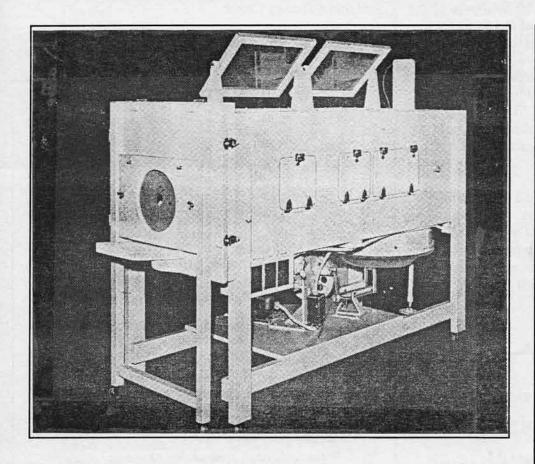
CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



CCHS Newsletter

September/October 1992

Vol. XV No. 5



Emergency Wooden Respirator
A respirator like this was made by
the Moorhead VFW in the 1950s
for use at St. Ansgar Hospital.
See story on Pages 5 and 6.

CCHS

SPECIAL TOUR

to the new

History Center

in St. Paul on

Nov. 4

Details on Page 12

President's Message

Dear Members,

Summer (What summbrrrrrrrrr?!?!) is over. We hear the sounds of football games and happy parents - happy that school has once again resumed.

CCHS is excited about all the Fall activity both at the Heritage Center and at the new Minnesota History Center in the Twin Cities.

The Minnesota Historical Society's new History Center will celebrate its grand opening from October 15-18. The CCHS staff and I will be attending and participating in a Grand Opening Parade on October 17. A CCHS sponsored tour of the new facility is set for Wednesday, November 4 and I encourage everyone to join us for a fun filled day. See details on Page 12.

CCHS staff are presently doing research for a new exhibit to open in the Clay County Museum on October 31. The exhibit will explore some of "Yesterday's Medicine" and will feature, among other things, a Wooden 'Iron' Lung (ca 1950s) from the CCHS collections.

CCHS regular Board Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 a.m. All meetings are open to the public and you are cordially invited to attend. If you are unable to attend the meetings but have a question or comment concerning the Historical Society please call any Board Member (See list at right).

Sincerely, Kelly Aakre, President







Thank you, Thank you!!

CCHS Staff would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the Hawley Fire Department for the monies received to purchase additional microfilm of Hawley Heralds for our Archives. The number of researchers using the Archives continues to be impressive, and many of them tell us they are surprised with the many resources available in our Archives. The generosity of groups such as the Hawley Fire Department is greatly appreciated.

CCHS to participate in Grand Opening Parade

Clay County Historical Society will help celebrate the Grand Opening of the Minnesota Historical Society's new History Center in St. Paul by participating in the Grand Opening Parade on Saturday, Oct. 17.

According to Amy Leyden, parade coordinator, the parade continues to grow daily. Along with many St. Paul cultural institutions like the Science Museum of Minnesota and Minnesota Museum of Art, nearly 40 county and local historical societies are participating in the parade by showcasing antique cars, a 1902 school bus, a calliope...even a homemade Norwegian fishing vessel." The parade will begin at 10 a.m. at the State Capitol and will process 1.5 miles through downtown St. Paul to the History Center.

CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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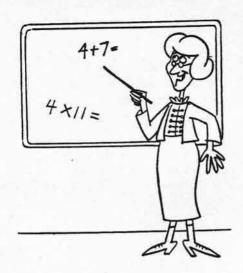
Know Your County - a back-to-school quiz

By Pam Burkhardt

Are we ready for a Pop Quiz? Pencils sharpened? Desks cleared? Begin! [If your need help: sources used in developing this quiz include a 1909 Clay County plat map, topographical maps and Vol 1. of History of Clay and Norman Counties (1918) by Turner and Semling.]

- Where is the highest point in Clay County?
 - a. Highland Grove Twp.
 - b. Tansem Twp.
 - c. Parke Twp.
- 2. Where is the lowest point in Clay County?
 - a. Georgetown Twp.
 - b. Holy Cross Twp.
 - c. Riverton Twp.
- Which village in Clay County had no railroad access.
 - a. Averill
 - b. Comstock
 - c. Rollag
- 4. How many townships are there in Clay County?
 - a. 12
 - b. 24
 - c. 36
- 5. The first Clay County township was organized on May 2, 1872. Which one was it?
 - a. Moorhead Twp.
 - b. Glyndon Twp.
 - c. Hawley Twp.
- 6. The last Clay County township was organized on April 12, 1892. Which one was it?
 - a. Kurtz Twp.
 - b. Flowing Twp.
 - c. Holy Cross Twp.
- 7. Which Clay County townships were named for early settlers?
 - a. Hagen and Kragnes Twps.
 - b. Tansem and Ulen Twps.
 - c. All of the above.

