Scotland.

VICTOR ANDERSON

Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Anderson, parents of Victor Anderson, left their native Sweden in the year, 1872.

They first settled at Cambridge, Illinois, but in 1874, they resumed their journey west, and set out in a covered wagon, with horses, toward Dakota Territory.

In January of 1882, Mr. Anderson passed away. Mrs. Anderson survived him until the year 1938, when in February, she also died, at the age of 94.

Victor Anderson was born here in 1877. He recalls the year of 1902 as bringing two disastrous wind storms to his farm. A twister came on May 2nd, and at that time a terrible tragedy overtook the family when their seven-month old baby boy was killed in the storm. Also, the farm buildings were blown away. He recalls the tornado of June 24th of that year, but the damage had already been so great that it did not cause too much distress at their home. Their two-year-old daughter was not injured in either storm.

In 1923, the Andersons moved to Boulder, Colorado, for reasons of health. But they returned again in 1926, and have remained here since.

WILLIAM S. BONINE

William S. Bonine and Emily Palmer Bonine originally came from Illinois and Ohio respectively. In 1855 they moved to Perry, Iowa, and a son, S. C. "Vinnie" was born there in 1870. Also in 1870 the family came to South Dakota to homestead on the farm still owned by the Bonines and located northwest of Beresford.

Mr. and Mrs. "Vinnie" Bonine were married in 1918 and reared two sons—Robert, who lives on the home place, and Donald, who lives in Beresford.

Mr. and Mrs. Bonine retired from the farm in 1934 to make their home in Beresford.



MRS. KATHERINE LASS

KATHERINE KENNEDY LASS

I was born January 1, 1877, over eighty years ago, in a log house on a homestead of my parent's. in Union county, South Dakota. My parents were Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kennedy, and they were both born in Ireland. I have been a resident of Beresford all my life.

I went to country school and walked the two miles to it. After finishing the grades, I went to High School at Akron, where I worked for board and room. I then attended several normals and began teaching school. After ten years of this in the old, one-room school, which also was badly over-crowded as I often had 50 pupils, and all eight grades as well, I married.

It was on June 21, 1905, that Peter J. Lass and I were married in the Catholic church at Hawarden, Iowa. For two years after our marriage, I continued to teach, but this was too hard, so I turned all my attention to the farm, for I knew we could make a success here. And we did. We raised and educated six children, too.

But the early pioneers suffered much. The blizzards came in winter and the grasshoppers in the summer, destroying everything the settlers planted.

The West River country was opened up for homesteading about 1900. In 1908, we went West. filed on a homestead 14 miles northwest of Philip, and proved up on it.

The Northwestern railroad had just built their bridge across the Missouri at Pierre, in 1907, and extended their line west.

I have a vivid recollection of the awful blizzard which struck here January 12, 1888. In the morning it was mild, but snowing. About 2:30 P.M. there was

about eight inches of new snow on the ground. The wind turned to the northwest and blew an awful gale. It grew colder and colder all night until in the morning the thermometer stood at 25 below. It was bitter cold. But the sun shone brightly as if laughing at the havoc wrought the night before. History gives the record of more than 200 people frozen to death in that storm over the Dakotas and there was much unknown suffering.

My father fought in the Civil War for 4 years. He was in the famous March to the Sea of General Sherman.

There were four of us, known as the Kennedy sisters, who taught school in Union county.

The above was written about a year ago by Mrs. Lass herself. Because she suffered a stroke about ten years ago, she can not now use her right arm. The writing was not therefore, as legible as it would have been if written with her right hand, yet the paragraphing was nicely done, and we congratulate her upon the vivid picture of her pioneer days. She is confined to a wheel chair since the stroke and that hampers her physically, but her mind is still keen, and her sense of wit and humor very strong.—Editor's note.

MRS. H. C. (LAURA) HENRICKSEN

Mrs. H. C. (Laura) Henricksen, Beresford's oldest citizen in terms of continuous residence, was born in Sergeant Bluff, Iowa, in 1875, and came with her family to Lincoln county, Dakota territory, when but a few months old. She has lived her entire life on the old Henricksen homestead three miles north of Beresford, and now makes her home with the Alvin G. Larson family there.

The first home was a sod house, and Mrs. Henricksen says she well remembers the treeless prairies stretching farther than the eye could see. She and her brothers and sisters attended North Star school. During the great blizzard of 1888, their teacher had gone to Canton on business and school had been dismissed. She also recalls the disastrous windstorm of 1902, although little damage was done to the Henricksen farm.

Now confined to a wheel chair because of arthritis, Mrs. Henricksen says she feels in good health, has a good appetite, and spends much time reading.

She can recall most of the names associated with early Beresford history, mentioning that she often went into David Stephen's store with her parents. The family was pleased that, nine years after settling on their homestead, Beresford was founded only three miles from their farm house.

ARCHIBALD DUNCAN, SR.

In the Memorial and Biographical Record of settlers prominent in the counties of Lincoln, Clay, Turner and Union counties. (Published in 1897, by a Chicago firm, Geo. A. Ogle & Co.), we find the record of the two Duncan forebears, Archibald Duncan, Sr., and Robert Duncan. We give some of the interesting facts from the pages of this book, certain that the reader will enjoy them.

Archibald Duncan, Sr., was the first settler of Prairie township, Union county. He was born in Scotland, the second child of the eleven children of Samuel and Janet (Flockhart) Duncan. Linlithgowshire was his birthplace, and he was there taught the trade of blacksmith, although he began working out on a farm at the age of eight years, and thus assisted in the education of his younger brothers and sisters.

In 1854, he emigrated to Canada, settling on a farm which proved too stony for successful agriculture. He sold out, and came to Union county, Dakota Territory in 1869. Union county had just been organized and there were few neighbors indeed—none at all to the north of his homestead. With nothing to speak of, he set to work, and in less than twenty years he owned 320 acres of well-improved land.

He endured with the other settlers, the destruction of grasshoppers and hail in the summer, and the hardship of blizzards in winter. He saw the county pass from a vast wilderness, inhabited by buffalo and other wild animals, to a well-cultivated condition.

In 1861, he was united in marriage to Miss Agnes Hill, also a native of Scotland. Six children were born to them: Samuel, Mrs. Grace B. Anderson, Mrs. Jessie F. Johnson, Mrs. Mary E. Bussler, George H., and Agnes, deceased. All the children were well educated and fitted for their various callings in life. The family are all members of the Baptist church.

On Sunday, May 31, '59, the Archibald Duncan descendants plan to hold the 90th anniversary celebration of Mr. Duncan's coming to America. The event will be a picnic in Bulow Park. About one hundred members of the Duncan clan are expected to attend.

ROBERT DUNCAN

The name of Robert Duncan (so runs the record in the 1897 Memorial and Biographical record) will be recognized at once by many of our readers as that of a prominent and influential old settler of Union county, Prairie township, for he has conducted farming operations there since the year 1873. He is highly regarded for his progressive ideas in agriculture.

A native of Scotland, the seventh child of Samuel and Janet (Flockhart) Duncan, he was born August

9, 1837, in Sterlingshire. Until eighteen years of age he was reared in the usual farm surroundings of the "land of the heather," and early developed habits of industry and practical observation. He attended the common schools, acquiring a good knowledge of the branches taught.

In 1855, he wedded Miss Mary Meikle. The following year he emigrated to Canada and located at East Oxford for two years, buying then a farm at the head of the Georgian Bay. His wife joined him in Canada in 1857, and they lived on their cleared land until 1861.

For a time in the Civil War period, the family settled in Effingham county, in Illinois, where most of his neighbors were "copper-heads" and rebel sympathizers. He, however, remained true to the cause of the Union. At one time, a planned raid on some railroad property was prevented when he carried word of it to the Union headquarters.

In 1873, he came with his family to Dakota territory, settling on the property he now (1897) owns. As did his neighbors, he first lived in a "dug-out," but later built the first house in Prairie township.

At first, he owned the whole of section 17, but he divided it in half and gave 160 acres to each of his two eldest sons.

He was always interested in education and was instrumental in organizing his school district, and he himself built the first school, and hired the first school teacher, and has remained as one of the board of directors of that district.

Moreover, he takes an active interest in local politics. He was the first man in his section to renounce the Republican party for the Populist, and he attends the various conventions of the party. Although urged to do so, he has never been a candidate for public office.

One incident in the family history he will never forget. His father, who was a blacksmith and a fine workman, emigrated to Canada in 1846, after the death of his wife, and on the voyage was shipwrecked off the coast of St. Johns, and narrowly escaped death. He lived, then, to the age of 89 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Duncan were the parents of twelve children: Janet, wife of Willis Thompson; William, married to Miss Louise Blake; Archibald, married Miss Nellie Oaks; Mary, Mrs. William Staley; Marian, the wife of Stephen Godfrey; Margaret, deceased; Eva; Ella; John; David; Robert; and an infant deceased. The children have all attended various colleges after completing the common school courses. The family are all members of the Baptist church at Beresford, and Mr. Duncan has served as deacon for a number of years.

FREDRIK NISSEN

Fredrik Nissen, a resident of Beresford since 1891, almost half a century, passed away on June 13th, 1940.

Born December 5, 1864, in Slesvig, Denmark, he began at an early age the work of assisting in his father's blacksmith shop in Slesvigand, and learned the blacksmith trade under his father's guidance.

When he was 20 years of age, he came to America, where he spent the first year in Chicago, working at the trade he had so well learned in his native country. But the following year he came west to Yankton, where he worked in association with his brother, Jacob Nissen, also a blacksmith.

In 1891, Mr. Nissen came to Beresford and purchased the blacksmith shop of George Christensen. Also, he purchased the residence of Mr. Christensen, located on the lot where later he erected the brick house which remained as the family home for many years, though just recently passing into other hands, following the death of James Nissen, when Miss Dora Nissen chose to remove to a smaller property.

In 1902, Mr. Nissen built his new shop on a new location, and in this worked faithfully until his strength failed him.

In 1892, Fred Nissen was married to Miss Marie Jensen, of Viborg. The young couple moved into the home the bridegroom had bought before their marriage.

Four children were born to the couple: Jim, a machinist, now passed away, serving for many years on the school board in Beresford, Dora, an instructor in music, and formerly a member of the faculty of Yankton College; Nis, following until his death in his father's trade; and Chester, an electrical engineer in the service of Western Electric Co., Cranford, N. J. Besides the widow and children who then survived the father, there was one grandchild, Sally Ann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Nissen, and the grandfather and grandchild were "great pals."

Mr. Nissen had served the community faithfully and well in civic affairs. He held the unique record of having been a member of the city council for 32 years, and all agree that he rendered efficient service. "To Fred Nissen, honest work was not only a duty, it was a pleasure."

JEROME MANGAN

Jerome Mangan was born in Quebec, Canada, on Oct. 1, 1837. When still a boy, he moved with his family to New York, and shortly before the Civil War, made his home in Chicago, Ill. In 1861 he entered the U. S. Army as a private in Company D, 51st regiment,

Illinois infantry, and was honorably discharged from Louisville, Ky., at the end of the war in 1865. On Nov. 11, 1865, he became a naturalized United States citizen.

He was married to Margaret Ann Trindle of Centerville, Ind., in 1870, and in 1873, after operating a book and stationery store in Minneapolis, Minn., for a few years, he came to Prairie township in Union county to take up a homestead. The family remained on the farm for ten years. The claim was located five miles south of Beresford on the west side of what is now U. S. 77. At the time landmarks were few and lost travelers were numerous, so Mr. Mangan hit upon the idea of hanging a lighted lantern on a high pole after dark had fallen. He continued to do this each night for many years, and his thoughtfulness was remembered and appreciated by many passersby.

In 1884, the Mangan family moved to Beresford where they built a two story building on the southeast corner of the intersection of Main and Third streets. The upper part was used for the family dwelling and the lower part for his book and stationery store. Early records state that "Always every inch the gentleman, Jerome Mangan sold a slate pencil to the smallest child with as much courtly dignity as Raleigh would have used in spreading his cloak for Queen Elizabeth."

Mr. Mangan studied law and was admitted to the bar, then opened a law practice and real estate office. In 1887 he was elected judge of the probate court at Elk Point, a position he held for two years. In 1894 he was elected county register of deeds, and served until 1898. He was also a member of the G. M. Dodge post, Grand Army of the Republic, and served as commander.

Jerome Mangan continued his civic activities by serving again as register of deeds from 1900 to 1904, and in 1904 was elected county judge, which office he held continuously until his death on April 3, 1919. A staunch Republican in politics, Mr. Mangan was well-informed on topics of the day and took an active interest in public affairs of the county and state. He was appointed a delegate to various political conventions.

Judge Mangan died from pneumonia at the age of 82 years and six months at his home in Elk Point.

In 1938, when government appraisers came to Beresford to make their choice of sites for the new United States post office building, the Mangan and Bruehler adjoining properties were picked. The old Mangan building was razed and the new post office building was erected. Thus the post office building became a fitting memorial to such worthy pioneers of Beresford.

J. E. SINCLAIR

It may be true, as charged in the past, that the good a man has done is buried with him. An outstanding exception to that comes to mind as we review the life and accomplishments of Mr. J. E. Sinclair, pioneer grain buyer and implement dealer of Beresford. He went into that line of work because he was the sort of man to make opportunity out of disaster. More specifically, he was "hailed out" on his claim. So he moved into the budding little town of Beresford to try to make a living another way. The record tells us that he succeeded very well at this, but what we have in mind is that he made success out of living.

J. E. Sinclair was born in Ontario, Canada, on September 15, 1850, the second eldest in a family of twelve children. When he was four, his parents migrated to Michigan, then coming to Dakota Territory in 1867. In 1871, he and his brother, George, built a claim shanty, 10x10, on land about two miles southeast of what is now Beresford. They lived in that, and "kept back" for about two years, but then put up a "newer-styled" house, at least it proudly featured a window—a hanging one, suspended from a nail inside.

About that year, too, 1873, Miss Angina Disbrow became Mrs. J. E. Sinclair. To them were born three children, but of these, Mrs. Esther Rasmussen is the only survivor. Death claimed the wife, too, and some years after he re-married, Miss Bena Rolfson taking the vows with him. Four children were born to them.

Mr. Sinclair was a charter member of the Congregational church. He was a Republican in politics, and served in the state legislature in 1889, and in the senate in 1894.

His death, in 1918, was due to a stroke, the second.

Gone he is, this early pioneer, as all must go. Yet the impetus he gave to the community in which he spent his life goes on. His name was given to the block on North Third street where he had built three buildings, the most modern of their time, it is said.

