

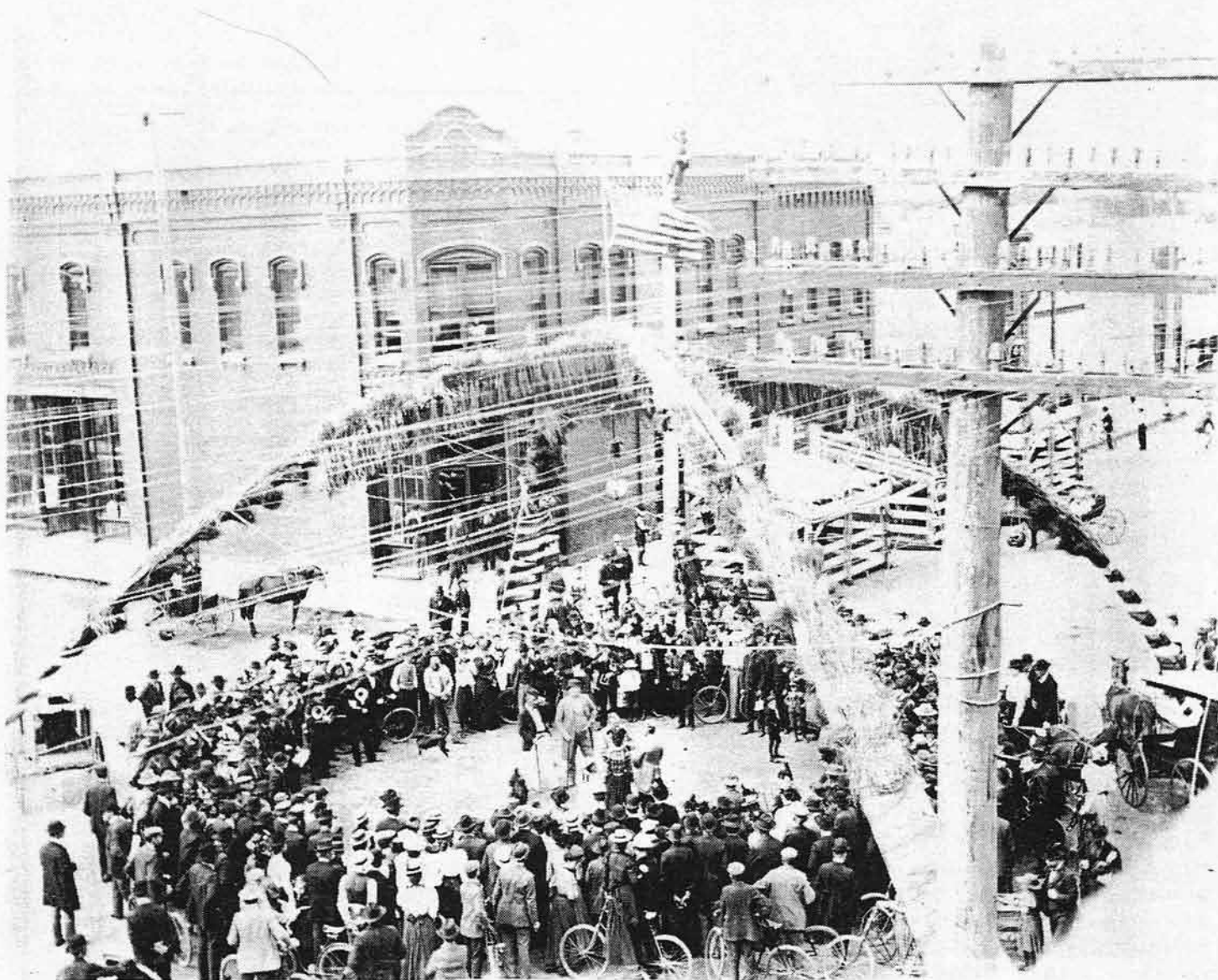
# CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



CCHS Newsletter

November/December 1990

Vol XIII No. 6



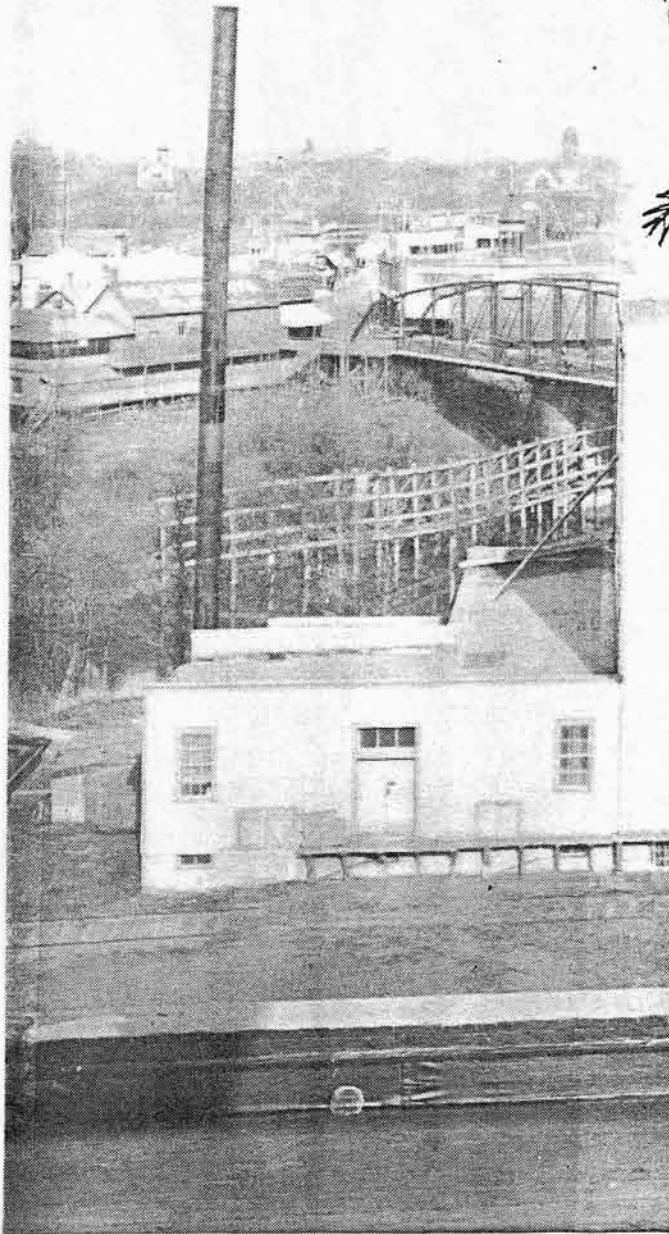
**"What's happening?"** (See story on Page 3)