- 8. Is there actually a river in Riverton Twp.?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Yes, but only during floods.
- Dilworth was platted by the Northern Pacific RR in 1906 when they moved their divisional headquarters from
 - a. Moorhead, Minnesota
 - b. Fergus Falls, Minnesota
 - c. Fargo, North Dakota
- 10. What township is directly north of Sec. 1 of Highland Grove Twp.?
 - Sec. 36 of Goose Prairie Twp.
 - b. Sec. 31 of Goose Prairie Twp.
 - c. Sec. 31 of Atlanta Twp. in Becker County



Answers to Quiz below:

Correct your own papers. No grades will be recorded THIS time!

ANSWERS

- b. Tansem Twp. The highest point is slightly over 1540 feet in the eastern half of section 2.
- a. Georgetown Twp. The lowest point is between 845 and 850 feet in the northwest corner where the Norman County line crosses the Red River.
- c. Rollag, located in Parke Twp.
 However, there is a working
 locomotive on tracks running
 around the Western Steam
 Threshers' grounds just north of
 Rollag.
- 4. c. 36.
- b. Glyndon Twp. Moorhead and Hawley Twps. were not organized until Feb. 25, 1873.
- a. Kurtz Twp. Flowing Twp. was organized on June 21, 1891 and Holy Cross Twp. on Jan. 4, 1887.

- c. All of the above. Hagen Twp.
 was name for Ole Hagen,
 Kragnes Twp. for A.O. Kragnes,
 Tansem Twp. for John O.
 Tansem and Ulen Twp. for Ole
 Ulen. [note: Kragnes Twp. was
 once known as Woodland Twp.
 and Tansem Twp. as Lund Twp.]
- a. Yes. The north branch of the Buffalo River runs through the northern third of the township.
- 9. c. Fargo, North Dakota.
- 10. c. Sec. 31 of Atlanta Twp. in Becker County. The government survey correction line runs between Goose Prairie and Highland Grove Twps on the eastern edge of the county so the western-most sections of Atlanta Twp. of Becker Co. are directly north of Highland Grove's eastern-most sections.

Outreach Displays

	Closes
Hitterdal Senior Center	Nov. 9
Ulen-Hitterdal High School	Nov. 9
Viking Manor, Ulen	Nov. 9
Hawley Public Library	Nov. 9

Glyndon Community Center Nov. 11 Moorhead Public Library Nov. 11

The Hitterdal Senior Center features GOOD FOR



WHAT AILS YOU with medicine bottles, bleeder and cup and other medical items.

The display at the Ulen-Hitterdal High School asks WHAT IS IT? Will the students be ready with their answers?

TIN PAN ALLEY at Viking Manor features a

variety of tinware from our collections. Items include a syrup pitcher, toaster and nutmeg grater.

The Hawley Public Library says, "OH, YOU BEAUTIFUL DOLL!" Among items featured are dolls from our collections, a hand-stitched doll dress from the 1870s and doll dishes.

THE SURGEON GENERAL WARNS ... however, viewing our display of smoking related items at the Glyndon Community Center won't be hazardous to your health.

The Moorhead Public Library display asks SNAKKER DU NORSK? with Norwegian artifacts from our collections.



"Journalism is the ability to meet the challenge of filling the space."

Dame Rebecca West, New York Herald Tribune, 1956

Artifacts & Donors

Donors include:

Moorhead: Jim Heifort, David Karch, Tom Hall

Glyndon: Patricia Ruch Barnesville: Dorothy Garven

Hawley: Laurence B. (Bud) Ramstad

Cloquet, MN: Carlton Co. Historical Society Fargo, ND: Gary L. and Joanne T. Stuhr Family

Hunter, ND: A.J. Peihl Family Ervik, Norway: Signe Handegard

Artifacts include:

The Ancestors and Descendants of Adam Stuhr; Clay County Plat Book and Rural Directory 1951; Rural Directory, Cass County, North Dakota Jan. 1926; booklet, "Minnesota: Manual for Motorists" ca. 1920s; prints and negatives from Moorhead Junior High School 1970-1979; translation of letters of Handegaards of Ulen & Lake Park and copy of autobiography of Lewis Handegaard; NPRR freight density chart for 1921 which includes Clay Co.; circus poster, tickets, and handouts for Dilworth Circus Aug. 24, 1992; Moorhead Normal School 1923 "Praeceptor;" Bertha Borgan's teacher's certificates and (2) school books; photos showing bicycling in the area; Moorhead postcard from 1907; Mrs. Carl Thysell's 1907 wedding dress, accessories and information.



Women's Suffrage

For the safety of the nation Let the women have the vote. For the hand that rocks the cradle Will never rock the boat.