But he was also a builder of things of the spirit. In our day, in the midst of plenty, we need more than ever the qualities of courage, of honor, of cheerful common sense, and the feeling of brotherhood as he understood them.

J. A. NORMAN

Appearing almost hale and hearty in spite of his advanced age of 87 years is our oldest pioneer, Mr. J. A. Norman.

He recalls that they made the journey west from Andover, Ill., (near Moline), in 1874. His remembrances of that, he feels, are mostly hearsay since

he was only two years old at the time. Horses drew the covered wagon. When the little band arrived they made their first home in a "dug-out shanty." He rather chuckles over that now, as indeed he may, for his present home is commodious and modern, and the barns and silo, set away from the house, are mute evidence of good and prosperous planning.

In the little group who braved this journey to Dakota territory in that early day—just four years after the Indian reservations had been established—were Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Norman, father of J. A. Norman, and their three children, of whom but one remains alive today, Mr. and Mrs. Nels Larson and their three children, August Larson, Mrs. Charlie Anderson, and Mrs. Ernest Lundborg, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Anderson, parents of Victor Anderson, of Beresford. Also, three bachelors—Louis Egerstrom, John Johnson, and a young man by the name of Veberg.

Mr. Norman remembers well how they heated their first home with twisted hay, the slough hay which grew so tall and was so coarse. And another recollection was that of the grasshopper devastations. (We gleaned from a different source the fact that the first crops of this Swedish group were destroyed by the first grasshoppers to infest the area). "They came in clouds," said Mr. Norman, "and they hid the sun, for a time."

Mr. Norman, who homesteaded on the Charlie Swanson farm, recalled their fear of prairie fires. "We set fire to the grass around our house, so that this backfire might be the means of protecting us from any prairie fire." His blue eyes glinted as he spoke and it seemed he sensed again quite vividly the terror which must have lain deep in the hearts of all the courageous settlers, if theirs was to be the experience of a blazing prairie fire possibly carried on a high wind and raging in their direction.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman were the parents of six children, three girls and three boys. Four live in this community — Albert, Elmer and Mabel with their father, and Mrs. George Erickson. Myrtle and Milton reside in California. Mrs. Norman passed away in 1945.

"A pioneer leaves much behind—
Familiar scenes and dear familiar speech—
Yet trusts in unknown land to find
Much greater blessings than those now in reach."

If the reader has poetic tendencies perhaps he will be inspired to complete the above lines, to his own satisfaction, in memory of our brave pioneers, here and wherever they may have laid the ground work for later civilization.

GEORGE BRUEHLER, SR.

Mr. and Mrs. George Bruehler, Sr., with young George and Carrie, arrived in Beresford in 1886. They came from Freeport, Ill., where Mr. Bruehler had operated a harness shop, and before that he had been a saddle maker at Government Island near Moline and Rock Island, Ill. Another son, Charley, was born in Beresford.

Establishing Beresford's first harness shop, Mr. Bruehler built south of the Mangan store which was on the corner of Third and Main. The Bruehler building, with the Mangan store, was torn down in 1938 for the erection of the new post office. The family also had living quarters in the building.

Assisted by his brother, John, Mr. Bruehler made the harnesses by hand, sewing them with an awl. He also carried a stock of horse collars, buggy whips, saddles, and other necessities for work and travel at that time.

Mr. Bruehler died in 1889, and John, with another brother, Frank, a gunsmith, continued to operate the shop for many years as Bruehler Brothers.

Mrs. Bruehler had been a tailor before her marriage, and with a family to support, returned to this trade. Through the years she stitched many of the finest articles of clothing in the area, including many elaborate wedding gowns. She died in 1952.

George, Jr., started to work in a drug store at the age of 12, and has been a registered pharmacist for over 50 years. He and Charley operated Bruehler and Bruehler drug store until his retirement in 1958. The store is now owned by Charley Bruehler and Bill Bierbaum.

MRS. JAMES LAWLESS

November 8, 1923—Mrs. James Lawless, pioneer lady, passed away at her Beresford home, following repeated paralytic strokes. "The death report threw the town into mourning, for she was known as a lady of exceptional qualities, and no neighbor could be sick without her being the first to lend a helping hand."

Mary O'Connor was born near Montreal, Canada, on March 1, 1863. About 1872 she drove with her brother, Mike, from Wisconsin to Dakota Territory, and homesteaded on what was later the James O'Connor farm.

She was married to James Lawless on Feb. 3, 1880. Eleven children were born to them, Mayme, John, Mike, and Ed of Beresford. Three children of the family died in the diphtheria epidemic of 1890, and twins died in infancy.

Mrs. Lawless herself was one of eleven children.

NELS J. LARSON

(Taken from the 1897 Memorial and Biographical Book)

Nels J. Larson, thrifty and respected member of the farming community of Lincoln county, was a native of Sweden, where he was born on November 6, 1831. In the "old country" he lived among rural surroundings, as his father also was a farmer. During his boyhood he received a good practical education in the common schools.

He was married in 1864, and then voyaged across the Atlantic to America, where they settled in Henry county Illinois. There he was employed on a farm for eight years.

Deciding to come to Dakota Territory he and his wife set out with a team of horses and a wagon, and \$45.00 in cash. They homesteaded on section 25, Brooklyn township, arriving in 1874.

For four years they made their home in a "dug-out," as their few and far between neighbors did also. With the exercise of sound and mature judgment in twenty years time their land extended over 200 acres, enclosed and sub-divided with neat and well-kept fences.

Mr. Larson and his wife were the parents of four living children: August, Mrs. Millie Anderson, Tilda, and Edwin. One son, Albion, died at the age of fifteen.

All the children were accorded good, practical educations, and August was for a time a druggist at Beresford.

The family are members of the Free Congregation church, located in Brooklyn township, where Mr. Larson served as trustees of the church.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Larson have resided in Beresford for many years. He will celebrate his 79th birthday on May 24th.

CARL WALTER RASMUSSEN

March 24, 1927—Prominent business man dies after many weeks of illness. Funeral services will be held at the Nazareth Lutheran church for Carl Walter Rasmussen who died here after an extended illness. He was born near Sargent Bluffs, Iowa, in 1874, but came to Dakota Territory when he was three years old. His parents homesteaded six miles north of Beresford.

In June, 1902, he was married to May Larson and with his wife lived on the homestead for about ten years when they moved to town and he became associated with his brothers in the harness business. Beside his widow he is survived by one daughter, Violet Rasmussen, and three brother, Adolph, Abel and Edward, all of this city.

Peterson vs. Reedy

Below is recounted an incident which concerns a transaction between two well-known residents of Beresford, Col. J. W. Reedy and the former garage owner and recent state senator, C. O. Peterson. It occurred in the early 30s, and if the author of David Harum had been anywhere near at the time he would surely have added it to his classic!

"At that time I ran the Chevrolet garage and did considerable dealing in horses. I had probably 15 head in the old Neuroth barn, present site of Landon's Garage. In the bunch was a big 1,600 lb. grey gelding that took the Colonel's eye. He at once approached me, wanting to trade a 5 year old southern mare, which was at that time in great demand in the cotton fields.

"The Colonel's first approach was that he would trade, but he would have to have \$45.00 difference. I just laughed and said, 'Trade a big 1,600 lb. gelding for a little 1,100 lb. mare! No,' I told him, 'You will have to just reverse that.'

"We jewed back and forth for a day, and the outcome was I drew \$25.00. Jimmy Reedy, whom many will remember, took the horse over to the barn that was located where the Mike Muhlenkort plant now stands, and tied him up. The horse at once got a wild streak, stuck his head over the partition, and wrecked it. Then 'J.W.' had Jimmy get lumber and close the opening and tie him again. This time the horse got into the manger and wrecked that.

"This was too much for the colonel who came over to the garage and wanted to trade back. 'Oh, no,' I said, 'that's the way the Indians trade. There was no question asked by either, no guarantee, so we will leave the trade.' 'Oh,' he cried, 'Give me back the check and keep both horses.'

"In those days, \$25.00 was \$25.00. I kept the check.

"J. W. and I had a lot of dealing back and forth after that. And he always reminded me of this trade and if we were in a bunch or gathering he was sure to bring this up, and it was hard to tell which of us enjoyed it more.

"The big grey was evidently 'locoed' but I knew nothing of that, as he had not been long in my ownership, and he was gentle enough in the yard. We could pet him, and he wouldn't turn a hair. But he just couldn't 'take' tying in a stall."

J. W. REEDY

John W. Reedy was born October 9, 1850, near Freeport, Illinois.

In May, 1877, he came to Dakota territory and settled on a farm in Prairie township. When, after

eight years, he removed to the town, his was the first residence lot sold, and his house was the first to be erected.

Mr. Reedy was married in 1876 to Miss Johanna Murphy, a native of Michigan. The couple had no children of their own, but a niece of Mr. Reedy's, Theresa Ryan, was raised by them.

This leading pioneer of the upper Brule was a large land owner, one of the largest in Union county, and in addition he owned much town property.

In the January 23rd issue of the *Beresford Republic*, under the heading, "Who's Who in Beresford" we find many interesting facts about this pioneer! "Though Colonel J. W. Reedy has traveled in every state of the Union, in Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia in Canada, all over Europe, and in the Bahama Islands, he has never yet seen agricultural land that he considers the equal in value of the land in the 150 square mile area in this part of the state.

Colonel Reedy is Beresford's own auctioneer, though his fame as such has spread, bringing unsolicited calls for his services from far and near.

His largest single day's sales was that of 7,000 acres of school land in Union county, the first school land to be sold in the state of South Dakota. This sale was held at Elk Point.

And for all this record, auctioneering has been only a sideline with Colonel Reedy. He has also been actively engaged in the breeding and raising of cattle ever since he brought 150 head of cattle with him when he came here in the early 80's. This herd he shipped to LeMars, and then drove them overland to Beresford. At one time he had a herd of three hundred registered cattle.

We can conclude the life-story of this remarkable man by another quote, this from the pen of the editor of the *Republic*, following the death of Colonel Reedy on April 4, 1934: "Colonel Reedy had confidence in himself, in his home community and in his state, and such was his confidence that whatever he tackled, whether it was the sale of a piece of property or the development of fine cattle, it usually brought him success. A leader in the formation of his city, he continued to be a leader until his death.

"Colonel Reedy helped build Beresford. He helped build its schools, its churches, its public buildings and its good reputation. Go anywhere in the northwest and you are almost sure to meet someone who, when they learn you are from Beresford, will say, 'O, yes! That's where that white-haired auctioneer, Reedy, comes from.'"

In October 1914, Colonel Reedy lost his wife in death. Some years later, he was married to Miss Pauline Seeger of Youngstown, Ohio.



BERESFORD GUN CLUB—1887. Reading from left to right: Dr. Duff, J. N. Wass, J. W. Reedy, J. H. Sinclair, Danenhauer, Ed Johnson, Jim Fitzgerald.

J. N. Wass, Pioneer

John Nichols Wass was born March 6, 1852, at Addison's Point, Me., near the Great Wass island, the son of Rufus and Mary Adams Gulliver Wass. His father was a sailor, boat builder, community doctor, and coffin maker, and John was the direct descendant of Miles Standish of Mayflower fame, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Presidents John Adams and John Quincy Adams.

In 1856 the family travelled west, first on the railroad until it ended at Delhi, Ill., then by foot across the frozen Mississippi, and continued by stage-coach and bobsled, arriving at Grundy Center, Ia., on Christmas day. John Wass grew to maturity in Iowa, attending school during the winter months and working on farms the rest of the year. He then opened a livery, pump, and windmill business.

In 1882, he travelled to Miner county, Dakota Territory, by prairie schooner, obtaining food by hunting and fishing en route, to visit a childhood friend, and decided to take up a homestead near Howard. After building a tar paper shanty, which he shared with his horse, he broke five and a half acres to plant beans and potatoes. The beans failed in the dry season, and the potatoes, because of lack of demand, sold for eight cents per bushel. He returned to Iowa, and came to Beresford by train in 1883 to erect a building for his brother-in-law, John Carleton, at wages of a dollar per day plus board and room. The building, home of Beresford's first newspaper, the *Beresford*

News, stood where the Masonic Temple is now located. The post office was in the first floor of the *News* building.

At the time of Mr. Wass's arrival in Beresford, the town was a month old and boasted 17 houses. He decided to remain here, and the first edition of the *News* on Aug. 30, 1883, carried an ad for Wass & Alec Campbell, Beresford's first contractors. He drew plans and helped to build churches for the Catholic, Congregational, Danish, and Norwegian parishes, as well as the original building of the James Fitzgerald hotel (six additions were later built) and later the Gardner hotel, and now the site of the Conoco station.

On March 21, 1887, at the urging of William Bussler, he bought a small stock of furniture and coffins from Eli Ricard and rented for \$5 per month a building on the south side of Main street, across the alley from the new post office. He placed a \$400 mortgage on his Miner county homestead to finance the venture, with 12% interest, payable in advance. He was unable to save the 160 acres, although he kept the business operating, and in 1957 Wass Furniture company celebrated its 70th anniversary, the oldest continuous business in the city.

His first purchase order from a Sioux City wholesaler included six baby buggies, 12 express wagons, nine clothes racks, and three waste paper baskets.

On July 26, 1892, John Wass was married to Harriet Garwood of Wakonda. To this union were born two sons, Lloyd M. and Wayne.

In the '90's, he bought two lots on Third street and

built the north building now occupied by Marshall-Wells. The Wass family lived in the rear second floor apartment and the William Brady in the front. In 1899, John Wass built one of the first brick buildings in town (now the south building of Marshall-Wells) and rented it to the post office for \$12.50 per month.

Holding South Dakota embalmer's license No. 15, in 1897 John Wass bought Beresford's first horse-drawn hearse at a cost of \$454.70, which included drayage of 15 cents. Before that, wagons or spring buggies were used for funerals. Gross income for the first two years of service on the hearse was \$14 and \$36 respectively. It was partially wrecked in the June, 1902, tornado, but was rebuilt and used until June 19, 1919, at the funeral of Hans P. Christensen. It was pulled by a team of matched black horses, purchased after the turn of the century for \$600, an all-time high team price in the area. During its service, the hearse was used for 520 funerals.

Mrs. Wass died April 11, 1909, and Wayne died Nov. 28, 1921. Lloyd Wass entered the business early in life and continues to operate it with his son, Milton.