Flaten/Wange Collection

# Merry Christmas



*from the*  
*Clay County*  
*Historical Society*  
*Board of Directors*  
*and*  
*Staff and Volunteers*



NORTH BRIDGE SALOON DISTRICT, Ca 1902. View is to east from top of Fargo Poller Mill, now the Case Building. Note Billy Diemert's Place built on stilts over the riverbank. The posts for the ice breaker protecting the bridge are visible. Today they look like a line of stumps sticking out of the water near the main footing. Flaten/Wange Collection.

## CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



202 1st Avenue North  
 Box 501  
 Moorhead, Minnesota 58560

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# Nuptials spoken on Moorhead street corner

By Pam Burkhardt

The cover photo of this issue (see front page) is our current subject for photo identification. The photo presented many clues that enabled us to place it in a particular period and from there we utilized the printed word to gain even more insight. Local newspapers are an amazing source of information and we reasoned, probably would have carried a story about this event.

The problem with researching from newspapers is that it takes a long time. In order to reduce the time spent searching through newspapers we utilized the clues present in the picture to establish a manageable time within which the picture probably was taken.

The location is in Moorhead at the corner of 4th Street and Center Avenue (known as Front Street until the 1920s). The photographer was O.E. Flaten who captured this image from the roof of his studio which was located approximately where the Metropolitan Federal Bank is now (the old FM Hotel). The bundles of foliage tell us it is the fall season and the two jack-o-lanterns support this. The flag, fortunately caught unfurled, has 45 stars. [Utah became the 45th state in 1896 and Oklahoma joined the union in 1907.] The styles in women's clothing puts the date between 1895 and 1900.

The center of attention in the photo is in the ring formed by spectators. In the ring are a man, woman and child facing another gentleman with two in attendance behind him. Men in uniform are carrying musical instruments and are part of the inner ring of spectators. Portable pens, the decorated arches and bunting, speak of a planned event which presumably would be described in the newspapers.

With the aforementioned clues to guide us, we started by checking fall issues of the *Moorhead Daily News* from the late 1890s. Bingo! The Wednesday, September 21, 1898 issue of the "*Moorhead Daily News*" related news and activities at the Street Fair and

Harvest Festival held from September 20 - 24 in Moorhead.

The harvest festival featured a crocodile show, bicycle races from one to 20 miles, a pony race, foot race and balloon ascension with a lady parachutist. (It was reported in a later issue that wind allowed the balloon to ascend only once and that the lady parachutist landed, unhurt, in a tree.) Judging was held for horses, cattle and swine, babies (!) and needlework, and a wedding ceremony was performed!

"The public marriage under the arch at Fourth and Front Streets at 2 p.m. drew an immense crowd. The band was present and played the wedding march. Justice Odegaard performed the ceremony. The couple married were Louis Ford and Sophie Goslin. The bride had a girl about 10 or 12 years of age at her side. She was evidently a widow. The groom has been married before it is stated, once or more times."

The Second Annual Harvest Festival in Moorhead in 1899 appears to be the last one. The exhibits of horses and livestock was judged to be poor because of the heavy farm work taking place at that time of year. We can only wonder if lack of available couples to participate in an annual wedding ceremony had any bearing on the cancellation of the Harvest Festival!!



At the  
**Heritage  
Shop**

**"Where Great Lakes  
Meet Plains!"**

**Featuring: Indian Books  
and Artifacts**

**Hjemkomst Center (218) 233-5604**

**VISA/MASTERCARD ACCEPTED**

# Holiday Heritage Festival Opens Nov. 17 at Hjemkomst Center

Join us for the 3rd Annual Holiday Heritage Festival honoring the Red River Valley's rich ethnic heritage. The festival will open November 17-18 with the traditional arts, dance and storytelling of the Indian peoples of the Red River Valley. Featured on Sunday will be Kevin Locke, Lakota Hoop Dancer from South Dakota and storyteller Esther Horn, great great granddaughter of Sacajawea.

Opening November 23 and running through December 31 in the Center's Hjemkomst Hall will be displays of the many festive winter holiday season traditions. Exhibited will be ethnic decorated Christmas trees and displays including: American Indian, Swedish, English, Icelandic, Norwegian, German, Finnish, Danish and Spanish as well as displays of Hannuka and the Chinese New Year. Various traditional ethnic craft demonstrations and folk dance performances are scheduled weekends in December.



Ethnic Christmas Trees - 1989

Make it a tradition to celebrate your holiday season at the Hjemkomst Center! Program subject to additions and change. For more information call (218) 233-5604.

## Holiday Schedule

### November

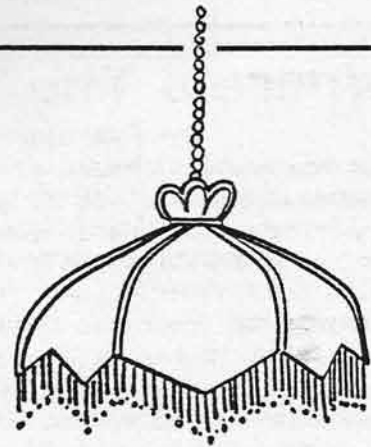
- 17/18 Sat. 9-5 p.m. & Sun. 12-5 p.m. Native American Traditional Craft Market; Saturday 10 a.m. & 2 p.m. Native American dance performance, Sunday 12:30, 1:30 & 2:30 p.m. Storytelling by Esther Horn, 3 p.m. Sioux Hoop dance performance by Kevin Locke.
- 24 1-4 p.m. Dr. Gjevre book signing-2nd edition of "Saga of the Soo 1838-1990."