Motto on banner at convention of Republicans and Progressives at Chicago, June 1916

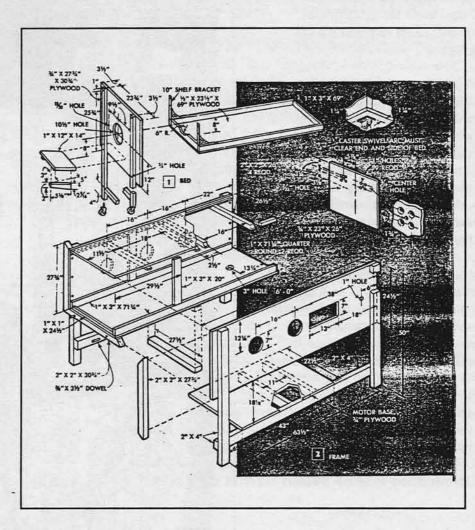
"Wooden [Iron] Lung" Miracle and/or Monster

By Pam Burkhardt

In 1952, the Moorhead VFW Post 1223 provided a breath of life by building an wooden "iron" lung for emergency use by respiratory sufferers, including polio victims, at St. Ansgar Hospital. The iron lung is commonly remembered in connection with the polio epidemics in the late 1940s and early 1950s. Polio causes paralysis making breathing difficult or impossible. Patients were sealed in the lungs with only their heads protruding. Pumps changed the air pressure inside the lung causing the patient's chest to expand and contract forcing air in and out of their lungs. Dr. Jonas Salk's polio vaccine discovery, which was field tested in 1954, effectively wiped out polio epidemics and the iron lung proved to have a short life.

The Moorhead VFW iron lung was built from plans published in the January 1952 issue of Popular Mechanics magazine. The magazine supplied the plans free as a public service as part of their 50th Anniversary celebration. The plans originated with a "wooden lung" built in Illinois and used as an emergency unit during the 1949 polio epidemic. During 1952, over 1300 requests for plans were received from civic and fraternal organizations here and abroad.

Popular Mechanics stated the units were "approved only for emergency use under the direct supervision of a doctor or registered nurse" and until a conventional iron lung could be obtained. The motor-driven mechanism in this back-up unit could be changed to hand-operated in a few seconds.



The unit was designed to be easily constructed by volunteers. The cost of materials was relatively low. One unit in Washington was built for less than \$200 utilizing over 300 hours of volunteer labor. The cost for a conventional iron lung at that time was about \$2,000.

Merle B. Wentzell, the Moorhead Post's Hospital Chairman in 1952, headed the project. When the lung was donated to CCHS in 1958, Wentzell wrote a letter describing the construction of the iron lung. That letter was forwarded to us by Post Commander Chester Joos and

provides the following information.

Arnold Stronstad, carpenter, constructed the cabinet and rolling bed from waterproof 5-ply plywood finished on two sides. The price of the plywood was around \$100. Glen Monson Sr. of the Fargo Foundry machined the connecting links from the bellows to the reduction gears. Hanson Mechanical Trade School [Wentzell referred to it as Hanson Auto School] painted the cabinet with high gloss enamel. The mattress came from McHose Mattress Co. in Fargo. A man (Continued on Page 6)

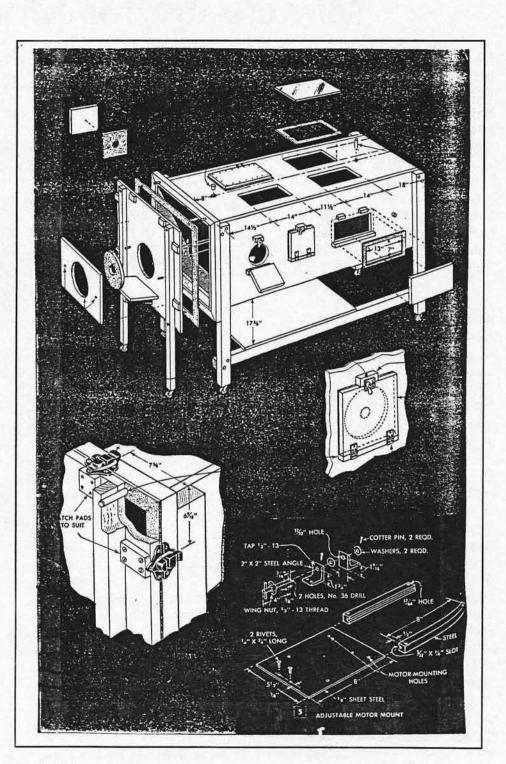
Iron Lung (Continued from Page 5)

(unnamed) from Cook Sign Co. in Fargo made the glass to the specifications required for the gauge.

Wentzell sent to Chicago for the natural rubber for the doors and bellows. He hand-made the swivel mirrors on top "as none could be found to fit." Wentzell said, "I checked and compared our machine with working models at St. Lukes Hospital it seemed like hundreds of times to make sure of the right timing" [for the frequency of respiration]. He added "the materials used were gotten in so many places and it is so long ago I cannot say with any certainty just what the total cost was."

In his letter to the Society, Chester Joos added that the "lung was at St. Ansgar Hospital at all times as a stand-by unit to be moved or used wherever it was necessary." This iron lung will be on display in CCHS's medical exhibit opening on October 31.

The graphic directions (at right and on Page 5) are reproduced from diagrams published in the January 1952 Popular Mechanic. The 1952 Polio epidemic was the worst on record, but in 1954 Dr. Jonas Salk successfully 'field tested' his polio vaccine. By 1955 vaccinations were being done throughout the United States and polio epidemics became a thing of the past.