In 1914, Mr. Wass purchased the first motor funeral car to be used in South Dakota, a hand-carved body mounted on a Cadillac, with the first V-8 engine to be used in the area. Purchased at a cost of \$3,063.08, despite many predictions that this would lead to business failure, the hearse was used until 1926, serving not only Beresford, but Vermillion, Gayville, Wakonda, Volin, Parker, Hurley, Hudson, and Hawarden. It was used for the first time for services for Lizzie McKinsie at Canton, and in 1926 was sold to the funeral home at Chancellor, where it continued to serve for many more years.

Also the first of its type in the state was the hearse of limousine design purchased in 1926 for \$3,556.25, and which doubled as the first ambulance in the city. In 1928, the funeral home was installed in the brick building on Third street, and later moved to the corner of Third and Main streets (now occupied by Council Oak).

John Wass died May 31, 1935, following a heart attack, after being in business for over 48 years in Beresford and helping the town grow from the small cluster of buildings in 1883 to the busy trade center it had become in half a century.

Early Day Prices

In a large ad, printed in the *Beresford Republic*, June 7, 1923, we read, While in the clothing business in Beresford, in 1895, we sold suits of clothes as low

as \$2.75 and threw in a pair of suspenders. Good coonskin coats for \$18.00. Overall 45 cents, shirts as low as 19 cents.

Later, purchasing the original shoe store in Beresford, we have maintained as low prices as advancing costs have permitted, and at this time are catering to the wants of the people—as we have ever done.

Up To Date

We have established a radio department and are prepared to hook you up with the world any time.

Up to date electric shoe repair department in connection.

Bertha Fundingsland
O. O. Fundingsland

Memory's Searchlight

Mrs. D. L. Cotton remembers that when they arrived, in 1918, there was a small church on the corner now occupied by the City Light and Power plant. It was a Seventh Day Adventist church, and south of it stood the wooden water tower. When the church was disbanded in later years, the building was remodeled by the owner, Ole Strand, into apartments. When the lot became city property, the building was moved three blocks north, and is still to be seen on the west side of the street. Mrs. Christena Hultgren lives there now.

George Bruehler, well-known retired druggist, vividly recalls the days when blind horses (or possibly just one) were used to power the elevators east of the railroad tracks. He was fond of going down to watch operations and had noted, without especially thinking why, that the horses were always blind.

Mrs. Otto Rasmussen, whose father, J. E. Sinclair, was our first grain buyer, recalls that the "elevators" in those days were really "flat houses." Lumber was a hard-to-come-by proposition in that early day.

Mrs. Laura Henricksen, who has lived here for 84 years, remembers the fact that Beresford, and the surrounding prairies, had no trees at all. She remembers that this lack made the reach of the grassy plains seem even more vast.

Mrs. A. S. Severson, former city librarian, who now makes her home with Misses Olive and Helen Meidell in Sioux Falls, sends this story which may possibly stir like reminiscences: "It really did rain in those early days, and the mud was bottomless. One lady crossed the street in west Beresford, got stuck and pulled herself out of rubbers, and by stepping on boards, got across the street. Later, she went back to try to recover her rubbers, and found three or four more before she came on her own."

Alsen

Ole Erickson was the key figure in the founding of the village of Alsen, located nine miles southwest of Beresford in Clay county, and important to the territory in early days. The annual Labor day picnic held in the Alsen grove for many years was one of the most important social events in the area, and some estimate attendance at over 10,000 on some occasions.

Mr. Erickson took out a homestead in 1868 on a quarter section on the site of what was later Alsen. He worked as a blacksmith in Dakota City, Ia., for two years to finance his farming activities, and in 1871, he moved to his farm and started a blacksmith shop. He called this "Alsen" in memory of the county in Sweden in which he had been born.

He established the Alsen postoffice and became the first postmaster. Because the site was on the star mail route between Sioux Falls, Canton and Vermillion, it was a stopping place for mail and stage coaches as well as travelers.

Mr. Erickson had two daughters, Margaret and Elizabeth. Margaret was married to Solomon Anderson and they had three children, Edward, who died when a young man; Emma (Mrs. Emma Holmquist) now living in California, and Andrew. Andrew Anderson brought attention to the village when, after serving as Clay county state senator for three terms, he accepted the nomination for governor. However, during the campaign, in 1924, he met with a tragic death.

Elizabeth, Mr. Erickson's other daughter, was married to Mr. Egerstrom of Kerkhoven, Minn.

Ole Erickson died in 1892, although the community he founded continued to serve as a trade and social gathering place.

Jere J. Toomey

Jere J. Toomey, pioneer auctioneer, marshal, and merchant, was born in Freeport, Ill., April 28, 1857, and came to Dakota territory at the age of 23. He farmed in Emmett township for two years, but moved to Beresford when the town was founded. Toomey's addition bears his name.

He helped to unload the first car of coal coming to town by rail, operated a drayline for two years, and served as one of the first town marshals. Then he entered the profession he liked best—auctioneering.

At one of the first farm auctions in this area, he sold a 160 acre farm 12 miles north of town for \$62 per acre. Travelling by horse and buggy, he covered a big area to cry sales of all kinds, but he was most interested in horses. His auction barn and circular sales ring was located on the quarter block just south of

Landon Motor and Implement company. For seven years he took the new railroad to Pierre to cry regular horse sales. It is said that one could stand on a hill at the capital city and see herds of horses being driven in to the sale from all directions; usually 2,000 or more were sold daily. He brought back many horses both by rail and by drive, from Pierre to sell locally.

He was married to Mary Ryan, who had come with her family by covered wagon to Dakota territory, and to this union were born five daughters.

He had just signed a contract to work in the Miles City, Mont., area as an auctioneer when a building collapsed on him during a sale. Although he was at first not expected to survive the accident, his robust health and determination pulled him through. He suffered serious back injuries and was confined to a wheel chair shortly thereafter. From that time on, he handled only a few sales each year, and turned his attention to the shoe store which he opened in 1911.

Mr. Toomey had a deep love of this area, and predicted in 1930 "Beresford hasn't started to grow, and the possibilities are unlimited. This will be a bus and truck center for the Sioux Falls to Sioux City traffic, and there is no limit to the expansion there will be."

Also at that time he described frontier life as the "best life in the world." It is nice to be a part of a new country and to have the opportunity to watch the change and development." He then recalled the time one farmer discovered that flax could be grown here, and then everyone started to plant flax. "That was a beautiful sight," he said. "All of the fields were blue, for mile after mile."

Mr. Toomey died July 12, 1932. Mrs. Toomey died Aug. 15, 1937.

Two daughters, Catherine and Dorothy, continue the operation of the shoe store.

Margaret is Union county superintendent of schools, an office she has held for many years. Mamie Toomey is Beresford city auditor.

MRS. BARLETT MINOT

Mrs. Barlett Minot, pioneer of the "Seventies," passed away at the home of her son, Jonas, on July 21, 1917. Her age was almost 81 years.

Born in New York state, she came west with her husband's people when he was killed in the Civil War. She filed on the claim which has remained the property of herself and her son.

She was a faithful member of the Methodist church, and it is remembered of her that she would often walk across the prairie many miles to nurse or comfort some settler in need. One pioneer declared at her funeral that "she was nurse to the entire community."



J. J. Vogeli, violinist; Adam Hinkus, clarinet; George Cohoe, trumpet and bells; Peter Gard, harpist.

Early French Settlers

By Will Chamberlain
Richland, S. Dak.

Beresford Republic, Oct. 11, 1900

The above title may not be particularly accurate, in view of the fact that the earliest French settlers were not settlers in the common term. They came into the territory through which flowed the lonely Missouri, as the representatives and employees of the fur trading and steam boating companies, especially the former. In point of time and locality they were far in the vanguard of what later on was to be the beginning of the homesteading and home building period.

For about 60 years the French were dominant in what is now South Dakota, from the white man's standpoint. They established outposts along the Missouri and its tributaries—the Sioux, James (Jaques) White, Cheyenne, and other streams, and dealt with the red brother after the manner of Caucasians generally.

The Indians superbly tanned and, cured skins and pelts of the mink, beaver, otter, and that king of the prairies, the buffalo, which were eagerly sought for in the fur markets of the fashionable world.

Civilization is a strange anomaly. Side by side with the cross and the psalter it carries the agencies of physical and spiritual destruction, and the only redeeming clause in this observation is that these are

not borne by the same persons. In this matter the French were no worse than the English, Dutch, or Spanish . . . Pierre Choteau, as Hennepin in Minnesota, will be recalled ever at South Dakota's capital city when his name is written or pronounced. Early rovers were of good blood and breeding, in many instances, and had known society in eastern Canada or the cantons of happy France.

Early Day Orchestra

Organized in 1893 by the twenty-year-old farm lad who had always been proud of the fact that he was the first boy born in Pleasant township, this orchestra traveled over a large area for 17 years. It toured Iowa and Nebraska, as well as entertaining at important points such as the Mitchell Corn Palace, State Fair at Huron, and as far west as Rapid City.

No matter the weather, the show went on, and if the enthusiasm of the audience was any criterion, it was felt that very few, if any, have contributed more toward putting Beresford on the map than did this early group of entertainers.

The harpist recalls the hush that fell each evening as the hour of eleven, just before the midnight lunch, he played the "Harp Waltz." Others recall it, too.

Adam Hinkus is deceased, and Mr. Vogeli has also passed away, but Mrs. Vogeli resides in Beresford, and their son, Vernon, carries on the furniture and undertaking in which his father later engaged.

Gust Soderstrom

Gust Soderstrom with his wife Mia Britta, his father, Andrew, and children, Mary, Charles, Anna and Eric, emigrated to America from Ruttvik, Lullea, Sweden. They arrived in Dakota in 1878. The first few years they lived in a dugout across the road on the creek bank from the present Philip Sundstrom place. Some years later they bought what is now the Emery Soderstrom place.

At the time they came there was no town closer than Vermillion. There were few roads, and miles and miles of unfenced prairies, tall prairie hay and no trees, excepting along the water courses. It was necessary to go down to the river bottom to get any wood, so chips and twisted prairie hay was the only fuel available.

They endured with the other early settlers the hardships and privations of their day. The father of Gust Soderstrom, Andrew Soderstrom, died in 1883 and was the first one to be buried in the Brooklyn Church Cemetery. The children, Mary, who was twenty years old, and Anna who was fourteen years old, went to Sioux Falls and Sioux City to work after a few years in America. Charles went to the country school, possibly in Glenwood and Brooklyn, later attending the University of South Dakota at Vermillion.

At the age of 26, he was married to Margaret Sundstrom on what is now the John Wickstrom farm. She, with her people had emigrated to Dakota in 1882. For a number of years Charles taught school, and he and his family lived with his parents on the home place. Later he moved onto his own place nearby, where he lived the rest of his life. He served in his community as Township Treasurer and County Commissioner for many years. He died in 1952. His children are Ellen Soderstrom, Edwin Soderstrom, Mrs. Louis B. Titzel, Evelyn Soderstrom, Mrs. Walter Kennedy and Mrs. Willmar Schmid.

August Soderstrom

August Soderstrom, with his wife Margaret Johanna Soderstrom, emigrated from Ruttvik and arrived in Dakota in 1869. They were one of the first homesteaders. Original place was 2½ miles West of present site of Beresford. They had seven children, Axel Soderstrom, Henry Soderstrom, Loida Soderstrom, Alida Soderstrom, Mrs. Alec Gamberg, Mrs. Adina Sundstrom, Rueben Soderstrom and Elmer Soderstrom, and one foster son. The first seven years, between grasshoppers and drought, there were no crops so times were desperately hard and food scarce.



MR. AND MRS. C. G. SODERSTROM

Nels Soderstrom

Nels Soderstrom emigrated from Ruttvik, Lullea, Sweden, in 1870 or 1871. He was Beresford's first blacksmith and later ran a Livery Stable and did carpenter work. He never married. His last years were spent with his brother, August.

Masonic Lodge

Beresford Masonic Lodge No. 132 was chartered June 12, 1901, by Worshipful Grand Master Charles Hall. Charter members installed at that time were W. B. Spain, master; A. V. Elliot, senior warden; J. T. Scroggs, junior warden; L. P. Lambertson, treasurer; A. D. Loffler, secretary; J. M. Smoots, senior deacon; W. W. Spain, junior deacon; H. F. Mace, senior steward; J. C. Seely, junior steward; H. A. Field, tyler.

Meetings were held in the old Odd Fellows hall, at that time located over the present Burns' Market, until 1914 when a building committee, composed of August Frieberg, Ole Ofstad, and C. H. Jacobson, purchased the present Masonic Temple building. The first meeting was held in the new building Nov. 25, 1914.

Anton Hendriksen, F. D. Kriebs, and Andrew Bergstrom were appointed March 23, 1920, to make plans to remodel and improve the building, and on Sept. 28, 1922, the Temple was dedicated in proper form.

Current membership is 112. Present officers are Robert N. Cable, master; Calmer Thompson, senior warden; Merle Buhler, junior warden; Roscoe A. Frieberg, treasurer; Frank L. Roe, secretary; Dr. F. V. Guindon, senior deacon; Lyle Jensen, junior deacon; Jack Kutcher, senior steward; James F. Willey, junior steward; William Vermillion, chaplain; Henry Lundborg, marshall; Don V. Lindstrom, tyler.

O'Connell Triplets

The O'Connell triplets were born on September 28, 1884, children of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard O'Connell. Their parents lived on a farm southeast of Beresford, and the triplets were baptised in the Emmett church.

They all grew to maturity but at this writing (1959), have passed away. Their names were John, Lawrence, and Joseph. John lived in the Beresford community all his life, but the other two spent their later years in the Philip, South Dakota, vicinity.