### December

- 1-2 Demonstrations on Ukrainian Eggs, Norwegian Rosemaling, Scandinavian baskets, Swedish woodcurls, Costume embroidery and Julgranskarmel (paper candy), Norwegian Troll carving; Saturday 2 p.m. Performance by Saturday Fun Nite and Area Square Dancers; Sunday Guest appearance-St. Lucia, a Swedish Festival of Lights tradition; performance of Irish folk music by Skip Hunt.
- 8-9 1-5 p.m. Scandinavian Baskets; Ukrainian Eggs; Norwegian Rosemaling, Swedish knitting, Spanish pinata. Saturday 2 p.m. Performance of German folk music by accordion player Jeff Williams; Sunday-MSU Heritage Dancers.
- 15-16 1-5 p.m. Scandinavian baskets; Ethiopian baskets; Japanese cultural display, Finnish birchbark craft, English, Belgian, Danish and German lace-making. Saturday 2 p.m. Performance by the Valley Star Square Dancers.

The 1990 Holiday Heritage Festival is funded by the Lake Agassiz Arts Council through a grant from the City of Fargo.

# CLAY COUNTY MUSEUM



## \* Permanent Exhibit

Unique characterizations of one facet of the history of each county town. Together they form a chapter in the overall history of the County.

## \* Temporary Exhibits

### The Point (Through December, 1990)

"The Point" which opened on July 28, looks at Moorhead's original residential district - the bend in the river that is now home to the Heritage-Hjemkomst Interpretive Center (HHIC) and Viking Ship Park. "The Point" explores who lived in the area, how the neighborhood changed over the years and why it was vacated. The exhibit includes items left behind by the residents and a fire hydrant which was removed from 1st Street and 2nd Avenue.

### House of Our Dreams (Through March, 1991)

"House of Our Dreams" is an exhibit that explores changes in houses and how those changes related to the values held by the families who lived in them. This three dimensional exhibit, co-sponsored by the Minnesota Historical Society and the Minnesota Humanities Commission, focuses on single-family houses in Minnesota between the mid-1800s and the present.





# Where's The Beef?

By Pam Burkhardt

In other words, Where are the artifacts? The museum has a lot of artifacts - why can't you see them in the museum? Why don't we put everything out?

I could say that you can see all of the artifacts if you call ahead and request a behind-the-scenes tour. We haven't advertised this option because we do open the collections areas during museum week and for our annual meeting. If you want to see one particular artifact or a specific collection, we will bring the artifacts out for that purpose. Part of our mandate is not only to collect and disseminate Clay County's history, but also to preserve it. That is best done in dark storage rooms with little variation in heat and humidity.

That still doesn't explain why all of the artifacts aren't out on display does it?



The vast majority of our artifacts are in storage. Storage . . . do you visualize row after row of artifacts fated to sit on their dark shelves for eternity? The word storage is misleading. Our artifacts are more like characters in an opera . . . a very long opera that may take decades to complete. Each artifact is waiting in the wings for its turn on stage. The artifact may appear in an exhibit, on the road in an outreach display or at a program in the schools. Most artifacts are fated to be in the wings until their own particular talent is called for. Some artifacts are patient understudies waiting for the leads to falter.

The selection process in exhibit planning is very much like an audition. Those artifacts which best convey the story you are going to tell will be the ones selected. If one artifact has just been "on stage," then for the next production a different one is selected. Each artifact has a story to tell and will "speak" for itself, but label copy, adding information and interpretation, is provided for the museum audience in each exhibit.

Let's leave our operatic image now and find out what happens to an artifact away from its storage area. Unshielded lights give off ultraviolet rays which speed degradation of the artifacts. Sun light and the common fluorescent light are the worst offenders. Painted surfaces, watercolors, textile dyes and photographs are especially vulnerable.

An original photograph is vulnerable too. These photos will slowly fade over time. In addition, the photo may be defaced or stolen if not protected during exhibition.

(Continued on Page 7)

Exposing artifacts to fluorescent lights, sunlight and indiscriminate handling is not good conservation or exhibit practice. This photo, taken in the CCHS Museum at the Old Depot is a good example of what isn't good for artifacts.

## Beef (Continued from Page 6)

By making and using a copy print, the original image is preserved and the negative is available for reprinting and the displayed image may be enlarged for easier viewing.

The cardboard or wooden backing in picture frames will contribute acids that cause degradation. (It's best to remove photos from their frames for storage.)

The short, intense light from flash attachments will cause more damage during that short period of time than a regular light bulb over a long period of time. Varnishes, some painted surfaces, water colors and textile dyes are especially affected. This is why so many museums do not permit flash photography in the exhibits.

The heat just from the exhibit lights will raise the temperature and humidity daily. Both will usually drop at night. Frequent variations in temperature and humidity also speed degradation. Secure mounting must be provided for each artifact and barriers

## CCHS receives equipment gifts

A special thank you is in order to Moorhead High School and Fran Laskey, media director at Moorhead High, for the donation of a double card catalogue file cabinet. CCHS also extends appreciation to Kathy Anderson for providing the truck to transport the large oak file cabinet to the CCHS Archives where it will be put to good use. Kathy is a sister to CCHS volunteer Jim Nelson.

Another donation CCHS is very thankful for is the reel to reel tape recorder given by Jerry Quam of Ada.