Popular Mechanics, January 1952

"Seeds of Change" a new look at Columbus'

Columbus' discovery of America did more than restructure world maps. His voyage brought about complex cultural and political change for both the Old and New Worlds as a result of the two continents exchanging people, plants and animals. The exhibit, "Seeds of Change" running from October 31 through January 17 at the Hjemkomst Center commemorates the 500th anniversary of Columbus' voyage to America and examines five "seeds" — corn, potatoes, horses, sugar and disease — from which change came.

On loan from the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service, the exhibit uses text, photos, interactive units and first-person accounts from Spanish conquistadors, missionaries, Native Americans and African slaves to teach visitors how Columbus' discovery not only affected their ancestors, but also their own lives today.

"Seeds of Change" is sponsored in part by a grant from the Minnesota Humanities Commission and Concordia College.



Columbus Landing in the Indies, from facsimile edition of Giuliano Dati, La Lettera (1493), courtesy Lilly Library, Indiana University

Exhibits trace crossings of cultures

Two new exhibits "Where Two Worlds Meet: The Great Lakes Fur Trade," and "Baggage, Peltry, and Squeak: Life on the Red River Trails," open on October 3 at the Hjemkomst Center. The exhibits focus on the cultural exchange between two cultures as goods and ideas traveled back and forth from the unsettled northern United States' prairies and forests to important cities in America and Europe over one hundred years ago.

"Where Two Worlds Meet: The Great Lakes Fur Trade," uses photos of artifacts, art and manuscripts to reveal the nature of the Indian and European culture as they existed in the Great Lakes region during the fur trade period of 1600-1850.

"Baggage, Peltry, and Squeak: Life on the Red River Trails," chronicles the mixed-bloods or metis' 400-mile trek from Canada to St. Paul with their squeaky, wooden carts loaded with fur. The metis descended from French, Scottish and English fur traders who married Cree, Assiniboin and Ojibwa Indians. Since neither culture claimed them, they saw themselves as an independent culture, isolated by 400 miles of open prairie. From 1820 to 1870 they traveled the Red River trails to exchange their goods for food, seed, cloth, ammunition and other items from the budding world of mass transportation and production.

Both exhibits are on loan from the Minnesota Historical Society, and are sponsored in part by the Minnesota Humanities Commission.

Hjemkomst hires curator

The Hjemkomst Center has hired Peter Conlin of West Fargo as its new Curator of Interpretive Programs. Conlin replaces Claudia Pratt, Program Coordinator, who left to pursue graduate studies at Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Conlin is a 1987 graduate of the University of North Dakota with a B.A. in anthropology and a minor in history. He is a member of the North Dakota Army National Guard and is currently the commander of Company B, 142 Engineers at Wahpeton, ND.

Roosevelt brothers bag meg

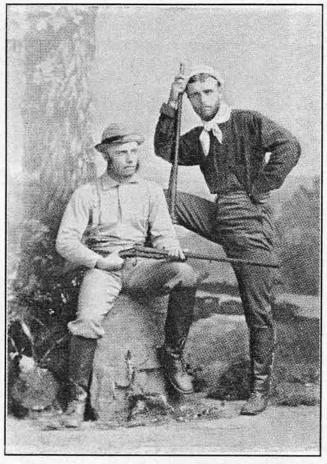
By Mark Peihl

On September 15, 1880, two skinny rich kids from New York stepped off the train at Moorhead's Northern Pacific depot. Both carried brand new shot guns. They appeared no different than any other eastern sportsmen who travelled to hunt western game, but one of these would one day be President of the United States. That year 21-year-old Theodore Roosevelt and his 20-year-old brother, Elliott, spent 10 days hunting ducks and upland game in Clay County's sloughs and stubble fields.

In this part of the country, Roosevelt is best remembered for his sporting and ranching activities in western North Dakota. But those days were still years in the future for young Teddy. This trip to Clay County was his first exposure to 'The West.' Indeed, he had never before been west of Pennsylvania.

Roosevelt was raised in a wealthy family but wasn't pampered. He was a small, sickly child, subject to terrible asthma attacks. When he was 12 his father told him, "You have the mind, but you have not the body, and without the help of the body, the mind cannot go as far as it should. Theodore, you must make your body." Young Teddy reportedly threw "back his head in characteristic fashion" and "with a determined flash of his teeth" swore, "Father, I will make my body." From that time on throughout his life Roosevelt followed a strenuous campaign of boxing, rowing, swimming, horseback riding and hunting to build himself up and improve his health. This aggressive self-challenging became an important part of his personality and character.

It's not surprising that TR and his brother would travel west to hunt. Teddy had graduated from Harvard that spring and was undoubtably excited by Elliott's stories of his hunts in West Texas. But the timing is strange. In January, Theodore became engaged to Alice Hathaway Lee. They were to marry in October. Theodore was deeply, absolutely moon-eyed in love with Alice. He spent every moment he could with her that summer and wrote of her endlessly in his personal diaries when they were apart. Why would he decide to leave her for a seven week tramp in the west? Roosevelt kept the reason secret nearly until his death. In 1918 he confided to his friend and biographer Hermann Hagedorn that in March 1880 his doctor had told him he had a serious heart ailment and that he must avoid all physical exertion, that he "must not even run up stairs.. or his life would be a



Theodore Roosevelt

Elliott Roosevelt

Portrait taken in Chicago, July, 1880, on the way to the hunting trip of that season.