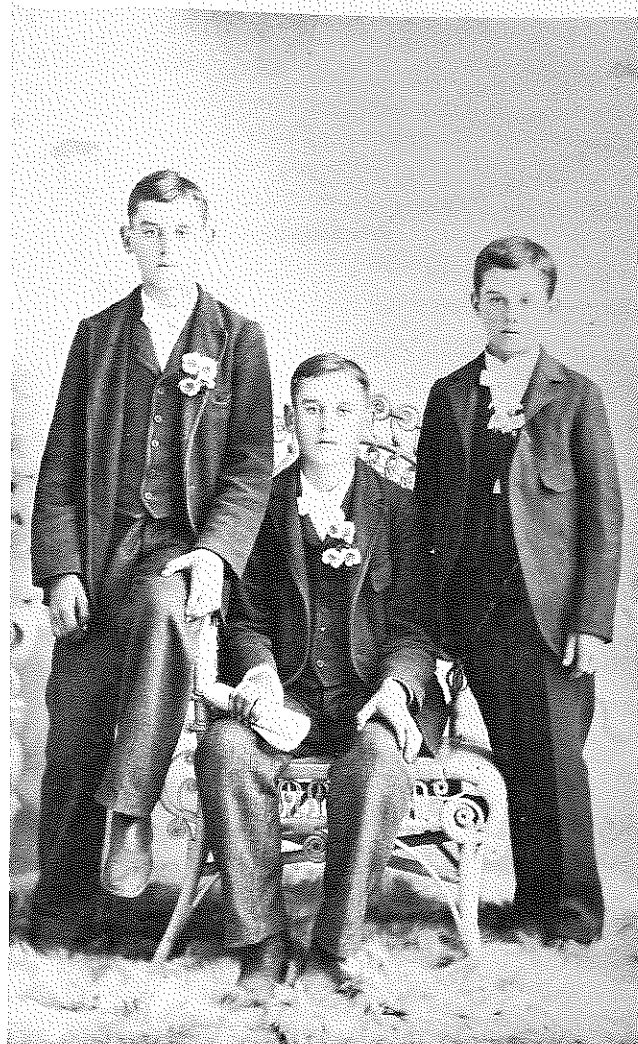
In their childhood, John was separated from the rest of the family, and from his "special" brothers, when he went to live with his grandmother. Mrs. Sarah Fitzgerald remembers how they used to go to visit the little boy, and how he would go "part way home" with them, then they would pause until he had almost reached the grandmother's home again before they, still probably waving a reluctant farewell, would turn toward their own home. In the Bernard O'Connell family, there were 12 children, the triplets and two sets of twins, besides five other boys and girls.

GEORGE S. GUENZEL

George S. Guenzel homesteaded in 1873 in the now-Beresford community. He made a journey on foot to Yankton in order to obtain his naturalization papers, so that he could file on the claim. Since he had a tree claim, he also carried on his back, from Burbank, the trees to be planted. It developed that the trees were later destroyed in a fire, and others had to replace them.

In 1885 he came to Beresford and started a combined furniture and undertaking business. His first stock of caskets were kept in the building recently torn down to make way for Al's Market. About 1894, he moved his furniture and undertaking business into a building erected by himself, now the site of Messler's Electric Shop. He retired in 1913, disposing to A. F. Tutt, who operated the business until 1919, when it was sold to George, Jr., and Mary Guenzel. They discontinued it in 1930.

Mr. George Guenzel, Sr., passed away in 1920. He and his wife were parents of three children. One daughter, now Mrs. George O'Reilly, born on March 7, 1881, on the homestead six miles northeast of town, now resides in Beresford. Miss Mary Guenzel also resides in town. George Guenzel, Jr., has passed away.



The O'Connell triplets—John, Lawrence, Joseph

WERTER F. SMITH

Werter F. Smith was born at Canton, Dakota Territory, on October 15, 1874. His parents were Werter Smith, Sr., and the former Miss Isabelle Dunn.

On August 16th, 1896, he was united in marriage to Miss Myrtle Pierce, at Beresford, S. D. Four children were born to them.

For the first few years of his residence here, Mr. Smith worked in a clothing store. Later, he entered the employ of Robert Sundstrom in the general merchandise business, and after that the grocery business in partnership with Abe Duerst. Some time after that, he set up in the grocery business for himself.

In 1920, due to his health, he sold out the grocery, and entered the employ of the city of Beresford, as Auditor. He held this position until 1947, when he retired, since his health continued poor. He passed away on February 23, 1952, at the age of 77 years.

Early Churches

Although the early settlers had no edifices in which to worship, it must not be thought that church services were at all neglected. Those who had been accustomed to attendance at such worship services were eager to be able to continue their attendance, even though kegs were the only chairs available, or perhaps an old board barely able to bear one's weight, and certainly not comfortable.

At first, religious meetings were held in the homes, and later, at the waiting room of the depot.

It is interesting to read, on the front page of the first copy of the *Beresford News*, that "the Rev. Amburn of Montrose in McCook county preached on Sunday last at the depot." And farther down in the same column we come upon another church mention, "the Rev. Lovelace of the Baptist church held services at the depot on Sunday evening." And still again, even further down, "The Rev. J. G. Nowell will hold services at the depot next Sabbath eve. All are invited."

Thus we see that the matter of worship was not disregarded, even though the funds for erecting a church structure might be long in accumulating. The money necessary for a church building had to wait, too, on the number of settlers of the various denominations, as well as upon the financial resources of the members. However, we are assured that the early settlers kept God in their thoughts—the more so, possibly, because they were denied the comfort and blessing of a church building in which to assemble.

The erecting of the first church in Beresford is credited to the Catholics, who built a wooden structure in 1885. Part of its construction was supervised by J. N. Wass, with labor supplied by its members.

The Methodists erected the second church. The first church service of record was held on September 1, 1833, at 4:00 P.M. by the Rev. J. G. Nowell. It was conducted in the waiting room of the depot. The seats were planks set on empty beer kegs. No regular services were scheduled, but only as a preacher or priest passed through.

Later, the schoolhouse was used for church services, until the second floor of the corner drug store was constructed as our first public hall. Then when the G.A.R. hall was built by the Civil War veterans, it was utilized for many church and other services. A portion of this building still stands and is used by the Beresford Auto Salvage.

Order of Eastern Star

A meeting was held March 12, 1920, for the purpose of instituting the Lily chapter No. 135, Order of Eastern Star, with Arthur C. Flinders, associate patron, presiding. Sixteen members of Silver Star chapter No. 117 of Alcester demitted to become charter members of Lily chapter.

First officers were Mabel Steadman, worthy matron; Jesse Burkhardt, worthy patron; Klara Burkhardt, associate matron; Burdd Ackley, associate patron; Fred Boller, secretary; Floyd Steadman, treasurer. Other charter members were Louise Hoskins, Frank W. Hoskins, Nellie Woodward, Vera Woodward, Hazel Soderstrom, Mildred Nolan, Orva Kundert, Hazel Kemis, Bessie M. Boller, and Catherine Woodward.

Civic activities during the chapter's history include contributions to the Children's home in Sioux Falls and the Shrine hospital; donations to the junior-senior prom fund and Boy Scouts; donations to the International Temple fund O.E.S. home at Redfield; and participation in various fund drives. In 1943 members sent boxes to servicemen overseas and donated 800 hours to the Red Cross. Ten cents per member was also given to the ambulance fund.

Lily chapter's 25th anniversary was celebrated July 10, 1945, at a special service with Sister Anna Struble, past grand matron of Centerville, present. Two charter members also present were Sisters Bessie Boller and Mildred Nolan. Twenty-five year members attending were Brother and Sister Wiebers, Brother and Sister Nissen, and Sister Mary Sinclair.

Oldest resident member of the chapter is Minnie Wiebers.

Present officers are Lillian Tornberg, worthy matron; Ramon Armel, worthy patron; Lois Christensen, associate matron; Henry Lundberg, associate patron; Olga Lundberg, secretary, and Mildren Cotton, treasurer.

OLE JACOBSEN

Ole Jacobsen was born July 29, 1866, in Norway, and came to Rochelle, Ill., in 1888. In 1904 he settled in Beresford and rented the Mike White farm east of town. In 1907 he purchased his present farm, and has made his home there since 1910.

In 1892 he was married to Lizzie Knudsen at Rochelle, and to this union seven children were born: Jennie, Mrs. Clara Sundstrom, George, Oscar, Helen, Lawrence, and Mrs. Mabel Johnson. All of the children live in Beresford except Mrs. Johnson, whose home is in Phoenix, Ariz.

Mrs. Jacobsen died in 1950.



CLUB HOUSE AND GOLF LINKS

Golf Club

The Beresford Golf Club was organized in the year of 1927. The organizers were George W. Ackley, A. R. Olson, G. L. Whitlow and J. W. Kaye.

The presidency and other offices have been passed around among the members with the exception of the office of the Secretary. This office had been held by August Skotvold since 1940.

For a good many years the Club rented the course, but in 1946 a deal was consummated through Mr. A. R. Olson whereby the Club became the owners of the ground. Since that time the Club has paid off all indebtedness and have improved the club house by enlarging the same as well as equipping it with appliances enabling the club to hold banquets or any other gatherings.

The club-house and course adjoin our city park. The two make a beautiful asset to the City of Beresford.

The Club enjoys a membership of over 200.

FIRST HORSESHOE GAME

Sept. 13, '23—August Nelson of Beresford and C. M. Reynolds of Enid, Okla., pitched the first horseshoe game ever played on the summit of Pike's Peak, states the *Republic*, quoting from a clipping of a western newspaper. The result of the game had not been learned, but the two quoits stars had reportedly conditioned themselves for the sport, knowing it would go down in the annals of history. The game is rapidly gaining in popularity in the Pike's Peak region.

T. L. Torgeson, Merchant

One of Beresford's oldest merchants in years of service was T. L. Torgeson. He came from a farm northeast of town and started a General Store, in 1886. He erected four store buildings on the west side of Main on Third street, and the one where Axel Sorenson now operates his Vogue theatre. He acquired several farms and retired from business, because of ill health. He passed away at his Beresford home on October 20, 1912. Mr. Torgeson was a public-spirited man and it was in great part because of his efforts that the Bethesda Children's Home and the Home for Aged were located here.

We feel that this is a very good place to explain that we should have liked to have had more mention of O. O. Fundingsland who, with Mrs. Fundingsland, is not now in good health. We know that Mr. Fundingsland was in business in Beresford in the 1900s, but how much previous we have not learned. He was a member of the city council for a number of years in the earlier days. And he retired from the shoe repair shop not too long ago. Many will miss not being able to read more of him.

In that regard we are also sorry not to have had some further mention of the parents of Ole Stene, Jr. They were early day pioneers, and arrived about 1870, in the Roseni area. Those were the pioneers who endured so many of the hardships of the homesteading days, and paved the way for an easier life for those who came later. We owe all of them a great debt.

If there are others we have failed to include, we hope you will realize that the omission was not intentional.

OLE WEVIK, SR.

Mr. and Mrs. Ole Wevik, Sr., were also among the pioneers of this area.

Mr. Wevik, born in Bynesset, Trondjem, Norway, in 1864, was a resident of Roseni community for almost 55 years. He was nearing the age of 73 years at the time of his death. He came to America when about 18, with his parents. In 1886, he was married to Lizzie Solem. Ten children were born to the couple. In 1920, they retired from the farm and took up residence in Beresford.

Mrs. Wevik was born on May 6, 1870, in Dakota Territory, near Gayville. She was the second eldest of eleven children. When she was 12 years old her parents moved to Union county.

After her marriage to Ole Wevik, the couple lived on a farm near Beresford and took active part in the Roseni church. Their children were four sons and six daughters. From 1927-30, Mrs. Wevik was Matron at the Sunset Home for the Aged, near Beresford. At the time of her death she was aged seventy-nine years.

MRS. GOLDIE M. HULT

Mrs. Goldie M. Hult, who lives in the small house just north of the Mrs. Fanny F. Johnson residence, was born on the farm homesteaded by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Vennard, on April 3, 1880, and for five years her mother operated a store in Alsen. Her mother had the clerking, and the accounting to do, since the father had had little school advantages. Mrs. Hult remembers how her mother used to pour the wax for candles, and, too, how she worked very hard, indeed, carrying sacks of flour, etc.

Mrs. Hult attended the Cleveland school for a period of twenty days, before the family moved to Beresford, where they established a store for a time. They were still living above the store south of the Standard station when the fire of 1894 took the entire block.

And vivid is remembrance about her own experience in the terrible blizzard of '88. She had been in school that day, and when the pupils were dismissed, started for home, but because she was so young, and the gale so strong with snow so blinding, she doubts she could have made their house had it not been that her brother came and carried her on his shoulder.

Mrs. Hult has in her possession a copy of her birth certificate, traced through the school records here by a former superintendent, Mr. M. H. Shennum.

I.O.O.F.

On Aug. 15, 1894, E. D. Smith arrived at Beresford, a newly incorporated city on the Dakota prairies, and one of the first men he met was G. W. Byrnes. Noticing that Mr. Smith was wearing the three links pin, official I.O.O.F. emblem, Mr. Byrnes suggested to his new friend that perhaps such a lodge could be started in Beresford. The two men set forth to find the necessary number of members and, like Thomas Wildey, founder of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in America, they were successful. Thus a charter was issued on Feb. 23, 1895, to I.O.O.F. Lodge No. 130.

Charter members were Mr. Smith, noble grand; J. E. Boyle, vice grand; C. T. Gulliver, secretary; L. C. Ramsdell, treasurer; Mr. Byrnes, William Kundert, C. D. Farrand, James Fitzgerald, and Archie Brown. M. C. Nash, grand master of the jurisdiction of South Dakota, presided at the installation ceremonies which were held in the second floor of the newly-built Cantz building on Main street (across the alley from the present telephone building).

Early members of the lodge were important citizens of the community. Mr. Boyle was a veteran harness maker; Mr. Ramsdell, the druggist (now Corner Drug store).

In 1945, at the celebration of the lodge's 50th anniversary, Mr. Smith was the only living charter member, and at this time he furnished the organization with a report of the early history of the I.O.O.F. Many of the records had earlier been destroyed by fire.

The lodge met in the Cantz building and later in the Kundert building until 1925, at which time they moved to their present location on North Third street. In 1946 the lodge bought this building from the William Hostetler estate. Since its founding, the lodge has had over 500 members, with affiliation by transfer and initiation.

Beresford's I.O.O.F. lodge has won many honors and recently had a initiatory degree staff considered one of the finest in the area, conferring degree work at grand lodge sessions in South Dakota and in neighboring lodges in this state and Iowa.

Present officers are Vernon L. Hustrulid, noble grand; William Hazel, Jr., vice grand; C. R. Strom, secretary; William Stiles, treasurer.

ANDREW J. WIMPLE

Andrew J. Wimple, pioneer agriculturalist and corn breeder, was born in Stone Arabia, N. Y., on Oct. 8, 1851.

He worked for his father and neighbors during his youth, attending school during the winter months until he was 14, and then became a full-time farm hand. When he was 19 he owned two yoke of oxen, a brand new breaking plow, and \$30 in cash.

He took his worldly goods to Dakota territory in 1870.

Following his marriage in 1877 to Adelia LeSuer of Butler county, Iowa, he homesteaded the farm in Brooklyn township which served as the family farm throughout his life.