Once again - Thank you all very much. The CCHS Board of Directors and Staff appreciate your support.

must be erected to prevent stains and other damage caused by handling. Gallery space is not infinitely expandable and the new artifacts are lost amongst the old. In short, it is NOT good conservation practice nor exhibit practice to have all of our artifacts

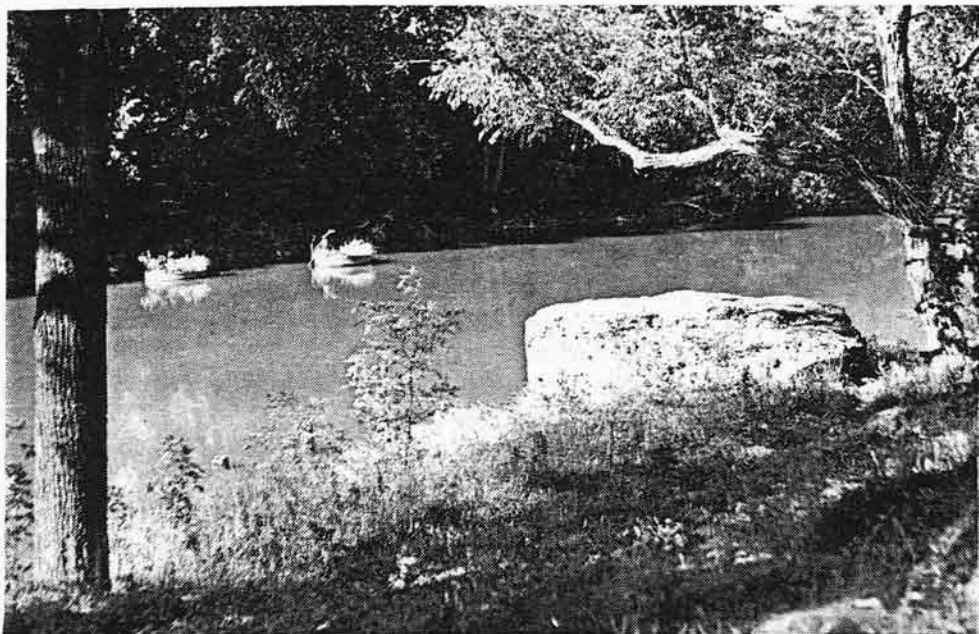
We do use our artifacts to disseminate information. In 1989, we displayed 698 artifacts in the building, used 735 in the outreach cases and provided 147 more for other educational purposes. Most of our archival materials are in a public area and used for research. They are stored in acid-free boxes and kept under ultraviolet-filtered lights.

Remember, our artifacts are only waiting in the wings. If you are interested in quilts, call us and we will bring them out for you to view. If family members want to see Great-grandfather Olson's GAR (Great Army of the Republic) hat, you can see it. Just call us. We are a very small staff, but we will do our best to accommodate your requests at a convenient time. The museum has a lot of artifacts - we intend to preserve them AND to use them to disseminate the history of Clay County.

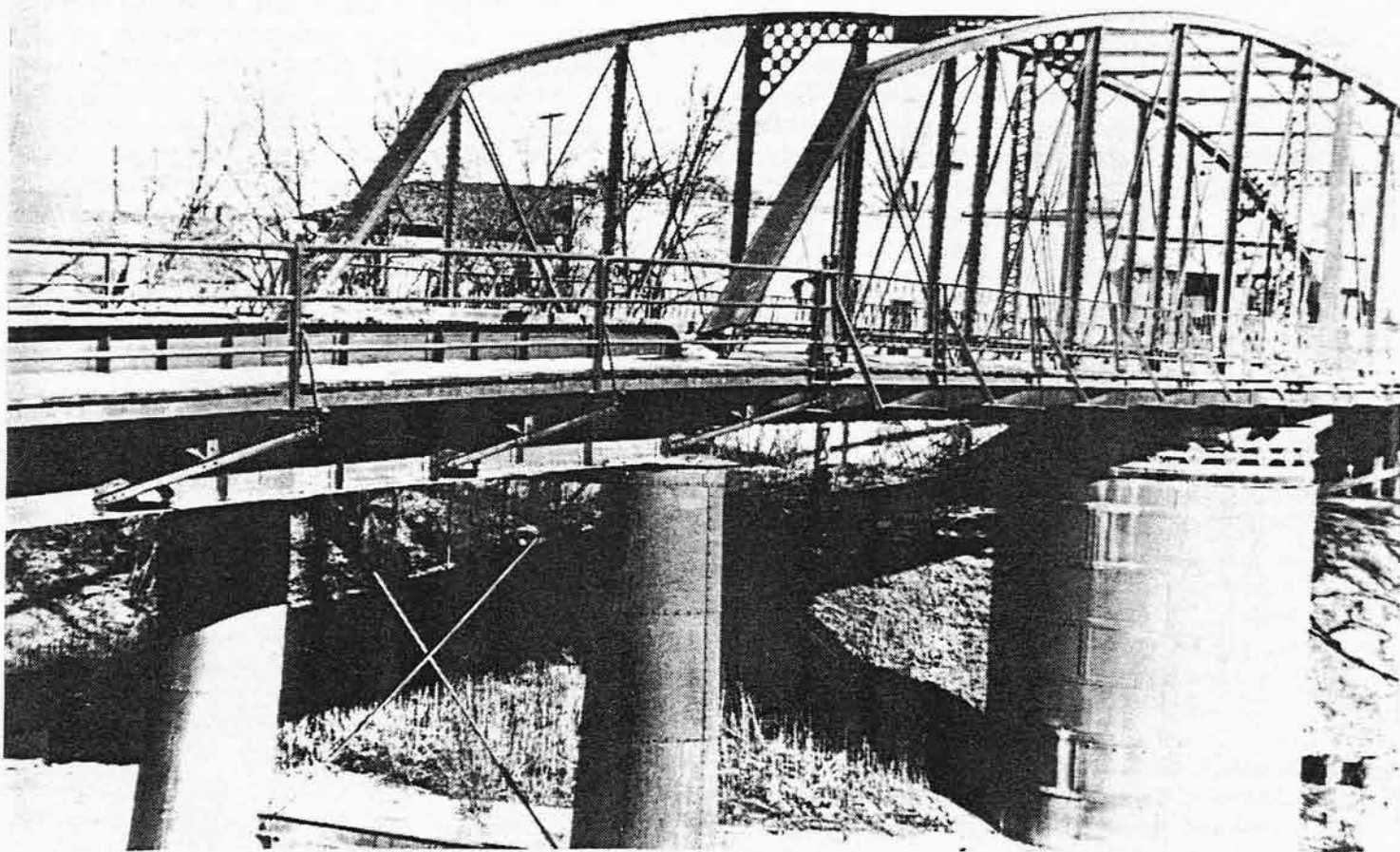
## Uncomplimentary comparison a sign of the times in 1898