From "My Brother, Theodore Roosevelt," 1932, by Corinne Roosevelt Robinson

short one." Another man may have found a rocking chair and taken up checkers. Not Roosevelt. He replied "Doctor, I am going to do all the things you tell me not to do. If I have to live the sort of life you have described, I don't care how short it is." That summer his asthma and other health problems returned, so naturally (for Roosevelt) he began planning the western trip.

Actually, it appears that very little planning went into the trip. After a heartfelt goodby to Alice, Theodore met Elliott and took a night train to Chicago on August 16. Beyond that, they had no other real destination in mind except, eventually, Moorhead, where their cousin and boyhood chum Jack Elliott had recently moved. (We know very little about Jack or what he was doing in Moorhead. He's not listed in the June 1880 census, in

a-game in Clay County

early city directories or in area newspapers.)

Teddy and Elliott arrived in Chicago in the middle of a Mason's convention and barely found hotel rooms. Eventually they convinced a man named Wilcox to haul them to his farm 60 miles northwest of Chicago to hunt. For nine days they hunted that area by foot and wagon, found a few birds and generally filled Theodore's pledge to his pessimistic doctor. TR thoroughly enjoyed the exercise and his brother's company but missed Alice terribly and was disgusted with the hunting. He declared the country "shot out" and they returned to Chicago. After a few days they tried again farther west near Carroll, IA. As in Illinois their accommodations were lousy and just as their hunting improved, Theodore broke his second and last shotgun. Back to Chicago.

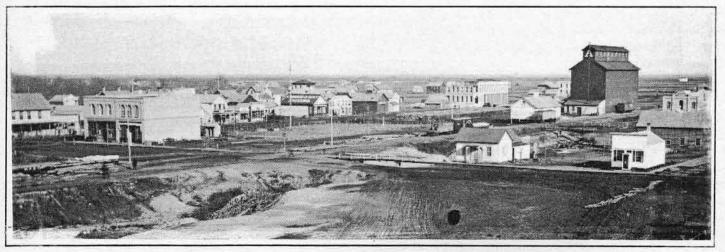
There they each bought a new shot gun, Theodore's a fine E. Thomas, Jr. double-barrelled 10 gauge. The two guns cost \$525, a huge sum in 1880! Suitably armed and equipped with a "stiff jointed pointer with a stub tail" and "a yellow, fool idea of a setter" pup, they arrived in Moorhead, quickly hired a buggy and set off for "some huge stubble fields" on the bonanza farms just outside town. Here in Clay County they finally found good hunting.

They could hardly have come at a better time for bird hunting. The county was covered with a wonderful, diverse mix of wetlands, tall grass prairie and wheat stubble fields. The summer and fall had been rainy, the sloughs were full of water. Local newspapers declared the "duck crop is grading No. 1" with hunters bagging huge numbers.

The mix of grass and cropland produced diverse upland game. Clay County's prairies originally held only sharptail grouse. As more land was opened, pinnated grouse or prairie chickens moved up from the south east. In Illinois and Iowa the Roosevelts had seen only prairie chickens, the sharptails were gone. By 1900 the same was true here. Eventually, intensive farming forced out the prairie chickens.

The boys quickly bagged a dozen birds, but returned "to the miserable old hotel" when their pointer encountered a skunk. There they met Jack Elliott and spent the evening and the next day visiting. They hired a wagon, a team and "a solemn old German" guide and driver and headed north past the Buffalo River hunting sharptails in the stubble fields and ducks in the sloughs. Theodore especially had a good day. He saw (and bagged) his first jackrabbit and shot better than Elliott. (This was unusual. TR, the famous sportsman, was never a great wing shot.) They hunted until dark and "drove five miles in the light of the full moon to the rough but comfortable house of a [Norwegian] settler" along the Buffalo.

There Theodore sat up most of the night fighting asthma attacks. The next day he was racked with terrible stomach cramps but had the best sharptail hunting of his life. They travelled east past Glyndon toward Hawley hunting grouse feeding in stubble in the morning and evening and moving into prairie grass at midday. They found "innumerable" grouse and chickens and shot an amazing 61!! [No limits in those days.] Then it was (Continued on Page 10)



The City of Moorhead in October 1880, just weeks after Roosevelts' visit. The view is to the northeast from where Sportland sits today.

Flaten/Wange Collection

Roosevelt (Continued from Page 9)

back to Moorhead and a better hotel.

The next day with a new driver ("a stocky little barkeeper and a nice little fellow") they wandered over 30 miles in a cold, driving rain, got lost several times and wound up in another Norwegian's cabin. Theodore slept "on the floor under a buffalo robe, the wind howling round the neat but frail little house."

Characteristically, Roosevelt called it "a lovely night."

After a day of ducks and prairie chickens in the rain, they headed to Moorhead.

Next the Roosevelts tried some camping. They "started off.....driving straight across country.....nearly getting mired in a slough.killed several ducks from the wagon and finally hid behind some wheat sheaves and shot two geese out of a flock which flew overhead." At dusk they made camp in the trees on a bend in the Buffalo River. They had no tent "or even a frying pan" but feasted on ducks "roasted on pointed sticks."