At the time he acquired the land, it was virgin prairie, but he cultivated it carefully, fenced it neatly, and planted a 15-acre grove of trees around the house. There were 200 trees in his orchard.

For five years Mr. Wimple devoted himself to the breeding of corn, detasseling, hand pollinating, and doing the rest of the detail work necessary in such an undertaking. Despite comments from friends and neighbors that any one doing this to corn must be "peculiar," Mr. Wimple entered his first exhibit of Wimple Yellow Dent corn in the National Corn show at Chicago in 1907 and won the sweep-stake prize—160 acres of land in Texas, \$50 in cash, a gold watch, and a five-tone wagon scale. From that time on his projects had the respect of everyone.

Devoting himself almost exclusively to producing seed corn thereafter, through cross-breeding and in-breeding, he later introduced Wimple's Hybrid, which made Union and Lincoln counties one of the leading seed corn centers in the country. The hybrid variety moved the corn belt several hundred miles north, because it matures in 90 days whereas other varieties took 110 days.

For his long years of work, in 1927 Mr. Wimple was honored by being named one of the two first "eminent farmers" by South Dakota State college at Brookings, and his was the first picture hung in the agricultural hall of fame there. In that year, he and Mrs. Wimple also celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

Following the State college honors, Mr. Wimple was the subject of a lengthy and highly complimentary article in the *Farm and Fireside* magazine, which brought a deluge of letters from all states in the union and from Canada, seeking additional information on his work, and many ordering small amounts of seed corn direct from the developer. In one week, over 200 orders, ranging from one pound to one bushel, were filled keeping both the Wimples and



BERESFORD'S OLDEST COUPLE—Mr. and Mrs. Carl Edbloom, aged 95 and 87, respectively.

their rural mail carrier, Harry Lambertson, exceedingly busy.

He died at his farm home Nov. 16, 1931, following a paralytic stroke.

CARL EDBLOM

Although they are not, in the strictest sense, pioneers, in Beresford or in America, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Edbloom have been residents of this community for almost 67 years. And outstanding, indeed, is the age attained by this remarkable couple.

Emelie Gustava Jacobson, daughter of Marie and Abraham Jacobson, was born on February 8, 1872, in Godegaard, Ostergatlen, Sweden. She came to America on the tenth of August, 1892.

She worked as a hired girl on a farm west of Beresford for one year. Then she went to Sioux City and worked for three years in a home there.

In 1896, on March the fourteenth, she was married to Carl Oscar Edbloom.

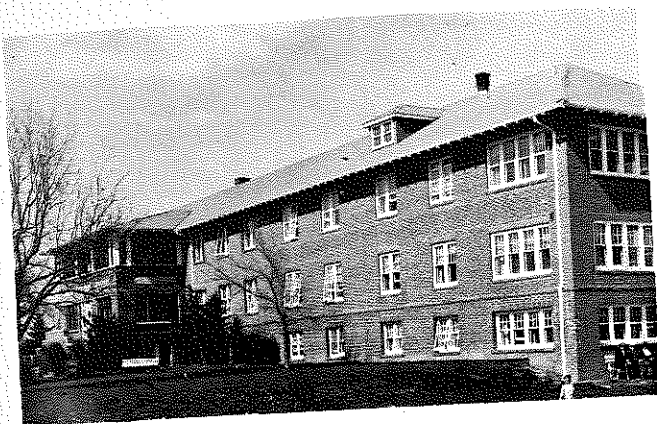
Carl Oscar Edbloom, son of Matilda and August Linblad, was born in Godegaard, Ostergatlen, Sweden, on December 1, 1864. He came to America in 1893. For six months he worked in the iron mines in Minnesota, then moved to Beresford where he worked as a hired hand on several farms west of town.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Edbloom started farming northwest of Beresford, where they lived for seven years. They then bought a farm two miles west and five miles north of Beresford, where they farmed until March first, 1931, when they retired, and moved to Beresford.

They observed their 63rd wedding anniversary on March 14th, 1959.

Since 1903, Mr. and Mrs. Edbloom have been faithful members of the Brooklyn Free Church.

Mrs. Edbloom is not in the best of health. But Mr. Edbloom, in spite of his advanced age—almost 95 years—is active and very spry. He drives his own car around town, and to church, three miles from town, every Sunday.



BETHESDA HOME FOR AGED

Bethesda Home for Aged

Bethesda Home for Aged is located a mile northeast of Beresford on the 20-acre site which also includes Bethesda Children's Home. Two land-owners had each given ten acres in the middle of the section for the Children's Home in 1896, and since there was ample ground area, it was decided to add a home for elderly people.

An organization was formed in 1913 for this purpose with officers including the Rev. J. J. Skarpness of Centerville, and A. J. Rommereim, the Rev. S. L. Jacobson, and the Rev. J. A. Quello, all of Beresford. J. J. Nygaard, also of Beresford, was the first manager, serving until 1917.

In 1914 a three-story brick building with facilities for 28 residents was built. In 1932, a three and a half story infirmary addition was built on the east side, and an extension to the south was added to the main building in 1949 to provide an additional 30 rooms. At present there are 80 residents, most of whom have private rooms. All of the building is protected from fire by a modern automatic sprinkler system. Current valuation of the property is \$350,000.

Bethesda gives full nursing care under the direction of three Beresford doctors, and is staffed by 22 workers. Church services are held each Sunday in the home's chapel. Average age of residents is 84 years, with 17 persons over 90 years old.

Managers of the home included A. W. Amundson, 1917-1920; J. O. Johnson, 1920-1948; the Rev. A. J. Brakke, 1948-1953. Present manager is the Rev. Norman O. Nelson who came in 1953 as the first superintendent for the separate Home for Aged.



BETHESDA'S CHILDREN'S HOME

Bethesda Children's Home

In July, 1896, when Beresford was little more than a decade old, a group of its citizens became concerned about the care of orphaned and dependent children, and at the convention of Hauge's Lutheran Synod held at Roseni Lutheran church near Beresford, voted to build Bethesda Orphans home.

Care of children began on Oct. 1, 1897, in a building erected on a tract of 20 acres northeast of Beresford. During the 61 years of operation, over 700 children have received care here.

In 1952, a new one-story building was completed to replace the original structure which had outlived its usefulness. During recent years, the program of Bethesda Children's home has gradually changed from the care of orphaned and dependent children of all ages to its present work of caring for emotionally disturbed teen-agers requiring special social work, psychiatric guidance, and counselling. The number of children cared for at one time has decreased from the 50-75 enrollment of 1915 to the 12-18 enrollment of 1958.

Bethesda today is owned and operated by the Evangelical Lutheran church of America, the successor to Hauge's Synod. A. M. Banker, the eleventh superintendent, has directed the program since November, 1954. On the present board of directors are Arthur Hybertson, Sioux Falls; Sigvold Sommervold, Akron, Ia.; Mrs. W. T. Knudson, Salem; Carl Anderson, Canton; the Rev. Arnold Blom, Colton; the Rev. Robert Ellison Pierre; Oliver Hanson, Mission Hill.

Greetings From C. C. Seeger

In a letter to Frank Roe, secretary of the Diamond Jubilee committee, Mr. Carl C. Seeger recounts some interesting memories of his early day experiences in the schools of Beresford. We are glad to present these, for Mr. Seeger was a popular and long-time (28 years) instructor in the High School, and when the affliction of blindness caused his retirement, the whole city mourned. The letter follows:

"About July, 1919, I came to Beresford. On the first of September, Mr. Roberts, Superintendent of Schools, asked me to teach two classes of French from nine to ten thirty every morning. He told me that it was temporary. I began teaching the third week in October, 1919.

After I had been teaching a month, Mr. Roberts asked me to teach two classes in Latin, as the present teacher was unsatisfactory and would be given History only.

I had never been a football coach, but the boys insisted that I help them. For a few days from four to six, we sorted the football togs and with the aid of the Home Economics teacher, we fitted out the squad. I really enjoyed the practice as the boys knew the game well. That fall we played five games.

Mr. J. W. Reedy, my brother-in-law, a man well-known throughout South Dakota, was always interested in our games, and he and Mr. Abe Duerst furnished cars for us to drive to the out-of-town games.

When the season closed, we had a "big feed" at the home of Mr. John Wass.

I had intended to teach only one year, but the Board and Mr. Roberts persuaded me to continue full time, and I continued to 1948. I never regretted my decision as I enjoyed teaching academic subjects in High School, and, when the new building was voted by the people, I staked out the building and did the preliminary work. I think the year was 1922.

I was Boy Scout leader for many years. Miss Nell Woodward, now Mrs. McClintock, was leader for the Camp Fire Girls.

The rest of the history of the activities of the High School in debate, oratory, declamation, music, track, baseball, football. Future Farmers of America, and Home Economics can be found in the high school files.

Fire Department

One of the most important dates in Beresford history is Aug. 16, 1899, when Beresford's volunteer fire department was organized. Until this time, fires were fought by neighbors with any equipment at hand, and it was almost impossible to extinguish a fire, but at

best to slow down the spread. With the chartering of the volunteers came men trained in various phases of fire fighting as well as the gradual building up of equipment until today Beresford boasts one of the outstanding fire-fighting departments in the state.

There were about 30 charter members of the volunteer fire department.

During the first year, department members fought fires at the J. J. Reedy house, the Stephens block, Smith Lumber company, and Field's barn. First equipment used by the department was a man-drawn hose cart, which was later replaced by a Model T Ford. An 1898 city ordinance made it unlawful for townspeople to use city water during a fire emergency.

The present city hall and fire station was built shortly after the turn of the century. Today it houses the city truck, a Reo, and the community truck, a 1954 GMC. In 1957 the department purchased a resuscitator.

William E. Bussler served as chief of the department from 1917 to 1926; George Skaff, 1926-1932; Bert Nodved, 1932-1939; Richard Hayeland, 1939-1941; Albert Meile, 1941-1942. Ragner Ostenson has served as fire chief since 1942. Nick Scheuring, secretary, and Stan Fillingsness, assistant chief, have served since 1953.

Men who served many years with the department and are now officially inactive but who still participate in department affairs are Len Feathers, 1920-1953 and secretary of the group from 1926-1953; Earl Kelley, 1927-1953; Elmer Duerst, 1916-1948, and George Skaff, 1918-1953.

The present department is limited to 20 men, who meet monthly, participate in local, district, and state fire-training schools to learn latest fire fighting techniques, and who are ready to answer all fire calls.

The current roster, with dates of joining, include Chief Ostenson, 1937; Nick Scheuring, 1941; Loyal Carnes, 1942; Bernard Field and Stan Fillingsness, 1943; Virgil Carlson and Louis VanderLaan, 1944; Eugene Rasmussen, Richard Girard, Roger Warner, and Norm Nygaard, 1953; Marvin Bak, 1954; Richard Lingberg, John Landon, and John Adams, 1955; Dan Cotton and Wayne Bancroft, 1956; George Henderson, 1957; Bill Bross and Ralph Messler, 1959.

Mr. Girard is captain of the city truck, and Mr. Rasmussen, captain of the community truck. Members of the evolution team are Mr. Girard, Mr. Rasmussen, Mr. Lindberg, Mr. Cotton, and Mr. Bancroft.

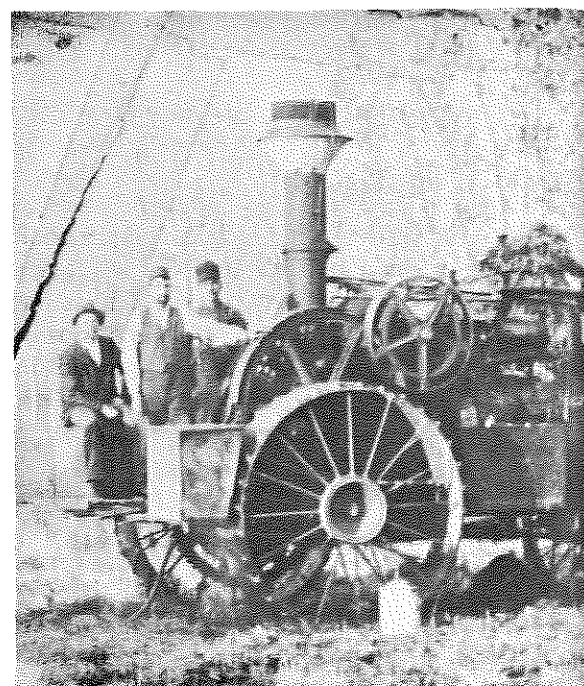
Mr. Scheuring is currently president of the South-eastern South Dakota Firemen's association which includes departments from 13 counties.



REMINISCENCE

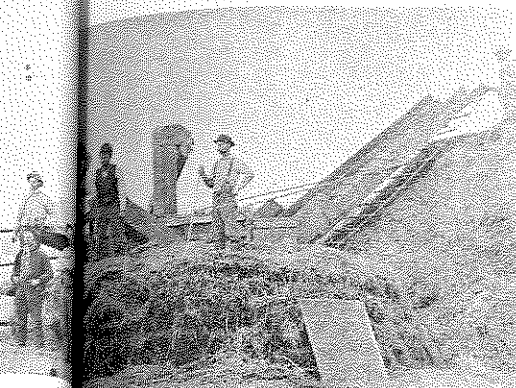
From the fluent pen of Miss Olive Meidell, former teacher in the schools of Beresford and of Sioux Falls, her present home, comes the following:

One person who could relate so much of interesting Beresford history would be Mrs. Jessie Morean, who is now living at the Odd Fellows Home in Dell Rapids. She worked in the *Republic* office for many years. She has a keen sense of humor but can not now see to read or write any more. She was a neighbor of ours and used to come over often. I was a youngster then, and used to hope that when I grew up I could have as many interesting and exciting stories as Mrs. Morean knew. She always saw the funny side of things.