An exchange explains why a locomotive is like a woman and is called "she": They wear a jacket, an apron, have shoes, hose and drag a train behind them; have a lap, need guides, ride wheels, will turn out for pedestrians and sometimes foam and refuse to work, they attract the men, sometimes act very contrary, and it always takes a man to manage them. --- *Little Falls Herald*.

(Taken from the Thursday, Oct. 6, 1898 *Moorhead Weekly News* - Submitted by CCHS Volunteer Jim Nelson)



The old North Bridge footings as they appear from the Moorhead bike path just below America Crystal Sugar's headquarters in 1989.



The same North Bridge appears above in a 1937 photo as seen from the Fargo side of the Red River. Note the railroad style wheels of the turntable at the top of the caisson at right. The bridge could turn to let steam boats pass. Hank Bogenrief Collection photo.



# Concrete remnants solid reminder of early Moorhead/Fargo bridges

By Mark Peihl

This article is in response to the question "What are those concrete remnants that stick out of the Red River north of the Center Avenue bridge?" sent in by Mr. Bernard Gill of Hillsboro, ND. Mr. Gill kindly submitted several interesting ideas for newsletter articles and we appreciate his interest. Thank you Mr. Gill!

The concrete remnants you see are the footings of the old North Bridge which ran southwest to northeast from Fargo's N.P. Avenue to Moorhead's 1st Avenue North. (South of the present 1st Avenue North.)

Fargo-Moorhead's first residents crossed the river over the Northern Pacific Railroad's Bridge which was completed in 1872. Passing trains made crossing tricky and dangerous. Throughout most of the 1870s a rickety, temporary wagon bridge just north of the railroad tracks carried commerce back and forth. Every year the bridge had to be removed before freeze-up and rebuilt after spring flood.

Throughout the early 1880s the two cities bickered over whether to build a new bridge, where it should be and who would pay for it. Finally, in 1883, construction began on two bridges - the South bridge where the present Main Avenue bridge is now, and the North bridge which was built by the Missouri Valley Bridge and Iron Works of Leavenworth, Kansas. It was supported on the Fargo end by two small footings and on the Moorhead side by a large iron caisson. All the footings are still visible. The caisson was a wrought iron tube driven deep into the river bed. Water was pumped out of the tube and 126 40-foot-long piles were driven down inside. Concrete poured around the pilings filled the caisson and the bridge rested on a turntable on top.

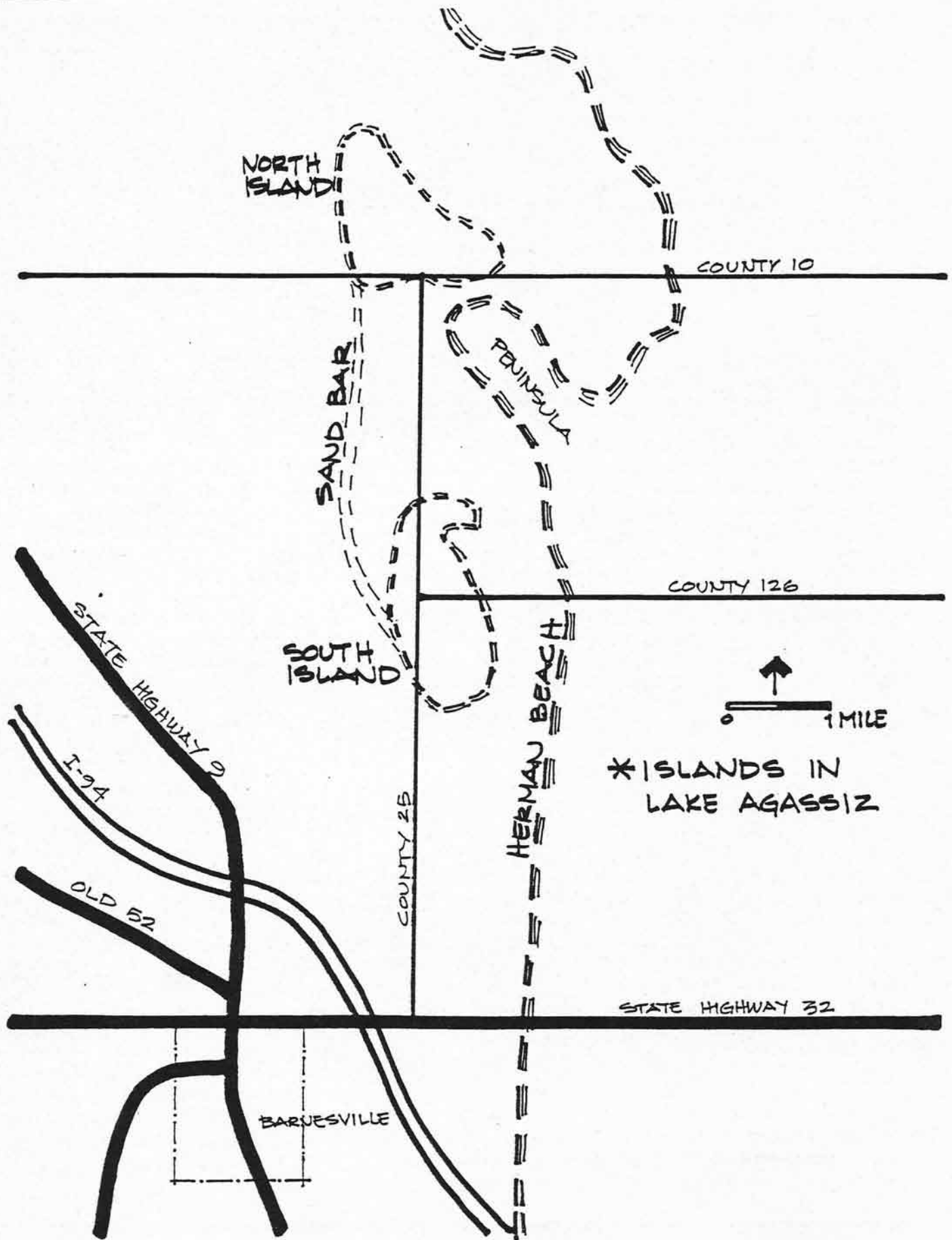
The turntable made it possible to move the bridge to allow steam boats to pass. A rack gear ran around the top of the caisson and