This raises a troubling question. Although Roosevelt was later a dedicated conservationist, there must have been terrible waste on this trip. How does one eat 61 grouse in one day?

Also disturbing are the questionable tactics they used on ducks the following morning. Roosevelt wrote, "before we had risen in the morning...we were roused by the whistle-of-wings, as a flock of ducks flew by along the course of the stream.... lying in our blankets we could plainly hear all the motions. First of all, the whistle-whistle of their wings; then the long-drawn splash-h-plump; and then a low, conversational quacking. It was too dark to shoot, but we got up and ready, and strolled down along the bank of the river opposite where we could hear them; and as soon as we could see, gave them four barrels and picked up half a dozen scaup ducks." Apparently pot-shooting sitting ducks was acceptable behavior in 1880.

They hunted stubble fields around Hawley the next day and camped again along the Buffalo. Their final day of hunting it rained so they jump-shot ducks around a big slough. TR went "head-over-heels in a mud hole, gun and all" and called it "capital fun." Back in Moorhead that evening they visited Jack again and TR wrote, "we have had great fun on this trip; I have never had a better hunt; but I am awfully homesick for Alice, and shall be too delighted to see her again."

They spent another day with Jack and left on the 25th, the trip having done Theodore's health "a world of good."

Roosevelt carefully recorded each day's bag. The two killed 404 animals on the 24 day hunting trip. Two-hundred eight were shot in eight days in Clay County, including 70 sharptails, 77 prairie chickens, 12 plovers, 37 ducks, 2 jackrabbits, 2 geese and assorted doves, coots and grebes. That's represents a tremendous slaughter in today's standards, but it was not unusual for that time.

It's tempting to speculate on how TR's trip to Clay County might have later affected his decision to move west. That fall the Northern Pacific Railroad had just reached the Little Missouri. Local and Chicago newspapers carried vivid descriptions of the Badlands of Dakota and their resources. In 1883, after another spell of bad health, TR travelled west to hunt buffalo in the Badlands and invested in a ranch. Soon after, his mother and beloved Alice died within hours of each other. Grief and loneliness nearly destroyed Theodore. Characteristically, he responded by going to the loneliest place he had ever known - the Badlands of Dakota.

Carlton Putnam in his definitive biography of Roosevelt says of his first trip west "....one can detect a turning to 'the west' for certain inspirational values peculiar to it. What Theodore appeared to be seeking was a psychic tonic related to the wilderness which even Maine [where he had hunted as a youth] was now unable to satisfy... From this time forward, Theodore, when he could, would pit himself against the virgin wilderness - preferably in the epic setting of the American Pioneer - because body and mind together found nourishment in the process."

A History Lesson, ca 1916

"There is nothing that changes so much as the past, at least that part of the past that gets written. Nowadays history has lengthened at both ends, and broadened, too, and includes all sorts of interesting things about Greek architecture, medieval municipal government, life on the feudal manor, the introduction of machinery, the whereabouts of Europe's coal mines, and social reform in distant British colonies. There is no question of the pedagogical superiority of the new style text-book to the old."

The Independent, August 14, 1916

The past enriches the present

Contributed by Dorothy Garven, Barnesville

Barnesville is a town that regards its history as an asset. A revitalization is taking place, in part, because of community involvement in projects that build upon the past.

The first stirring of this process began a few years ago when it was noted by a few public-spirited citizens that the historic home of Peter E. Thompson, sometimes dubbed "the father of Barnesville," had deteriorated through neglect and was in danger of being lost. The Barnesville Area Heritage Society was formed to help save it. The house eventually passed into the hands of a private owner who is now in the process of restoring the landmark to its 1903 elegance. Out of this experience came a new awareness of the town's rich heritage.

The Heritage Society continues to function, focusing on other projects with a core of dedicated members. In 1991 they provided brass plaques for the City Hall (built in 1899) and the City Jail (ca. 1910) commemorating their placement on the National Register of Historic Places. The City Hall is still in use as city offices but the jail was last used as a jail in the late 1970s.

The Heritage Society since 1990 has been operating a Tourist and Artisan Center in the jail during summers. With only the addition of a screen door and a paint job, it remains in its original state. The old cells make wonderful display shelves! It is staffed by local volunteer craftspeople. A free flyer is available describing unique historical and architectural features of both the jail and City Hall.

Another catalyst for revitalization is Barnesville's involvement in a Main Street Program which aims to stimulate economic development within the context of historic preservation. This program, which functions through a National Main Street Center and statewide offices, was set up in 1980 by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. It requires wide community participation on committees which work to strengthen the existing economic base, to promote retail trade, and to improve the visual quality of downtown.

Barnesville is fortunate to have many original store buildings, some dating back to the 1890s. One of the Main Street Program's features is ongoing education to make the most of the historic character of these buildings. Several workshops concerning preservation and restoration have been presented. Other educational activities are anticipated, such as analyzing photographs of the buildings to determine feasible improvements to enhance the buildings without destroying their historic features.