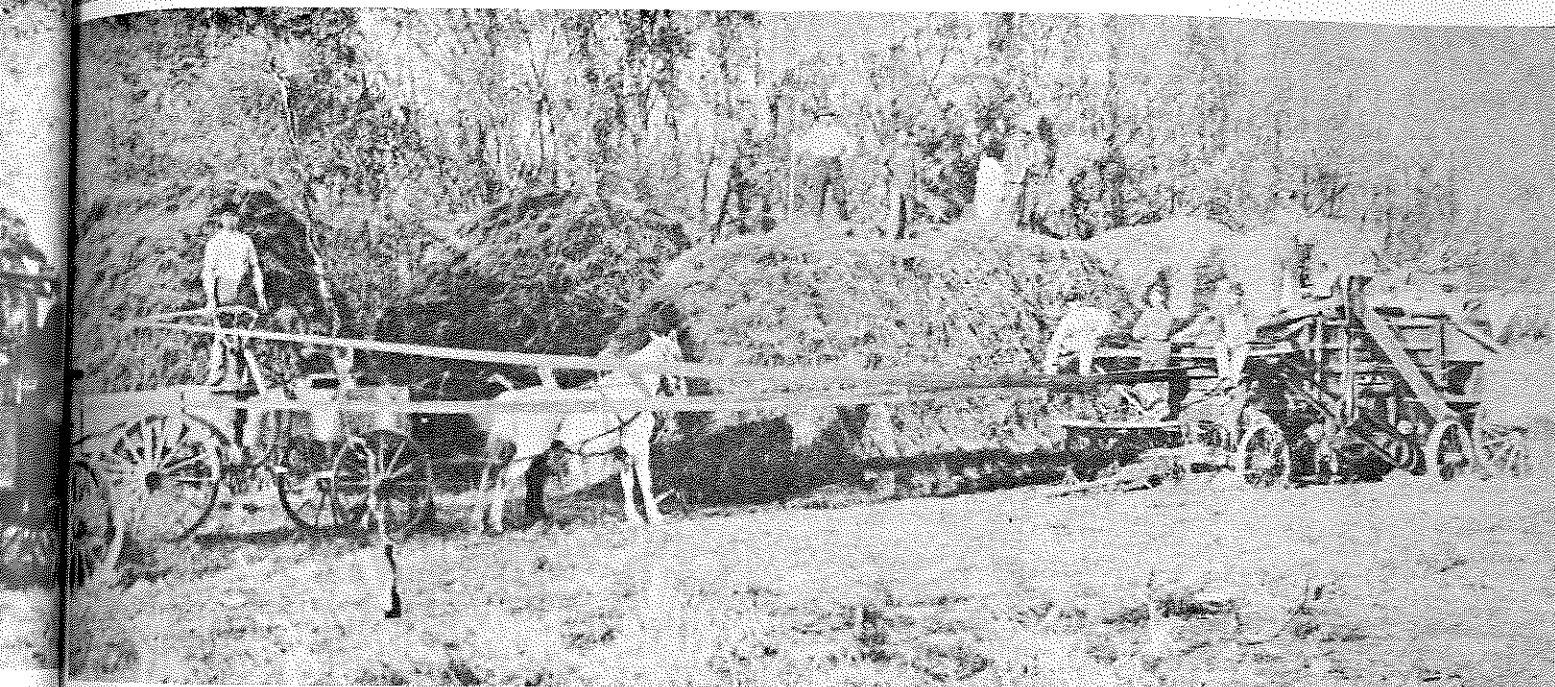


STEAM RIG—Oscar A. Anderson, father of Ray and Oliver Anderson of Beresford, purchased this steam rig with straw burner and blower, the first of its kind in South Dakota. It was delivered by rail to Rock Valley, Iowa, in 1892.





FIRST HORSE-POWERED THRESHER--J. J. and T. T. Voegeli, Owners



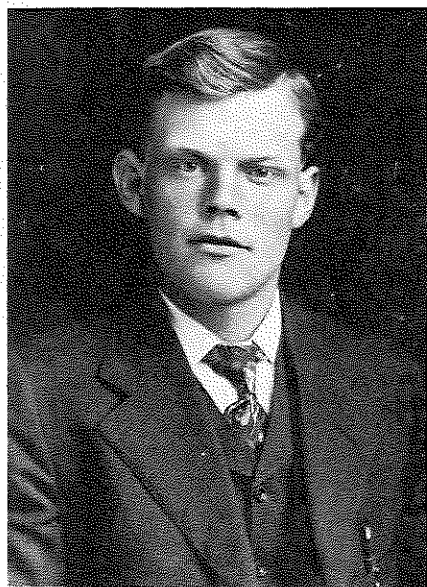
d



MAIN STREET
ABOUT 1910



Ludwig P. Peterson. Born in Sioux City, Iowa, July 16, 1895. Killed in action in France, October 21, 1918. Co. G, 355th Infantry.



Pvt. Fred A. Olson. Born in Sweden on March 9, 1891. Died at Camp Dodge, Des Moines, Iowa, October 10, 1918.

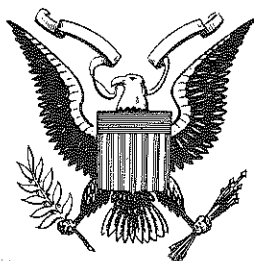
Theodore August Steensland. Born at Beresford, January 6, 1895. Died in service, in England, May 25, 1917.



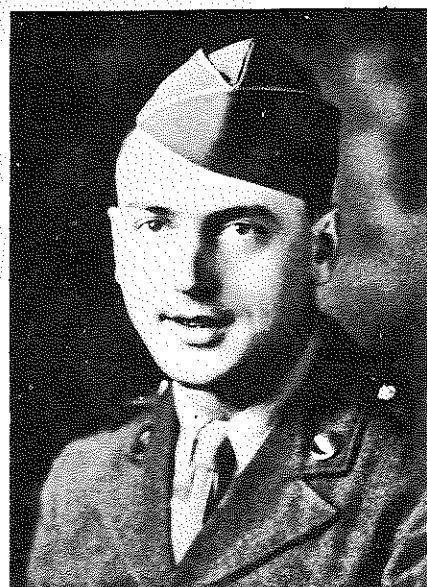
Gold Star Boys



Pfc. Richard F. Clay. Born August 18, 1931, at Beresford, South Dakota. Entered service in August of 1948, and reported missing in action in Korea on November 28, 1950.

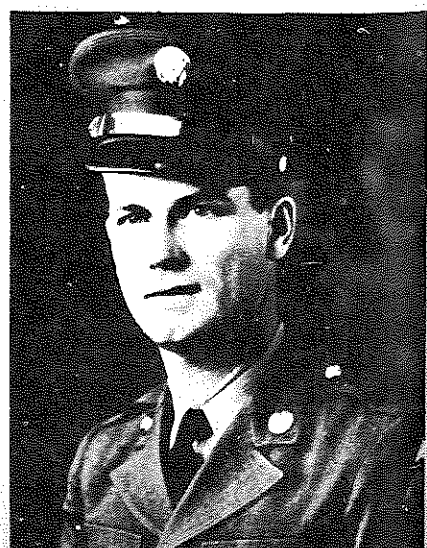


Lt. Gilbert M. Ambur. Born March 25, 1922, at Beresford, S. D. Killed in action at Arnaville, France, on September 15, 1944.



Robert Burns Birnie. Born at Beresford, December 17, 1918. Killed in action on December 31, at Acul, Belgium.

Kingsley B. Bowers. Born July 10, 1910, at Merville, Iowa. Killed in action on December 24, 1944, in Belgium.



John
Westfield
Edward Pur

Cpl
February
1944

Cpl
ber 3
Killed

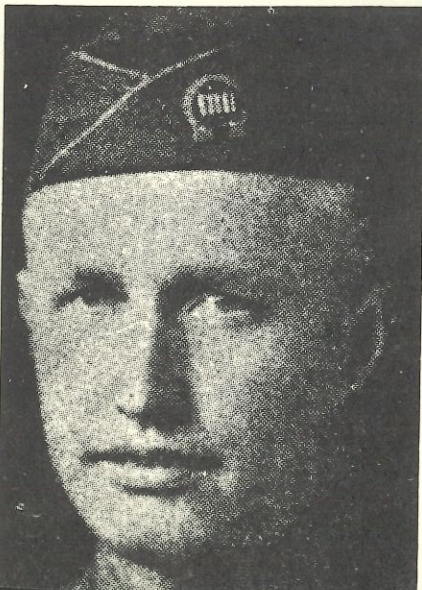


John F. Fleege. Born May 9, 1922, at Westfield, Iowa. Killed in action. Awarded Purple Heart and Air Medal.

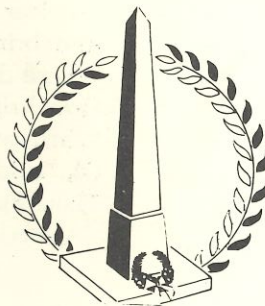


Cpl. Loyal Keller. Entered service, February 23, 1942. Killed in action in 1944. Awarded Good Conduct medal.

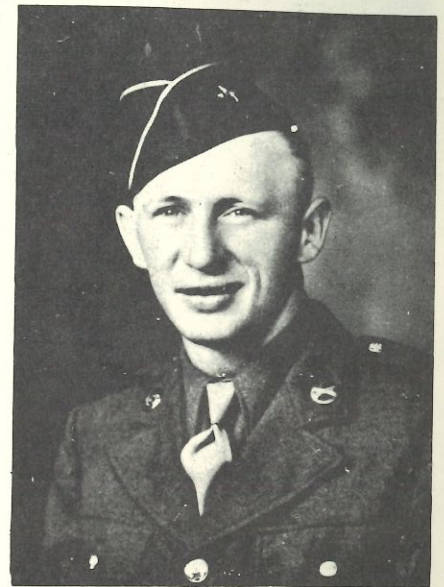
Cpl. Arnold G. Nelson. Born December 31, 1915, at Alcester, South Dakota. Killed in August 1943.



Gold Star Boys



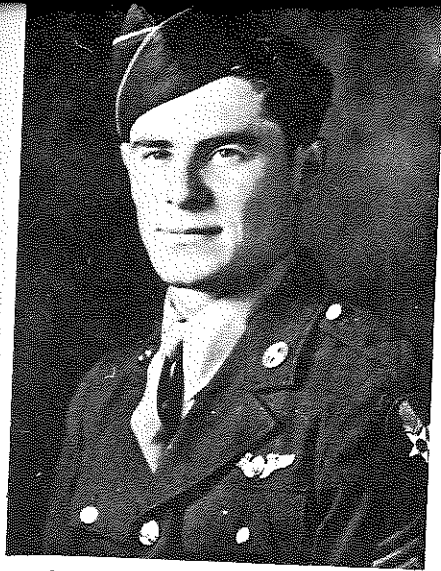
Howard W. Rasmussen. Born August 2, 1920, at Beresford, S. D. Killed in action on April 6, 1945, in Hamlen, Germany.



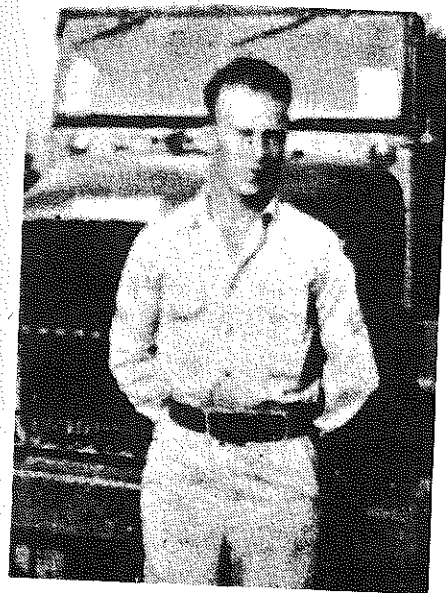
Wilson A. Reirson. Private First Class, of 17th Armored Battalion. Killed in Germany on March 23, 1945.

Irving Tanck. Born March 18, 1915, at Pipestone, Minnesota. Died of wounds, November 29, 1944, in France.



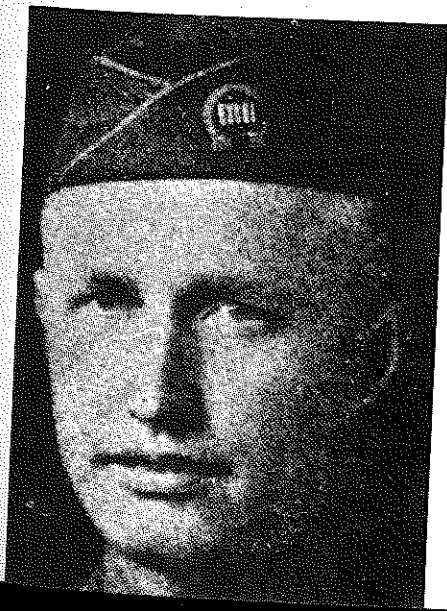


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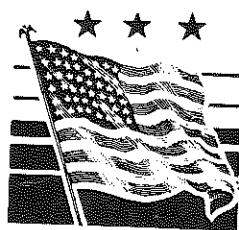


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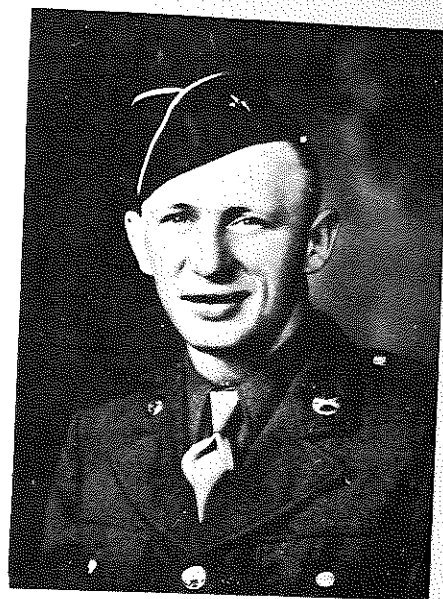
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Gold Star Boys