a smaller gear engaged the rack. To turn the bridge a bridge tender or local policeman inserted a long "key" down through a hole in the bridge deck and into the small gear. He turned the key and walked the small gear around the rack to turn the bridge. When the bridge was first installed it was so well balanced that a small child could turn it with no assistance.

In the 1890s, thriving saloon districts grew up around the Moorhead side of both bridges, just across the river from dry North Dakota. Some enterprising saloon owners made use of the marginal, steep river banks by building their businesses on stilts. North bridge saloons included the Midway, Three Orphans, The House of Lords and The Rathskeller. Bottles still occasionally wash out of the muddy banks of the Red in that area.

In 1905 the Fargo-Moorhead Electric Street Railway Company began running their street cars over the bridge. They continued until 1937 when the company dissolved. Many people still refer to the North Bridge as "The Street Car Bridge."

By the 1920s both bridges were falling apart. Once again it took the two neighboring cities years to agree on plans for new bridges. A plan was finally adopted to build three bridges: one at Main Avenue, another between Center Avenue and N.P. Avenue and a third from 1st Avenue North, Fargo, to 2nd Avenue North, Moorhead. The first bridge completed was the one at 1st Avenue North in 1930. Its main function was to provide a dependable crossing while the other two bridges were under construction. The old North Bridge continued to carry vehicular traffic until 1938 when the Center Avenue Bridge opened. Thereafter, it remained open for pedestrian use until 1942 when it was torn down for scrap for the war effort. Only the footings remain today.



# Islands of Glacial Lake Agassiz situated in Clay County

By Mark Peihl

O.K. You're driving east on Clay County 10 (the Downer Road) headed for the lakes. You pass Downer and the road curves north then back east through flat farmland. Soon you drive up a distinct rise to higher ground, then another. "Ah, must be the beaches of Glacial Lake Agassiz," you think.

Four or five miles out of Downer you come upon another rise. "Another beach, I bet." You reach the top. Instead of continuing on higher ground, the road drops back down nearly as fast as it rose. A farm blocks your view to the north. You look south. You're on a distinct ridge stretching off into the distance. "Now, what the heck is that?" You shrug, continue driving east down off the ridge and think about other things, like barbecue grills and fat walleyes.....

We at CCHS wonder about things we see along the County's roads too. Usually there's a simple explanation, sometimes a good story. In this case the answer to this mystery is intriguing. The ridge may be an old sand bar that ran between two islands off the eastern shore of Glacial Lake Agassiz.

Lake Agassiz was formed some 13,000 years ago when the glaciers of the last ice age melted away. Melt water pooled in the depression we know as the Red River Valley and formed the lake. Most of us think of Lake Agassiz as a broad, featureless expanse of cold water, but according to Warren Upham's monumental study, *Glacial Lake Agassiz*, there were at least nine islands in the lake, and two were in Clay County.

In the 1880s Upham carefully surveyed the beach lines of the ancient lake. His findings indicated that two humps of land in northern Humbolt and Skree Townships were too high to have been completely submerged during the lake's Herman Beach stage (the highest level the lake reached). The map at left indicates their locations.

Upham claimed that the islands lay one to two miles offshore about 2-3 miles apart. Their highest points reached about 25 feet above the water. Connecting the two, on their western shores, was a four mile long sand bar.

It's very easy to find the south island. Just east of the sandbar on County 10, Clay County 25 runs south. Drive south on 25. The sand bar appears as a distinct ridge 1/4 to 1/2 mile to the west. After about 2 1/2 miles south the ground ahead begins to rise, slowly at first, then abruptly. Finally, at an approach in the NE 1/4 of Section 5, Humbolt Township, you'll reach the top of Upham's south island. In true island fashion, the land drops away on all sides. A mile and a half to the east, the land rises again - the "mainland."

To the northwest, one can see the sand bar extending north from the western edge of the island. Between the bar and the northwest shore lies a slough. Upham describes it as "two-thirds of a mile long from south to north and about 30 rods wide... This was evidently filled by a lagoon, sheltered on the southeast by the island and separated from the main lake by the sand bar. Toward the northeast it widened into a shallow expanse of water 8 to 15 feet deep, about 1 1/2 miles wide, divided from the broad lake on the west by the two islands and this beach or bar which connected them.

The north island is more difficult to get to. A township road leads north then west from the intersection of County 25 and the Downer Road. It eventually leads up a hill that Upham claimed was the island. Near the top, the Mark Sand and Gravel Company of Fergus Falls is rapidly hauling off the island to be turned into roads and foundations. A pickup trail leads around the east side of the hill to a couple buildings and a pasture that formed the northern slope.