To promote appreciation of historic Barnesville, a historic walking tour was launched this year. Included on it are many of the old homes and commercial buildings which are described in a complimentary brochure and map readily available at several downtown locations.

The Bijou Theater, built in 1913, is in the process of being painted by volunteer labor using paint received by the Main Street program through a grant. The marquee will be rebuilt and an attempt will be made to construct a duplicate of the original BIJOU sign that graced its front for most of its years.

Recently I have researched the history of some of the town's old homes and the people who lived in them. The results will soon be published in a booklet that will remind both residents and tourists that the present is firmly rooted in the past.

Lately the business district seems to be busier than ever. Several new stores have opened or will soon open in existing buildings, some of them beautifully renovated in a tasteful blend of old and new. Other store owners have "fixed up" or have intentions of doing so, all with a clearer knowledge of what is architecturally appropriate.

With the addition of flower planters placed on Front Street this year by volunteers, Barnesville should be even more attractive and bustling than in its heyday at the turn-of-the-century. And it was all done by building upon what already existed, not tearing down.

Donations

A great big thank you to the following individuals and groups who have made monetary contributions in July and August.

Iris Hoffmann, Arizona Moorhead Class of 1942 Lady M. Pender, Michigan

Tour the new History Center with CCHS

Clay County Historical Society has been invited by the Minnesota Historical Society to a "Special Tour" of its new History Center in St. Paul on Wednesday, Nov. 4.

The one-day "Special Tour" will include many areas of the new facility not open to the general public, such as state-of-the-art conservation and preservation laboratories, archives and much more, plus the regular exhibits.

Nina Archabal, Director of the Minnesota Historical Society, will greet the tour group and David Nystuen, MHS Field Representative will be the tour guide. A private luncheon will be served at the History Center restaurant, and time will be allowed for individual exhibit viewing and shopping in the History Center's museum shop.

A tentative side trip to the Science Center, including the Omni Theatre where "Blue Planet" is showing is being discussed.

The History Center is located between the State Capitol and the Cathedral of St. Paul and contains a whopping 427,000 square feet of space. According to the September/October Museum News "The Society's new building is monumental in form, complex in function, and state-of-the-art in technology."

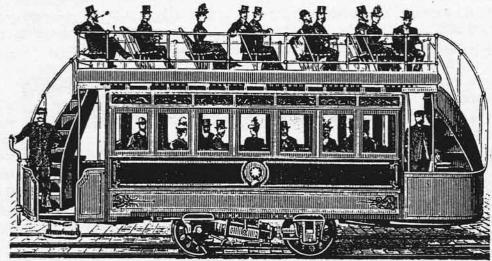
Join CCHS for an exciting behind-the-scene tour of the new History Center. For more information and/or to register call Margaret at 233-4604. Registration deadline is October 26.

Heritage Hjemkomst Interpretive Center
202 1st Avenue North, Box 157
Moorhead, MN 56560
(218) 233-5604

Heritage Hjemkomst Interpretive Center

Our tour bus won't be quite as quaint as this one - but it promises to be great fun!!

Visa/Mastercard Accepted



Join Us!!!
Mark this date
on your
calendar
Wednesday
Nov. 4

PERITAGE SHOP

PAST Trunks begin 5th year as educational tool

The CCHS PAST (Packaged Artifacts for School Teachers) trunks will begin their fifth school year this fall.

The four trunks described below were developed by CCHS with the cooperation of a number of local educators. The project, funded by a grant, has proved popular with teachers and students.

Developed specifically for elementary students, the trunks are also used on a first come, first serve basis by area nursing and retirements homes, specifically for reminiscence programs, and a wide variety of civic groups for education and entertainment.

Each fall the PAST brochure is distributed to over 275 elementary

teachers in the 12 elementary schools in Clay County. CCHS is confident the PAST trunks will once again have a busy school year bringing history to life in the form of authentic and replica artifacts.

If you belong to an organization that would be interested in utilizing any of the four PAST trunks, please contact CCHS at 233-4604.

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CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Down On The Farm

This trunk tells about farm life in the county from settlement to the early 1920s. Learn butter making, visit a one-room school and view the video " "When We Farmed With Horses." (Recommended for Grades 2-3)

The Good Old Days

Area students will
become more familiar with the
1920s. This trunk contains an
original video titled "A Model
'T' Trip Through Clay County"
which takes a mythical family
through much of the county.
Ads from old county newspapers
provide an opportunity to
practice math skills.
(Recommended for Grade 4)

Coming to Clay County
The Scandinavian
immigrant experience of the
1870s and 1880s is documented.
Besides replica immigrant
artifacts, this trunk contains
a video on wool carding as
well as wool and wool cards
for a hands-on-experience.
Stories of actual Clay County
pioneers are included.
(Recommended for Grades 4-6)



Frozen in Time

Early photography is the theme of this trunk. A facinating look at Clay County through early photographs by S.P. Wange of Hawley and O.E. Flaten of Moorhead. Hands-on activities include making photos to view through a stereoscope.