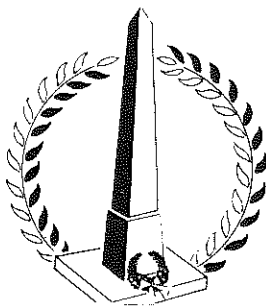


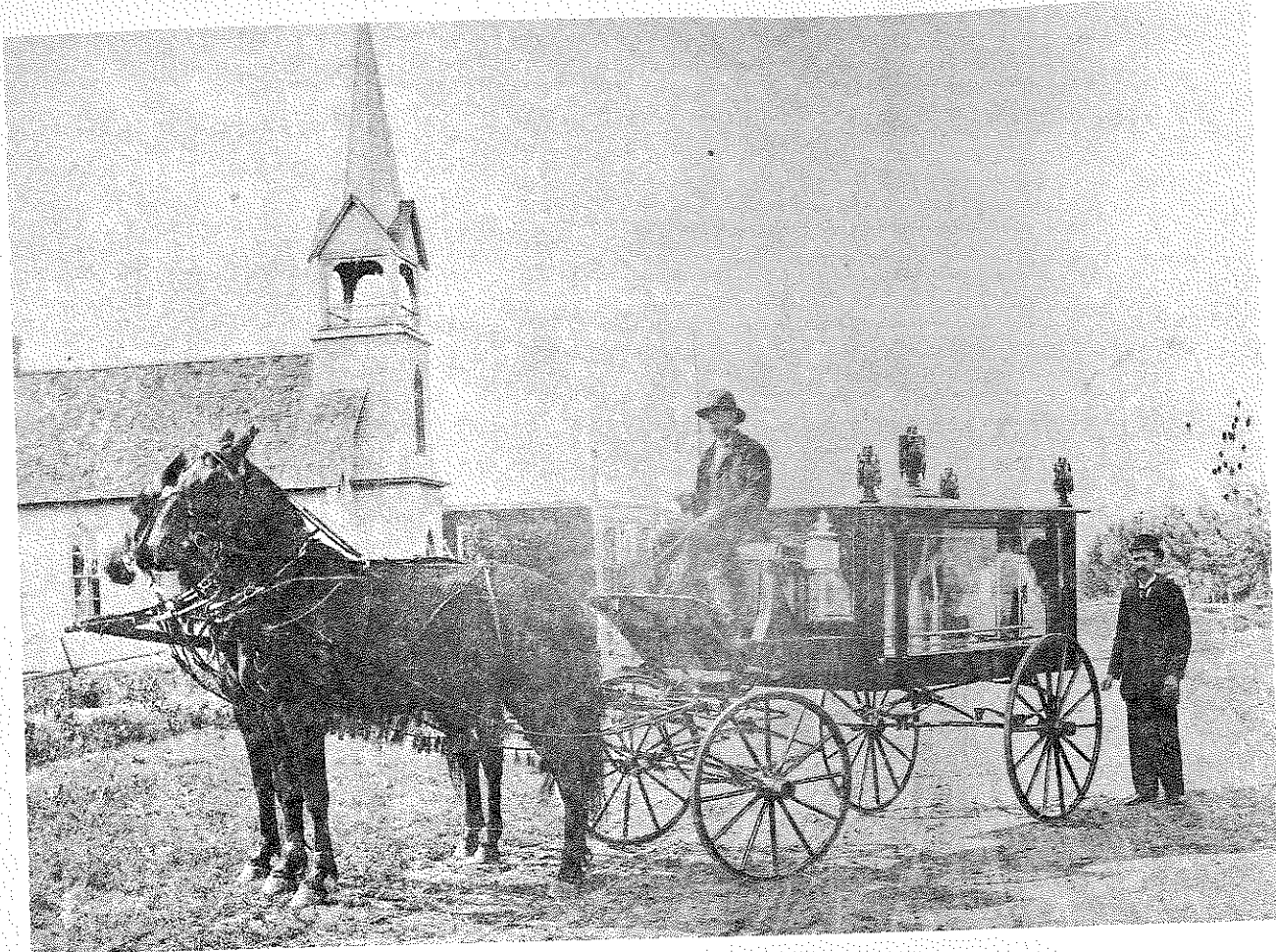
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FIRST HORSE-DRAWN HEARSE IN BERESFORD—April 28, 1897—Richard Reedy, driver and owner of horses. J. N. Wass, Funeral Director, at rear of hearse. Emmanuel Lutheran Church in background.

The Spirit of the Pioneer

A mighty force once swept our land—
And may it never disappear!
It made us great. We cherish still
The Spirit of the Pioneer.
So proud, courageous, once it was,
It gloried in the new frontier;
Its courage knighted common men
With noble will to persevere.
Each man felt honest noble pride
In his own strength and power to do,
But looked to God for guidance, then
Lived for himself and others, too.
Men saw new visions by its light—
True freedom, plenty, brotherhood,
As all forgot intolerance
By working for the common good.
It seemed the very breath of God—

And blessings followed in its train;
But, ah! 'twas crushed when in their haste
Men trampled it in search for gain.
It shall not die—for Spirits live
And grow at will in hearts of men.
It can be strong if we will guard
And shield it in our hearts again.
Spirit, return! we need thy strength
To clear the last frontiers of mind,
And bring the day of Truth and Love
Whose dawning lingers far behind.
How bright the sunshine on ahead
When we have passed the mists of fear!
Oh, guide us to more sunlit vales,
Thou Spirit of the Pioneer.

—Mildred Irwin Peterson
"Autumn Bloom"

(Dedicated to my grandfather, Mr. Wm. Irwin, whose memory inspired it).



BERESFORD SCHOOL, 1888

Fourth row—Ella Brady, Mollie Stephen, Mary Reedy, Myra Maynard, Gertie Rice, Edith Glidden, Lillie Stephen, Edith Smith, Mary Johnson, Professor Smith.

Third row: Maggie Rasmussen, Jennie Vennard, Carrie Bruehler, Marcella Mangan, Hattie Fitzgerald, Jennie Johnson, Chris Christensen, Ralph Mangan, Walter Ryan, Johnnie Reedy, Jimmie Reedy, Tom Ryan, Paul Mangan, Nellie Stephen, Delia Ricard.

Second row: Louise Birnie, Mary La Plant, Alma Sundling, Agnes O'Rielly, Mamie Reedy, Anna Reedy, Anna Nelson, Mary Christensen, Jennie Fisher, Maggie Ryan, Elsie Davis, Goldie Vennard, Cora Stephen, Hattie Hill, Theresa Ryan, Nona Ryan, Emma La-Plaunt, wash-woman boy.

First row: (left to right); Ricard, George Bruehler, John Sundling, Ray Bennett, Bolite Christensen, Jim Vennard, Frankie Rice, James Brady, Jerry Ryan, Everett French, Tom Fisher, Ernest Smith, Smith, Herman Ricard, Frank Reedy.

IF . . . You don't like our write-ups;
You don't like our cuts;
You don't like our style;
You don't like the Beresford
Diamond Jubilee booklet;
Just publish one yourself!

We trust that this Diamond Jubilee anniversary booklet will help to establish in your mind a clearer picture of the past—a past which has served as the stepping stone for our present.

It is a heritage which was not easily won, and we need to retain an awareness of it. If this booklet helps in that way, it has been worth our effort.

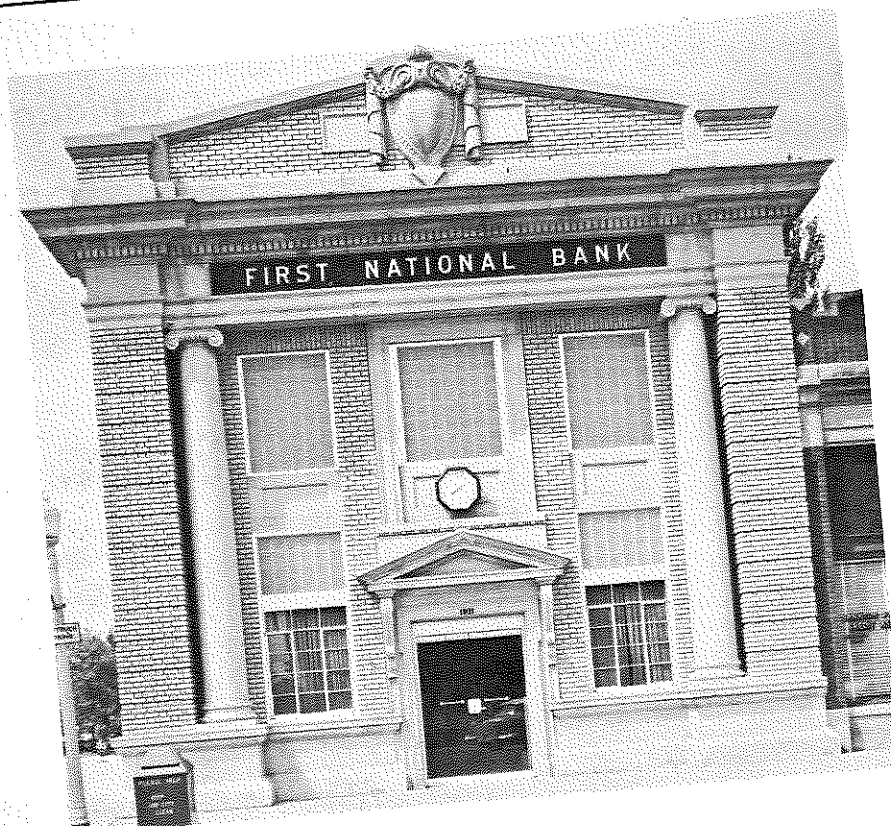
ACKNOWLEDGMENT

If we were to attempt to list the names of all who so kindly furnished pictures, data, and research material for the compilation of this anniversary Booklet for Beresford's Diamond Jubilee, the list would grow too long. But be assured your interest and aid were very greatly appreciated.

However, we do wish to express the deepest thanks to Mrs. Francis Kelly for kindly stepping into the breach when the future appeared hopeless. Her aid has been almost invaluable.

We also thank Mrs. Bud Clay for the cover design.

Mildred Irwin Peterson (Mrs. C.O.)
Historian



1913

"A Good Bank in a Good Town"

1959

The Corporate Charter was issued under date of October 25, 1913, to the American State Bank, Beresford, South Dakota. Application for conversion to The First National Bank of Beresford, Beresford, South Dakota, was made under date of December 3, 1915. Capital Stock of \$25,000.00 was subscribed, and a charter granted to The First National Bank of Beresford, Beresford, South Dakota, under date of January 3, 1916. In the year of 1917, Lewis Asper sold out his interest in The First National Bank of Beresford to J. J. DeLay, who took over as President at that time and operated the bank until 1931, at which time he moved to Norfolk, Nebraska, and A. R. Olson was put in active management. At the present time, resources total over four and one-quarter million dollars.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. J. DeLay, Chairman of the Board

A. R. Olson, President
T. A. Peterson, Vice-President
C. R. Olson, Cashier
Sophia Muhlenkort, Ass't. Cashier

Virgil E. Carlson, Director
Arthur Norling, Director
Calmer Thompson, Ass't. Cashier
Gorman Sudbeck, Teller

Bookkeepers

Ruthie Sundstrom, Beverly Peterson, Marjorie Thompson, Mary Gamberg, Mavis Landon

Member FDIC

We are proud to have had a part in the growth and advancement of this community and with other firms salute Beresford's 75th Anniversary and the early settlers of this area.

BERESFORD LUMBER CO.

"The Home Concern"

Congratulations to

BERESFORD

on the Diamond Jubilee

Farmers Co-op Elevator Co.

Beresford, S. Dak.

Phone 108

GRAIN, FEEDS and SEEDS

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
CITY OF BERESFORD
ON THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY**

BEN FRANKLIN STORE

Locally Owned—Nationally Known

A nation-wide organization of 2,445 independently owned Variety Stores dedicated to bringing you the highest quality merchandise at the lowest possible prices.

Martin and Viola Weber

Beresford, S. Dak.

*We wish to congratulate the
City of Beresford*

for its 75 years of service to the community, and wish ever-expanding prosperity for its future.

KOWALKE IMPLEMENT

Beresford, S. Dak.

McCormick Farm Equipment

Farmall Tractors

International Trucks

Genuine I.H. Parts & Service

JOHN LATENDRESSE

Contractor and Builder

PUBLIC, COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

Phone 405-M

Congratulations to Beresford on Its 75th Anniversary

DRS. COTTON AND GUINDON

Veterinarians

KELLY CONSTRUCTION CO.

Residential . . . Public . . . Commercial Buildings

Francis L. Kelly, Owner

CARLSON & SONS

*Extend Congratulations to Beresford
on Its 75th Anniversary*

**New Revolutionary "Pully-V-Hammermill Drive"—Up to 50%
More Power**

**WE WISH TO CONGRATULATE BERESFORD
ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY**

SUNDSTROM IMPLEMENT

MEL and WARREN

Your Dependable Agency for Oliver Machinery and Parts

LANDON IMPLEMENT AND MOTOR

BERESFORD, SO. DAK.

"First in Sales and Service"

**GREETINGS TO BERESFORD
ON YOUR 75TH ANNIVERSARY**

We Are Proud to Serve You

IOWA PUBLIC SERVICE CO.

Suppliers of Natural Gas

**Buds Texaco
Service**

Bud Girard

PH. 326

**Dale's
Auto Electric**

Dale Frick

PH. 20

**EQUITABLE LIFE
ASSURANCE SOCIETY
OF U.S.**

Philip F. Osteen

PH. 426M

Wayne Johnson

Builder

PH. 213L

new from Helene Curtis
**WAVES HAIR
NATURE'S WAY**

springtime
PERMANENT

with **LIQUID HAIR** solution

Gives hair a spring that can't
be told from nature's! Actu-
ally *adds strength* during
waving. Outlasts all ordinary
waves!



...your new
Springtime Permanent

including shaping and custom
styling.

**VIVIAN
BEAUTY SHOP**

PHONE 128

BERESFORD CREAMERY AND PRODUCE

**EXTENDS CONGRATULATIONS TO BERESFORD
ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY**

Complete Service in Cold Storage Lockers

*Congratulations to Beresford
on Their 75th Jubilee*

**Investors Diversified Services,
Inc.**

Represented by
Axel P. Sorensen
Union County

Donald V. Gant
Lincoln County

*We Salute Beresford
on Their
Seventy-fifth Anniversary*

VOGUE THEATRE

*Your home of
relaxation and entertainment*

*Congratulations to Our City
on Our
Seventy-fifth Anniversary*

Let us all work together in the
future as we have in the past
so our community may grow and
prosper.

K & K CO.

Home-owned Store

SERVING BERESFORD SINCE 1921

NOW UNDER ONE ROOF
Nygard Paint Center
and
Beresford Roofing Co.

will be known as

**Beresford Home Improvement
Company**

*Our Hats Off to Beresford
on Their 75th Birthday*

Norm Nygard and Mike Bak

GREETING TO BERESFORD ON YOUR BIRTHDAY

BERESFORD IMPLEMENT CO.

See Us for the Best in Genuine Ford Parts and Service
Ask for a Demonstration of a New Ford "Select-O-Matic" Tractor

MESSLER BROS.

PLUMBING — HEATING — WIRING

RAY'S RADIO AND TV

Extend Congratulations to Beresford on Its 75th

COTTONS MOTOR AND IMPLEMENT CO.

PONTIAC CARS — G.M.C. TRUCKS — GOODYEAR TIRES

Mobile Products

Phone 88

Beresford, S. Dak.