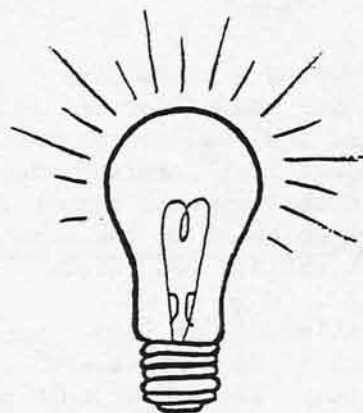


## Suggestion box is out Newsletter ideas sought

Our September/October Newsletter included an appeal to our readers to let us know what kinds of things they are interested in seeing in the CCHS Newsletter. Mr. Bernard Gill of Hillsboro, ND responded with several good ideas. Among them were "What are those concrete remnants that stick out of the Red River north of the Center Avenue bridge," "How did the Georgetown Ferry work," and "Where did stage coach lines run in Clay County?" Thank you Mr. Gill!

In response to Mr. Gill's request, CCHS Archivist Mark Peihl did some research on the concrete remnants of former bridges across the Red in Moorhead/Fargo. The article appears on Pages 8 and 9 of this newsletter.

We will try to respond to Mr. Gill's other questions in future issues and we wish to repeat our request for new ideas. Do you have an idea for a newsletter article? Do



you have a favorite topic or a special interest about which you'd like more information? Let us know what you'd like to see in future issues and we'll do our best to provide the kind of newsletter you want to receive.

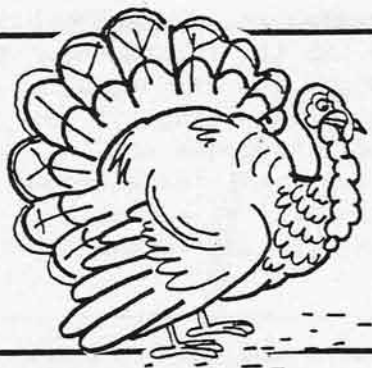
## Agassiz (Continued from Page 11)

The pasture is studded with large boulders. Upham imagined huge waves driven by storms sweeping off the lake from the northwest that pounded this slope, washing all the smaller material to the south leaving only the boulders behind.

The islands and bar formed a break water which protected the eastern lake shore from the ferocious storms. This also kept wave action from forming a distinct beach line in the area. Although Upham is unclear where the shore line lay, his maps and the

lay of the land seem to indicate a mile long peninsula separated from the south east edge of the island by a narrow straight.

In any event, the view from the eastern shore of the island to the northeast is impressive. A bay 10 to 25 feet deep and 3 1/2 miles long reached back from the lake between the island and peninsula and the shore line 1 1/2 miles away. The area today is drained by Hay Creek. It's a pleasant spot to sit on a warm, sunny morning; a far cry from the cold and lonely place it was thousands of years ago!



## Thanksgiving Recipe - 1940

### CRANBERRY MOULD

1 pkg. lemon jello  
1 1/2 cups boiling water  
1 lb. cranberries

1 cup sugar  
1 orange, including peeling

Grind orange and cranberries, add sugar and jello dissolved in boiling water and chilled. Add walnuts if desired. Will keep a few days.—(Mrs. Marie Iverson.)

## Society seeks information on 1909 infant burials

By Jim Nelson, Volunteer

This past summer, the Clay County Historical Society received a request from a lady in Glenview, Illinois, regarding the exhumation up and re-burial of her twin uncles. So far, all leads have hit a brick wall. We now call upon you, our readers, for help on this request.

On January 31, 1909 our researcher's twin uncles were born at Dilworth.

Unfortunately, they were born three months premature and both died within two days of their birth. The records of their births and deaths are recorded at the Clay County Courthouse. There is no official record of the bodies being exhumed and reburied.

The information provided CCHS by the researcher is that the bodies of the two infants were placed in a shoe box and buried in "Lymon's" grave located in a pasture north of the Section House in Dilworth.

Now we move ahead to the 1960s. Two bodies were dug up during a construction project in 1960. The construction project might have been the widening of U.S. Highway #10, the building of an apartment complex or some other project we are not aware of at this time.

When the bodies were recovered there was some media attention seeking information as to who they were. The current researcher and her relatives had no clue as to who the bodies were at that time. Now that it appears they are related to her, our Illinois researcher would like to locate their final resting place so a headstone can be placed on their grave.

If anyone has any information concerning this event or knows of someone who might, please drop us a line at the historical society or call 233-4604 and ask for Jim. Thank you!!

## Outreach displays

Glyndon Community Center	11/2/90-1/11/91
Moorhead Public Library	11/2/90-1/11/91
Hawley Public Library	11/7/90-1/16/91
Hitterdal Senior Center	11/7/90-1/16/91
Ulen-Hitterdal High School	11/9/90-1/18/91
Viking Manor, Ulen	11/9/90-1/18/91

The Glyndon Community Center will have THOSE FAR AWAY PLACES right in town. See items from Turkey, Finland, China, Mexico, Egypt and from around the good ol' United States.

The CIVIL WAR will be remembered at the Moorhead Library. Artifacts will include a sabre, discharge paper, GAR cap and a pipe carved by a wounded soldier after the Battle of Antietam.

OH, WHAT A BEAUTIFUL BABY! a photo display will feature S.P. Wange photos of some of the cutest infants and toddlers in the area. Some infantwear, bottles, etc. will round out this display at Hawley Library.

Hitterdal will feature IN MY MERRY OLDSMOBILE with a wooden license plate, chauffeur's licenses, colorful road maps, car window fan and sheet music.

The Ulen-Hitterdal High School will look at the first 75 YEARS OF PLASTIC from the 1880s to the mid-1950s. Artifacts include personal items, buttons, toilet articles, melamine and Tupperware.

JUST A WHITTLE BIT! of wood carving will be displayed at the Viking Manor Nursing Home. The artifacts include a scratch carved spoon, an action toy, a puzzle and a carving by Anna Syverson. Anna was from the Ulen area.