(Recommended for Grades 5-6)

WHAT THE TRUNKS CONTAIN

The trunks contain several hands-on artifacts for close study and discussion. For example: egg scale, corn husking pin, mush spoon, wool swim suit, and a catalog of the 1920s. Also included is an instructional binder containing:

- * A short history of Clay County
- * A Trunk specific essay * Supplemental bibliography
- * Activity plans which include learner objectives, materials list, activity sheets, support documents and teacher helps.

Additional programs and demonstrations relating to the trunks and the history of Clay County are available through the Clay County Historical Society. See the insert for a current list of programs.

HOW TO RESERVE A TRUNK

The PAST trunks are available at no charge to teachers in Clay County for one week at a time. Reservations may be made on a first come, first serve basis by calling 233-4604. The trunk will be delivered to the school between Wednesday and Friday the week before it is requested or the trunk may be picked up at the Clay County Historical Society by prior arrangement. Teachers are responsible for the return of the trunk which MUST BE RETURNED to Clay County Historical Society by 5 p.m., Saturday of the requested week. The trunk should be brought to the Gift Shop at the Hjemkomst Center.

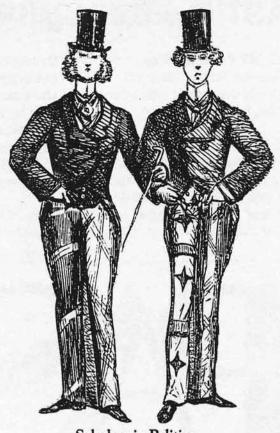
For more information call the Clay County Historical Society at 233-4604.

NEW **EXHIBIT**

Opening October 31

"Yesterday's Medicine"

Explore with us the history of an iron lung, made and used in Clay County, advances in county emergency care and other related topics.



Scholars in Politics

"A great difference between the man of culture and the man without it, is that the first knows the other side. A great curse of our present politics is that your heated partisan never does. He cannot understand how there should be any other side. It seems to him disloyal to have any other side. He is always in doubt about the final salvation of the man who takes the other side, and always sorry that there should be any doubt Scribner's Monthly, September 1873

CCHS Memberships - New and Renewals

July/August 1992

CCHS welcomes the following new members:

Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, IN Judy Zervas, Reseda, CA Alice Erickson, Moorhead Mary Kuehl, Dillon, CO

The following have renewed their membership for another year.

Thanks a bunch!!!

Jeanette Kinzy, Early, IA

Lynn M. Slater, Moorhead Dr. V.D. Thysell, Hawley Morris L. Lanning, Moorhead Beth Nelson Iverson, Moorhead Raymond & Pearl Grover, Glyndon Eldora Lunde, Ulen Mrs. Helen Glawe, Barnesville Lawrence Kava, Barnesville M/M Aldrich Bloomquist, Mhd Alice S. Grover, Moorhead Sara Lee Cook, St. Paul Don and Naomi Rice, Moorhead James Antonen, Moorhead Twin Valley-Ulen Telephone Co. Hazel Tonsfeldt, Moorhead

Viola Mallory, Pasadena, CA Less Bakke, Moorhead Town & Country Flowers, Mhd Janet Gorman, Columbia, MA Cecil & Eleanor Johnson, Mhd Mrs. Evalyn Hansen, Moorhead Marilyn Wussow, Glyndon Erwin & Eleanor Aarestad, Harwood, ND Thelma Gylten, Halstad Gary Ronsberg, Barnesville Sylvia Larson, Georgetown Ann & Orvis Gytri, Felton William & Audrey Jones, Moorhead H. Allen Ohrt, 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 Clay County.



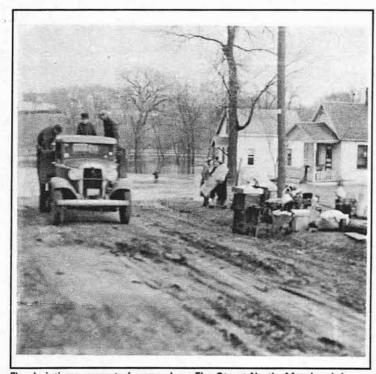
* Temporary Gallery

"The Point" (Through Oct. 25)

This exhibit looks at Moorhead's original residential district - the bend in the river known as "The Point" and now occupied by the Hjemkomst Center.

"I Do, I Do" (Through November)

S.P. Wange of Hawley took many formal wedding photographs over the years. "I Do, I Do," spans photos from 1893 to 1933.



Flood victims evacuate homes along Elm Street North, Moorhead, in April 1943. Fargo Publishing Company Collection Make plans to visit the Clay County Museum today!! Hours are: 9-5 Mon.-Sat., 9-9 Thurs. and 12-5 Sun.

* * * * *

Exciting new Exhibit
Opening
October 31

(See details on Page 14)

CCHS - 1992 MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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:

PHONE:

Family memberships, please list family members.

Husband

Wife

Children (under the age of 18)

Return to: Clay County Historical Society

P.O. Box 501

Moorhead, MN 56561

(218) 233-4604

Non Profit Organization BULK RATE U.S. POSTAGE PERMIT NO. 494 MOORHEAD, MN PAID

CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



BOX 501

MOORHEAD, MINNESOTA 56560