GREETINGS TO BERESFORD ON THEIR DIAMOND JUBILEE

THOMPSON IMPLEMENT

"Your Massey-Ferguson Dealer"

Phone 50

Beresford, S. Dak.

GREAT PLAINS SUPPLY COMPANY

Building Materials

Phone 23

Beresford, S. Dak.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BERESFORD ON THEIR SEVENTY-FIFTH

MARSHALL WELLS STORE

E. R. McManus, Owner

THE NEW BAKERY

There is no substitute for quality; we use the finest ingredients to obtain the finest bakery goods.

Our desire is to serve you. We specialize in wedding and party orders.

Inga Thickett, Prop.

Phone No. 80

BRUEHLER and BIERBAUM

Your Rexall Drug

in

Beresford, S. Dak.

Phone No. 1

Formerly: Bruehler & Bruehler

Since 1913

CORNER DRUG STORE

Beresford, S. Dak.

Veterinary Supplies

Prescriptions

G. A. Thoreson, Prop.

Phone No. 33

COAST-TO-COAST STORES

A Good Place to Come
for

HOUSEWARE — HARDWARE

SPORTING GOODS

AUTOMOTIVE

Earl White, Prop.

Phone No. 17

BEST WISHES FROM
DR. W. P. IVERSON

Dentist

Beresford, S. Dak.

Phone No. 107

CONGRATULATIONS

Beresford on Your Diamond Jubilee

R. A. FRIEBERG, Lawyer

Beresford, S. Dak.

Phone No. 107

Symbol of  *Farm Leadership*

GAS — OIL — GREASE — FUEL OIL — DIESEL FUEL — TIRES — BATTERIES — ACCESSORIES
BULK AND BOTTLED PROPANE

For Prompt and Courteous Service Call Your C.C.A. Member Co-op

BERESFORD COOPERATIVE OIL CO.

Beresford Ph. 284

Roy L. Hurd, Mgr.

Spink Ph. A2411

"GREETINGS TO BERESFORD ON THEIR DIAMOND JUBILEE"

"FLUNKY" SUNDSTROM GARAGE

CLARENCE SUNDSTROM

Buick Sales and Services

Phone 48

Beresford, S. Dak.

Greetings, Beresford, on Your 75th Birthday

DR. F. A. NUTTER, JR.

Beresford, S. Dak.

MAC's CAFE

Air Conditioned

Famous for Corn-Fed Steaks,

Delicious Chops and

Sea Foods

GOOD COFFEE

Serving Beresford for 30 Years

Congratulations to Beresford and Community on This 75th Anniversary

We are proud to have been able to serve Clay, Lincoln and Union counties with our Federal Land Bank Farm Loan Service for the past 45 years.

When in need of a farm real estate loan please contact us . . .

Tri-County National Farm Loan Association

E. F. Blankenburg, Secretary-Treasurer

Beresford, S. Dak.

FOR YOUR

Propane Gas—Gasoline—Farm Supplies

Feed—Seed—Fuel Oil

Tri-County Farmers Union

Phone 91

Beresford, S. Dak.

Get our low bid on your next heating or plumbing job. Complete stock of pipe and fittings.

**Greetings to Beresford
from**

Tendlers Plumbing and Electric

Your Philco Appliance Dealer

PLUMBING — APPLIANCE

HEATING AND WIRING

Sales and Service

Fifth Year in Business

Phone 25

Beresford

Congratulations to Beresford on Its 75th Anniversary

HARDWARE SUPPLY CO.

Beresford, So. Dak.

HARDWARE

HEATING

PLUMBING

Congratulations to Beresford on Its 75th Anniversary

YOUR JOHN DEERE DEALER

J. B. KUTCHER

There's a Growing Demand for John Deere Quality Farm Equipment

**PEACE OF MIND
CAN BE YOURS
WHEN YOU HAVE
INSURANCE
COVERAGE**

**INSURANCE
JIN WILLEY
AGENCY**

**LET US
REVIEW YOUR
PROGRAM
AND BRING IT
UP-TO-DATE**



LEN J. LARSON
Ph. 361M Beresford

**We Have Doubled Our Service
For You Our Policy Holders and Friends
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**Woodmen Accident & Life Co.
Lincoln, Nebraska**

**LIFE — HEALTH — ACCIDENT — GROUP
AND MAJOR MEDICAL INCLUDED**



MEL A. HOLM
Ph. 159 Beresford

**CONGRATULATIONS, BERESFORD!!
ON 75 YEARS CONTINUAL PROGRESS — 1884-1959**

George Knudsen, Agent, Bulk Sales

STANDARD OIL COMPANY

Bill Fitzgerald, Salesman

Murphy's Cut Cost Concentrate

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
BERESFORD**

on Your 75th Anniversary

We Wish You Progress in
the Future as You Have
Had in the Past

**WESTBURG'S
MODERN SEED & FEED**
BERESFORD, S. DAK.

Everything in Grinding and Mixing

Always the Best for Less
Westburg's Quality Feeds

*Congratulations to Beresford
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FRUEN ELEVATOR

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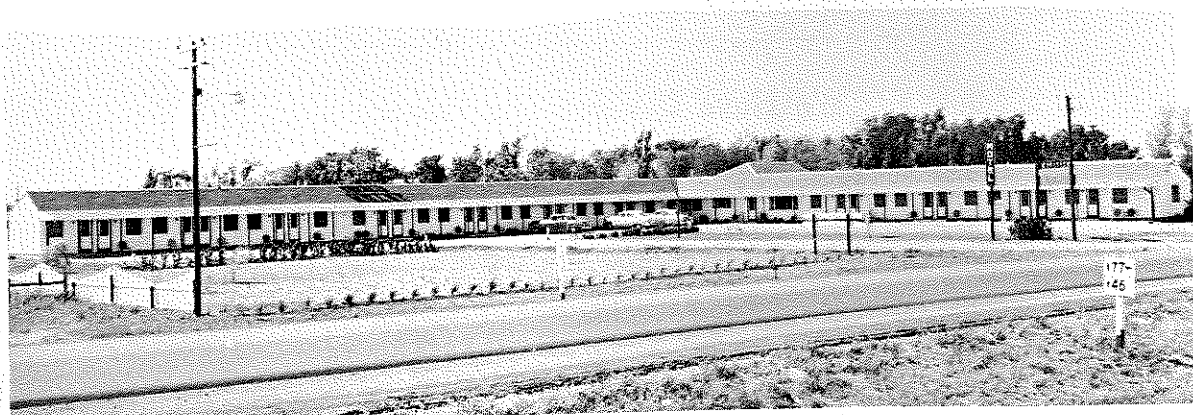
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Grain — Seed — Feeds — Fertilizer

Grain Cleaning — Corn Rolling

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Since 1933



MOTEL FRANCIS

RECOMMENDED BY A.A.A.

YOUR HOSTS:

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Young

E. T. LIETZKE, M.D.

Physician and Surgeon

CONGRATULATIONS
to Beresford on 75 Years of Progress

BEST WISHES FROM TOOMEY'S SHOE STORE

"The House of Quality Shoes"

Phone No. 61

Beresford, S. Dak.

Dorothy and Katherine Toomey

TIP TOP BARBER SHOP

Visit Our New Location — Everyone Is Welcome

SERVING BERESFORD FOR 11 YEARS

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DOROTHY HEATH, Prop.

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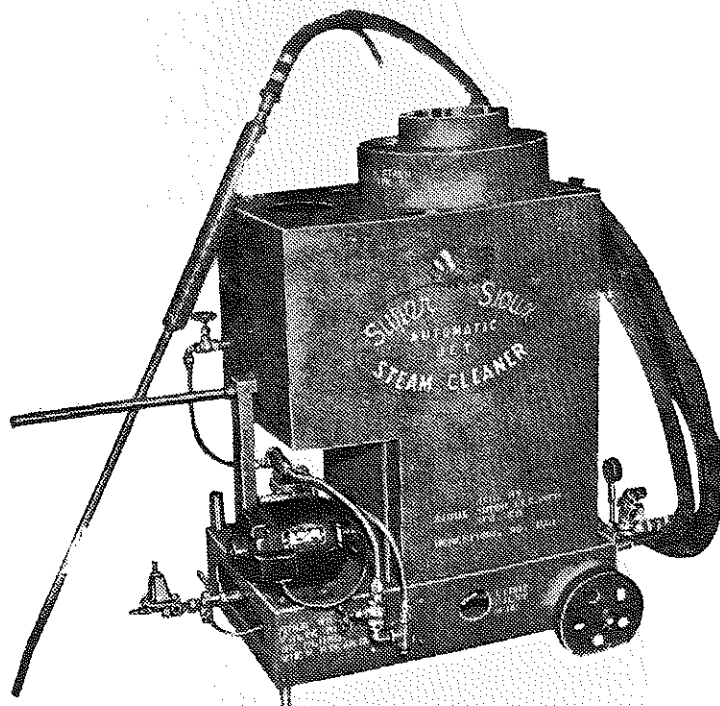
ROAD SERVICE

*Congratulations
to Beresford on Its
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The Home of the Country's
MOST VERSATILE
STEAM CLEANER

**Sioux Motor Cleaner
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Beresford, S. Dak.



*We Wish to Extend Sincere
Congratulations to Beresford
on Its 75th Anniversary*

and

Wish Progress for Its Future

STEENSLAND OIL CO.

Almer O. Steensland, Owner

DISTRIBUTORS OF HIGH GRADE

PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

Ph. 70

Beresford, S. D.



*Congratulations
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More People in the Beresford Area
Drink

TERRACE PARK MILK

Than Any Other

There Must Be A Reason

TRY IT YOURSELF



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GREETINGS TO BERESFORD ON THEIR 75TH BIRTHDAY

DR. J. H. MAREK

Optometrist

OFFICE HOURS: 9 to 12 and 1 to 5 — Saturday 9 to 12

Phone 99

Beresford, S. Dak.

A SALUTE TO THE PIONEER PEOPLE OF THE COMMUNITY
ON THEIR SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

CARLSON PRODUCE

Buyers of Poultry, Cream and Eggs

MOBILE GRINDING AND MIXING

Full Line of Purina Chows and Sanitation Products

Congratulations to Beresford on Their Seventy-fifth

LEN'S FEED SUPPLY

Complete Line of Super Soo Feeds, Bag or Bulk

MARTIN M. MILLER

Attorney-at-Law

Estate Planning, Probate of Estates, General Practice

PETERSON CLOTHING COMPANY

Clothing, Furnishings and Shoes

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BERESFORD'S OLDEST INSTITUTION

DISTINCTIVE AMBULANCE SERVICE

Phone 232 or 144

WASS FURNITURE

SERVING FAITHFULLY FOR 72 YEARS

"NOTHING BUT QUALITY BRANDS"

ESTABLISHED 1887 DAKOTA TERRITORY

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ATLAS TIRES — BATTERIES — ACCESSORIES

Serving Beresford Over 15 Years

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Oscar and Aileen

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A THING OF BEAUTY
IS A GAY FOREVER!

JEAN'S BEAUTY SHOP

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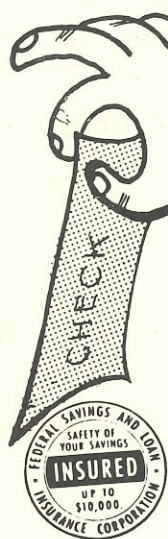
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AUTO ELECTRIC AND RADIATOR SHOP
COMPLETE MAGNETO SERVICE

Parts and Service on All Small Gas Engines

ELECTRIC MOTORS

BATTERIES



JUST A LIFT OF
YOUR FINGER

to **SAVE-BY-MAIL**
with check or money order

Open your savings account by mail—
5 dollars, or more, today.

First Federal Savings and Loan Association

South Dakota

Beresford

3 1/4 % current rate on insured savings.

"Where you save . . . does make a difference"

Seventy-Five Years of Progress

We are happy to have had a part in the growth and
development of our town and community.



LANTAFF BEVERAGE COMPANY

Larry Lantaff

Beresford, S. Dak.

Congratulations to Beresford on Its 75th Anniversary

We specialize in serving you with Auto Accessories, Hardware,
Tires, Paints, Radios, Refrigerators, and Stoves

GAMBLES

Phone 29

"The Friendly Store"

Ray Schaap, Owner

Congratulations, Beresford and Community, on This Seventy-fifth Anniversary

RYGERS PRODUCE

Buyers of Poultry, Cream and Eggs — Complete Line of Wayne Feeds
Mobile Grinding and Mixing Service

R. H. FEED MILL

ZIP FEEDS *and* GRINDING

Phone 49

JOE'S TIRE SERVICE

APCO PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

Tires and Batteries

Highways 46-77

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CITY OF BERESFORD
ON THEIR SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

DR. JOHN G. ULLMANN

Dentist

For over 75 years, The Beresford Community
has been served with a "Hometown Newspaper"

SINCE 1896

The Beresford Republic

"The Newspaper With the Circulation"

As Present-Day Publishers, We are proud
to be part of the past 75 years.

E. W. Stearns

Beresford, S. Dak.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BERESFORD
ON YOUR DIAMOND JUBILEE

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REED SALES COMPANY

Wholesale Grocers

BERESFORD, SOUTH DAKOTA

Erv Edmeier

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BERGESON BROS.

Sioux City, Iowa

We are always striving to give you the finest and safest rides,
only legitimate games, and bring the highest type of folks to
your celebrations.

KLEIN AMUSEMENT CO.

Best Wishes to Beresford on Its 75th Anniversary

WEVIK BROS. TRUCKING

Fast Shipping Service for Your Grain and Livestock

We Extend Congratulations to Beresford on Its 75th Anniversary

ORLAND STURNQUIST

Local and Long Distance Truck Service

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AL'S SUPER MARKET

GROCERIES — MEATS — FRUITS — VEGETABLES

"Where Our Customers Send Their Friends"

FREE DELIVERY OF \$3.00 ORDERS OR MORE

Choice Selection of Fancy Foods and Choice Selection of Grade A Meat

Store Hours: 8 to 10 Seven Days a Week

Owners: Al and Bonnie Ottmar

THE PRESENT CITY COUNCIL
CONGRATULATES
THE BERESFORD COMMUNITY
ON

75 Years of Progress

We Are Proud to Serve as Your Councilmen!!!

Your unselfish attitudes on community projects have enabled us, as well as all past council members, to be a part of this progress.

We would like to thank all of you who have contributed to these 75 successful years—along with those responsible for publishing this book to preserve the past and present events of

This Prosperous Community.

Beresford City Council