## Burkhardt attends seminar in Winnipeg

### Material history featured

CCHS Collections' Manager Pam Burkhardt attended the Manitoba Museums Annual meeting in Winnipeg on October 10-12. The sessions were divided between the Museum of Man and Nature and conference rooms at a downtown hotel.

The theme of this year's conference was material history. Sessions on reading artifacts, interpreting photographs, using computers for collections management, and the role of conservation in the study of material history were offered.

The guest speaker at the Friday luncheon related the history of the Museum of Man

and Nature and their plans for future development. A bus trip to St. Andrew Church included a tour of the church interior and grounds as well as a tour of Captain Kennedy's house nearby. The church which dates from 1849 is currently undergoing restoration.

As an extra perk, Pam was taken on a personal, behind-the-scenes tour of the Crafts Guild of Manitoba!

Most of the seminar participants were from Manitoba with speakers coming from other provinces. Both small museums and large institutions were represented.

## September/October Donors and Artifacts

### Donors include:

Moorhead	June Felde, Ruth H. Utke, Florence Jenkins
Hawley	Mercedes Roos, Jimmy Nelson, Margaret Ristvedt
Georgetown	Leo Paseka
Baker	Francelia Iverson
Ada	Jerry Quam
Fargo, ND	Gary L. & Joanne T. Stuhr family, Frances Bowers, August Backman

### Artifacts include:

Baby carriage ca. 1950s; cake knife from the Baker Store - a Christmas give-away in 1956; token from Hawley - Ole O. Hagen, Good For 5 cents in Trade ca. 1910; photo of the Georgetown Creamery and Wambach's Bar; attachments belonging to the Hoover

vacuum donated in 1986; Hawley High School annuals and newspapers; a small Clay County Atlas ca. 1899; photos, program and music from the Lincoln School Mothersingers; newsletters and programs concerning area car clubs; car dealership give-aways; a (wrapped) straw from Dairy Queen's 25th Anniversary in 1965; a blackjack from a Georgetown bar - the town had no police force so the town council purchased a blackjack for each bar; a gypsum crystal (gypsum in ground water in this area forms crystals in the soil) - this crystal was found during the excavations undertaken when the railroad grade was improved from 1906 - 1909 on the project known as the Stockwood Fill.

\$23.<sup>50</sup>

### 100-PIECE HAVILAND DINNER SET



Early 20th Century families could set their table for the holidays very reasonably in comparison with today's prices. This exquisite set of Haviland china from Limoges, France could be had for just \$23.50 when ordered out of the 1908 Sears, Roebuck Catalogue.



# Clay County Historical Society Board Profiles

## Norman Bjorndahl

Norman Bjorndahl of Hawley was first elected to the Clay County Historical Society Board of Directors in 1985. Last year he served as treasurer of the organization.

Norm is a graduate of Hawley High School and has farmed near Hawley for many years. His farm in Parke Township was homesteaded by his grandfather about 1878, so he has solid roots in Clay County.

Over the years Norm has been involved in the Western Minnesota Steam Thresher Reunion (WMSTR) organized in 1954 and held near Rollag every Labor Day weekend. Norm is a long time member and served on the WMSTR Board of Directors for six years. He professes a strong commitment to preserving our heritage, past and present, and feels that the historical society is a positive way to put his convictions to work.

Norm and his wife Marion have three children, Jill, Thomas and William.

## Ann Gytri

Ann Gytri of Felton is a new member of the CCHS Board of Directors. She accepted the appointment in September to replace John Butze of Glyndon.

Ann brings an special enthusiasm for history to her post. Her work experience reinforced her rural roots and a single word, education, aptly

describes Ann. She attended grade school in rural Ottertail County District 94 and graduated from Wadena High School. She earned a degree in education at Moorhead State University and taught in Clay County for 37 years. She taught in Rural District 77 near Rollag, at Averill, Felton, Hitterdal and Glyndon and retired in 1986.

Ann lists many hobbies and areas of special interest including church activities, rosemaking, needlework and most recently she enrolled in a program studying tax preparation.

Her interest in CCHS is of long standing, having taught Minnesota history. She also expresses a personal interest in history and genealogy.

"My background as an elementary teacher, fits in well with programming, public relations, and outreach," said Ann. "I have a real desire to see this organization [CCHS] grow and fulfill its mission to preserve our rich heritage and reach out to our county's residents of all ages." Ann realizes that historical societies are for everyone - young and old alike - and will work toward educating the public in the value of preserving our heritage for today and future generations.

Ann and her husband, Orvis, have lived on their farm south of Felton since their marriage in 1948. They have two sons and five grandchildren.



The September meeting of the Clay County Historical Society Board of Directors was held in the City Hall Council Chambers at Hawley. Board members are: (seated) Sherwood Peterson of Moorhead, Vice President Dan Skolness of Glyndon, President Nancy Tedros of Moorhead, Secretary Mercedes Roos of Hawley, Ann Gytri of Felton; (standing) Loren Helmeke of Georgetown, Norman Bjorndahl of Hawley, Bob Kennedy of Moorhead, Treasurer Kelly Aakre of Moorhead, Larry Quam of Hawley and Arlo Brown of Dilworth.

Hawley Herald Photo

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## CCHS - 1990 Membership Information

### CCHS Membership

I would like to begin/renew my membership in the Clay County Historical Society. Please enter my membership in the category I have checked below:

- ( ) INDIVIDUAL \$15.00  
( ) FAMILY \$35.00

### CCHS Membership Benefits

- \*\* FREE Admission to the Center
- \*\* Bi-monthly newsletter
- \*\* 25% discount on photo reproductions
- \*\* 10% discount on acid-free materials
- \*\* voting privileges
- \*\* invitation to the annual meeting/dinner and all CCHS events

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Purchased: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list additional family members (family is considered; husband, wife and children now living at home, under the age of 18) for passes.

\_\_\_\_\_

RETURN TO: Clay County Historical Society  
P.O. Box 501  
Moorhead, MN 56560  
(218) 233-4604

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_